



30th December 2022

http://www.securite-alimentaire.public.lu/point_focal/index.html

LUXEMBOURGISH EFSA FOCAL POINT NEWSLETTER

22-12

Calls

New deadline: Support to EFSA in the Risk Assessment of Food Enzymes, Food Additives, Food Flavourings and Feed Additives | deadline: 31/01/2023

The following Call for Proposal (grant) has been further extended, as published on the EFSA website:

Call reference GP/EFSA/FIP/2022/01: **Support to EFSA in the Risk Assessment of Food Enzymes, Food Additives, Food Flavourings and Feed Additives**

Link to the **call documents**: <https://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/art36grants/article36/gpefsafip202201-support-efsa-risk-assessment-food-enzymes-food-additives-food>. **Note the recently published clarifications and corrigenda.**

The **new** deadline for submission of proposals is **Tuesday 31st January 2023** (12:30 CET).

To pursue stronger engagement of the Member States competent organisations active in the core tasks of EFSA, this open grant call has eight lots - covering various competence area commonly applicable to these four regulatory domains: **food enzyme, food additives, food flavourings and feed additives**. This call for proposals, is in a new type of grant based on achievements of results/deliverables supporting EFSA directly in its mission. You can find more details on the objectives and tasks description in the call documents (ref. the link above).

Proposals can be submitted **by one** eligible organisation or **by consortia** of eligible organisations for **one or more lots**.

Calls for Proposals (grants) on plant health | deadline: 27/1 and 2/3/2023

The following two Calls for Proposals (grants) are still open and available on the EFSA website:

- (1) Call reference: GP/EFSA/PLANTS/2022/09 - **Estimation of pest survey parameters for Priority pests**

Link to the **call documents**:

<https://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/art36grants/article36/gpefsaplants202209-estimation-pest-survey-parameters-priority-pests>

The deadline for submission of proposals is **Friday 27th January 2023**.

The objective of this call is to estimate the Method Sensitivity, Relative Risk and Design Prevalence for designing surveys for priority pests in the following two lots:

- Lot 1. Preparation of experimental and statistical protocols to quantify key survey parameters
- Lot 2. Collection of evidence in preparation of Expert knowledge Elicitation (EKE) to quantify key survey parameters.

You may submit a proposal for one or both lots. In case you decide to apply for both lots, a separate proposal for each lot must be provided.

- (2) Call reference: GP/EFSA/PLANTS/2022/10 - **Development of crop-based survey tools for plants pests of fruit-bearing vegetables (Lot 1), cereals and fibre crops (Lot 2), grape, berries and exotic fruits (Lot 3), palms and ornamentals (Lot 4) in the EU**

Link to the **call documents**:

<https://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/art36grants/article36/gpefsaplants202210-development-crop-based-survey-tools-plants-pests-fruit>.

The deadline for submission of proposals is **Thursday 2nd March 2023**.

The main objective of this call for proposal is to identify organisations to support EFSA in the development of tools to support the MSs in the planning and preparation of crop-based surveys of regulated pests in line with the EU regulation in force⁸. In particular, EFSA wishes to identify partner organisations for characterizing crops affected by regulated pests and preparing plant pests technical reports (i.e. EFSA Pest Survey Cards) in the following three lots:

- Lot 1: for fruit-bearing vegetables
- Lot 2: for cereals and fibre crops
- Lot 3: for grape, berries and exotic fruits
- Lot 4: for palms and ornamentals.

You may submit a proposal for one or more lots. In case you decide to apply for more lots, a separate proposal for each lot must be provided.

Reminder: Call for experts or the Workshop on EFSA's updated Guidance on the use of the benchmark dose approach in risk assessment - 15-16 February – Brussels | deadline: 5/1/2023

The event takes place in the afternoon of 15 February and in the morning of 16 February in Brussels, and is divided in two parts:

1. Presentation of the new guidance, changes to the previous version, and EFSA's recommended approach for BMD analysis.
2. Illustration of the new approach, using the EFSA BMD analysis platform with pesticides-related case studies.

If interested please contact us via focal.point@alva.etat.lu by **5 January 2023**.

For more information please visit the [EFSA website](https://www.efsa.europa.eu).

OC/EFSA/MESE/2022/05 - Support Services for Expert Knowledge Elicitation - Information on the launched call | deadline 8/2/2023

EFSA are pleased to let you know that the call for tender **OC/EFSA/MESE/2022/05- Support Services for Expert Knowledge Elicitation** has been launched on 29/11 on [EFSA website](#).

The contract resulting from this procurement procedure aims to provide support services for the phases of expert knowledge elicitation as input into EFSA outputs using EFSA's expert knowledge elicitation methods, but also any other EKE method with a defined protocol, depending on the specific request, the type of question, the available resources (e.g. time, staff involvement, etc.) and number of elicited experts in specific EFSA areas like chemical risk assessment; microbial risk assessment; environmental risk assessment; human nutrition; animal health and welfare risk assessment; plant health risk assessment.

The deadline for tender submissions is on **08/02/2023**.

