



The Food Safety Market: An SME-powered industrial data platform to boost the competitiveness of European food certification

D6.3 - Recommendations for Further Improvements

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ACRONYMS LIST

DMHP	Data Management Handling Plan
EU	European Union
TheFSM	The Food Safety Market

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In order to deliver a well-functioning open industrial virtual data platform that will facilitate the exchange and connection of data between different food safety actors who are interested in sharing information critical to certification as specified in “The Food Safety Market” project (TheFSM) granted in the EU H2020 programme, extensive piloting is required. Detailed pilot plans are presented and discussed in Deliverable 6.1 and 6.2. The testing of the applications performed in the pilots will be iterative and improvements can be made after each round. This deliverable (D6.3) presents the recommendations for improvements on the pilot methodology and consists of six sections. Since the piloting will start in 2021, at this time only recommendations can be made for improvements of the initial pilot plans and documents.

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1. INTRODUCTION

Recently, “The Food Safety Market” project (TheFSM) was granted in the EU H2020 programme (Grant Agreement number: 871703). This project aims to deliver an open industrial virtual data platform that will facilitate the exchange and connection of data between different food safety actors who are interested in sharing information critical to certification. To this end, extensive piloting is foreseen to test the three applications (FOODAKAI 2.0, AGRIVI 2.0 and FOODINSPECTOR) developed by the project partners that will be supported and channeled through the infrastructure of the TheFSM.

The primary purpose of a pilot is to ensure that the design and products work in the production environment as the designers expected, that users can utilize the system effectively and that the business requirements are met. Furthermore, it reduces the risk of encountering problems during the full-scale deployment. Pilots are foreseen in many countries during the project duration (i.e. Greece, Netherlands, Italy, Romania, Austria, Croatia, Hungary, Cyprus, Egypt, Jordan) and to ensure optimal pilot execution and product development, a guidance for the participants is essential.

This document describes our recommendations for further improvements on the piloting methodology developed for each of the three applications.

2. METHODOLOGY

In this early phase of the project (M7-M12) several documents describing the pilot process have been developed and were delivered (see Deliverables D6.1 and D6.2). These include the general pilot plan and the three separate pilot plans for FOODAKAI 2.0, AGRIVI 2.0 and FOODINSPECTOR, respectively. During the remainder of TheFSM project, these documents will be revisited every year to ensure that its up-to-date and covering the needs and particularities of each pilot. In this process input for improvements from the partners and participants involved in the pilots is essential. It is important that this methodology will be reviewed and improved upon during the remainder of TheFSM project.

This report aims i) at assessing the pilot methodology and analysing the potential issues that may occur at each step of the pilot plan, and ii) at suggesting recommendations and improvement measures for the prevention and avoidance of problems occurring during the pilots.

The assessment of the pilot methodology means following a series of successive steps: i) analysis of the pilot process in every single step, ii) listing of identified potential issues, iii) evaluation of their possible causes of the problem and identification of the improvement actions, and iv) recommendation plans that could increase or improve the chance of success of the pilots.

This assessment was performed for each pilot plan of the three applications that will be piloted, namely: FOODAKAI 2.0, AGRIVI 2.0 and FOODINSPECTOR.

3. FOODAKAI 2.0 PILOTS RECOMMENDATIONS

Since in this version of D6.3 no pilots have been conducted and hence no recommendations on the improvements of the piloting methodology can be given, we focus now on recommendations to the development of the pilot plan. The assessment of the development of the pilot plan of FOODAKAI 2.0 has permitted us to identify the main issues that can be improved next year. The criteria used to evaluate the pilot process were the amount of progress in each step in terms of the documents readiness and quality, the application development progress, the quality and the content of each step, etc.

Table 1 reports the list of issues identified for every step of the pilot methodology of FOODAKAI 2.0 and their possible causes and their related improvement recommendations.

