



JOINING FORCES: PARTNERSHIPS IN RISK ASSESSMENT

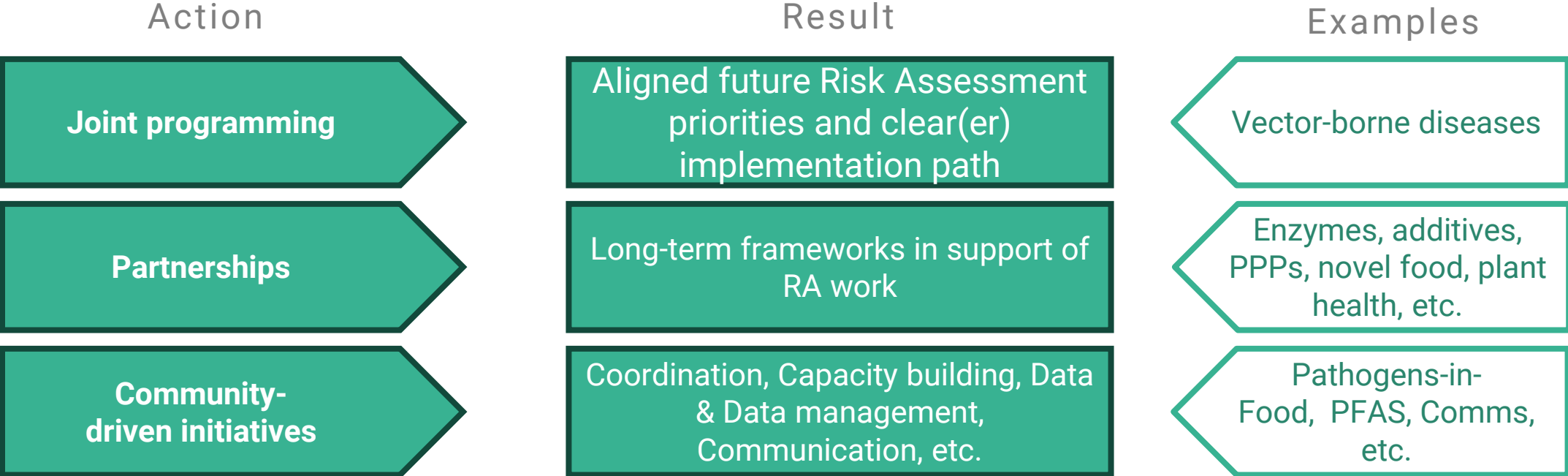
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JOINING FORCES FOR SPEED: ONE PURPOSE, MANY ACTIONS

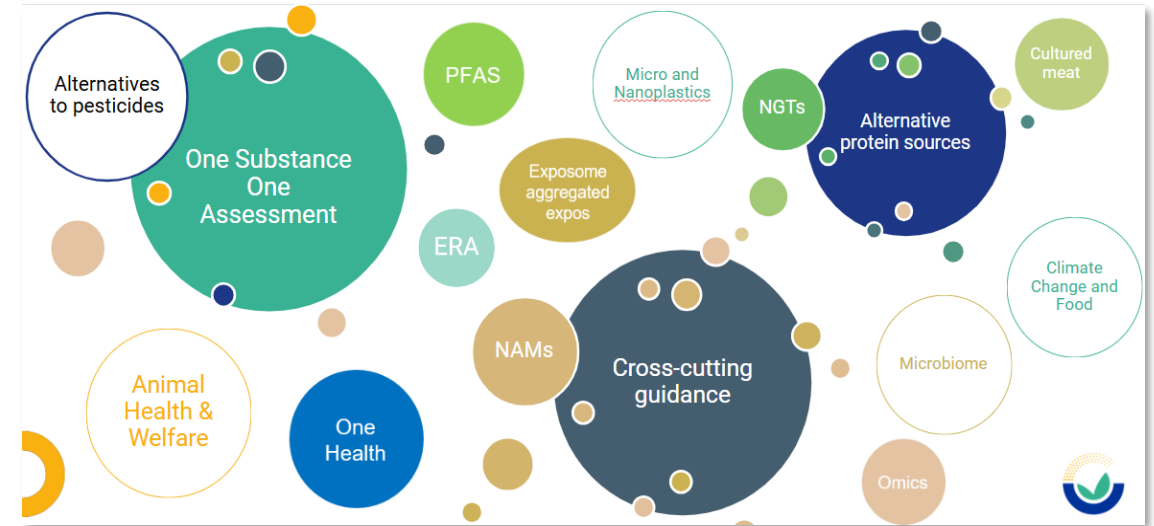


← + SNEs



COLLABORATION TAKES DIFFERENT SHAPES

- During **Advisory Forum and Focal Point meetings**:
 - Dialogue on RA priorities and collaboration opportunities
 - Review of recent mandates and any relevant MS work
 - Information on upcoming EFSA partnership opportunities
- Partnership always in focus at **EFSA-MS events/high level meetings**
- **Thematically focused exchanges** on specific topics (e.g., biomarkers of effect, microbiome, microplastics)



High-level priority areas of common interest for EFSA and MS resulting from ad hoc consultations carried out in 2024-2025.

