Update on Advisory Group on Data

Ákos Jozwiak, Hungary

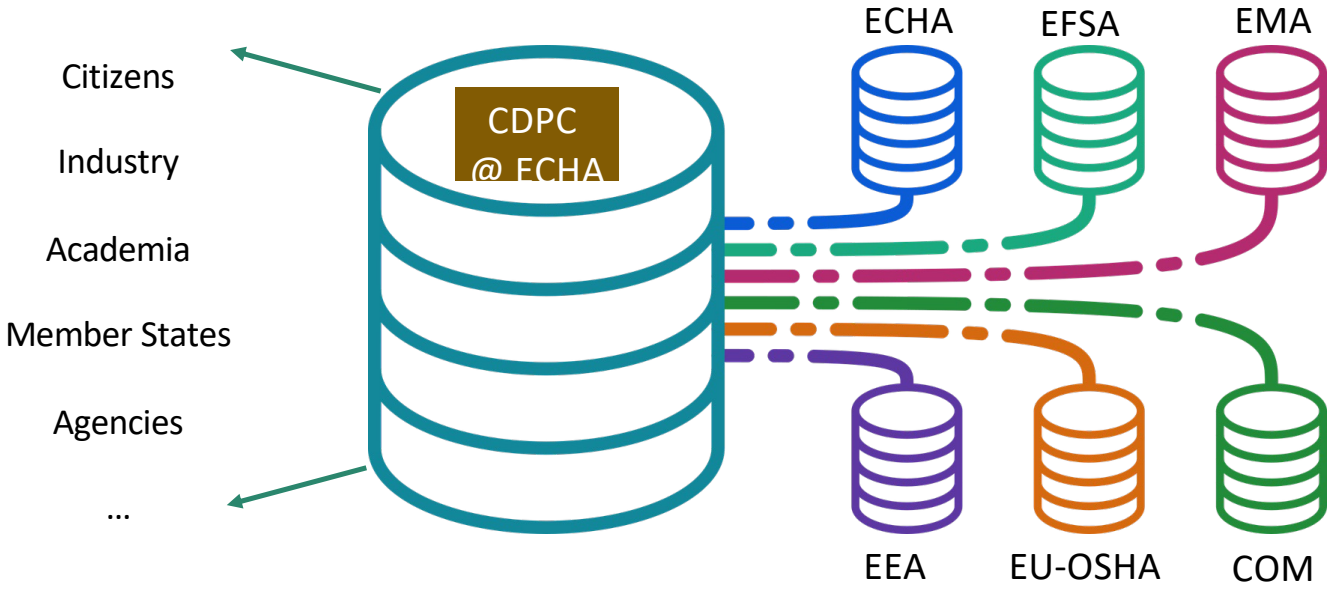
efsa
EUROPEAN FOOD SAFETY AUTHORITY

33RD (ONLINE) AND 34TH (PHYSICAL) MEETING OF AGOD

- European Common Platform on Chemicals
- IUCLID
- Update on EFSA AI evolution
- Subgroups check-in
- Workshop on ‘AGoD next big thing’
- Data flow mapping project 2
- AGoD Annual Report
- 2026 Data Symposium
- Workplan 2026

PETER KORYTAR (DG-ENV): COMMON DATA PLATFORM ON CHEMICALS

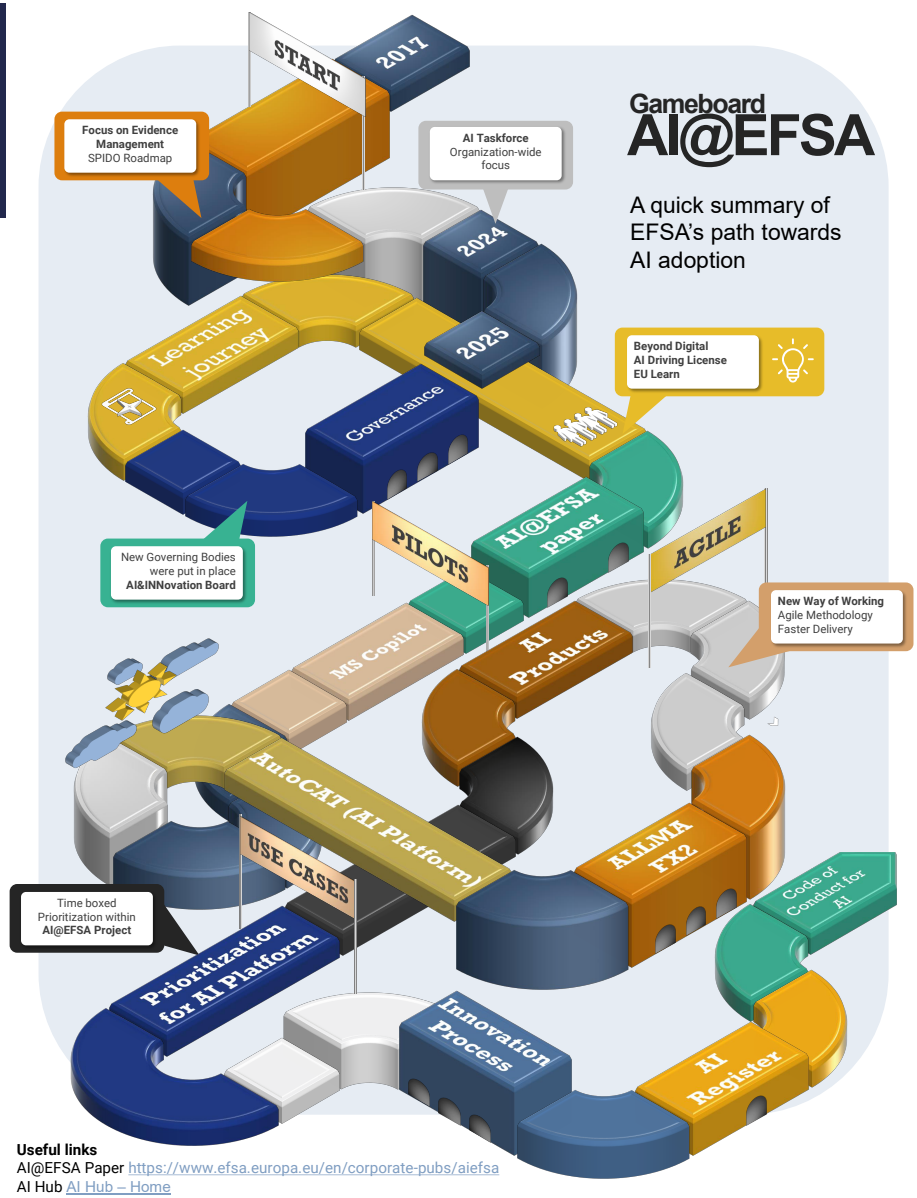
- Bring together all chemicals related data into one database
- To be established by ECHA by 3 years from the entry into force with minimum datasets; by 10 years all data to be integrated



