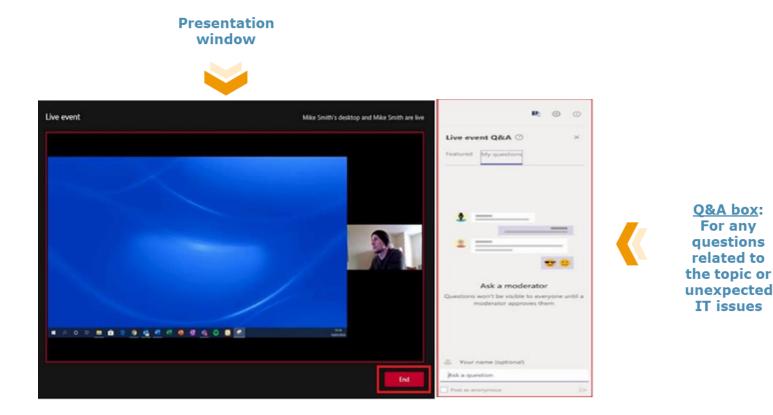
4 December 2023 14:30-17:00

WEBINAR ON FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES IN THE EFSA 2024 WORKPLAN



HOUSE KEEPING RULES

- You are automatically connected to the audio broadcast. One-way audio (listen only mode).
- The event is in English. Questions should be submitted in English via tha **Q&A chat.**
- This event is being recorded and **recordings** will be published on EFSA's website.
- After the event, attendees will receive a link to a **survey** to evaluate the EFSA's event & services.





INTRODUCTION

What do we aim to cover in this event?

- Can scientific organisations in the EU Member States (and Norway and Iceland) work with EFSA?
- If yes, how?
- What are the forthcoming cooperation opportunities for 2024/25?

Please note: The event will be recorded, and the recordings will be published on EFSA's website. The information on the forthcoming funding opportunities is based on EFSA's <u>draft</u> work programme and is <u>subject to</u> <u>change</u>.

Time	Торіс
14:30 - 14:35	Welcome and introduction of the participants
Part 1	Scientific cooperation projects: Strategy; Financial & Administrative modalities; Support mechanism
14:35 – 14:45	The contribution of scientific cooperation projects to the mission of EFSA – new features introduced to EFSA's Founding Regulation
14:45 – 15.15	EFSA's outsourcing tools: procurement and grant funding, and administrative modalities
15:15 – 15.25	A support mechanism for potential partners: the Focal Point Network
15:25 –15:40	Q&A for Part 1
15:40 - 15:50	Break
Part 2	Envisaged funding opportunities for 2024/25
15:50 -16:45	An overview of the plan for calls for grants and tenders for 2024/25
16:45 –16:55	Q&A for Part 2
16:55 –17:00	Conclusions and closure of the meeting

04 December 2023 | 14.30 - 17.00 CET

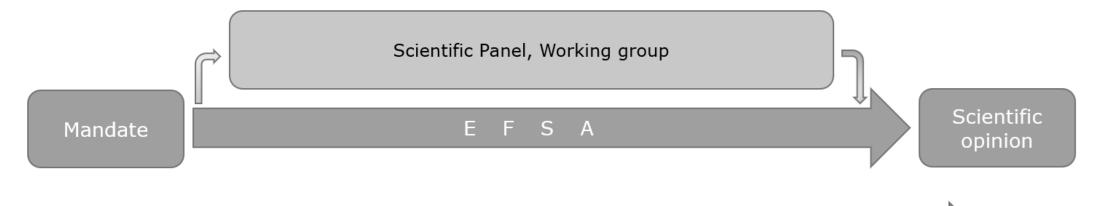


SCIENTIFIC COOPERATION: SUPPORTING THE MISSION OF EFSA

Gisèle Gizzi-Team Leader Knowledge, Innovation & Partnership Unit (KNOW)



2002 – 2019: A VIEW TO RISK ASSESSMENT (SIMPLIFIED VIEW)



EFSA, Scientific Committee: Methodologies, Guidance documents, etc.

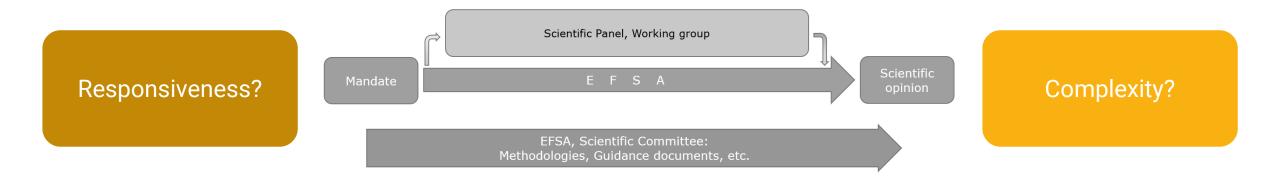




REG. (EC) 178/2002 FITNESS CHECK & EFSA 2027 STRATEGY

Sustainability of the food safety system?

