EFSA Strategy 2015-2020

Joint AF/FP meeting, Milan 13 October, 2015

AGENDA

- **Introduction**

- **Work performed so far**

- **Key components of the strategy**
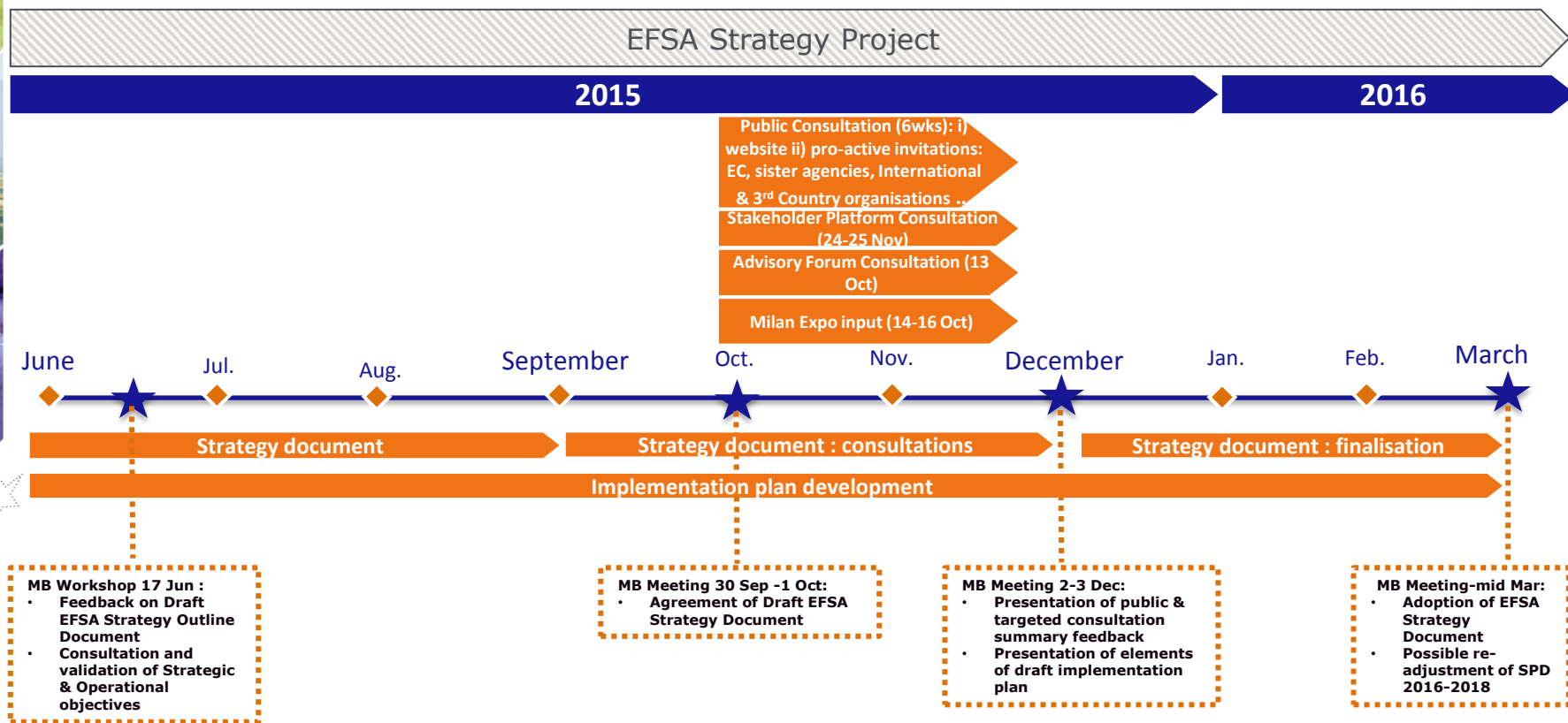
- **Next steps**

INTRODUCTION

Objectives of the meeting

- Update you on the actions performed on the development of the EFSA Strategy
- Present you the EFSA strategy Draft
- Acquire a sound understanding of strategic objective 3 and some understanding of other strategic objectives where there is potential involvement of Member States.

