

82nd Advisory Forum meeting
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EFSA Crisis Preparedness

Lessons learnt from previous exercises and plans for the future


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Trusted science for safe food



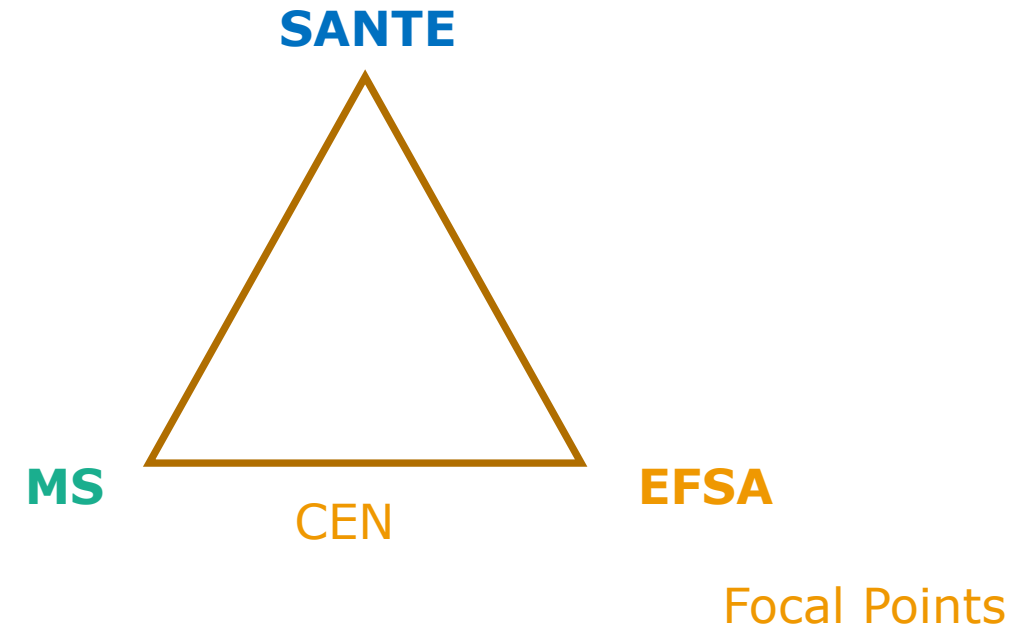
EFSA procedures for
**responding to urgent
advice needs**

Trusted science for safe food



European Food Safety Authority

The graphic features a central image of blueberries, a woman in a field, and a tractor, all set against a background of green and blue geometric shapes and a network of white lines. The text is in a clean, sans-serif font.



2 crisis training exercises per year

- ✓ 1 External training involving Member States, EC & European Agencies, and international organisations
- ✓ 1 Internal training involving EFSA staff

- EFSA's four-year crisis training strategy

- ✓ 2017-2020 theme: **Connected Capabilities**

Aim: Enhanced collaboration in response to an EU food or feed safety incident, focusing on:

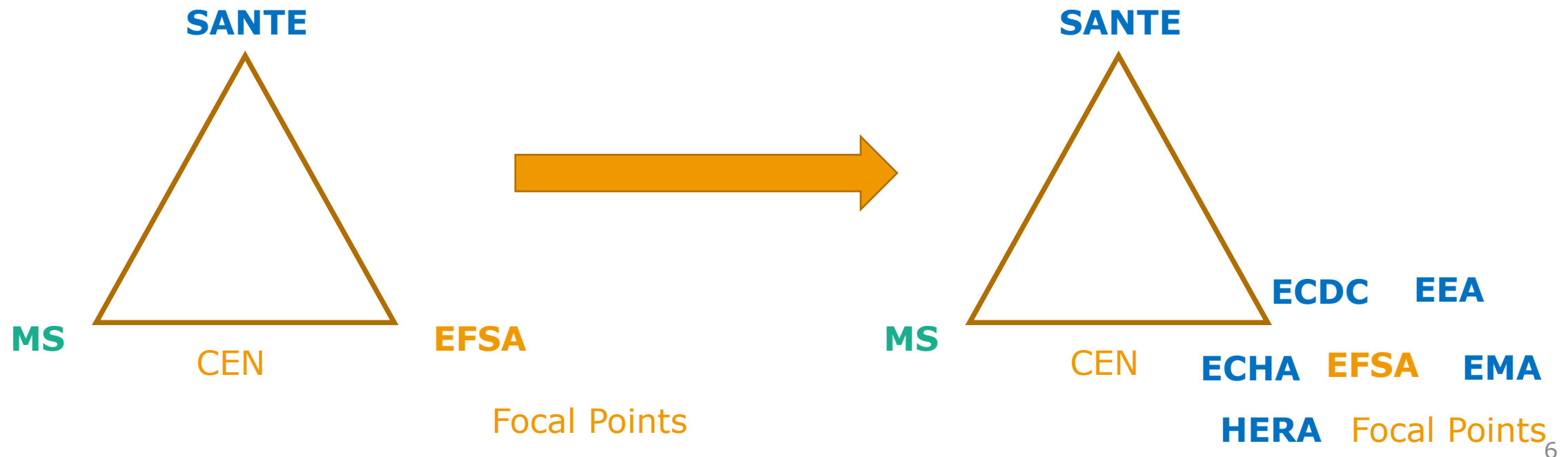
- Understanding the situation
- Scientific collaboration to deliver the most effective response
- Providing information transparently to everyone who is involved or affected