NOT ALL PARTNERSHIPS PERFORM IN THE SAME WAY

Regulated products	Generic Risk Assessment
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Food enzymes ◆• Food additives and flavourings ◆• Feed additives ◆• Animal by-products ◇• Pesticides ◆• Novel foods and nutrient sources ◆?	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Plant health ◆• Animal health ◇• Animal welfare ◆• Data ◆

Key

- ◆ Positive results
- ◆ Limited results
- ◆? New project
- ◇ Diverse projects within the area



EXAMPLES OF INVESTMENT: RISK ASSESSMENT (1/2)

Partnership	Duration*	Allocation	Notes
Pesticides Peer Review and Pesticides Residues	2021-2025	1.6 M	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2022 – 2024: • EUR 1.0 M committed to date • 15 FTEs from partners. • Additional expertise (e.g. endocrine disruptors)
Plant Health Risk Assessment	2023-2027	2.7 M	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2023 – 2026: • EUR 1.8 M committed to date • 32.8 FTEs from partners • Additional expertise
Risk Assessment of Food Enzymes, Food Additives, Food Flavourings & Feed Additives	2023-2027	3.5 M	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2023 – 2025: • EUR 530 K committed to date • Dossier processing: 18 enzymes; 8 food additives; 38 feed additives • Cooperation will continue on Food Additives

* Specific Grant Agreements can only be signed within this period. However, their completion date can be after this period.



EXAMPLES OF INVESTMENT: RISK ASSESSMENT (2/2)

Partnership	Duration*	Allocation	Notes
Joint programming for risk assessments in vector-borne diseases	2026-2030	6 M	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop long-term capacities and partnerships for RA of VBDs in the EU • Develop a roadmap of scientific topics that, if addressed, will support decision makers in dealing with VBDs and enhance resilience against VBDs • Project is expected to start in March 2026
Animal welfare (slaughter and on-farm killing)	2022-2026	660 K	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2023 – 2026: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EUR 485 K committed to date • 7.3 FTEs from partners • Additional expertise
Risk Assessment of Novel Foods	2025-2029	3.5 M	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Additional FTEs to address higher number of applications per year (work just started)

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SECONDED NATIONAL EXPERTS - A CALL TO ACTION

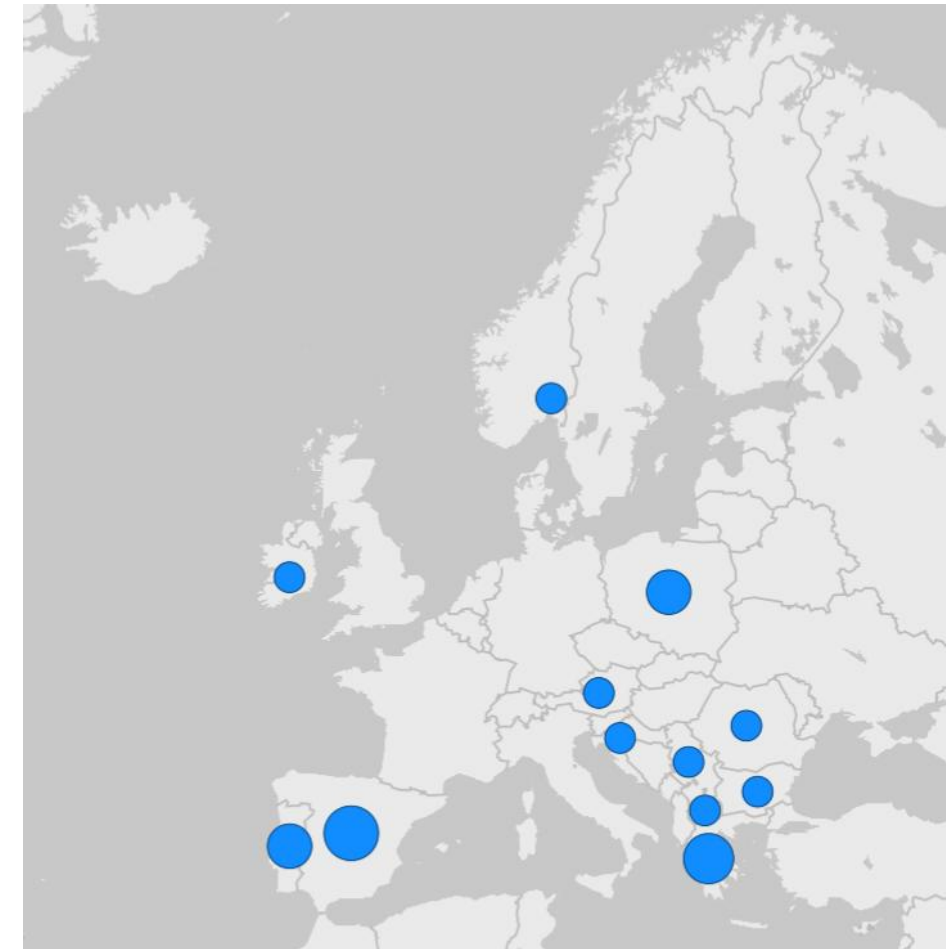
Country & Unit	# SNEs
Austria	1
BIOHAW	1
Bulgaria	1
KNOW	1
Greece	3
BIOHAW	1
ENREL	1
FIP	1
Ireland	1
FEEDCO	1
North Macedonia	1
ENREL	1
Poland	2
PLANTS	2
Portugal	2
ENREL	1
IDATA	1

