



# IMPROVING INFORMATION EXCHANGE ON NATIONAL RA ACTIVITIES

**Sérgio Potier Rodeia**  
**Scientific Officer, AFSCO**

***31<sup>st</sup> Meeting of the Focal Point Network***

**Jugend Hall, Glo Hotel Art**  
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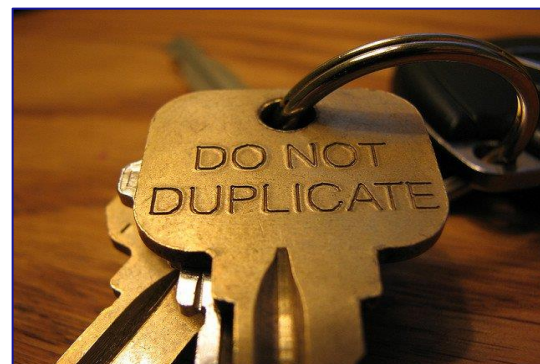
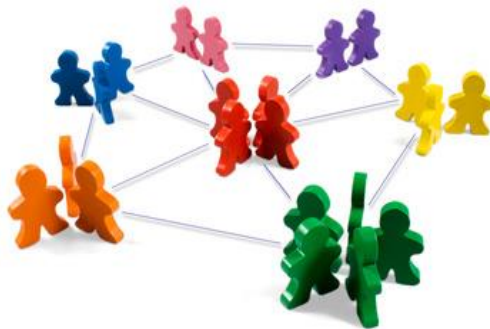
# INFORMATION EXCHANGE ON NATIONAL RA ACTIVITIES

## OBJECTIVES

**Share information  
on planned RA  
activities**

**Enable  
opportunities for  
joint initiatives**

**Avoid duplication  
of RA activities &  
divergence**



# INFORMATION EXCHANGE ON NATIONAL RA ACTIVITIES

## CURRENT STATE-OF-PLAY (2015-2016)

- **IEP** -> phased out
- **EFSA/ AF** -> sharing of information on planned RA activities needed as objectives remain valid
- **Tools** and **workspaces** used:



**SCIENCENET**



**DMS**



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## CURRENT LIMITATIONS OF WORKSPACES

### DMS



- Bug with **login error** message
- Complex **access rights** management
- **Speed**: time-consuming
- File **version override** if not reserved
- Browser **cache issues** with Excel
- ...

### OFFICE 365

- **Microsoft accounts** needed
- Organisational **domains blocked** by Microsoft
- Reduced **security**/restrictions when **open source**
- **Formatting issues** on Excel (e.g. American vs European dates)
- ...

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## CURRENT LIMITATIONS OF TOOL USED – MS EXCEL



- No separation on **edit** and **read** modes
- **Edit** mode not **country/user** specific
- Undesired **data loss** when file is updated
- Compatibility of **Excel versions** e.g. loss of validation rules
- Regular **verification** of compliance with **validation criteria** set in Excel file
- Dataset difficult to **query / manage**
- ...

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## IMPROVEMENTS OVER 2017

- Evolution from “static” Excel file to a **database** (R4U)

- Advantages:

- ✓ **Edit mode** separate from **read (end-user) mode**
- ✓ **User levels:** **EFSA manager/FP manager/EFSA-FP user**
- ✓ **Dates** of entry/modification of data **set automatically**
- ✓ **Filtering/sub-setting** of data **possible** for **all users**
- ✓ **Report** generation to **Excel /PDF** formats



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## IMPROVEMENTS OVER 2017

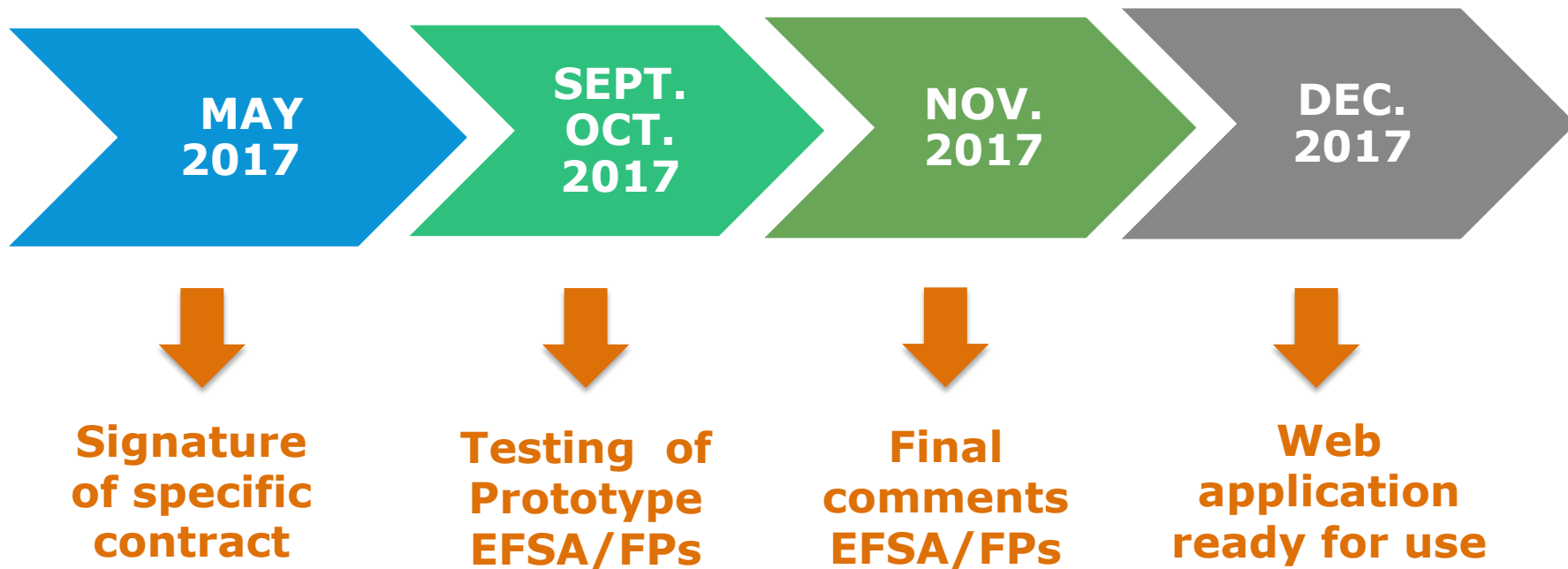
### ➤ Advantages:

- ✓ **Country:** linked to type of user
- ✓ **Organisation / RA area:** harmonised drop-down lists
- ✓ **Free text fields:** with **character limitation**
- ✓ **Planned start/end dates of RA:** **mm/yyyy**
- ✓ **Contact details:** validation check
- ✓ **Link to Knowledge Junction** for concluded RAs
- ✓ **Graphical summaries** of (subsets of) data for PPTs



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## TIMELINE FOR IMPLEMENTING DATABASE IN R4U





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# QUESTIONS / COMMENTS

