



# Progress with the Stakeholder Discussion Group on Framing of Questions

Stakeholder Bureau Meeting  
18 April 2018

# Content of the presentation

- Ongoing EFSA initiatives for early engagement with stakeholders
- Exchange of views on topics for future engagement

# STAKEHOLDER GROUP ON FRAMING OF QUESTIONS

## Background;

- this engagement model responds to one of the measures identified under the EFSA Transparency and Engagement (TERA) project with aim to improve the transparency and openness of EFSA core business

## Objectives;

- to allow EFSA to capture **societal needs and expectations** at an early stage of the development of EFSA's self-mandate and guidance documents, i.e. framing of mandates, in particular those which are sensitive or technically complex.

## EFSA ONGOING INITIATIVES

Initiatives to allow early engagement with stakeholders

- testing of **PROMETHEUS approach** with topics such as BPA, Sodium and Sugar,
- **Expert Knowledge Elicitation** with involvement of social scientists,
- **Frontloading activities,**
- **TERA measures**
  - updated [Guidelines on EFSA Consultations](#) published in March 2018 – reference to the Stakeholder Group for Framing of Questions as a new initiative of stakeholder engagement
- **Discussion Group on Bee Partnership for collecting and sharing of data**

# Discussion Group on Bee Partnership

## Background

- **absence of harmonised data** across the EU to help inform policy makers on what is causing **increasing bee fatalities** – conclusion of the European Parliament’s Week of Bees and Pollination 2016,
- European Parliament tasked EFSA to organise bee health symposium as part of Bee Week 2017 – [link to the report](#)
- EFSA co-organised the Bee Week 2017 symposium with **key stakeholders** (EPBA, BeeLife, ECPA, COPA-COGECA and involvement of NGOs - PAN-Europe)
- EFSA pledged to facilitate the next steps by organising a discussion group to agree the terms of reference for the partnership.

# Discussion Group on Bee Partnership

- The group is composed of EU-wide stakeholder organisations representing beekeepers, agro-food industry, food trade, farmers, academia, and NGOs,
- three meetings of the Bee Discussion Group in Brussels – facilitated by EFSA

## Next steps

- The group will prepare a terms of references for the Partnership and present it at the annual High-Level Conference at the European Week of Bees and Pollination in June 2018.
- Fitness-check, regular meeting of the Discussion Group - facilitated by EFSA



# Discussion Group on Bee Partnership

- a model for early engagement with stakeholders on framing of data collection and sharing,
- Discussion Groups - “learning systems” that allow EFSA to capitalise on stakeholders’ specialist knowledge,
- provides stakeholders with information about different aspects of the Authority’s work,
- direct benefits for stakeholders; creation of synergies, facilitation of data sharing and access, and ultimately increased evidence and best practice on bee health.

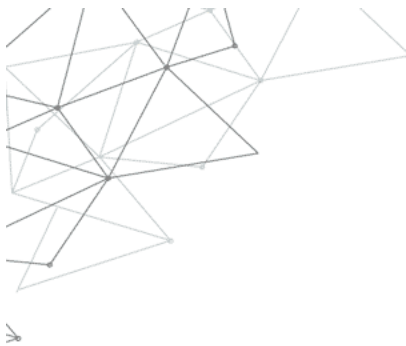


# Possible Future initiatives

## Future initiatives to allow early engagement with stakeholders

- ongoing internal consultations on how to streamline the initial phase of the scientific assessment processes through increased stakeholder engagement - **mapping of projects** that are at envisioning phase, i.e. before a scoping paper or charter is created.
- the EFSA's Scientific Committee **work programme** "Priority topics for the development of **cross-cutting** risk assessment guidance" - opportunity to integrate the ambitions of stakeholder engagement into this process





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