Duplication of effort?







REGULATION (EU) 2019/1381 (20 JUNE 2019)*

Strengthened support provided by the MS to the Scientific Committee & Scientific Panels.

E.g.:

 MS competent bodies (Art.36**) to draft preparatory scientific opinions to be peer-reviewed by the Scientific Panels

Efficient operation of the EFSA

A system for sustainability of expertise for RA



+ 106 STAFF; + EUR 76M



* Regulation (EU) 2019/1381 on the transparency and sustainability of the EU risk assessment in the food chain

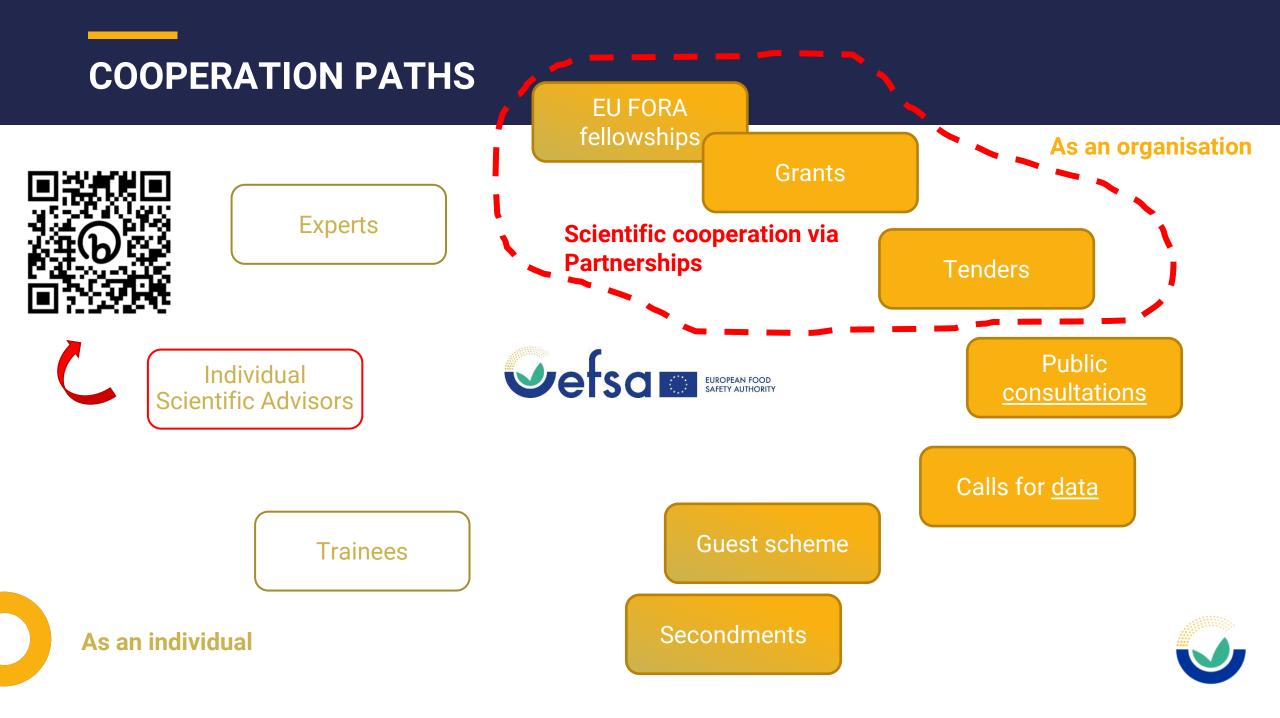
** Regulation (EC) 178/2002 laying down the general principles and requirements of food law, establishing the European Food Safety Authority and laying down procedures in matters of food safety

AN INCREASING ROLE FOR PARTNERING WITH MS COMPETENT BODIES

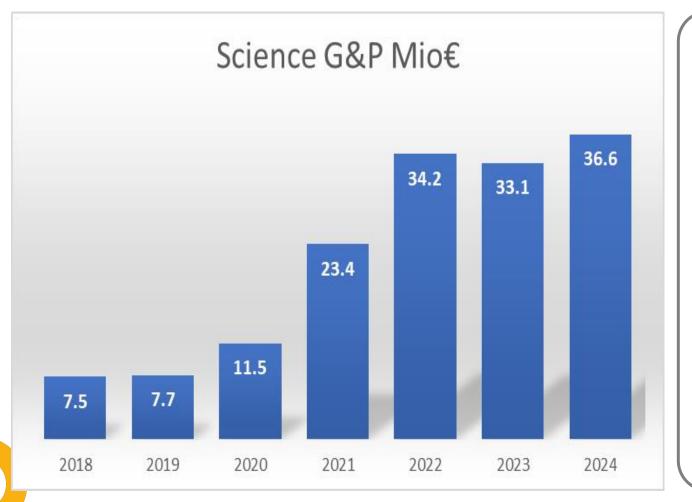


A **Partnership** is 'a **long-term, trust-based cooperation**, built on common values and goals, with attractive **win-win** elements, primarily between EFSA and MS competent organisations, EU Agencies, EC Services, where risks and benefits are shared and that generate, among others, **tangible outputs**'





