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> Alessandra Giarola Sourcing Task Force





Trusted science for safe food

# Challenges ahead of us



Volume of evidence
Evolving methodologies
New endpoints
Cross-domain approaches

Complexity

Holistic approach
New protection goals
Transparency
Desire to participate

Societal expectations

Globalisation of trade Mobility (goods, hazards) Technological innovation

Market trends

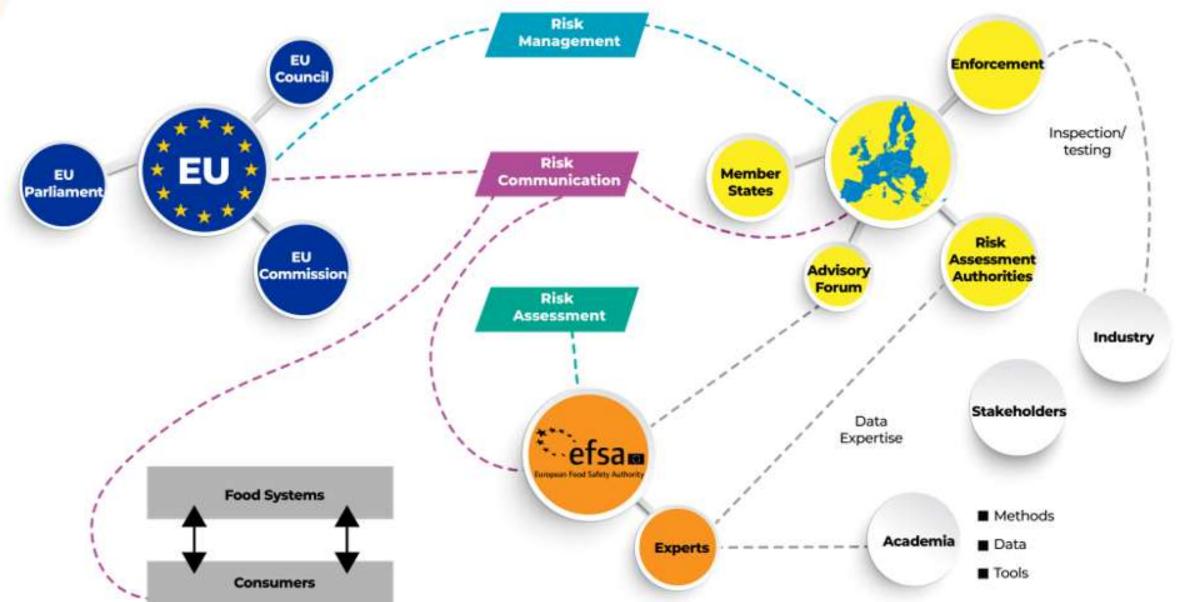
Public perception Communication Mis/dis-information

Trust erosion

How can we provide relevant, fit-for-purpose scientific advice in the future?

