

EU Risk Assessment Agenda

Concept Paper

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1. Introduction

While the term EU Risk Assessment Agenda (EU RAA) is new, Scientific Cooperation between EFSA and the Member States has been developing for many years, with a basis in the Founding Regulation, Regulation (EC) No 178/2002, which lays down the establishment of EFSA and procedures in matters of food safety. The basis and scope of scientific cooperation is described in a number of its recitals (40, 44, 51, 53, 55) and Articles (22, 23, 24, 27, 30, 36). The Regulation places a number of obligations on EFSA and Member States to cooperate closely to enable EFSA to carry out its mission.

Thus Cooperation with partners in Member States and internationally has been paramount since EFSA's inception. However, in drawing conclusions from the EFSA external evaluation conducted in 2012, the Management Board recommended that EFSA enhance EU risk assessment capacity by cooperating with Member States in relation to planning EU work in areas within its remit, to enable better priority setting and more efficient and effective use of resources.

A number of mechanisms existed or have been developed over recent years which aid scientific cooperation, including the Advisory Forum (AF), Focal Points (FP) and Scientific Networks (SN), the Article 36 organisation network, the information exchange platform and training on risk assessment, such as BTSF. Over the years, a number of strategic papers have been developed providing direction to scientific cooperation^{1, 2, 3}.

EFSA's Strategy 2020⁴ identifies cooperation as a key EFSA's value: *Working together and exchanging knowledge between food safety experts ensures excellence and efficiency and maximises Europe's risk assessment capacity and potential. We believe that the whole of food safety expertise is greater than the sum of its individual parts.*

To contribute to the objectives of the Strategy, EFSA has commenced the development of a framework process for initiating joint projects with Member States (and other partners) on topics that are agreed as being priorities. This is the basis of the EU Risk Assessment Agenda which will be on ongoing activity in the coming years.

1.1. Background

The concept of the EU RAA is that it will set out common priorities with the Member States that can be addressed through specific joint projects; planned and resourced through EFSA's working programmes, national programmes and/or through other means with transparent, coordinated and collaborative way.

The risk assessment support activities to be included under the EU RAA:

¹ Strategy for Cooperation and Networking between the EU Member States and EFSA (2006).

² Technical Report of EFSA on Scientific Cooperation between EFSA and Member States: Taking Stock and Looking Ahead (2011). <http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/corporate/pub/mediumtermplanning.htm>

³ Scientific Cooperation Roadmap 2014-2016,

http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/scientificcooperationroadmap1416.pdf

⁴ EFSA Strategy 2020 <http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/151008.pdf>

- Are collaborative in nature, benefitting from input by more than one partner and considered priorities for EFSA and MS
- Can be a *thematic area*, addressing risk assessment support in general or a *key topic*, addressing a collaborative action concerning a single issue or hazard
- Are new activities that support risk assessment or mid to long term nature not yet fully covered in existing work programmes

In 2014 the Advisory Forum agreed to establish a Discussion Group of the Advisory Forum (AFDG) further elaborate the means of identifying and agreeing priority topics for collaboration.

The Terms of Reference for this group were established with the following tasks:

*Provide advice and guidance on developing an EU risk assessment agenda in partnership between EFSA and Member States.*⁵

At the end of 2014 the AFDG proposed that a Delphi Study should be undertaken to identify the most important food safety topics across Europe. The Delphi study was completed at the end of 2015 and the results published⁶. Discussion Group reconvened to move the Agenda forward with specific actions being proposed. In progressing the EU RAA, action is being considered in 4 pillars:

- **Topics**
- **Process**
- **Engagement**
- **Funding**

Each of these is considered further below.

As the nature of the EU RAA is long term, there is a need for the AFDG to continue to steer the process as outlined in the Terms of Reference. However as considerable time has passed since the original Terms of Reference were agreed and there have been a number of changes to representatives in the Forum and hence the AFDG, it would be appropriate for the mandate from the AF to be renewed.