EFSA STRATEGY PROJECT TIMELINE

EFSA Strategy Project

2015

2016

Public Consultation (6wks): i) website ii) pro-active invitations: EC, sister agencies, International & 3rd Country organisations ..

Stakeholder Platform Consultation (24-25 Nov)

Advisory Forum Consultation (13 Oct)

Milan Expo input (14-16 Oct)

June   Jul.   Aug.   September   Oct.   Nov.   December   Jan.   Feb.   March

Strategy document

Strategy document : consultations

Strategy document : finalisation

Implementation plan development

MB Workshop 17 Jun :
- Feedback on Draft EFSA Strategy Outline Document
- Consultation and validation of Strategic & Operational objectives

MB Meeting 30 Sep -1 Oct:
- Agreement of Draft EFSA Strategy Document

MB Meeting 2-3 Dec:
- Presentation of public & targeted consultation summary feedback
- Presentation of elements of draft implementation plan

MB Meeting-mid Mar:
- Adoption of EFSA Strategy Document
- Possible re-adjustment of SPD 2016-2018

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Vision

Trusted science for safe food

■ *Protecting consumers by providing independent scientific advice on risks in the food chain*

Mission

The Authority contributes to the safety of the EU food and feed chain by:

- ■ providing EU risk managers with independent, up-to-date scientific advice on questions linked to the food chain;

- ■ communicating to the public on its outputs and the information on which they are based;

- ■ cooperating with Member States, institutional partners and other interested parties to provide consistent advice to increase trust in the EU food safety system.

Values

- Scientific excellence

- Independence

- Openness

- Innovation

- Cooperation

STRATEGY – CHALLENGES & OPPORTUNITIES

6 challenges & opportunities

- Expectations of greater transparency and openness

- Emergence of new risks and hazards

- Evolving scientific knowledge

- Globalisation

- Efficient operation of the agency's activities

- Availability of expertise for EU scientific assessment

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE 1

Prioritise public engagement in the process of scientific assessment

- EFSA aims to enable citizens to contribute more widely to its scientific assessment work and thereby to increase trust.

    - Ensure that mandates capture societal needs

    - Make documentation on information gathering and the evaluation process available

    - Foster engagement throughout the development of scientific assessments

    - Ensure clarity in the communication of findings

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE 2

Widen EFSA's evidence base and maximise access to its data

- EFSA aims to enhance the quality of its outputs by giving direct access to data and promoting the development of collaborative platforms in Europe and internationally.

  - Adopt an Open Data approach

  - Improve data interoperability to facilitate data exchange

  - Migrate towards structured scientific data

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE 3

Build the EU's scientific assessment capacity and knowledge community

- EFSA aims to set up cooperation initiatives that make the best use of expertise for scientific assessment through a partnership between EFSA staff, scientific experts and Member State organisations.

  - Set up and implement a common risk assessment and research agenda with Member States and EU agencies, in collaboration with international partners

  - Foster the growth of the EU and international risk assessment community

  - Review and further develop EFSA's scientific assessment model

Prepare for future risk assessment challenges

- Anticipating risk assessment priorities and related methodology and evidence needs will ensure EFSA is prepared for present and new challenges in a dynamic food safety system, whilst driving harmonisation of methodologies to improve food safety across Europe and promote trust.

  - Strengthen EFSA's preparedness to anticipate and respond effectively to food safety risks in cooperation with EU and international partners

  - Develop and implement harmonised methodologies for risk assessment across the EU and internationally

  - Become a hub in methodologies and tools for risk assessment

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE 5

Create an environment and culture that reflects EFSA's values

- EFSA aims to foster a culture and environment of openness, innovation, cooperation, independence and scientific excellence among its experts, partners and staff.

