

# EU Food Safety Almanac



2014

Please open this page



## Imprint

3rd updated and revised edition of the EU Food Safety Almanac, 2014

Publisher: Federal Institute for Risk Assessment (BfR), Berlin, Germany ([www.bfr.bund.de/en](http://www.bfr.bund.de/en))

Editors: Klaus Jürgen Henning, Dr. Stefanie Freyberg, Susann Stehfest, Susanne Kaus and PD Dr. Gaby-Fleur Böhl

Graphics: [www.kaisermatthies.com](http://www.kaisermatthies.com)

Typesetting: [www.tangram.de](http://www.tangram.de)

Printing: [www.formatdruck.de](http://www.formatdruck.de)

No. of copies printed: 6.000

The information provided in this booklet was compiled with the kind support of the Focal Point Network of the European Food Safety Authority (EFSA). The content of this booklet is subject to constant change and reflects to the best of our knowledge the status quo in the autumn of 2013. Some minor changes have been made to the online version.

The EU Food Safety Almanac is available online ([www.bfr.bund.de/en](http://www.bfr.bund.de/en)) or as printed copy in English or German language.

Reprint allowed with permission of the publisher.

ISBN 978-3-943963-06-2

ISSN 2363-6564 (Print)

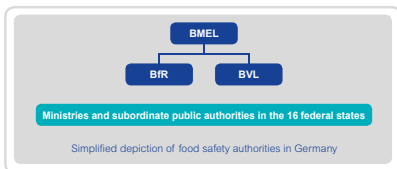
ISSN 2363-6572 (Online)

## Country profiles – how to read the EU Almanac

Each country profile provides a three page overview of public authorities in the area of food and feed safety.

### Diagram depicting the structure of governmental authorities:

Each country profile starts with a simplified diagram that depicts the structure of governmental authorities and hierarchies. Authorities are referred to by their national acronym. The list of abbreviations (chapter 6) contains full names of all authorities listed in the Almanac (in English as well as in the respective national language). Institutions at central/federal level are illustrated in blue caskets, regional/local institutions in turquoise ones.



**Legal foundation:** Brief description of national legal foundations in the area of food and feed safety at the beginning of the chapter.

In Germany the central legal foundation for food legislation is the Food and Feed Code (Lebensmittel und Futtermittelgesetzbuch). In Germany risk assessment and risk management ...

**Institutions at central level (shown in blue caskets):** Tasks and activities of each authority are described in a separate section for each authority. The blue box at the beginning of each section contains the acronym and the full name of the authority. The grey box below contains the main tasks in the area of food and feed safety, followed by the city the authority is based in and the authority website.

**BfR**  
Federal Institute for Risk Assessment

- ▶ Risk assessment
- ▶ Risk communication
- ▶ EFSA Focal Point
- ▶ Research

Seat: Berlin  
<http://www.bfr.bund.de>

**Responsibility:** Ten pictograms illustrate the individual areas of responsibility of the respective authority.

	Plant protection products		Drinking water		Genetic engineering		Contaminants
	Feed		Food supplements		Residues of veterinary medicinal products		
	Mineral water		Novel foods		Zoonoses		

**Regional and local level:** Authorities at regional and local level are described in a separate section. They are introduced by turquoise caskets.

### Regional and local levels

Germany consists of 16 federal states, with large individual differences with regards to the size of each state (between 1 and 20 million inhabitants per state). ...

**EFSA network:** Regulation (EC) No 178/2002 establishing the European Food Safety Authority (EFSA) states that organisations operating in the fields within the authority's mission are to form a network. Organisations that fall under this category are listed under the heading "Institutions involved in the EFSA network".

- Institutions involved in the EFSA network pursuant to Article 36 Reg. (EC) No. 178/2002:**
1. Federal Institute for Risk Assessment (BfR)
  2. Federal Office of Consumer Protection and Food Safety (BVL)

The list of institutions involved in the EFSA Network pursuant to Article 36 Reg. (EC) No. 178/2002 at the end of each country profile is subject to revision. The up-to-date list of each country is available on the internet at: [www.efsa.europa.eu/en/scdocs/doc/art36listg.pdf](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/scdocs/doc/art36listg.pdf)



# EU Food Safety Almanac

Bundesinstitut für Risikobewertung  
Federal Institute for Risk Assessment

Klaus Jürgen Henning, Dr. Stefanie Freyberg, Susann Stehfest, Susanne Kaus and PD Dr. Gaby-Fleur Böhl



# Preface

## Food Safety in the EU: An Almanac

Dear Readers,

Food safety in the European Union is an important goal and prerequisite in the face of the increasingly rapid globalisation of the economy. The range of foods on offer in Europe is steadily growing. This, in turn, leads to an increase in the requirements that have to be met by European countries and the European Union when it comes to the scientific assessment, reduction and effective communication of food risks.