2. Methodology

2.1. Topics

The Delphi study took the form of three rounds of surveys involving over 200 independent experts from countries across the EU. The experts were asked to identify food safety priorities and to rate them according to a number of criteria, including their potential for saving resources, the mid to long-term nature of projects, their added value to support risk assessment activities and their potential to improve harmonisation of risk assessment.

⁵ Terms of Reference for the AFDG

https://dms.efsa.europa.eu/otcs/cs.exe/fetch/2000/8796421/8797392/8797393/11046616/11134108/11134321/TOR_AFWG_EU_RA_agenda.pdf?nodeid=10475894&vernum=-2

⁶ <http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/supporting/pub/1007e>

The resulting list derived from the study grouped topics into four domains – chemical, microbiological and environmental risk assessment and nutrition – plus a further category of generic topics that were more cross-cutting (Annex A).

2.2. Process

While the Delphi Study was undertaken, other activities continued to work towards the goal of the EURAA in coordinating the risk assessment activities between EFSA and the MS which include visits by EFSA's Executive Director (ED) to Member States where joint projects have been agreed. In addition, from further discussions within the Advisory Forum various projects were proposed under broad headings stimulating interests among members to collaborate. These topics have been collated and included under the Delphi study headings and included in the Annex B along with the respective links to EFSA's Strategy priority topics.

Having established priority areas for collaboration, the need is to initiate actions to contribute further knowledge in the areas.

This is currently being done in an *ad hoc* way through joint projects identified with MS at the time of the Executive Director visiting each country and meeting with the relevant national institutions as part of a three year cycle of programmed visits to stimulate scientific networking.

Since 2015 a new cooperation tool ("Thematic Grants") is making use of the Delphi derived list to identify themes for joint projects.

To further maximise the coordination of activities, Member States, through the Advisory Forum are being recommended to take note of the priorities during the development of annual work programmes and to contribute to national research programme.

Reflecting the range of interests and capacities in the MS, the Advisory Forum should be used as a venue for members to identify one topic of interest that they would take the lead on and invite other members to be part of a cluster of countries which would try to resource and support activities under that heading.

Regular updates would be provided at plenary meetings of the AF with an overview of activities (ideally linked to forthcoming risk assessment activity resource currently used and being further developed).

It is expected that the priorities identified provide a framework for identifying projects over a period of years with not all needing to be addressed at the same time. In some cases no actions under the EU RAA may be possible or appropriate. Because of the long term nature of the task, it is recognised that the topics identified as part of the study also need to be kept under review and the AFDG considered that revisiting the exercise once every five years would be sufficient to achieve this.

Since reconvening, the AFDG has proposed a number of follow up actions:

- 1. Members of the Advisory Forum to identify topics they would like to lead on at the 61st meeting to be held in September, 2016**
- 2. Members to indicate interest on which topics they are willing to support by 62nd Advisory Forum meeting, December 2016**
- 3. EFSA, supported by Member States, to plan, map and track activities being taken under the EU RAA initiative**
- 4. Updates to be included in Agenda for AF meetings from 2017.**

2.3 Engagement

Having considered that the priority areas for collaboration could be used in a broader way, the AFDG agreed that EFSA and Member States should steer a wider process of **consultation** on the 28 topics and how to best use the list with other partners to **engage** them in common areas of collaboration and concrete proposals for action. In the 58th AF meeting, the AF agreed that the engagement process could follow a top-down approach, starting from a strategic level, followed by an operational level regarding the implementation. Policy makers should be included in the discussions and the list should be aggregated from both levels with an agreed frequency of updates and consultation.

The objectives of aspect of this process are to:

- **map and plan activities under the different priorities;**
- **support the inclusion of priority areas in work programmes/ research programmes;**
- **identify partners to involve in joint projects;**
- **identify possible funding;**
- **task EFSA or other partners on identified priorities (i.e. Commission, MS)**

The AFDG proposed consulting partners at EU level initially, followed by international partners at a later stage when greater clarity is achieved on how the list could be used.

