



THE IMPORTANCE OF PARTNERSHIP BETWEEN EFSA AND MS COMPETENT BODIES

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COOPERATION PATHS



Individual
Scientific Advisors

Experts

Trainees

As an individual

EU FORA
fellowships

Grants

Scientific cooperation and
Partnerships

Tenders

Public
consultations

Calls for data

Guest scheme

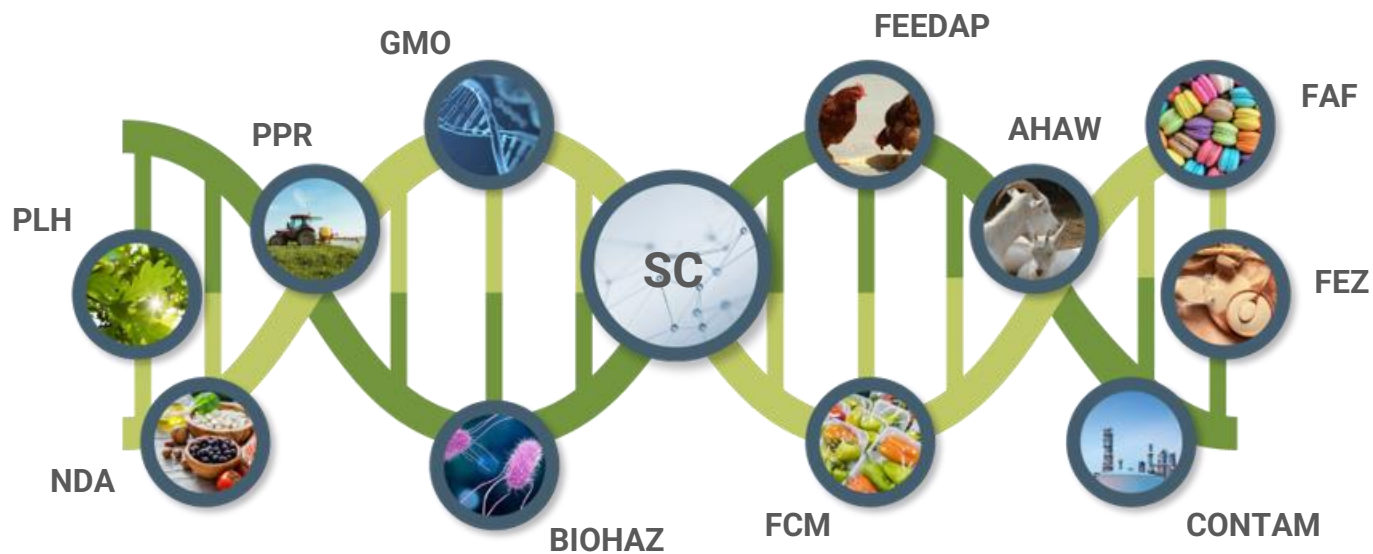
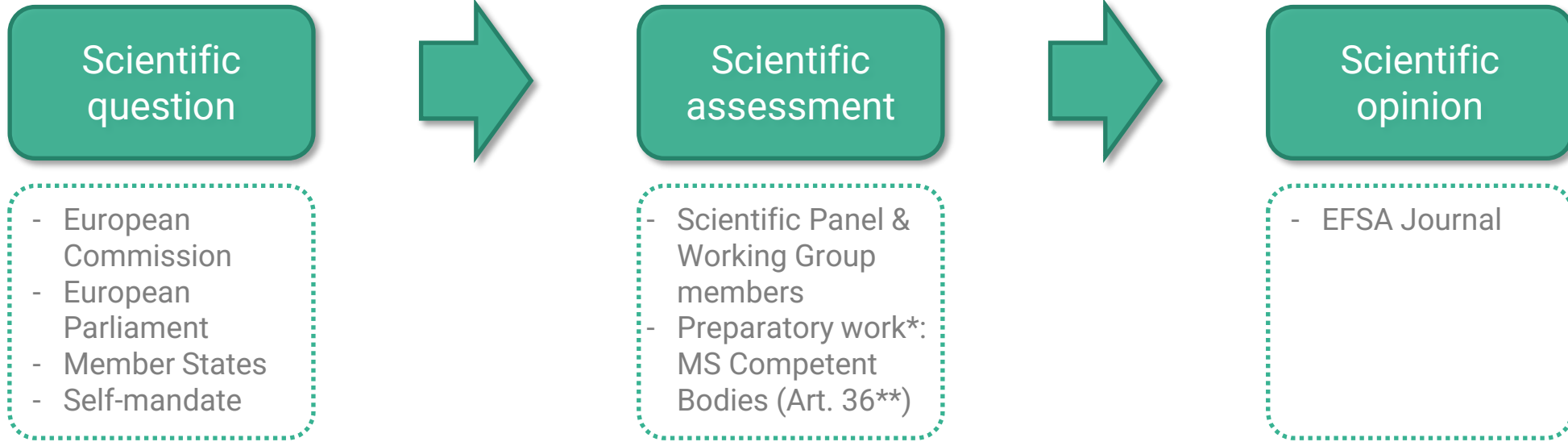
Secondments

