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Waste not, want not

Organizations in Kyushu are addressing problems of food waste through initiatives to find uses for products that would otherwise be discarded. Among them is the NPO Food Bank Fukuoka, which distributes fruit and other foodstuffs to local schools.

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Kankyou Agency, a food recycling company in Nishi Ward, Fukuoka, turns bento box leftovers, vegetable scraps and other edibles into feed for livestock. The items are brought to them by firms such as retailers and hotels.

Food waste from business activities in Fukuoka was estimated in fiscal 2017 to total 9,700 tons of leftovers and 8,700 tons of untouched food. About one-third of the waste is turned into feed, while the rest is incinerated.



Feed made from food waste



Workers guide leftovers from bento boxes and ready-made side dishes into a machine that separates food from wrapping in Nishi Ward, Fukuoka, on Dec.14.