LU EFSA Focal Point Newsletter 2026 No. 10

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Calls



Call for Proposals (grant) on Support to EFSA in the risk assessment of alternative methods for the use and disposal of animal by-products (ABPs) and derived products - corrigendum

The call has been published in our last newsletter.

The **updated** call for proposals and all other relevant documents are available on the EU Funding and Tenders portal ref. EUBA-EFSA-2026-BIOHAW-01.

The **modifications** in the call for proposal are highlighted in track changes in the sections on Publicity (1.10) and on Declaration of Interest (2.4.B.1).

Deadline for submission: 10 December 2026, 17:00 CEST.

More information

Call for proposals Selection of hosting sites and fellows for EFSA's European Food Risk Assessment Fellowship (EU-FORA) Programme

Objective: 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 at the activities falling within EFSA's remit. Please note and consider the listed topics in Appendix A.

Call reference: EUBA-EFSA-2027-ENREL-01

Please see the main features of the EU-FORA Call here.

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

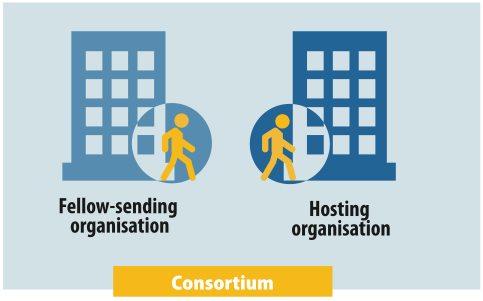
Deadline for submission of proposals: 24 February 2027, 17:00 CET.

More information

EU-FORA Fellowship Programme

The European Food Risk Assessment (EU-FORA) Fellowship Programme is a key initiative for ensuring preparedness for future risk analysis needs. The aim of the programme is to increase the pool of food safety risk assessment experts in Europe and stimulate the involvement of Member States in risk assessment, all with the ultimate objective of building a common EU culture for risk assessment.

How does it work?



- The **fellow-sending organisation and the hosting organisation apply** to the fellowship programme **as a consortium**, identifying the fellow and proposing the programme
- The **fellowship lasts for 12 months**, during which time the fellow is released from his/her regular tasks to follow a work programme offered by the hosting site.
- Although most of the work programme is followed remotely, around one third of the time will be spent at the hosting organisation **gaining first-hand experience**, with the aim of enhancing knowledge exchange and networking..

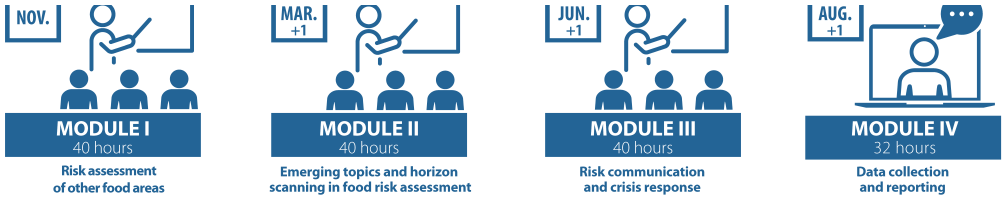
Applications timeline



Training

- Training **is an essential part of the** EU-FORA programme.
- At the induction training, **fellows meet and exchange experiences** while being introduced to introduced to the basics of food safety risk assessment.
- Throughout the programme, fellows have the opportunity to **follow training sessions– physically and remotely** – on different topics, including other areas of food risk assessment, risk assessment of emerging topics, risk communication and data collection and reporting.





EFSA is the keystone of EU risk assessment regarding food and feed safety. In close collaboration with national authorities in open consultation with its stakeholders, EFSA provides independent scientific advice and clear communication on existing and emerging risks.
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Please contact the Luxembourgish EFSA Focal Point for more information.

See all EFSA open calls for grant proposals, calls for data and calls for tender.

Public Consultations



Draft technical report on development and implementation of an allergenicity pipeline for food enzyme dossiers

EFSA's Food Ingredients & Packaging Unit invites you to comment on the draft technical report on the development and implementation of an allergenicity pipeline for food enzyme dossiers.

Please review the draft report and submit your comments through Connect.EFSA, referring to the relevant page and line numbers.

As the consultation closes shortly after the holiday period, we encourage you to submit your comments in advance.

Deadline to comment: 7 January 2027.

Comment here

See all open public consultations here.

Events



Info Session on EFSA's 2027/2028 funding opportunities

Objectives: The session aims to help organisations understand EFSA's framework for scientific cooperation and partnership and get an early overview of the funding opportunities expected for 2027/2028.

