



28 November 2024

[Luxembourgish EFSA Focal Point](#)

LUXEMBOURGISH EFSA FOCAL POINT NEWSLETTER

24-12

Calls

Call for Proposals EUBA-EFSA-2024-FEEDCO-01 on "Role of nitrate/nitrite and of processing and storage in the N-nitrosamine formation in certain foods" | deadline 18.12.2024

Background: N-nitrosamines are genotoxic and carcinogenic compounds occurring in food. Their formation has been linked to the presence of nitrates and nitrites in food, mainly in processed food products. The EFSA's evaluations indicated the need of further studies on the levels of N-nitrosamines formed in different processed meat products with known ingoing amounts of nitrates/nitrites added and in foods other than processed meat as well as in all products when cooked in different ways (CONTAM Panel, 2023).

Objectives: This call for proposals seeks to investigate possible correlations between nitrates/nitrites and nitrosamines, and the role of cooking and storage on nitrosamine formation.

Budget: The Call aims to conclude a Direct Agreement with maximum duration of 30 months, and a total EFSA contribution of EUR 750,000.

Eligibility: Only the competent organisations designated by the Member States are eligible to apply.

New deadline for submission of proposals: **18 December 2024, 17:00 CET.**

For more details on objectives, tasks, deliverables and timing, please consult the call for proposal document. There are slight changes regarding the possibility of subcontracting for some subtasks (information available from page 8 to 11 of the call for proposals)

[Apply here](#)

Call for Proposals EUBA-EFSA-NIF-2024-01 on "Contribution to the Risk Assessment of Novel Foods and Nutrient Sources in the EU" | deadline 22.01.2025

Objectives:

With this Call for Proposals, EFSA has launched a new opportunity to involve competent organisations in the assessment of Novel Food (NF) dossiers submitted to EFSA under Regulation (EU) 2015/2283 and the preparation of scientific opinions (specific sections or in full) for the NF regulatory domain.

The objective of this call is to identify and award up to three Framework Partnership Agreements to MS competent organisations or consortia that can provide all the needed capacity and expertise to cover the assessment of entire NF technical dossiers (i.e. expertise in chemistry, microbiology, biotechnology, food technology, nutrition, ADME, exposure and toxicology). Parties interested in participating but with capacity only some of the needed fields are advised to consider **applying in consortium** with other competent organisation(s).

Framework Partnership Agreements will have a duration of 4 years, and a total financial envelope of EUR 3,500,000.

For more details on objectives, tasks, deliverables, and timing - with examples also demonstrating the calculation of the EFSA grant per assigned task, please consult the call for proposal document (at the link above).

New deadline for submission of proposals: **22 January 2025, 17:00 CET**

[Apply here](#)

Call for tenders: Preparatory activities for EU Menu 2 EFSA/2024/OP/0014 | deadline 28.01.2025

Objectives: The specific objectives are as follows and can be addressed independently from one another. Nevertheless, the methodological coherence should be ensured between the four objectives:

1. Proposal for FoodEx2 simplification and compendium of facets,
2. Proposal for a Central Food Propensity Questionnaire,
3. Software specifications and protocol proposal for self-administered dietary assessment,
4. Proposal (final report) for EU Menu Guidance amendments (for the areas of the 3 objectives)

Budget: The maximum budget EFSA has available is 300,000 EUR for a 12-month maximum project duration.

Deadline for submission of proposals: **28 January 2025, 16:00 CET**.

[Apply here](#)

Call for Proposals EUBA-EFSA-2024-PLANTS-04: Support for the revision of the guidance on terrestrial ecotoxicology including the development of an approach for indirect effects. | deadline 30.01.2025

Objectives: The objective of the call is to identify partners among Competent Organisations of Art. 36 of Regulation (EC) No 178/2002 which can support the EFSA Working Group in addressing the mandate on the revision of Terrestrial Ecotoxicology Guidance Document (SANCO/10329/2002) for plant protection products and the mandate for developing an approach to assess potential indirect effects of pesticides on biodiversity via trophic interactions under agro-environmental conditions in the context of the Regulation (EC) No 1107/2009.

