Towards the EU Food Safety Platform

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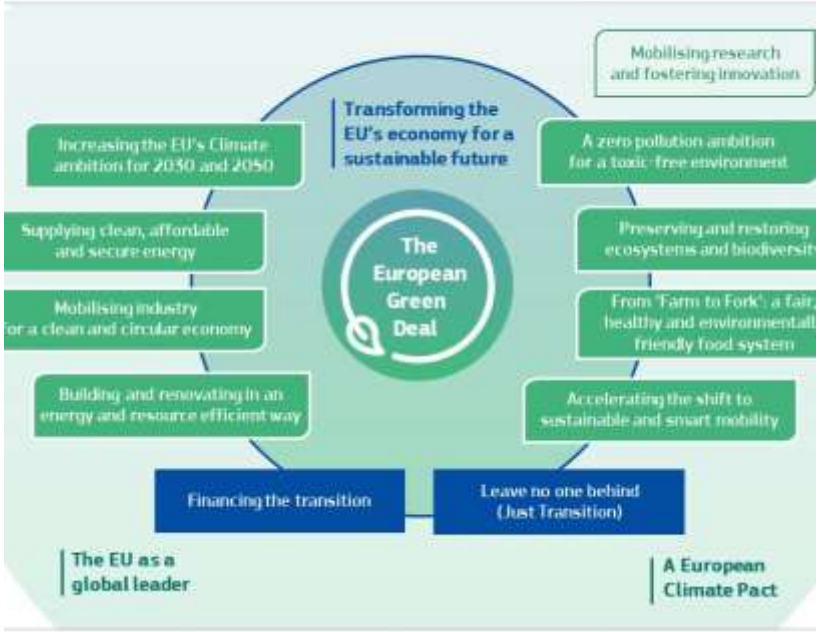
efsa
European Food Safety Authority

Context


Mobilising research and fostering innovation
Transforming the EU's economy for a sustainable future
Increasing the EU's Climate ambition for 2030 and 2050
A zero pollution ambition for a toxic-free environment
Supplying clean, affordable and secure energy
Preserving and restoring ecosystems and biodiversity
The European Green Deal
Mobilising industry for a clean and circular economy
From 'Farm to Fork': a fair, healthy and environmentally-friendly food system
Building and renovating in an energy and resource efficient way
Accelerating the shift to sustainable and smart mobility
Financing the transition
Leave no one behind (Just Transition)
The EU as a global leader
A European Climate Pact


SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS


Horizon Europe
THE NEXT EU RESEARCH & INNOVA
PROGRAMME (2021 - 2027)

Partnerships related to EFSA's remit

CLUSTER 1: Health

Assessment of Risk from Chemicals (PARC)

Support EU and national chemical risk assessment and risk management bodies with new data, knowledge, methods, networks and skills to address current, emerging and novel chemical safety challenges.

One Health / Antimicrobial Resistance

Contribute to achieving the objectives of the European One Health Action Plan against AMR and the WHO Global Action Plan on AMR, by reducing the threat of AMR.

Pandemic Preparedness

Improve the EU's preparedness to predict, prevent and respond to emerging infectious health threats by better coordinating funding for research and innovation at EU, national (and regional) level towards jointly agreed objectives and an SRIA.

CLUSTER 6: Food, Bioeconomy, Agriculture, …

Agriculture of Data

Support sustainable agriculture in the EU as well as policy monitoring and implementation by using digital and data technologies in combination with environmental observation.

Animal Health and Welfare

Deliver key knowledge, services and products to significantly improve the control of animal infectious diseases and animal welfare in a coordinated way which will sustain animal production and protect public health.

Safe and Sustainable Food Systems

Provide an overarching platform and process to underpin the needed transition to sustainable food systems, provide solutions to the Farm to Fork strategy by connecting national, regional and European R&I programmes and food systems actors to deliver co-benefits for nutrition, climate, circularity and communities.

EIT (Knowledge & Innovation Communities)

Food

Boost the skills and entrepreneurial spirit in the food sector and unlock the potential of SMEs, which in turn will accelerate innovation, create jobs, benefit businesses and increase Europe's competitiveness.

Co-Creation process started in 2019

Under the patronage of: DG RTD (Hans-Joerg Lutzeyer & Karen Fabbri), SCAR Food Systems SWG (Monique Axelos & Minna Huttunen), DG SANTE, DG AGRI

Narrative: https://scar-europe.org/index.php/food-main-actions/food-systems-partnership

Fact Sheet: https://op.europa.eu/en/publication-detail/-/publication/ca9da79e-df96-11eb-895a-01aa75ed71a1/language-en

Now in the TEMPLATE process,

Coordinated Support Action (CSA) governance call outcome.

SSFS : Proposed to be published in the Horizon Europe 2023-2024 work programme
Proposed as a co-funded partnership

Courtesy Monique Axelos

EFSA = One Health Agency

- Antimicrobial resistance & bovine spongiform encephalopathy (BSE) highlighted need to mitigate emerging health risks using One Health approach.
- The 'Mad Cow' debacle in the 1990s showed that reintroducing waste into the feed chain had unexpected and long-lasting public health consequences.


EFSA JOURNAL

EFSA's expertise supports One Health policy needs

Volume 19, Issue 5
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e190501

Metrics

- EFSA's mission. Article 22(3), Regulation 2002/178/EC states: *The Authority shall contribute to a high level of protection of human life and health, and in this respect take account of animal health and welfare, plant health and the environment, ...*

Knowledge gaps in regulatory science

Food Safety Regulatory Research Needs 2030

https://efsa.onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/full/10.2903/j.efsa.2019.e170622

1. SAFE FOOD SYSTEMS - **Improve food safety while moving towards alternative & sustainable production systems.**

- Anticipate impacts on food safety of **innovation** in food production and food systems. At **processing level as well as primary production level, hence include animal and plant health**.
- Does not suffice to assess risks, but **also benefits, impacts and alternatives need to be assessed**.
- Preparedness for **big social changes** related to climate change, migration, and changing consumer choices.

2. INNOVATION IN RISK ASSESSMENT - **Anticipating impact of innovations and new technologies on integrated risk assessment.**

- **Current approach too resource-intensive, mostly animal-based** raising issues of reproducibility and ethics.
- This current RA paradigm is challenged by recent **technical advances, and public demands**.
- Today, still, we work too much in silo's, and further research needs an integrated **OneHealth approach**.

3. HOLISTIC RISK ASSESSMENT - **Understanding the context, delivering and communicating impactful science.**

- To understand the context, research will focus on **understanding citizens' perceptions and expectations, integrate risks and benefits, while at the same time promoting education and mobility of experts**.
- Use of **big data and AI**.
- Intrinsic **link between R&I and capacity building**.

CHANGING ENVIRONMENT - circularity

Microplastics have been considered as an "environmental concern" for a long time. Now we realise that it may also constitute an emerging risk for food safety.

Circular economy and urban farming, may drive emerging risks. For example:

a. Urban agriculture
b. Reusage Waste Water

- Different types of water (i.e. surface water, wastewater, wastewater treatment plant effluent and reclaimed water) are recognised as important sources of AMR in the food-production environments of all the sectors considered.
- As water can also be a vehicle for aquatic bacteria and viral particles able to transfer resistance determinants, mitigation measures applied to reduce AMR selection and spread in water environments are recommended (Burgmann et al., 2018)

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One2022.eu

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