EVOLUTION OF EFSA SCIENCE GRANTS & PROCUREMENT BUDGET



- Until 2019, Science G&P budget was stable at approximately 7.5Mio€
- Following Transparency Regulation:
 - 2021: 3x 2019 Budget
 - 2022-23: 5x 2019 Budget
- Science G&P Budget expected to stabilise at 35Mio€
- Expected trend ('partnership'):
 - ↓ Number of calls (%)
 - ↑ Calls leading to 'Framework' agreements
 - ↑ Budget
 - ↑ Duration
 - ↑ Participation (consortia)

WHAT TOPICS CAN BE FOUND IN EFSA'S CALLS?

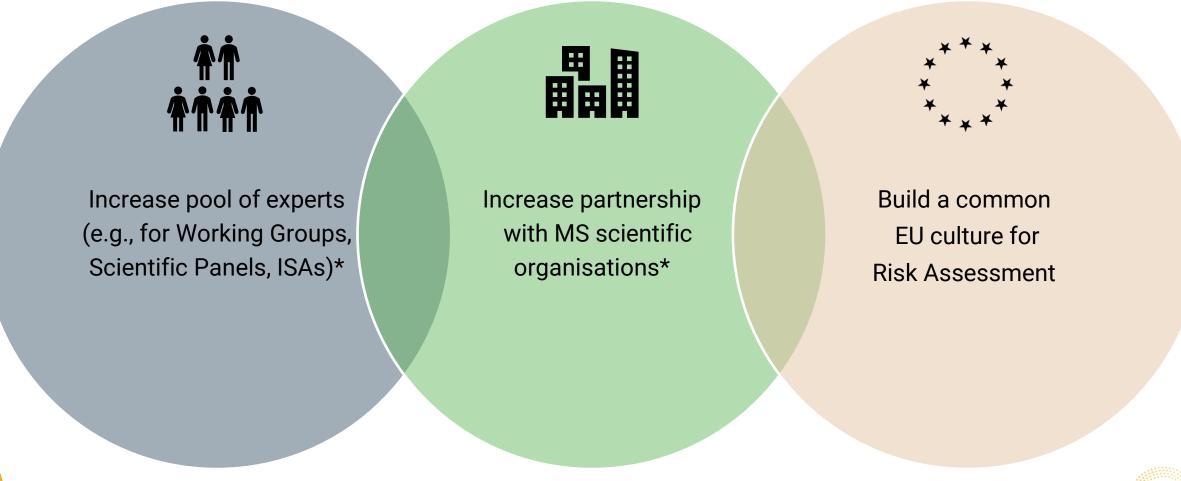
- Topics can fall into any of the areas in the remit of EFSA. E.g.:
 - Plant health
 - Animal health
 - Animal welfare
 - Nutrition
 - Biological hazards
 - Chemical contaminants in food and feed

- Feed additives
- Novel food
- Plant protection products
- GMO
- Environmental RA
- Food ingredients and packaging

- Emerging risks
- Data, incl. food consumption
- Cross-cutting science
- Methodologies for RA
- Risk communication
- Citizen science.
- Etc.
- Each year, EFSA's calls usually fall into a subset only of those topics
- Important:
 - EFSA works on Risk Assessment and Risk Communication
 - EFSA does not work on Risk Management (i.e., EFSA does not create legislation, does not decide on measures, does not enforce legislation, etc.)



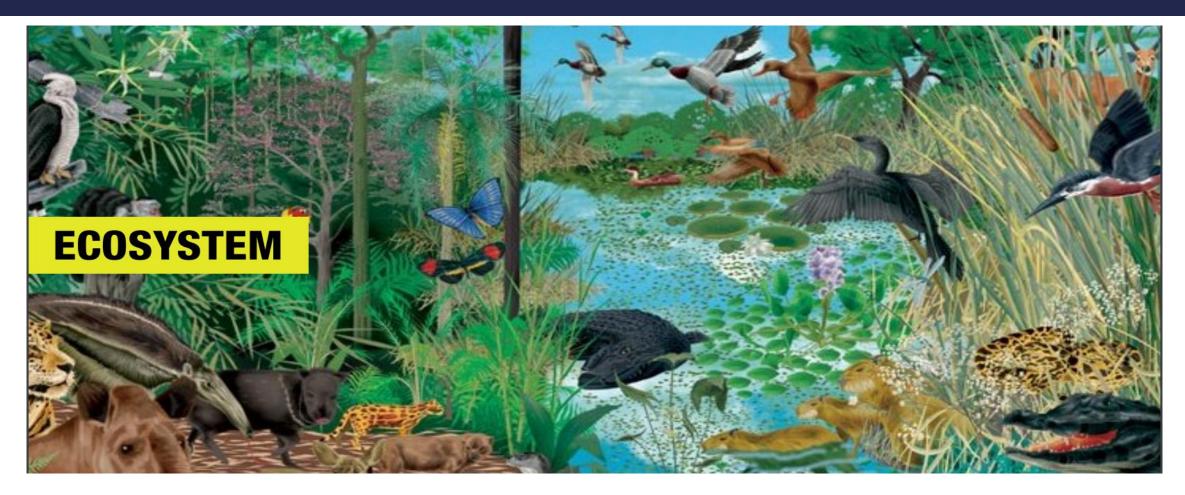
THE FOOD SAFETY ECOSYSTEM 'BLUE PRINT'





