



# Europe is what we make of it: Working together to ensure food safety

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Executive Director  
European Food Safety Authority

Reykjavik, 15 May 2017

# KEEPING FOOD SAFE IN THE EU



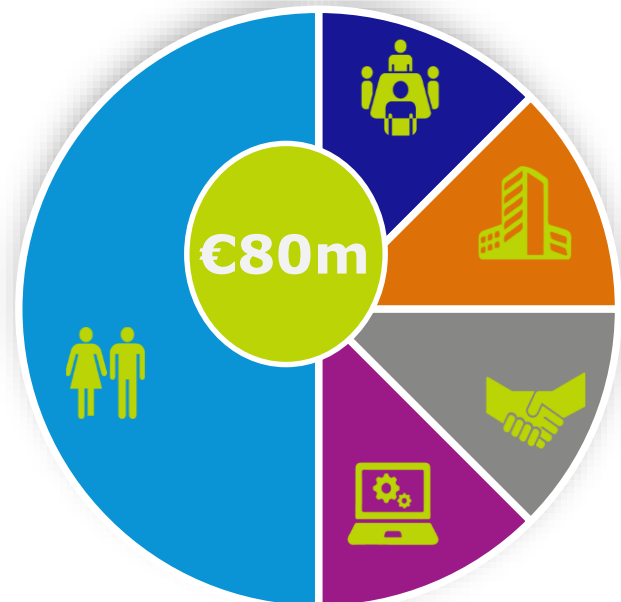


ESTABLISHED

**2002**

HEADQUARTERS  
in the **heart of Parma**

- > **450** staff
- > **1,500** experts
- ~**5,000** outputs /  
**500** a year



# QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS



**ADVISE**



**EU  
Commission**



**EU  
Parliament**



**Member  
States**



**EFSA self  
mandate**

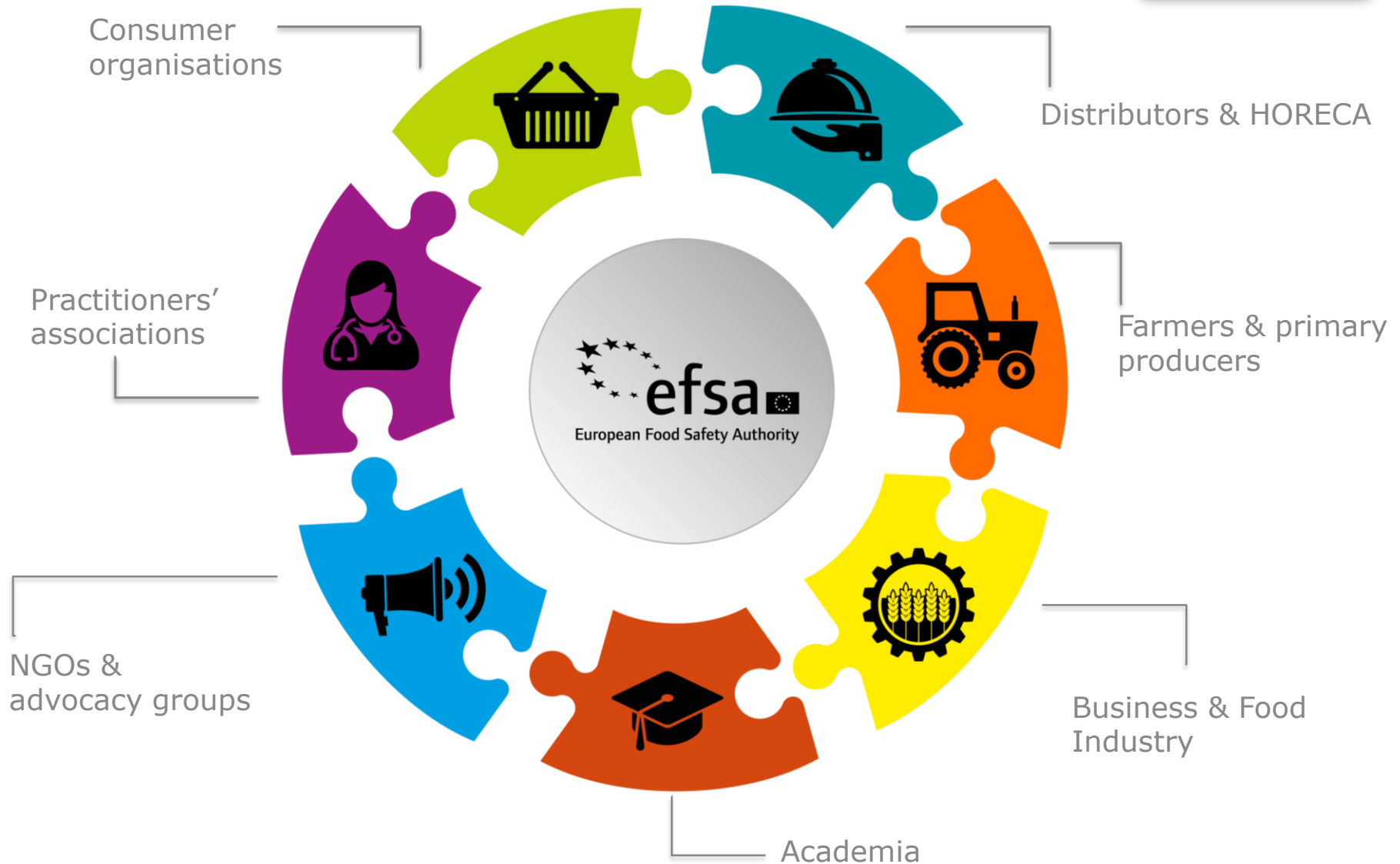
**EFSA receives a question**

**EFSA's scientists evaluate, assess, advise**

**Adoption and  
communication**



# OUR STAKEHOLDERS



# SCIENTIFIC COOPERATION



COLLABORATE



**Individual  
experts**



**National food  
safety  
organizations**



**International  
organizations**



**Research  
institutes &  