The partners who will be approached at the 1st stage of the consultation are:

- a) at National level (**who: MS**)
Research Institutions; Art. 36 organisation; competent authorities; regional programmes
- b) at EU level (**who: EFSA**):
 - Directorate General for Health and Food Safety (DG SANTE)
 - Other European Commission Services with DG SANTE, including Directorate Generals (DGs) of JRC, R&I, AGRI, DEVCO and Connect
 - Heads of National Food Safety Agencies (HoA)
 - EU Agencies, including EMA, ECDC, ECHA, EEA, EMCDDA, EU ANSA network (bilateral approach)

Partners to be approached in the 2nd stage of engagement:

- NGOs and other stakeholders
- International partners, including International organisations (WHO, FAO, OIE) and countries with experienced risk assessment bodies (USA, Japan, Australia, New Zealand, Canada)
- At a later stage this consultation could be expanded in countries with which EFSA engages with to help them to build capacity in risk assessment

Timelines: At National and EU level the engagement process should commence after the 60th AF meeting and conclude by the end of 2016. Engagement with International partners, NGOs and other stakeholders will be launched in 2017.

2.4 Funding

As regards 'Funding opportunities', the fourth pillar in implementing the EU RAA, it becomes clear that the landscape regarding funding schemes for Risk Assessment (RA) related activities is quite diverse across Europe, hence there will not be a single approach that will fit all. It is therefore important to explore different funding opportunities at all levels (international, European, national, and regional) to ensure sustainability of RA activities. As mentioned, speaking with one-voice, having an EU RA agenda with common priorities should help to be heard by potential funders and influence priority setting at national level.

The AFDG acknowledged the work being done by the Focal Point network as a first step in establishing a portfolio of possible funders for each country and at European/ international level by mapping the funding landscape in their countries identifying what is currently available at national, regional and international level.

Once project ideas are material, the project partners may use these funding portfolios to identify possible supporters and submit applications for funding. For smaller projects it may not be necessary to apply for external funding and project partners could start work together using own available resources.

3. Conclusions

The EU Risk Assessment Agenda should continue to be developed as a framework for initiating collaborative projects which contribute to the risk assessment process in the areas identified and agreed as being priorities between EFSA and the Member States.

The process should be further expanded to engage other stakeholders over a period of time, initially involving the European Commission services and EU Agencies.

To ensure that there is a clear mandate for the work of the AFDG, it is recommended that the Terms of Reference for the group are updated and revised where necessary. This should be done between June and September 2016.

Specific follow up actions have been identified in this paper and it is recommended that these commence as follows:

1. Members of the Advisory Forum to identify topics they would like to lead on

Advisory Forum members are to be requested to review the Annex provided, updating information as necessary and indicating projects they are interested in leading. A project template should be developed by EFSA to capture the relevant information.

Timeline: between June and September 2016

2. Members to indicate interest on which topics they are willing to support

Once the information form members has been collated and the Annex updated, with project leaders identified, AF members are to be requested to show interest in which projects they additionally wish to contribute to.

Timeline from September to December 2016

3. EFSA, to plan, map and track activities

EFSA will maintain an overview of the activities of Member State, identifying the tools available to support the different activities (primarily through scientific cooperation grants and procurements).

Timeline: From first quarter 2017.

4. Discussions to commence with the European Commission services and EU Agencies as part of the wider engagement process

The primary purpose being to identify further potential partners for collaboration in the priority areas identified and to make recommendations for inclusion in work and research programmes.

Timeline: From June 2016

5. Funding Opportunities be identified

On the funding it is recommended that the information gathered on national, European and international sources of funding be collated and published as stand-alone document.

6. Continued Feedback be provided to the Advisory Forum

As a feedback mechanism, regular updates will be provided to the Advisory Forum from March 2017.

