



The online community getting great surplus food to people who need it.

Our approach

Surplus food occurs when too much food is produced and cannot be sold, or when a supplier or manufacturer sends too much to a business that ordered it - and that's where Plan Zheroes can help.

Based in Central London, Plan Zheroes is a not for profit social network that helps to build relationships between food businesses and charities by simplifying the process of donating food.

Plan Zheroes' interactive online map enables businesses to easily find and connect with local charities and community groups who are able to receive surplus food and convert it into meals for people in need. Businesses can post donations of surplus food online 24/7 with Plan Zheroes' free platform.

The charity also recruits volunteers who can help collect and distribute unwanted food from restaurants, supermarkets, bakeries or any outlet at the close of business.

Key Facts

- Plan Zheroes currently has over 500 registered users mostly based in London - and growing fast.
- The average level of donations is now between 1 and 2 tonne per month, the equivalent of up to 4,000 meals.
- In 2016, Plan Zheroes was launched in the County of Leicestershire with funding from the local council.

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The issue

The economic climate and rising food prices mean that more and more people are struggling to afford to eat. Plan Zheroes aims to inspire food retailers and catering businesses to stop sending their surplus food to landfill and, instead, donate it to charities that support the homeless and those on low incomes.

Plan Zheroes vision is of a world where no good food is wasted and no one lives in food poverty.

Contrary to what a lot of people believe donations of surplus food are perfectly legal in the UK! Depending on the type of food to be donated a few requirements need to be in place such as appropriate storage, temperature, packing and how to handle food.

Both businesses and charities using Plan Zheroes' platform sign a legal agreement governing the safe handling of food and the legal responsibilities of donors and receivers.



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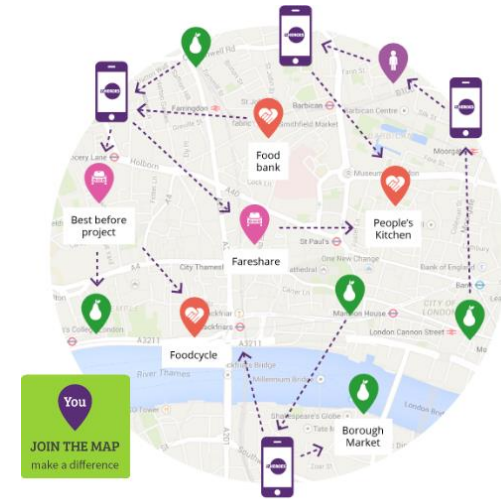
Actions taken

Operating as a volunteer led ‘matchmaking’ service since 2009, Plan Zheroes co-founders identified a need to make businesses and charities visible to each other to save time on research and communications. In 2011, thanks to the RSA Catalyst Fund, Plan Zheroes’ first online food map for central London was launched.

With the growth of social networking, however Plan Zheroes saw an opportunity to improve upon the map and create a platform where food donors and receivers could connect with each other and post/receive notifications about food donations.

In 2014, the charity partnered with IT consultancy Keytree - who provided their services free of charge - to build its current mobile responsive platform (beta launch-January 2015).

In addition to the online platform, Plan Zheroes runs other projects such as the Food Save Project at Borough Market which redistributes ca. 10 tonnes of high quality surplus food per year.



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Plan Zheroes - The Zero Food Waste Heroes



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Future plans

We view our platform as a free resource for communities to establish their own surplus food distribution networks. We are looking to partner with other environmental or food poverty organisations to grow our platform across the UK and beyond.

We have just launched in Leicestershire County with funding from the local council and we are keen to continue to expand our current operations. We've even received enquiries from Africa and India!

We can work with small or large businesses, ranging from restaurants to supermarkets, catering companies to cafes and even food markets. The platform is also useful for one-off or small donations of surplus.

The Plan Zheroes team is full of knowledge and experience and is there to support the businesses and charities we work with.



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You can help in many ways



If you work for/are a business that has surplus food to donate



If you are a charity that needs/redistributes food



If you can collect & deliver food or spread the word



If you have a vehicle and can help to transport food



If you are able to donate to our cause

To get involved

**CLICK
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