

PROTECTING THE ENVIRONMENT BY REDUCING FOOD WASTE

1. INTRODUCTION

World food production has increased substantially over the century meanwhile food insecurity persists¹. Globally, 795 million people are undernourished². Food Loss and Waste (FLW) is a serious threat to food security, our environment and economy. 40% of FLW in industrialized and developed countries occurs in the consumption stage³. Food waste is highly dependent on individual's behavior.

Framework of Food Loss and Waste

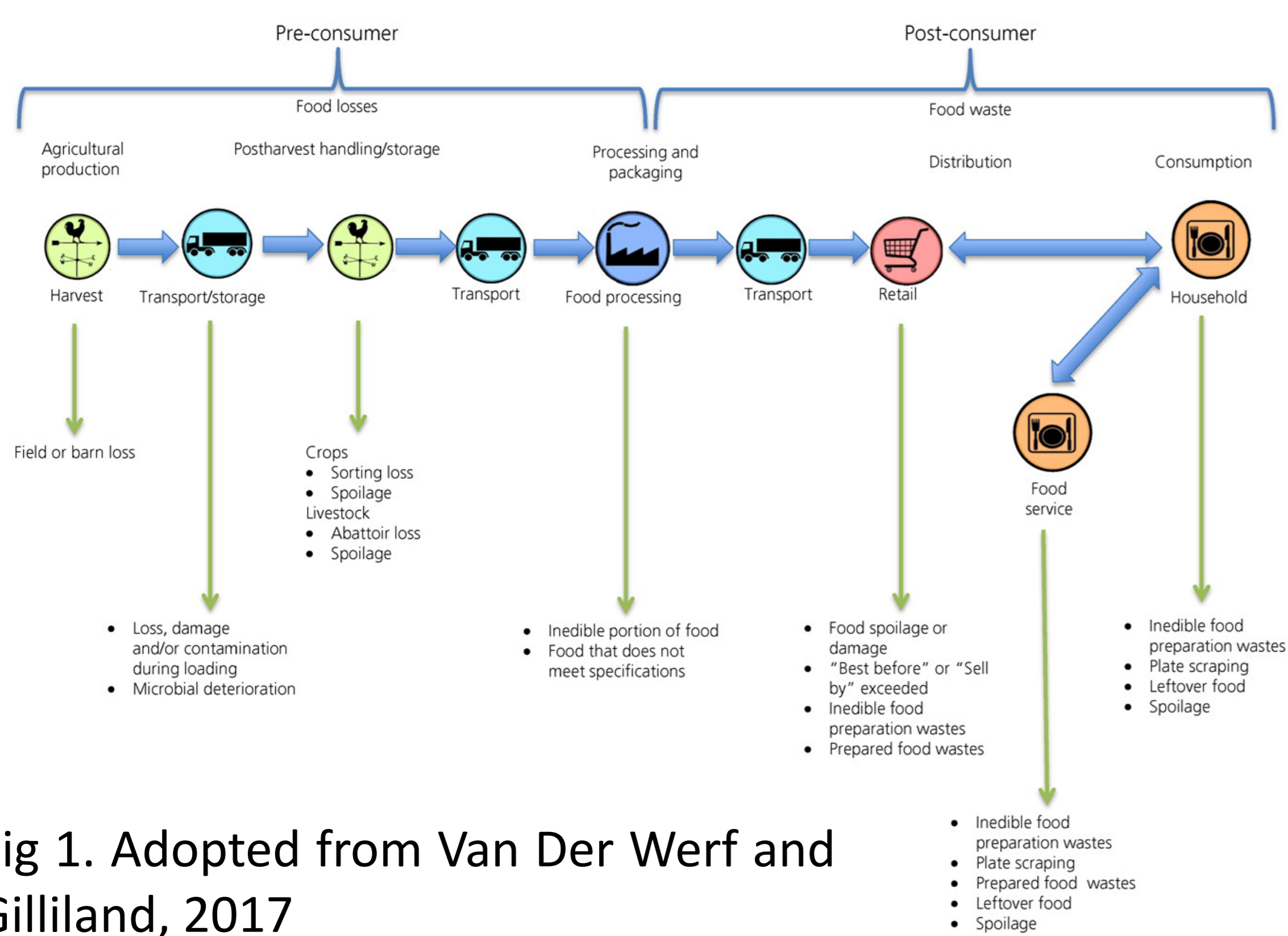


Fig 1. Adopted from Van Der Werf and Gilliland, 2017

2. RESEARCH AIM

This study aims to:

- Provide the necessary data/information needed by Lancaster University to effectively plan Food Waste Reduction Policies
- Create awareness among individuals of their behavioral contribution to Food Waste

3. MATERIALS AND METHODS

- Survey questions were developed to gather data on food waste production and management in the University
- Data is been collected from students, restaurants and grocery stores in the University and the University's administration through different surveys for each group of respondents with Microsoft Forms
- Responses from 96 students were considered for the current phase of the study
- A theme was set for each survey question and responses were analyzed for the themes
- Further inferences were made from the analyzed themes

4. RESULTS

A

B

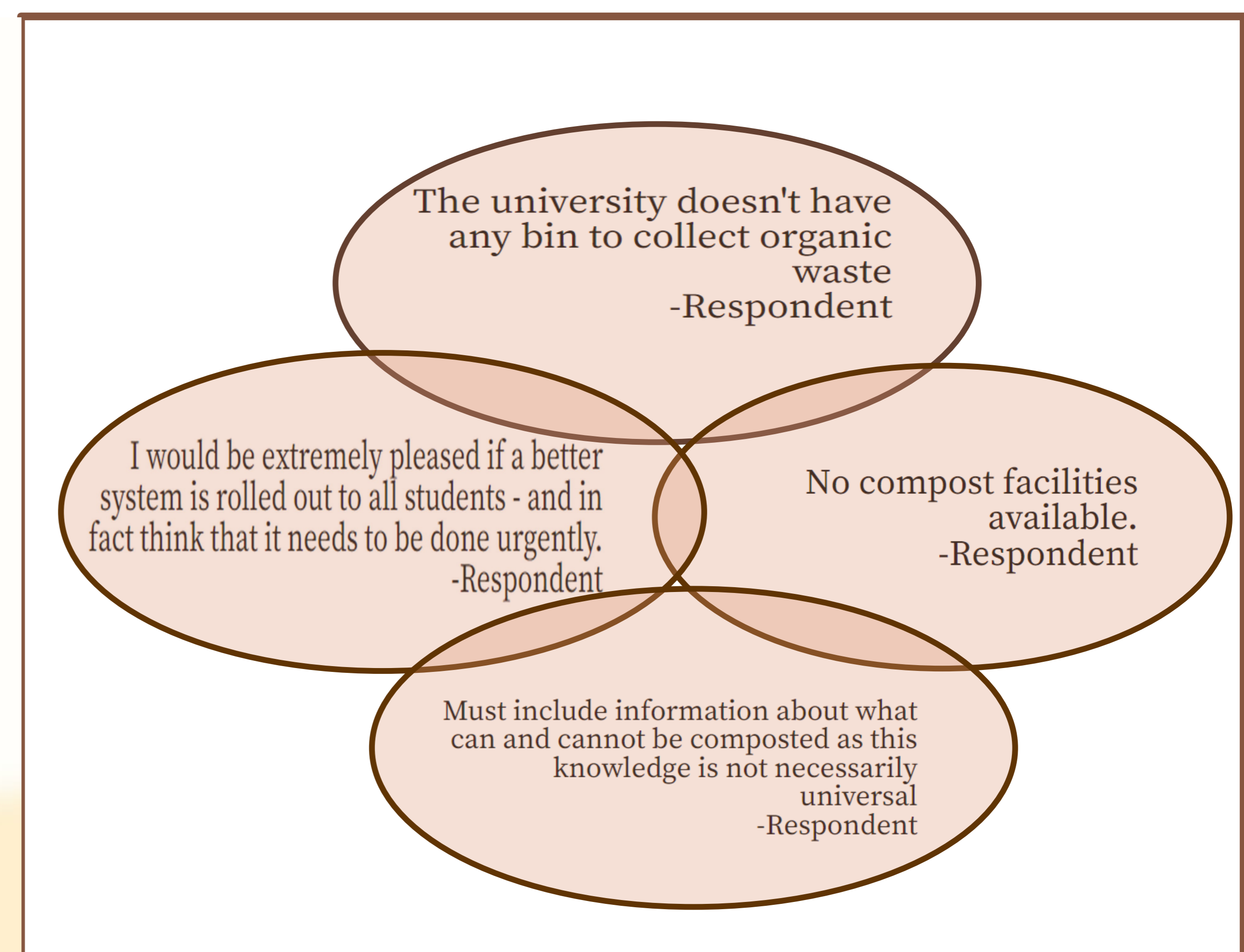
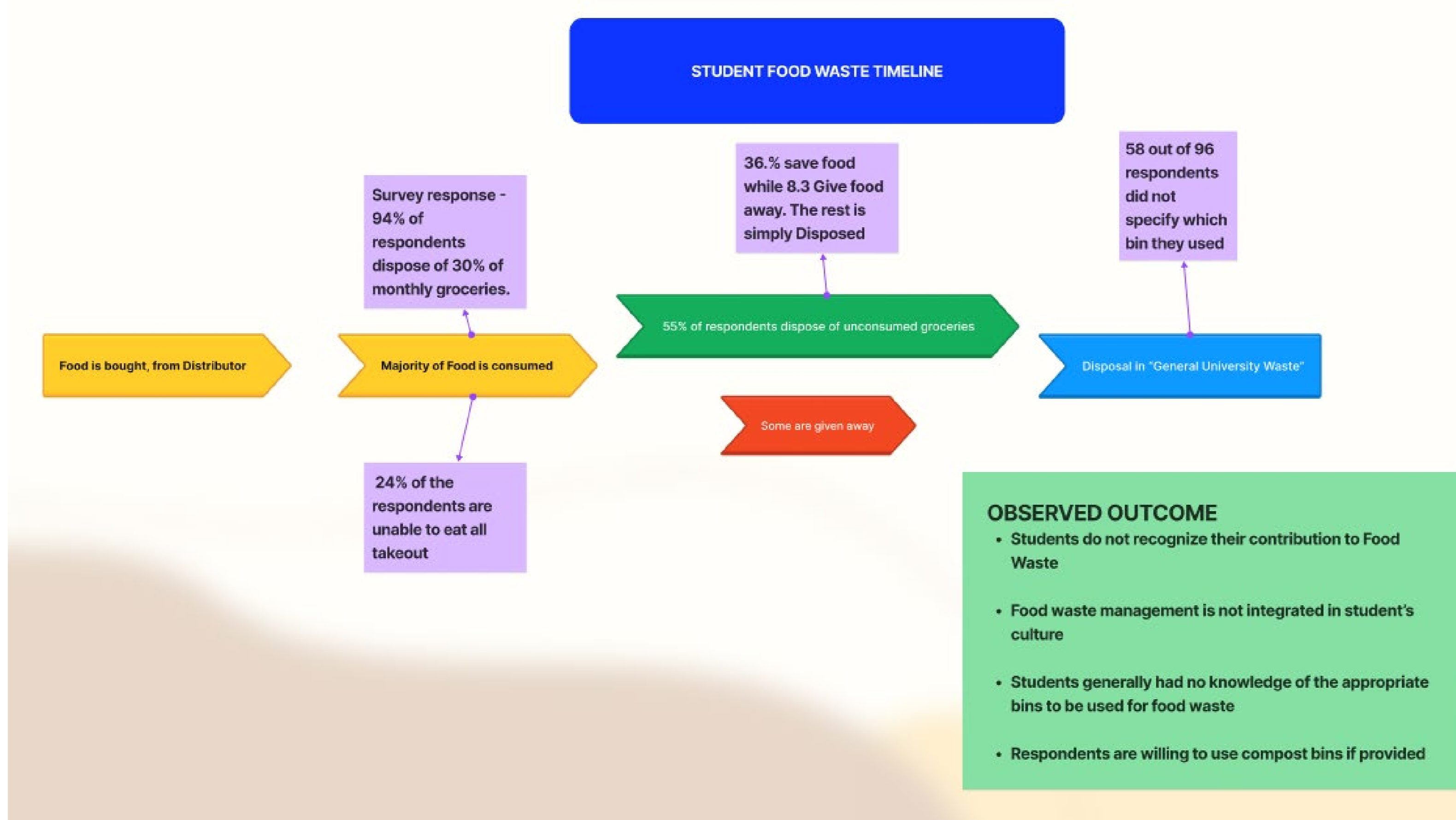


Fig 2. A. Summary of analyzed data collected student respondents survey B. Sample quotes from some respondents

5. RECOMMENDED ACTION PLAN

- The university could provide relevant information on Food Waste and its management to students
- Students' hostels can be provided with food waste bins
- Data on food waste in the University should be collected and published quarterly to encourage students of behavioral contribution to food waste reduction

FURTHER STUDY

- More data will be collected from students, restaurants and grocery stores in the University
- Responses for the three groups will be analysed independently and also together to understand both the individual and aggregate contributions to Food Waste in Lancaster University

ACKNOWLEDGMENT

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- Academic Tutor: Agatha Rockson

REFERENCES

1. Van Der Werf and Gilliland, 2017
2. FAO, 2015
3. Ishangulyyev et al., 2019