Annex A – Food safety risk assessment priorities (Delphi study)

Generic	Chemical	Microbiological	Environmental	Nutrition
1. Methods and systems for identifying emerging food risks (e.g. new food-borne diseases)	8. Harmonisation of methods for risk assessment of chemical contaminants	12. Systems for monitoring and characterising microbes isolated from food, environment and human illness cases	19. Improving information on the occurrence and spread of harmful organisms	25. Indirect effects on human health due to modified agricultural practices (e.g. via reduction of pesticide use, changed content of mycotoxins)
2. Development of standard risk-benefit assessment methods (of foods)	9. Cumulative exposure assessment (e.g. for pesticide residues/ PAHs)	13. Improve the use of genetic data (e.g. from whole genome sequencing) for risk assessment of microbiological contaminants	20. Ribonucleic acid interference (RNAi) applied to food producing organisms as pesticide, veterinary medicine or newly expressed trait in genetically modified crops	26. Developing standard biomarkers of intake of and/or exposure to contaminants
3. Common data collection/ surveillance scheme	10. Infant and baby food	14. Antimicrobial/ antibiotic resistance	21. Better understand biological organisms and plant substances used in crop protection (reducing the need for chemicals, e.g. pesticides)	27. Food supplements risk/benefits (in general)
4. Multiple contaminant impacts on the risk profile of foods	11. Emerging contaminants	15. Microbial food pathogens (in general)	22. The impact of chemicals on the ecosystem (release of chemicals into the environment)	28. Determination of allergen thresholds (clinical studies), in conjunction with immune-chemical measurements of allergens in foods
5. Risks/benefits of botanicals/herbals in food supplements	-	16. Food-borne viruses (in general, e.g. Hepatitis A and Norovirus in fruit and vegetables)	23. Presence/detection of environmental contaminants in food (e.g. from agricultural, industrial or household sources)	-
6. Allergenicity/ food allergens in general (risk assessment and management)	-	17. Campylobacter (e.g. in poultry and ready-to-eat foods)	24. Cocktail effects (health risk assessment of chemical mixtures, e.g. food additives)	-
7. Aggregated exposure (via cocktail effects, but including environmental/ food exposure)	-	18. Zoonoses (in general, including bio-hazards, MRSA etc.)	-	-

Annex B – Priorities Identified by Member States under Delphi Headings

General priorities

A) Member State priorities identified in Delphi Study	B) Projects suggested during AF World Café discussion	C) MS proposing (lead)	D) MS interested (involved)	E) Joint projects (ED visits, Thematic Grants)	F) Link with EFSA priorities identified in EFSA Strategy 2020 (p. 23 and 26-27)
1. Methods and systems for identifying emerging food risks (e.g. new food-borne diseases)				Food Chain Lab Workshop (DE) (Nov 2015)	Processes and a toolbox for emerging risks identification and crisis preparedness will be further developed, with particular emphasis in the areas of plant health and vector-borne (wild) animal diseases, and trace-back, trace-forward methodologies and tools.
				Thematic Grant 2016 – Lot 1: Methods and systems for the identification of emerging food risks	
				Crisis preparedness training (Baltic countries) (March 2016)	
	Methods and systems for identifying emerging risks Risk ranking of identified emerging risks		GR, SE		
2. Development of standard risk-benefit assessment methods (of foods)				Risk-benefit modeling workshop (DK) (2017)	Set-up by end 2016 of an integrated framework containing EFSA's methodologies and guidance for evidence-based risk assessment, covering existing horizontal and sectorial methodologies and guidance; implementation from 2017 of a process for the continuous maintenance and updating of prioritised methodologies and guidance in cooperation with EU and international bodies (e.g. through the review of existing and/or development of new methodologies).
	Methods for benefit- risk assessment – improving method		SE		
	Risk benefit		SE		
3. Common data collection/ surveillance scheme				Bee Health (FR) (2017)	Development of a holistic and integrated, pan-EU approach in environmental risk assessment with a focus on: • Bee health.
	Big Data/ Text Mining/ Pattern Recognition/ Network Science	HU			Development of data sharing and exchange capacity. Set up and implement a comprehensive and integrated information architecture framework for centralised information access management, enabling data interoperability. Set up data exchange/openness networking
	Data collection: - Standardization; - open data; -		HU, HR, SE		

