



Metadata analysis of Cyprus EU MENU data & other activities at SGL

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Cyprus Advisory Forum at EFSA

71th AF meeting 3-4/4/19 Bucharest



EU MENU project in Cyprus



- CFT/EFSA/DCM/2013/02 - “Support to national dietary surveys in compliance with the EFSA guidance in view of a pan-European dietary survey” -Lot1 (people aged 0-9 years) & Lot2 (people aged 10-74 years)
- Total funding= 100.000€ for each Lot
- Started in August 2013 and concluded in February 2018
- Survey sample: n=848 for Lot1 and n=1016 (including pregnant) for Lot2
- Specifically:

AgeGroup	n
Adolescents: 10-17	272
Adults: 18-64	275
Elderly: 65-74	264
Infants: 0-11 MONTHS	271
Other Children: (36 mo to <10 y)	301
Pregnant Women	204
Toddlers: 12 -35 months	277



Present situation

- With the successful completion of the EFSA EU MENU project, Cyprus has high quality Consumption Data for the whole Cyprus population
- What is the next step and what does EFSA say???
- *“EFSA’s EU Menu project aims to provide standardised information on what people eat in all countries and regions across the EU. This allows more accurate **exposure assessments** and ultimately supports risk managers in their decision-making on food safety.”* (EFSA website)
- Cyprus has proceeded with the exploitation of the data in order to carry out **exposure assessment** to chemicals/nutrients of the Cypriot population.
- To do that it needs:
 - ❖ Food Consumption data – Cyprus EU MENU data OK
 - ❖ Chemical occurrence data – Cyprus food monitoring data OK
 - ❖ Exposure assessment model – The ImproRisk model OK...**BUT...**



But



- The EU MENU data are coded according to **EFSA FoodEx2**, and the Cyprus RA model ImproRisk is compatible to **FoodEx1** food classification system.
- Therefore the EU MENU data cannot be used for exposure assessment as such.
- What is the solution???



Solution



- ✓ One would think the solution is simple: **To transform the EU MENU data from FoodEx2 to FoodEx1.** However, this is not an easy task!
- ✓ EFSA is aware of this and has already published the following technical report: *Mapping from FoodEx2 to FoodEx1 (EFSA Supporting publication 2016:EN-1056)*.
- ✓ The above task for the Cyprus data was undertaken by an external collaborator, a highly experienced data scientist and developer of the ImproRisk model.



Outcome



- ✓ The external collaborator has developed 2 specific tools (in R language -R scripts) for the transformation of the Cyprus EU MENU data:

1. Map_fdx2_fdx1-EU-MENU.R

This tool maps the EU-MENU consumption data from FoodEx2 to FoodEx1 food categorisation system.

2. Create ImproRisk Templates - EU-MENU.R

This tool creates a template for the EU MENU consumption data ready to be used in the ImproRisk model.

- ✓ The applied methodology as well as the two tools were sent to EFSA Data Unit for comments and/or validation.



Future perspectives

- Cyprus, being aware of EFSA principles for openness, transparency and mutual learning, **is willing to share** the work done so far :
 - The two tools, based on EFSA's comments, will be updated accordingly and then will be **published** in **GitHub** platform- an open software development platform
 - The tools will **be shared** with the Member States which are already using ImproRisk and have/will have EU MENU data, in order to carry out exposure assessment.
- EFSA's Data Unit has welcomed the above actions.
- Cyprus is now ready to perform dietary exposure assessment to chemical/nutrients of the Cypriot population, using the risk assessment tool **ImproRisk** and the high quality EU MENU data.



Other activities of relevance to EFSA



- Establishment of Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the following Organisations/Authorities:
 - ❖ EFET Hellenic Food Authority (Greece)
 - ❖ Administration for Food Safety, Veterinary and Phytosanitary Affairs (Montenegro)



Press conference on “Presentation of the National Dietary Survey on the population of Cyprus – EU MENU”, Ministry of Health, 22 March 2019.





Acknowledgements



- Cyprus Focal Point of EFSA
- Risk Assessment Unit of SGL
- Mr. Lefkios Paikousis, SGL's external collaborator

- **Thank you very much for your attention**