Milan Pact Awards 2025	**BOGOTÁ (1)**						
Country	Colombia						
Population	7,940,000						
Title of practice	Bogotà FLW Reduction Week						
Subtitle	"I Contribute, I Don't Lose, Nor Waste Food."						
MUFPP Recommended Action	Collaborate with the private sector along with research, educational and community-based organisations to develop and review, as appropriate, municipal policies and regulations (e.g. processes, cosmetic and grading standards, expiration dates, etc.) to prevent waste or safely recover food and packaging using a “food use-not-waste” hierarchy. - FOOD WASTE.						
Starting year	2020	**Ending year (if any)**			☐ already submitted in the past		
Actors and stakeholders’ involvement	**Municipal departments**	**Other public institutions**	**NGOs CSOs**	**Research centres**	**Private sectors**	**International organizations**	**Other**
	10	19	3	11	10	12	4
Budget	The initiative received funding from the District budget, specifically allocated to the District Secretariat of Economic Development. This was supplemented by logistical and in-kind contributions from public and private partners, as well as international cooperation agencies. The estimate total budget is thought to be around €60,000.						
Brief description	The Bogotà Food Loss and Waste Reduction Week, themed “I contribute, I don’t Lose, Nor Waste Food”, has been organized annually since 2020 by the Secretariat of Economic Development of the Bogotà Mayor’s Office. This is a multi-sector event designed to raise awareness among all parties involved in the food supply chain (from producers to consumers) about the social, economic, and environmental impacts of FLW (Food Loss and Waste). It also aims to encourage a cultural shift towards more responsible and sustainable consumption. Every event focuses on a specific theme. This theme is brought to life through a main agenda, complemented by an equal number of linked agendas from participating higher education institutions. This approach helps to expand the event's reach and impact on the population across different areas. Over its five editions, more than 180 activities have taken place. These include in-person, virtual, and hybrid events such as hackathons, farmers' markets, forums, competitions, donations, and student challenges. These activities have reached over 800,000 citizens. Collaboration with more than 40 local, national, and international partners, including universities, businesses, industry associations, international cooperation bodies, and civil society organizations, has been crucial in building a conscious food-aware citizenry that supports FLW reduction. This initiative aligns with SDGs 2 and 12, as well as national legislation (Law 1990 of 2019), the Public Policy for Building Food Citizenship, and District Agreement 753 of 2019. It is considered a good practice that can be replicated both nationally and internationally.						
Innovation	The FLW Week is a pioneering initiative, distinguished by its decentralized execution through academia and Higher Education Institutions (IES - Instituciones de Educación Superior). It creates a network of knowledge managers and provides solutions to FLW challenges for various stakeholders in the supply chain. It is the first institutionalized practice in Colombia solely dedicated to reducing FLW. What makes it innovative is its implementation of a decentralized model, where IES carry out their own agendas integrated into a central agenda led by the District. It also incorporates a wide range of activities, including farmers' markets, academic challenges, competitions, circular bioeconomy, and popular economy. The multi-agenda is open to the public, encouraging academic mobility and community engagement, while also providing supply chain actors access to activities across any of the linked spaces. In 2020, a #SinDesperdicio Hackathon was held in collaboration with the IDB and UNEP. In 2023 and 2024, the use of digital networks and platforms was promoted through the FLW Week microsite https://sostenibilidadalim.wixsite.com/, which offers educational content and memories from each of the editions. The citizen pact was also encouraged, and a network of more than 30 intersectoral allies was consolidated to contribute their established capacities to support FLW Week. The shared						

	governance model between the State, Academia, Business, and Civil Society has been key to its scalability, broadening coverage and impact.
Impact	Between 2020 and 2024, FLW Week has impacted over 800,000 citizens, establishing itself as the country's leading urban event focused on the prevention of FLW. Its first edition saw 15,000 participants, and by 2022, its reach grew to over 350,000. Through decentralization into universities in 2023 and 2024, over 80 activities were held, engaging more than 360,000 students, teachers, and researchers. The 2020 #SinDesperdicios Hackathon led to big successes like EatCloud. This social business has saved over 43,118 tons of food and reduced 105,025 tons of CO_2, highlighting FLW Week's role in fostering new solutions. In 2024, the initiative also generated over $43 million COP in income for small rural producers through farmer's markets on university campuses. Also, donation points at public markets collected and redistributed over 1 ton of food to local charities. The program has created over 2 television programs on public and digital channels. It has also become a platform for making educational materials, academic papers, and official publications. FLW Week is now a scalable and well-documented model, offering open repositories for replication, thereby strengthening local capabilities to reduce Food Loos and Waste across all stages of the food system.
Inclusion	This practice is highly effective and holistic, categorized under Food Waste due to its core mission: to educate, mobilize, and transform the actions of people, organizations, and companies to prevent, reduce, and repurpose food that is currently wasted. Yet, its influence extends significantly by promoting shared goals among public groups, universities, businesses, and international partners, it makes food governance in the city more robust. It also improves how food is provided and spread by including farmers' markets in schools and creating direct selling paths. It empowers people who are easily affected in the food supply chain, such as farmers, food businesses, hotels, restaurants, and *Horeca*, small sellers, market places, young people, consumers, and recyclers. This helps create social and economic fairness, as well as supporting the local economy and a circular bioeconomy. It encourages the right to food, bringing in ideas about the environment and society. Lastly, by promoting smart shopping, valuing food, and using all parts of food, it encourages habits that fit with healthy eating and food education. Because it covers so many areas, it's a great example of new ideas for cities and systems. Working with groups like UNEP, FAO, WWF, PG4, GTZ, and people from different global regions allows for a valuable and transformative sharing of knowledge, which is key to its credibility and long-term success.