



29<sup>th</sup> October 2021

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## LUXEMBOURGISH EFSA FOCAL POINT NEWSLETTER

# 21-12

### Calls

#### *Call for data on intake of selected vitamins and minerals from national reports and Total Diet Studies | NEW DL 14/11/2021*

In the context of its ongoing mandates on the **revision of tolerable upper intake levels for selected vitamins and minerals (M-2020-0158; M-2021-00058)**, we would like to inform you that EFSA is in the process of gathering from Member States **reports of published nationally-representative consumption surveys and total diet studies** providing data on the intake of:

- [selenium](#),
- [manganese](#),
- [iron](#),
- [vitamin E \(α-tocopherol in particular\)](#),
- [retinol](#),
- [b-carotene](#),
- [vitamin B6](#),
- [vitamin D](#),
- [folic acid/folate](#)

EFSA is interested in collecting data on:

- i) total intake from all sources,
- ii) intake from background diet,
- iii) intake from fortified foods,
- iv) intake from food supplements

We therefore seek your valuable support in liaising with your Competent Authority and relevant experts for the collection and reporting of the requested national data.

We would be grateful if you could send the requested data by e-mail to [nda\\_callfordata@efsa.europa.eu](mailto:nda_callfordata@efsa.europa.eu) by **14 November 2021**.

Please be informed that no restriction applies regarding the language of the report. However, should data be provided in a national language, a summary translated in English is requested.

## ***Open call for tenders to develop two roadmaps for actions on Insect Pollinators and Omics and Bioinformatics | Deadline: 18th January 2022***

We would like to inform you that EFSA has just published an [open call for tenders](#) (OC/EFSA/ED/2021/1 - [link](#)) consisting of two lots, for the **development of two roadmaps for action** on:

- Lot 1: Advancing the Environmental Risk Assessment of Chemicals for Insect Pollinators ([Link](#))
- Lot 2: Applying OMICS and Bioinformatics Approaches: Towards Next Generation Risk Assessment ([Link](#))

The call is now open until 18 January 2022 at 14.30hrs (CET) and has a maximum budget for financial offers of EUR 500.000 per lot (i.e., per roadmap).

### **Background:**

The overall purpose of this tender is to deliver roadmaps for action and provide recommendations for future multi-annual, multi-partner studies or projects for each lot building on EFSA's vision and supporting EFSA's preparedness for future risk assessment requirements and help to prevent possible divergence on sensitive matters. EFSA prioritised these 2 scientific themes for 2022 in line with EFSA's 2027 strategy.

The main objective of:

- the roadmap for action for insect pollinators (lot 1) is: to identify recent relevant research and risk assessment developments that might need consideration when conducting environmental risk assessments (ERAs) of chemical pesticides for insect pollinators. The roadmap also has to identify relevant ERA development needs for insect pollinators that require additional research input. This information must be relevant for consolidating, updating and harmonising methodologies for the ERA of chemical pesticides for insect pollinators, and for developing and implementing a systems-based approach for the ERA for insect pollinators.
- the roadmap for action for omics/bioinformatic approaches (lot 2) is: to define EFSA priorities for the wide integration of OMICS and associated bioinformatics approaches in food regulatory science (by 2030) to support the transition into next generation risk assessment. Advancing in this theme will also promote the implementation of the EFSA 2021-2027 strategy.

In case of questions, please contact us at [EFSAprocurement@efsa.europa.eu](mailto:EFSAprocurement@efsa.europa.eu).

## ***Prior information notice (PIN) of EFSA open call for tenders on 'Microbiological Hazards Associated with the Use of Water in the Post-Harvest Handling and Processing Operations of fffVHs'***

We are pleased to inform you about the EFSA forthcoming open call for tenders OC/EFSA/BIOCONTAM/2021/02 on "**Microbiological Hazards Associated with the Use of Water in the Post-Harvest Handling and Processing Operations of Fresh and Frozen Fruits, Vegetables and Herbs (fffVHs)**".

The main objective of this procurement call (tender) will be to gain insights on the characteristics of the water and practices followed by the industry to maintain water quality used during the post-harvest handling and processing operations for fffVHs.

The call for tender will be launched by EFSA very soon: **the estimated date for publication of the contract notice is the second half of October 2021** and the **estimated total value max. 500.000,00 EUR**.