EDOARDO CARNESECCHI (EFSA): IUCLID

- IUCLID in a nutshell
- IUCLID format: OECD Harmonised Templates (OHTs)
- EFSA’s OpenFoodTox & the EU Common Data Platform on Chemicals

VITTORIA FLAMINI (EFSA): UPDATE ON AI EVOLUTION



Useful links
AI@EFSA Paper https://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/corporate-pubs/aiefsa
AI Hub AI Hub – Home
Innovation Process Introducing process 13.04 | Igniting innovation at EFSA

Subgroup Tools & Ecosystems – Check in

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SUMMARY OF 2025

Six meetings were held over the year.

Quite a few words were said

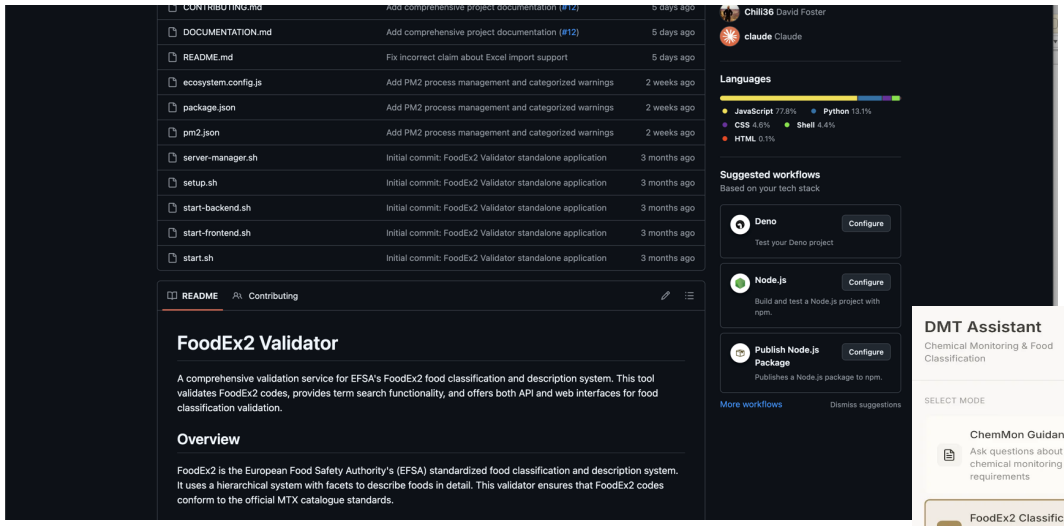
Focus is shifting towards solving problems and make use of tools and ecosystems.

note:

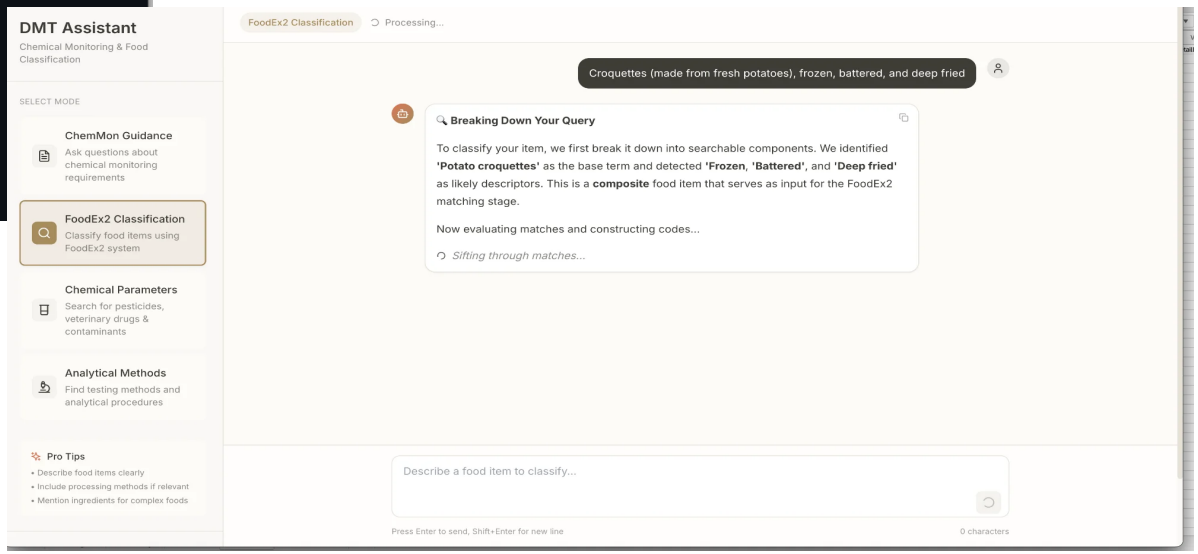
It’s very hard to make any kind of meaningful strategic change in ten hours over a year.