Table 1: FOODAKAI 2.0 Pilot Plan Recommendations

Pilot steps	Issues	Possible causes	Recommendations
Pilot Plan	Data management handling plan is designed for FOODKAI independent from the piloting countries.	The task started in M7, there wasn't enough time to cover all piloting countries.	Check if there are differences in data law between the piloting countries involved. If yes, develop new data management handling plans for those countries.
	Pilot scope and objectives of FOODAKAI pilots are incomplete.	The business requirements and technical requirements are not yet validated in WP1. This will happen in April 2021.	Update the scope and the objectives of FOODKAI pilots after the validation of the requirements.
	Pilot group and pilot sites of FOODAKAI are not yet defined in all piloting countries.	The COVID 19 crisis made the task very hard for the partners. The expected date of having a FOODAKAI application ready for the pilots wasn't defined.	Define the expected date of delivering FOODAKAI. Follow the pilot methodology in selecting the best groups for running the pilots when the date is known.

	Pilot training plan document of FOODAKAI is not yet in development.	The FOODAKAI application is under development. It will be developed in 2021.	Develop the training plan document of the FOODAKAI application when it's ready for piloting.
	Pilot support plan document for FOODAKAI is not yet developed.	The FOODAKAI application is under development. It will be developed in 2021.	Develop the pilot support plan document of FOODAKAI application when it's ready for piloting.
	Communication plan document of FOODAKAI is not yet in development.	The FOODAKAI application is under development. It will be developed in 2021.	Develop the pilot communication plan document of FOODAKAI application. Follow the pilot methodology in preparing the communication plan when the application is ready.
	Evaluation plan document of FOODAKAI is incomplete.	The evaluation plan document depends on the objectives of the pilots. The business requirements and technical requirements are not yet validated in WP1. This will happen in April 2021.	Update the evaluation plan document of FOODAKAI pilots when the validation of the requirements is performed.
	Status of the Risk and contingency plan document of FOODAKAI is unknown.	The FOODAKAI application is under development. It will be developed in 2021.	Develop the risk and contingency plan of the FOODAKAI application when it's ready for piloting.
	Status of the Backup and recovery plan document of	The FOODAKAI application is under development. It will be developed in 2021.	Develop the backup and recovery plan of the FOODAKAI application when it's ready for piloting.

	FOODAKAI is unknown.		
	Pilot schedule document of FOODAKAI is inaccurate.	The expected date of having a FOODAKAI application ready for the pilots wasn't defined in time. The COVID 19 crisis made the task very hard for the pilots' leaders to get in touch with potential partners.	Update the pilot schedule document of FOODAKAI with accurate dates when the real piloting dates are defined.
Prepare for the Pilot	Preparation of pilot sites for FOODAKAI is not yet performed.	The expected date of having a FOODAKAI application ready for the pilots wasn't defined in time. The COVID 19 crisis made the task very hard for the pilots' leaders to get in touch with potential partners.	Follow the pilot methodology (D6.1 and D6.2) in preparing the sites for running the pilots when the dates are known.
	Preparation of pilot participants for FOODAKAI is not yet performed.	The expected date of having a FOODAKAI application ready for the pilots wasn't defined in time. The COVID 19 crisis made the task very hard for the pilots' leaders to get in touch with potential partners.	Follow the pilot methodology (D6.1, and D6.2) in preparing the pilot participants when the dates are known.
	Testing the rollout process of the FOODAKAI pilot is not yet performed.	The FOODAKAI application is not yet ready for piloting., It will be developed in 2021.	Follow the pilot methodology (D6.1, and D6.2) in testing the rollout process of the pilots when the dates are known and the application is ready for testing.
	Conducting a trial run of the pilot of	The FOODAKAI application is not yet ready for piloting. It will be developed in 2021.	Conduct a trial run of the pilot of FOODAKAI following the pilot methodology (D6.1, and

Deploy and Test the Pilot	FOODAKAI is not yet performed.		D6.2) when the dates are known and the application is ready for running trial.
	Deployment of FOODAKAI Pilot is not yet performed.	The FOODAKAI application is not yet ready for piloting., It will be developed in 2021.	Deploy FOODAKAI pilot following the pilot methodology (D6.1, and D6.2) when the dates are known and the application is ready for deployment.
Pilot Evaluation	Evaluation plan document of FOODAKAI is incomplete.	The evaluation plan document depends on the objectives of the pilots. The business requirements and technical requirements are not yet validated in WP1. This will happen in April 2021.	Update the evaluation plan document of FOODAKAI pilots when the validation of the requirements is performed..