(*with access to comprehensive Risk Assessment trainings)

AN ECOSYSTEM OF FOOD SAFETY ACTORS



"(Business) Ecosystems are **dynamic** and **co-evolving** communities of **diverse actors**, who **create** and **capture new value** through both **collaboration** and **competition**" *"Business ecosystems come of age"*, *Deloitte University Press*, 2015

EFSA'S OUTSOURCING TOOLS: PROCUREMENT AND GRANT FUNDING AND ADMINISTRATIVE MODALITIES

Donna Lucas, Procurement Team Leader EFSA Finance Unit



PROCUREMENT

Procurement Infographic

For: purchase of services, goods and works

Who: only economic operators established in EU, subcontracting outside EU possible

- Call for tenders
 - Open calls (€140K+)
 - Negotiated procedures (€15k € 140K)
 - Duly justified circumstances e.g. monopoly
- Procedure results in Direct or Framework Contract

EFSA procurement: why, what, HOW

EFSA buys services and supplies through public procurement in line with EU legislation and the basic principles of transparency, equal treatment and non-discrimination, widest competition, proportionality and sound financial management.

When tendering for EFSA procurement procedures, tenderers may bid alone as a single entity or in a joint offer with partners. All tenderers must have access to the EU market to be eligible for the award of EFSA contracts. Tenderers may also rely on the use of subcontractors in their offer. Subcontractors may be established in countries which do not have access to the EU market, unless specified differently in the individual call for tenders.

HOW ARE PROCUREMENT CONTRACTS AWARDED?

NEGOTIATED PROCEDURE **NEGOTIATED PROCEDURE OPEN CALL FOR TENDERS** FOR TENDERS WITH NO CALL FOR TENDERS ▶ Below 15,000 € For purchases of any value, a contract For purchases above 140,000 €. Invite at least 1 may be awarded directly to an economic Open to all economic operators with direct invitation with no advance publicity. operator without the need of a call for EU market access. tenders, in the circumstances described in ► Above 15,000 € and below 60,000 € para. 11.1 of Annex 1 of the EU Financial Published in EU-OJ with at least 37 days Invite at least 3 Regulation. Examples: to submit offers. Advance publicity on EFSA website for expression of interest, then direct invitation. Monopoly due to ownership / protection of exclusive rights. ► Above 60,000 € and below 140,000 € **Extreme urgency** due to Invite at least 5 unforeseeable events. Advance publicity on EFSA website for expression of interest, then direct invitation.

FRAMEWORK CONTRACT	Exact deliverables & timing NOT known	DIRECT CONTRACT	Exact deliverables & timing known
Single	One FWC signed with one contractor (individual organisation or consortium).		
► Cascade	FWC signed with different contractors and assigned order of ranking.	SPECIFIC CONTRACTS/	Exact deliverables & timing known
Re-opening competition	FWC signed with pool of contractors which compete for specific assignments.	ORDER FORMS	

TYPE OF CONTRACT

EFSA GRANTS

EFSA grants: why, what, HOW



EFSA may award grants to organisations which are designated by their Member State to assist EFSA with its mission and which are included on the Article 36 list of Competent Organisations. The list of eligible organisations to whom EFSA grants may be awarded is updated regularly and details of how new organisations can be included on the list is available at https://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/partnersnetworks/scorg.