SUBGROUP TOOLS & ECOSYSTEMS – CHECK IN

First public ”tool” on Github



Second tool idea: Foodex 2 assistant with the help of LLM



Federal Office of
Consumer Protection
and Food Safety

SG Data Management check in

7th meeting on 25th Nov.

Usual Agenda Points

- **1) Give an overview**
  - On AGoDs road map
  - On AGoD activities
  - On data management tasks and open questions
  - Try to invite speakers
- **2) Work on concrete tasks**
- **3) Plan the next meeting**

Federal Office of Consumer Protection and Food Safety

3 main activities

Data Quality, Standardisation, Strategy

Task 3 Data quality aspects

- KPIs
- Checklist discussion
- Usage of data - guideline

Task 6 communicate existing terminologies

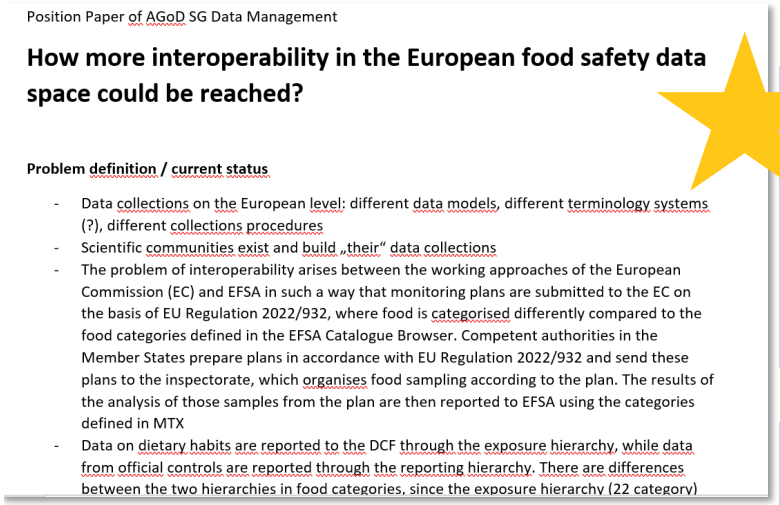
- TMT proposal

Task 8 European Food Safety Data Model

- Position Paper

Federal Office of Consumer Protection and Food Safety

Task 6 position paper



Position Paper of AGoD SG Data Management

How more interoperability in the European food safety data space could be reached?

Problem definition / current status

- Data collections on the European level: different data models, different terminology systems (?), different collections procedures
- Scientific communities exist and build „their" data collections
- The problem of interoperability arises between the working approaches of the European Commission (EC) and EFSA in such a way that monitoring plans are submitted to the EC on the basis of EU Regulation 2022/932, where food is categorised differently compared to the food categories defined in the EFSA Catalogue Browser. Competent authorities in the Member States prepare plans in accordance with EU Regulation 2022/932 and send these plans to the inspectorate, which organises food sampling according to the plan. The results of the analysis of those samples from the plan are then reported to EFSA using the categories defined in MTX
- Data on dietary habits are reported to the DCF through the exposure hierarchy, while data from official controls are reported through the reporting hierarchy. There are differences between the two hierarchies in food categories, since the exposure hierarchy (22 category)

Problem definition/ current status

- Different data models
- Different terminology systems
- Different collections procedures

Goal for food safety data interoperability

- FAIR principles
- Re-usage of data without any further efford
- Harmonisation of terminology systems and data models

Solution

- Mandates
- Terminology maintanance process
- Promote standards

People & Capacity SG check in
Status by the end of 2025

- 16 members representing 13 countries
- 6 subgroup meetings + one cross SG meeting

- Mutual introductions
  – to understand each other's competencies
  – to establish a basis for future work

- Identification of the "best way of work" – subgroup culture

- Focus on first delivery for the roadmap task:
  – Reference profiles and minimal capacity / capability needs

Important conclusions “right now”

- **Data literacy should be addressed at different organizational levels**, recognizing the distinct needs of:
  - **Managers and leaders** – who require strategic understanding and repeated engagement on data topics.
  - **Operational staff** – who need practical skills and tools for everyday data work.
- Top level management must authorize a mandate to fill a data strategy with live.
- Building a strong data steward community helps to understand the people involved and identify their specific knowledge gaps
- Basic skills on data literacy - build a shared language and core data understanding across all staff
  - Identify high quality courses and capacity building activities “to be shared among institutions”
- Showcases and best practices are extremely helpful