Eligibility: For this call eligible Art.36 list organisations need to be also designated as a competent Authority by a Member State to carry out the obligations of the Member States in application of article 75 of Regulations (EC) No 1107/2009 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 21 October 2009, or acting on behalf of such competent Authority through an official contract or agreement.

Budget: The maximum budget EFSA has available is € 1,000,000 (one Framework Partnership Agreement of max. 4 years, to be implemented via Specific Agreements of typically 24 months - detailing tasks, methodological approaches, deliverables and timelines).

Deadline for submission of proposals: **30 January 2025, 17:00 CET**

[Apply here](#)

Call for Proposals EUBA-EFSA-2024-ENREL-01 on Selection of hosting sites and fellows for EFSA's European Food Risk Assessment Fellowship (EU-FORA) Programme | deadline 20.03.2025

Objectives: The call seeks to identify consortia of hosting sites and fellow sending organisations, both of which must be competent organisations under Article 36 of the Regulation (EC) 178/2002, EFSA's Founding Regulation. The sending organisation will propose a fellow to be trained under a work programme offered by the other consortium partner, who will act as hosting site and will be responsible for the training of the fellow. Hosting sites (consortia leaders) are expected to have a strong capacity and broad experience in one or more activities relevant to food safety risk assessment.

The focus of the EU-FORA fellowship programme will be targeted to activities falling within EFSA's remit.

Please see in the attached file the EU-FORA Call 2024 main features in brief.

Budget: The maximum budget EFSA has available is € 825,000 (aiming to conclude 15 Direct Grant Agreements of max. 12 months).

Deadline for submission of proposals: **20 March 2025, 17:00 CET**.

[Apply here](#)

See all EFSA open calls for [grant proposals](#), [calls for data](#) and [calls for tender](#).

Events

Update on FEEDAP guidance on the assessment of the efficacy of feed additives: what's new – online | 04.12.2024

Objectives of the meeting

The aim of the event is to provide an overview of the updated guidance document on the assessment of the efficacy of feed additives, which was recently adopted (EFSA FEEDAP Panel, 2024). Particular attention will be given to the areas that have been renewed with respect to the previous version (EFSA FEEDAP Panel 2018).

To assist stakeholders during the preparation of dossiers, a Q&A session is planned during the event, which is intended to clarify potential uncertainties regarding the information required to demonstrate the efficacy of a feed additive. Therefore, attendees are invited to submit their queries either before the webinar (via the registration form) or during the event.

Structure of the meeting

- Following the welcoming of participants and introduction of the speakers, there will be:
- A pre-recorded presentation of the Guidance on the assessment of efficacy of feed additives and the services available for applicants in case of questions, and
- A live Q&A session

Before closing, the main aspects of the updated guidance document and the most relevant discussion points will be summarised. After the event, EFSA will issue a short report summarising the discussions, which will be published together with the presentations shared.

Date: **4 December 2024, 10:00 - 11:30 (CET)**

Deadline for registration: 2 December 2024, 12:00 PM (CET)

Location: Online

[More information](#)

[Registration](#)

Funding opportunities in the EFSA 2025/26 workplan – online | 06.12.2024

Objectives: The online event is designed to provide participants with a comprehensive understanding of EFSA's evolving partnership strategy and upcoming opportunities. Specifically, the session will offer:

- Insights into EFSA's Partnership Strategy and its implementation: Learn more about EFSA's plan to strengthen scientific cooperation with Competent Organisations across the EU Member States, Norway and Iceland, in line with EFSA's 2027 Strategy, its grant and procurement mechanism, and the EFSA's network of Focal Points.
- Funding opportunities plan: Get an early look at EFSA's draft work plan for 2025/26 and the calls for grants and procurement that it includes.

Structure of the meeting: The first part of the event will focus on the administrative and financial aspects of partnership projects. The second part will provide a high-level overview of the areas in which EFSA expects to launch calls for grants and procurement in 2025/26. The event will last 2.5 hours. After each part of the webinar there will be time to address questions from the audience, which will be collected via a dedicated chat.

