



Office of Sustainability

Advancing a sustainable food system at MIT together

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MIT Office of Sustainability

February 10, 2020





Agenda

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Overview of MITOS

2

Why sustainability + food?

3

Efforts underway at MIT

4

Discussion

5

Q&A

MISSION STATEMENT:

MIT Office of Sustainability

We aim to transform MIT into a powerful model that generates new and proven ways of responding to the unprecedented challenges of a changing planet via operational excellence, education, research and innovation on our campus.

Scales of Impact



Areas of Impact



```
graph LR; A((Areas of Impact)) --- B((LOW-CARBON CAMPUS)); A --- C((CLIMATE RESILIENCY)); A --- D((MATERIAL LIFECYCLES)); A --- E((HEALTHY PEOPLE)); A --- F((THRIVING NETWORKS)); B --- B1[Climate Buildings]; B --- B2[Energy]; B --- B3[Mobility]; B --- B4[Air Quality]; C --- C1[Water]; C --- C2[Landscape]; C --- C3[Campus infrastructure]; D --- D1[Procurement]; D --- D2[Waste]; E --- E1[Food]; E --- E2[Wellbeing]; F --- F1[Campus]; F --- F2[City]; F --- F3[Globe];
```

LOW-CARBON CAMPUS

Climate
Buildings
Energy
Mobility
Air Quality

CLIMATE RESILIENCY

Water
Landscape
Campus infrastructure

MATERIAL LIFECYCLES

Procurement
Waste

HEALTHY PEOPLE

Food
Wellbeing

THRIVING NETWORKS

Campus
City
Globe

Areas of Impact

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Why sustainability + food?