**The link to the EFSA webpage of the notice with more information on its scope:**

OC/EFSA/BIOCONTAM/2021/02 on “Microbiological Hazards Associated with the Use of Water in the Post-Harvest Handling and Processing Operations of Fresh and Frozen Fruits, Vegetables and Herbs (ffVHs)”

[Official Journal - Pre-information notice \(PIN\)](#)

[EFSA website under upcoming tenders](#)

## ***EFSA open call for tenders: Development of Roadmaps for Action (insect pollinators and omics) | Deadline: 18/01/2022***

We are pleased to inform you that EFSA launched a call for tenders on ‘**Development of Roadmaps for Action**’ ref. OC/EFSA/ED/2021/01 on two topics:

- **Lot 1: Advancing the Environmental Risk Assessment of Chemicals for Insect Pollinators**

The main objective of the roadmap for action for this lot is: to identify recent relevant research and risk assessment developments that might need consideration when conducting environmental risk assessments (ERAs) of chemical pesticides for insect pollinators. The roadmap also has to identify relevant ERA development needs for insect pollinators that require additional research input. This information must be relevant for consolidating, updating and harmonising methodologies for the ERA of chemical pesticides for insect pollinators, and for developing and implementing a systems-based approach for the ERA for insect pollinators.

- **Lot 2: Applying OMICS and Bioinformatics Approaches: Towards Next Generation Risk Assessment**

The main objective of the roadmap for action for this lot is: to define EFSA priorities for the wide integration of OMICS and associated bioinformatics approaches in food regulatory science (by 2030) to support the transition into next generation risk assessment. Advancing in this theme will also promote the implementation of the EFSA 2021-2027 strategy.

This call for tenders aims at concluding two direct contracts (one under each lot) to deliver roadmaps for action which provide recommendations for future multi-annual and multi partner studies or projects building on EFSA’s vision, and supporting EFSA’s preparedness for future risk assessment requirements and prevent possible divergence on sensitive matters. EFSA prioritised these two scientific

Please note that the deadline for receipt of tenders is : **18 January 2022,**

it has a maximum budget of EUR1.000.000 (EUR 500,000 per lot) and a duration of 8 months.

**In case of any queries related to this Call, please do not hesitate to address them to [EFSAProcurement@efsa.europa.eu](mailto:EFSAProcurement@efsa.europa.eu) by indicating the Call reference.**

**[Call for tenders : OC/EFSA/ED/2021/01 - Development of Roadmaps for Action on: \(a\) Advancing the Environmental Risk Assessment of Chemicals for Insect Pollinators; \(b\) Applying OMICS and Bioinformatics Approaches](#)**

**List of ongoing tenders : [OC/EFSA/ED/2021/01](#)**

**Social Media coverage: [LinkedIn](#)**

## ***Call for proposals reference: GP/EFSA/ALPHA/2021/09 – Survival of African swine fever virus in feed, bedding materials and mechanical vectors and their potential role in virus transmission | Deadline: 17 December 2021***

The following Call for Proposals (grant) has been published at the EFSA website today:

Call for proposals reference: GP/EFSA/ALPHA/2021/09 – **Survival of African swine fever virus in feed, bedding materials and mechanical vectors and their potential role in virus transmission**

Link to the **call documents**:

<https://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/art36grants/article36/gpefsaalp202109-survival-african-swine-fever-virus-feed-bedding-materials>

The deadline for submission of proposals is Friday **17<sup>th</sup> December 2021**.

This grant is financed based on achievements of results under two main objectives:

Objective 1: Assess the duration of ASFV survival in feed and bedding material (plant-based material)

Objective 2: Assess the role of mechanical vectors in ASFV transmission requiring the well described proposed methodology, clear project management by tasks and feasibility considerations.

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## **Public Consultations**

### ***EFSA Public Consultation on the Assessment Report on the active substance Glyphosate | Deadline: 22 November 2021***

EFSA has launched a **public consultation** on the **Assessment Report on the active substance Glyphosate**; a parallel consultation on the Harmonised Classification and Labelling report is ongoing on the European Chemicals Agency (ECHA) website.

Interested parties are encouraged to contribute by **22<sup>nd</sup> November 2021**.