  - People: build a culture that puts EFSA's values into practice

  - Organisation & processes: develop an environment focused on improving organisational performance and capabilities
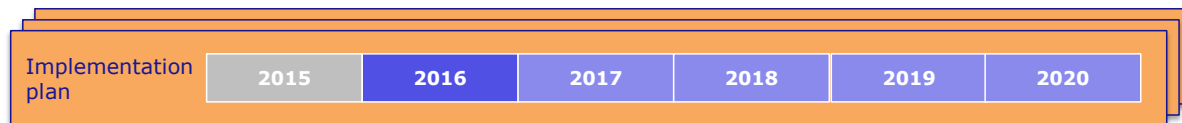
APPROACH TO STRATEGY IMPLEMENTATION

The EFSA **strategy 2020** document sets out the key priorities for the Agency for the next 5 years. It defines WHAT the agency will focus on, in addition to its core Activities as defined by the Regulation

A first indication of possible **actions** is provided in the strategy, to illustrate the type of actions that are considered to realize the operational objectives. These actions will be integrated in the Implementation plan in the next step.

The purpose of the **implementation plan** is to define what actions EFSA needs to take and when these should occur in the next 5 years. They deal with HOW the strategy is implemented. The implementation plan will be internal to EFSA and help monitor progress. Every project part of the implementation plan will be linked to the relevant programme and roadmap.

The **AMP** will contain the actions of the roadmap(s) that are to be implemented in the particular year concerned, as well as the core activities of the Agency

The **SPD** (3 years work programme) will contain a forecast of the actions as foreseen in the implementation plan for the upcoming 3 years, as well as for the core Activities of the Agency

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE 1

Prioritise public engagement in the process of scientific assessment

- EFSA aims to enable citizens to contribute more widely to its decision-making processes and thereby to increase trust.

	Operational objectives	Description/Actions
1	Ensure that mandates capture societal needs	• Enable participation in the framing of complex mandates and in prioritisation of self-tasking initiatives • Strengthen engagement with applicants for regulated products on administrative and scientific issues related to the preparation of application dossiers
2	Make documentation on information gathering and the evaluation process available	• Share information on selection and use of evidence and methodologies • Provide access to non-confidential data/information and methods used • Improve traceability of discussions and decision-making process • Increase available information during the life-cycle of applications for regulated products
3	Foster engagement throughout the development of scientific assessments	• Gather more external input in the development of EFSA outputs • Strengthen the tools to engage with applicants throughout the risk assessment process of regulated products • Develop EFSA's website into a gateway for engagement for EFSA staff, experts, and the general public
4	Ensure clarity in the communication of findings	• Raise the visibility, impact and accessibility of the EFSA Journal, strengthen its peer reviewing system • Improve communication by providing more information in the scientific opinions and expanding the publication of plain-language summaries • Improve post-publication interaction/ communication with stakeholders • Build a global network on risk communication to internationalise messages, language

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE 2

Widen EFSA's evidence base and maximise access to its data

■ EFSA aims to enhance the quality of its outputs by giving direct access to data and promoting the development of collaborative platforms in Europe and internationally.

	Operational objectives	Description/Actions
1	**Adopt an Open Data approach**	• Develop the Data Warehouse to offer better access to the non-confidential data underpinning EFSA's scientific outputs • Work with data providers to promote a culture of openness and sharing • Initiate a data innovation campaign(s) and collaborative opportunities to promote new knowledge and applications of scientific data
2	**Improve data interoperability to facilitate data exchange**	• Participate in European and international interoperability working groups • Identify partnerships to facilitate wider access to data outside EFSA's hub • Co-develop tools to facilitate exchange of data from different sources • Improve EFSA's role as a key contributor to European Open Science projects and integrate with relevant European and international data portals
3	**Migrate towards structured scientific data**	• Identify scientific data that could be harmonised using a structured format, building on existing international standards. • Ensure that data in regulated product dossiers are submitted in a structured format and develop tools and methods for validation of such data. • Improve on-line access to validated scientific data by providing support for their re-use, e.g. for in silico, bio-informatics and simulation methods within EFSA remit.

