



Meeting of the Selection Board for EFSA's Discussion Group on Environmental Risk Assessment (Stakeholder DG on ERA)

Environment, Plants & Ecotoxicology Unit (PLANTS Unit)



Selection board:

Chair: Christophe Wolff – Members: Domenica Auteri, Agnès Rortais – Secretariat: Martina Liccardo

1. Background

Environmental risk assessment (ERA) of plant protection products (PPPs) is required by Regulation (EC) No 1107/2009, which regulates the placing on the market of these products in the European Union. In line with EFSA 2027 Strategic objectives on ensuring preparedness for future risk analysis needs, more up-to-date scientific guidance and methodological approaches need to be developed. For regulatory environmental risk assessment (ERA), opportunities identified so far include the integration of several aspects related to the landscape (e.g., landscape structure and ecology) and combining prospective and retrospective assessments. To develop such integrated assessments, EFSA has established a multiannual plan for 2024-2028 to advance the ERA of PPPs^{1,2}. The activities under this multiannual plan aim, primarily, to consolidate risk assessment methodologies for PPPs, and to integrate new tools and scientific knowledge.

Furthermore, in consideration of a prioritisation exercise identifying a priority list for the revision of guidance documents (GDs)³, the European Commission announced to mandate EFSA for the revision of Guidance Document (GD) on Terrestrial Ecotoxicology (EC, 2002)⁴. This GD includes non-target arthropods (NTAs), non-target terrestrial plants (NTTPs), in-soil organisms. In addition, the European Commission mentioned to request EFSA to develop an approach for including indirect effects on biodiversity via trophic interactions⁵.

Overall, considering both the complexity of the subject and the stakeholder and public interest, EFSA has decided to establish a Stakeholder Discussion Group⁶ on ERA. The group will be informed and, where needed, consulted at various stages of the revision of the above GD, and on any relevant development of the EFSA multiannual plan and activities in the area of ERA.

¹ <https://etendering.ted.europa.eu/cft/cft-display.html?cftId=13966>

² <https://www.efsa.europa.eu/it/art36grants/article36/euba-efsa-prev-2023-01-pera-advancing-era-plant-protection-products-towards>

³ https://food.ec.europa.eu/system/files/2023-06/pesticides_ppp_app-list-guidance_priority-list.pdf.

⁴ [Guidance Document on Terrestrial Ecotoxicology Under Council Directive 91/414/EEC. SANCO/10329/2002_rev 2 final 17 October 2002.](#)

⁵ https://food.ec.europa.eu/document/download/833022f8-3631-425c-bc5c-a5156d31a54f_en?filename=sc_phyto_20230922_ppl_sum.pdf

⁶ <https://efsa815.sharepoint.com/sites/ENCOUnitHub/Shared%20Documents/General/7.2%20COMMUNITY%20MANAGEMENT/STAKEHOLDERS/DG%20ERA/framework-interaction-efsa-stakeholder-dg-era.pdf?CT=1709889213320&OR=ItemsView>



2. Applications

Fifteen (15) nominations were received from 10 organisations. According to the call, a maximum of fourteen (14) Stakeholder expert representatives would be selected from the nominations. Before the meeting, the secretariat distributed a list of received applications, which are summarised in section 3.

3. List of Applications received

Number	Name of Organisation	Name of Expert	Category
1	COPA COGECA	Mr. Niall Curley	Farmers and primary producers
2	APIMONDIA	Dr. Fani Hatjina	Farmers and primary producers
3	IBMA	Dr. Patrick Frettinger	Business and Food Industry
4	CropLife	Dr Thomas Preuss	Business and Food Industry
	CropLife	Dr Dieter Schäfer	Business and Food Industry
	CropLife	Dr Edward Pilling	Business and Food Industry
5	Pollinis	Dr Alexandre Barraud	Environmental/health NGOs and advocacy groups
	Pollinis	Dr Barbara Berardi	Environmental/health NGOs and advocacy groups
6	BeeLife	Dr Noa Simon Delso	Environmental/health NGOs and advocacy groups
7	PAN-Europe	Dr Martin Dermin	Environmental/health NGOs and advocacy groups



8	SETAC	Prof. Lorraine Maltby	Academia
9	UMONS	Dr. Sara/Reverte Saiz	Academia
	UMONS	Mr. Antoine Gekière	Academia
	UMONS	Mrs. Justine Dewaele	Academia
10	AVC - Association of Veterinary Consultants	Dr. Rudolf Scherkl	Associations of Practitioners

4. Selection criteria

The selection followed the principles established in EFSA's Stakeholder Engagement Approach and the Decision of the Management Board of EFSA on the criteria for establishing a list of stakeholders and the establishment of the Stakeholder Forum and Stakeholder Bureau. In particular, EFSA considered the principles included in the Framework for Interaction between the European Food Safety Authority and the Stakeholder Discussion Group on Environmental Risk Assessment (Stakeholder DG on ERA) also listed below:

- Knowledge and expertise of the nominated stakeholder expert, considering the need for the Stakeholder Discussion Group to cover a range of technical and scientific areas in the environmental risk assessment, particularly on terrestrial ecotoxicology, including agronomy and landscape ecology;
- Interest in the field and expected benefits from the participation of the organisation as expressed in its application;
- Role and remit of the organisation at the EU level;
- Achieving a balanced representation of stakeholder interests and categories.

Upon the analysis of the 15 applications from the 10 organisations, 12 experts fulfill the above criteria, and they are listed in section 5.



5. List of selected stakeholders

Number	Name of Organisation	Name of Expert	Category
1	COPA COGECA	Mr. Niall Curley	Farmers and primary producers
2	APIMONDIA	Dr. Fani Hatjina	Farmers and primary producers
3	IBMA	Dr. Patrick Frettinger	Business and Food Industry
4	CropLife	Dr Thomas Preuss	Business and Food Industry
5	CropLife	Dr Dieter Schäfer	Business and Food Industry
6	CropLife	Dr Edward Pilling	Business and Food Industry
7	Pollinis	Dr Alexandre Barraud	Environmental/health NGOs and advocacy groups
8	Pollinis	Dr Barbara Berardi	Environmental/health NGOs and advocacy groups
9	BeeLife	Dr Noa Simon Delso	Environmental/health NGOs and advocacy groups
10	PAN-Europe	Dr Martin Dermine	Environmental/health NGOs and advocacy groups
11	SETAC	Prof. Lorraine Maltby*	Academia
12	UMONS	Dr. Sara Reverte Saiz	Academia

****Esteemed Professor Lorraine Maltby will join the Discussion Group on areas that do not overlap with her current work within EFSA, avoiding duplications and ensuring objectivity of the work conducted within and outside the group.***



6. List of non-selected stakeholders

Name of Organisation	Name of Expert	Comment
UMONS	Mr. Antoine Gekière	A nominee from the same organisation covering similar expertise was selected.
UMONS	Mrs. Justine Dewaele	A nominee from the same organisation covering similar expertise was selected.
AVC	Dr Rudolf Scherkl	The expertise of the nominee seems focused on animal health and veterinary aspects, while the focus of discussion group is on wild non-target organisms.

7. Final considerations

The names of the stakeholder experts and nominating organisations will be made publicly available on EFSA's website. Organisations may also be given the opportunity to replace (as they see fit) their nominated experts as the discussions of the group progress. The replacing nominated experts will eventually be evaluated by EFSA, according to the criteria highlighted in section 4.

It is worth noting that, for the non-selected organisations, several channels – including public consultations and open plenary meetings of EFSA's Scientific Panels – remain open, should they be interested in interacting with EFSA.