



**3<sup>rd</sup> Scientific Conference “Research in Food Safety”**  
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# **EFSA support to Risk Assessment activities & the Transparency Regulation novelties**

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Trusted science for safe food

- EFSA Support to Risk Assessment activities:
  - EU Risk Assessment Agenda
  - Member States database on Risk Assessment plans
  - RARA2021 event
- Transparency Regulation novelties

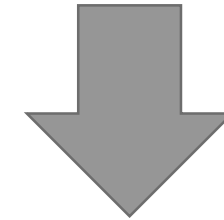
# EFSA Support to Risk Assessment activities

## EFSA Strategy 2020 and EU-RAA



SO3

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

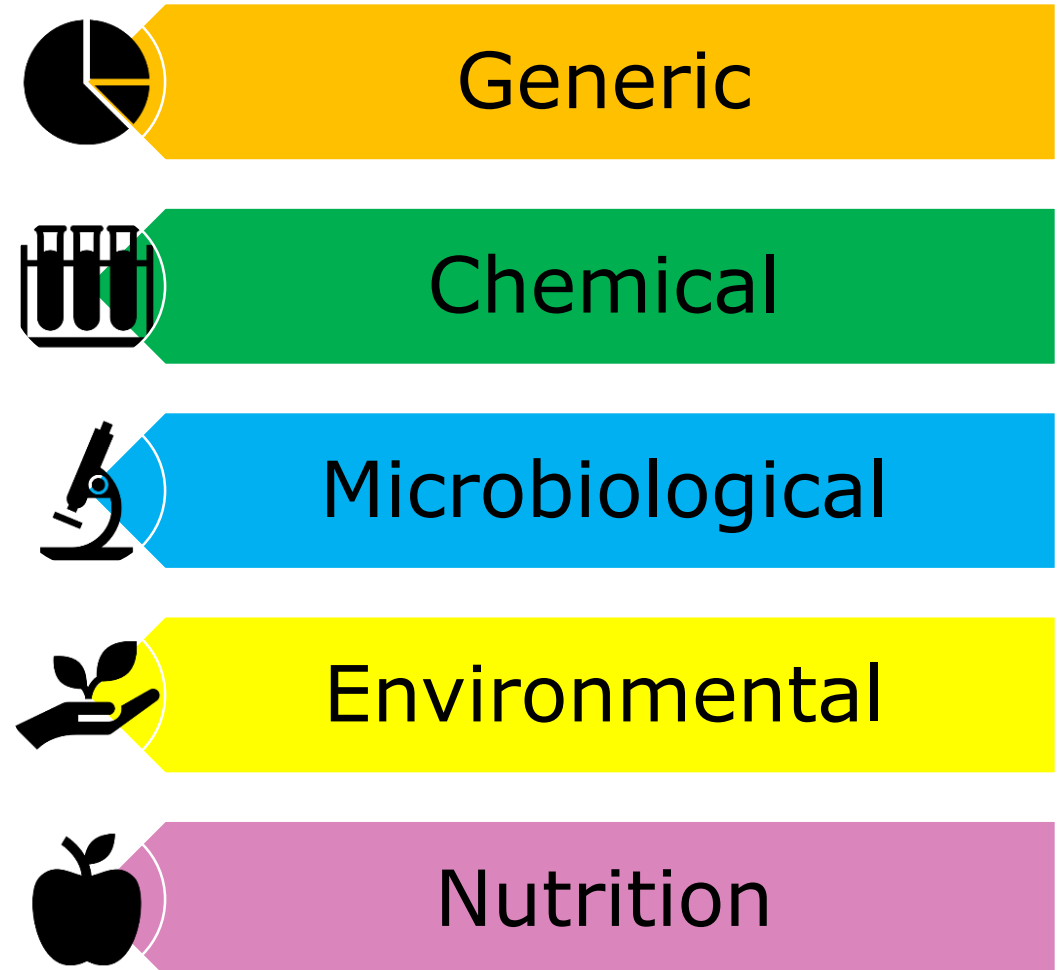


**EU-RISK ASSESSMENT  
AGENDA**