Events

Pre-announcement of EFSA's Scientific Colloquium 27 "Cell culture-derived foods and food ingredients"

EFSA would like to inform you that the pre-announcement for EFSA's Scientific Colloquium 27 "Cell culture-derived foods and food ingredients" has been published here on EFSA website: <https://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/events/efsas-scientific-colloquium-27-cell-culture-derived-foods-and-food-ingredients>

Registration for this event will open in February 2023.

Publications

Quarterly report on Avian Influenza now published on EFSA Website

EFSA just published the [Avian influenza overview September – December 2022](#) on the website.

Please find also [here](#) and below the news-in-brief accompanying the publication of the report and [new interactive dashboard](#) published by EFSA today.

Avian influenza cases in poultry and water birds on the rise

Highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI) cases recorded in Europe among poultry and water birds have risen since the summer according to the latest report by EFSA, the European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control (ECDC), and the EU reference laboratory (EURL).

While the number of HPAI virus detections in sea bird breeding colonies came down since the previous reporting period (June to September 2022), the number of cases in water birds and poultry has increased. The rise in the number of outbreaks in poultry since the summer is suspected to be linked to the spread of the virus via water birds. Detailed information on the number and evolution of cases can be found in a new interactive [dashboard](#) published by EFSA today.

The ongoing HPAI epidemic is the largest ever observed in Europe. In the first year of the epidemic, which ran from October 2021 to September 2022, a total of 2,520 outbreaks in poultry, 227 in captive birds, and 3,867 detections in wild birds were notified in 37 European countries. Some 50 million birds were culled in affected farms. The unusual persistence of HPAI in wild birds and poultry throughout

the summer of 2022 means that for the first time there was no clear separation between the end of the first year of the epidemic and the beginning of this year's HPAI season, which began in October 2022.

ECDC, which also contributed to the report, concluded that the risk of infection is low for the general human population in the EU/EEA, and low to medium for occupationally exposed people.

Following [a request by the European Commission](#), EFSA is currently assessing the availability of vaccines against HPAI for poultry and considering potential vaccination strategies. The outcome of this work, to which the European Medicines Agency (EMA) and EURL are also contributing, will be available in the second half of 2023.

EU One Health Zoonoses Report

EFSA has published the latest [European Union One Health Zoonoses Report](#) and it's accompanied by a [news story](#) "Zoonotic diseases and foodborne outbreaks on the rise, but still below pre-pandemic levels".

In brief:

- In 2021 there was an overall increase in reported cases of *zoonotic* diseases and foodborne outbreaks compared to the previous year, but levels are still well below those of the *pre-pandemic* years, reveals the latest annual EU One Health zoonosis report released by EFSA and ECDC.
- The general drop compared to pre-pandemic years in reported cases and outbreaks is probably linked to COVID-19 control measures, which were still in place in 2021.
- Most foodborne outbreaks were caused by *Salmonella*, which accounted for 19.3% of the total. Foodborne outbreaks differ from overall reported disease cases in that they are events in which at least two people contract the same illness from the same contaminated food.
- The report also covers overall reported zoonotic disease cases, which are not necessarily linked to outbreaks. Campylobacteriosis remains the most frequently reported zoonosis.

EFSA Recruitment

Budget and Resources Officer | deadline: 24/1/2023

he **European Food Safety Authority (EFSA)**, based in Parma, Italy, is looking for a **Budget and Resources Officer** (Temporary Agent, Grade AD7).

Please send us your application by no later than **24 January 2023 at 23:59** (local time), following the instructions in the [ANNEX](#).

The purpose of this call is to establish a talent pool (reserve list) that may be used for the recruitment of staff when a position becomes available and will be valid until **31/12/2024**. The validity of the talent pool may be extended.

Other

Expert Survey on the derivation of conversion factors for new sources and forms of nutrients | deadline: 20/1/2023

EFSA would like to invite you to disseminate information to relevant institutions/experts on ongoing **EFSA Expert Survey on the derivation of conversion factors for new sources and forms of nutrients**. Survey is stemming from the European Commission request to EFSA to update its “Guidance on safety evaluation of sources of nutrients and bioavailability of nutrient from the sources” regarding the scientific principles and data requirements for applicants.

To this end, EFSA has decided to follow a two-step approach to inform the update of its Guidance:

1. Conduct an Expert Survey and invite stakeholders and scientific experts in the field to provide scientific input on key points to consider for derivation of conversion factors,
2. Hold a follow-up workshop with scientific experts and representatives of bodies in charge of setting conversion factors for new sources and forms of nutrients to exchange views on the principles and data requirements in this scientific field.

The link to the survey and information on the background and on how to complete it are available [here](#).

Before experts are answering the Expert Survey, EFSA recommend reading carefully the [Guide to Expert Survey on the derivation of conversion factors for new sources and forms of nutrients](#). The document outlines the background, existing scientific principles, methodologies and data requirements.

Stakeholders and scientific experts are invited to submit scientific input via an [online Survey until 20 January 2023](#).