

Update on the EU-FORA  
Programme  
Towards EU-FORA 2.0

**Barbara Gallani**  
Head of Department Communication  
Engagement & Cooperation

# EU-FORA PROGRAMME: WHAT IS IT?



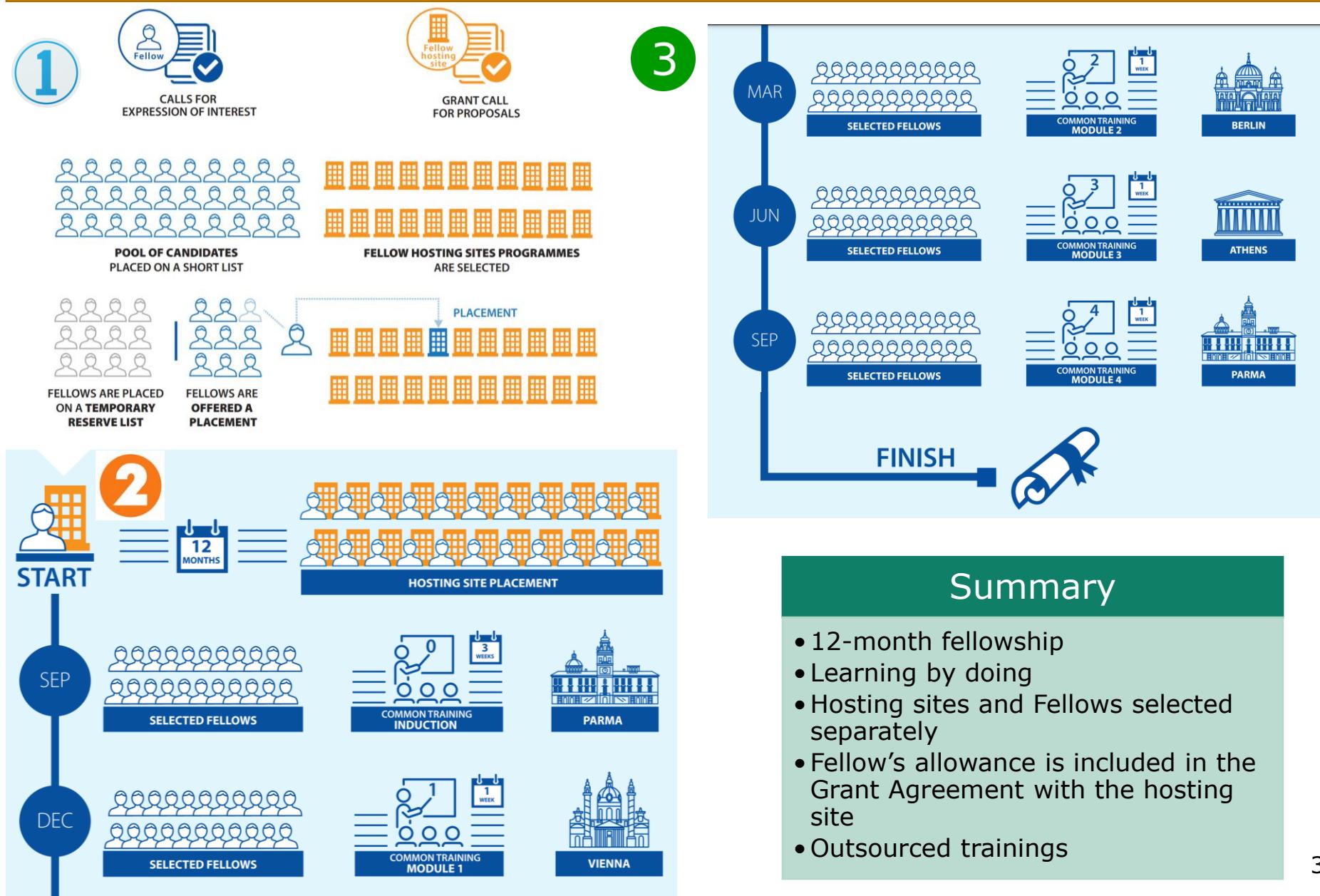
## European Food Risk Assessment Fellowship Programme

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

### Goals

- Attract early and mid-career professionals to become risk assessors by learning by doing
- Harmonise risk assessment methodologies & practices across Europe
- Intensify cooperation among national organisations and with EFSA