academia**

# TOOLS FOR THE JOB

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**DATA**



**METHODS**



**PEOPLE  
RISK ASSESSMENT EXPERTISE**



# DATA THE LIFEBLOOD OF RISK ASSESSMENT

Assessing exposure  
for different

**POPULATION GROUPS**

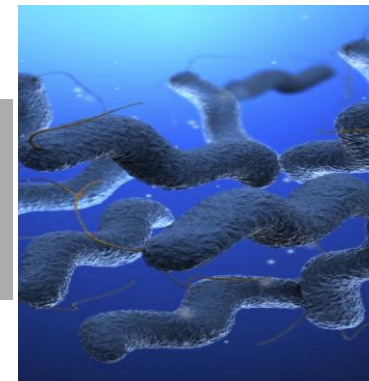


Monitoring

**PESTICIDE RESIDUES  
LEVELS**

**ZOONOSES**

Data Collection

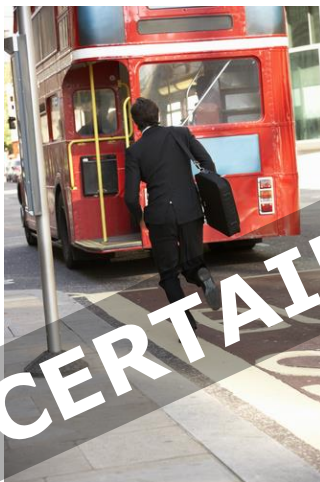
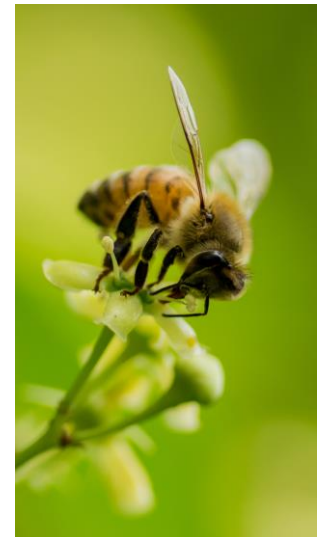




# METHODOLOGY

APPLYING THE RIGHT METHOD

Assessing the safety of  
**NANOPARTICLES**



**UNCERTAINTIES**

Combined risk factors for  
**BEEES' HEALTH**

# WHO'S BEHIND EFSA'S ACTIVITIES?



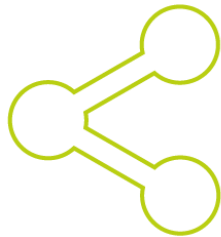
**450** staff



**1** Scientific Committee &  
**10** Panels



**1500** experts



**1** Advisory Forum &  
**15** Scientific Networks



**400** Research  
Institutes/Academia

# EFSA'S SCIENTIFIC OUTPUTS



ADVISE



COMMUNICATE



Advice on:

- Generic Health Issues
- Regulated Products
- Emerging Risks



Tools for Risk Assessment:

- Guidance
- Methods



Reports



Videos



Lay Summaries

# Infographic: Europe's fight against antimicrobial resistance

## EUROPE'S FIGHT AGAINST

# ANTIMICROBIAL RESISTANCE

### WHAT IS ANTIMICROBIAL RESISTANCE (AMR)?

#### Antimicrobials?

Substances used to treat a wide variety of infectious diseases in humans and animals. They:

- kill micro-organisms
- stop micro-organisms from growing and multiplying

Example: antibiotics



#### Antimicrobial resistance?

The ability of micro-organisms to withstand antimicrobial treatments.  
Example: MRSA (meticillin-resistant *Staphylococcus aureus*) commonly present on human skin and in mucous membranes



#### Why is resistance growing?

- Overuse of antibiotics
- Misuse of antibiotics
- Spread through various routes



#### Effect of growing resistance?

- Treatment is rendered ineffective, which poses serious risk to public health

## OVERVIEW ON RESISTANCE LEVELS IN ANIMALS AND HUMANS

Based on the European Union Summary Report on antimicrobial resistance in zoonotic and indicator bacteria from humans, animals and food in 2010

### Levels of AMR in animals to specific micro-organisms in Member States and EU

#### CAMPYLOBACTER JEJUNI



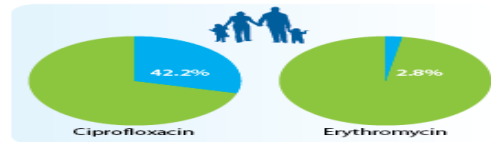
#### SALMONELLA SPP.



Interpretative criteria of resistance in humans and animals are different and generally result in higher levels in animals and food compared with humans.

### Levels of AMR in humans to specific antibiotics in EU

#### CAMPYLOBACTER SPP.



#### SALMONELLA (all non-typhoidal serovars)



## HOW DOES EFSA FIGHT AMR?

### Scientific support & advice

EFSA provides independent scientific support and advice to risk managers on the possible emergence, spread and transfer to humans and animals of antimicrobial resistance through the food chain or from animals.

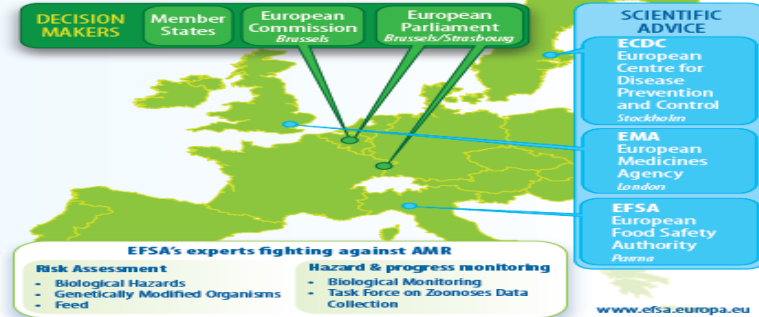
### Through an integrated approach

EFSA involves a number of its Scientific Panels and Units, as it is a concern for the entire food chain.

### Through close cooperation

- EFSA cooperates closely with other relevant EU agencies:
- European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control (ECDC), to harmonise monitoring of antimicrobial resistance to enable better comparison regarding the impact on human health.
- European Medicines Agency (EMA), to analyse the relationship between antimicrobial use and the emergence of resistance.

EFSA is the keystone of EU risk assessment regarding food and feed safety. In close collaboration with national authorities and in open consultation with its stakeholders, EFSA provides independent scientific advice and clear communication on existing and emerging risks.



# Explore the data: Antimicrobial resistance in Europe



The screenshot shows the main interface of the 'Antimicrobial resistance in Europe' report. At the top, the logos for the European Food Safety Authority (EFSA) and the European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control (ECDC) are displayed. The central focus is a large teal circle with a yellow border, containing the title 'Antimicrobial resistance in Europe' and a subtitle: 'Resistance of *Salmonella* and *E. coli* in food, animals and humans, country by country.' Below the subtitle, a note states: 'If no data are presented for single countries, it means that none were reported.' A 'START' button is positioned at the bottom of the circle. On the left side of the interface, there are three circular icons: a share icon, an information icon, and a copyright icon.

