

SVETOVNI DAN VARNOSTI HRANE 2022

WORLD FOOD SAFETY DAY 2022

4. konferenca ob svetovnem dnevu varnosti hrane 2022

4th Conference On World Food Safety Day 2021

Ljubljana, Državni svet, 7. junij 2022

**The experience of the last twenty years
and the challenges ahead**

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Za javnost/For public dissemination

OUTLINE



Food safety framework – globally



Food safety framework - nationally



EFSA support and influence



Challenges ahead...?



Conclusions

Strategic questions

FOOD PRODUCTION **No 1 priority** SAFETY & SECURITY = **STRATEGIC QUESTIONS all over the world**

- Food borne diseases caused by pathogens, chemical agents and micotoxines represents serious threats for human health
- **Serious incidents** triggered with food borne diseases occurred in past decades on all continents **illustrates emerging problems all over the world**
- „The evolving context of food production, trade and consumption is challenging the way food safety risks are managed and the availability of safe and nutritious food for all.”(WHO)



Globalisation and food safety systems

- Food safety policy should be based on the **comprehensive principles** covers all stages of production chain
- **Globalization** requires that different countries **provide similar systems of food safety**
- The **responsibility** for food safety is on the **food business operator**
- Modern food safety policy are based on the **concept of *RISK ANALYSIS***

Goals

- ✓ free movement of safe and wholesome food
- ✓ health and well-being of the citizens - social and economic interests



Regulation (EC) 178/2002

- the basic feature of trade and contribution to the health and welfare of the citizens and their social and economic interests ➡ *the free movement of food that does not have harmful effects on human health*
- **equalizing the food safety requirements in Member States in order not to distinguish between them and to harmonize concepts, principles and procedures that are implemented in the system of food safety is of utmost importance**

REGULATION (EC) No 178/2002

A high level of protection of human life and health should be assured in the pursuit of Community policies.

The free movement of food and feed within the Community can be achieved only if food and feed safety requirements do not differ significantly from Member State to Member State.



EU Food Safety System

"Safe Food for European Consumers"

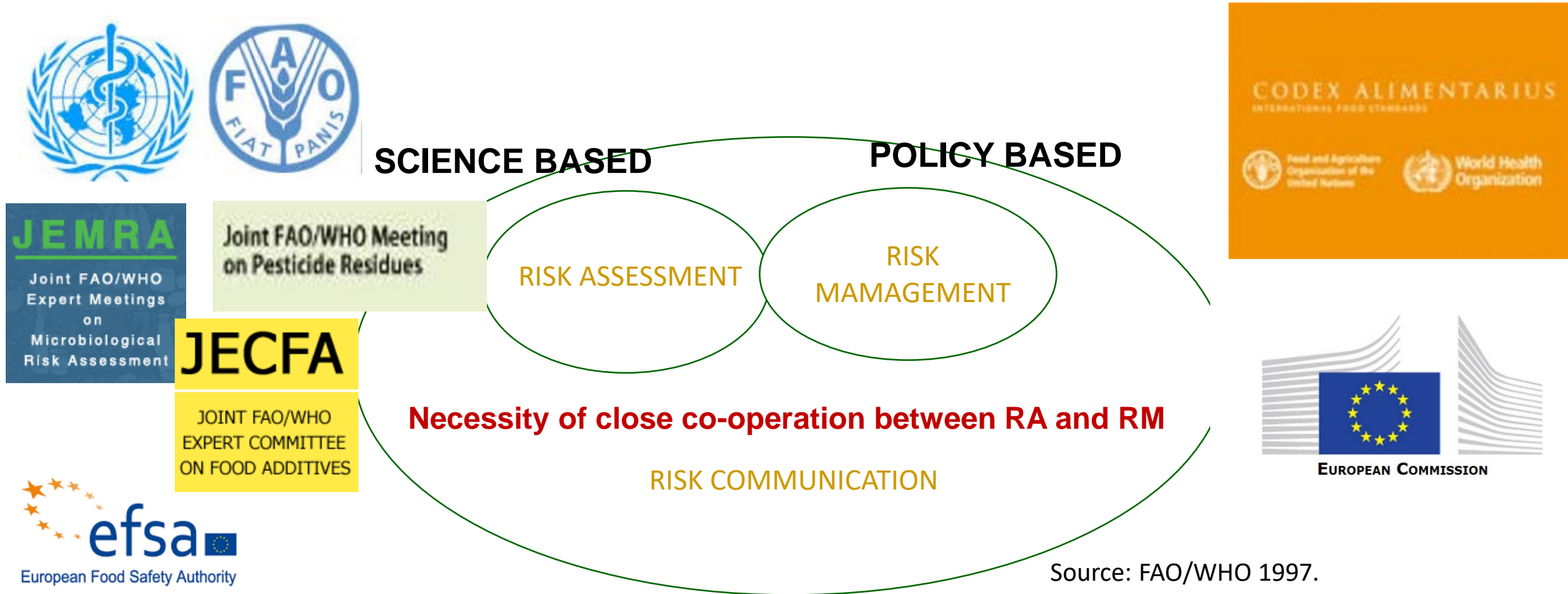
Important elements:

- ❖ the EU General Food Law, 178/2002 (EC);
 - ❖ the Rapid Alert System for Food and Feed (RASFF)
 - ❖ the "concept of traceability"
 - ❖ keeping consumers informed
 - ❖ involving science
- establishing of a new competent body

European Food Safety A



Methodology



Food safety policy models

TRADITIONAL

Analyzing of final product

- control
- sample
- analyze

- Restrictions

- retrospection
- inaccuracy
- false security sense because of little risk appearance
- to high costs because of to many samples

NEW CONCEPT

Production process control based on risk concept

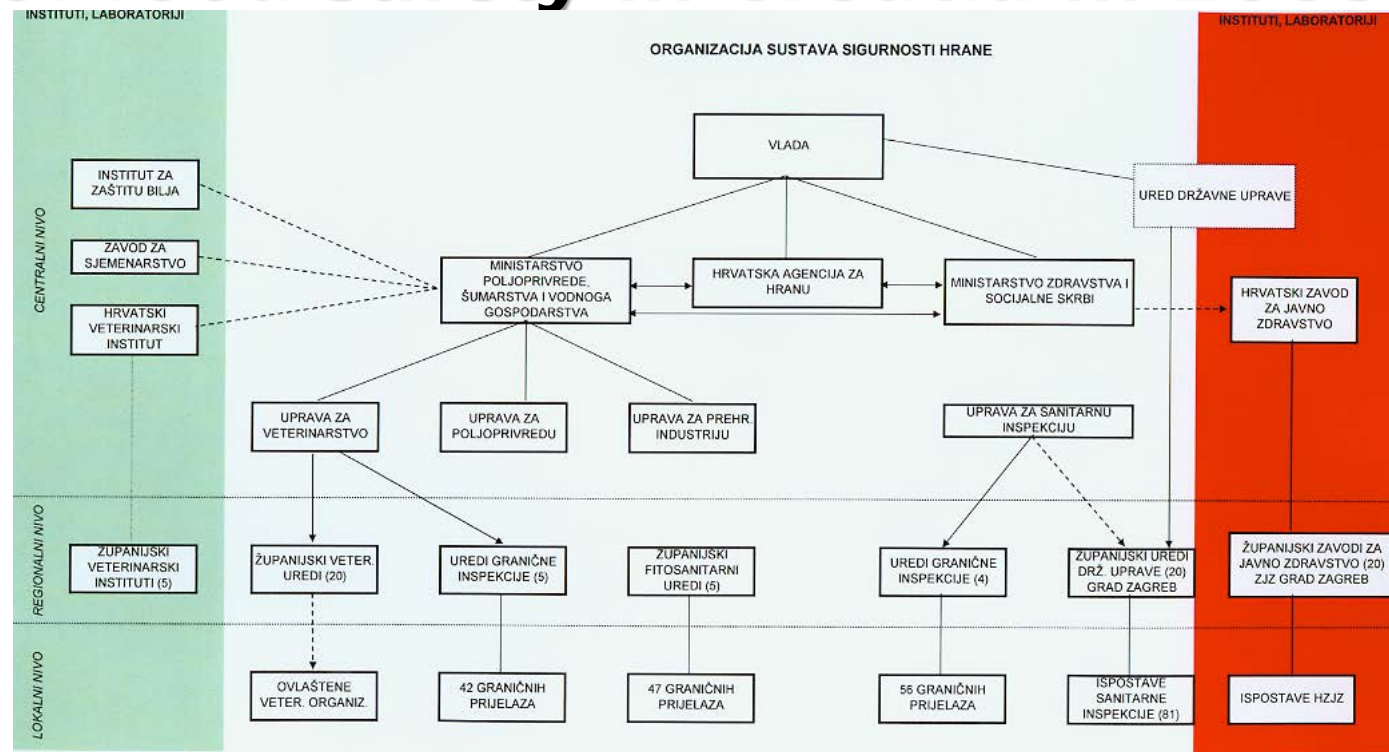
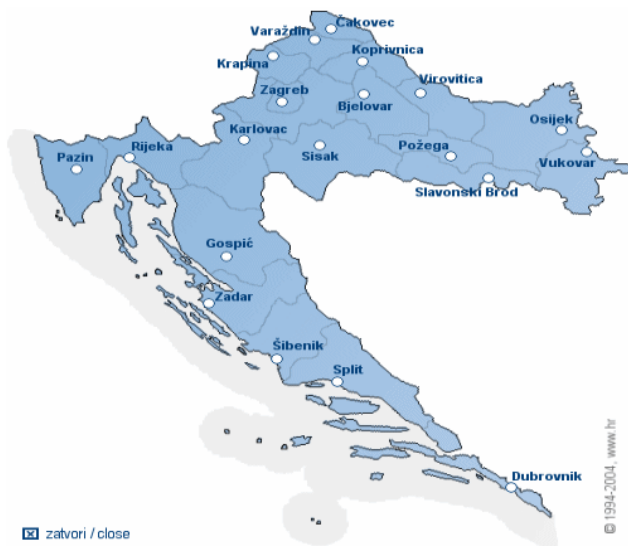
Risk identification

- Surveillance criteria
- Measurement methods criteria
- Defying critical points
- Defying corrective actions

Organisation scheme of food safety in Croatia in 2005

! With the **first Croatian Food Act from 2003**, Croatia laid down the foundation for the establishment of the Croatian Food Agency, which became operational in 2005.