Participants will learn about EFSA's grant and procurement mechanisms, including the main administrative and financial aspects of participating in EFSA calls, as well as the role of the EFSA Focal Point Network in supporting cooperation and connecting organisations at national level.

The session will also provide an early overview of planned funding opportunities across different scientific areas, helping interested organisations identify relevant opportunities, plan ahead and prepare for future calls.

Participants: The Info Session is open to all organisations interested in supporting EFSA's scientific work and responding to EFSA's calls for grants and procurement.

The main target audience is scientists and administrative staff of Competent Organisations: organisations in EU Member States, Norway and Iceland currently listed under Article 36 of Regulation (EC) 178/2002 and eligible to receive EFSA grants.

The Info Session is also relevant to scientific and administrative staff in organisations and regulatory bodies in the process of being designated as Competent Organisations.

Date: 04 December 2026, 10:00–12:30 (CET)

Location: Online

Registration deadline: 02 December 2026 - 17:00 (CET)

More information

Registration

xORA Dialogue: The Journey into Food Safety Risk Assessment: Voices from the Learners.

How can we help you to become an educated and experienced food safety risk assessor? How can we build sustainable learning pathways for you and your employer?

We warmly invite you to the second xORA Dialogue, focusing on the learners' perspective: The Journey into Food Safety Risk Assessment: Voices from the Learners.

Following the first xORA Dialogue on the competencies and training approaches needed for the future of food safety risk assessment, this session will bring together people developing their expertise in different professional settings. Through a moderated panel and interactive discussion, we will explore their pathways into the field, experiences of workplace learning and ideas for improving professional development.

Together, we will consider:

- What helps people move from disciplinary expertise to applied food safety risk assessment?
- How do training, mentoring, practical assignments and interdisciplinary collaboration contribute to professional competence?
- Where do learners encounter barriers, and what would make their development pathways clearer and more accessible?
- Which improvements could we pursue together—in the near term and over time?

Why this dialogue matters

xORA—eXcellent One Health Risk Assessment Education works to strengthen education, training and continuing professional development in scientific risk assessment, in Europe and beyond.

Many valuable learning opportunities already exist. Yet connecting them with supervised practice and sustained professional development remains a shared challenge. As experienced experts retire and resources become increasingly constrained, individual institutions and initiatives cannot address this challenge alone.

The xORA Dialogue brings stakeholder perspectives together to identify needs, connect potential partners and develop practical solutions. Insights from this session will inform xORA's ongoing work towards more connected and sustainable qualification pathways.

Who should join?

We welcome early-career professionals, career changers, students, doctoral researchers, postdocs, and practicing risk assessors, alongside colleagues involved in recruitment, supervision, mentoring, education and training across authorities, academia, industry and international organisations.

Date: 8 December 2026 | 14:00–15:30 CET | Online

Registration deadline: 4 December 2026

Agenda

Registration

Stakeholder event on the welfare of cats and dogs and farmed finfish

EFSA is organising a technical stakeholder meeting on the welfare of cats and dogs, and farmed finfish in Brussels on 10–11 December 2026. The meeting will gather scientific and technical input from stakeholders at an early stage of EFSA's work.

Stakeholders will have the opportunity to learn about EFSA's work and discuss available scientific evidence, data and data sources, practical experience and information gaps.

- **Cats and dogs - 10 December, 14:00–18:00**: welfare-relevant breeding and keeping practices, including breeding-related welfare risks and extreme traits.
- **Farmed finfish - 11 December, 09:00–13:00**: on-farm welfare during the grow-out phase for Atlantic salmon, rainbow trout, common carp, European seabass and gilthead seabream.

The event is open to stakeholders with relevant scientific, technical or practical expertise, including researchers, veterinarians, competent authorities, sector organisations, breeding or keeping establishments, shelters, aquaculture operators and animal-welfare organisations.

Participation is limited to 60 people, including speakers and experts already identified by EFSA. Participants will be selected to ensure a balance of expertise, stakeholder groups and geographical representation.

Please note that the event will take place in person only, and EFSA will not reimburse travel or accommodation expenses.

Date: 10-11 December 2026 from 14:00 to 18:00 and 09:00 to 13:00 CET/CEST

Location: Brussels (BE)

Registration deadline: 27 November 2026, 23:59 CET

More information

Registration

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efsa FOCAL POINT

Cet email a été envoyé à focal.point@alva.etat.lu, cliquez ici pour vous désabonner.

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