

Management Board

24 June 2021

Update on the EU-FORA Programme

Towards EU-FORA 2.0

Barbara Gallani

Head of Department Communication
Engagement & Cooperation

Trusted science for safe food

EU-FORA PROGRAMME: WHAT IS IT?



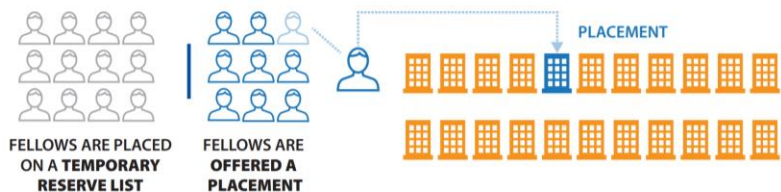
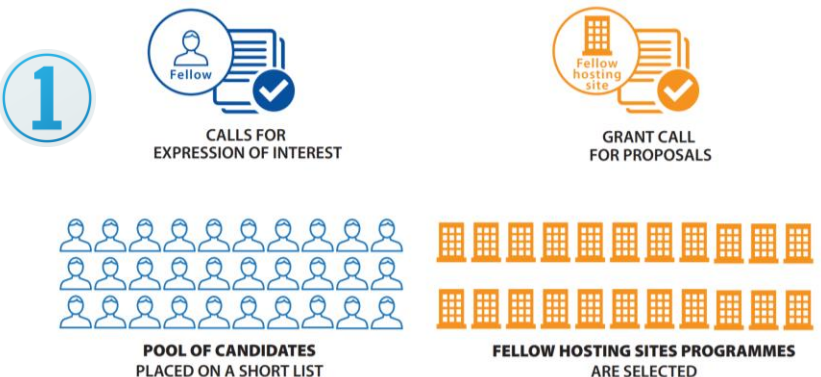