Country & Unit	# SNEs
Croatia	1
IDATA	1
Romania	1
FIP	1
Serbia	1
NIF	1
Spain	4
BIOHAW	1
FEEDCO	1
IDATA	1
PLANTS	1
Norway	1
FEEDCO	1

Total of **19 SNEs***:

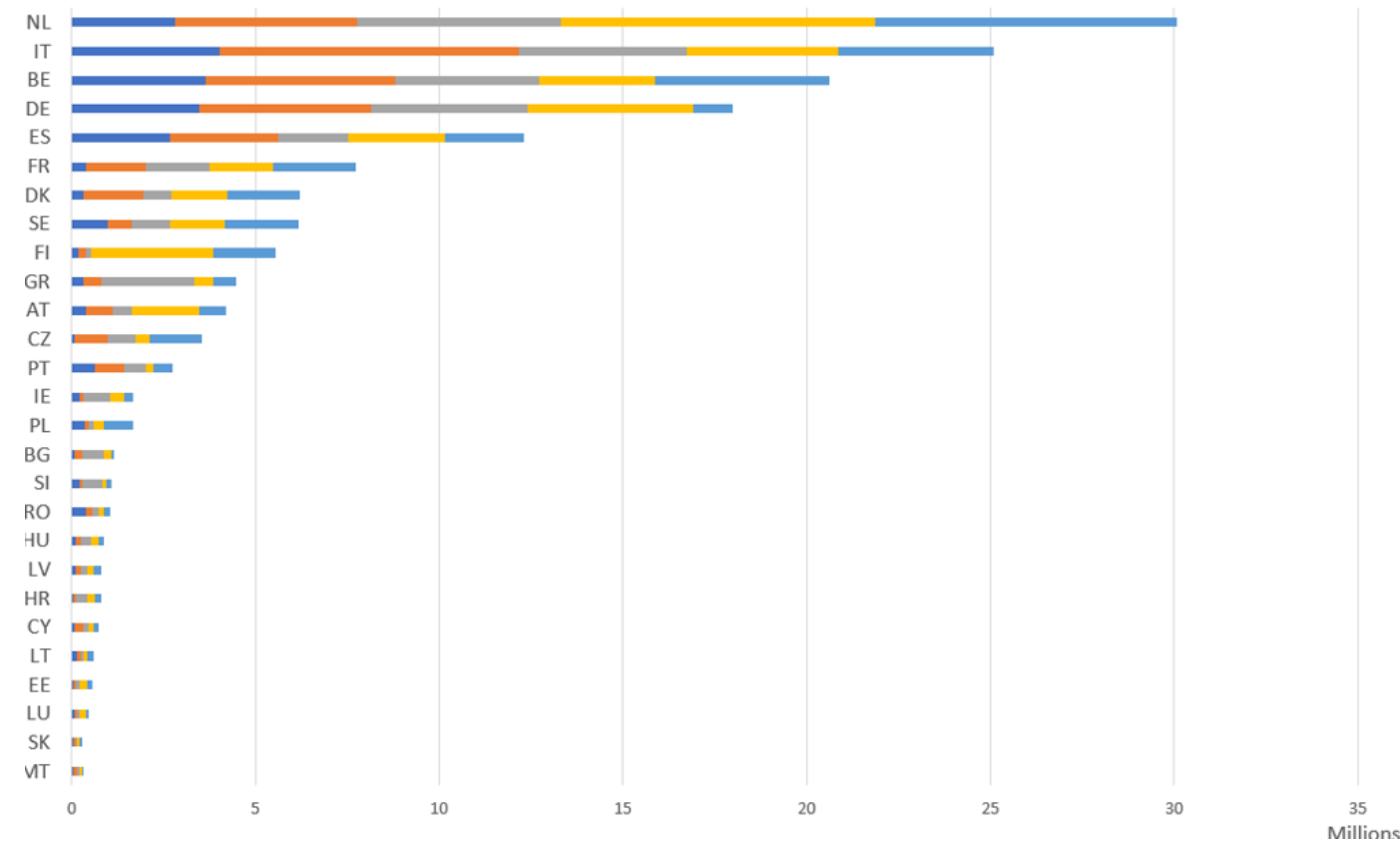
- 17 from MS/EEA countries
- 16 working on RA domains

