



12<sup>th</sup> November 2020

[http://www.securite-alimentaire.public.lu/point\\_focal/index.html](http://www.securite-alimentaire.public.lu/point_focal/index.html)

## LUXEMBOURGISH EFSA FOCAL POINT NEWSLETTER

# 20-13

### Calls

#### ***Subject: Request for Proposals to support the development a FAO/WHO guidance on Food Defense***

FAO and WHO would like to draw your attention to their joint initiative to develop a guidance on Food Defense. Below is the background information and the link to the expression of interest and request for proposals.

**Background:** The **WHO guidance on Terrorist Threats to Food** was produced in 2002 and slightly updated in 2008 (World Health Organization. (2003). Terrorist threats to food: guidance for establishing and strengthening prevention and response systems. World Health Organization. <https://apps.who.int/iris/handle/10665/42619>). The WHO initiated an update of the guidance in collaboration with the FAO.

**Outcome:** The new guidance will be jointly developed by WHO and FAO as the **FAO/WHO guidance on Food Defense**

**Request for Proposal (RFP):** A RFP is posted on the UNGM website here: <https://www.ungm.org/Public/Notice/114809> with all details inserted in the posted RFP document.

Researchers/academics interested and available to support the new guidance development are invited to submit their proposals by **13 November 2020**.

**Note:** The deadline for the submission of *intention documents* is extended and can be submitted together with the proposal by **13 November 2020**.

**Contacts:** With questions, comments please contact Ceyhun Gungor at [gungorc@who.int](mailto:gungorc@who.int) and [infosan@fao.org](mailto:infosan@fao.org).

#### ***Open Call for Proposals - Selection of Hosting Sites for EU-FORA Programme***

We are happy to inform that the applications to be a **hosting site for the next cycle 2021-2022 of EFSA's European Food Risk Assessment (EU-FORA) Fellowship Programme** are now open.

As you may be aware, the EU-FORA Fellowship is a key initiative for building the EU's scientific assessment capacity and knowledge community and it is aimed at early to mid-career professionals from EU and EFTA countries, giving them the opportunity to widen their knowledge and hands-on

experience in food safety risk assessment. At the hosting sites, they will be fully integrated, participate in the organisation's work, gain first-hand experience, and increase their knowledge of many scientific aspects relevant to food safety risk assessment.

The **deadline** for submission of proposals is **12<sup>th</sup> February 2021**.

Please find more information at the [dedicated web page](#).

For any further questions, do not hesitate to contact the EU\_FORA team at [EU-FORA@efsa.europa.eu](mailto:EU-FORA@efsa.europa.eu)

### ***Ex-ante publicity ECDC call: NP/2020/DPR/13024 Review and evaluation of the public health and animal health aspects of West Nile virus and Usutu virus infection in the European Union | Deadline: 30/11***

We want to draw your attention to a call for offer that ECDC will be launching: “**Review and evaluation of the public health and animal health aspects of West Nile virus and Usutu virus infection in the European Union**”. The project aims at reviewing and evaluating the public health and animal health aspects of West Nile virus and Usutu virus infections in the European Union.

The project encompasses i) the organisation of a stakeholder consultation through a questionnaire survey addressed to the public health authorities, the animal health authorities and the blood safety authorities, ii) the organisation of a multi-sectorial meeting (note: the logistics and the logistical costs will be covered by ECDC), and iii) the writing of an integrated technical guidance on West Nile virus and Usutu virus infections in the European Union.

The team conducting this project should be composed of at least the three following profiles: scientific expert from the public health sector, scientific expert from the animal health/veterinary sector and scientific expert from the blood safety sector.

At this stage, we only request that interested candidates express their interest. We do not need to receive any proposal. **Only candidates who have expressed their interest will receive the request for offer and will be able to apply.**

The maximum amount is 60 000 EUR.

