

EU Member States Initiative Group on PFAS

Road map on PFAS research and regulatory needs

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EU MS Initiative Group on PFAS

- Objectives
 - To exchange information, identify data gaps & stimulate a community to work on those.
 - To avoid duplication of work with existing platforms/data exchanges/assessments.
- Organisation
 - Steering board (SB), for sharing science to policy concerns
 - Risk assessors team (RAT), for in depth sharing of and discussing scientific themes
- Role EFSA
 - TMA granted by EFSA
 - Hosting platform
 - Participant

EU MS Initiative on PFAS: timeline



Background

- Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS): group of **synthetic chemicals** used as components in a wide range of industrial applications and consumer products (enhanced water-resistant properties)
- **Persistence and widespread use:** found in the environment. **Residues** detected in humans and in wildlife, prompting concern about **impacts on health**
- Beginning of the 21st century: **environmental impact and toxicity** to human and mammalian life studied in depth
- PFAS commonly described as **persistent organic pollutants or "forever chemicals"** because they remain in the environment for long periods of time
- PFAS: **issue of high and growing concern** for risk managers, risk assessors and general public worldwide

Discussions
during the 86th
AF meeting
December
2022

Initiative
group on PFAS
launched:
meetings in
July and
September
2023

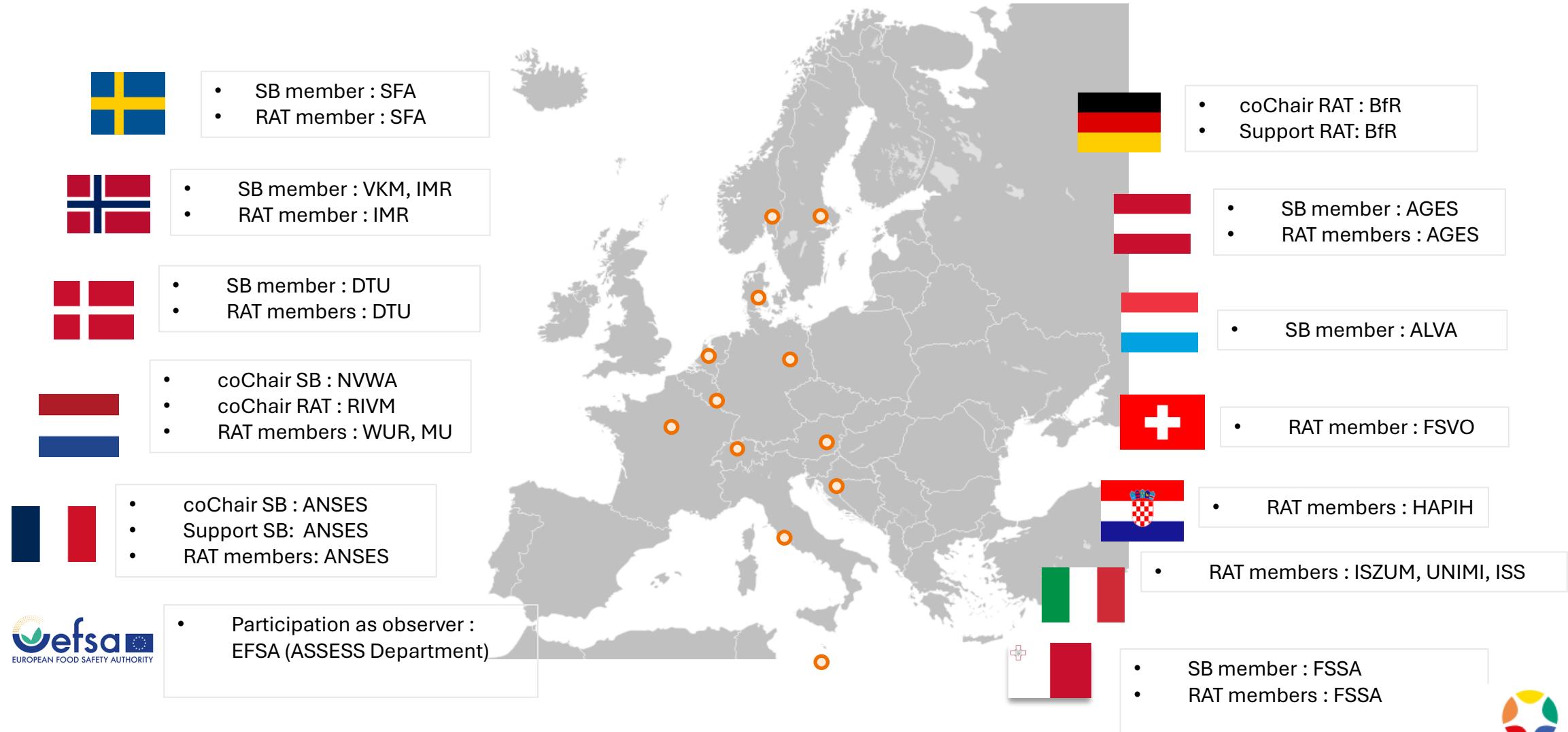
Organisation
of the
discussion
groups, set-up
of Terms of
Reference
2024

Discussions
during the 87th
AF meeting
March 2023

Kick-off
meeting of
risk
assessment
experts
January 2024

Regular meetings of
Steering Board and
Risk Assessors
TEAM, Activity
report 2024-2025

PFAS initiative : the project's participating countries



EU MS Initiative on PFAS: cooperation and avoiding duplication of work

- Ties strengthened
 - Example: AT and CH working closely together on toxicology of PFAS beyond EFSA-4
- Avoiding duplication of work
 - Example: Advance notice of Transfer studies on cows in NL allows DE to concentrate on other species

EU MS Initiative on PFAS: Road map on PFAS research and regulatory needs

Summary main regulatory needs

- Expand scope of PFAS beyond EFSA-4
- Analytical methods needs for broader groups of PFAS in various matrices
- Monitoring needs of PFAS in food, feed, water, air, and soil as well as in hot spots and human biomonitoring (blood).
- Environmental sources and fate
- Toxicology: intake, ADME, transfer, reference values (human health guidelines), NAM's, grouping assessment
- Risk assessment expertise, methodology and experiences
- Risk communication
- Risk mitigation and risk management
- (Continued) International cooperation
- (Continued) Repository, including continuously updated oversight of research programs and projects
- (Other) Regulatory needs

EU MS Initiative on PFAS: requests

- Requests to Member States
 - Continue participating in the SB and / or RAT
 - More MS are encouraged to join
 - Coordinate regulatory needs at a national level and provide feedback to the Initiative Group
- Requests to EFSA
 - Continue hosting the platform for exchange of information on PFAS
 - Keep this item on the AF agenda at regular intervals
 - Where possible, facilitate liaisons with ‘Brussels, other European agencies or global organisations
 - Where appropriate, provide financial support for research on PFAS