[https://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/interactive\\_pages/AMR\\_Report\\_2015](https://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/interactive_pages/AMR_Report_2015)

# EFSA ON SOCIAL MEDIA



COMMUNICATE



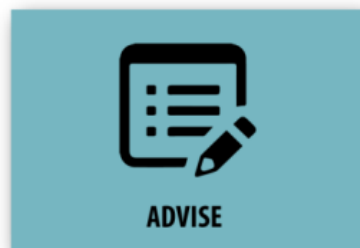
# EFSA'S STRATEGY 2020: VISION



## Trusted science for safe food

*Protecting consumers by providing independent scientific advice on risks in the food chain*

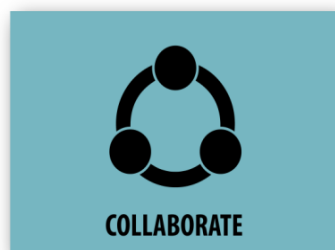
## Mission



ADVISE



COMMUNICATE



COLLABORATE





# NEW CHALLENGES AND THREATS



Environmental risks e.g multiple stressors and bees



Evaluation of the safety of new products  
• e.g. novel foods



Development of new assessment methods:  
• nanotechnology, active and intelligent packaging  
• '-omics', less animal testing



Chemical mixtures/ combined toxicity of substances in food

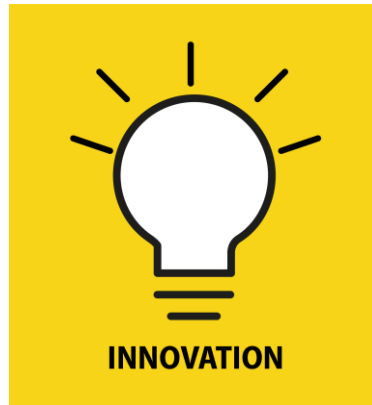


Antimicrobial resistance



Hazards linked to globalisation: plant pests, animal diseases, vector-borne diseases