Stakeholder
Communities

As an organisation



THE RISK ASSESSMENT PROCESS (HIGH-LEVEL OVERVIEW)



* Regulation (EU) 2019/1381 on the transparency and sustainability of the EU risk assessment in the food chain

** Regulation (EC) 178/2002 laying down the general principles and requirements of food law, establishing the European Food Safety Authority and laying down procedures in matters of food safety



AN INCREASING ROLE FOR PARTNERING WITH MS COMPETENT BODIES

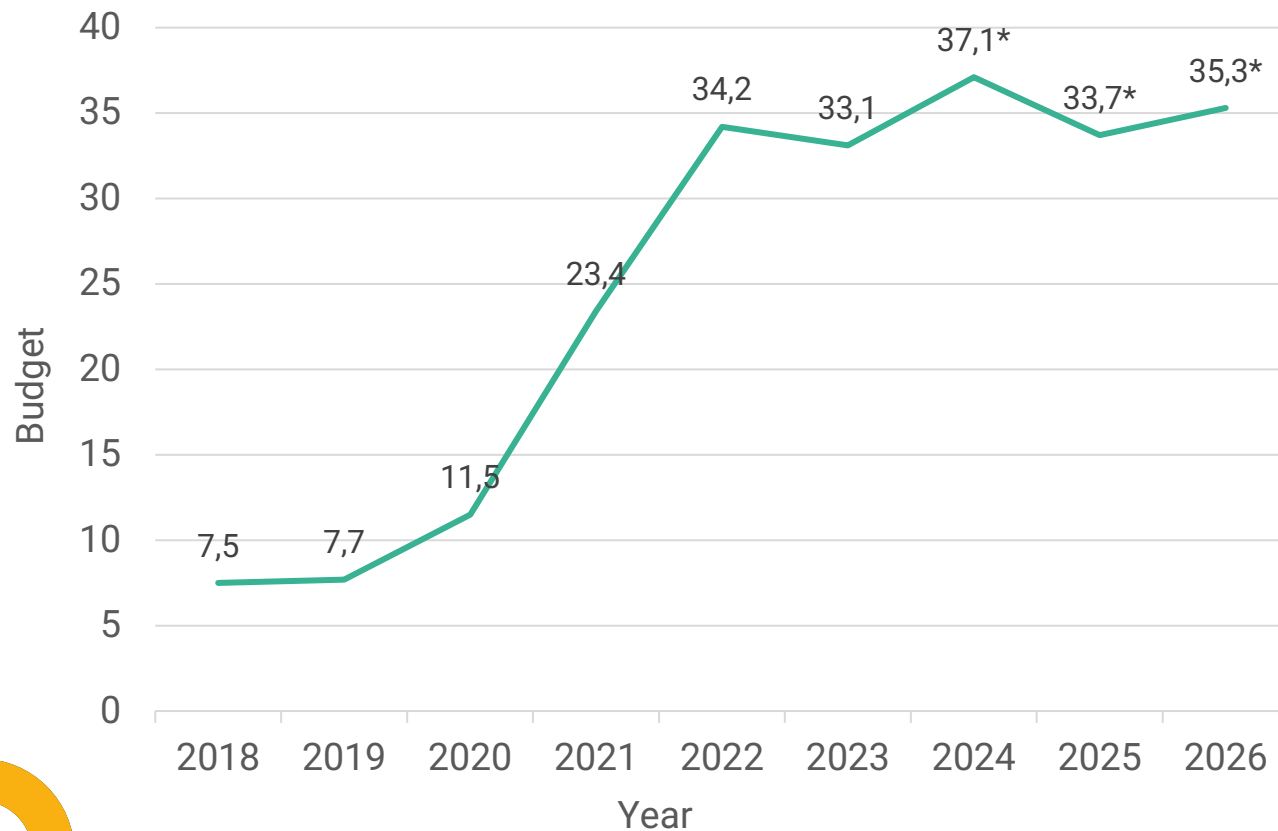


- **Descriptive definition:** A Partnership is 'a long-term, trust-based cooperation, built on common values and goals, with attractive **win-win** elements, primarily between EFSA and MS competent organisations, EU Agencies, EC Services, where risks and benefits are shared and that generate, among others, **tangible outputs**'
- **Benefits:** Less duplication of effort; Easier to address complexity; Better responsiveness; Sustainability of the RA expertise in the EU



EVOLUTION OF EFSA SCIENCE GRANTS & PROCUREMENT BUDGET

Science G&P budget (in M€)



*The figures for 2024, 2025 and 2026 are estimates

- Science G&P budget evolution:
 - Until 2019: ~ **7.5M€**
 - 2021: **3x** 2019 Budget
 - 2022-23: **5x** 2019 Budget
- Science G&P Budget expected to stabilise at about **35M€**
- Expected trend ('Partnership'):
 - ↓ Number of calls per year
 - ↑ Calls leading to 'Framework' agreements
 - ↑ Budget per call
 - ↑ Duration per agreement
 - ↑ Participation (consortia)



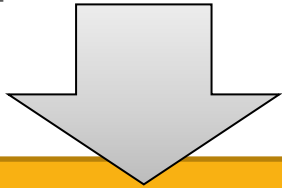
WHAT TOPICS CAN BE FOUND IN EFSA'S CALLS?

- Topics can fall into any of the areas in the remit of EFSA. E.g.:
 - Plant health
 - Animal health
 - Animal welfare
 - Nutrition
 - Biological hazards
 - Chemical contaminants in food and feed
 - Feed additives
 - Novel food
 - Plant protection products
 - GMO
 - Environmental RA
 - Food ingredients and packaging
 - Emerging risks
 - Data, incl. food consumption
 - Cross-cutting science
 - Methodologies for RA
 - Risk communication
 - Citizen science
 - Etc.
- Each year, EFSA's calls usually fall into a subset – only – of those topics