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	shaping platform				groups and establish interoperability with main data providers, based on a multiannual plan to increase EFSA's evidence base in line with internationally accepted quality standards (such as with EUROSTAT, the JRC and EPPO, Member States). Set up innovative approaches to exploit all available sources of information, such as via social media. Set-up in 2016 of a cooperation plan with DG Health and Food Safety to develop capabilities supporting risk-based food inspections, such as on the risk ranking of biological and chemical (contaminants) hazards and the development of appropriate surveys and surveillance schemes
	Collecting and sharing of food contaminants and food microbiology data from official controls etc.		PL, AT, HR		
	Early warning systems-enhancing signals from noise		HR		
	Benchmarking methods and tools to harmonise the data collection in RA: best practices with new generations, young citizens		PT, HR		
4. Multiple contaminant impacts on the risk profile of foods					
5. Risks/benefits of botanicals/herbals in food supplements					
6. Allergenicity/ food allergens in general (risk assessment and management)					
7. Aggregated exposure (via cocktail effects, but including environmental/ food exposure)				Environmental risk assessment Workshop (NO) (2016)	Development of a holistic and integrated, pan-EU approach in environmental risk assessment with a focus on: A coordinated landscape-based framework across all relevant areas of EFSA's remit (pesticides, feed additives, GMOs, plant health, animal health). Spatially explicit ecotoxicology and environmental fate and behavior for pesticides.

Chemical priorities

A) Member State priorities identified in Delphi Study	B) Projects suggested during AF World Café discussion	C) MS proposing (lead)	D) MS interested (involved)	E) Joint projects (ED visits, Thematic Grants)	F) Link with EFSA priorities identified in EFSA Strategy 2020 (p. 23 and 26-27)
8. Harmonisation of methods for risk assessment of chemical contaminants	Adverse effects		FR		Set-up by end 2016 of an integrated framework containing EFSA's methodologies and guidance for evidence-based risk assessment, covering existing horizontal and sectorial methodologies and guidance; implementation from 2017 of a process for the continuous maintenance and updating of prioritised methodologies and guidance in cooperation with EU and international bodies (e.g. through the review of existing and/or development of new methodologies).
9. Cumulative exposure assessment (e.g. for pesticide residues/ PAHs)	Cocktail of Pesticides		FR, SE		Development of a holistic and integrated, pan-EU approach in environmental risk assessment with a focus on: A coordinated landscape-based framework across all relevant areas of EFSA's remit (pesticides, feed additives, GMOs, plant health, animal health). Spatially explicit ecotoxicology and environmental fate and behavior for pesticides.
10. Infant and baby food					
11. Emerging contaminants	Brominated Flame Retardants		LV		
	PBDE&HBCDD		LV		
	Morphins on poppy seeds		SK, PL, AT		
	Model for predicting emerging risks due to climate change (e.g. alien species, aflatoxins)		IT, HR		
	Neonicotinoids (imidocloprid) on poliofors		BG		
	Persistence Pollinators		FR		