## EU-FORA PROGRAMME: HOW DOES IT CURRENTLY WORK?



## 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 Léon, 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...



Professionals to become risk assessors



Enhanced cooperation among MS organisations and with EFSA



Harmonised methodologies & practices



## PARTNERSHIPS



Increase pool of experts

Professionals to become risk assessors



Stimulate MS involvement in the RA work



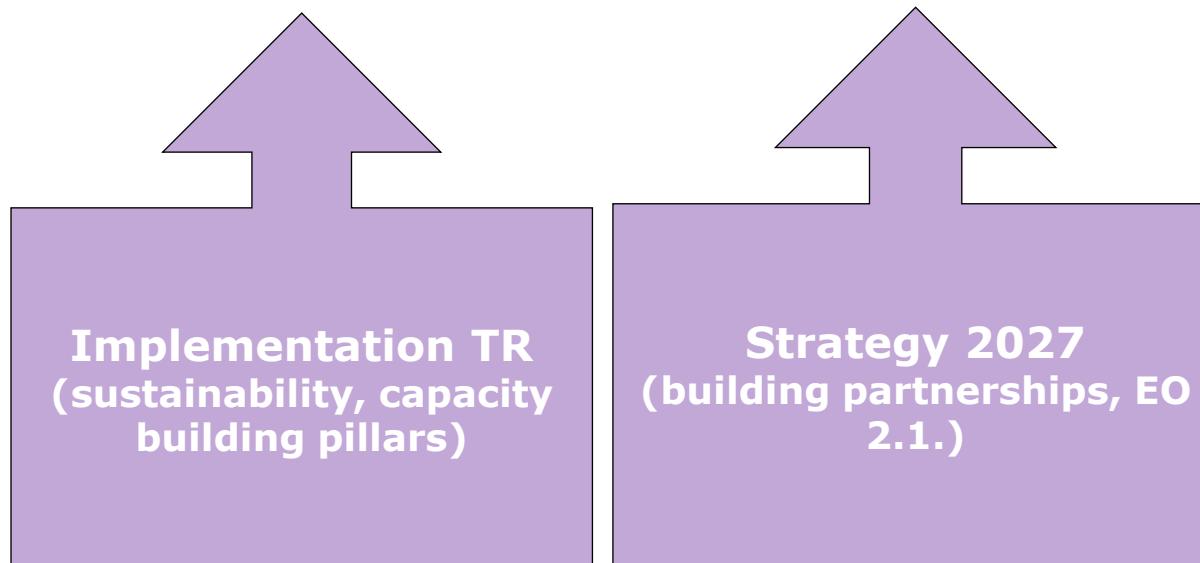
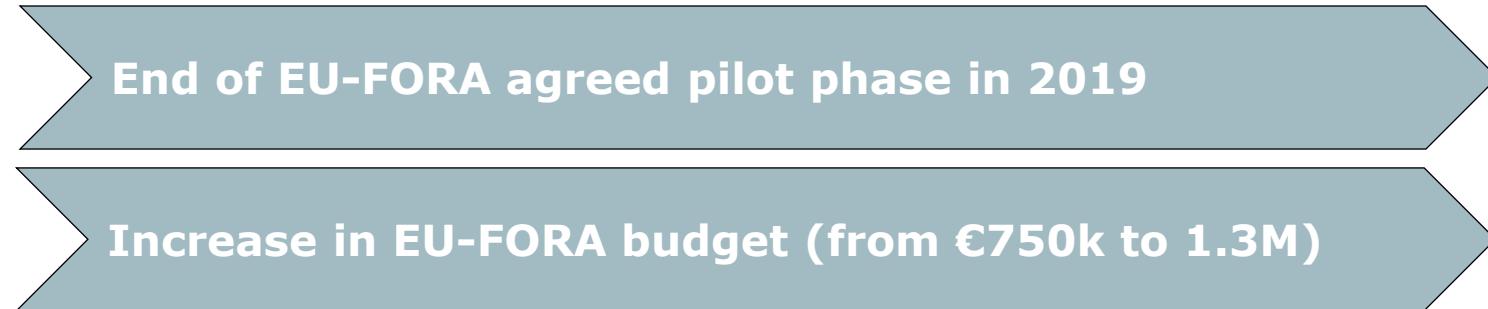
Build a common EU culture for Risk Assessment

