

NOTE TO THE MANAGEMENT BOARD

EFSA's Expert Mutual Assessment

The Expert Mutual Assessment consists of the mutual assessment of EFSA's Panel Experts and EFSA; it is made up of two parts, the Expert Survey and the Expert Assessment.

1. Expert Survey

The overall objective of the Expert Survey is to provide EFSA with valuable insights into how satisfied the Panel Experts are with respect to their collaboration with EFSA and perspectives on whether EFSA is effectively delivering on its Commitments, outlined in the Declaration of Commitment and Confidentiality within the initial Offer Letter.

This survey consists of two sections:

- a) Expert Engagement Survey: measures the overall engagement of experts and the level of satisfaction of their experience with EFSA;
- b) Expert Assessment of EFSA: measures the extent to which EFSA has delivered on its Commitments to its Panel Experts, as outlined in the Offer Letter.

The survey was submitted to 174 Panel Experts, reaching a 76% response rate and an overall 88% total favourable score. Amongst the areas of strength were EFSA's recognition and appreciation for the work delivered by the experts and the administrative and technical support provided while some space for improvement was highlighted with regards to training opportunities and networking.

2. Expert Assessment

The overall objective of the Expert Assessment is to evaluate the performance of EFSA's Panel Experts and the Organisation's satisfaction with respect to the work delivered according to the Commitments outlined in the Declaration of Commitment and Confidentiality within the initial Offer Letter. The 2020 Expert Assessment is the first one performed by EFSA.

The assessment consists of two sections:

- a) Behavioural Assessment
- b) Technical Assessment

EFSA's Panel Coordinators assessed their Panel Experts through a dedicated questionnaire and an overall 93% total favourable assessment was obtained. Experts received high scores for their consistent implementation of EFSA's scientific methodologies and their respect of policies and measures. For very few experts, some room for improvement was identified in relation to their active participation and contribution to Panel and Working Group meetings.



Conclusions

Overall, this first exercise performed in 2020 has highlighted a high level of satisfaction of both the Panel Experts, with respect to their collaboration with EFSA, and the Panel Coordinators, with respect to the performance and the achievements of the Panel Experts. The next assessment will take place in 2022.

The Transparency Regulation stipulates that the terms of office of the members of the Scientific Committee and Panels who are in office on 30 June 2021 shall be prolonged until new members of the Scientific Committee and Panels are appointed with the new rules to be adopted by the new Board after 1 July 2022. Therefore, the terms of office of the current Scientific Committee and Panel members have been extended until June 2024. 95% of the current Panel Experts accepted the extension of the mandate and, where needed, the reserve list will be used to fill in the competency/ knowledge gaps created by the 8 declinations.