



11th March 2025

[Luxembourgish EFSA Focal Point](#)

LUXEMBOURGISH EFSA FOCAL POINT NEWSLETTER

25-04

Calls

Support to EFSA for the risk assessment of pesticides | grant call & info-session

The main objective of the call is to conclude Framework Partnership Agreements (FPAs) with multiple organisations belonging to the Article 36 list that will support EFSA for tasks on pesticides falling within the mission of the EFSA Pesticide Peer Review, Environment, Plants & Ecotoxicology and Front-Desk & Workforce Planning (FDP) units. The tasks are related to risk assessments of active substances used in plant protection products, and to risk assessments of pesticide residues in food and feed.

The call documents are available on the EU Funding and Tenders portal ref. [EUBA-EFSA-2025-PREV-02](#) and announced at [EFSA grant page](#).

Interested applicants (or consortium of applicants) need to precisely indicate the combination of the area/task, which they are applying for, as described in more details in the of the Call for proposal document (Section 1.3).

FPAs duration is 4 years and will be implemented through Specific Agreements for performing the respective assignments. The total maximum budget EFSA has available is 2,500,000 €.

Deadline for submission of proposals: 22 May 2025 - 17.00 CET.

Info session on the Call for proposals - Support to EFSA for the risk assessment of pesticides

Objectives: This session will provide an overview of:

- The objectives of the call and EFSA's mission in pesticide risk assessment
- The tasks and areas under the partnership agreements
- The eligibility criteria and application process for interested organisation
- The evaluation process and funding opportunities

During the info session, participants will have the possibility to ask questions in writing, using the chat function. Questions will be collected and anonymised to be answered in writing and published shortly after the event. The answers will be accessible on the EU Funding & Tenders Portal.

Structure of the meeting: The event will be held online. English will be the language of the webinar, and no translation will be provided.

Participants: the event is open only to Competent organisations from EU Member States (Art.36 list).

Date: 4 April 2025, 15.00 - 16.00 (CEST)

Deadline for registration: 2 April 2025 - 12:00 (CEST)

[More information](#) | [Registration](#)

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

Public consultations

Consultation on EU Start-up & Scale-up strategy | deadline 17.03.2025

Start-ups and scale-ups are crucial for the EU's competitiveness. They often bring to the market breakthrough innovative solutions for societal challenges. However, their growth is still hindered by barriers, including difficulties in accessing private capital in the EU and in selling seamlessly across the single market.

The Strategy contains a set of policy, financial and legislative measures to improve and simplify framework conditions for start-ups and scale-ups.

The Commission would like to hear your views. This call for evidence is open for feedback. Your input will be taken into account as we further develop and fine-tune this initiative.

[Give feedback here](#)

European Food Safety Authority – evaluation of performance 2017-2024 | deadline 01.04.2025

The participation to the public consultation is open via the European Commission "[Have your Say](#)" portal and it is available in all EU official languages.

Target audience:

- Organisations representing interested stakeholders, e.g., consumers, NGOs and advocacy groups, business and food industry, distributors, retailers and the hospitality sector, farmers and other primary producers, academia, research and technology organisations, practitioners' associations, risk and media communication officers;

- Member States' competent authorities and national risk assessment bodies/organisations;
- Other relevant EU agencies;
- Other interested stakeholders.

Deadline for submitting comments: 1 April 2025 (midnight Brussels time)

[Respond to the questionnaire](#) | [More information](#)

See all open public consultations [here](#).

Events

13th BfR-Summer Academy on Risk Assessment and Risk Communication in Food Safety | deadline 16.03.2025

The 13th BfR-Summer Academy 2025 will be held 30.06.-11.07.2025 at the German Federal Institute for Risk Assessment in Berlin (location: Marienfelde). Fees for the two-week BfR-Summer Academy are 550 Euro including a welcome-dinner on the first evening and a social event. The number of participants is limited to 30!

