



4th EFSA Technical Group on Notification of Studies Database – Report

08 June 2021

Introduction

EFSA's 4th Technical Group (TG) meeting on Notification of Studies Database took place virtually and was chaired by Karine Lheureux (Head of Applications Desk Unit). Stakeholder, facility/laboratory, DG SANTE and EFSA representatives participated in the meeting, with the full list of participants available on EFSA's website.¹

Welcome and Apologies for absences adoption of agenda

No additional points raised by the participants; agenda adopted.

Notification of Studies Database – Current Status

EFSA provided an overview of the current status since the last TG meeting ([27-28 January 2021](#)) until now, highlighting the steps undergone to prepare the go live of the Notification of Studies Database, statistics of the Notification of studies and list of intended studies for renewal up to 4th June. During the presentation a brief overview of the new features of the tool expected to be released by end of June was provided.

Update on Account and Contact registration

EFSA presented the process of accounts creation and statistics on the current number of organisations and contacts registered in the system up to now. Challenges encountered after the go live were reported and the key steps of the account management flow were introduced.

Results of the survey

Prior to this meeting EFSA shared a survey asking the members of the Technical Group for feedback on their experience with the Notification of Studies Database after going live, the results of which were summarised in the presentation given.

Have your say - TG members presentations

Technical Group members were previously invited to prepare brief presentations for sharing more in detail their experience with the tool, their challenges and their suggestions for enhancement and support.

Four presentations were delivered by the following Technical Groups members

- ECPA European Crop Protection Association
- European Association Bioindustry
- Eurofins as representative of CROs
- BASF

¹ <https://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/2021-06/4th-meeting-efsa-technical-group-notification-studies-database-participants.pdf>

Training needs and material

EFSA collected suggestions for additional training material and requests for additional trainings/engagement opportunities with the users of the Notification of Studies Database.

Next steps

EFSA provided an overview of the next steps for the Technical Group and its intention to organise two core meetings in November/December 2021 and in June 2022 to collect further feedback on the Notification of Studies Database and additional training needs. The Technical Group members expressed support for the way forward asking to complement the two core meetings with ad-hoc meetings in case of need from both parties.

Conclusions

The discussions and the feedbacks of the technical group members were very fruitful. The meeting was set up allowing question and answers for each agenda point. The meeting included also the presentations of the experience of the stakeholders with the Notification of Study database.

Through the survey and with the stakeholder presentations, several inputs were collected to take forward to the project change board.

Particularly relevant were the requests to have a forward plan for the enhancements that will be performed on the system as well as a publicly available change log, registering all the proposed enhancements coming from the users.