# HOW CAN EU-FORA SUPPORT THIS LARGER PICTURE?

- 1 Taking stock: Evaluation
- 2 Looking ahead: Evolution
- 3 Ensuring sustainability: Alignment with EFSA Strategy 2027

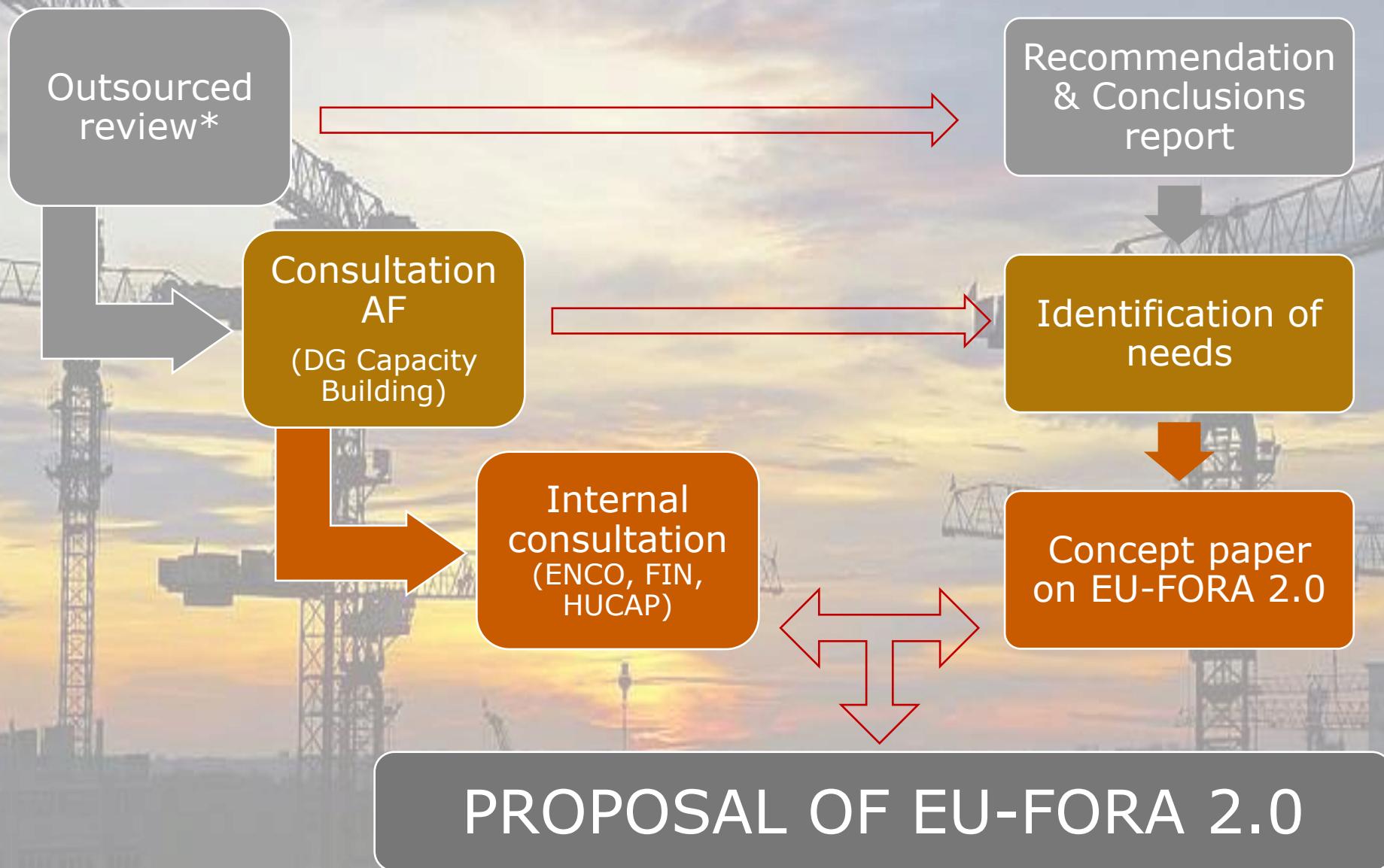
# 2020: EVALUATION OF THE EU-FORA PROGRAMME

Why this evaluation?