Please note that the time limit express interest is **30 November 2020 -16h00 (local time Sweden)**

**ECDC CALL FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST** : [Review and evaluation of the public health and animal health aspects of West Nile virus and Usutu virus infection in the European Union](#)

### ***Industrial Challenges Open Call***

The Open Call for Industrial Challenges has been launched on the 20<sup>th</sup> of October.

More info here: <https://agrobofood.eu/newsletter7-industrial-challenges-open-call/>

## **Events**

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### ***Save the date - Research in Food Safety 2020 – web-conference***

The « Commissariat du gouvernement à la qualité, à la fraude et à la sécurité alimentaire » as **national Focal point for EFSA** has the pleasure to invite you to the web-conference **Research in Food Safety**.

**Please save the date for the morning of the 18 December 2020.**

More information about the agenda and participation modalities will be published [here](#) soon.

## *Invitation | Horizon Europe Launch - Introducing future R&I opportunities for public and private organisations | 1 December 2020*

[Register here](#)

**Horizon Europe is the biggest and largest proposed Research and Innovation funding programme of the European Union.**

It aims at strengthening the EU's science and technology sectors and competitiveness while tackling major global challenges in vital areas such as climate change, building resilience, achieving sustainable development. Horizon Europe provides the means for the European Union to comfort its position as a world leader in research and innovation.

Building on the experience and on the achievements of Horizon 2020, Horizon Europe offers a broad range of opportunities for Luxembourg public and private R&I actors, but also for the citizens.

### **Horizon Europe – discover the programme and meet Luxembourg National Contact Points**

This event will give you an overview of and practical advices on the Horizon Europe programme.

A dedicated session for newcomers will be organised, complemented with a session for those more experienced in EU funding. Besides high-level speakers from the European Commission and Luxembourg, you will e-meet your national contact points who are there to help guide you further in navigating the opportunities of this programme.

We warmly invite you to the launch event of the Horizon Europe funding programme,

Save the date and stay tuned - the agenda will be published soon.

Contact : NCP Horizon 2020

[T +352 43 62 63](tel:+352436263)

[ncphorizon2020@luxinnovation.lu](mailto:ncphorizon2020@luxinnovation.lu)

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## **Training**

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### ***Webinar: Pest surveys following an outbreak: delimiting and buffer zone surveys | 1 December 2020***

We would like to invite you to participate to the webinar **“Pest surveys following an outbreak: delimiting and buffer zone surveys”**.

The webinar will guide participants through the process of designing delimiting and buffer zone surveys in a statistically sound and risk-based framework.

This is the third webinar on the EFSA toolkit for pest surveillance, and EFSA's contribution to the [International Year of Plant Health](#).

For your information, the webinar is scheduled on **Tuesday 1 December 2020, from 15.00 to 16.00 (CET)** and the registration to attend is open.

**WEBINAR:** [Pest surveys following an outbreak: delimiting and buffer zone surveys](#)

# Publications

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## *VectorNet Newsletter*

We are happy to share with you the latest VectorNet Newsletter, enclosed herewith and published yesterday on [EFSA's website](#).

For any further questions, do not hesitate to contact our colleague at [alpha@efsa.europa.eu](mailto:alpha@efsa.europa.eu)

Please see attached document.

## *EFSA advises on risk assessment of engineered gene drives*

EFSA has published a Scientific Opinion on "[Adequacy and sufficiency evaluation of existing EFSA guidelines for the molecular characterisation, environmental risk assessment and post-market environmental monitoring of genetically modified insects containing engineered gene drives](#)".

It is accompanied by a news story "[EFSA advises on risk assessment of engineered gene drives](#)". It will be available in English, French, German and Italian.

The key messages are:

- EFSA's existing guidelines for the risk assessment of genetically modified animals are adequate for evaluating risks associated with gene drive modified insects. However, further guidance is needed for some areas, such as molecular characterisation, environmental risk assessment and post-market environmental monitoring.
- Current research is looking at deploying engineered gene drives in insect populations, although it will take several years before the use of this technology can be applied in practical, real-life situations.
- To carry out this work, EFSA engaged with stakeholders and scientists at various points in the development of its scientific opinion. A stakeholder workshop in 2019 allowed EFSA to gather views on the subject, and the draft opinion was published for a nine-week public consultation earlier this year.