Start building up a shared document:

Capacity building in data related activities – suggestions for goal and structure

List of Content

Background 1

Aim 1

Definitions 2

Data literacy at different organisational levels 2

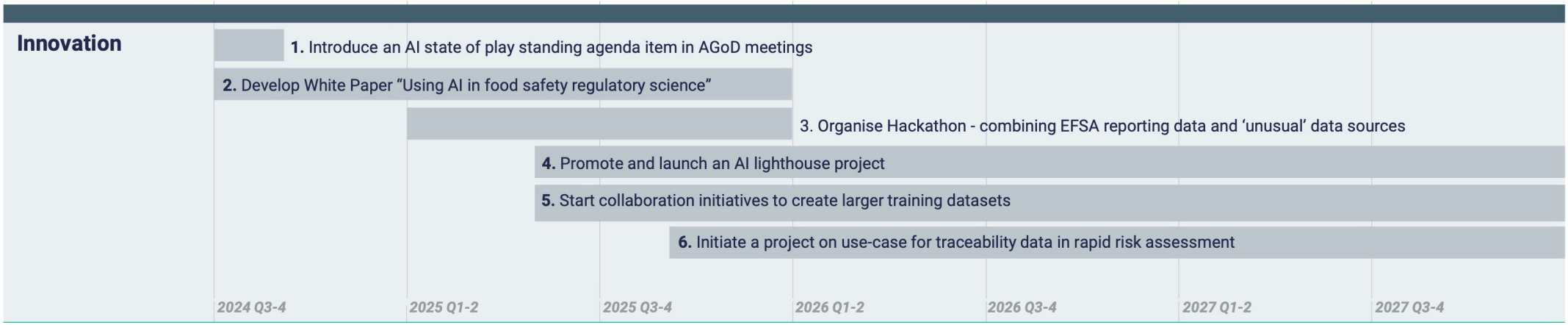
Basic data governance model 2

Curriculum 2

Best practices 3

INNOVATION SG – CHECK-IN

- 5 meetings in 2025 + Joint SG meeting



FIRST DRAFT OF THE AI POSITION PAPER (*"THE USE OF AI IN FOOD SAFETY REGULATORY SCIENCE"*)

1. Introduction
2. Current AI applications in food safety
3. Future Prospects and Promises of AI in Food Safety
   - Advanced predictive capabilities
   - Enhanced knowledge management
   - Sophisticated analytical tools
   - Regulatory enhancement
4. Challenges and Concerns
   - Technical and methodological challenges
   - Data and infrastructure limitations
   - Regulatory and legal concerns
   - Human and organizational factors
   - Benchmarking and validation
5. Prerequisites for Successful AI Implementation
   - Data foundation requirements
   - Technical infrastructure prerequisites
   - Regulatory and legal framework
   - Scientific and methodological standards
   - Human capital and organizational readiness
6. Calls for Action
   - Establishing data infrastructure
   - Building regulatory foundations
   - Accelerating capacity building
   - Catalyzing research and development
   - Fostering community engagement

WHAT IS THE NEXT BIG THING FOR AGOD?

WE HAD A VISION 7 YEARS AGO

*It is conceivable that **by 2027**, the (EU) food safety system will be a network of **highly digitalised, secure, connected** and **interoperable** food safety systems at national and EU levels, opening up access to real-time data in all parts of the network.*

*Ideally, the network will have access to the **data generated** not exclusively by **official controls** but to the data from **industry** and **science** as well.*

*The data will be made **available with metadata** enabling the users to retrieve exactly the data they need.*

WE HAD A VISION 7 YEARS AGO

> *… a parallel discussion on the applicability of solutions in the medium- or long-term other than relational databases (e.g. data lakes, **data ecosystems**) is necessary.*
>
> *Discussions should also be initiated on designing the **'future food safety data ecosystem of Europe'**, and shifting our paradigm from data collection to data connection.*

WHAT IS THE SITUATION NOW?

- We are on the way
- We have initiated projects
- We have roadmap(s)
- We have a growing community (AGoD + SGs)
- ...

