

Improved integration AF/AFCWG

Discussions at the 48th AFCWG meeting and feedback to the 58th AF meeting



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Presentation “Review of AF operations”

- Concern that AFCWG is dislocated from AF
 - Encourage a review of AFCWG/AF integration
- Aspiration that AFCWG should act as a communications role model for MS
- Need for a clear format of communication
 - EFSA to AFCWG to AF to Focal Points to Scientific Networks of National Experts
- Need for a regular dialogue and a plan of action
 - Regular joint meetings could be considered
- Need for increased support in cases of scientific divergences
 - Art.30 in Founding Regulation



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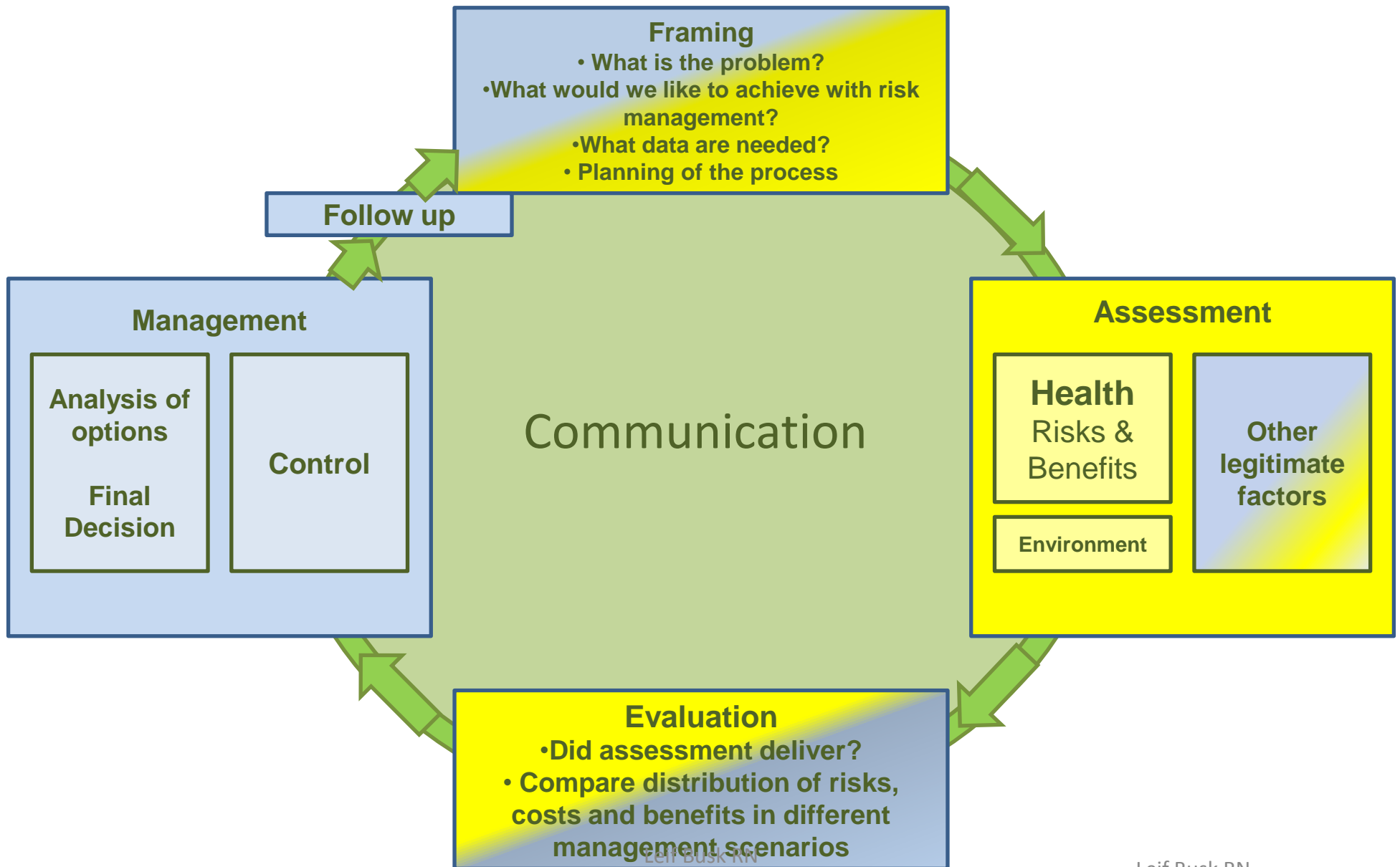
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Presentation “Other opinions expressed”

- AFCWG has achieved much of great value
 - Embargoed sharing of communication activities
 - Eurobarometer, When food is cooking up a storm
 - Serving as the only platform for sharing experiences within the field of communication. Building mutual trust among Risk Communicators at EFSA and in different MS
- Is there a need for EFSA to give further support to MS in the field of communication science, e.g. social science
 - EFSA has no Scientific Panel devoted to communication issues
- Do we need to clarify needs/roles/responsibilities with regard to risk communication, benefit communication and management communication between EFSA and MS?
 - Do AFCWG feel that AF really has clarified its needs?



Development of Risk Analysis – simplified model



Proposed issues to discuss

- What is your view on earlier/present cooperation between AFCWG and AF?
- Suggestions for improving the integration between AFCWG and AF
- Specific views on the issues raised during the review of the AF operations
- Specific views on other opinions expressed
 - Do AFCWG feel that AF really has clarified its needs?
- What could be the way forward?
 - Both in a short and long term perspective



Outcome of the discussions - I

- Bring AF and AFCWG together more often
- Prepare a list on all types of communication issues, both at national and Efsa level, and have a discussion on who is best suited for dealing with them – AF, FP or WGC.
 - Who will inform about what and when in time?
 - Advisory Group on Communication Sciences – what happened?



Outcome of the discussions - II

- AF need to prepare a list of tasks for AFCWG
- Increase the cooperation/communication between AF and AFCWG members at the national level
- National coordination could be a responsibility of FP
 - not necessarily setting the agenda but to make sure that AF and WGC meet regular
 - many MS have such meetings before and after AF meetings
AF, FP and AFCWG representatives participate.



Outcome of the discussions - III

Next steps - suggestions

- Shira to draft a concept paper of recommendations for discussion at the AF meeting in June in NL
- A joint session with the AF/AFCWG in June or perhaps a smaller working group to refine the concept paper
- Adopt a final plan of action for closer alignment agreed by the AF/AFCWG by the end of 2016



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