**Drivers for the evolution towards EU-FORA 2.0**

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



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

# CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS FROM EVALUATION



Outreach



Engagement hosting sites



Engagement graduate fellows



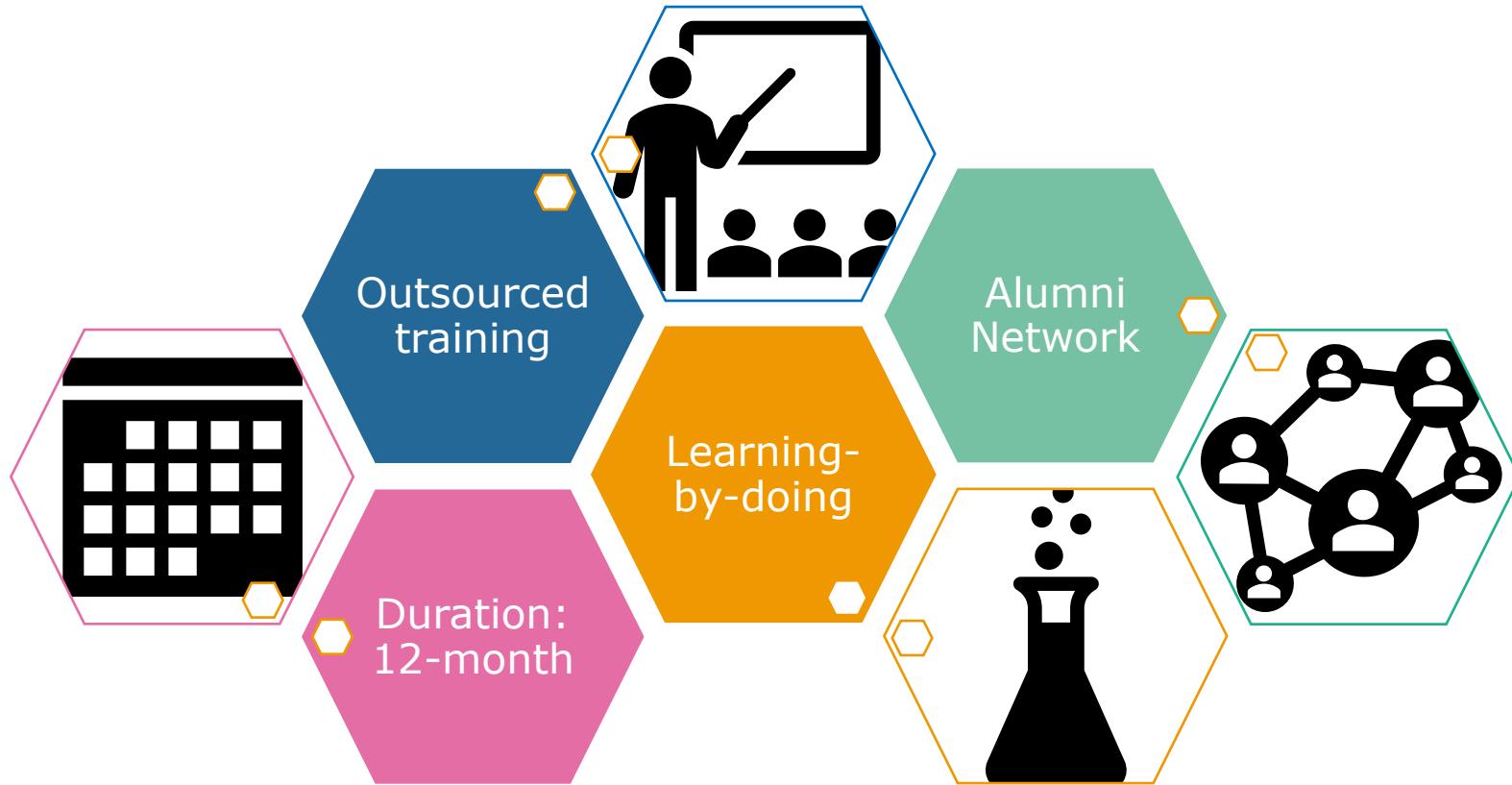
Payment of fellows



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



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