## *Publication of report on comprehensive salt and iodine consumption study in Latvia*

The Latvian Institute for Food Safety, Animal Health and Environment "BIOR" would like to share information about recently published report on comprehensive salt and iodine consumption study in Latvia. The purpose of the study was to evaluate salt and iodine intake in Latvian adults aged 19 to 64 by evaluating the nutritional data provided by the participants and the laboratorial analysis of 24-hour urine samples. This study was conducted by Institute for Food Safety, Animal Health and Environment "BIOR" (Riga, Latvia) within the framework of the European Social Fund project "Complex health promotion and disease prevention measures" (ID No. 9.2.4.1/16/l/001). Data collection was conducted between November 2018 and February 2020. Link to report, it is in Latvian with summary in English [https://www.bior.lv/sites/default/files/inline-files/P%C4%93t%C4%ABjums%20par%20s%C4%81s%20un%20joda%20pat%C4%93ri%C5%86u%20Latvij%C4%81s%20iedz%C4%ABvot%C4%81ju%20popul%C4%81cij%C4%81\\_0.pdf](https://www.bior.lv/sites/default/files/inline-files/P%C4%93t%C4%ABjums%20par%20s%C4%81s%20un%20joda%20pat%C4%93ri%C5%86u%20Latvij%C4%81s%20iedz%C4%ABvot%C4%81ju%20popul%C4%81cij%C4%81_0.pdf) Link to news in Institute "BIOR" webpage <https://www.bior.lv/lv/par-mums/jaunumi/latvijas-iedzivotaji-uznem-parak-daudz-sals>.

# EFSA Recruitment

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## *New Job Opportunity in EFSA - ISA Scheme*

We would like to inform you that **EFSA has recently published two new calls for its SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL SUPPORT SCHEME.**

EFSA is willing to establish a list of individuals (natural persons) with scientific expertise, to assist in carrying out preparatory work in different areas. The delivered preparatory work will be reviewed by EFSA staff and/or ad hoc experts for its use in EFSA scientific outputs.

For your information the eligibility criteria are indicated in the call. In particular, applicants must be citizens of a Member State of the European Union (EU), or of a country of the European Free Trade Association (EFTA) or of an EU Candidate country. Experts from third countries may also apply, and will be considered, if the required level of expertise may not be found among nationals of EU, EFTA or EU Candidate countries.

If you are interested in contributing to the future of science and play a role in EFSA's readiness for the future, **make sure you consider these opportunities and/or spread the word within your network.**

For any further questions, kindly contact us at [recruitment@efsa.europa.eu](mailto:recruitment@efsa.europa.eu).

**EFSA Professional Opportunity:** [Notice of call for expressions of interest – Scientific and Technical support – Various Scientific Profiles \(on-going call, no deadline for applications\)](#)

[Notice of call for expressions of interest – Novel Foods & Nutrient Sources \(on-going call, no deadline for applications\)](#)

## *New Job Opportunity in EFSA - Seconded National Experts*

We would like to inform you that **EFSA has recently published a new call for Seconded National Experts.**

EFSA is looking for qualified civil servants wanting to apply their skills and knowledge in the agency for a minimum period of one year, while gaining valuable experience that they could bring back to their home organisations at the end of their secondment.

If you are interested in contributing to the future of science and play a role in EFSA's readiness for the future, **make sure you consider these opportunities and/or spread the word within your network.**

For any further questions, kindly contact EFSA Talent Selection Team at [recruitment@efsa.europa.eu](mailto:recruitment@efsa.europa.eu).

**EFSA Professional Opportunity :** [EFSA Seconded National Experts \(on-going call with no deadline for submitting applications\)](#)