

SAVE THE DATE



**Food
Safety
4EU**

Towards the **EU FOOD SAFETY FORUM**
The new sustainability regulation: how to integrate it
into food safety?

15th December 2022

h. 09:30 - 13:00 CET



Copa - Cogeca | European Farmers European Agri-Cooperatives
Room A 61, Rue de Trèves
Brussels



Grant Agreement No. 101000613

www.foodsafety4.eu





FoodSafety4EU

MULTI-STAKEHOLDER PLATFORM
FOR FOOD SAFETY IN EUROPE

Towards the EU FOOD SAFETY FORUM | 15th December 2022

What are the key challenges to ensure food safety for a Food Safety Authority ?



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1. The FASFC as Food safety authority in Belgium



Belgian Food Safety Agency (FASFC)



1.400 employees	19 new markets	barometer : -6,6%
sample compliance : 97,5%	3.929 consumer complains	733 fraud investigations
547 CFP	114.486 missions	492 recalls and warnings

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Mission

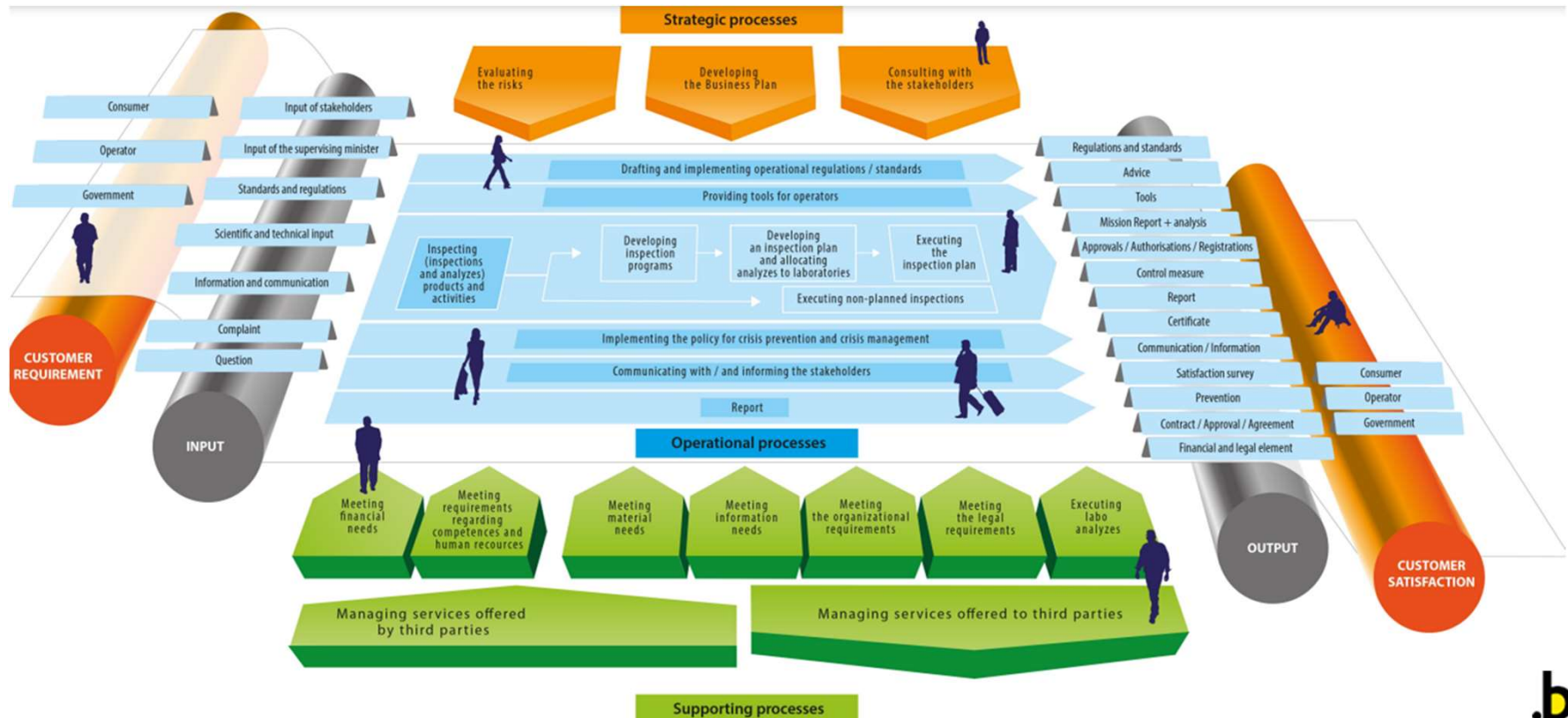
Our mission is to ensure that all actors in the food chain can provide the consumers and each other with the greatest possible assurance that the food, animals, plants and products they consume, keep or use are reliable, safe and protected, now and in the future.



