



10<sup>th</sup> April 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

**20-5**

### Calls for tenders and proposals

#### *Call for proposals - GP/EFSA/ENCO/2020/03 – Partnering grants*

We would like to inform you that EFSA has launched its latest **call for partnering grant proposals from EU Member State organisations operating across the Authority's remit.**

The proposals should aim to:

- Promote the transfer/exchange of knowledge in priority areas of work for EFSA (as laid down in its [workplans](#)).
- Build capacity to implement/promote use of EFSA's guidance documents and risk assessment practices, ensuring that both scientific and procedural aspects of EFSA's scientific workflow are used more widely at EU level.

Eligible consortia of applicants from the [list of competent organisations](#) designated by Member States are welcome to submit their proposals by **24 July 2020**.

NEWS : [New grant opportunity: capacity building](#)

PARTNERING GRANTS : [GP/EFSA/ENCO/2020/03](#)

#### *EFSA tender - OC/EFSA/ALPHA/2020/02 - Epidemiological expertise to support topics related to Regulation (EU) 2016/429 or Animal Health Law*

We would like to inform you that EFSA has launched the **call for Epidemiological Expertise to Support Topics Related to Regulation (EU) 2016/429 or Animal Health Law** and that it is available on OJ and EFSA web site.

This tender is divided into two lots:

- Lot 1: Review of existing literature and other sources of relevant data in the field of antimicrobial resistance (AMR), with a further literature review focused on the selected AMR bacteria;

- Lot 2: Assessment of preparedness, control, eradication and mitigation measures, to include a review of relevant literature, available data and/or any other source of information for listed diseases and their plausible further analysis.

The deadline for this tender is **12 May 2020 (14.30 CET)**.

EFSA TENDER REFERENCE: [OC/EFSA/ALPHA/2020/02](#)

EU TED WEBSITE : [Epidemiological Expertise to Support Topics Related to Regulation \(EU\) 2016/429 or Animal Health Law](#)

### ***Extended deadline: EFSA tasking grant (plant health) - Call for proposals - Framework Art.36 of Reg. (EC) 178/2002***

The following Call for Proposals (grant) is published on the EFSA website:

Call for proposals reference: GP/EFSA/ALPHA/2020/01 - **Entrusting support tasks in the area of Plant health Commodity risk assessment for High Risk Plants (plants for planting for ornamental purpose)**

Link to the **call documents**:

<http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/art36grants/article36/gpefsaalp202001-entrusting-support-tasks-area-plant-health>

The new extended deadline for submission of proposals is Friday **29<sup>th</sup> May 2020**.

This call for proposals aims to identify organisations for which tasks falling within the **plant health mission** of the Animal & Plant Health unit can be entrusted by EFSA. In particular, these tasks regard the commodity risk assessment and/or assessment of commodity treatments for the evaluation of the technical dossiers sent by Third Countries for High Risk Plants.

## **Public Consultations**

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### ***2 public consultations on synthetic biology***

EFSA has just launched two public consultations on synthetic biology:

- Public consultation on draft scientific opinion on Evaluation of existing guidelines for their adequacy for the [molecular characterisation and environmental risk assessment of genetically modified plants](#) obtained through synthetic biology
- Public consultation on draft scientific opinion on Evaluation of existing guidelines for their adequacy for the [microbial characterisation and environmental risk assessment of micro-organisms](#) obtained through synthetic biology

The deadline for submitting comments is: **26 May 2020 at 23:00**. EFSA would appreciate if you could share this information with your contacts.

Find more information on synthetic biology here:

- Editorial: [Advances in genetic engineering](#) – EFSA's public consultations in 2020
- Topic "[New advances in biotechnology](#)" on EFSA website

- Two recently published external reports that support the work on synthetic biology:
  - [Mapping of plant SynBio developments in the agri-food sector](#)
  - [Horizon Scan of Synthetic Biology Developments for Microorganisms with application in the Agri-Food Sector](#)

## Events

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### ***CONFERENCE POSTPONED: Modern technologies to enable response to crises: Next Generation Sequencing to tackle food-borne diseases in the EU | Sept 25, 2020***

Due to the COVID emergency, the conference in subject has been postponed to **Sept 25, 2020**, which seems a reasonable lapse of time for the backlashes of this crisis to be over and now [we have re-opened the link for the online registration](#).