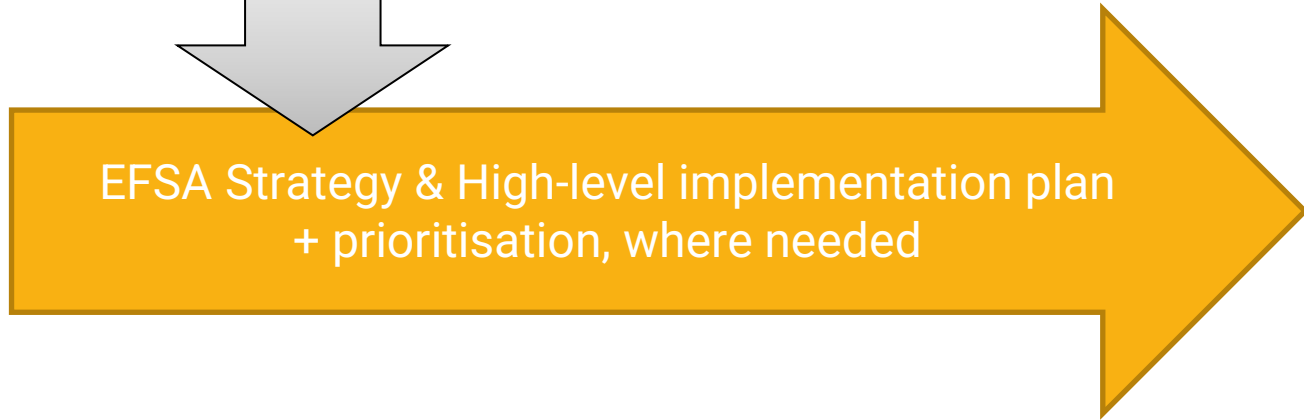


DECIDING ON WHICH TASKS TO IMPLEMENT VIA PARTNERSHIPS*

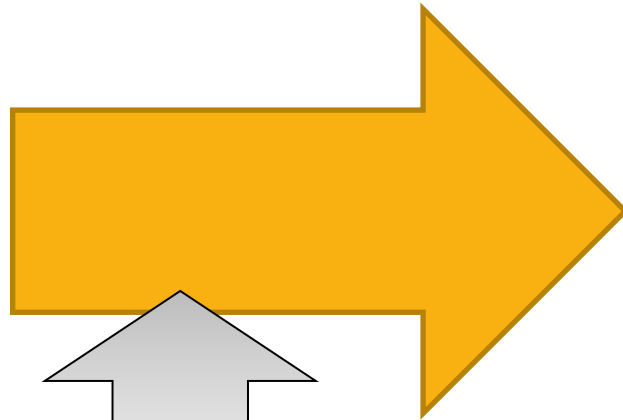
Scientific questions & preparedness needs



EFSA Strategy & High-level implementation plan
+ prioritisation, where needed

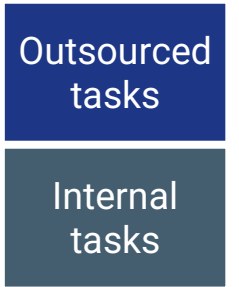


Draft work programme



Outsourced tasks

Internal tasks



For each entry:

- Outputs, timeframe, required expertise and FTEs
- **Partnership potential**
- Specifications & timing
- Funding & Outsourcing options (e.g., Grant vs. procurement)

win-win

MS priorities & interests
MS capacity
Etc.



*Simplified overview

DECIDING ON WHICH TASKS TO IMPLEMENT VIA PARTNERSHIPS

MS priorities & interests

MS capacity

- MS Risk Assessment plans
- Advisory Forum/ Focal Point discussions
- Recent/ current activity in G&P & FP TMA and experience thereof
- Scientific literature
- Published reports from MS Authorities
- Dedicated events before/after call launch
- Etc.

