Guide for compiling the SSD2 template with the mandatory elements targeting chlorates data in tap water

the SSD2 template will also take in consideration all the prefilled mandatory elements, as presented in the Annex

Introduction

The *Simplified SSD2* template is an Excel file designed to support the compilation and reporting of contaminants data.

Analytical data submitted to the European Food Safety Authority (EFSA) must include a number of mandatory data elements, some of which must be coded using the Standard Sample Description version 2 (SSD2) controlled terminology. These controlled terms are also referred as SSD2 catalogues.

For instance, when reporting chlorates under the mandatory element 'coded parameter analysed' (paramCode) element, the code 'RF-00000015-CHE' must be used, as retrieved from the PARAM catalogue, specifically within the "chemAnalysis" hierarchy, which lists the reportable terms for contaminants.

Completing all mandatory elements defined in the SSD2 data model may be challenging for new data providers. In order to facilitate data submission and maximize the collection of available information on chlorates in tap water samples, EFSA, in agreement with DG SANTE and DG ENVI, has decided to reduce the number of mandatory elements that must be completed by data providers.

EFSA therefore created a prefilled SSD2 template for the collection of analytical data of chlorates in tap water, where number of mandatory elements have been *pre-set*. The corresponding values are provided in **Annex I** of this document. For the full list of mandatory elements, please refer to the 2026 Chemical monitoring reporting guidance.

Important note:
In accordance with the pre-set values listed in Annex I, this prefilled SSD2 template should only be used for the collection of analytical monitoring data for chlorates in tap water, generated or collected in the framework of Directive (EU) 2020/2184. Reported results should have been obtained from laboratories accredited according to ISO/IEC 17025, and reported in mg/L.

The sections below include only those mandatory elements that are not automatically prefilled and that must be completed by data providers.

- sampId
- sampCountry
- sampY
- sampM
- sampD
- labId

- anMethRefId
- anMethCode
- resType
- resLOQ
- resVal

Sample taken identification code (sampId)

Each sample must have a unique identification code, created by the data provider, to serve as a reference for the sample. The sample identification code can be a combination of text and numbers, with a maximum length of 100 characters.

Please amend the example sample identification codes, which are prefilled in the template.

Country of sampling (sampCountry)

This data element is used to report the country where the sample was taken. Figure 1 shows the codes corresponding to the names of EU countries that can be provided.

Code	Name
AT	Austria
BE	Belgium
BG	Bulgaria
CY	Cyprus
CZ	Czech Republic
DE	Germany
DK	Denmark
EE	Estonia
ES	Spain
FI	Finland
FR	France
GR	Greece

HR	Croatia
HU	Hungary
IE	Ireland
IT	Italy
LT	Lithuania
LU	Luxembourg
LV	Latvia
MT	Malta
NL	Netherlands
PL	Poland
PT	Portugal
RO	Romania
SE	Sweden
SI	Slovenia
SK	Slovakia

Figure 1 – List of EU countries

Year of sampling (sampY), Month of sampling (sampM), Day of sampling (sampD)

The complete date when the sample was taken is mandatory to be reported. For a sample taken on 3 May 2025, the date should be reported as follows:

sampY	2025
sampM	5
sampD	3

Figure 2 – Example of reporting year, month and day of sampling

Identification code of the laboratory (labId)

A unique code should be reported to identify each laboratory reporting the results. The data provider should create the code and should be a code which makes sense to them for being able to trace back the laboratory linked to the sampled sample.

Analytical method identification (anMethRefId)

This data element is used to provide a code to identify an analytical method used by the laboratory to detect the presence of a substance.

For example, if laboratory undertakes a GC-MS analysis for Lead in Honey the code could be 'GC-MS_Honey'. The maximum number of characters for this field is 50.

Analytical method code (Select_anMethCode)

In column 'Select_anMethCode', a list of commonly reported analytical methods can be found. The analytical method needs to be selected from the drop-down list.

In case a used method cannot be found in the picklist, please contact us through data.collection@efsa.europa.eu
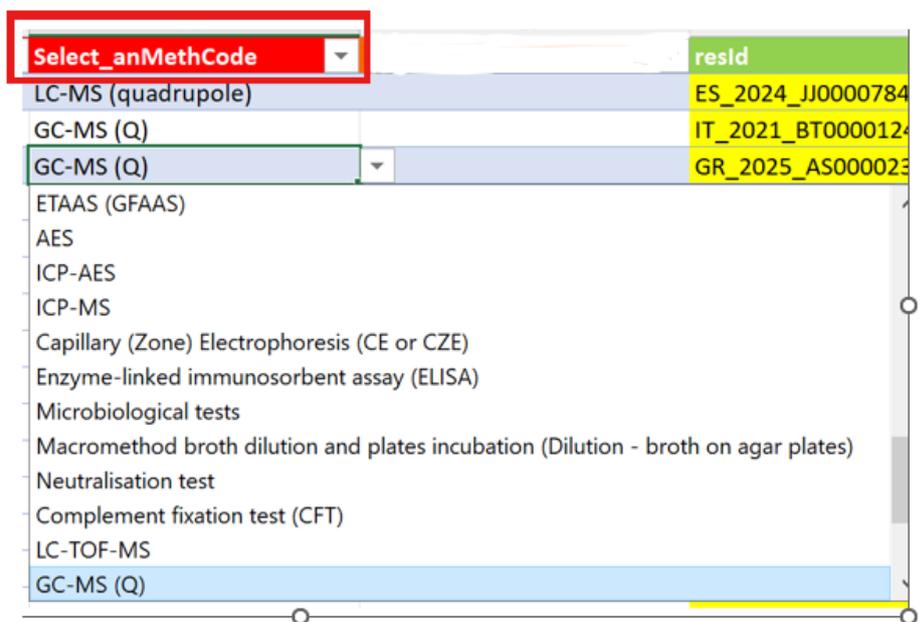