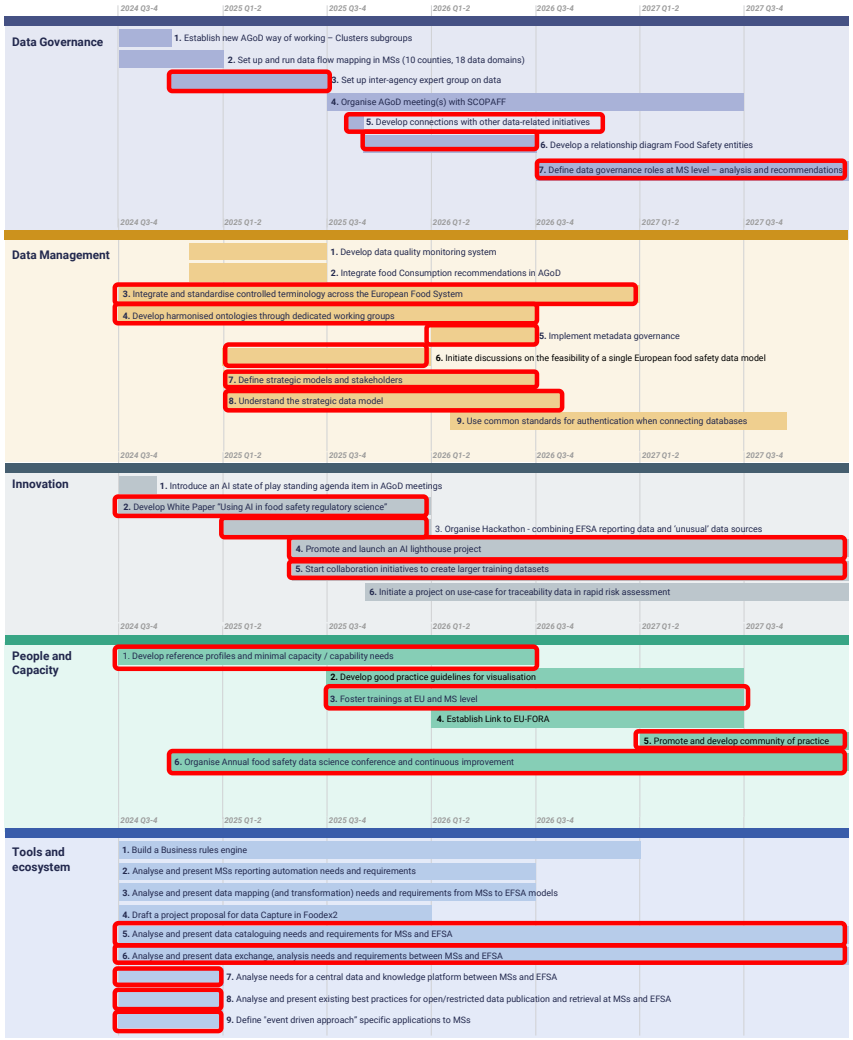
- How close are we to the vision?

WHAT IS THE SITUATION NOW?

- EFSA & MSs face:
  - Increasing data volume and complexity
  - Need for faster, more integrated risk assessment
  - Expectations around AI, interoperability, and transparency
- Current reality:
  - Multiple datasets, formats, governance models
  - Still reporting burdens on MSs
- New opportunities raising
  - AI (and in particular genAI)
  - Data solutions (e.g., data spaces, federated systems, etc.)