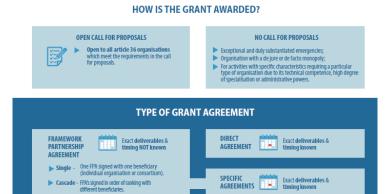
When applying for EFSA grants, organisations may apply alone or in consortium with other Article 36 organisations, unless specified differently in the call for proposals. Applications may also involve some subcontracting, including with non-Art.36 organisations under certain conditions specified in the call



METHODS OF FUNDING

A higher rate of funding (to-financing) is given for task directly supporting risk assessment compared to a lower rate of funding to projects ideated by the beneficiary. Co-financing may be provided up to a maximum of 99% of the total eligible costs. Alternatively, grants using "Financing not linked to costs" may cover all project costs and may even result in a profit to the beneficiary. Sorted bow by ease of processing





Grants Infographic

For: performance of Risk Assessment or Capacity Building tasks defined in Article 4 of Regulation 2230/2004 and Article 1.5.e Regulation 2019/1381

Who: only organisations on the Article 36 list

- Call for proposals
 - Open call for proposals (any value)
 - Duly justified circumstances e.g. monopoly
- Procedure results in Direct agreement or Framework Partnership Agreement (FPA)

DIFFERENCE BETWEEN PROCUREMENT & GRANTS







PROCUREMENT OR GRANT?

氲

Æ	Is there need to limit task execution to list of Art. 36 competent organisations?
?	Is the task within the ones eligible for grant support ?
	Is the necessary expertise on the Art. 36 list?
	Is it acceptable for EFSA that ownership (intellectual property rights) of the

grant outcome remains with the beneficiary?



WHO CAN APPLY?

Procurement

- Open to economic operators with access to EU market
- Apply as single tenderer or joint offer with partners (all must have access to EU market)
- Apply as single tenderer involving subcontractors
- No limitations on composition of offer



- Only organisations on Article 36 list can apply
- EU Member States, Norway & Iceland
- Apply as single organisation or in consortium with other Article 36 organisations
- Subcontracting permitted but only for non-core tasks



HOW TO APPLY

Procurement

- Application via email or esubmission depending on procedure type
- Timescales to apply varies, some minimum timescales set in law
- Evaluation carried out by EFSA staff, detailed feedback to all tenderers on their offer
- **Evaluation Criteria** exclusion; selection (*experience*); quality; price
- Time launch to contract: 6 months average



- Application e-submission since Q2 2023
- Timescales to apply varies
- Evaluation carried out by EFSA staff, detail feedback to all applicants on their proposals
- Evaluation Criteria exclusion; selection (*experience*); quality
- **Time launch to grant:** 6 months average



FINDING FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

European Commission Funding & tender opportunities Single Electronic Data Interchange Area (SEDIA)									
SEARCH FU	JNDING & TENDERS 🔻	HOW TO PARTICIPAT	E 🔻 PROJECTS & RESU	LTS WORK AS AN EXPERT SUPPORT	•	i Ge			
efsa ✔ Match whole v	words only	Q	Funding and t	、 <i>、 、</i>	Need help?	Sort by: Submission status			
GRANTS TENDERS			PERA - Advancing t based approach EUBA-EFSA-2023-PREV-0	the ERA of Plant Protection Products	towards a system-	Call for proposal Grant			
Submission status			Programme	EU Bodies and Agencies (EUBA)	Status	Open for submission			
	~		Type of action	EUBA Type of Action	Deadline model	single-stage			
Forthcoming	Open for submission (10)	Closed	Opening date	06 July 2023	Deadline date	08 November 2023 17:00:00 Brussels time			
Tender Purchase of Document Delivery Services and Library Portal Solution, Resource discovery Tool Service, SUSHI Harvester, A to Z List and Open URL Link Resolution Functionality OC/EFSA/MESE/2023/01 Open for submission									
			Procedure type	Open procedure	Contract type	Services			
			Publication date	29 June 2023	Deadline date	04 September 2023 14:30			



USEFUL INFORMATION



EFSA G&P animation https://youtu.be/m3JXWr6qSGw



EFSAProcurement@efsa.europa.eu



#efsaprocurement



A SUPPORT MECHANISM FOR POTENTIAL PARTNERS: THE FOCAL POINT NETWORK

Elīna Ciekure

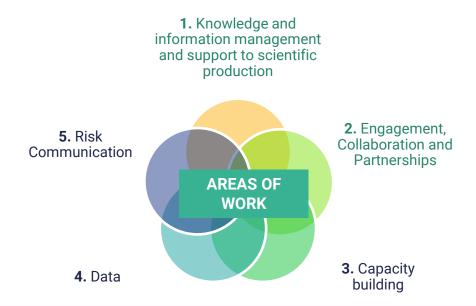
Engagement and External relationship Unit



FOCAL POINTS (FP) NETWORK



FP network consists of **27 EU MS** + **Iceland and Norway** + observers from Switzerland and IPA countries



The FP Network supports the members of the EFSA Advisory Forum since 2008 through:



advice on cooperation and scientific projects between EFSA and MS through the EFSA Scientific Networks and List of Competent Organisations (Art. 36 Org.)



information sharing and **dissemination** activities concerning food safety risk assessment



raising EFSA's scientific **visibility** and outreach in the MS



promotion of trainings in risk assessment



FP FRAMEWORK STRATEGIC ORIENTATION



A fit-for-purpose and sustainable network of national Focal Points working together with their national relevant actors and actors of the EU/EEA Member States and observer countries and in partnership with EFSA, to contribute to a resilient food safety system in Europe.