# European food safety system





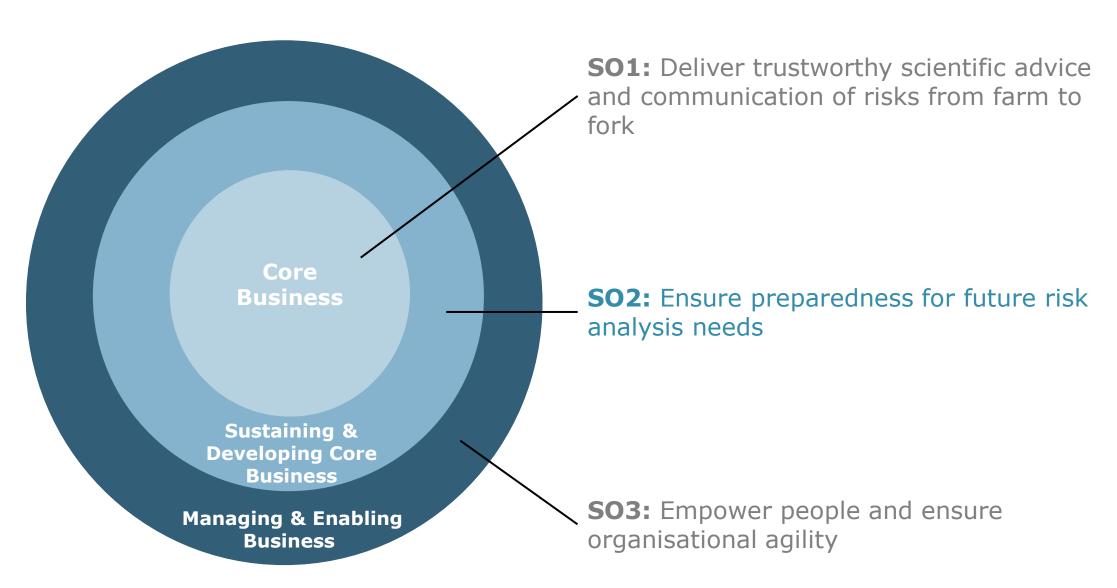
# A new partnership approach





### Strategic Objectives of EFSA 2027





# SO1: Deliver trustworthy scientific advice and communication of risks from farm to fork



### **Expected Outcome 1.1**

Increased relevance and improved reputation of EFSA's scientific advice

#### **EOR 1.1.1**

Assessments for regulated products are delivered with quality and efficiently

- [...]
- Broaden the use of (in/out) sourcing tools and partnership schemes ensuring appropriate risk assessment capacity (TR)
- Apply broadened engagement of partners and stakeholders based on openness and transparency (TR)
- Make use of wider, improved and new data streams
- [...]

#### **EOR 1.1.2**

Generic scientific advice is delivered with quality and efficiently

- [...]
- Broaden the use of (in/out) sourcing tools and partnership schemes ensuring appropriate risk assessment capacity (TR)
- Apply broadened engagement of partners and stakeholders based on openness and transparency (TR)
- Make use of wider, improved and new data streams
- [...]

# SO2: Ensure preparedness for future risk analysis needs



### **Expected Outcome 2.1**

Increased risk analysis capabilities (knowledge, expertise, methodologies and data) to maintain relevance for the future

#### **EOR 2.1.1**

Harmonised risk assessment culture, with the necessary knowledge and expertise, is ensured at EU level

- Develop **strategic and operational partnerships** with MS competent organisations and EU Agencies to boost the sustainability of the risk assessment system (TR)
- Support the function and expansion of networks and partnerships through **platforms**, which will facilitate information, data and knowledge sharing, and will enable communication and cooperation with other actors of the regulatory ecosystem
- Provide EU capacity building and competency management & development actions in close cooperation with MS and EU Agencies (TR)

#### **EOR 2.1.2**

The quality and scale of crisis preparedness and the identification of emerging risks is improved

#### **EOR 2.1.3**

The quality of scientific guidance and methodologies is improved to address future challenges

#### **EOR 2.1.4**

Preparedness for future regulatory and policy needs addressing the EU Farm to Fork, Biodiversity and Chemical strategies is ensured

#### **EOR 2.1.5**

Wider access to and broader exploitation of data and analytics is achieved

# Characteristics of Partnerships



#### Partnerships

Long-term
Trustful
Win-win
Reciprocal
Co-creation
Shared risks
Shared values
Shared strategy

Ad hoc cooperation

Transactional
One-off
Individual risks

## How do we build the 'Partnerships' approach?

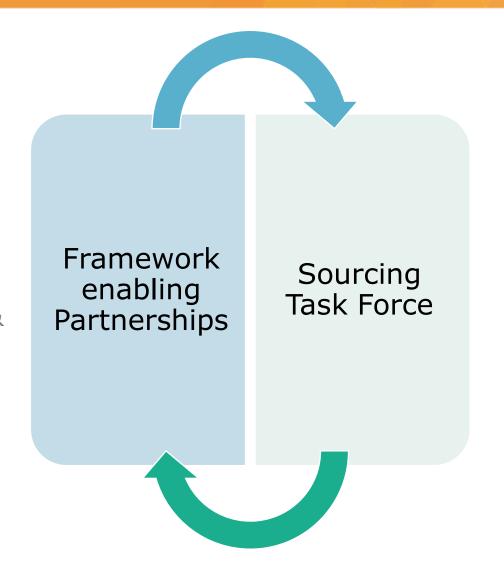


MS/ Advisory Forum & Focal Points

Sustainability of RA

Cooperation motives & support mechanisms

Identification of expertise



Collating scientific needs

Sourcing model

Outsourcing mechanisms

Pilot projects

Building the EU risk assessment culture

### Facts on cooperation with MS



- Since 2016 45 Framework Partnership Agreements (4 years)
- 24 FPAs active
- 6 new FPAs 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**



## **GMO Topics**



- Assessments
- Literature search
- Risk assessment methodology development / refinement
- Sequencing
- Statistics
- Tool development (GIS-based)

### 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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