

Newsletter



Thrivingsolutions, a boutique, impact-driven, sustainability consultancy, established by two Arab women is dedicated to decarbonizing our economy, safeguarding biodiversity, advancing food-nutrition-water security, and supporting SDG 2030 and ESG priorities. Thrivingsolutions is led by a knowledge-generating team, that believes in research and innovation to tackle present issues and the power of knowledge.

Training, Webinars and Talks

Thrivingsolutions (TS) has been busy in the last few months, spreading awareness and knowledge related to Circular Food Systems and its components.

In partnership with WRAP and the UK Government support, TS delivered a webinar introducing the International Food Loss and Waste Protocol and Standard. This Standard is the basis for reporting on food loss and waste under SDG 12.3, and other industry reporting standards.

Partnering with USAID and Tufts University -Feed the Future Food Systems for Nutrition Innovation Lab - TS delivered two webinars. The 'Introduction to Circular Economy' that covered the dimensions of circular economy with a focus on food systems featuring Hivemind – a UAE-based startup seeking to valorize organic waste by coupling it with black soldier flies to produce protein feed, frass and more. The second covered 'Food Loss and Waste' highlighting the dimensions of the problem, the importance of adopting an evidence-based approach, international measurement protocols and valorization options. It featured Leanpath – an AI enabled food waste measuring kitchen tool and platform that enables food service facilities to greatly cut their food waste. Webinars can be viewed at:

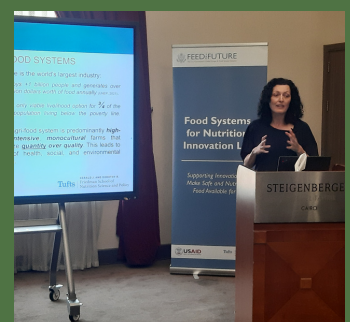
[Food Loss and Waste Webinar](#)

[Circular Economy Webinar](#)



Circular Food Economy

With USAID support under the Feed the Future Food Systems for Nutrition Innovation Lab implemented by Tufts University, Thrivingsolutions delivered a 3-day interactive workshop “Circular Food Economy” in Cairo, Egypt, to a dynamic group of 28 professionals. During the workshop, participants worked on identifying the characteristics of the Egyptian food system, from the perspective of the 4 dimensions of a circular food economy.



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Knowledge Generation

Since the beginning of 2023, Thriving Solutions has been working to generate knowledge to advance sustainability and innovation in the Arab Region.

For the Canadian International Development Research Center (IDRC), Thriving Solutions conducted an in-depth situational analysis of the **Regional Research for Development Landscape in the Middle East and North Africa Region**. Interviews were conducted with sector experts, mapping the current institutional landscape and recent trends, along with the strength, weaknesses, opportunities and threats. A report was prepared for IDRC internal use as a baseline for measuring achievements related to their 2030 strategy.

With the support of the UK Government, Thriving Solutions prepared the **Addendum to the “Connecting Food Loss and Waste to Greenhouse Gas Emissions: Guidance for Companies”**. This Addendum reviewed the nine external tools for quantifying greenhouse gases (GHG) connected to food loss and waste identifying which can be used by companies in the United Arab Emirates. The addendum also provides recommendations for needed studies to improve GHG quantification studies in the future. In the second half of the year, WRAP will be reviewing the Addendum for finalization and publishing, then launch it as a supporting resource under the Food Loss and Waste Standard.

As part of Thriving Solutions' social responsibility in advancing the dissemination and availability of information, our team carried an **in-depth review of the National Determined Contribution documents of the countries in the Arab Region**. TS produced two white papers regarding Climate Action and more specifically actions when it relates to food loss and waste.

The findings of the reports were shared during several talks and webinars but more specifically during the second Climate Change Research Network Conference hosted by NYU Abu Dhabi and in association with the Ministry of Climate Change and Environment.

Papers can be accessed at:

Seta Tutundjian, CEO of Thriving Solutions, is a global thinker and advocate for transitioning to circular food systems and regenerative economy in water scarce regions.

She has led transformational programs within the water-energy-food-climate nexus since 1997.



Dima Maroun, CSO, is an Environmental Scientist who has dedicated over 15 years of her career to ensure that large scale infrastructure projects comply with international environmental and social standards. She worked on stakeholder engagement, ensuring gender equality while maintaining transparency.