Federal Agency
for the Safety
of the Food Chain

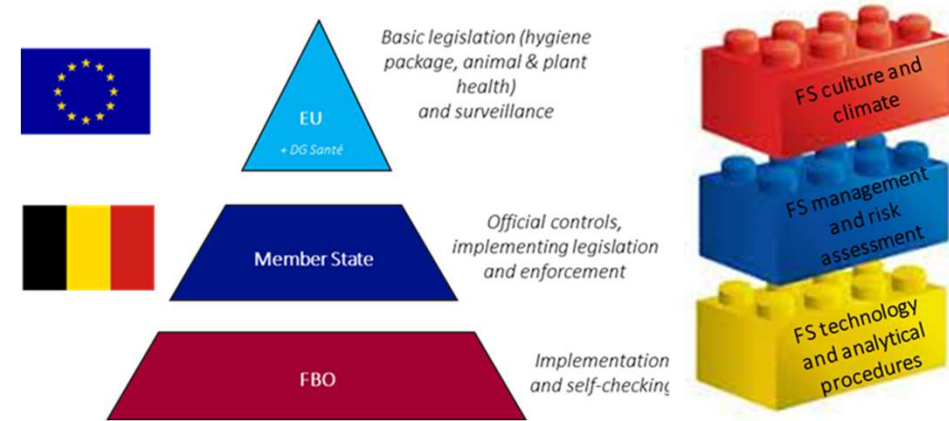
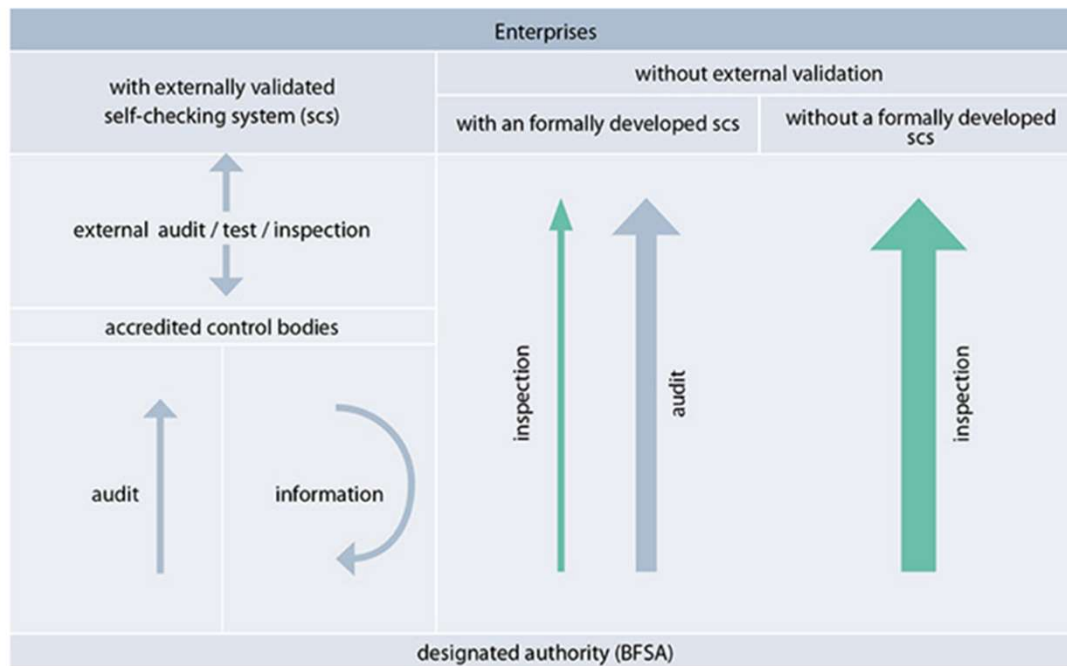


Process chart of the FASFC



! The guarantee of the food safety must first be given by the operator !