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE 3

Build the EU's scientific assessment capacity and knowledge community

- EFSA aims to set up cooperation initiatives that make the best use of expertise for scientific assessment through a partnership between EFSA staff, scientific experts and Member State organisations.

	Operational objectives	Description/Actions
1	Set up and implement a common risk assessment and research agenda with Member States and EU agencies, in collaboration with international partners	• Identify and coordinate key EU food safety priorities and follow-up actions at EU and international level • Establish clusters with other EU Agencies and establish close collaboration with DG JRC and DG R&I to identify research priorities and the funding of key research projects • Optimise operations of and strengthen EFSA's cooperation fora to maximise impact at national, EU and international level
2	Foster the growth of the EU and international risk assessment community	• Assess the drivers and implement initiatives for attracting and retaining the best scientific assessment scientists • Identify and foster the continuous development of key, interdisciplinary competencies and capabilities • Analyse the drivers and promote and coordinate initiatives that stimulate competent organisations to build and share their expertise and resources. • Support cooperation and mentoring within the EU and internationally • Organise initiatives to support the networking between experts, national bodies and other Centres of Expertise • Prioritise the use of virtual channels and web tools as primary means of cooperation.
3	Review and further develop EFSA's scientific assessment model	• Review the available capacity, roles and tasks of Panels, working groups, EFSA Staff and networks and coordinate initiatives towards a more effective and efficient model.

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE 4

Prepare for future risk assessment challenges

- Anticipating risk assessment priorities and related methodology and evidence needs will ensure EFSA is prepared for present and new challenges in a dynamic food safety system, whilst driving harmonisation of methodologies to improve food safety across Europe and promote trust.

	Operational objectives	Description/Actions
1	**Strengthen EFSA's preparedness to anticipate and respond effectively to food safety risks in cooperation with EU and international partners**	• Create and implement a process for the identification, planning, implementation and reviewing of research and scientific assessment priorities and follow-up self-initiatives • Strengthen emerging risks processes and tools • Develop a "toolbox" for crisis preparedness
2	**Develop and implement harmonised methodologies for risk assessment across the EU and internationally**	• Ensure the implementation of existing guidance documents within EFSA • Establishing a timetable for the review of all existing sectorial and horizontal guidance, in collaboration with EU and international partners. • Perform coordinated monitoring and review of the application of guidance documents in EFSA and beyond, and monitor EU and international risk assessments to keep EFSA guidance up to date.
3	**Become a hub in methodologies and tools for risk assessment**	• Develop and implement an open access online platform for methodologies and tools, in cooperation with stakeholders • Make EFSA tools international standards, used regularly in training.

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE 5

Create an environment and culture that reflects EFSA's values

■ EFSA aims to foster a culture and environment of openness, innovation, cooperation, independence and scientific excellence among its experts, partners and staff.

	Operational objectives	Description/Actions
1	**People: build a culture that puts EFSA's values into practice**	• Carry out initiatives to ensure the work culture in EFSA delivers the organisation's strategic intent • Embed reputation management in the daily practices of managers, staff and experts • Invest in leadership awareness and development. Introduce standards and related indicators to set expectations and measure managerial performance • Promote and maintain a reward culture for EFSA staff
2	**Organisation & processes: develop an environment focused on improving organisational performance and capabilities**	• Create a system (organisation, processes and technology) to transform EFSA's values into concrete processes and practices, e.g. physical and virtual cooperation spaces, mobile and Web 2.0 solutions for sharing information, professionalised project, programme and portfolio management practices, implementation of a quality management system towards continuous improvement