
***Presentation of plans and activities within
WP2***

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Emerging risk initiatives: Foresight and collation of a strategic research agenda

- Deliverables
 - (2.1) Interim report regarding the outcome of the Delphi activities (month 25)
 - (2.2) Final report regarding future activities in the area of emerging risk (month 30)

Objectives

- To analyse current food safety systems regarding emerging risks identification and to identify shortcomings in research activities and knowledge
- To establish a database of experts to be included in the Delphi, in collaboration with WP4.
 - WP 3 will also use this database to get access to information and data relevant to the objectives of their Work package
- To take due account of the opinions of geographically and culturally diverse stakeholders regarding emerging food risks, and integrate these into a global system of emerging risk identification

Objectives (continued)

- To obtain a reliable consensus of opinion from a global expert group regarding emerging food risks, with regard to integrating existing knowledge and resources, identifying gaps in knowledge to provide input for the development of a common research agenda
- To identify where duplication in effort is being applied, and to harmonise and streamline ongoing initiatives, as well as those under development
- To provide information for evaluation by members of Workpackage 3

Consumer protection, world trade and international communication

- *Developing international consensus* regarding emerging risk identification, assessment and management
- International agreement needed about
 - *gaps in existing knowledge*
 - *risk identification*
 - *management priorities*
- Pertinent to
 - harmonization of ongoing research activities
 - optimize the allocation of resources
 - development of a common research portfolio.

Developing global consensus

Identification of emerging food safety risks through horizon scanning has proved very difficult

- Problems in identifying global expertise
- Developing consensus about emerging risk issues under circumstances where opinion is subject to influence by cultural differences.

Delphi technique

- Applied to identification of problems and gaps in knowledge.
- Identification of minority and majority consensus
- Generation of outputs in the form of documents which will be incorporated into Workpackage 3 activities.

What is the Delphi Technique?

- An iterative technique used for the systematic measuring and aiding of forecasting activities and decision making
- provides a structure to facilitate group communication on a specific task, and is recognised as being an effective procedure when reliable consensus of opinion needs to be obtained from diverse groups.
- Involves sequential collection of questionnaire data interspersed with controlled opinion feedback.

Specifics of the methodology

- A semi-structured questionnaire will be developed by partner 2, in collaboration with the core group members and the subcontractor.
- Gaps in existing knowledge
 - assessment of emerging risks
 - mitigation prioritisation
 - developing a global research portfolio
 - scope existing and developing *risk assessment activities* and *communication networks*.

Approaches

- 200 experts recruited from *all* geographical areas involved in GO-GLOBAL
- Qualitative information about research priorities and gaps in existing knowledge in the area of emerging food risks,
- Mapping of existing initiatives internationally
- Development of a quantitative questionnaire

Quantitative questionnaire

- Prioritisation of existing and innovative activities identified in round 1.
- Controlled feedback about group average results
 - consensus views (either majority or minority)
 - *geographical or cultural* differences in research prioritisation

Final international research agenda

A report will be produced which will form the basis of discussions at the final international research agenda workshop (Workpackage 2 and 3 joint activity)