National Focal Points act as **connecting hubs** between EFSA and their relevant national actors and actors of the EU/EEA Member States and observer countries. Within a changing and increasingly complex environment and to respond to the ambitions of the EU Green Deal, Focal Points address EFSA and national needs and priorities to contribute to a **cohesive food safety system** in Europe. In this regard, Focal Points use the opportunities brought by the **Transparency Regulation** in order to foster **partnerships**.



FOCAL POINTS AND EFSA CALLS

EUROPEAN FOOD SAFETY AUTHORITY Information on calls

Support to national organisations

- Management of Art. 36 org. list
- Gathering information at national level on bottlenecks and success factors on calls for applications -> information shared to EFSA
- Implementing activities to address bottlenecks identified and share best practices
- Organisation of workshops/trainings at national level on EFSA calls
- Support in partners' search
- Support in contact with EFSA
- Support in preparation of the proposal

Knowledgeable on:

- types of EFSA calls
- where to retrieve information on EFSA calls
- where to retrieve supporting info for applicants

Raising visibility of calls

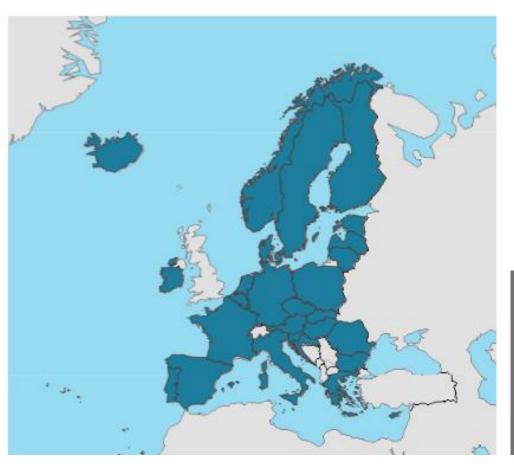
efsa FOCAL POINT

- Dissemination to Art. 36 organisations
- Dissemination to organisations beyond Art. 36
 organisations
- Targeted dissemination to relevant individual experts
- Publications on FP webpages
- Dedicated events & presentations



CONTACT YOUR FOCAL POINT

Focal points members and observers



Contact information of EFSA FP members, observers and links to FP national webpages available on EFSA webpage <u>here</u>



Q&A PART 1

....

S



THE SESSION WILL START AGAIN AT 15.50



ENVISAGED FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES FOR 2024-2025

Giorgia Zamariola, COM Unit Raquel Garcia Matas, KNOW Unit Cristina Alonso Andicoberry, ENREL Unit Anastasia Livaniou, IDATA Unit Sybren Vos, PLANTS Unit Anna Christodoulidou, FEEDCO Unit Ana Afonso, NIF Unit Sofie Dhollander, BIOHAW Unit Lisa Kohnle, BIOHAW Unit

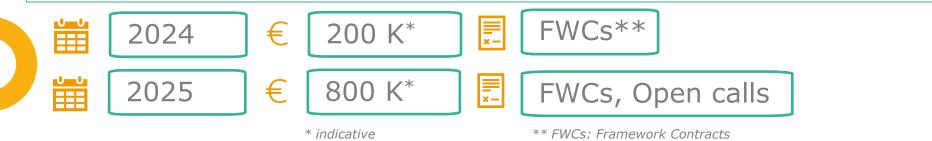


The information presented herein is based on EFSA's <u>draft</u> work programme and it is subject to change without prior notice. Interest parties should always consult the text of the calls, as published!

DOMAIN: EVIDENCE-BASED RISK COMMUNICATION

Title: Develop new evidence and tools in risk communication and engagement

- <u>Scientific report published in 2021</u> provided the European Commission (EC) with Technical assistance in the field of risk communication and identified research needs
- This resulted in the development of a <u>Risk communication Roadmap</u> in 2022 to focus on four areas:
 - 1. False information related to food safety
 - 2. Effectiveness of Transparency initiatives
 - 3. Insights into consumer trade-offs related to risks and benefits
 - 4. Linking factors behind perception and behaviour
- The roadmap is under development, set to be **finalised by early March 2024**
- The findings stemming from the roadmap will be implemented through projects with the aim of testing new tools and activities that would become part of standard risk communication efforts of EFSA, the EC and the Member States





DOMAIN: CAPACITY BUILDING

Title: Call for a Training Facilitator to provide EFSA with technical support in coordinating and designing scientific training courses

- Harmonisation of Risk Assessment methodologies across the EU has been also identified as a major goal in the EFSA strategy 2027.
 - Teaching European experts in Risk Assessment on the principles described in EFSA's guidance documents contribute to reach this goal.
 - Scientific topics on EFSA trainings are very specific to EFSA's remit. Due to their complexity, the development requires close collaboration from the EFSA's Subject Matter Experts.
- Fulfilling the logistical and administrative aspects involved in the development and delivery of EFSA's scientific trainings in a variety of modalities (including eLearning), while supporting EFSA's Subject Matter Experts to produce and deliver their scientific content.