*: as of March 2026

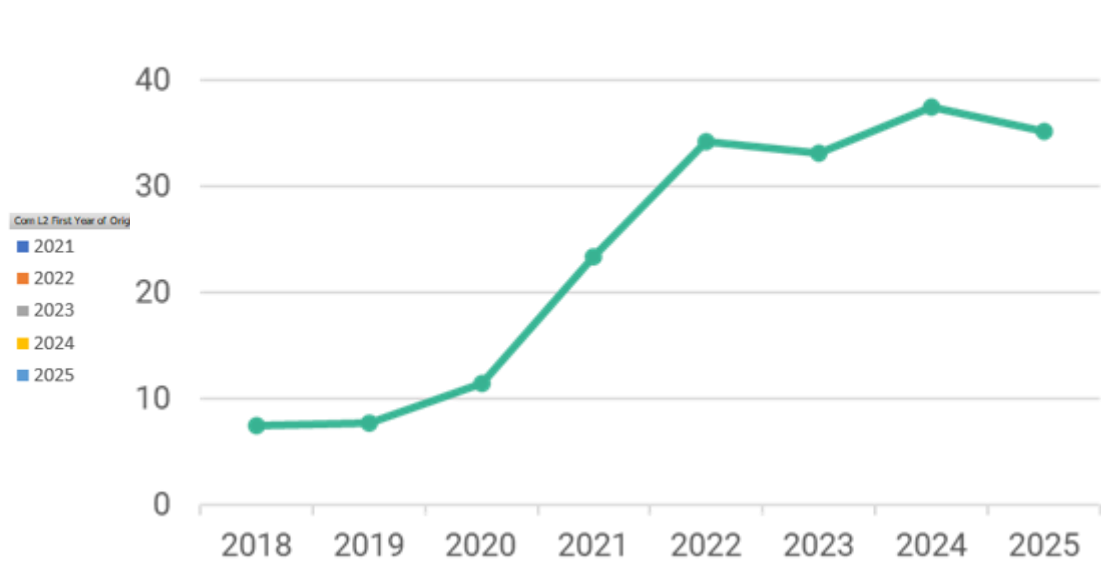


EFSA FUNDS FOR GRANTS AND PROCUREMENT

G&P expenditure by country 2021-2025*



Science G&P budget (rounded, in M€)



* : when a contract/grant is awarded to a consortium, the total value has been assigned to the leading partner and consequently to the Member States in which the leading partner is located

2025: FPA commitments over total Grant and Procurement commitments= 42.3%



CONCLUSIONS & DISCUSSION POINTS

- ✓ **Partnership projects, overall, deliver value, but their outputs require additional processing before reaching the Panels. The following trend is observed:**
 - Partnerships on Generic RA (support tasks): outputs meet the expectations behind the project
 - Partnerships on Regulated Products RA (support tasks or opinion drafting): varied quality in the outputs for support tasks; the expectation of having draft scientific opinions has not been met, yet
- ✓ **Delivered value can be further improved via:**
 - Joint work by EFSA and MS on methodology development, guidance documents and data collection
 - Targeted investment of EFSA in mitigation actions e.g. better onboarding for partners, simplification of administrative requirements, **recognition that different MS have different processes for joining partnerships**
 - Stronger participation by MS/EEA, including, e.g., SNEs.

Proposed points for discussion:

- What is the experience/feedback of the MB members on the existing partnerships?
- Are there particular areas in EFSA's partnership approach that need review?
- How can the joint planning of Risk Assessment work be improved?
- What role AF/FPs can take in building partnerships with national risk assessors?