Microbiological priorities

A) Member State priorities identified in Delphi Study	B) Projects suggested during AF World Café discussion	C) MS proposing (lead)	D) MS interested (involved)	E) Joint projects (ED visits, Thematic Grants)	F) Link with EFSA priorities identified in EFSA Strategy 2020 (p. 23 and 26-27)
12. Systems for monitoring and characterising microbes isolated from food, environment and human illness cases	Collecting and sharing of food contaminants and food microbiology data from official controls etc.		PL, AT, HR		Set-up in 2016 of a cooperation plan with DG Health and Food Safety to develop capabilities supporting risk-based food inspections, such as on the risk ranking of biological and chemical (contaminants) hazards and the development of appropriate surveys and surveillance schemes
13. Improve the use of genetic data (e.g. from whole genome sequencing) for risk assessment of microbiological contaminants				Thematic Grant 2015: New approaches in identifying and characterizing microbiological and chemical hazards: ENGAGE project - establishing next generation sequencing ability for genomic analysis in Europe (DK, UK, DE, PL, IT) INNUENDO project - cross-sectorial platform for the integration of genomics in surveillance of food-borne pathogens (FI, PT, ES, AT, EE, LV)	Development and gradual integration in EFSA guidance of new approaches in prioritised chemical and biological risk assessment areas to strengthen EFSA's capability to deal with the absence of data address complex questions and reduce uncertainty. These areas include: Biological risk assessment (across food safety, animal health and welfare and plant health): food-borne viruses, Campylobacter from farm to fork, predictive modeling for biological risks, microorganisms as plant protection products, microbiological criteria, whole genome sequencing, animal-based indicators for animal welfare risk assessment
14. Antimicrobial/antibiotic resistance				Fluoroquinolone resistance in Campylobacter (DK) (March 2016)	Set-up in 2016 and implementation from 2017 of a coordinated plan on fighting anti-microbial resistance (AMR) with the European Commission, sister agencies and Member States.
	Impact of antimicrobials used on animals (sewage/plants/soil/microflora)	HU	IT		
15. Microbial food pathogens (in general)			IT		

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16. Food-borne viruses (in general, e.g. Hepatitis A and Norovirus in fruit and vegetables)				International workshop on foodborne viruses (UK) (Feb 2016)	Development and gradual integration in EFSA guidance of new approaches in prioritised chemical and biological risk assessment areas to strengthen EFSA's capability to deal with the absence of data, address complex questions and reduce uncertainty. These areas include: Biological risk assessment (across food safety, animal health and welfare and plant health): food-borne viruses, Campylobacter from farm to fork, predictive modeling for biological risks, microorganisms as plant protection products, microbiological criteria, whole genome sequencing, animal-based indicators for animal welfare risk assessment
	Monitoring and risk assessment viruses in food		SK, PL, ES, LT, IT		
	Norovirus – summer – Mediterranean, black sea		ES		
17. Campylobacter (e.g. in poultry and ready-to-eat foods)	Campylobacter (incl. organic)		DK, HU, BE, SK, CZ, CZ, AT, HR		
18. Zoonoses (in general, including bio-hazards, MRSA etc.)	VTEC		IT, IE, ES	Listeriosis (GR) (2016)	

Environmental priorities

A) Member State priorities identified in Delphi Study	B) Projects suggested during AF World Café discussion	C) MS proposing (lead)	D) MS interested (involved)	E) Joint projects (ED visits, Thematic Grants)	F) Link with EFSA priorities identified in EFSA Strategy 2020 (p. 23 and 26-27)
19. Improving information on the occurrence and spread of harmful organisms	African Swine Fever		RO, ES, HU, FI, + etc.	Analysis of spatial distribution of African Swine Fever (ASF) virus Workshop (Baltic States and Poland) (Nov 2015)	
	Parasites - Vectors in wild game		SK	Ciguatera risk characterisation in Europe (ES, PT, FR, CY, HR, DE) (2016-2019)	
				LSD Workshop – strengthening regional cooperation in SE Europe and Middle East for prevention and control of LSD (May 2016)	
				Thematic Grant 2016 – Lot 3: Output-based methods for the assessment of the freedom of animal disease/infection	
20. Ribonucleic acid interference (RNAi) applied to food producing organisms as pesticide, veterinary medicine or newly expressed trait in genetically modified crops					
21. Better understand biological organisms and plant substances used in					Development of a holistic and integrated, pan-EU approach in environmental risk assessment with a focus on: A coordinated landscape-based framework across all relevant areas of EFSA's remit (pesticides, feed additives, GMOs, plant health, animal health). Spatially