The EU Food Safety Almanac gives an overview of the competent public authorities and the structures of food and feed safety within the European Union. The emphasis is on risk assessment. This overview of organisational links and cooperation within the European Union not only facilitates the search for European partners but also avoids duplication of work, as well as clarifying responsibilities.

This brochure is intended for everyone interested in food safety structures and institutions, in particular experts from everyday practice like parliamentarians, food safety agency staff, specialist and general interest press, consumer associations, the food industry and science.

The Food Safety Almanac provides information on the 28 Member States of the European Union as well as the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Iceland, Montenegro, Norway, Serbia, Switzerland and Turkey.

This brochure does not claim to give a full description of the national structures but is intentionally restricted to consumer protection as an object of legal protection. Other objects of legal protection like environmental protection,



animal welfare, health and safety at work are, of course equally important. However, in the interest of transparency, the subject matter was restricted to the main aspects.

During the preparation of this EU Almanac the Federal Institute for Risk Assessment benefited from excellent and effective support from the EFSA Focal Points and EFSA itself. I would like to express my sincere thanks for their contributions.

With 7,000 printed copies in German and 5,000 in English, the second edition of the EU Almanac published in 2011 more than doubled its circulation compared to the first edition of 2009. We hope that this third edition of the EU Food Safety Almanac again provides an interesting and valuable overview of food and feed safety in the European Union.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, which appears to read 'Andreas Hensel'.

Professor Dr. Dr. Andreas Hensel  
BfR President and German  
Representative on the EFSA  
Advisory Forum

# Table of Contents

<b>Preface – Food Safety in the EU: An Almanac</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>1 National Frameworks and Food Safety</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>2 Food Safety in the European Union</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>3 Food Safety in the Member States</b>	<b>11</b>
3.1 Austria	11
3.2 Belgium	14
3.3 Bulgaria	17
3.4 Croatia	20
3.5 Cyprus	23
3.6 Czech Republic	25
3.7 Denmark	28
3.8 Estonia	31
3.9 Finland	34
3.10 France	37
3.11 Germany	40
3.12 Greece	43
3.13 Hungary	46
3.14 Ireland	49
3.15 Italy	52
3.16 Latvia	55
3.17 Lithuania	58



3.18	Luxembourg	61
3.19	Malta	64
3.20	The Netherlands	67
3.21	Poland	70
3.22	Portugal	73
3.23	Romania	76
3.24	Slovak Republic	79
3.25	Slovenia	82
3.26	Spain	85
3.27	Sweden	88
3.28	United Kingdom	91
<b>4</b>	<b>Food Safety in Neighbouring States</b>	<b>94</b>
4.1	Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	94
4.2	Iceland	97
4.3	Montenegro	99
4.4	Norway	101
4.5	Serbia	104
4.6	Switzerland	107
4.7	Turkey	110
<b>5</b>	<b>Glossary</b>	<b>113</b>
<b>6</b>	<b>List of Abbreviations</b>	<b>116</b>

# 1 National Frameworks and Food Safety

Effective cooperation between state actors in Europe strengthens food safety. If all parties involved are familiar with relevant actors and legal framework in the European Member States, the countries are able to work together efficiently, avoid duplication and effectively maintain consumer protection. Improved cooperation contributes to harmonised risk assessment methods and the efficient control of risks, increases transparency and facilitates the search for European partners in project cooperation.

The aims of food safety and effective consumer protection are to protect health, prevent fraud and provide proper consumer information. The shared European legal framework provides a uniform and reliable level of protection for European consumers. National measures alone are not enough to provide sufficient protection in a globalised world.

Without releasing companies and consumers from their responsibilities and due diligence, consumer protection in the area of food safety through risk assessment, risk management and risk communication can be considered as governmental responsibilities.

