



A Framework for Reducing Food Loss and Waste in South African Supply Chains

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Abstract

Food loss and waste are significant issues in South Africa's agricultural supply chains, contributing to environmental degradation and economic inefficiencies. Theoretical development approach using literature review and expert consultation to outline potential solutions. The theoretical framework provides a structured approach for stakeholders to implement interventions aimed at minimising food loss and waste in South African supply chains. Stakeholders should prioritise improving infrastructure and training programmes to reduce post-harvest losses, thereby enhancing the efficiency of agricultural supply chains in South Africa. The empirical specification follows $Y = \beta_{0+\beta}^{-1} p X + \text{varepsilon}$, and inference is reported with uncertainty-aware statistical criteria.

Keywords: *African geography, supply chain management, food systems theory, sustainable agriculture, waste minimization, environmental sustainability, circular economy principles*

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