The stimulation of self-checking



→ The FSA is implementing the control in the chain and must give to the operators all the necessary means to know, understand and implement the regulation



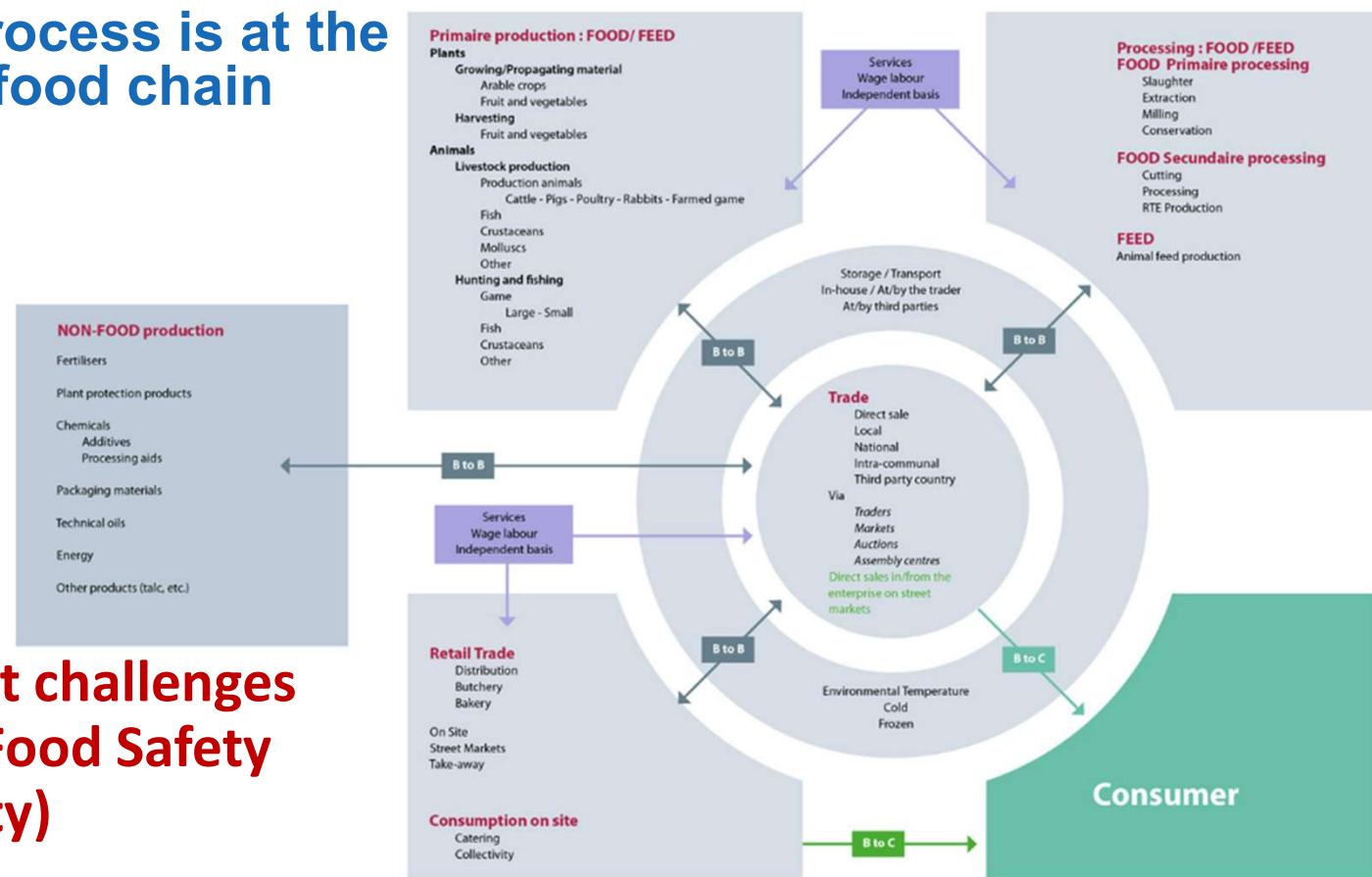
From risk perception to risk management via risk assessment