European Food Risk Assessment Fellowship Programme

"Building the food risk assessment capacity and knowledge community across Europe" (EFSA Strategy 2020, Strategic Objective #3)

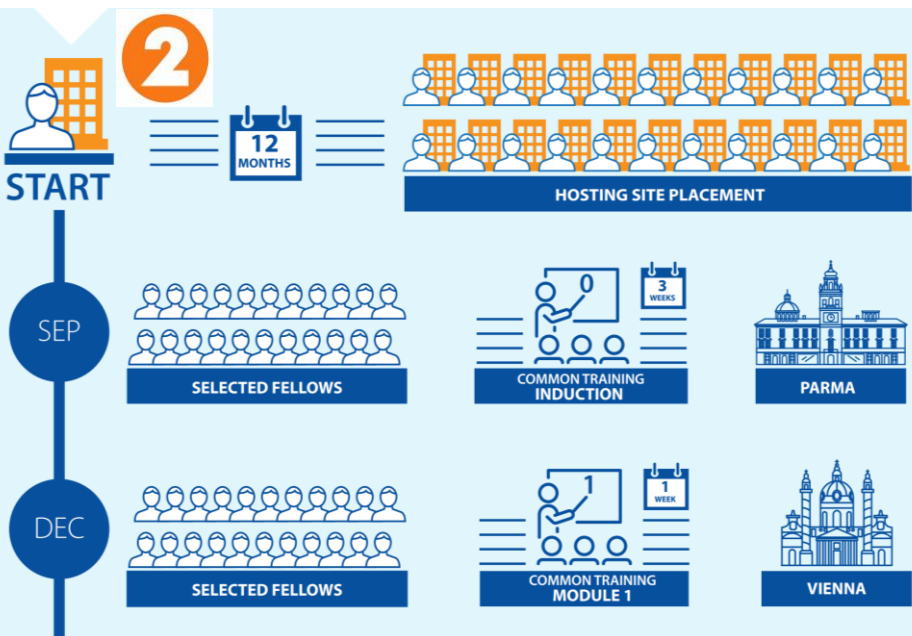
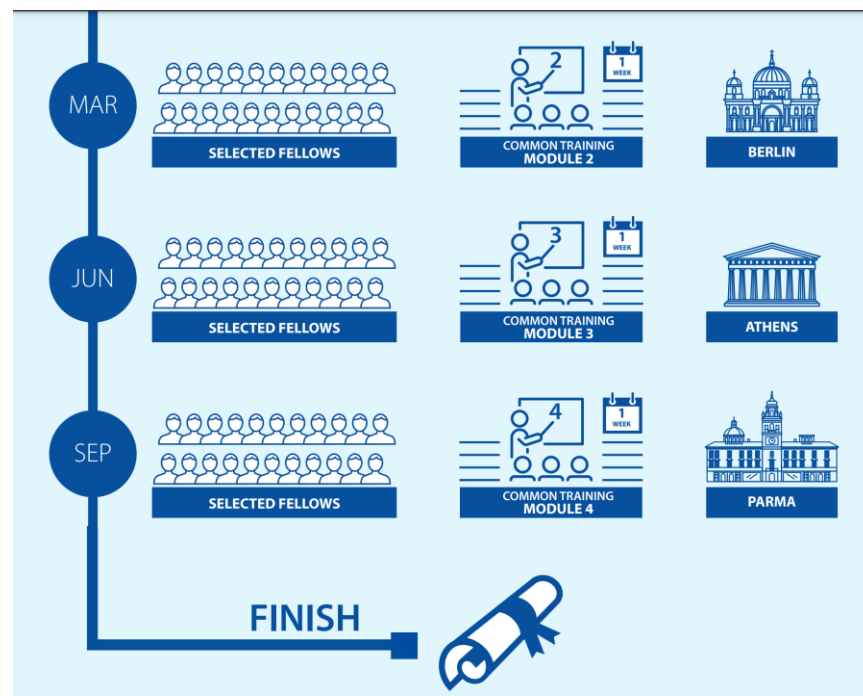
Goals