For this purpose, the following procedure is carried out:

As a first step, a risk is evaluated using scientific methods ("risk assessment"). In its "Guidance Document for Health Assessments", the Federal Institute for Risk Assessment (BfR) has suggested how the result of this process might look ([www.bfr.bund.de](http://www.bfr.bund.de)).

Competent management authorities use risk assessments to decide on the necessary measures ("risk management"). In addition to scientific risk assessments, this process also



*Guidance Document for Health Assessment (BfR)*

incorporates societal and economic aspects in order to evaluate the suitability and efficiency of these measures.

Consumers are only able to make self-determined purchase decisions if they are informed sufficiently. Therefore, transparent risk communication in all respects is essential. For this purpose, information on food safety should be made accessible in an appropriate form. Other concerned and involved parties from industry, politics, associations, NGOs and public bodies are also involved in the interactive exchange of information and opinions.

In 2000 the EU Commission's White Paper initiated a new framework for food safety in Europe. A new concept for effective and comprehensive consumer health protection was introduced:

Food safety is to be warranted in all steps of production and processing along the food chain “from farm to fork”. In 2002, the European Food Safety Authority (EFSA) was founded as an independent scientific centre for expertise on risk assessment. The same year also saw the establishment of the BfR which has a similar function within Germany. This created a network of competent authorities and institutions which functions as a link between national and European levels as well as between bodies in different Member States in the area of food safety.

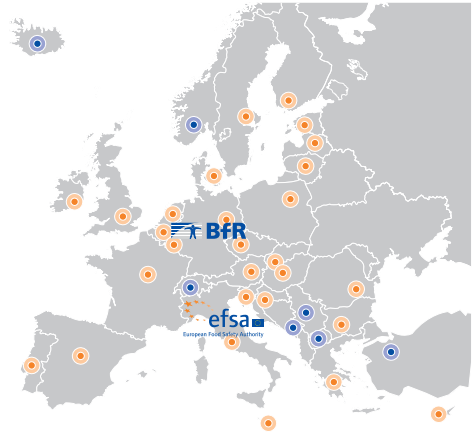
At European level, risk assessment and risk communication are tasks assigned to EFSA while risk management as a political task remains with the European Commission and the Council of the European Union.

Information from the EU Rapid Alert System for Food and Feed (RASFF) is communicated on a daily basis between the EU Member States and the European Commission on food that poses serious health risks. Risk assessments are published by many national authorities and the EFSA. The media and product testing organisations also provide transparency for consumers.

The 35 country profiles of the EU Almanac reveal, among other things, the following:

In the various European States, the allocation of risk assessment, risk management and risk communication has evolved quite differently. Some countries, including Germany, prefer to spread responsibility for risk assessment and risk management between different authorities. In other countries, all these spheres of activity are the responsibility of a single authority.

The relevant government authorities with their tasks and legal foundations in relation to food and feed safety can be gleaned from each country profile. The profiles also state whether and to what extent a country publishes risk assessments.



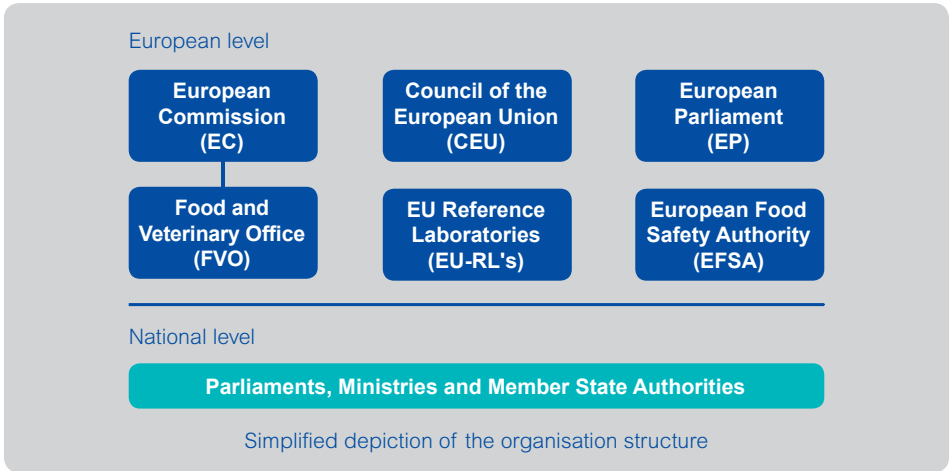
*EFSA Focal Point Network*

Another important observation is that some countries tend to have their risk assessments conducted by external experts (commissions), whereas in others civil servants largely carry out risk assessments themselves. The distribution of responsibility between the national, regional and local level within a given country too has an impact on efficient food safety regulation. This aspect is described in the EU Food Safety Almanac for each of the 35 European States.