DOMAIN: CAPACITY BUILDING (EU-FORA)



Title: EUBA-EFSA-2023-ENREL-01: Selection of hosting sites and fellows for EFSA's European Food Risk Assessment Fellowship (EU-FORA) Programme (deadline 14.03.2024)

- Selection of 15 hosting sites and fellows for the EU-FORA programme 2024-2025, starting in September 2024.
- The call intends to identify <u>consortia</u> of two (only) Art. 36 organisations from two different Member States, Iceland or Norway.
 - One acts as hosting site, proposing a work programme for the training of the fellow; one acts as fellow sending organisation, identifying among their staff a fellow to be trained.
- The fellowship lasts for 12 months. The fellow remains a staff member of their institution and is released from their regular tasks to follow the work programme.
- Most of the work programme is followed remotely. Fellows will spend a minimum of three months at the hosting organisation.





+

55 K*







DOMAIN: FOOD CONSUMPTION DATA COLLECTION

Title: Piloting of new tools for EU Menu 2 surveys

- EFSA has been running the <u>EU Menu project</u> since 2011 for the collection of harmonised, pan-European Food Consumption data
- In preparation of EU Menu phase 2, the ERA EU Menu Project ("Evaluation and development of methods and tools for the preparation of the next round of national dietary surveys") has given evidence supporting the use of new technologies in the context of EU-wide food consumption data collections
- EFSA will launch a call for the adaptations and/or the development of survey tools that will cover requirements identified under ERA EU Menu Project and that are necessary to increase the efficiency of the data collections, but also the accuracy and harmonisation of food consumption data in Europe.
- This will combine the organisation and run of different **pilot projects** to test the draft new guidance and tools







* indicative





DOMAIN: PLANT PEST SURVEILLANCE

Title: Preparation of pest survey cards for Union Quarantine pests

Context: Mandate of the EC to support the MSs in planning and execution of pest surveys for all the Union Quarantine pests

Pest survey card: Guide the user in gathering of information and data for survey preparation

Activities: Characterise the pests/host plants/detection methods

Different lots:

- Begomoviruses vectored by *Bemisia tabaci*
- Non-EU scolitinae
- Pests of Cereals & fibre
- Additional 20 pests





* indicative

Grant- Direct & result based



DOMAIN: PLANT PEST SURVEILLANCE

Title: Estimation of survey parameters for 20 Priority pests

Context: Mandate of the EC to support the MSs in planning and execution of pest surveys for all the Union Quarantine pests

Activities :

Design of experimental and statistical protocols for estimation of survey parameters

- Performance of field detection methods
- Prevalence at detection
- Relative risk connected to spread capacity of the pests



Grant- Direct & result based



DOMAIN: PLANT PEST SURVEILLANCE

Title: Performance of traps and bait

Context: Mandate of the EC to support the MSs in planning and execution of pest surveys for all the Union Quarantine Pests (UQP). Sensitivity of Detection is a key parameter for survey design. Majority of UQP are insects and only very little guidance is available on the choice of traps to use at low levels of prevalence.

Activities :

- 1. Review tech.& sci. lit for traps and bait used for UQP focusing on:
 - Attractiveness of traps
 - Coverage of traps
- 2. Develop a standard method to estimate the of traps performance



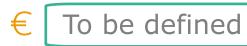


DOMAIN: CONTAMINANTS RISK ASSESSMENT

Title: Role of nitrate/nitrite and of processing and storage in the N-nitrosamine formation in certain foods

- The formation of carcinogenic N-nitrosamines in the presence of nitrate/nitrite may be one of the underlying reasons for the much-discussed association of nitrates/nitrites/processed meat with cancer.
 - The role of nitrate/nitrite, processing and storage on the formation of carcinogenic Nnitrosamines in meat and in other possible food sources remains, however, relatively unexplored.
- Analytical work is needed for the development of a series of meat, fish, cheese and vegetable food model systems with or without the addition of nitrate/nitrite to measure possible correlations between nitrates/nitrites and N-nitrosamines and to provide information on the role of cooking and storage on N-nitrosamine formation.