Date: **6 December 2024, 10:00 - 12:30 (CET)**

Deadline for registration: 4 December 2024, 12:00 PM (CET)

Location: Online

[More information](#)

[Registration](#)

Ecosystems in the balance | 22-23 January 2025

The Belgian One Health network, the Belgian Biodiversity Platform, and Sciensano are pleased to announce their 2-day in-person event

This One Health event will address ecosystem, animal, and human health issues in an interdisciplinary way. The event will focus on the role of environmental factors influencing possible pathways of infectious disease emergence, and on prevention, early warning mechanisms, and effective preparedness solutions.

The overarching topics will be:

- Biodiversity loss and climate change
- Impact of wildlife trade
- Risks associated with Invasive Alien Species
- Data and surveillance approaches

The event is designed for experts and stakeholders interested in intersectoral cooperation, administrators, and policy makers.

Registration fee Regular ticket €125 / PhD students €50

[More information](#)

[Registration](#)

Publications

Prolonged multi-country outbreak of Salmonella Strathcona ST2559 linked to consumption of tomatoes in the EU/EEA and the UK

A cross-border outbreak of Salmonella Strathcona ST2559 is ongoing in the European Union/European Economic Area (EU/EEA) and the United Kingdom (UK). From 1 January 2023 to 5 November 2024, 232 confirmed cases of S. Strathcona ST2559 have been identified in 16

EU/EEA countries according to the European case definition. Tomatoes were identified as the vehicle of infection in several national epidemiological investigations undertaken in response to this multi-country outbreak. Whole genome sequencing cluster analyses suggest that the outbreak strain from multiple affected countries has a recent common origin.

[Full article](#)

Re-evaluation of saccharin and its sodium, potassium and calciumsalts (E 954) as food additives

EFSA has concluded that saccharin is safe for human consumption and increased the acceptable daily intake (ADI) from 5 to 9 mg/kg of body weight per day, in a scientific opinion published today.

EFSA experts have reviewed all available data and concluded that saccharin does not cause DNA damage and that it is unlikely that its consumption is associated with cancer risk in humans.

The re-evaluation of saccharin is part of a broader work to review the safety of all food additives that were permitted for use in foods before 20 January 2009, as required by EU Regulation

[Full article](#)

See all EFSA publications [here](#).

Recruitment

Administrative-technical assistant (m/f) (ref. E00032700) | deadline 12.12.2024

General information

State employee, Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Viticulture, Luxembourg veterinary and food administration (ALVA), Dudelange

Part time job (60%), CDI, EU nationality

Profile

Technical skills

- Have basic concepts concerning the legislation and regulation of the administration
- Have excellent editorial capabilities
- Perfectly master common office tools.

Behavioral skills

- Solving problems
- Support
- Know how to work in a team
- Service sense

- Organisation

Assets

- Professional experience in a laboratory
- Know how to work with SharePoint.

[Apply via GovJobs](#) – Deadline 12.12.2024

Human resources manager (m/f) (ref. E00032626) (ref. F00032627) | deadline 17.12.2024

General information

State employee, Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Viticulture, Luxembourg veterinary and food administration (ALVA), Strassen

Full time, CDI, EU nationality

Profile

Technical skills

- Know the legislation concerning the status, remuneration, training, safety and health at work of State personnel;
- Know how to apply the legislation and regulations on training during the internship and on-going training;
- Know how to apply the general principles of human resources management;
- Knowledge of the HR management tools used within the administration and the Public Service; and
- Know the different processes and procedures affecting the HR life cycle and in particular the forward-looking management of staff, the management by objectives and the procedures of recruitment, internal mobility and career change;
- Know how to work with Excel, Word, Powerpoint and Outlook.

Behavioral skills

- Integrate information;
- Solving problems;
- Support;
- Act in a service-oriented manner;
- To demonstrate reliability.

Assets

- Master SharePoint.

Apply via GovJobs [A2](#) or [B1](#) – Deadline 17.12.2024

Other

Update of DRV Finder (Dietary Reference Values for the EU)

The DRV Finder tool has been enhanced with updated dietary reference values for sugar, selenium, vitamin B6, vitamin E, manganese, vitamin D, vitamin A, beta-carotene, folate, & iron.

The tool is a valuable resource for nutrition professionals, risk managers, & policymakers.

[Explore the updated tool!](#)

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