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[Luxembourgish EFSA Focal Point](#)

LUXEMBOURGISH EFSA FOCAL POINT NEWSLETTER

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Calls

Call for tenders EFSA/2026/OP/0004: Strategies for grouping chemicals / deadline 26.06.2026

This open call for tender aims to streamline and harmonise the implementation of chemical grouping to support human risk assessment of combined exposure to multiple chemicals. Its main tasks are to map EFSA's current and future needs, identify relevant data types and sources (including traditional toxicological data and emerging technologies) as well as practices and approaches (such as AI-driven data extraction), and define key aspects for efficient data collection and appraisal.

Objective: The expected outcome is a compendium of existing data types, sources and approaches, accompanied by recommendations for an operational strategy, ideally utilizing automated solutions to enable consistent and effective chemical grouping across EFSA's domains.

Submission terms and participation: The tender offers can be submitted by a single tenderer or by a coordinator (in case of joint tender of more partners). Please note that this is a call for tender, i.e. participation is not limited to Competent Organisations on the Art. 36 list.

Requests for clarification to be sent via the EU Tendering Portal and all clarifications already replied are visible on the same platform.

Budget and duration: Maximum budget is € 400,000 and the contract duration is 24-month maximum.

Deadline for submission of tenders: **26 June 2026, 14:30 CEST**

[More information](#)

Call for tenders EFSA/2026/OP/0013: Methodological support for literature reviews for evidence-based scientific assessments / deadline 04.08.2026

This open call for tender aims to conclude a multiple Framework Contract, which will be implemented via reopening of competition on providing methodological support for literature reviews for evidence-based scientific assessments. Such support may be requested to perform and/or appraise full or part(s) of systematic reviews, as well as scoping and narrative literature reviews.

Budget and duration: Maximum budget is 2 000 000 EUR for 4-year maximum project duration, awarded based on best price-quality ratio

Deadline for submission of tenders: **4 August 2026, 14:30 CEST**

[More information](#)

Call for tenders EFSA/2026/OP/0009: Metagenomics Adoption in EFSA Risk Assessment | deadline 12.08.2026

This open call for tender aims to conclude a two-year project, for scientific and technical support to develop harmonised and standardised metagenomics protocols and analytical frameworks for the regulatory risk assessment of complex microbial mixtures.

Objective: The project will establish laboratory and bioinformatics methods and provide recommendations for the integration of metagenomics approaches into EFSA risk assessment workflows.

For more information on the tasks, deliverables and timelines, please refer to the tender specifications.

Submission terms and participation: The tender offers can be submitted by a single tenderer or by a coordinator (in case of joint tender of more partners). Please note that this is a call for tender (procurement), i.e. participation is not limited to Competent Organisations on the Art. 36 list (as for EFSA grants), thus all eligible organisations may apply.

Budget and duration: Maximum budget is € 1,250,000 and the contract duration is 24 months.

Deadline for submission of tenders: **12 August 2026, 14:30 CET**

[More information](#)

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

Public consultations

Draft guidance document on the information needed to support the evaluation of the applications for feed intended for particular nutritional purposes as provided for in Regulation (EC) No 767/2009 | deadline 13.07.2026

EFSA's Feed, and Contaminants Unit has launched a public consultation on draft guidance document on the information needed to support the evaluation of the applications for feed intended for particular nutritional purposes as provided for in Regulation (EC) No 767/2009.

Deadline to comment: **13 July 2026**

[More information](#)

Draft statement on the general framework for assessing indirect effects of Plant Protection Products on biodiversity via trophic interactions under agro-environmental conditions | deadline 22.07.2026

Objective: EFSA's Environment, Plants & Ecotoxicology Unit has launched a public consultation to collect comments on draft general framework for assessing indirect effects of Plant Protection Products on biodiversity via trophic interactions under agro-environmental conditions.

Deadline to comment: **22 July 2026**

[More information](#)

Draft Protocol for the risk-benefit assessment of fish | deadline 03.08.2026

Objective: The Scientific Committee aims to reach out to stakeholders for feedback on the plan for conducting a risk-benefit assessment (RBA) of fish in relation to the combined presence of polychlorinated dibenzo-p-dioxins and dibenzofurans (PCDD/Fs) and dioxin-like polychlorinated biphenyls (DL-PCBs), polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS), polybrominated diphenyl ethers (PBDEs), inorganic arsenic, dimethylarsinic acid (DMA), inorganic mercury and methyl mercury in fish.

Deadline to comment: **3 August 2026**

[More information](#)

Mandate on the safety assessment of botanicals / botanical preparations | deadline 03.08.2026

Objective: EFSA invites stakeholders to provide feedback on the proposed revision and update of the [Guidance on safety assessment of botanicals and botanical preparations intended for use as ingredients in food supplements](#) (EFSA Scientific Committee, 2009) and on the integration of the following related EFSA documents:

- [Scientific Opinion on a Qualified Presumption of Safety \(QPS\) approach for the safety assessment of botanicals and botanical preparations](#) (EFSA Scientific Committee, 2014)
- [Technical Report on Principles that could be applicable to the safety assessment of the use of mixtures of natural origin to manufacture food contact materials](#) (EFSA, 2023)

Deadline to comment: **3 August 2026**

[More information](#)

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

Events

Save the date: Emerging Food Contaminants conference Luxembourg | 28.09.2026

The Luxembourg Veterinary and Food Administration (ALVA) organises its annual food safety research conference.