Network of laboratories dealing with food safety issues



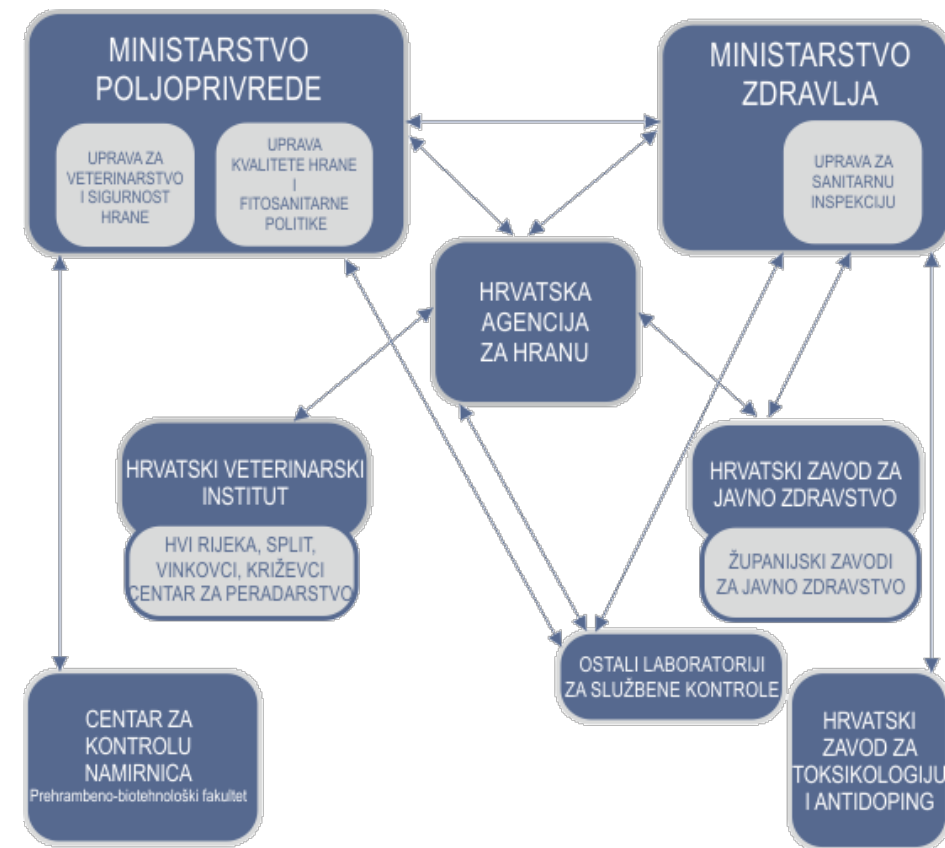
! The Republic of Croatia has included food safety as a priority issue in their political programs.

! Through a number of regulations and the application of the European legislation, Croatia has ensured the implementation of all those programs that guarantee food safety on the market

! A responsibility is laid down to the FBO in the entire chain "*from farm to fork*", at different levels, as an effective way of reducing the risks arising from food.

Further (re)organisation of food safety in Croatia

- Following **the next Food Act**, which was adopted **in 2007**, Regulation (EC) no. 178/2002 of the European Parliament and the EU Council was transposed.
- That was the basis for the adoption of general and specific rules related to the food business operators (FBO) and the competent authorities.
- On July 1st 2013 a new Food Act came into force
- Also, other legislation was transposed and adopted
- ✓ Food Hygiene Act,
- ✓ Act on Official Controls Performed to Ensure the Verification of Compliance with Feed and Food Rules, Animal Health and Welfare



Legislative base for operating in ex-Croatian Food Agency

✓ (national) FOOD ACT



- Ordinance on scientific opinion and scientific and technical support

- Food Act, Art. 14, Art. 15, Art. 26

- ✓ Regulation (EC) No 178/2002, Art.29

- Ordinance on rapid alert system for food and feed

- Food Act, Art. 19

- ✓ Regulation (EC) No 178/2002, Art.35


- Ordinance on institutional networking in the area of food safety

- Food Act, Art. 16, Art. 17

- ✓ Regulation (EC) No 178/2002, Art.36



Reorganization of the food safety system in 2018.

- At the Government session in 2018, August 2.  decision to:
 - ✓ merge the Croatian Center for Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs, the Croatian Agricultural Agency and the Croatian Food Agency into a single institution - the Croatian Agency for Agriculture and Food
 - ✓ (re)establish the State inspectorate
 - ✓ within the scope of food safety, change the tasks and powers of the Ministry of Agriculture (Directorate for Veterinary and Food safety issues) and the Ministry of Health (Directorate for Sanitary inspection)



Croatian agency for agriculture and food



Darja Sokolić, PhD,
General Manager of the Agency



ACTIVITIES

research in the field of agronomy and related fields,
plant protection,
seed and seedling production,
Viticulture and winemaking,
oil production,
fruit and vegetable growing,
agricultural land,
cattle breeding,
quality control of fresh raw milk,
honey and feed,
food safety