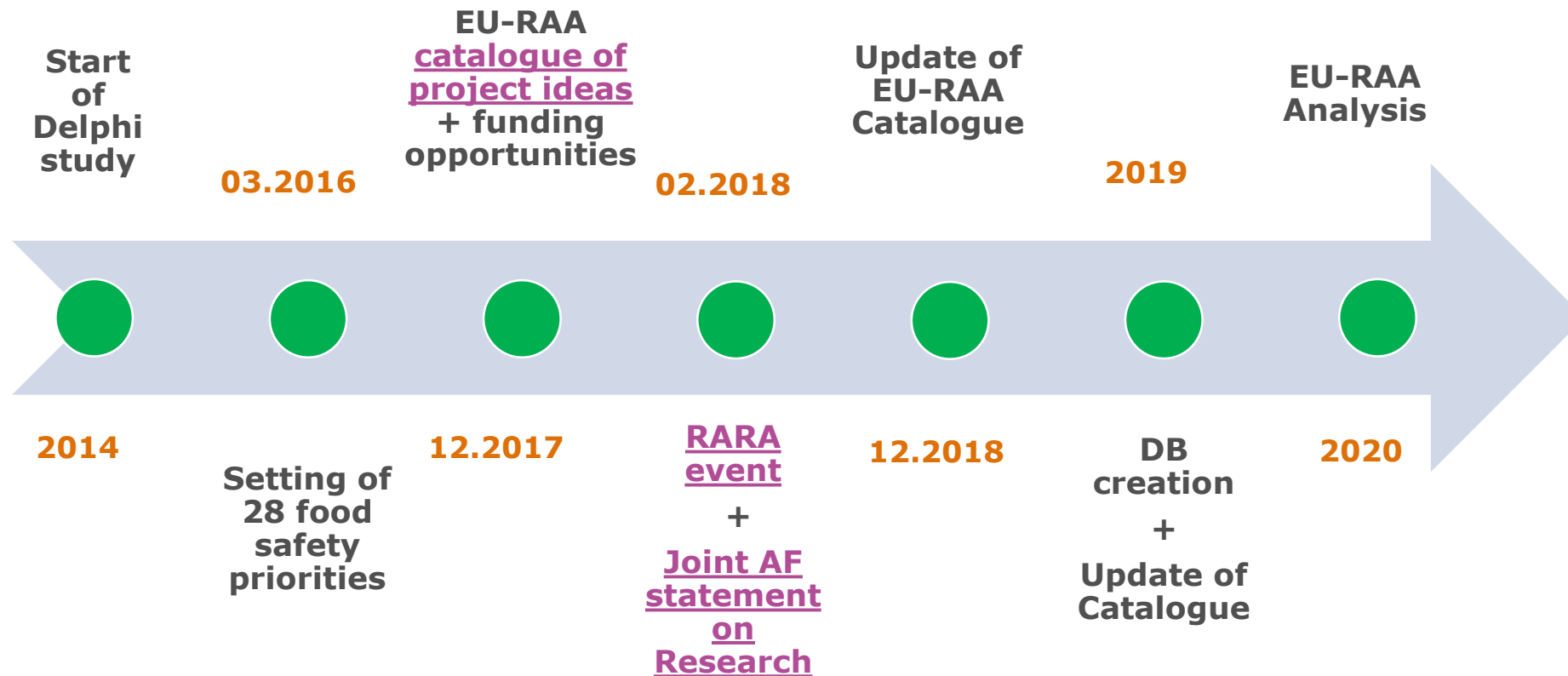
## 28 Delphi Priorities



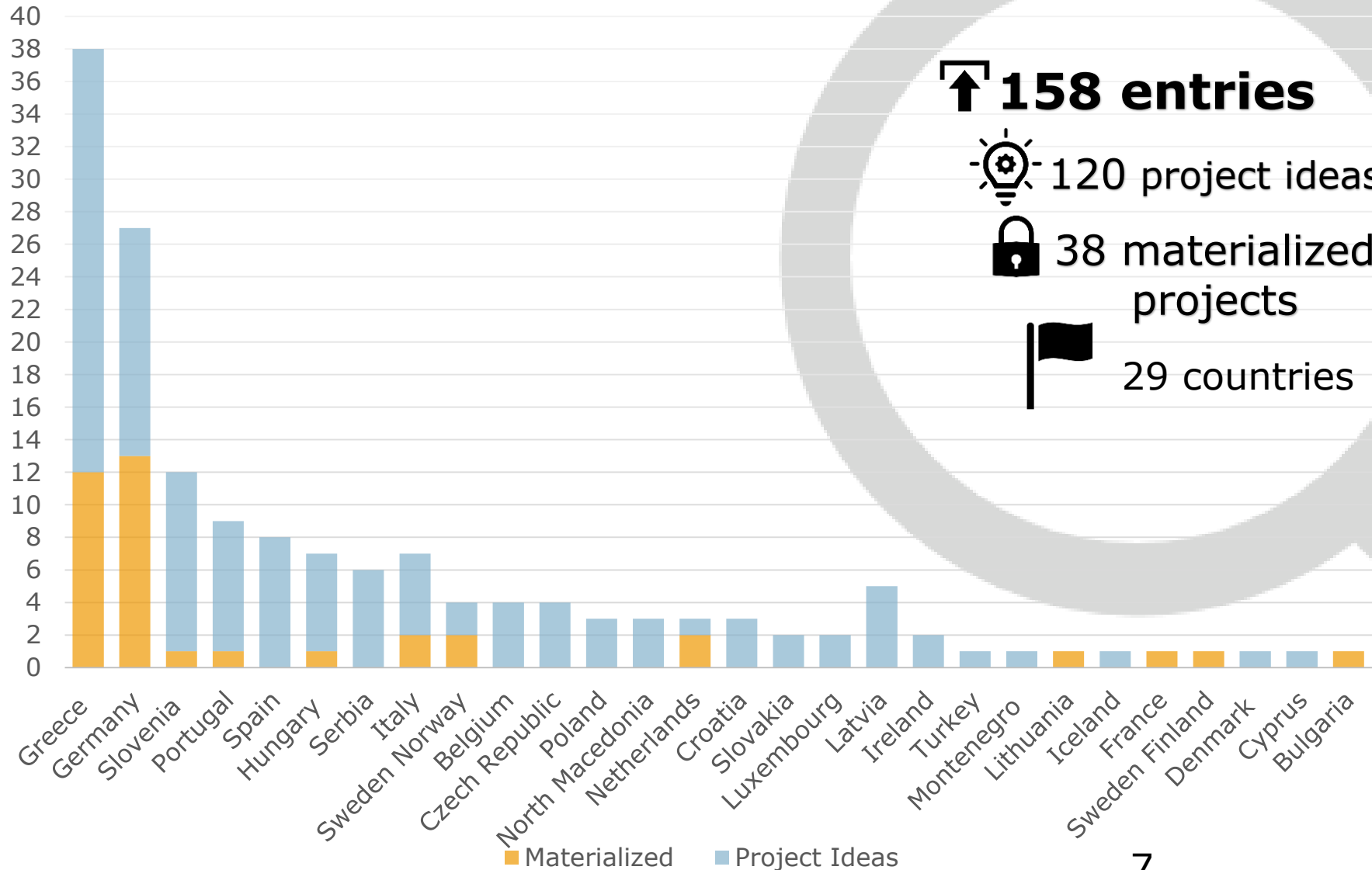
## 5 Areas



# Support to RA activities: EU-RAA



# Support to RA activities: EU-RAA

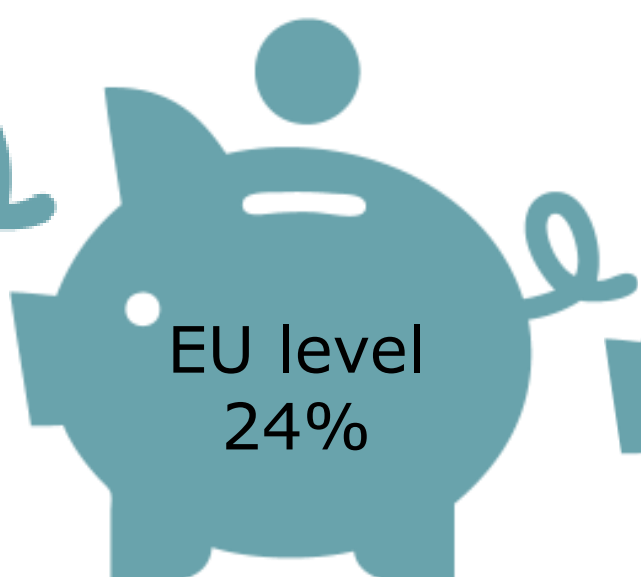


## Funding Schemes of Materialized Project


Available info on funding scheme only for 55% of materialized project




EFSA  
33%



EU level  
24%



Other  
19%



National  
14%



Joint  
10%



# Support to RA activities: EU-RAA

	OPEN PROJECT IDEAS	Country	EoI	Delphi
1	Development and implementation of Risk-Benefit Assessment in foods	Denmark	22	2
2	NextGen Food Safety Knowledge Integration Framework	Germany	17	3,8,15
3	Impact of global food and feed supply chains on the spread of harmful organisms	Germany	15	19
4	Development of a database tool for assessing the risk of common food pathogens in foodstuffs	Greece	14	15
5	Evaluation of effects of emerging marine biotoxins and their monitoring to provide safer seafood to the consumer	Belgium	14	11
6	Dietary exposure assessment of chemical contaminants	Portugal	13	3,8
7	Inter-species and strain differences of probiotic bifidobacteria depending on the host environment	Czech Republic	13	7,12
8	Risk assessment of bacterial adhesion on food contact surfaces	Slovenia	13	23
9	Quality and safety of urban honeybee products in post-industrial era	Slovenia	12	23,26
10	Risk benefit assessment of food fortification and dietary supplement intake	Portugal	12	2,3,5,27

