

Challenging Boundaries in Risk Assessment: sharing experiences

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Conference Aims



- To celebrate EFSA's 10th Anniversary and its scientific achievements and to look forward to new developments
- To bring scientists together to discuss the boundaries in risk assessment in food safety
 - ✓ representing different institutions and geographical areas: national, EU or international agencies and beyond Europe
 - ✓ representing different disciplines: within the remit of EFSA and beyond
 - ✓ scientific boundaries: e.g. academic vs. regulatory

Programme Day 1



Introductory plenary session

✓EC CSA, FDA CSA, EFSA SC, Science Strategy, NZ Min of Primary Industries, new methodologies – RIVM NL, John Hopkins University USA, University College Dublin IRL

5 parallel sessions

- ✓ Identifying and characterising hazards: new trends
- √ Having an eye for the environment
- ✓ Making sense of dietary exposure
- ✓ Expressing risks
- ✓ Efficacy assessments in food and feed

Programme Day 2



Final Plenary Session

- √ Feedback and discussion from the previous day
- ✓ Future (emerging) food safety risks
- ✓ Research and Risk Assessment
- √ Conference Close

Achievement



We had a very good, enjoyable, interactive and wide-ranging conference: good basis to further foster scientific cooperation

Much to summarise and reflect on from this varied programme across the wide spectrum of EFSA's scientific activities

- √ 650 attendees
- ✓ Contributions from 15 universities in 9 countries
- ✓ Contributions from 20 public sector organisations
 - ✓ Commission and 5 EU Agencies
 - √ 10 Member States national agencies/institutes
 - √ 2 non-EU countries agency and department
 - ✓ 2 international organisations FAO, WHO

Key findings



- ✓ Science continuously evolves (a challenge)
- ✓ Getting the question right is essential to achieve fit for purpose Risk Assessment
- ✓ Development and acceptance of new methodologies
- ✓ Access to and better use of data
 - ✓ Driven by technology innovation and methodology
 - ✓ Need for standardised and open access joint databases
- ✓ Apply successful methods across different sectors in a multidisciplinary way
- ✓ Improved **dialogue** with risk managers
 - ✓ Problem formulation (e.g. protection goals)
 - ✓ Communication and weighing of risks vs. benefits, impacts, uncertainty, transparency of risk management decisions
- ✓ Regular future scientific conferences focussing on themes