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crop protection (reducing the need for chemicals, e.g. pesticides)					explicit ecotoxicology and environmental fate and behavior for pesticides.
22. The impact of chemicals on the ecosystem (release of chemicals into the environment)				Environmental risk assessment Workshop (NO) (2016)	Development and gradual integration in EFSA guidance of new approaches in prioritised chemical and biological risk assessment areas to strengthen EFSA's capability to deal with the absence of data, address complex questions and reduce uncertainty. These areas include: Chemical risk assessment: endocrine disruptors; epigenetics; chemical mixtures; nanotechnology; read-across; human variability; human biomonitoring; developmental neurotoxicity testing strategy.
	Environmental contaminants food chain monitoring (constant)		CZ		
	PCB&dioxins in ponds aquaculture		SK		
23. Presence/detection of environmental contaminants in food (e.g. from agricultural, industrial or household sources)	Glycoalkaloids in potato		EE, SE		
	River Lamprey (dioxin- high content) research on risk management		EE		
	Cadmium on food water baby food data collection/RA		SK		
24. Cocktail effects (health risk assessment of chemical mixtures, e.g. food additives)				Thematic Grant 2016 – Lot 2: Integrated methodologies for the risk assessment of mycotoxin mixtures in food and feed	Development and gradual integration in EFSA guidance of new approaches in prioritised chemical and biological risk assessment areas to strengthen EFSA's capability to deal with the absence of data address complex questions and reduce uncertainty. These areas include: Chemical risk assessment: endocrine disruptors; epigenetics; chemical mixtures; nanotechnology; read-across; human variability; human biomonitoring; developmental neurotoxicity testing strategy.

Nutrition priorities

A) Member State priorities identified in Delphi Study	B) Projects suggested during AF World Café discussion	C) MS proposing (lead)	D) MS interested (involved)	E) Joint projects (ED visits, Thematic Grants)	F) Link with EFSA priorities identified in EFSA Strategy 2020 (p. 23 and 26-27)
25. Indirect effects on human health due to modified agricultural practices (e.g. via reduction of pesticide use, changed content of mycotoxins)					Development of a holistic and integrated, pan-EU approach in environmental risk assessment with a focus on: A coordinated landscape-based framework across all relevant areas of EFSA's remit (pesticides, feed additives, GMOs, plant health, animal health). Spatially explicit ecotoxicology and environmental fate and behavior for pesticides.
26. Developing standard biomarkers of intake of and/or exposure to contaminants				Dietary exposure assessment and use of the IMPRORISK model (CY) (May 2016)	
	Biomarkers for PAH		PL		
27. Food supplements risk/benefits (in general)	THC Cannabio CBD Cannabio - Hemp production		SI - safe limits, novel foods, HR		
	Supplements		ES		
	Food consumption survey, food supplements included		ES - no food supplements SI, DK, BE PT, AT, HR		
	VitD fortification		GR		
28. Determination of allergen thresholds (clinical studies), in conjunction with immune-chemical measurements of allergens in foods	TH for allergens		NL: explores TNO database-European Database, EFSA to coordinate		

Legend – Above tables list food safety risk assessment priorities identified through Delphi study (December 2015) (**column A**) and the strategic objectives of the EFSA Strategy 2020 implementation plan (April 2016) (**column F**). **Column B** list preliminary ideas suggested regarding projects during World Café Session on the 58th Advisory Forum meeting (December 2015, Luxembourg), stimulating interests among members to collaborate, either as a leading or interested party (**columns C and D**). **Column E** lists Joint Projects agreed during ED visits to Member States and Thematic grants signed during 2015 and proposed for 2016.

This list is neither exhaustive nor exclusive, hence, other joint projects that are not related to the above identified priorities are not excluded, not all priorities identified will lead to a joint project, and a joint project not necessarily covers a particular priority exhaustively.