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Partnership in the making - Sourcing Task Force

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Trusted science for safe food

Background - Partnership



The Transparency Regulation (EU) 2019/1381, within its sustainability pillar, created:

- the opportunity and the need for EFSA to broaden the expertise available and increase the Member States national authorities' contributions
- more financial resource allocated to EFSA

The expectation from EFSA to deliver sound scientific advice in a responsive manner remains, even with increasing number and complexity of mandates.

All these factors converge to strengthen partnerships

The strategy ambitions for partnership



- Risk assessment will be performed in an ecosystem of actors, empowered by knowledge, evidence and expertise of diverse actors, facilitated by online platforms that will stimulate exchanges and interactions among them;
- Partnerships with competent organizations in the MS, EU bodies, international actors and others will be important in having an EU RA system that is fit-for-purpose, responsive, innovative, sustainable, resilient and trusted;
- We will work with our partners in the MS, and others as may be needed, to evolve our partnership approach, building on the strengths of the current system, leveraging opportunities, investing on online platforms, systems and initiatives that promote and support a joint EU RA culture.

Refining the approach



Close-focused Project-oriented Far-focused Concept-oriented

Pilot projects

Lessons learnt

PARTNERSHIPS

Ideas identified

Internal/ External discussion

Sourcing Task Force From specific needs & cases to standard practice

From high-level proposals to pilot implementation

AFDGFoP

Facts on partnership



- Since 2016 45 Framework Partnership Agreements (4 years)
- 24 FPA active
- 6 new FPA launched up to May 2021
- On-going discussion between EFSA Enzymes Team and ANSES for partnering on enzymes safety



Sourcing Task Force



EFSA sourcing task force, which will:

- develop a sustainable sourcing model for EFSA
- aiming at establishing long-term contracts as foundation for long-term partnerships
- contribute to the implementation of the long-term vision of transforming EFSA operation

Scope and objectives



- The task at hand is to find the right partners, individual experts and organisations, and develop partnerships for food safety risk assessment.
- The task force will develop the sourcing opportunities for scientific work (evaluation of regulated products, scientific advice and scientific development projects).
- Both core business and developmental needs will be supported
- How? bringing extra expertise inside and sharing work outside:

Sourcing-in additional individual expertise

Contracts with external partners

Work Plan



Mapping and analysis of sourcing needs (expertise and capacity/capability)

Refine/rationalise sourcing tools catalogue and optimise existing tools when opportune

Piloting a selection of sourcing initiatives

WP1 > WP2 > WP3 > WP4 > WP5 > WP6

Identify capabilities/capacity with organisations and individuals and explore alternative search mechanisms/tools

Develop sourcing process

Develop a communication and change management plan, including training

Clustering of support needs



Scientific Units

Nutrition Feed Scientific Committee & Emerging Risks Assessment & Methodological Support Biological Hazards & Contaminants **Evidence Management SPIDO** Animal & Plant Health Pesticides Residues Food Ingredients & Packaging Pesticide Peer Review Genetically Modified Organisms **Applications Desk**

Overview of needs and topics



Categories and topics



Categories

- Risk Assessment
- Data and database
- Guidance development
- Tool development
- Exposure
- Model and methodology development
- Statistics
- Artificial intelligence

Topics

- Nutrition
- GMO
- Pesticides
- Animal health
- Plant health
- Novel food
- Additives
- Flavourings
- Emerging risks
- Zoonosis
- Genome Sequence
- Food consumption
- etc

Potential candidates for new pilots



- Pesticides peer review and peer-review process coordination
- Public consultations comments' management
- Nutrient Upper Levels
- Food additives re-evaluation risk assessment
- Feed additives risk assessment

Partnership agreements can well suit the identified topics considering:

- the complex and strategic nature of the topics
- volume of work
- common interest in the topics

Take home message





Task Force is the EFSA operational arm (bottom-up) to explore and initiate successful partnership agreements



Boost-up the volume, value and speed of sourcing initiatives



Raise awareness and interest in the scientific areas in which partnership could be fostered

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