4. AGRIVI 2.0 PILOTS RECOMMENDATIONS

Since in this version of D6.3 no pilots have been conducted and hence no recommendations on the improvements of the piloting methodology can be given, we focus now on recommendations to the development of the pilot plan. The assessment of the development of the pilot plan of AGRIVI 2.0 has permitted us to identify the main issues that can be improved next year. The criteria used to evaluate the pilot process were the amount of progress in each step in terms of the documents readiness and quality, the application development progress, the quality and the content of each step, etc.

Table 2 reports the list of issues identified for every step of the pilot methodology of AGRIVI 2.0 and their possible causes and their related improvement recommendations.

Table 2: AGRIVI 2.0 Pilot Plan Recommendations

Pilot steps	Issues	Possible causes	Recommendations
Pilot Plan	Data management handling plan is designed for AGRIVI independent from the piloting countries.	The task started in M7, there wasn't enough time to cover all piloting countries.	Check if there are differences in data law between the piloting countries involved. If yes, develop new data management handling plans for those countries.
	Pilot scope and objectives of AGRIVI pilots are incomplete.	The business requirements and technical requirements are not yet validated in WP1. This will happen in April 2021.	Update the scope and the objectives of AGRIVI pilots after the validation of the requirements.
	Pilot group and pilot sites of AGRIVI are not yet defined in all piloting countries.	The COVID 19 crisis made the task very hard for the partners. The expected date of having a AGRIVI application ready for the	Define the expected date of delivering AGRIVI. Follow the pilot methodology in selecting the best groups for running the pilots when the date is known.

		pilots wasn't defined.	
	Pilot training plan document of AGRIVI is under development.	The AGRIVI application is under development. It will be developed in 2021.	Develop the training plan document of the AGRIVI application when it's ready for piloting.
	Pilot support plan document for AGRIVI is not yet developed.	The AGRIVI application is under development. It will be developed in 2021.	Develop the pilot support plan document of AGRIVI application when it's ready for piloting.
	Communication plan document of AGRIVI is under development.	The AGRIVI application is under development. It will be developed in 2021.	Develop the pilot communication plan document of AGRIVI application. Follow the pilot methodology in preparing the communication plan when the application is ready.
	Evaluation plan document of AGRIVI is incomplete.	The evaluation plan document depends on the objectives of the pilots. The business requirements and technical requirements are not yet validated in WP1. This will happen in April 2021.	Update the evaluation plan document of AGRIVI pilots when the validation of the requirements is performed.
	Status of the Risk and contingency plan document of AGRIVI is unknown.	The AGRIVI application is under development. It will be developed in 2021.	Develop the risk and contingency plan of the AGRIVI application when it's ready for piloting.
	Status of the Backup and recovery plan document of	The AGRIVI application is under development. It will be developed in 2021.	Develop the backup and recovery plan of the AGRIVI application when it's ready for piloting.