Previous technical domains used for the simulation exercise scenarios:

- 2016: Food safety—microbiological (Salmonella spp.)
- 2017: Plant health—microbiological (vector-transmitted Candidatus Liberibacter spp.)
- 2017: Food safety—bacterial contamination (Bacillus anthracis)
- 2018: Food safety—microbiological (Listeria monocytogenes)
- 2019: Food safety—chemical contamination (pyrrolizidine alkaloids)
- 2020: Food safety—foodborne virus (fictional)

- ✓ Ensure that all involved parties are kept up to date with EFSA's Procedures
- ✓ More frequent simulation exercises to identify further improvement needs in 'real world' operational environments
- ✓ Interdisciplinary trainings to be addressed in a 'One Health' approach
- ✓ Trainings with a stronger regional emphasis and greater accommodation of individual national circumstances
- ✓ Improve communication during a crisis response:
 - templates for info/data exchange
 - eliminate duplication of requests through different channels

- **SO2** “Ensure preparedness for future risk analysis needs”.
- **EOR2.1.2** Participate in a strengthened EU governance on crisis preparedness and support enhanced MS capacity and preparedness to respond to crises



EFSA's crisis training theme for the 2021-2024:

“Trusted Transparent Response”: not only “doing the right thing, collaboratively” but also “being perceived to have done the right thing in a very open and transparent way”

2021 -2024 training sessions: reflect this theme by rehearsing behaviors:

- to maintain strong reputations and public understanding- **TRUSTED**
- to comply with the new regulatory environment imposed by *Transparency regulation*-
TRANSPARENT
- to deliver an effective, prompt and joined-up response - **RESPONSE**

EFSA's crisis training activities 2021-2024:

- ✓ External trainings: involving MS, EC/EAs and international organizations
- ✓ Internal trainings: EFSA staff, EC and relevant EAs depending on the scenario
- ✓ Crisis communication
 - ✓ Capacity building
 - ✓ Procedures and roles
 - ✓ Cooperation with Partners and Stakeholders
- ✓ Further clarification of the role of the FPs as part of the crisis management process

2021 External Crisis Preparedness Exercise

2021 Crisis Preparedness Exercise

Co-organised: Italia (IZSAM)

Date: 6-8 July 2021

Duration: 3 days

Delivery format: Online

Training approach: E-learning + Crisis exercise

Scenario: Vector-transmitted Rift Valley Fever Virus

2022 External Crisis Preparedness Exercise

2022 Crisis Preparedness Exercise

Co-organised: Bulgaria

Date: Under discussion

Duration: Under discussion

Delivery format: Physical (hopefully)

Training approach: Under Discussion

Scenario: Chemical hazard

2023 External Crisis Preparedness Exercise

2023 (Inter-Agency) Crisis Preparedness Exercise

Co-organised: ANSA Network

Date: 2023 (TBC)

Duration: Under discussion

Delivery format: Physical (preferable) or hybrid options

Training approach: Under Discussion

Scenario: Under discussion

2022 Contribution to the Crisis Preparedness Exercise for IPA countries in cooperation with ENCO unit

2022 IPA Countries Crisis Preparedness Exercise

Date: June/July 2022 (TBC)

Duration: Under discussion

Delivery format: Virtual

Training objective: Ensuring that IPA countries understand their role in a food-feed-safety incident involving EFSA and EU Member States (MSs)

Scenario: Under discussion



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