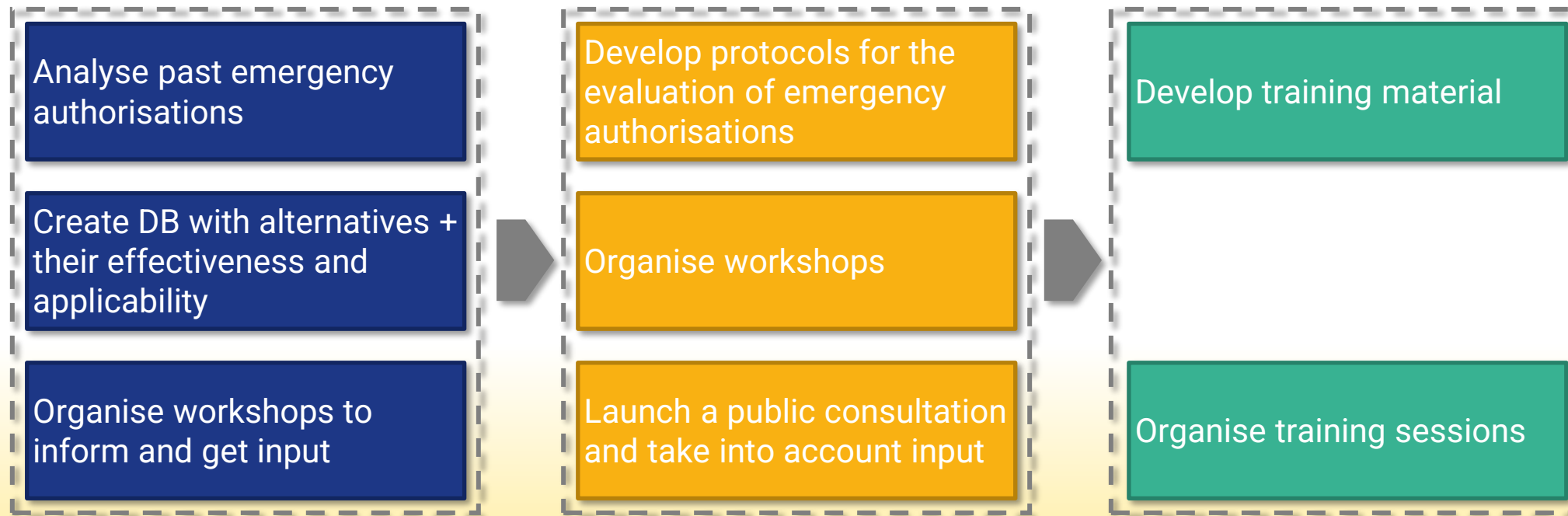


EXAMPLE: SUPPORT TO EFSA IN THE RISK ASSESSMENT OF FOOD ENZYMES, FOOD ADDITIVES, FOOD FLAVOURINGS AND FEED ADDITIVES

Lot	Title	Domain
1	Assessment of the data regarding the identification and characterisation of microorganisms used as such or as production strains	◆ ◆ ◆
2	Assessment of the identity and characterisation of a food enzyme, food additive, food flavouring or feed additive	◆ ◆ ◆
3	Assessment of toxicological safety	
	Absorption, Distribution, Metabolism and Elimination studies	◆ ◆ ◆
	Genotoxicity and toxicological studies	◆ ◆ ◆
	QSAR analysis	◆ ◆ ◆
	Toxicological testing relevant for user safety	◆
4	Allergenicity assessment	◆
5	Dietary exposure	◆ ◆ ◆
6	Assessment of efficacy and safety for target animal species	◆
7	Environmental risk assessment	◆
8	Opinion assemblage	◆ ◆ ◆



EXAMPLE: SUPPORT TO URGENT AUTHORIZATIONS ON PLANT HEALTH AND PESTICIDES (ARTICLE 53 OF REGULATION (EU) 1107/2009)



Engagement with the scientific community, RA/RM groups and the public along knowledge creation



THE ROLE OF THE EFSA FOCAL POINTS IN PARTNERSHIPS

- At all times:
 - Support the **Advisory Forum scientific work incl. joint RA planning**. E.g., they take note of ongoing or planned RA activities and inform the EFSA database on MS RA plans. This information is used by EFSA when work towards a scientific question starts.
 - Inform interested parties on the work of EFSA and the different cooperation routes.
 - Support/ Inform on thematic discussions or workshops that provide input towards the preparation of new partnership opportunities.
 - Take note of bottlenecks for cooperation and work with EFSA in resolving them.