The aim of the EU Almanac as a work of reference is to clarify the present legal frameworks that exist with regard to food safety in order to improve cooperation.

The EU Almanac is an example of constructive cooperation between all bodies involved in food safety in Europe: both the EFSA and its Focal Points in all Member States have made an active contribution to the EU Food Safety Almanac produced by the BfR.

## 2 Food Safety in the European Union



Regulation (EC) No. 178/2002 and Regulation (EC) No. 882/2004 are the central legal foundations for food legislation in the European Union (EU). EU Regulations apply directly in all Member States of the EU without the Member States having to enact national laws.

Regulation (EC) No. 178/2002 lays down the general principles and requirements of food law within the EU. It covers all stages of food production and processing along the food chain, “from farm to fork”. In addition it establishes and specifies the remit of the European Food Safety Authority (EFSA) and has created the Rapid Alert System for Food and Feed (RASFF) network. Regulation (EC) No. 882/2004 lays down the general principles of official controls performed to ensure compliance with food and feed law.

At EU level risk assessment is institutionally separated from risk management. While risk assessment of food and feed is undertaken by the European Food Safety Authority (EFSA), EU risk management is dealt with by the European

Commission (EC). Risk communication, the third component in the risk analysis framework, is a shared competence between risk assessors and managers. All risk assessments are published on the EFSA website.

**EC European Commission**

- ▶ European law making
- ▶ Risk management
- ▶ Food safety policy

---

Seat: Brussels, Belgium  
<http://ec.europa.eu>

It is the role of the EC to promote the general interest of the EU as a whole. The “College of Commissioners” (currently one Commissioner from each Member State) defines policy and takes decisions.

EC is the EU's executive body: As the "guardian of the treaties", EC is responsible for ensuring that EU law is properly implemented and applied in all EU Member States. In case of infringements or doubts on the interpretation on EU law, the European Court of Justice has the final say.

EC is the institution having the right of legislative initiative. In practice, the proposals for legislative acts (regulations, directives and decisions) are prepared by specific EC departments. For example, the EC Directorate-General for Health & Consumers, DG SANCO, prepares draft legislation in the area of food and feed, animal and plant health. The EC Directorate General Environment prepares draft legislation in this area.

EC (SANCO) coordinates the Rapid Alert System for Food and Feed (RASFF). It collects, verifies and disseminates food and feed safety information it receives from one Member State to the other Member States and EFSA.

ings "Employment, Social Policy, Health and Consumer Affairs" deal with food labelling.

European legislation in the field of public health, food and feed safety is adopted by the "co-decision procedure", which is the main legislative procedure for the adoption of EU law. "Co-decision procedure" means that draft legislation needs to be adopted by both CEU and EP.

### EP European Parliament

- ▶ Food safety policy
- ▶ European law making
- ▶ Risk management

Seat: Strasbourg, France  
<http://www.europarl.europa.eu>



### CEU Council of the European Union

- ▶ European law making
- ▶ Food safety policy
- ▶ Risk management

Seat: Brussels, Belgium  
<http://www.consilium.europa.eu>



The CEU, together with the European Parliament, is the main decision-making body in the EU. One minister from each of the national governments attends CEU meetings. Which minister attends a meeting depends on the topic of the meeting. The minister represents his/her Member State. CEU meetings "Agriculture and Fisheries" deal with food safety and CEU meet-

The EP is elected by the citizens of the EU. It has 766 members from 28 EU countries and represents the interests of more than 500 million people. The fact that the EP is directly elected by the citizens helps guarantee the democratic legitimacy of European law.

The EP exercises democratic supervision over the other EU institutions and in particular over the EC. The EP has the power to approve or reject nomination of commissioners and it has the right to censure the EC as a whole. The EP shares with the CEU authority over the EU budget and can therefore influence EU spending. At the end of the procedure, it adopts or rejects the budget in its entirety.