You can read in brief some details and objectives in a [news story](#) on the EFSA website; for more information and to provide your **written feedback**, please consult the dedicated EFSA page at the following link:

<https://connect.efsa.europa.eu/RM/s/publicconsultation2/a011v0000E7RMa/pc0086>.

Comments related to the Harmonised Classification and Labelling (CLH) report should be submitted directly to ECHA [following this link](#).

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## **Publications**

### ***Rapid Outbreak Assessment "Multi-country outbreak of multiple Salmonella enterica linked to imported sesame-based products"***

EFSA would like to flag you a news in brief about the reported salmonellosis infections linked to the consumption of sesame-based products.

For your information a joint ECDC-EFSA rapid outbreak assessment was published and a pre-notification was sent to the Advisory Forum.

**NEWS: [Salmonellosis outbreak linked to imported sesame-based products](#)**

**RAPID OUTBREAK ASSESSMENT : [Multi-country outbreak of multiple Salmonella enterica serotypes linked to imported sesame-based products](#)**

## ***EFSA Scientific Committee Opinion on the impact of non-monotonic dose responses on EFSA's human health risk assessments***

EFSA published a **scientific opinion on the impact of non-monotonic dose responses on EFSA's human health risk assessments**.

This Opinion assesses the biological relevance of the non-monotonic dose responses (NMDR) identified in a previous EFSA External Report and the follow-up probabilistic assessment. The Opinion proposes an approach to be applied during the risk assessment process when apparent non-monotonicity is observed, also providing advice on specific elements to be considered to facilitate the assessment of NMDR in EFSA risk assessments.

The opinion was finalised following an open public consultation, which is documented in an accompanying technical report.

**SCIENTIFIC OPINION : [Opinion on the impact of non-monotonic dose responses on EFSA's human health risk assessments](#)**

**TECHNICAL REPORT : [Outcome of the public consultation on the draft EFSA Opinion on the impact of non-monotonic dose responses on EFSA's human health risk assessments](#)**

## ***Publication of a Scientific Guidance for the submission of dossiers on Food Enzymes***

We are pleased to inform you that the EFSA Scientific Panel of Food Contact Material, Enzymes, Flavourings and Processing Aids (CEF) adopted a **Scientific Guidance for the submission of dossiers on Food Enzymes**, a milestone which was possible mostly thanks to the support and the contribution received from the partnership with Member States.

On behalf of the EFSA CEP Panel, we express our gratitude for such a relevant achievement.

This guidance describes the scientific data to be included in applications for the authorisation of food enzymes, as well as for the extension of use for existing authorisations, in accordance with Regulation (EC) No 1331/2008 and its implementing rules.

### **PUBLICATIONS**

**[Outcome of the public consultation and other activities to update the scientific guidance for the submission of dossiers on food enzymes](#)**

**[Scientific Guidance for the submission of dossiers on Food Enzymes](#)**

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## **Recruitment**

### ***Werner Baltes Fellowship at the BfR | Deadline: 1/12/2021***

The BfR (Bundesinstitute für Risikoanalyse) is happy to announce that the application for the Werner Baltes Fellowship at the BfR is now open.

Within the scope of the Werner Baltes Fellowship, ten qualified and committed young scientists from the new EU member states and non-European countries are given the opportunity of a three-month stay as guests of the BfR. Through this support, the fellows are able to gain an insight into the diverse

tasks of the BfR in the field of consumer health protection and are encouraged to acquire further qualifications at the Institute at the same time.

More information can be found here and in the attached document.

[https://www.bfr.bund.de/en/werner\\_baltes\\_fellowship-239856.html](https://www.bfr.bund.de/en/werner_baltes_fellowship-239856.html)

## ***New job opportunity in EFSA: 2 Scientific Officers | Deadline: 6 & 30 November 2021***

We would like to inform you that **EFSA has recently published two new staff positions for application.**

These two positions are:

- **Scientific Officer – Animal Nutrition and Production**
- **Scientific Officer – Various Profiles**

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.**

Please find at the bottom of this email the direct links to the vacancies in EFSA.

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

### **EFSA Professional Opportunities**

[Scientific Officer – Animal Nutrition and Production](#) – Deadline to apply: 09/11/2021

[Scientific Officer – Various Profiles](#) - Deadline to apply: 30/11/2021