	AGRIVI is unknown.		
	Pilot schedule document of AGRIVI is inaccurate.	The expected date of having a AGRIVI application ready for the pilots wasn't defined in time. The COVID 19 crisis made the task very hard for the pilots' leaders to get in touch with potential partners.	Update the pilot schedule document of AGRIVI with accurate dates when the real piloting dates are defined.
<i>Prepare for the Pilot</i>	Preparation of pilot sites for AGRIVI is not yet performed.	The expected date of having a AGRIVI application ready for the pilots wasn't defined in time. The COVID 19 crisis made the task very hard for the pilots' leaders to get in touch with potential partners.	Follow the pilot methodology (D6.1 and D6.2) in preparing the sites for running the pilots when the dates are known.
	Preparation of pilot participants for AGRIVI is not yet performed.	The expected date of having a AGRIVI application ready for the pilots wasn't defined in time. The COVID 19 crisis made the task very hard for the pilots' leaders to get in touch with potential partners.	Follow the pilot methodology (D6.1, and D6.2) in preparing the pilot participants when the dates are known.

	Testing the rollout process of AGRIVI pilot is not yet performed.	The AGRIVI application is not yet ready for piloting., It will be developed in 2021.	Follow the pilot methodology (D6.1, and D6.2) in testing the rollout process of the pilots when the dates are known and the application is ready for testing.
<i>Deploy and Test the Pilot</i>	Conducting a trial run of the pilot of AGRIVI is not yet performed.	The AGRIVI application is not yet ready for piloting. It will be developed in 2021.	Conduct a trial run of the pilot of AGRIVI following the pilot methodology (D6.1, and D6.2) when the dates are known and the application is ready for running trial.
	Deployment of AGRIVI Pilot is not yet performed.	The AGRIVI application is not yet ready for piloting. It will be developed in 2021.	Deploy AGRIVI pilot following the pilot methodology (D6.1, and D6.2) when the dates are known and the application is ready for deployment.
<i>Pilot Evaluation</i>	Evaluation plan document of AGRIVI is incomplete.	The evaluation plan document depends on the objectives of the pilots. The business requirements and technical requirements are not yet validated in WP1. This will happen in April 2021.	Update the evaluation plan document of AGRIVI pilots when the validation of the requirements is performed.

5. FOODINSPECTOR PILOTS RECOMMENDATIONS

Since in this version of D6.3 no pilots have been conducted and hence no recommendations on the improvements of the piloting methodology can be given, we focus now on recommendations to the development of the pilot plan. The assessment of the development of the pilot plan of FOODINSPECTOR has permitted us to identify the main issues that can be improved next year. The criteria used to evaluate the pilot process were the amount of progress in each step in terms of the documents readiness and quality, the application development progress, the quality and the content of each step, etc.

Table 3 reports the list of issues identified for every step of the pilot methodology of FOODINSPECTOR and their possible causes and their related improvement recommendations.

Table 3: FOODINSPECTOR pilots recommendations

Pilot steps	Issues	Possible causes	Recommendations
Pilot Plan	Data management handling plan is designed for FOODINSPECTOR independent from the piloting countries.	The task started in M7, there wasn't enough time to cover all piloting countries.	Check if there are differences in data law between the piloting countries involved. If yes, develop new data management handling plans for those countries.
	Pilot scope and objectives of FOODINSPECTOR pilots are incomplete.	The business requirements and technical requirements are not yet validated in WP1. This will happen in April 2021.	Update the scope and the objectives of FOODINSPECTOR pilots after the validation of the requirements.
	Pilot group and pilot sites of FOODINSPECTOR are not yet defined in all piloting countries.	The COVID 19 crisis made the task very hard for the partners. The expected date of having a FOODINSPECTOR application ready for the	Define the expected date of delivering FOODINSPECTOR. Follow the pilot methodology in selecting the best groups for running the pilots when the date is known.