EU-RAA: Drivers for evolution

**Identify common work priorities at EU level**

**New strategic frameworks (F2F, EFSA Strategy 2027) require database re-scoping**

**Database model is static -> needs to evolve into a digital platform model in the short/mid-term**



## Database Development

The database has been developed in consultation with the MS and has many advantages over the spreadsheet.

Some of these include:

- Protected login access;
- Entries only able to be modified by the organisation / country creating the entry;
- Fully searchable by keyword;
- Report Generation (Excel/PDF) and graphical summaries available;
- Pre-set organisation details;
- Feature that makes it possible to indicate collaboration on activities.

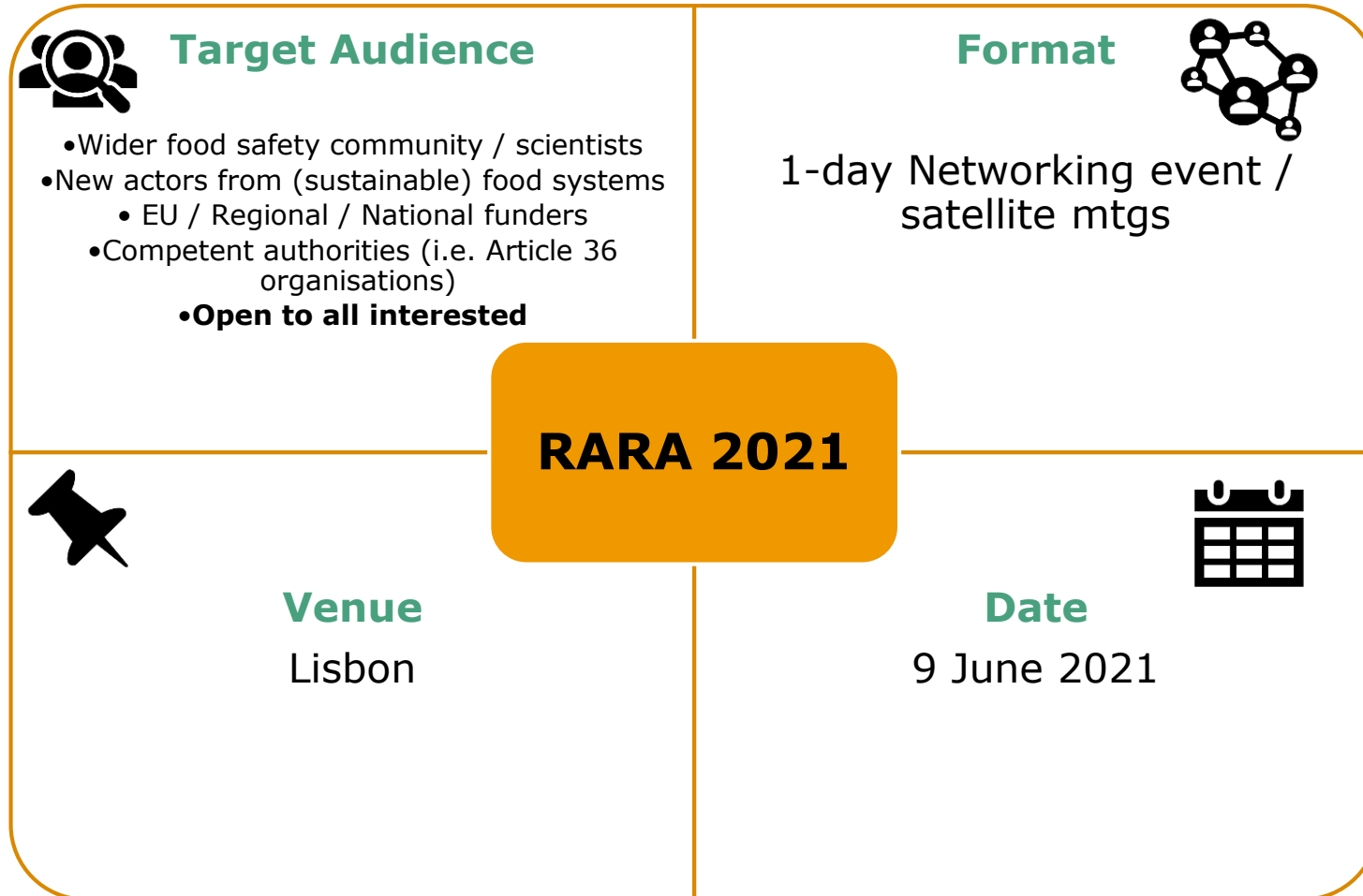


### MS RA Plans

Member State Risk Assessment Plans

Focal Point (FP) shares with EFSA, AF and other FPs information on national planned Risk Assessment (RA) activities (including mandates) through the **MS RAA Plans (ex R4EU)** database.