The course is intended for members of staff of public organisations engaged in food and feed safety, who already have experience in risk assessment analysis. The participants will gain deeper understanding in risk assessment analysis and in risk communication measures. The course will be conducted by highly qualified and experienced scientists from the German Federal Institute for Risk Assessment (BfR) or partners with profound and long-standing experience in risk assessment of chemical or microbial risks as well as risk communication. Consequently this BfR-Summer Academy is from professionals to professionals.

Please apply until March 16, 2025 (Berlin time; UTC+1). More details and the link to the application form can be found here: <https://www.bfr-akademie.de/english/events/bsa-2025.html>.

Please contact summeracademy@bfr.bund.de in case of questions or for further details.

19th Conference of Food Microbiology – BfR | deadline 23.03.2025

The microbiology of food and foodstuff comprises a variety of different aspects. From physiology of a single bacterial cell towards microbiota and their interaction with the environment.

In this context, we are pleased to announce the 19th congress of food microbiology. The congress is organised by the BfR as well as the joint special group for food microbiology and hygiene of the [VAAM/DGHM](#) on **01.–03.04.2025**.

The congress will give insights into latent research on food microbiology and hygiene. According to the one health approach we'll try to enlighten the way from molecule to the mouth. The congress should provide an interactive way to share knowledge and network with other researchers from all fields of food microbiology and hygiene.

[More information and registration](#) | [programme](#)

8th Luxembourg Microbiology Day 13 May 2025 | deadline 14.04.2025

The Luxembourg Microbiology Day will take place on **13 May 2024** @ Luxembourg Institute for Health - House of BioHealth. The LMD promises to be an enriching experience with a lineup of 3 keynote presentations, as well as presentations from doctoral and post-doctoral researchers. Furthermore, the LMD will feature our association's Annual General Assembly.

Here attached is the programme of the conference and the guidelines for abstract submissions (deadline for abstract submissions: 14 April 2025)

Registration

Workshop on risk assessment of nanomaterials and materials containing small/nanoparticles in the food and feed chain | Registrations opening soon

EFSA is hosting an event to discuss key technical and scientific issues in the risk assessment of nanomaterials and materials containing nanoparticles in the food and feed chain.

The event is for stakeholders involved in the production and marketing of particulate materials (e.g. micronized materials and/or engineered nanomaterials) including food and feed manufacturers, material and ingredient suppliers, contract laboratories, industry associations, the scientific community, EU and international regulatory agencies, and other relevant bodies.

The programme and registration details will soon be published on the EFSA website.

Date: 11 June 2025, 09:00-18:00 to 12 June 2025, 09:00-16:00 (CET)

Location: Brussels, Belgium

Registration will open soon [here](#)

Technical meeting with stakeholders - Safety of conventionally smoked food | deadline 24.03.2025

Objectives: The purpose of the event is to meet interested parties and other stakeholders willing to contribute to this assessment. The event will also be an opportunity for EFSA to present the call for data aimed at collecting documented information (published or unpublished) relevant for the determination of contaminants of concern, and occurrence data for such contaminants of conventionally smoked food in EU.

Structure of the meeting: To make the event interactive, stakeholders are invited to indicate in the registration form their availability to deliver a presentation. The presentation should address the occurrence of contaminants in conventionally smoked foods and focus on issues related to the scientific mandate. Please note that aspects related to the approval of smoke flavourings and smoking techniques do not fall within the current mandate's scope. EFSA will select speakers, ensuring a balanced representation.

Participants: The meeting is open to all interested stakeholders with expertise or interest in conventionally smoked food (e.g., food business operators, national authorities, research institutions, academia, European agencies, and European research centres) as well as other stakeholders who may wish to contribute to this initial phase of development of the assessment.