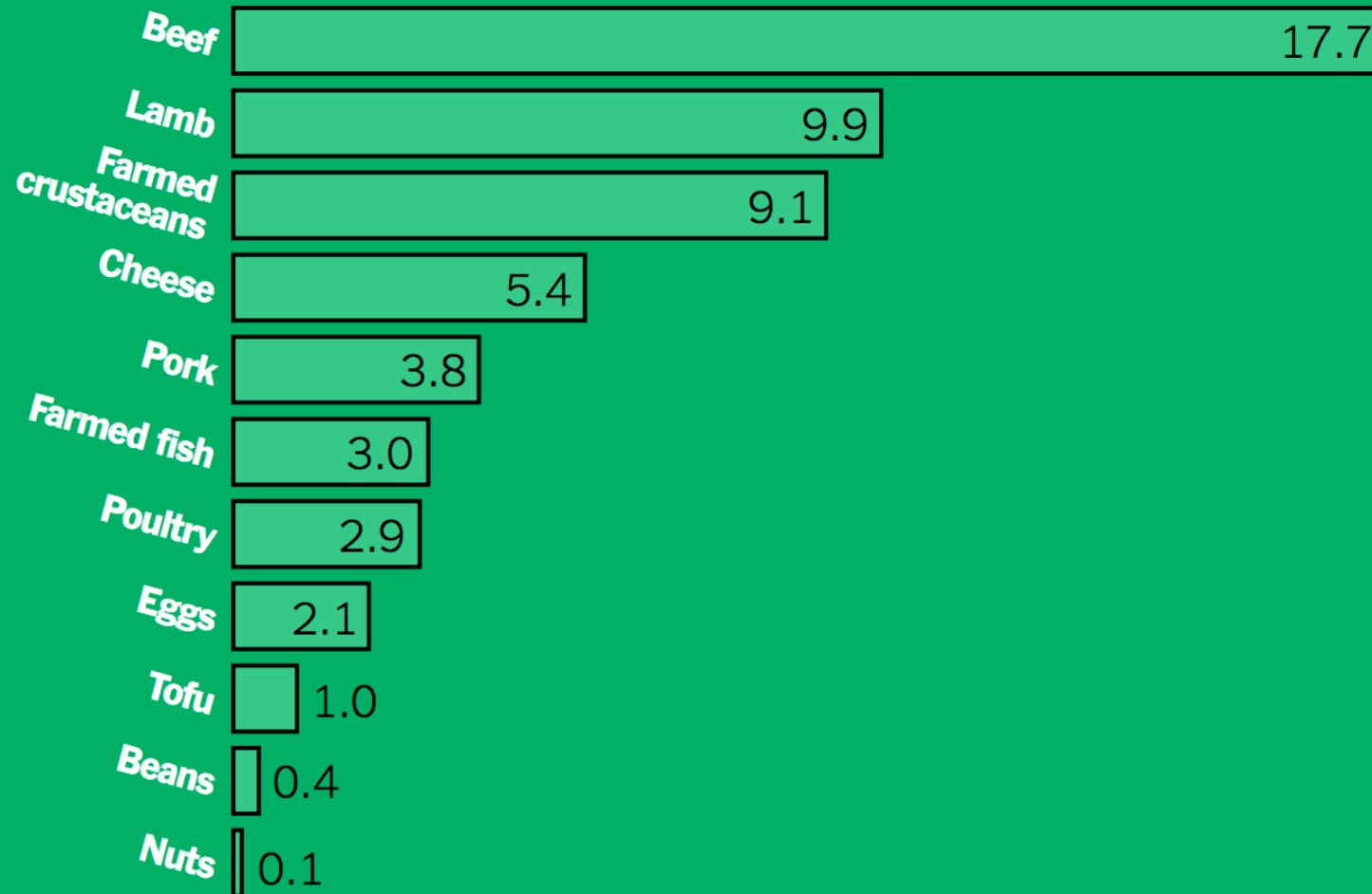


Food + climate


The world's food system is responsible for about **one-quarter** of the planet-warming greenhouse gases that humans generate each year

Holy Cow!

The average greenhouse gas impact (in kilograms of CO₂) of getting 50 grams of protein from:



Source: Poore and Nemecek, [Science](#)