The EP also prepares draft legislation in the area of food and feed safety. The EP has 20 permanent committees: the "Environment, Public Health and Food Safety Committee" deals with food safety and drinking water.

**EFSA  
European Food Safety Authority**

- ▶ Risk assessment
- ▶ Risk communication

Seat: Parma, Italy  
<http://www.efsa.europa.eu>



EFSA is an independent European agency and the keystone of risk assessment regarding food and feed safety in the EU. In close collaboration with national authorities and in open consultation with other stakeholders, EFSA delivers independent scientific advice as well as clear communication on existing and emerging risks. EFSA's scientific opinions provide a sound foundation for European policies and legislation to support the EC, EP and EU Member States in taking effective and timely risk management decisions.

EFSA receives requests for risk assessments from the EC, EP and Member States, however EFSA also undertakes scientific work on its own initiative. EFSA's remit covers risk assessment for food and feed safety, nutrition, animal health and welfare, plant protection and plant health.

**FVO  
Food and Veterinary Office**

- ▶ Risk management (inspection and control)

Seat: Grange, Ireland  
<http://ec.europa.eu/food/fvo>



The FVO is part of the EC Directorate-General for Health and Consumers and its activities are described in Regulation (EC) No. 882/2004 (articles 45 and 46).

The FVO assesses how EU regulations are complied with within the EU and in non-EU countries that export to the EU. This is mainly done by inspections of the competent authorities in the Member States and non-EU countries.

The FVO provides information on its results and makes recommendations, where appropriate, on remedying shortcomings and monitors their implementation. FVO inspection reports and the comments of the countries inspected are published on the website of the Health and Consumers Directorate-General.

**EU-RLs  
European Union Reference Laboratories**

- ▶ Analytics and diagnostics
- ▶ Harmonisation of laboratory methods

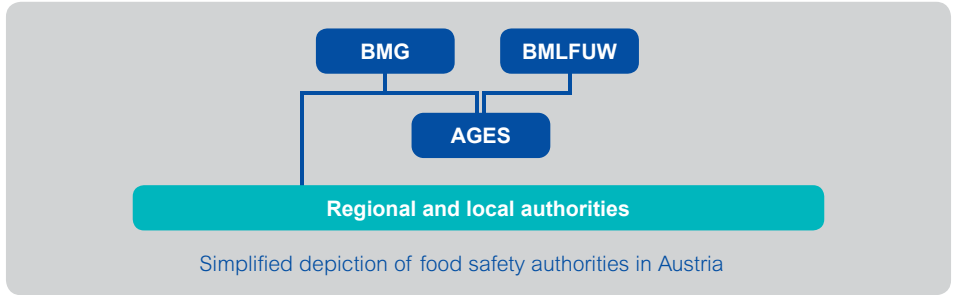
EU-RLs are analytical laboratories designated by EU Directives and Regulations. Some EU-RLs are part of the Joint Research Centre (JRC) which is a Directorate-General of the EC. EU-RLs provide the EC with technical and scientific support in the area of diagnostic and analytical tests.

The remit of EU-RLs includes the set-up of EU-wide standards for testing, routine procedures and reliable methods, the organisation of comparative tests, training of analysts from national laboratories and networking with national reference laboratories. EU-RLs have an overview of international standards and practices, reference substances, reagents and their suppliers.

Individual EU-RLs for food and feed are listed in Annex VII of Regulation (EC) No. 882/2004: <http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=OJ:L:2004:165:0001:0141:EN:PDF>

### 3 Food Safety in the Member States

#### 3.1 Austria



Austria

The Food Safety and Consumer Protection Act is the central legal foundation for food legislation in Austria. Infringement of food regulations can lead to measures under criminal law and consumer damage claims under civil law, whereby the final decision rests with the courts. Government measures with regard to food safety are often based on scientific risk assessment. However, the final decision on the legality of governmental measures rests with the courts.

In Austria risk assessment and risk management are largely institutionally separated. Risk assessments are published on the Internet.

**BMG**  
Ministry of Health

- ▶ Health policy, food safety
- ▶ Animal health and welfare
- ▶ Risk management

---

Seat: Vienna  
<http://www.bmg.gv.at>



The BMG is responsible for health policy and food safety. The BMG prepares draft legislation in the field of food safety based on scientific risk assessments by the Austrian Agency for Health and Food Safety (AGES). The BMG is responsible for the coordination of state food inspections and can issue national regulations in the area of food and feed.