DOMAIN: NOVEL FOOD APPLICATIONS

Title: Risk Assessment of Novel Food Applications

- According to REG (EU) 2015/2283 EFSA is responsible for the risk assessment of Novel food applications prior to their authorization in the EU market
 - Novel food is any food that was not consumed "to a significant degree in the Union" prior to May 1997
 - **Categories** new foods, foods from new sources, new substances used in food as well as new ways and technologies for producing food.
 - **Risk assessment** is conducted according to the "Guidance on the preparation and presentation of an application for authorisation of a novel food in the context of Regulation (EU) 2015/2283" (currently under revision)
 - Number of **applications** for potential outsourcing for support would be around 24 per year (@ approximately 20K€ per application over 3 years)
- Support the NDA panel preparing reports/opinions on the assessment of Novel food Applications
- Call launch 2024, implementation 4th Q 2024







* value based on ongoing FPA



** to be determined



DOMAIN: REVIEW OF NUTRIENTS UPPER LEVELS

Title: Data collection and analysis for the review of micronutrients (vitamins and minerals) upper levels

- A review of the tolerable upper intake values (ULs) for micronutrients to support the European Commission's regulatory work on setting maximum levels for vitamins and minerals added to foodstuff and food supplements is necessary (mandate not yet received).
- A Draft <u>Guidance for establishing and applying tolerable upper intake levels for vitamins and</u> <u>essential minerals</u> was published in Jan 2022. It outlines general principles which served as the basis for the evaluation of the adverse effects of micronutrients on humans and the setting of ULs. The NDA Panel will review the guidance document following a pilot phase on ongoing assessments of 8 micronutrients. **Public consultation Spring 2024; finalization by June 2024**
- Literature reviews are necessary to collect available scientific data for future work
- Call launch 2024 (TBC), implementation 2025





DOMAIN: RISK ASSESSMENT NOVEL PROTEINS/ GMO -NF

Title: Protein safety: Literature search, in silico and in vitro testing approaches, development of models

- Novel proteins and protein sources are an alternative to sustainability challenges of current food systems
- Risk assessment is needed to ensure safety to human and animal health of new proteins, but several challenges were identified, and new alternative methods are needed
- Preparatory work is needed to review scientific evidence and support the development of new methods and standards
- Call launch 2024, implementation 2025





DOMAIN: VECTOR BORNE DISEASES

Title: Vectornet

Inter institutional Framework contract with ECDC

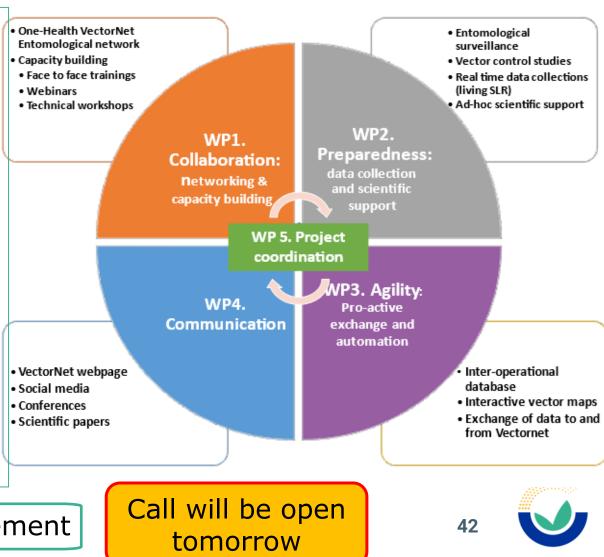
- **Collaboration:** long-term partnerships in the prevention and control of vector-borne diseases in the EU and neighbouring countries and increase synergy of activities.
- **Preparedness:** scientific support for risk assessments on vector-borne pathogens, affecting public health, animal health, or both, by collecting and analysing data to fill gaps in knowledge, using a One Health approach.
- **Agility:** ensuring the interoperability and automation of the data collections and analysis processes to facilitate multifaceted risk assessments; and
- Communication: gain visibility and uptake of the outputs of the One Health partnership, by using communication strategies that target broad audiences.











* 1.25 Million from ECDC

DOMAIN: HIGHLY PATHOGENIC AVIAN INFLUENZA



Title: Establishing capacities for active surveillance of highly pathogenic avian influenza in wild birds in Europe (deadline 21.02.2024)

- Provision of an **early warning system** for highly pathogenic avian influenza in Europe and increasing knowledge of circulating avian influenza viruses
 - Establishment of a network of surveillance nodes → building long-term capacities and partnerships in European countries
 - **Complementing** already existing or planned surveillance activities
 - Providing a pipeline for rapid detection and identification of avian influenza viruses → making results available in almost real-time
 - Targeting different hosts and times of the year

* indicative

• Focus on 9 selected geographic locations (division of the call into 9 lots)









Q&A PART 2



THANK YOU FOR ATTENDING OUR EVENT

- In case we did not manage to answer all your **questions**, you will find them published on EFSA's website (here). Please note that similar individual questions will be grouped, where possible.
- The recordings of today's event will be available on the EFSA's website.
- Please take few minutes to fill out the evaluation **survey** that you will receive after the event. Your feedback is essential to improve our future events!



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