Figure 3 – Selecting the analytical method code

Type of result (resType)

This data element is used to report the type of analytical result obtained.

Code	Description
LOQ	Non-Quantified Value (<LOQ)
VAL	Numerical Value

Figure 4 – Type of result

Result limit of quantification (resLOQ)

The resLOQ, the numerical value of the limit of quantification (LOQ), is the lowest validated residue concentration of the analyte, which can be quantified and reported by routine monitoring with validated methods. This data element is always required and should be expressed in mg/L.

Result value (resVal)

The resVal must be used to report the measured concentration of the substance in the product. The analytical results should be expressed in mg/L.

This data element needs to be completed when measurable concentrations of chlorate were reported. If this data element is left empty, it will be assumed that chlorate concentration was below the limit of quantification reported under the data element resLOQ.

- resVal is mandatory if resType=VAL and must be greater than 0.
- When resType= 'VAL', then resLOQ must be numerically lower than resVal.

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Please keep in mind the following important points:

- 'Select_anMethCode' should be constant for all records with the same 'anMethRefId'

anMethRefId	Select_anMethCode	
23546435	HPLC-MS/MS	
23546435	HPLC-MS/MS	
23546435	HPLC-MS/MS	

- 'sampCountry' should be constant for all records with the same 'labId'

sampCountry	sampY	sampM	sampD	labId
BE	2023	2	4	0898379
BE	2025	5	5	0898379
BE	2025	5	6	0898379

- To add new rows to the template:

    i)   go to the last empty row in the table

    ii)   select the preferred number of rows to be add

    iii) right-click and choose 'Insert'

Annex I

Mandatory elements under the SSD2 model **with pre-set values for the simplification of data collection on chlorates in tap water**

- Sampling programme identification code (**progId**): Prefilled generic progId 'ChloratesProgramme2026' for the collection of tap water samples

- Programme Legal Reference (**progLegalRef**) & (**select_progLegalRef**): **Prefilled** value with 'Directive (EU) 2020/2184'

- Sampling Strategy (**sampStrategy**): **Prefilled** value with 'ST90A' corresponding to 'other'

- Programme type (**progType**): **Prefilled** value with 'K029A' corresponding to 'Unspecified'

- Sampler (**sampler**): **Prefilled** value with 'CX99A' corresponding to 'Not applicable'

- Sampling point (**sampPoint**) & (**select_sampPoint**): **Prefilled** values 'E400A' and 'Water collection or treatment or supply' respectively

- Sample taken identification code (**sampId**): **Prefilled** generic sampID, considering that each row corresponds to one unique sample

- Coded description of the matrix of the sample taken (**sampMatCode**): **Prefilled** value with code 'A03DL' which corresponds to 'tap water' as matrix

- The country of origin (**origCountry**) and the country of the laboratory (**labCountry**) is considered to be the same as the sampling country (sampCountry); Thus, (sampCountry) is one of the mandatory fields to be filled in by the data providers.

- Laboratory accreditation (**labAccred**): **Prefilled** value with code 'L001A' which corresponds to 'Accredited according to ISO/IEC 17025'

- Code description of parameter (**paramCode**): **Prefilled** value with 'RF-00000015-CHE' (code corresponding to chlorates)

- Analytical method type (**anMethType**): **Prefilled** value with 'AT08A' Confirmation

- Result identification code (**resId**): Prefilled unique filed which is populated from the concatenation of [sampId]&[paramCode]; considering that each row corresponds to one unique sample

- Accreditation procedure for the analytical method (**accredProc**): **Prefilled** value with 'V001A' Accredited according to ISO/IEC17025

- Result unit (**resUnit**) & (**select_resUnit**): **Prefilled** value with 'milligram/litre'

- Expression of result type (**exprResType**): **Prefilled** value with 'B001A' corresponding to 'Whole weight'

- Evaluation of the result (**evalCode**): **Prefilled** value with 'J029A' 'Result not evaluated'