The BMG's portfolio includes food, novel foods, food supplements, GMOs, zoonoses, mineral water, drinking water, residues of plant protection products and veterinary drugs, medical devices and medicinal products. Furthermore, the BMG is responsible for the approval of pilot studies with regard to the cultivation of genetically modified plants. It is also responsible for

the approval of the use of genetically modified organisms (GMOs) in conjunction with food and feed.

The remit of the BMG extends beyond food safety to, for instance, animal health and animal welfare.

**BMLFUW**  
**Federal Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry,  
 Environment and Water Management**

- ▶ Agricultural policy, food and feed safety
- ▶ Plant health
- ▶ Risk management
- ▶ Codex Contact Point

Seat: Vienna  
<http://www.lebensministerium.at>



The BMLFUW is responsible for agricultural policy and food safety during primary food production. It prepares draft legislation in the field of feed and groundwater based on scientific risk assessments by the Austrian Agency for Health and Food Safety (AGES). The BMLFUW is authorised to issue national regulations with regard to feed and groundwater.

The work of the BMLFUW is supported by the Federal Office for Food Safety (BAES). The area of work of the BMLFUW extends beyond the field of food safety to plant health and plant protection.

**AGES**  
**Austrian Agency for Health and Food Safety**

- ▶ Risk assessment
- ▶ Risk communication
- ▶ EFSA Focal Point
- ▶ RASFF Contact Point
- ▶ Research

Seat: Vienna  
<http://www.ages.at>



AGES is a limited liability company (GmbH) owned by the BMG and BMLFUW. AGES has a mandate from the Republic of Austria to prepare scientific risk assessments and conduct transparent risk communication with the public at large, scientists and other interested or involved groups. Independent of any scientific, political or social interests AGES prepares scientific risk assessments, identifies new health risks and prepares recommendations for risk reduction. AGES risk assessments are used by the BMG and BMLFUW as the foundation for their management measures.

AGES remit includes food and feed safety, novel foods, food supplements, GMOs, zoonoses, mineral water, residues of plant protection products and veterinary medicinal products. AGES is also active in the field of animal health, plant health, plant protection, soil health, fertilisers, seeds, bee health and radiation protection. AGES is also involved in active research. AGES has scientific analytical laboratory facilities in all of its areas of activity.

There are 21 National Reference Laboratories pursuant to Regulation (EC) No. 882/2004 and reference laboratories in the fields of veterinary medicine and human medicine attached to AGES.



The regulatory authority for veterinary drugs is assigned to the Federal Office for Safety in Health Care (BASG). The BASG is also an authority within the organisational structure of AGES. BASG issues and monitors market authorisation of medicinal products and other medical devices.

**BAES**  
Federal Office for Food Safety

► Risk management

Seat: Vienna  
<http://www.baes.gv.at>



The BAES supports the work of the BMLFUW and is integrated into the organisational structure of AGES. The BAES is responsible for the coordination and implementation of state inspections of animal feed. It is also the regulatory authority for plant protection products. The area of work of the BAES extends beyond the field of animal feed to plant health.

**Regional and local levels**

Austria consists of nine federal states which are divided into 99 districts (15 urban districts and 84 rural districts). Each district is further divided into several municipalities. Depending on the distribution of statutory competences, the responsibility for the implementation of food inspections is held by federal authorities or regional authorities of the nine federal states.

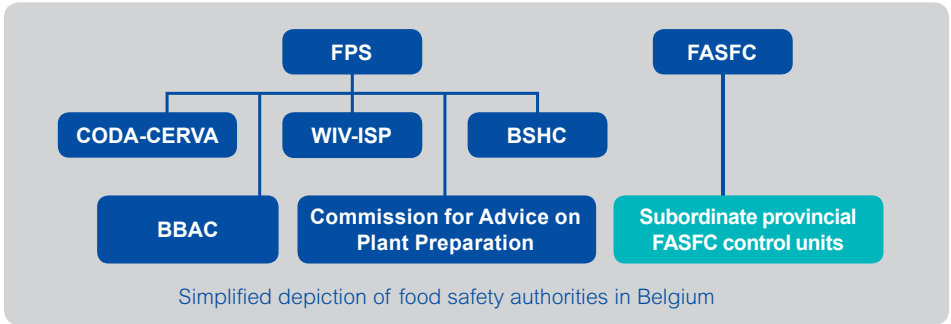
The Ministry of Health (BMG) has transferred the coordination and implementation of federal inspections on all aspects of food safety to the federal states of Austria (food safety inspections are carried out at a regional and local level).