The organisers are aware that the actual necessity of keeping people apart led to cancellation of many events and that this will cause the second half of the year 2020 to be packed with conferences and physical meetings here and there, but at the same time they think that if we have learnt something from the pandemic is that the only winning strategy is preparedness and that this can only be achieved in peace times rather than being forced to make decisions under the pressure of an ongoing crisis.

## Training

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### ***Webinar - Sharing data with EFSA: a simple guide / Wed. 29 Apr. at 10.30 (CET)***

We would like to inform you as the contact person in the fields of contaminants or additives that EFSA is organising a webinar on **Sharing data with EFSA** that will guide data providers through the process of compiling and transmitting data to EFSA.

**The webinar** is scheduled on Wednesday **29<sup>th</sup> April 2020** from **10:30** o'clock in duration of one hour.

More information incl. draft [agenda](#) and [online registration](#) are available at this EFSA webpage: <https://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/events/event/webinar-sharing-data-efsa-simple-guide>.

### ***Webinar for INFOSAN members on 14 April 2020 - COVID-19 and food safety: Challenges faced by food safety authorities during this pandemic***

Please join us for a webinar on **14 April 2020 at 12:30 CEST** to discuss COVID-19 and food safety: Challenges faced by food safety authorities during this pandemic. Please check the time in your time zone.

The webinar will run for about one hour and will be structured as follows:

1. Epidemiological update and introduction - Dr Peter Ben Embarek, Food Safety Expert and Unit Head in WHO, INFOSAN Secretariat.

2. Challenges faced by food safety authorities during this pandemic - Professor Alan Reilly, University College Dublin, INFOSAN Advisory Group member, Former CEO of the Food Safety Authority of Ireland.
3. Discussion and Q&A with INFOSAN members.

To connect, simply follow this WebEx link approximately 5-10 minutes prior to the start time:  
<https://who-meeting.webex.com/who-meeting/j.php?MTID=m209c4c7541a8b8c53b3d2a5cc3d233b1>

If prompted, the following details may need to be entered - meeting number: 849 369 611 - password: kPmaetAD573

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## Publications

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### ***ANSES opinions released in English on the work on Dietary guidelines for specific populations: pregnant and lactating women, children, elderly and infants***

Please find below the ANSES opinions released in English on the work on Dietary guidelines for specific populations: pregnant and lactating women, children, elderly and infants, for which the Focal Point network had been solicited in 2017 (see request attached):

<https://www.anses.fr/en/system/files/NUT2017SA0141EN.pdf>

<https://www.anses.fr/en/system/files/NUT2017SA0142EN.pdf>

<https://www.anses.fr/en/system/files/NUT2017SA0143EN.pdf>

<https://www.anses.fr/en/system/files/NUT2017SA0145EN.pdf>

### ***New EU report on pesticide residues in food***

We are pleased to inform you that EFSA has just published the **European Union report on pesticide residues in food** which now also includes data from 2018.

On the EFSA website you can find some dashboards visualising selected data.

The dashboards are simple and intuitive, allowing you to visualise the number samples in single countries, per food group, number of quantified residues per sample, and so on, by simply clicking on them.

REPORT: [The 2018 European Union report on pesticide residues in food](#)

DATA DASHBOARD: [The 2018 European Union Report on pesticide residues - the EU-coordinated programme results](#)

Securite-alimentaire.lu: [https://securite-alimentaire.public.lu/fr/point\\_focal/Publications-EFSA/publications/2020/Rapport-EFSA-residus-pesticides-2018.html](https://securite-alimentaire.public.lu/fr/point_focal/Publications-EFSA/publications/2020/Rapport-EFSA-residus-pesticides-2018.html)

## ***Veterinary drug residues in animals and food***

We are pleased to inform you that EFSA has published the **report on veterinary residues in food and animals**.

The report summarises monitoring data collected in 2018.

The data show high rates of compliance with recommended safety levels in the European Union.

NEWS: [Veterinary drug residues in animals and food: compliance with safety levels still high](#)

REPORT: [Report for 2018 on the results from the monitoring of veterinary medicinal product residues and other substances in live animals and animal products](#)

## ***ANSES opinion released in English on the safety of use of berberine-containing plants in the composition of food***

Please find attached to the email, the ANSES opinion released in English on the safety of use of berberine-containing plants in the composition of food supplements, for which the Focal Point network had been solicited in 2018 (see request attached, "Plants in Food Supplements")

*Happy Easter!*