



14 April 2025

[Luxembourgish EFSA Focal Point](#)

LUXEMBOURGISH EFSA FOCAL POINT NEWSLETTER

25-5

Calls

Establishing capacities for active surveillance of highly pathogenic avian influenza in wild birds in Europe | deadline 22.05.2025

We would like to inform you about EFSA's open call for proposals for "**Establishing capacities for active surveillance of highly pathogenic avian influenza in wild birds in Europe**" in two regions:

- (Lot 1) Wadden Sea Region
- (Lot 2) Western Black Sea Region

The call documents are available on the EU Funding and Tenders portal ref. [EUBA-EFSA-2025-BIOHAW-03](#) and announced on the [EFSA grant page](#).

For any questions, please contact EFSAprocurement@efsa.europa.eu.

Objective: Build capacities (infrastructure for capturing/sampling of wild birds, and testing/sequencing of samples) for active surveillance of highly pathogenic avian influenza in wild birds by creating a network of surveillance nodes in Europe. Rapid diagnostic testing and whole genome sequencing are aimed at improving preparedness and early warning.

Applicants: Interested applicants (or consortium of applicants) need to refer to the tasks, deliverables and timelines, as described in more details in the of the Call for proposal document (Section 1.3). Duration of each lot will count from the kick-off meeting until the 30 September 2028.

Budget: EFSA aims to sign one direct grant agreement for each lot with the maximum budget available per lot of 400,000 €. Applicants may submit a proposal for one or more lots, clearly indicating the lot, as they are evaluated separately.

Deadline: 22 May 2025, 17.00 CET.

Requests for clarification to be sent via the EU Portal (the button bellow) and all clarifications will be visible on the same platform.

[Access call documents](#)

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

Public consultations

Public consultation on draft guidance on the use of read-across for chemical safety assessment in food and feed | deadline 21.04.2025

EFSA has launched a public consultation on the draft guidance on the use of read-across for chemical safety assessment in food and feed. Interested parties are invited to submit their comments by the indicated deadline.

Deadline: 21 April 2025

[Comment here](#)

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

Events

Online meeting in preparation of an upcoming open grant call on "Welfare monitoring: data driven risk assessment in fast- and slower-growing broiler chickens (BROWARD)" | deadline 22.04.2025

The focus is on identifying and collecting animal-based measures (ABMs) and related management- and resource-based data in commercial settings at different points of the broiler chickens value chain such as hatcheries, farms and slaughterhouses. The data streams and analysis will combine field observational data with experimental studies to assess the impact of interventions such as the provision of enrichment, early access to feed and water to day-old chicks, different stocking densities to faster- and slower-growing broiler chickens.

Objective: Refinement of the grant project before the call launch through gathering of insights, feedback, and suggestions.

Participants: Please identify one or two individuals with expertise in animal welfare, and in particular on poultry welfare, in your organisation to make substantial contributions to the refining of the grant and to the discussions by registering to the online meeting.

Platform & format: The meeting will be hosted by EFSA on Microsoft Teams and will be interactive, allowing participants to engage through both oral and written questions and feedback. In the registration form, participants can also ask questions they wish to be addressed during the meeting.

Participation is **free of charge**

Date: 30 April 2025, 10:30 - 11:30 (CEST)

Deadline for registration: extended until 22 April 2025, 17.00 (CEST)

[Register here](#)

158th Open Plenary Meeting of the Nutrition, Novel Foods, and Food Allergens (NDA) Panel | deadline 23.04.2025

Registration is now open for online participation in the 158th Open Plenary Meeting of the Nutrition, Novel Foods, and Food Allergens (NDA) Panel.

The meeting will also feature a dedicated session for novel food applicants and stakeholders, covering application procedures, support initiatives, confidentiality assessment, and key updates on the novel food risk assessment process and challenges.

Date: 7 May 2025, 09.00 - 16.00 (CEST)

Deadline: 23 April 2025, 24.00 (CEST)

Location: Online

[Register here](#)

Trainings

On-line course on Critical Appraisal of Evidence | deadline 21.04.2025

Participation

The participation is restricted to members of EFSA's List of Art.36 Competent Organisations, Scientific Committee and Panels, Working Group members, Network members and members of other European agencies and institutions. Registrants from **other affiliations are not eligible**.