In contrast, the coordination and implementation of animal feed inspections is not delegated to the federal states, it is responsibility of the BAES (national level).

**Institutions involved in the EFSA network pursuant to Article 36 Reg. (EC) No. 178/2002:**

1. Agentur für Gesundheit und Ernährungssicherheit GmbH
2. Umweltbundesamt GmbH

3.2 Belgium



Regulation (EC) No. 178/2002 and national food laws are the central legal foundation for food legislation in Belgium. Infringement of food regulations can lead to measures under criminal law and consumer damage claims under civil law, whereby the final decision rests with the courts. In Belgium several independent institutes are involved in risk assessment of food and feed safety, however there is no strict institutional separation of risk assessment and risk management. Risk assessments are published on the Internet unless there are statutory provisions that prohibit this.

The FPS is a national ministry and is responsible for policy and legislation in the area of food and feed safety including novel foods, food supplements, chemical and microbiological contaminants, allergens, labelling and claims, dietetic products, materials in contact with food, drinking water, zoonoses, bottled waters, residues of plant protection products, plant and animal health, GMOs and veterinary medicinal products.

The FPS is responsible for drafting legislation in the area of food and feed safety. FPS food policy is based on scientific risk assessments. Risk assessments are carried out by the Veterinary and Agrochemical Research Centre (CODA-CERVA), the Scientific Institute of Public Health (WIV-ISP) and the Belgian Superior Health Council (BSHC). The BSHC acts as a link between government and the scientific world in the area of nutrition and food safety (nutrition advice, food supplements, labelling, health claims, dietetic products, risk assessment of food additives, chemical or microbiological contaminants, etc.)

Several other institutions provide the FPS with scientific opinions on food safety: the Belgian Biosafety Advisory Council (BBAC), the Commission for Advice on Plant Preparation and, in specific cases, the Federal Agency for the Safety of the Food Chain (FASFC) as well as external academic departments.

**FPS**  
**Federal Public Service for Health, Food Chain Safety and Environment**

- ▶ Risk assessment
- ▶ Risk communication
- ▶ Risk management
- ▶ EFSA Focal Point
- ▶ Codex Contact Point
- ▶ WHO Food Safety and Nutrition counterparts

Seat: Brussels  
<http://www.health.belgium.be>



The FPS is the regulatory authority for plant protection products. By contrast, the regulatory authority for veterinary medicinal products is the Federal Agency for Medicines and Health Products (FAMHP) which is the competent authority responsible for the supervision of the quality, safety and efficacy of medicines for human and veterinary use (including homeopathic medicines, herbal medicines, pharmacy-made and officinal preparations) and also of medical devices and accessories as well as raw materials for the preparation and production of medicines.

The FPS provides funding for research in the area of food safety, animal and plant health and animal welfare. There are yearly calls for proposals, with a bottom-up (“free research”) and a top down (“targeted research”) approach.

The area of work of the FPS extends beyond the field of food safety to, for instance, nutrition policy, animal health, animal welfare, plant protection, environment, cosmetics, biocides and REACH.

### FASFC Federal Agency for the Safety of the Food Chain

- ▶ Risk assessment
- ▶ Risk communication
- ▶ Risk management
- ▶ RASFF Contact Point
- ▶ Multi-annual national control plan

Seat: Brussels  
<http://www.afsca.be/home-en>



The FASFC is a federal executive agency, responsible for official controls and inspections as well as for the definition and enforcement of operational standards applicable during food production (from farm to fork). The agency carries out official controls of food, feed and its raw materials at all stages of the feed and food chain including production, processing, storage, transport, trade, import and export of food and its raw materials. The FASFC oversees all official controls on the basis of multi-annual control plans. In addition it is also responsible for the control of animal health and plant health.

To fulfil its tasks, the FASFC is supported by two committees. The Advisory Committee includes all FASFC stakeholders and provides opinions on risk management matters. The Scientific Committee is responsible for independent risk assessment and provides scientific opinions on risk management standards and regulations.