- After a call is launched
 - Inform relevant parties on the call launch and on relevant events for the promotion of the event (e.g., webinars, networking events)
 - Can support the networking of interested parties across countries
 - Can provide support to interested parties regarding the application modalities



ONGOING CALLS

Please, always consult the published call before submission

Grant

Procurement

Title	Budget/Ceiling	Closing date
Role of nitrate/nitrite and of processing and storage in the N-nitrosamine formation in certain foods	EUR 750 K	18/12/2024
Contribution to the Risk Assessment of Novel Foods and Nutrient Sources in the EU	EUR 3.5 M	22/01/2025
Support for the revision of the guidance document on terrestrial ecotoxicology (SANCO/10329/2002) including the development of an approach for indirect effects*	EUR 1 M	30/01/2025
Selection of hosting sites and fellows for EFSA’s European Food Risk Assessment Fellowship (EU-FORA) Programme	EUR 55 K per consortium	20/03/2025
Preparatory activities for EU Menu 2	EUR 300 K	28/01/2025
Framework contract for quantitative and qualitative social research in support of an audience-first approach, new evidence and tools	EUR 4 M** (3 Lots)	30/01/2025



* Additional eligibility requirement: The organisation must be designated as a competent Authority by a Member State to carry out the obligations of the Member States in application of article 75 of Regulation (EC) No 1107/2009

** Call financed by EFSA, EMA (European Medicines Agency) and EIOPA (European Insurance and Occupational Pensions Authority)



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