FP inserts project ideas into the **EURAA** database, keeps them updated, and supports the creation of consortia by expressing interest in other projects



## General objectives:

- **Building synergies** to enable regulatory research outputs to support the achievement of the SDGs
- **Foster alignment** of EU and national (and regional) R&I investments to deliver research outputs that inform regulatory science and future policies
- **Networking and relationship building** in the wider food safety risk assessment ecosystem

# Transparency Regulation novelties

## Why was this needed?

- Addresses the increasing criticisms/discontent and concerns regarding:
  - ✓ transparency of the EU risk assessment in the food chain
  - ✓ reliability, objectivity and independence of the studies used by European Food Safety Authority (EFSA)
  - ✓ governance of EFSA and its long-term sustainability.
- Direct response to a successful European Citizens' Initiative (Glyphosate)
- Builds upon the findings of the fitness check of the General Food Law Regulation, a comprehensive evaluation, completed in January 2018.

Regulation (EU)  
2019/1381



# Transparency Regulation novelties

**October 2017** - Submission of ECI

**January 2018** - Publication of Commission Refit Evaluation of GFL

**April 2018** - Adoption of Commission proposal

**February 2019** - Provisional agreement between European Parliament and Council

**April 2019** - European Parliament approval of amended Commission proposal



## 1. MORE TRANSPARENCY



### **Better access to scientific studies will be possible.**

- Scientific Studies will be made public at an early stage;
- Duly justified confidential information, certain personal data as well as intellectual property rights will be respected;
- Interested parties will have easy access (e-format) to the studies on EFSA's website.

## 2. MORE RELIABLE, INDEPENDENT STUDIES



### **EFSA will have more access to relevant scientific evidence in requests for authorisation:**

- A register of all studies commissioned by the industry when applying for an authorisation;
- Consultation of stakeholders and the general public on submitted studies;
- For renewals, additional consultation on planned studies;
- Controls, including audits, will be carried out on the compliance of laboratories/studies with standards;
- Commission to ask EFSA, in exceptional circumstances, to carry out own studies for verification purposes.

## 3. BETTER GOVERNANCE



**Members States will contribute more to EFSA's governance and scientific Panels while respecting EFSA's independence, excellent and multi-disciplinary expertise.**

- EFSA's management board composition will include representatives of all Member States;
- Strict independence criteria will be maintained;
- The appointment of experts to EFSA's scientific panels will be made from a pool of nominations put forward by Member States;
- The scientific Panels' work will be better organised.

## 4. EFFECTIVE RISK COMMUNICATION

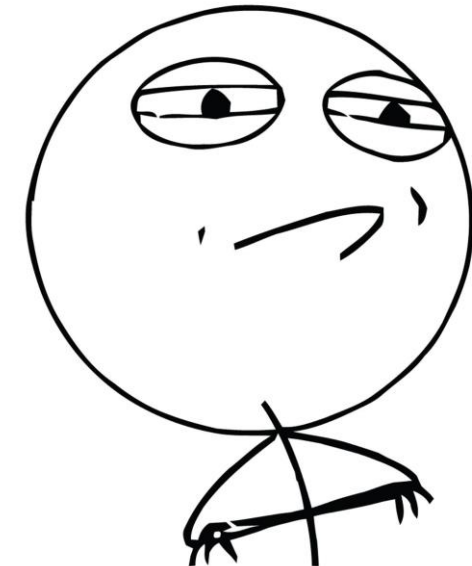


**Improve coordination between risk assessors and risk managers to ensure a better communication to stakeholders and the general public.**

## Main challenges for EFSA

- **Translating** the law into procedures delivering EFSA's new mandate
- **Managing** time-frame and expectations

**CHALLENGE ACCEPTED**



Translate the law into procedures in collaboration with SANTE: data format, processes for data-work-flow, register of studies, transparency, confidentiality...

Prepare implementation (including development of necessary supporting tools)

Start delivering the added value enshrined in the amended 178/2002

2019

2020

2021... and beyond





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