If the number of eligible registrants exceeds the number of available places, the first-come, first served principle will be applied. After the registration deadline, all registrants will be informed, and the selected trainees will receive an on-line meeting link.

Content

In this course you will learn:

- Explanation of concepts that are key when appraising scientific literature (e.g. internal validity, external validity, precision)
- The process for appraising studies in a systematic manner
- How to tailor a critical appraisal tool
- How to use the results of the appraisal
- The hands-on application of different critical appraisal tools, highlighting differences, similarities, advantages, limitations and scenarios in which to use them.

Training period

- May 12 (9:00-13:00)
- May 13 (9:00-13:00)
- May 19 (9:00-13:00)
- May 20 (9:00-13:00)

Location: Online **Registration deadline:** 21 April 2025

[Register here](#) (google form), contact know@efsa.europa.eu

Publications

One Health - Whole genome sequencing in foodborne outbreaks

EFSA is pleased to inform you that a new topic page on [“Whole genome sequencing in foodborne outbreaks”](#) is now available. It provides key background information and FAQs about how whole genome sequencing data are used to detect and assess foodborne outbreaks.

The new [Implementing Regulation \(EU\) 2025/179](#) requires Member States to collect and transmit molecular analytical data in epidemiological investigations of foodborne disease outbreaks. To support this, EFSA has created short guidelines (FAQ) and other resources to clarify the system's features and address any concerns about data use.

We invite you to view [our new video](#), which explains how the 'One Health WGS system' supports the detection and assessment of foodborne outbreaks, enhancing public health responses across the EU.

Please explore the resources below:

- Topic page: [Whole genome sequencing in foodborne outbreaks](#).
- Video: [How the EU uses whole genome sequencing to combat Foodborne outbreaks](#)
- European Commission press release: [A ONE HEALTH approach: whole genome sequencing \(WGS\) in foodborne outbreak investigations](#)
- [Implementing regulation \(EU\) 2025/179](#)

Recruitment

ALVA: Laborantin (m/f) | deadline 17.04.2025

The Luxembourg Veterinary and Food Administration (ALVA) is recruiting a Lab technician (m/f), career A2, part-time (50%). Application deadline 17.04.2025.

Technical skills

- Technical knowledge of food microbiology
- Basic knowledge of government legislation and regulations; knowledge of food safety and hygiene standards
- Good knowledge of ISO 17025 and technical standards relating to ALVA's activities
- Knowledge of safety and hygiene rules in the workplace
- Knowledge of the biological risks associated with sampling and the techniques used
- Excellent command of common office tools

Apply via [GovJobs](#).

EFSA: DevOps Engineer | deadline 29.04.2025

Required competencies:

- At least 3 years of professional experience as DevOps engineer
- Experience in Azure cloud services scripting and pipelines, including Azure Virtual Desktop, Databricks, networking, storage and databases
- Experience in designing, implementing, and managing Continuous Integration/Continuous Deployment (CI/CD) pipelines using Azure DevOps
- Knowledge of Infrastructure as Code tools like Terraform, ARM templates, or Azure Bicep for automating infrastructure deployment
- Good knowledge of security best practices, including role-based access control (RBAC), Azure Policy, and managing secrets with tools like Azure Key Vault
- Good knowledge of Agile methodologies

Deadline: 29 April 2025, 23.59 (CET)

[Apply here](#)

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

Other

Understanding the terms 'Margin of Exposure' and 'Margin of Safety' in hazard/risk assessment of chemicals. | deadline 30.04.2025

In the frame of EFSA's self-task mandate proposed by the Scientific Committee on the "Revision of the opinion on the Margin of Exposure approach for chemicals which are both genotoxic and carcinogenic" ([M-2023-00167](#)), EFSA is mapping the definitions of "Margin of Exposure" and "Margin of Safety" of regulatory bodies within and outside the EU to understand their application in human health and environmental hazard and risk assessment.

Deadline for submission of feedback: 30 April 2025

[Fill in the survey](#)

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