

Collaboration In Food Safety: Activities of the Advisory Forum



Views from Ireland and Sweden

Alan Reilly, FSAI
Leif Busk, NFA

How does the AF contribute to EFSA's two main functions?

- **Risk assessment:** the provision of objective, transparent and independent scientific advice
- **Risk communication:** clear communication grounded in the most up-to-date scientific methodologies, information and data available.

Don't We Have It Already?

Political Collaboration On Food Safety



Scientific Collaboration On Food Safety

Under Construction



Scientific Collaboration – A Learning Process



Divergence of scientific opinion...

What about GMOs?



EFSA National Focal Points...

➤ **Exchange of information**

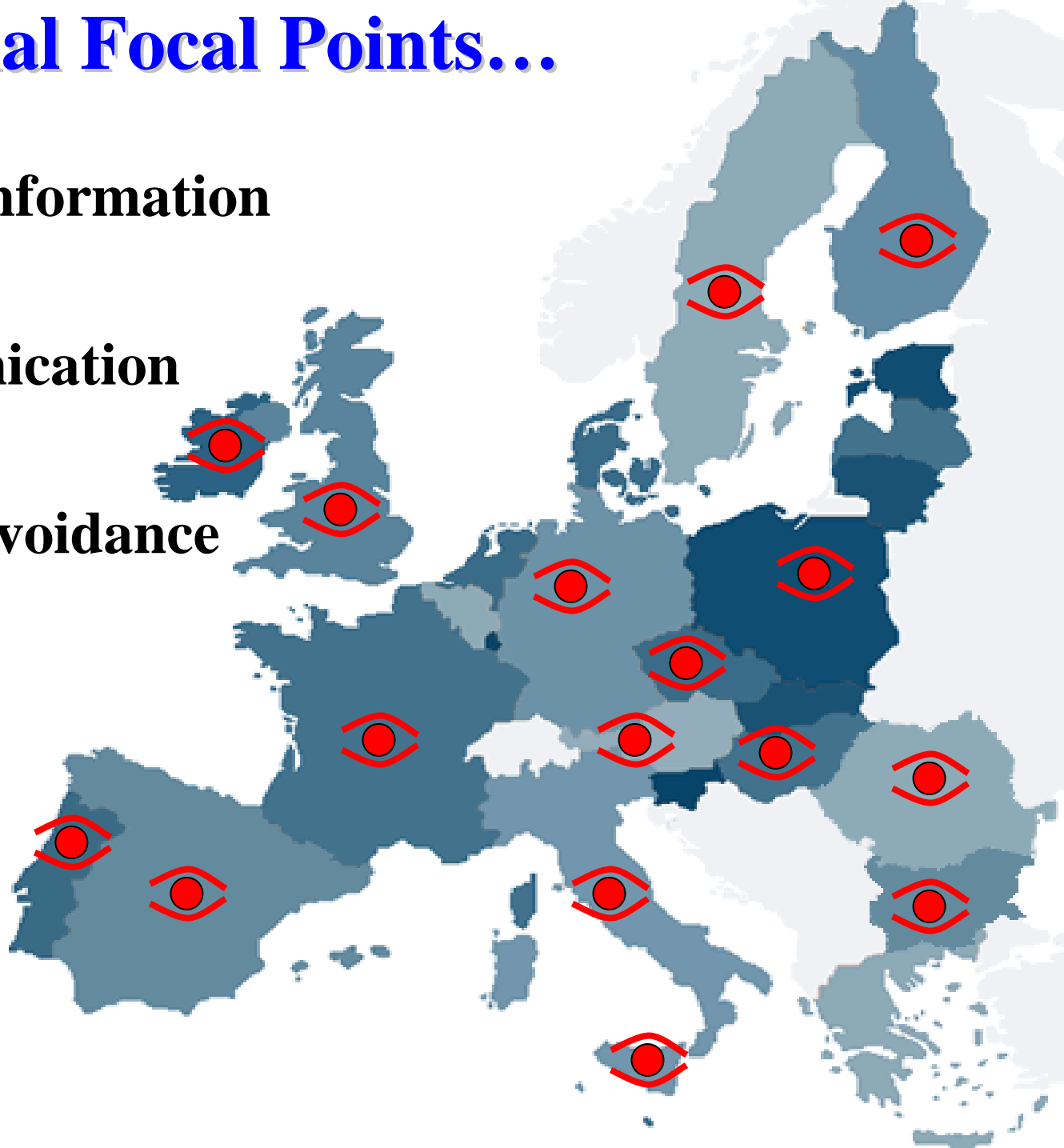
➤ **Risk Communication**

➤ **Duplication Avoidance**

➤ **Databases**

➤ **Promotion**

➤ **Collaboration**



Networking Is About PEOPLE...



Key immediate areas for collaboration

- **Assisting EFSA in identifying the best available experts**
- *Fostering harmonised risk assessment approaches*
- *Risks and benefits of the fortification of food with folic acid*
- *Emerging Risks*
- *Harmonisation of chemical occurrence data collection*
- *Setting-up a database of scientific experts in Europe*
- *Safety assessment of botanicals preparation in food supplements*

Communicating on risks associated with the food chain

- AF Working Group on
communication
- AF Working Group on
**Information
Technology**



Article 36 Network

- **Scientific network of competent organisations in MS**
- **Identification of the needs for the risk assessment in terms of research and data production**
- **Research programmes and funding**
- **Close involvement of the Advisory Forum collaborative process**

Advisory Forum – Progress to Date

Information Exchange

Networking



AF Adding Value

- Avoid Duplication of Risk Assessments
- Establish Common Opinions
- Consistency of Approach in Dealing With Food Risks
- Risk Communication network Based on Science
- Avoiding food scares

Looking Forward

- **Are we getting the best use from the AF?**
- **Network of agencies and network of experts**
- **Credibility and confidence in the whole European risk assessment system**

Advisory Forum