The event is supported by the European Food Safety Authority (EFSA) and will be held in the Cercle Cité (Luxembourg City, entrance via Rue Genistre) on **Monday, 28 September 2026 at 2 pm** followed by a reception.

Participation is free of charges, however, the registration is mandatory and will open soon on our [website](#).



5th EFSA conference | 29.09. – 01.10.2027

We are pleased to announce the 5th EFSA conference, a milestone to celebrate 25 years of EFSA and launch the new EFSA Strategy 2034 (2028–2034).

Celebrating EFSA means celebrating with the broad community of people committed to food safety. Your continued support is key to EFSA's success, and this is why we invite you to join us in Parma or online. Save the date!

Conference themes

- Innovation and Competitiveness
- Methodological and Technical advances
- Sustainability and One Health
- Preparedness, and Rapid response
- Risk communication and social sciences
- Data, digitalisation, and artificial intelligence

Opening of registration: January 2027

Conference: 29 September - 1 October 2027

Trainings

eXcellent One Health education - Launch event for learners | 01.07.2026

Are you interested in building a career in One Health risk assessment or recruiting the next generation of experts? Join the official launch of the xORA web platform – your gateway to education, career pathways, and opportunities in risk assessment. The platform is designed to support education, skills development, and collaboration in One Health Risk Assessment.

During the event, you will:

- Experience a live demonstration of the platform
- Discover the new features and functions of the xORA platform
- Gain insights into current challenges and career opportunities in One Health Risk Assessment
- Hear expert perspectives, including contributions from EFSA
- Participate in an interactive Q&A session

Register now!

Launch Event of the
xORA web platform



01.07.2026
10:00 - 11:30 CET
Zoom

Supported by



Date: **1 July 2026**

Deadline: **30 June 2026**

Location: **online**

[Register here](#)

Registration link:



International training on health risk assessment of chemicals: Principles and applications / 09.-13.11.2026

Karolinska Institutet is offering an online training course, that gives a comprehensive overview of the scientific principles of chemical risk assessment, covering hazard identification, exposure assessment and the derivation of health-based guidance values, with practical examples relevant to regulatory decision making.

Date: **9 – 13 November 2026**

Deadline: 7 August 2026

Location: **online**

[Read more and register](#)

Publications

EFSA confirms health concern from dietary exposure to dioxins and dioxin-like PCBs in Europe

Dietary exposure to dioxins and dioxin-like polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) continues to raise a health concern for the European population, according to a new scientific opinion from EFSA.

The opinion updates EFSA's 2018 assessment following the World Health Organization's 2022 revision of toxicity equivalency factors (TEFs), which are used to assess the combined toxicity of dioxins and dioxin-like PCBs.

Read the scientific opinion:

[Update of the risk assessment on dioxins and dioxin-like PCBs in feed and food](#)

[Plain language summary](#)

Vector-borne diseases: Latest mapping and surveillance overview

EFSA has just published four scientific reports covering key features of 25 vector-borne diseases, the vectors that transmit them, existing EU surveillance and control measures, and possible pathways for their introduction or spread within the EU.

- About half of these diseases are not currently listed by the World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH), nor categorised under the EU Animal Health Law.
- The pathogen maps are kept up to date on our animal [Disease Profiles](#). The vector maps were developed under the VectorNet project in collaboration with the European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control (ECDC) and will be made [available online](#).
- The four reports lay the foundation for upcoming risk assessments planned by the end of the year. These future opinions will look at how likely these diseases are to enter and spread in the EU, evaluate their potential impact and determine whether and how current control measures are fit for purpose or need to be strengthened or modified.

Read the scientific reports:

- [Vector-borne diseases-knowledge maps](#)
- [Identification and mapping of potential and highly likely vectors for selected vector-borne diseases in the EU and neighbouring countries](#)
- [Potential entry pathways for 25 vector-borne disease agents](#)
- [Knowledge mapping of risk mitigation measures against vector-borne diseases](#)

EFSA sets an ARfD for glycerol (E 422) from beverages

EFSA has published a new scientific opinion focusing on acute exposure to glycerol (E 422) from beverages, setting an acute reference dose of 125 mg glycerol/kg body weight per drinking occasion. EFSA found that typical portions of slush ice drinks can exceed this level across age groups, with children most at risk.

[Read more](#)

Other

OpenFoodTox 3.0 is now available

EFSA's Chemical Hazards Database provides open access to structured hazard data from EFSA risk assessments, supporting transparency and reuse. New in version 3.0:

- OECD harmonised templates & IUCLID migration supporting the "One Substance, One Assessment" (OSOA) approach;
- New endpoints on environmental fate & behaviour;

Expanded physico-chemical & toxicokinetic datasets

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