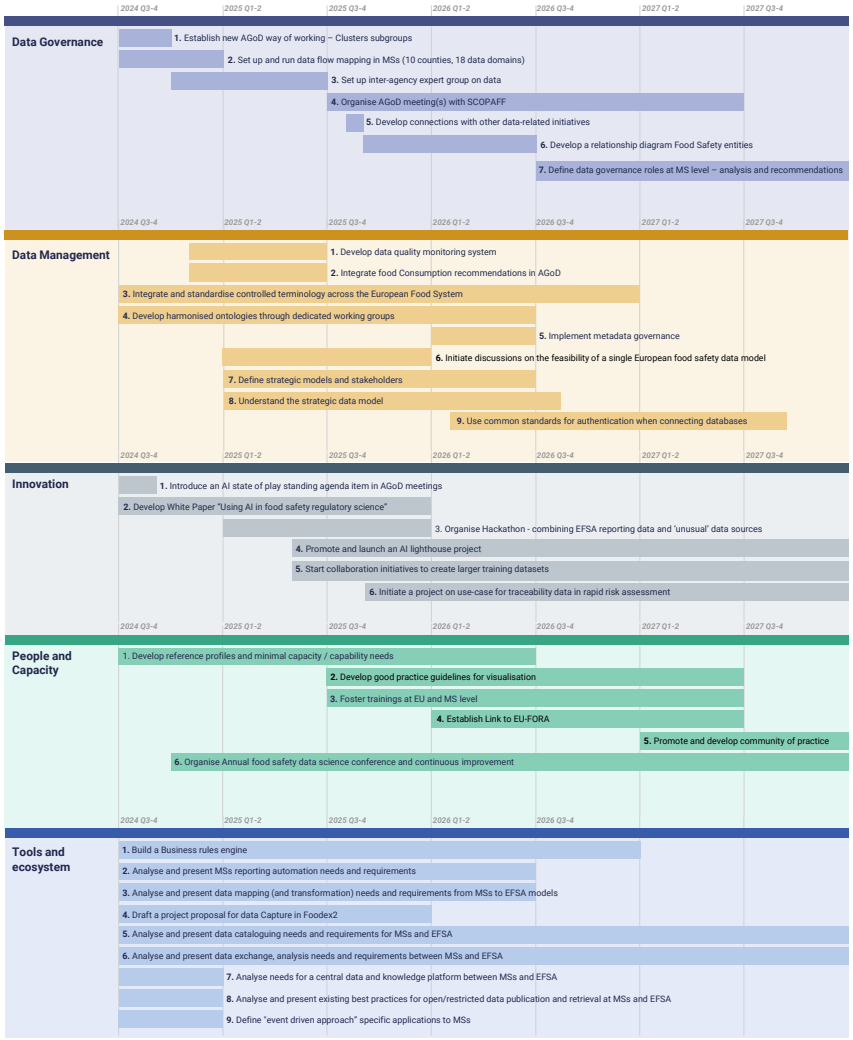
Advisory Group on Data

Roadmap 2024 – 2027

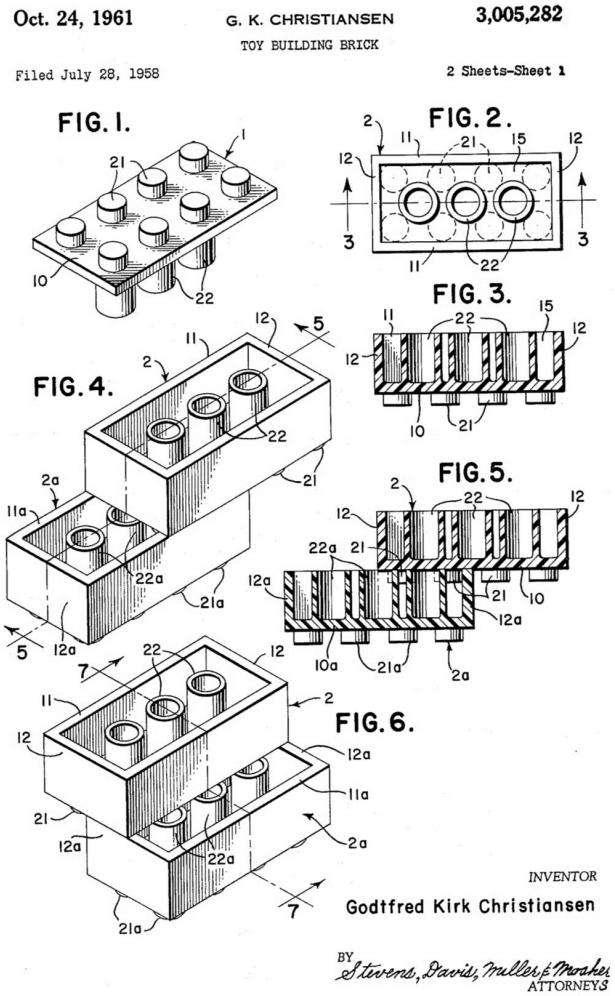


Advisory Group on Data

Roadmap 2024 – 2027



EUROPEAN FOOD DATA SPACE?


Oct. 24, 1961 G. K. CHRISTIANSEN 3,005,282

TOY BUILDING BRICK

Filed July 28, 1958 2 Sheets-Sheet 1

FIG. 1.

FIG. 2.

FIG. 3.

FIG. 4.

FIG. 5.

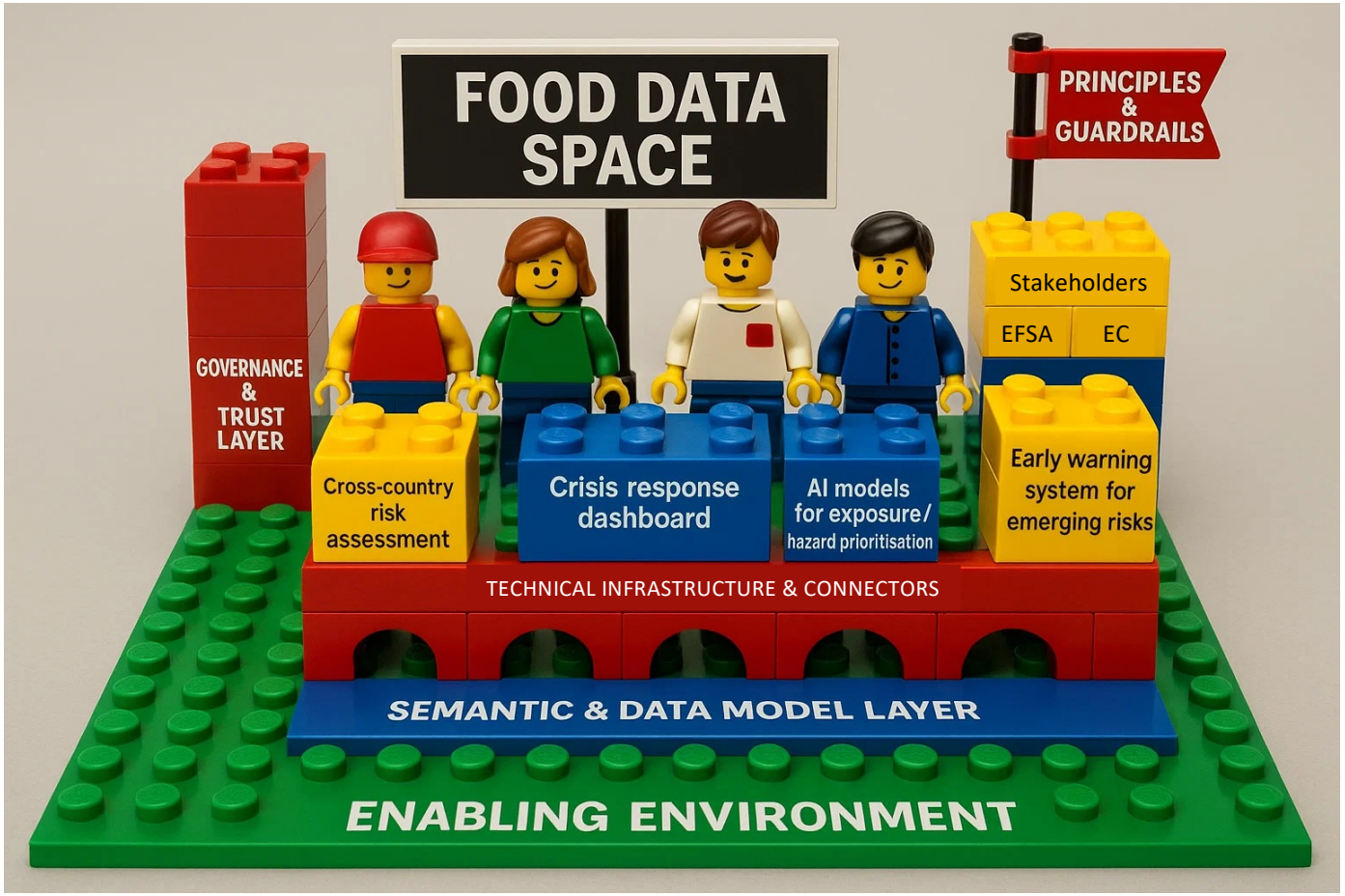
FIG. 6.