EU-FORA PROGRAMME: HOW DOES IT CURRENTLY WORK?



3



Summary

- 12-month fellowship
- Learning by doing
- Hosting sites and Fellows selected separately
- Fellow's allowance is included in the Grant Agreement with the hosting site
- Outsourced trainings

EU-FORA PROGRAMME: SOME FACTS AND FIGURES



Fellows

- 45 graduated fellows (2017-2020)
- 22 fellows being trained (2020-2021)
- Significant higher No. applications from ES, IT and GR
- Selection fellows 2021-2022 finalised



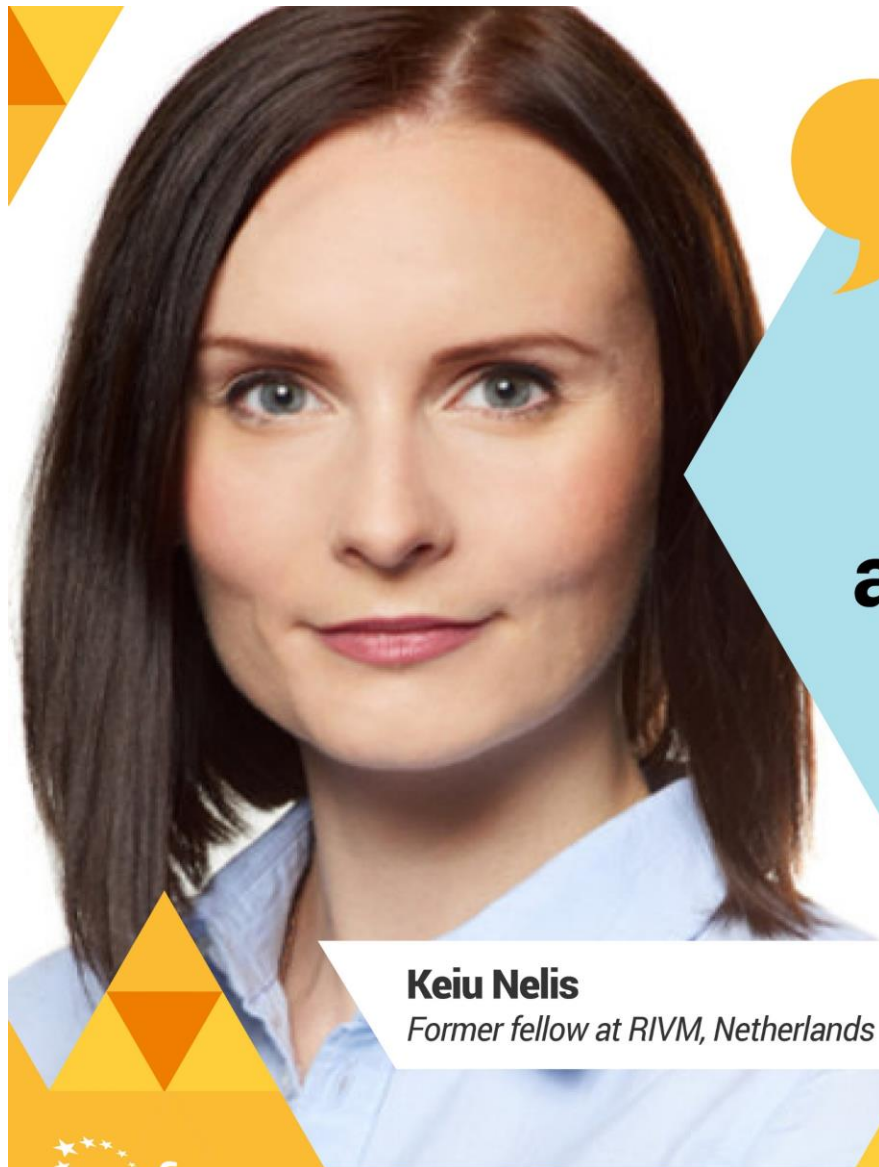
Hosting sites

- 26 org. from 13 MS and the UK implemented 62 programmes
- Significant higher No. applications from ES, IT and PT
- Selection hosting sites 2021-2022 finalised



It was a fantastic experience. It gave us the chance to exchange knowledge and experience with the fellow and establish the basis for future collaboration