Pre Accession Programme support and Capacity Building

- 2006. – IPA Pre- Accession Project „*Preparatory measures for the participation of the Turkey and Croatia in EFSA*”
- 2009. – IPA Pre Accession Project „*Preparatory measures for participation of the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Croatia and Turkey in EFSA*”

✓ *Activities:*

- ❖ *Attendance on meetings – AF, AF CWG, FP, WG on zoonoses data collection, Expert group on Chemical data collection;*
- ❖ *Attendance on seminars and conferences*
- ❖ *Attendances on study visits*
- ❖ *Secondment*

EFSA's Secondment

- Pre-accession Programme enables HAH's employees, scientists, food safety experts and representatives to participate in the meetings of EFSA scientific networks, where they have the opportunity to discuss and exchange opinions with colleagues from across EU
- Two employees from HAH, as seconded national experts, completed the practical training in the field of risk assessment, for 1.5 year, and project cycle management, in period of 4 years, at the EFSA seat in Parma.



Focal Point Network

- ✓ In 2009 → appointed as a Focal Point for Croatia (as observer)
- ✓ since 2010 → has been involved in the EFSA Focal Point Network
- ✓ Exchange of scientific data through the National network of institutions (*National network of institutions in the area of food and feed safety; Official Gazette 43/10*) - Established in 2010, in 2012 contains 36 institutions :
 - ✓ 7 faculties
 - ✓ 5 institutes
 - ✓ 18 public health institutions
 - ✓ other institutions in food safety system
- ✓ Raising EFSA's visibility
- ✓ Promoting EFSA Expert Database



Raising EFSA visibility

- In 2015. HAH organized 1st International Conference on Risk Assessment and marking the World Food Day within the 10th Anniversary
- **Dr. Url made opening speech**
- Three EFSA experts supported the conference as well as the experts from Austria (AGES), Denmark (DTU), Germany (BfR), Hungary (MEBIH), Slovenia (NIJZ) and Sweden (NFA)
- Following brochures were distributed at the conference:
The European Food Agency at Glance,
Scientific Cooperation between EFSA and member states,
Food Safety Cooperation beyond Borders.



Task Force on Zoonoses Data Collection

➤ Participation in several subgroups:

1. Task Force on Zoonoses Data Collection
2. Task Force on Zoonoses Data Collection - Antimicrobial Resistance
3. Task Force on Zoonoses Data Collection - FBO
4. Task Force on Zoonoses Data Collection – IT

➤ Attendance from 2008;



✓ Benefits for RH:

➤ In 2016. – Project: OC/EFSA/DATA/2015/01 LOT 1 – CT 1 – *Implementation and testing of electronic submission in XML, Excel and CSV formats of zoonoses, antimicrobial resistance and food-borne outbreak data and updating the historical datasets*

- **Main activities**



- Project duration: 1 year

- Project value: 75 000 Euros

PROJECT CONSORTIUM

Ministry of Agriculture – project leader

Croatian Veterinary Institute – project partner

Ministry of Health – project partner

National Institute for Public Health – project partner

Croatian Agriculture Agency – project partner

Croatian Food Agency – project coordinator

Lot 1: Implementation and testing of electronic submission in XML, Excel and CSV formats of zoonoses, antimicrobial resistance and food-borne outbreak data and updating the historical datasets

Requested main data categories:

1. Isolate-based antimicrobial resistance data
2. Sample based prevalence data or aggregated prevalence data

Additional data categories:

3. Food-borne outbreak data
4. Animal populations data
5. Disease status data on tuberculosis and brucellosis
6. Text form data

Lot 2: Updating and revising the historical datasets in EFSA's Zoonoses databases

Requested main data categories:

1. Isolate-based antimicrobial resistance data
2. Aggregated prevalence data
3. Aggregated antimicrobial resistance data
4. Food-borne outbreak data
5. Animal populations data
6. Disease status data on tuberculosis and brucellosis
7. Text form data

Expert Group on Chemical Occurrence Data

- Attendance from 2008;
- Information about data collection (occurrence data, consumption data)
- ✓ Benefits for RH:
 - Useful information about importance food consumption data and chemical occurrence data for exposure assessment
 - In 2015. - Project: *OC/EFSA/Data/2015/02-CT 2: "Pilot project on the implementation of SSD2 in the frame of the electronic transmission of harmonised data collection s to EFSA"*



- **Main activities**



- Project duration: 1 year

- Project value: 122 000 Euros

| Data Domain | Volume of data (n. results) |
|---|-----------------------------|
| Pesticide residues | 33000 |
| Chemical Contaminants | 6701 |
| Residues of veterinary medicinal products | 4671 |
| Food additives | 75 |

Defining the structure and mapping of received data for entry to the database which is structured according to SSD2 format

Development of software for automatic mapping data from three domestic repositories (SISSI database, EXCEL spreadsheets and VETLAB database) to the SSD2 standard.

Development of software tools for supporting work of experts in course of data analysis and validation rules.

Transmission of data relating to 2015 for four domains into EFSA based on the developed appropriate web service.

Analysis of difficulties and challenges in development and access via web services for automatic transmission of data to EFSA

Analysis of difficulties and challenges in testing a variety of dataset operations

Analysis of difficulties and challenges in testing the retrieval of catalogues from the DCF through web service and synchronisation with a local repository on the data provider's side.

Expert Group on Food Consumption Data

➤ Attendance from 2007;


✓ Benefits for RH:

- HAH has conducted national food consumption survey **based on** the information gained on the expert group meetings and the **EFSA guidelines** *General principles for the collection of national food consumption data in the view of a pan-European dietary survey*
- In 2016. – Project: *Update of the EFSA Comprehensive European Food Consumption Database Croatia 2011-12*
 - Duration: 8 months
 - Value: 46 000 Euros



■ In 2017. – Project: OC/EFSA/2016/02
Support to National Dietary Survey in Compliance with the EU Menu methodology (sixth support) – The children’s survey”, incl. Subjects from three months to 9 years old

Main activities

Project duration: 4 years 

Project value: 155.000 Euros

| |
|---|
| Preparation of the methodology framework |
| Meetings with consortium partners |
| Adaptation and/or development of the survey methodology according to the EFSA EU Menu methodology: protocols |
| Adaptation and/or development of the survey methodology according to the EFSA EU Menu methodology: questionnaires |
| Adaptation and/or development of the survey methodology according to the EFSA EU Menu methodology: DIETARY SOFTWARE |
| Selecting and training of interviewers |
| Preparation of the sample |
| The pilot survey |
| Activities to increase response rate |
| Collecting data from fieldwork, supported by dietary web-based application |
| Cleaning and preparation of the data, including other information collected during the study |
| Data harmonization and transmission to the EFSA with the required EFSA form |
| Reports to EFSA |

Challenges ahead....?

- global trade brings new challenges, but also s new opportunities for cooperation
- **scientific development and new tools and knowledge's** to respond better and timely on them
- it is important to keep and maintain good cooperation among all institutions dealing with food safety issues, **nationally and internationally**, as well with the academia, laboratories and food business operators.
- good multi-institutional cooperation and good communication is the basic prerequisite **for rapid response** regardless of whether the information coming through the rapid alert system or otherwise



Concluding remarks

- Risk analysis is highly important tool and should be constantly developed and improved in accordance with new scientific perceptions and socio-economic trends
- Lack of data could cause delay during the risk assessment procedures
- It is of particular importance properly developed system of information flow, accountability and decision-making



- Protection of consumers health is the primary task of all participants in the food chain which includes production, processing and distribution of food

Thank You for attention

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