INVENTOR

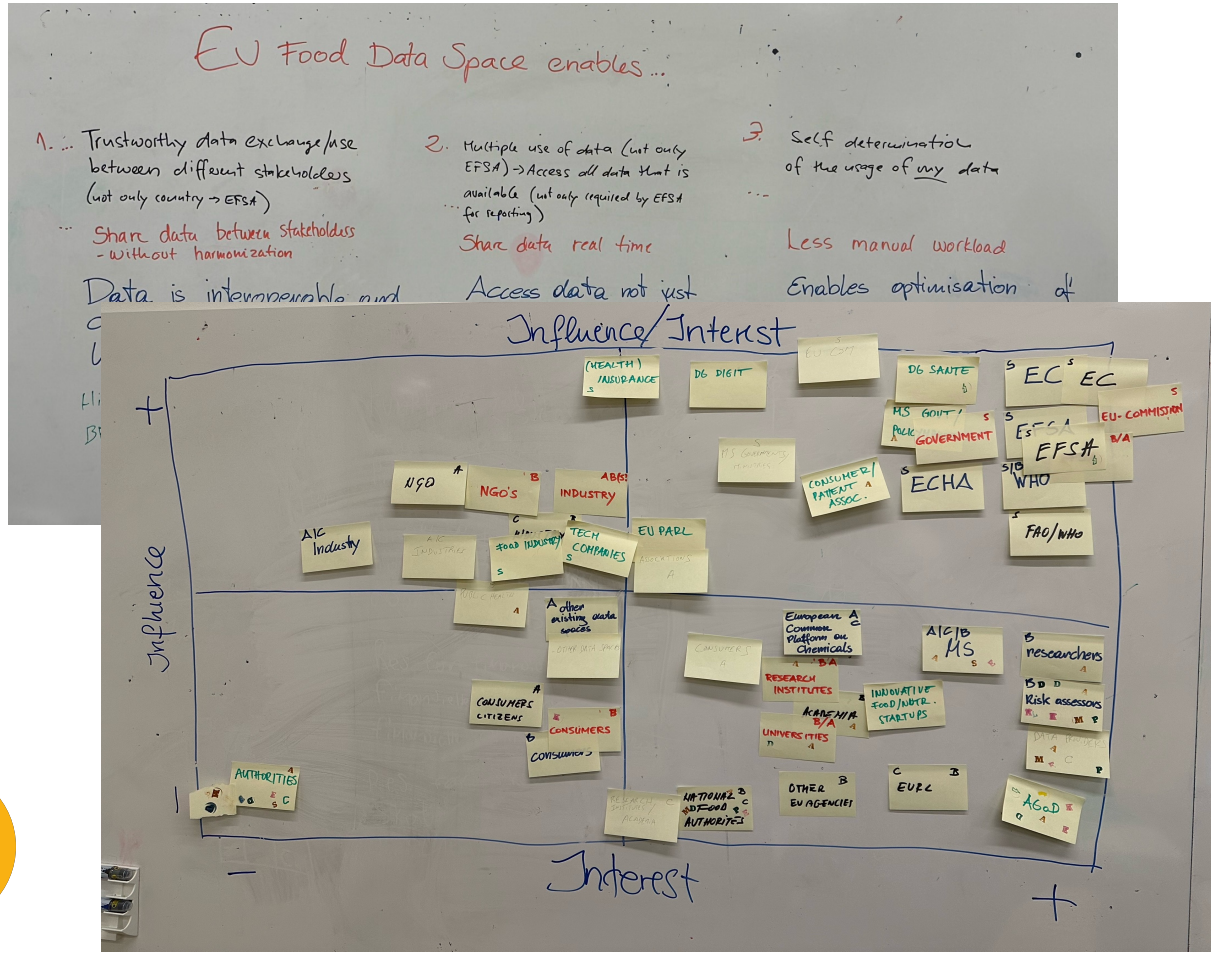
Godtfred Kirk Christiansen

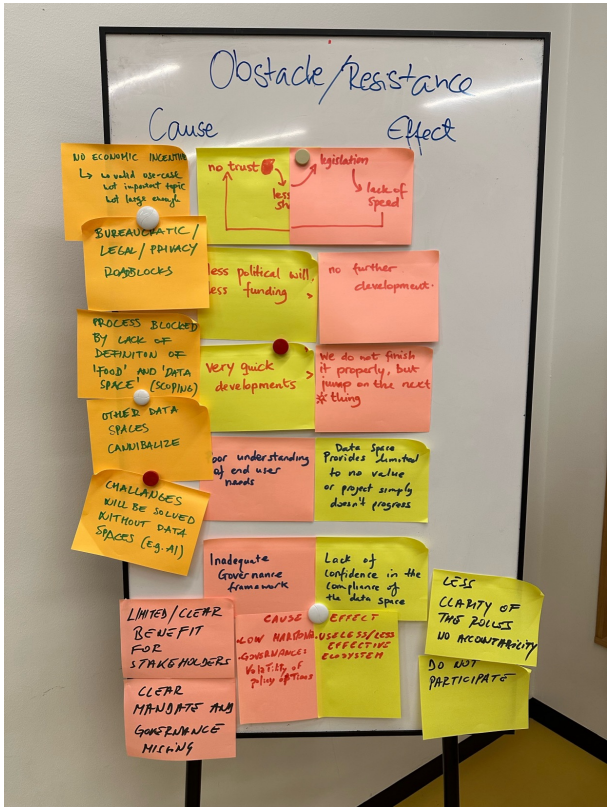
BY Stevens, Davis, Miller & Mosher

ATTORNEYS



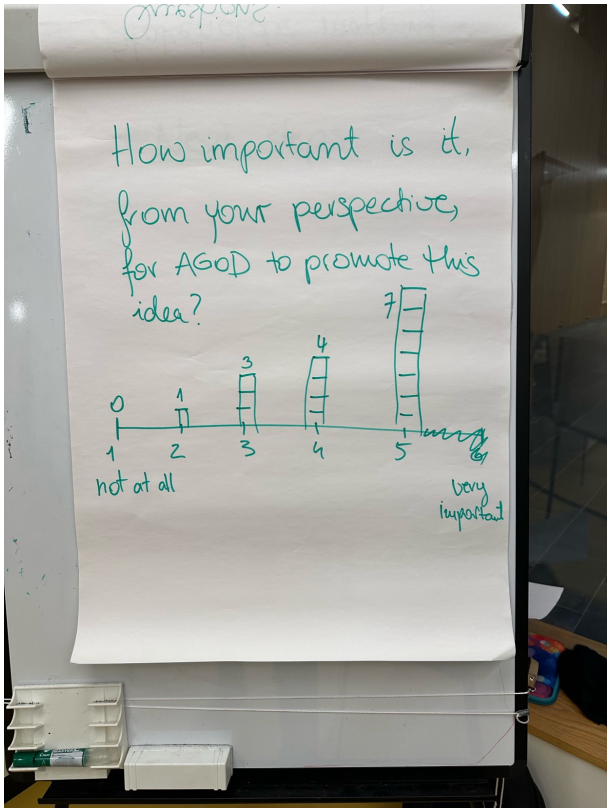
WORKSHOP ON THE AGOD NEXT BIG THING



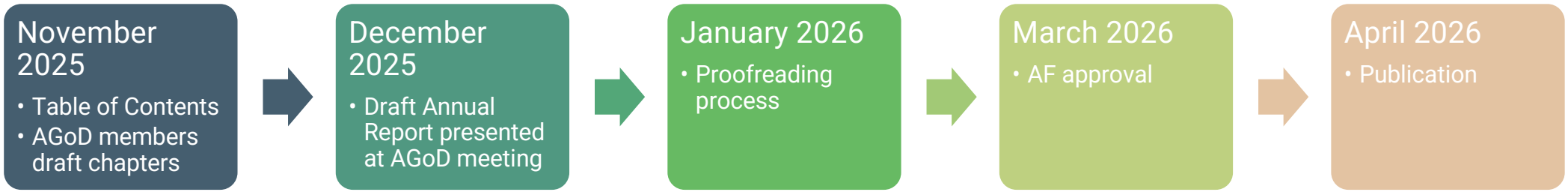


EU FOOD DATA SPACES: NEXT STEPS

- Further discussions are needed:
  - vision and scope
  - influence maps and key stakeholders
- Exact role and mode of action of AGoD to be defined
- Discussions continue in 2026 Q1



ANNUAL REPORT 2025



2026 DATA SYMPOSIUM

- Time: second half of 2026, back-to-back with AGoD/AF meeting
- Place: Dublin/Ireland
- Participants: AGoD, SGs, AF
- Duration: 2 days
- Content:
  - Data literacy and People& Organisational Readiness for AI
  - Dedicated physical SG meeting(s)

AG ON DATA: MEETINGS IN 2026

15 January online	03 March Cyprus	22 April online	16 June Parma	16 Sept online	20 Oct online	01 Dec/November Ireland
Subgroup check-in Progress TMT	Subgroup check-in Progress TMT	Subgroup check-in Progress TMT	Subgroup check-in Progress TMT	Subgroup check-in Progress TMT	Subgroup check-in Progress TMT	Subgroup check-in Progress TMT
AI for science @EFSA	AI:	AI:	AI:	Update on National AI initiatives	AI:	AI:
Sharing MS experience	Sharing MS experience	Sharing MS experience	Sharing MS experience	Sharing MS experience	Sharing MS experience	
Presentation on Data Space Support Center	Status of Food Data Space Cartography	Agri Data Space	TMT proposal evaluation	Project progress TMTs based on a template	Annual Report	
Data Space Discussion Part 2	Data Symposium 2026	Presentation by newly starting TMTs	Data Symposium 2026		Data Symposium 2026	
Project progress TMTs based on a template	Data Space Discussion Part 3	Evaluation of TM project progress based on written reports (template)		Data Platform on Chemicals	ECDC working group on data	
	Sharing MS experience	Presentation EMA				