Date: 27 March 2025, from 15.00 to 17.30 (CET)

Deadline for expressing interest to deliver a presentation: 19 March 2025

Deadline for registration: 24 March 2025, 12.00 (CET)

[More information](#) | [Registration](#)

Trainings

EFSA's Traineeship Programme | deadline: 2 April 2025



[Vacancy notice](#)

Webinar on EFSA's 2025 traineeship call

Objectives: This session will be designed to:

- Get to know EFSA – who we are and what we do
- Understand the application process – eligibility, timeline & key details
- Discover tips & tricks to make your application stand out
- Hear first-hand from current and former trainees about their experiences
- And much more!

Participants: Are you a young professional looking for a challenging experience in a stimulating, dynamic and multicultural working environment? Are you curious to explore

EFSA's traineeship experience? Then this webinar is for you, and it is a great opportunity to learn about the programme and how to start your career at EFSA.

Date: 24 March 2025, 15.00 - 16.30 (CET)

Deadline for registration: 20 March 2025, 12:00 (CET)

[More information](#) | [Registration](#)

Publications

Prolonged cross-border multi-serovar Salmonella outbreak linked to consumption of sprouted seeds

A cross-border multi-serovar *Salmonella* enterica outbreak linked to the consumption of sprouted seeds has been ongoing in Europe since 2023. Between January 2023 and January 2025, 509 confirmed cases of salmonellosis meeting the European case definition were identified in nine European Union/European Economic Area (EU/EEA) countries: Belgium (1), Denmark (4), Estonia (1), Finland (94), France (3), Germany (30), the Netherlands (9), Norway (257) and Sweden (110). One case was also reported by the United Kingdom. The outbreak encompasses eight *Salmonella* serotypes, several of which are rarely reported in the EU/EEA. Sprouts were identified as the vehicle of infection in multiple national investigations, which was confirmed by EU centralised whole genome sequencing (WGS) analysis.

[Read the full article](#)

Antimicrobial resistance in zoonotic and indicator bacteria from humans, animals and food in 2022–2023

This report presents the main findings of the 2022–2023 harmonised antimicrobial resistance (AMR) monitoring in *Salmonella* spp., *Campylobacter jejuni* and *Campylobacter coli* from humans and food-producing animals (broilers, laying hens and fattening turkeys, fattening pigs and cattle under 1 year of age) and derived meat.

[Plain language summary](#) | [Detailed report](#)

Recruitment

ALVA – Veterinary Inspector (m/f) in animal health | 26.03.2025

The Luxembourg Veterinary and Food Administration (ALVA) is recruiting a Veterinary Inspector (m/f), full time CDI. More information about the position and the recruitment procedure is available on Govjobs for the position as a [civil servant](#) or [state employee](#).

If you are interested in this position, please apply by **26 March 2025** and send the requested documents by email to personnel@alva.etat.lu

ALVA – Veterinary Inspector (m/f) in animal welfare | 26.03.2025

The Luxembourg Veterinary and Food Administration (ALVA) is recruiting a Veterinary Inspector (m/f), full time CDI. More information about the position and the recruitment procedure is available on Govjobs for the position as a [civil servant](#) or [state employee](#).

If you are interested in this position, please apply by **26 March 2025** and send the requested documents by email to personnel@alva.etat.lu

Join EFSA's pool of expert trainers in risk assessment for feed and food safety

The European Food Safety Authority (EFSA) is building a pool of qualified experts in developing and providing training on risk assessment in food and feed safety. This initiative is to strengthen risk assessment capabilities across Member States in Europe. EFSA will use the pool to **match experts with specific training topics** in the future, based on demand.

Are you interested in being included in this pool of expert trainers and training programme developers?

If yes, please express your interest by filling in the specific survey – accessible via the link provided below.

The survey is conducted on behalf of EFSA by EFSA's contractor, NetPlus. The survey covers e.g., your professional background, qualifications, and areas of expertise, as well as your potential availability to develop and deliver training. It will take approximately 15-20 minutes to complete.

[Fill in the survey](#)

See all open EFSA Professional opportunities [here](#).

If you no longer wish to receive our newsletter please send an email to focal.point@alva.etat.lu