EMERGING RISKS EXCHANGE NETWORK (EREN)
36th meeting

24-25 November 2026
09:00-18:00 / 09:00-13:00
AGENDA

EUROPEAN FOOD SAFETY AUTHORITY

Location: EFSA - Parma (Meeting Room 04 & 05) and Webconference

Chair: EFSA

Day 1 - Tuesday, 24 November 2026

Time	No.	Item	Presenter
09:00-09:05	1	**Welcome and apologies for absence**	EFSA
09:05-09:10	2	**Adoption of the agenda**	All
09:10-09:20	3	**Follow-up from the 35th EREN meeting and overview of actions**	EFSA
09:20-09:30	3.1	**Other follow-ups and status of briefing notes, including key pending actions**	EFSA / MS
09:30-09:40	3.2	**6PPD-quinone in the environment and food chain (dairy): short update to the previous briefing note (2 slides)**	FSVO, CH / EFSA (TBC)
09:40-09:45		***Time buffer***	
09:45-10:45	4	**Emerging-risk signals and updates**	MS / EFSA
09:45-10:05	4.1	**Thallium: emerging-risk signals from StaDG-ER - survey**	MPI, NZ / EFSA
10:05-10:25	4.2	**Impact of wildfires on contamination in agricultural systems and water resources - survey**	BVL, DE / EFSA
10:25-10:45	4.3	**Emergence of Shamonda virus variants in European livestock (for information; not in the survey)**	EFSA
10:45-11:05		***Coffee break***	
11:05-11:25	4.4	**Rare earth element mining pollution and food-chain implications (survey)**	BVL, DE/ EFSA
11:25-11:45	4.5	***Toxocara cati* in wild boar meat (not in the survey; views sought for possible assessment)**	ALVA, LU
11:45-12:05	4.6	**Clostridium difficile (ID0302): update to the 2013 briefing note - survey**	BVL, DE
12:05-12:25	4.7	**Expected rise in okadaic acid levels in European shellfish and potential need for ARfD reassessment - survey**	FASFC, BE / EFSA
12:25-12:45	4.8	**Cyanotoxin updates: signals from StaDG-ER - survey**	EFSA
12:45-13:45		***Lunch break***	

Time	No.	Item	Presenter
13:45-15:20	5	**Project and thematic updates**	EFSA / MS
13:45-14:00	5.1	**EuroCigua: project outcomes and follow-up recommendations;**	EFSA
14:00-14:10	5.2	**Marine biotoxin-related signals (brevetoxins and pinnatoxins**	EFSA
14:10-14:25	5.3	**Additional project-related signal: chemical safety of edible insects (not in the survey; views sought for possible assessment)**	Univet, HU
14:25-14:45	5.4	**Food-safety hazards associated with plant-based alternatives: national findings and wider context**	FFA, FI
14:45-15:05	5.5	**Plant-based foods: Danish perspective and research**	DTU, DK
15:05-15:20	5.6	**Discussion and next steps on plant-based alternatives**	All
15:20-15:40		***Coffee break***	
15:40-16:40	6	**EFSA horizon-scanning cycle 2 (2026): update, monitored issues and discussion; potential marine bioinvasion linked to vessel clustering in the Strait of Hormuz may be covered here if relevant**	EFSA
16:40-17:20	7	**Early Warning and Action System for chemicals (EWAS): update and relevance to emerging-risk workflows**	EEA / EWAS coordinator
17:20-17:50	8	**WHO / FAO updates: UPF event/ publications**	WHO/ FAO
17:50-18:00	9	**Any other business: proposals for the location/host of the next EREN meeting (Slovakia, Belgium, Portugal) Closure of Day 1**	Chair / EFSA

Day 2 - Wednesday, 25 November 2026 | Thematic session: digital and automated tools, including AI

Time	No.	Item	Presenter
09:00 - 09:05		**Welcome back, apologies and introduction to the thematic session**	EFSA
09:10 - 09:30	10	**News monitoring and short information updates:** - **industrial trans fatty acids in erythrocytes; xylitol and cardiovascular concerns; xanthan gum and gut inflammation;**	EFSA/ Univet, HU

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		expansion of lumpy skin disease into Western Europe; Salmonella outbreaks signals and cyberattacs for cold-chain disruption; Risk Characterization of Potentially Toxic Elements in European Seabass Marketed in Hungary	
09:30 - 10:30	11	**FoodSafeR tools supporting automated horizon scanning and detection of emerging issues**	FoodSafeR
10:30 - 10:35		***Time buffer***	
10:35 - 10:55		***Coffee break***	
10:55 - 11:55	12	**HOLiFOOD tools for weak-signal identification, analysis and prediction**	HOLiFOOD
11:55 - 12:15	13	**National example: operational use of automated or digital horizon-scanning tools**	Univet, HU
12:15 - 12:45	14	**Overall discussion: applicability of digital and automated tools to EFSA and EREN horizon scanning**	All
12:45 - 13:00	15	**Any other business, summary of follow-up actions and closure of the 36th EREN meeting**	Chair / EFSA