Avelino Álvarez Ordóñez
Supervisor at University of León, Spain

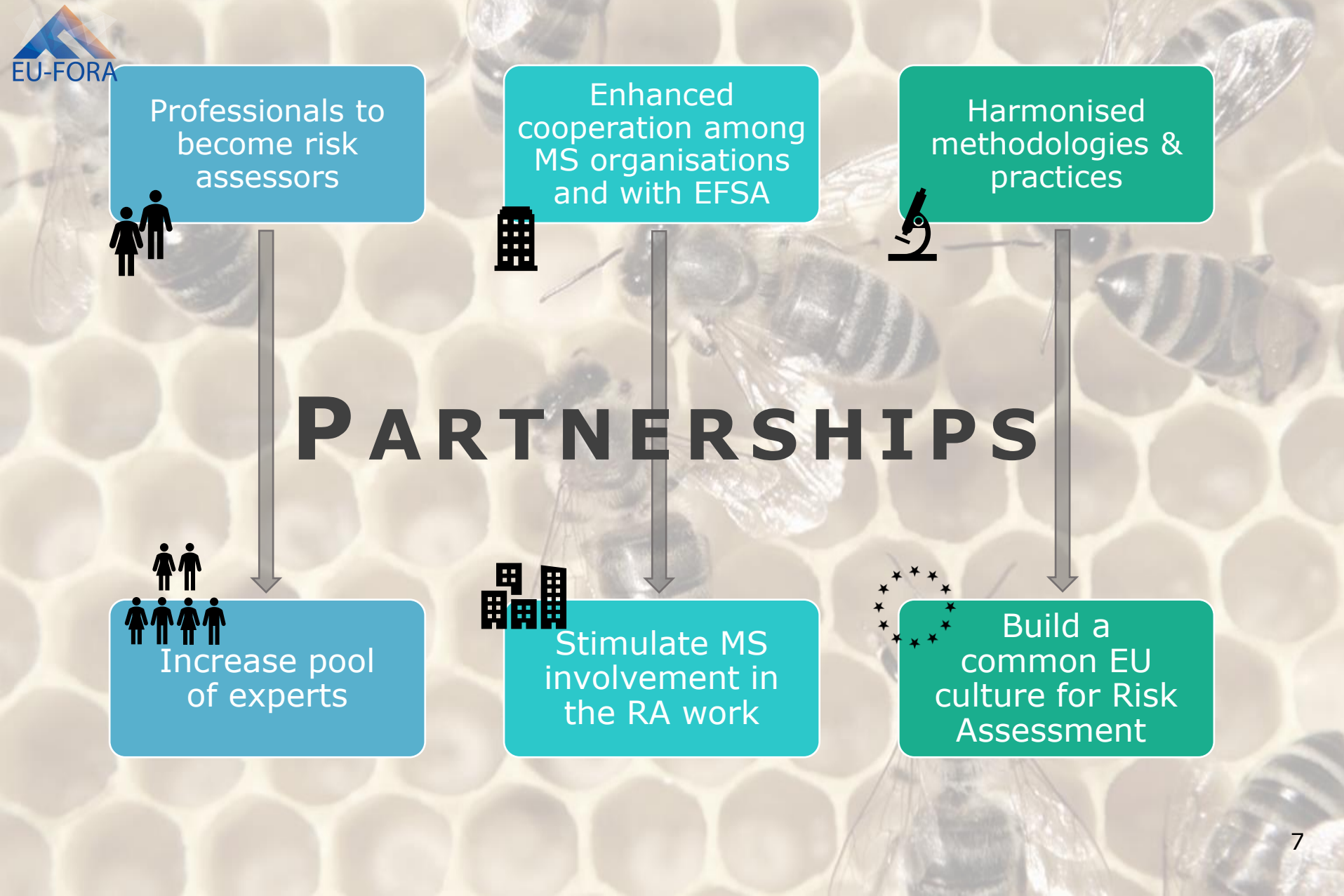


Keiu Nelis

Former fellow at RIVM, Netherlands

**The working programme
I was assigned to
matched my experience
and expectations perfectly,
so I can really apply
everything I learnt now
that I'm back at my
home institute**

EU-FORA: PART OF A MUCH LARGER VISION...



HOW CAN EU-FORA SUPPORT THIS LARGER PICTURE?

