



FOOD FOR THOUGHT - TRUE-COST-CH #1

Welcome to the first edition of the TRUE-COST-CH newsletter!

We're thrilled to launch our very first newsletter — a window into our work uncovering the true cost of food in Switzerland.

In this edition, discover key findings, upcoming events, and hand-picked resources to dig deeper. Whether you're closely involved or simply curious, we hope it sparks new ideas and fresh perspectives!

We'd love your feedback — feel free to reply and share your thoughts. New to the project? Visit our [website](#) to explore our vision and approach.

Enjoy the read!

FOCUS ON

TRUE-COST-CH at the TCA Global Summit



In April, the TRUE-COST-CH team took part in the **True Cost Accounting Global Summit** at the headquarters of the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) of the United Nations in Rome. This event gathered global leaders to define priority actions for scaling TCA and accelerating food systems transformation by 2030.



Our team — **Kate Dassel**, **Laurence Jeangros**, **Agathe Crosnier**, and **Emilia Schmitt** — contributed to key discussions on shifting food system narratives, aligning measurement tools with policy needs, and centering equity and justice in the transition.

[Learn more](#)

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ACCOUNTING, TRUE COST FOR FOOD

How does Accounting in the agricultural sector, assess the ecological, social, human and financial costs and benefits of different food production systems. This improved cost and benefit approach aims to inform production-making.

<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.sbspro.2014.07.006>

b

ACCOUNTING, TRUE PRICE

How pricing incorporates environmental and social costs in product prices

<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.sbspro.2014.07.006>

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AGRIFOOD SYSTEM

Food systems encompasses the entire range of institutions and actors, and their

in the production, aggregation, processing, distribution, consumption and disposal of food products that originate from agriculture, forestry or fisheries, and parts of the broader economic, and social systems that are embedded

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Don't miss our updates — add truecostoffood@unil.ch to your address book to make sure our emails don't end up in your spam folder.

SHAPE THE PROJECT WITH US

Call for participants Implementation Atelier for the 2nd Swiss Food System Summit

4 – 6 November 2025

Culinarium Alpinum

[Register](#)

More info: jasmin.schwaegli@sdsn.ch

Are you working to transform our food system? Join the **Implementation Atelier** — a key milestone toward the **2nd Swiss Food System Summit**, organized by **SDSN Switzerland** and with a **True Cost parallel session**.

This unique event will bring together thinkers, value chain actors, and decision-makers to **scale impactful solutions**, **co-develop new ones**, and **shape the Summit's agenda** collaboratively.

With **innovative collaboration formats**, it's a great opportunity to strengthen your network and drive change together.

Call for participants Survey – Potato & Egg Value chain actors

Interested in contributing ?

Contact us at truecostoffood@unil.ch, we'd be happy to provide more info or involve you in the project !

Are you active in the potato or egg value chain — or know someone who is? We're running a short **survey** to explore stakeholders' **perceptions** of sustainability **challenges**, the **potential** of True Cost Accounting (**TCA**), and the role of **innovation** in creating **sustainable value**.

The questionnaire investigates how these aspects are **understood in practice**, and how coordination and impact measurement along the value chain could be improved.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Hosted by our Consortium Institutions



Showcase - E4S' Impact Innovation Summit 2025

Organized by **Enterprise for Society (E4S)**, the summit brings together academia, business, NGOs, policymakers, and civil society to explore practical ideas for reshaping economies toward collective wellbeing. This year's theme, "**Innovating for the Wellbeing of Humans and Ecosystems**," calls for rethinking innovation to serve both people and planet — through high-level keynotes (incl. **Jean-Marc Jancovici** and **Maria Neira**), a solutions exhibition, and thematic workshops.

Our project partner **Beelong** will also take part in the event as an invited contributor!

10 September 2025 – Lausanne

[Register here](#)



Forum Origin, Diversity & Territories (ODT) 2025

Organized by **Origin for Sustainability**, the **Centre Interdisciplinaire de Recherche sur la Montagne (CIRM)**, and **MountMed Institute**, this three-day scientific forum will explore the role of **origin-linked labels** (such as Geographical Indications), sustainable agropastoral practices, and territorial approaches in driving the **agroecological transition in mountain regions**.

12-14 November 2025 - Bramois

[Register here](#)



Swiss Nutrition Research Symposium 2025

Organized by the **Swiss Research Network – Healthy Nutrition** and the **Geneva School of Health Sciences**, this one-day symposium brings together leading researchers and practitioners to exchange insights on the latest findings in nutrition and their practical applications.

Among the highlights : a contribution from our team on **barriers and facilitators of healthy and sustainable eating**, illustrated through the **True Cost Accounting for Food** case study.

13 November 2025 - Geneva

[Register here](#)

TO EXPLORE

FiBL

Hidden costs of the Swiss Agrifood System

Case study for the State of Food and Agriculture
Report of the FAO - SOFA 2024



Hidden Costs of the Swiss Agrifood System: A Case Study for FAO's SOFA 2024

Commissioned by the Swiss Federal Office for Agriculture and authored by **FiBL**, this new report estimates the **hidden annual costs of the Swiss food system** and their distribution across key impact categories. It highlights strong **interlinkages between these categories**, warns of potential **cost shifts abroad**, and identifies key **levers for**

action such as dietary change and food waste reduction.

[Read the full report](#)

TRUE COST ACCOUNTING FOR
FOOD SYSTEMS TRANSFORMATION

Report

New from TMG: TCA Review for Agri-food Businesses

Interim Report I
Literature Analysis of True Cost Accounting Methodologies and Databases for Agri-food Businesses and Products

June 2025
Authors: Gültaş Çınar, Carmen Steinmetz, Olivia Riemer

(TMG)
Think Tank for Sustainability
Kopfer Müller Göttinger

TMG – Think Tank for Sustainability has published the **first interim report of the TCA Roadmap project**, commissioned by the German Ministry of Agriculture. The report reviews **23 TCA frameworks** and **21 databases**, identifying key methodological and data gaps to advance effective TCA implementation.

[Read the full report](#)



Swiss Nutrition Strategy 2025–2032: For a Healthier and More Sustainable Food System

Published in April 2025, the new federal nutrition strategy aims to tackle **non-communicable diseases** and **environmental pressures** through better **food education**, healthier **food environments**, and reduced **food waste**.

[Read the full report](#)

Thanks for reading. We hope it has sparked your thinking and we look forward to reconnecting with you in the next issue !





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