2. Food safety vs food security vs food sustainability: challenge means for the Food safety authority



The risk analysis process is at the heart of a complex food chain



→ means different challenges (at least for the Food Safety authority)

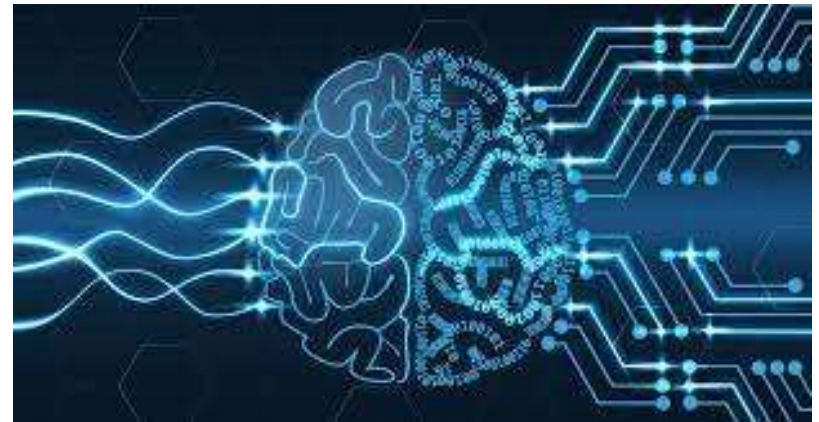
Globalisation means needs for further and tighter collaborations

- Controls at borders
- Regulation and standards (norms) diversity
- Fraud
- Sharing data e.g. molecular data from foodborne outbreaks
- Strengthening European cooperation and collaboration (EFSA)



Science as essential support for the missions of a FSA

- **Game changer technologies:**
 - Artificial Intelligence
 - blockchain
 - Next-Generation Sequencing, Whole Genome Sequencing
 - Nanotechnologies
 - Controversial: OGMs, cloning, in vitro food
- **New assessment procedures : ‘one substance one assessment’, exposome, biomarkers, cumulative risk assessment**
- **Facilitating research will inform ‘Regulatory’ science**
- **Risk- and science-based policies in control programs**



Food safety authorities must develop a culture of **data acquisition and management**

- Data access
- Data exchange
- Data inter-operability
- Data use
- Big data
- Horizon scanning tools for faster detection of new emerging issues



Needs for **sustainability** when living on a limited hearth

- Environmental constraints
- Climate changes
- Decreasing waste
- Resources maximalisation
- Adaptation of FS policies to new consumer habits



New European/national politics are also driving the work of FSA

- New Plant Health Law
- New Animal Health Law
- Green deal
- Farm to fork strategy
- Needs for unifying the European regulation(s)
- Joining and implementing the One Health concept
- Funding!



Food safety is tightly linked to **secure food**

- Socio-economical constraints can lead to food safety issues, food shortages, food chain breaks (breachs?)
- Fraud is first an economical issue but that can lead to food safety issues



3. Conclusions



Operational challenges for a Food Safety Authority

- Risk assessment → risk- and science-based policies
- Fraud
- Accessibility and transparency for the consumer (contact point)
- Communication ! → Take advantage of (social) medias to increase awareness and confidence of consumers
- Risk communication vs risk perception (crisis)

Socio-economical challenges

- New policies
- Fraud
- New consumer habits, new trends
- Globalisation

Technological challenges

- Quick appropriation of new technologies
- Data management
- New process to ensure food sustainability

Strategic challenges

- Funding (financial support)
- Innovation and standardisation in risk assessment
- Improvement of education, training, skills and experience of human resources
- Strengthening participation in research activities
- Strengthening collaboration between Member states
- Crisis Preparedness !

Beyond the challenges that are facing all the actors of the food chain, we will have to feed 10 billion people from 2050 and we will need to get the trade-offs right between sustainability (including make better use of the food already produced), food security and food safety.

Furthermore, food safety and sustainability shall not be considered apart from food sovereignty and food equity

This will/must be OUR common challenge for the next decades





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THANK TO ALL



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