

Where social and environmental sustainability meet: Reducing Food waste in selected supermarkets in Austria.

Perspektive Handel Caritas gGmbH

(PERS)

Perspektive Handel is a social institution that has set itself the task of operating supermarkets in Austria and thereby promoting the integration of people with placement barriers into the regular labour market.

In Austria, most of the food waste happens in private households, but there is also a great potential to reduce this kind of resource waste in supermarkets.

Perspektive Handel faces this challenge in two ways: firstly, by trying to sensitise and educate employees on the topic through a training programme and, in a second action, by making customers aware of the topic and supporting them in making more targeted purchases.

In concrete terms, **in the first action** (staff training) Perspektive Handel tries to elicit the differences between supermarkets with little food waste compared to those with a high proportion of food waste. Based on this, a training programme for the staff will be developed and implemented. The current amounts of food waste will then be compared with the amounts of waste after the training.



In the second action (customer awareness), employees are also taught first. The aim is to advise customers primarily on the purchase of perishable food. The expected successes are to be measured in surveys of the customers later on. The results will be incorporated into the further development of the training programme.



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