1

Taking stock: Evaluation

2

Looking ahead: Evolution

3

Ensuring sustainability: Alignment with EFSA Strategy 2027

2020: EVALUATION OF THE EU-FORA PROGRAMME

**Why this
evaluation?**

End of EU-FORA agreed pilot phase in 2019

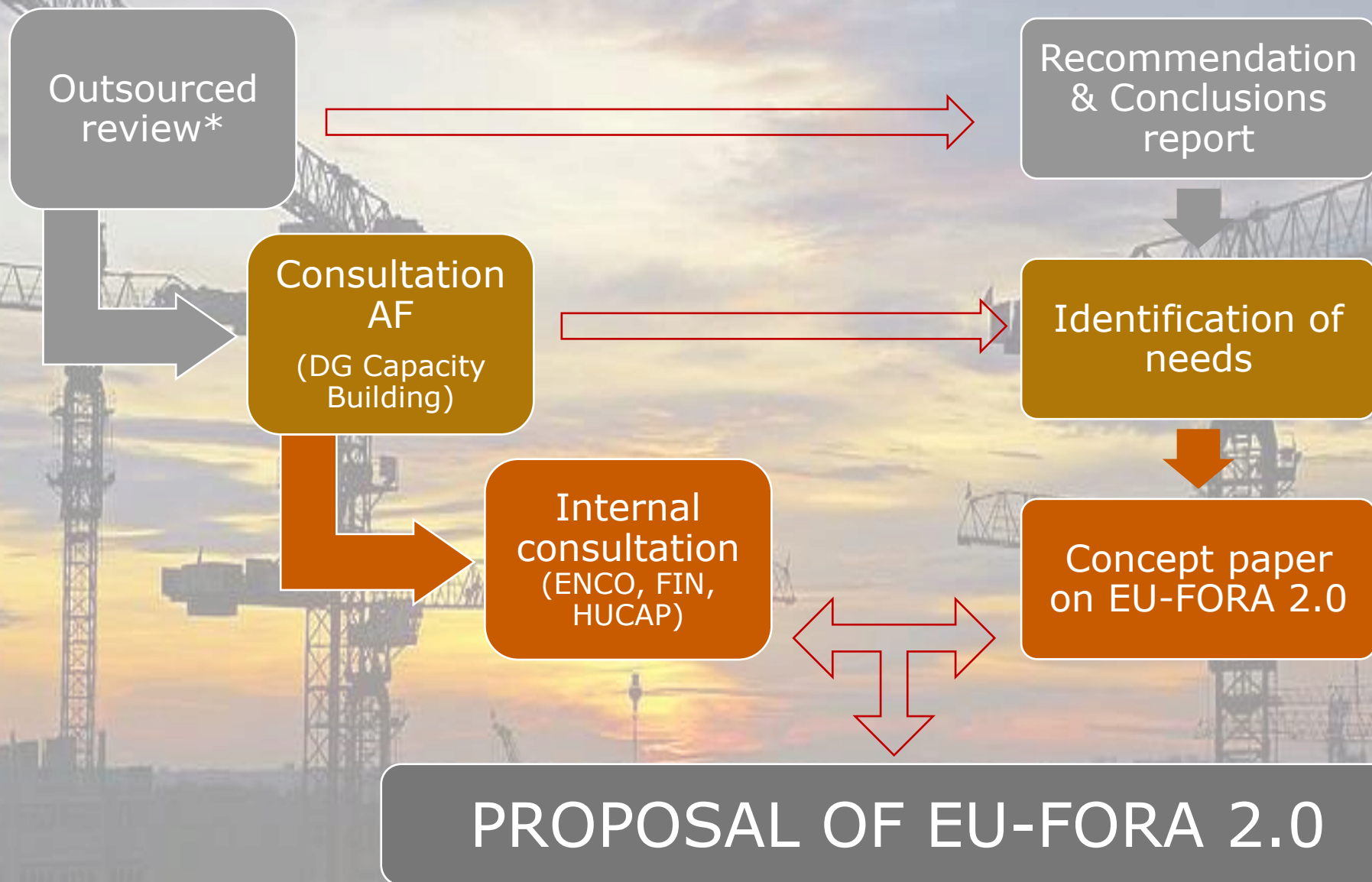
Increase in EU-FORA budget (from €750k to 1.3M)

Implementation TR
(sustainability, capacity
building pillars)

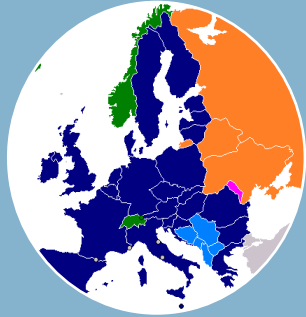
Strategy 2027
(building partnerships, EO
2.1.)

Drivers for the evolution towards EU-FORA 2.0

EVALUATION OF THE EU-FORA PROGRAMME: How was it built?



CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS FROM EVALUATION



Outreach



Engagement
hosting sites



Engagement
graduate
fellows



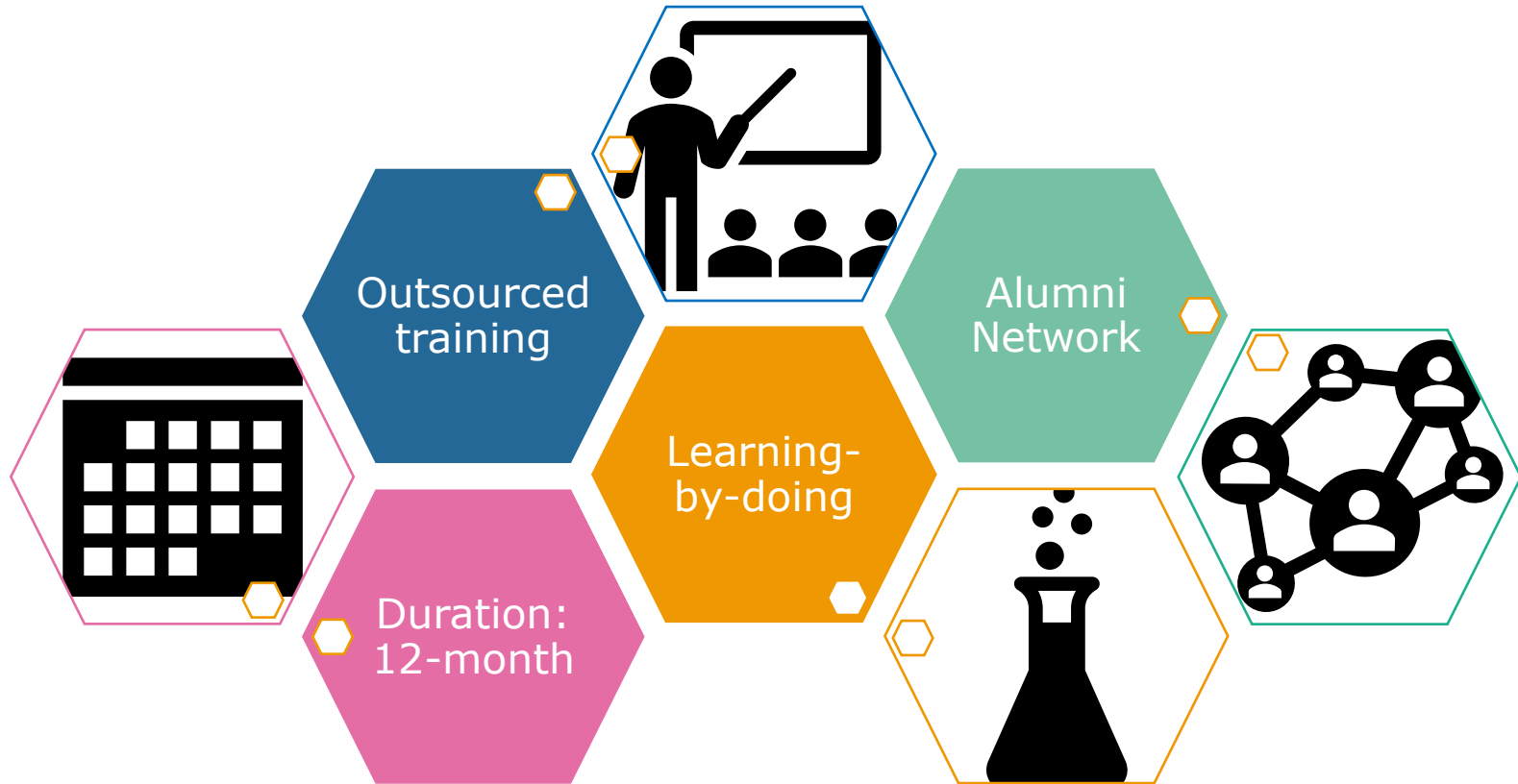
Payment of
fellows



Strategy for
return on
investment

IDENTIFIED OPPORTUNITIES FOR IMPROVEMENT

PROPOSAL OF AN EU-FORA 2.0 PROGRAMME. Key aspects



PROPOSAL OF AN EU-FORA 2.0 PROGRAMME. Main changes



Mid-career
professionals at Art.
36 org

STAFF

Placement: On-site +
short stays



Co-submission of
proposals



Maximise online
training

Expected benefits

- Ensure continuity/long-term engagement
- Better return on investment
- Bring focus back to EFSA's closer partners

Expected benefits

- Overcome payment difficulties
- Increase outreach to small organisations
- Networking and knowledge exchange via short stays

Expected benefits

- Ensure continuity and return on investment
- Better identification of fellow
- Ex-ante impact assessment of benefits
- Long-term relations/enhanced role of supervisors

Expected benefits

- Online performance of selected Work programmes
- Online delivery of some training modules
- Increase outreach to small organisations

CONCLUSIONS

Evaluation

- Programme objectives met, high satisfaction of the different consulted parties*
- Areas for improvement identified

Evolution

- Focus on: MS staff development; leaner organisation; learning by doing; Alumni community

Alignment

- Contribution to partnership vision; sustainability and return on investment: improved identification of beneficiaries, enhanced involvement of target groups and strengthened mid to long-term relationships with EFSA partners

*Member States (Advisory Forum, Focal Points), hosting sites (Art. 36 organisations), supervisors, Alumni Network, training consortium (contractor), EFSA staff (ENCO, FIN).