# HOW DO WE MEET THEM?



## EFSA'S STRATEGY 2020: STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE 3

**Build the EU's scientific assessment capacity and knowledge community**



## **EU Risk Assessment Agenda**

**through**

**Partnership**

**Joint projects**

**Sharing expertise**



# EU RISK ASSESSMENT AGENDA-THE WAY AHEAD

**Priorities are defined and attained collaboratively - MS together with EFSA**

Delphi study completed



Compendium of project ideas



Interested partners



EU Services & Agencies



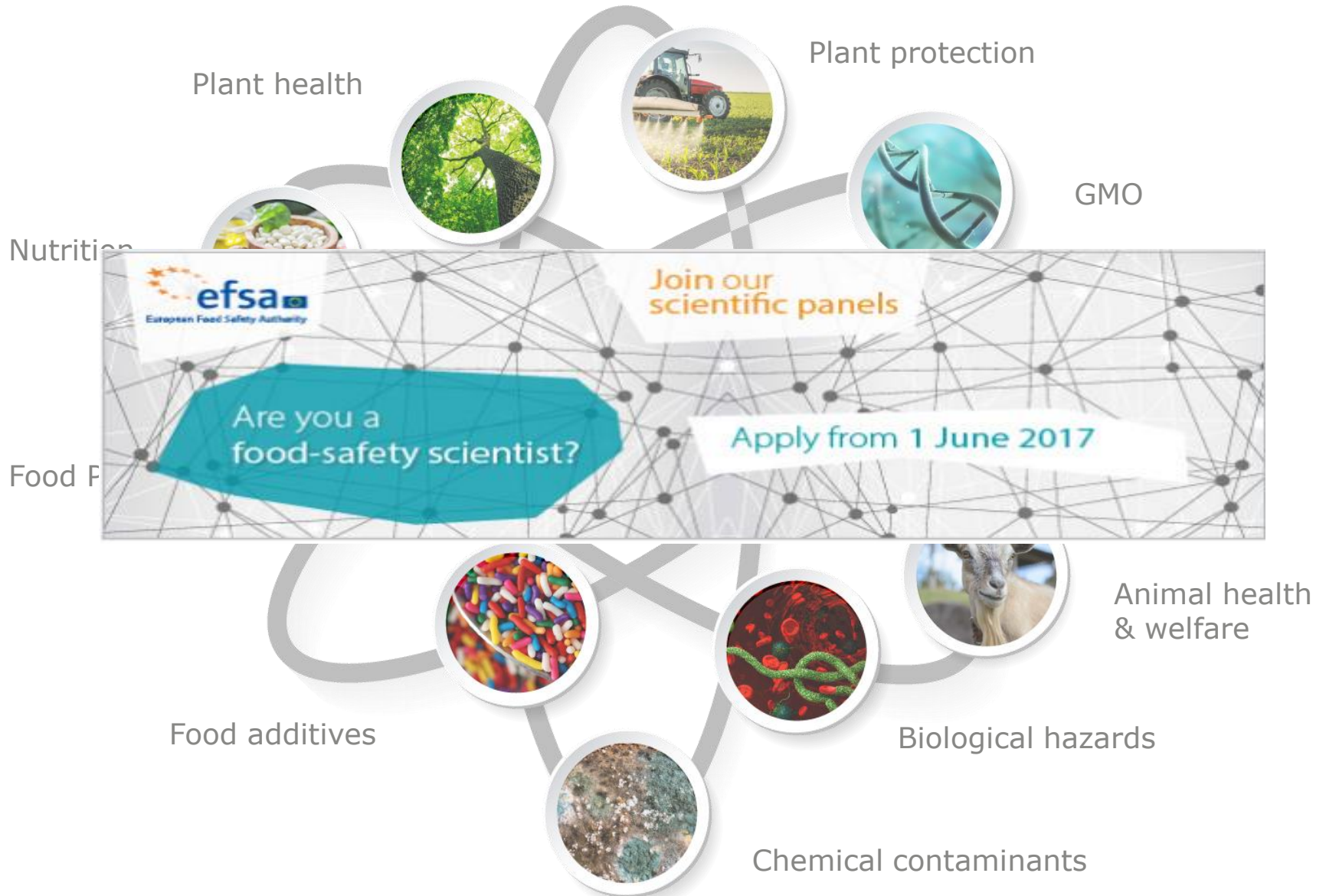
# WHY SCIENTIFIC COOPERATION

## Building further EU scientific assessment capacity and knowledge community

Sharing expertise  
Working together



# THE SCIENTIFIC PANELS



## VISITING PROFESSIONAL (STAFF EXCHANGE)

Transfer of knowledge and foster cooperation  
between EFSA and its partners

Guest scientists

Fellowship

National experts in  
professional  
training

Seconded national  
experts

- New Call launched in  
2017

PhD exchange

Contact us [efsa.europa.eu/en/jobs/vacancies](https://efsa.europa.eu/en/jobs/vacancies)

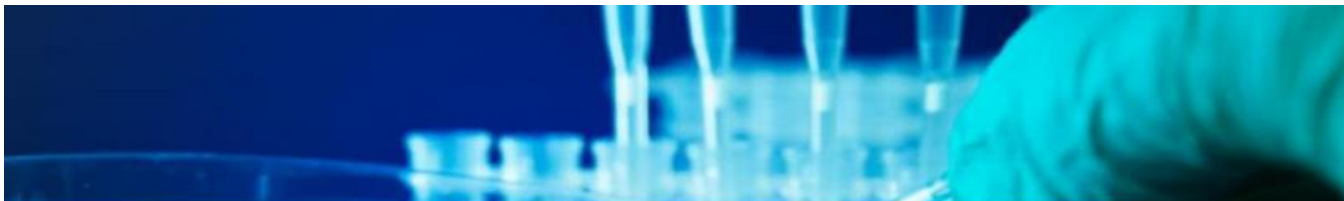


## COOPERATION AND ANTIMICROBIAL RESISTANCE

- **Antimicrobial resistance** is a **global problem** and requires a **global solution**.
  - It can be tackled only in **cooperation**:  
**One-Health approach**: a holistic, multi-sectorial approach, involving many different sectors
- **EFSA** works closely with **its sister agencies, Member States and International partners**



Conference  
Combating  
Antimicrobial  
Resistance



# STAY CONNECTED!



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