**Can we feed a future
population of 10 billion
people a healthy diet within
planetary boundaries?**

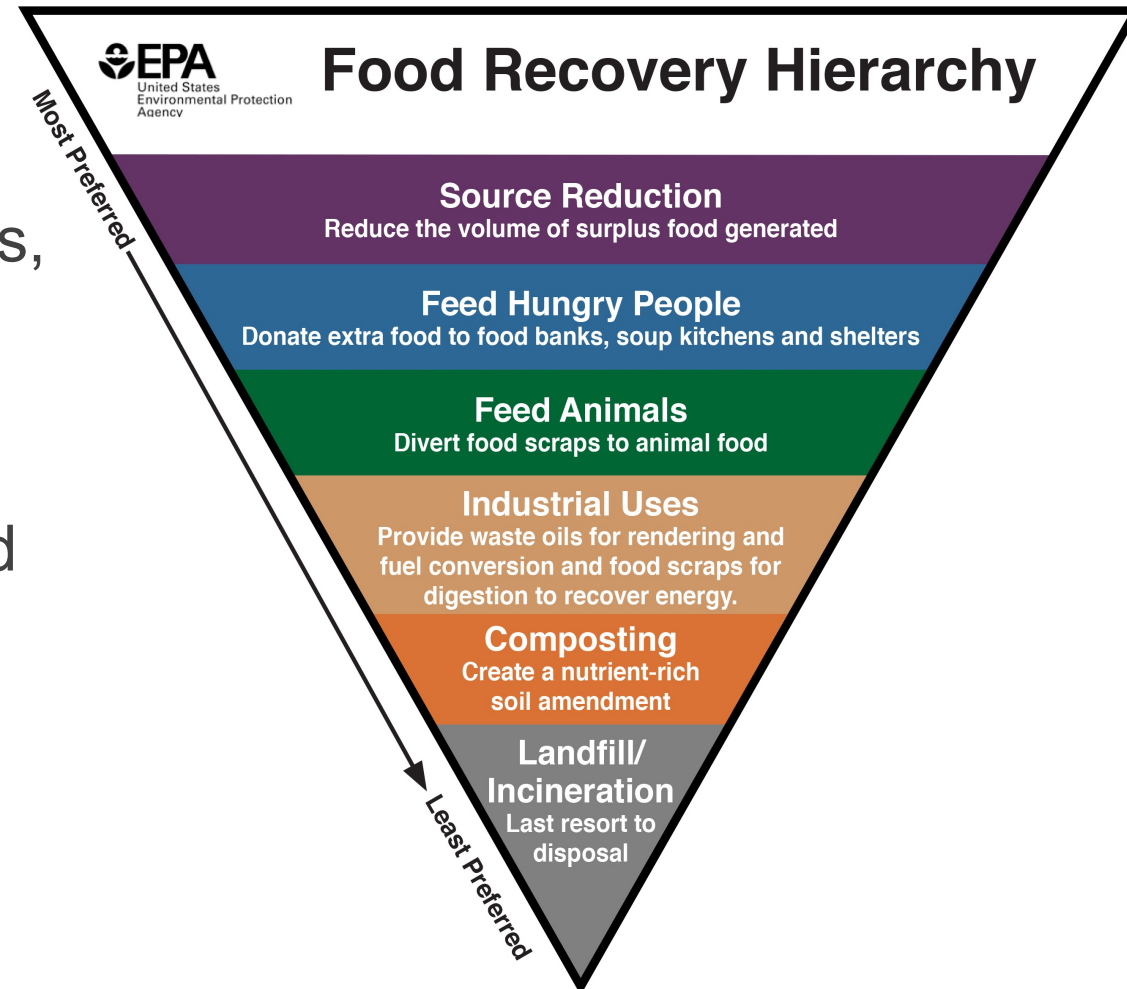


Towards a planetary health diet

- Plants as the new main course
- Lower meat and seafood consumption
- Avoid highly processed food
- Waste less food from farm to plate

Food Waste + Recovery

In the United States, food waste is estimated at between **30–40 percent** of the food supply.



Efforts underway at MIT

The background of the slide is a close-up photograph of blueberries. The berries are dark blue with a thin white bloom, and some are slightly out of focus, creating a sense of depth. The lighting is soft, highlighting the texture of the berries.

Vision

Imagine an MIT where everyone has access to healthy, affordable, and culturally meaningful food in an environment designed for social connection, sustainability, and innovation.

“The global adoption of healthy diets from sustainable food systems would safeguard our planet and improve the health of billions.”

The EAT-Lancet Commission

MIT Food & Sustainability Working Group Report

NOVEMBER 2018



Office of Sustainability

5 Focus Areas

1. Access and education
2. Standards for food vendors
3. Comprehensive waste reduction strategies
4. Vibrant indoor and outdoor spaces
5. Innovation and experimentation

Food Insecurity at MIT - strategies

- Low-cost grocery store on campus
- SwipeShare
- Improving education
- Working towards reducing stigma about seeking help and increasing awareness of the resources on campus



Planetary
Health
Menu

Kendall
Food Vision
Partnership
Grant

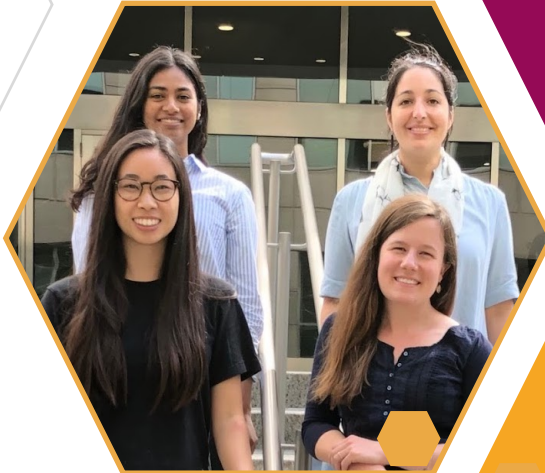
Sustainable
Workplaces

Food
Recovery
Pilot in
Dining Halls

Enriching
Community
Well-Being



Lunch and
Learns &
Events



Student
Fellow
Program

Promoting
Student
Leadership

Improving
Dining
Operations &
Campus
Spaces

Student
Group
Support

Vendor
Contracts
and KPIs

Sustainable
Food Map

The Hive
Garden

Residential
Compost
Pilot

W20
Working
Group



Site 4

Single Use
Plastics

Discussion



Does the “planetary health diet” resonate at MIT?

Where are there opportunities on campus to bridge food justice + sustainability?



Questions?