		pilots wasn't defined.	
	Pilot training plan document of FOODINSPECTOR is under development	The FOODINSPECTOR application is under development. It will be developed in 2021.	Develop the training plan document of the FOODINSPECTOR application when it's ready for piloting.
	Pilot support plan document for FOODINSPECTOR is not yet developed.	The FOODINSPECTOR application is under development. It will be developed in 2021.	Develop the pilot support plan document of FOODINSPECTOR application when it's ready for piloting.
	Communication plan document of FOODINSPECTOR is under development.	The FOODINSPECTOR application is under development. It will be developed in 2021.	Develop the pilot communication plan document of FOODINSPECTOR application. Follow the pilot methodology in preparing the communication plan when the application is ready.
	Evaluation plan document of FOODINSPECTOR is incomplete.	The evaluation plan document depends on the objectives of the pilots. The business requirements and technical requirements are not yet validated in WP1. This will happen in April 2021.	Update the evaluation plan document of FOODINSPECTOR pilots when the validation of the requirements is performed.
	Status of the Risk and contingency plan document	The FOODINSPECTOR application is under development. It will be developed in 2021.	Develop the risk and contingency plan of the FOODINSPECTOR application when it's ready for piloting.

	of FOODINSPECTOR is unknown.		
	Status of the Backup and recovery plan document of FOODINSPECTOR is unknown.	The FOODINSPECTOR application is under development. It will be developed in 2021.	Develop the backup and recovery plan of the FOODINSPECTOR application when it's ready for piloting.
	Pilot schedule document of FOODINSPECTOR is inaccurate.	The expected date of having a FOODINSPECTOR application ready for the pilots wasn't defined in time. The COVID 19 crisis made the task very hard for the pilots' leaders to get in touch with potential partners.	Update the pilot schedule document of FOODINSPECTOR with accurate dates when the real piloting dates are defined.
<i>Prepare for the Pilot</i>	Preparation of pilot sites for FOODINSPECTOR is not yet performed.	The expected date of having a FOODINSPECTOR application ready for the pilots wasn't defined in time. The COVID 19 crisis made the task very hard for the pilots' leaders to get in touch with potential partners.	Follow the pilot methodology (D6.1 and D6.2) in preparing the sites for running the pilots when the dates are known.

	Preparation of pilot participants for FOODINSPECTOR is not yet performed.	The expected date of having a FOODINSPECTOR application ready for the pilots wasn't defined in time. The COVID 19 crisis made the task very hard for the pilots' leaders to get in touch with potential partners.	Follow the pilot methodology (D6.1, and D6.2) in preparing the pilot participants when the dates are known.
	Testing the rollout process of FOODINSPECTOR pilot is not yet performed.	The FOODINSPECTOR application is not yet ready for piloting., It will be developed in 2021.	Follow the pilot methodology (D6.1, and D6.2) in testing the rollout process of the pilots when the dates are known and the application is ready for testing.
Deploy and Test the Pilot	Conducting a trial run of the pilot of FOODINSPECTOR is not yet performed.	The FOODINSPECTOR application is not yet ready for piloting. It will be developed in 2021.	Conduct a trial run of the pilot of FOODINSPECTOR following the pilot methodology (D6.1, and D6.2) when the dates are known and the application is ready for running trial.
	Deployment of FOODINSPECTOR pilot is not yet performed.	The FOODINSPECTOR application is not yet ready for piloting. It will be developed in 2021.	Deploy FOODINSPECTOR pilot following the pilot methodology (D6.1, and D6.2) when the dates are known and the application is ready for deployment.
Pilot Evaluation	Evaluation plan document of FOODINSPECTOR is incomplete.	The evaluation plan document depends on the objectives of the pilots. The business requirements and technical requirements	Update the evaluation plan document of FOODINSPECTOR pilots when the validation of the requirements is performed .

		are not yet validated in WP1. This will happen in April 2021.	
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6. CONCLUSIONS

The first pilots are planned in 2021. As such, no suggestions for improvements can yet be made in 2020. It is important though to stress the need for a continuous and iterative cycle of collecting feedback on the planning and deployment of pilots. Lessons learned from one pilot in country X should be taken into account not only for further pilots in country X, but also for pilots in all other countries.

Therefore, evaluation sessions should take place immediately after each pilot has been completed with a focus on what went right, what went wrong, and what improvements can be made. The results from these sessions should be documented and made available and discussed with the partners to enable them to implement the recommended changes.