### CODA-CERVA Veterinary and Agrochemical Research Centre

- ▶ Risk assessment
- ▶ Research

Seat: Brussels  
<http://www.var.fgov.be>



CODA-CERVA is a federal research institute focusing on the prevention of infectious animal diseases including zoonoses. CODA-CERVA participates in active research and provides expert advice and scientific risk assessments.

## WIV-ISP Scientific Institute of Public Health

- ▶ Risk assessment
- ▶ Research

Seat: Brussels  
<http://www.wiv-isp.be>



WIV-ISP is a federal research institute focusing on public health and surveillance of human disease and health risks. WIV-ISP participates in active research and provides expert advice and scientific risk assessments. With respect to food, WIV-ISP focuses in particular on food microbiology, toxic and pharmacologic residues, and emerging chemical risks.

Several NRL's are located at WIV-ISP and CODA-CERVA. The BBAC has a similar remit to WIV-ISP and CODA-CERVA, but focuses on matters related to the environmental release and commercialisation of GMOs.

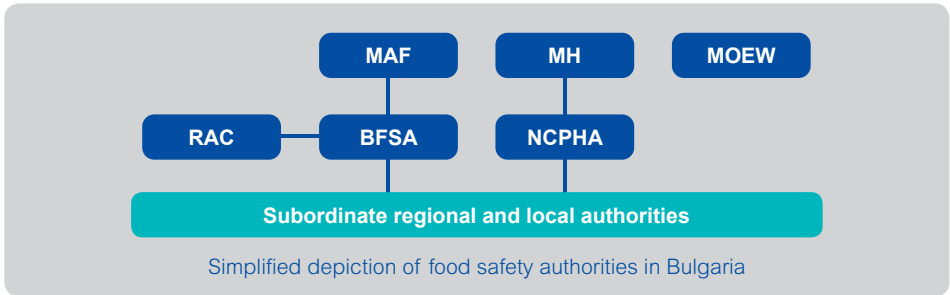
### Regional and local levels

The regional and local levels of the Belgian federal state consist of three regions, 10 provinces and 589 districts. Provincial FASFC control units are responsible for carrying out food inspections. The central FASFC unit is responsible for coordinating food inspections. The monitoring of drinking water is the responsibility of the regional authorities.

### Institutions involved in the EFSA network pursuant to Article 36 Reg. (EC) No. 178/2002:

1. Belgian Federal Agency for the Safety of the Food Chain (FASFC) and Scientific Committee of the Federal Agency for the Safety of the Food Chain (Sci Com-FASFC)
2. Belgian Superior Health Council (BSHC)
3. Belgian Biosafety Advisory Council (BBAC)
4. Commission for Advice on Plant Preparation
5. Scientific Institute of Public Health (WIV-ISP)
6. Veterinary and Agrochemical Research Centre (CODA-CERVA)
7. Walloon Agricultural Research Centre (CRA-W)
8. Institute for Agricultural and Fisheries Research
9. Ghent University – Faculty of Veterinary Medicine
10. Ghent University – Laboratory of Phytopharmacy/Fytolab
11. Ghent University – Faculty of Pharmaceutical Sciences, Department of Food Analysis
12. Ghent University – Faculty of Medicine and Health Science
13. Ghent University – Faculty Bioscience Engineering
14. Centre d'Economie Rurale (CER Group)
15. Gembloux Agricultural University – Laboratory of Ecology
16. Gembloux Agricultural University – GLP Pesticide Science Laboratory
17. Université Catholique de Louvain – Unité de Phytopathologie
18. K.U. Leuven
19. Zootechnical Centre – K.U.Leuven R&D/ Laboratory Quality Care in Animal Production
20. University of Liège – Faculty of Veterinary Medicine
21. Université Libre de Bruxelles – Biological Control and Spatial Ecology Laboratory

### 3.3 Bulgaria



The Food Law is the central legal foundation for food legislation in Bulgaria. Infringement of food regulations can lead to measures under criminal law and consumer damage claims under civil law, whereby the final decision rests with the courts. Government measures with regard to food safety are often based on scientific risk assessment. However, the final decision on the legality of governmental measures rests with the courts.

In Bulgaria there is some institutional separation of risk assessment and risk management. Risk assessments are published on the Internet unless there are statutory provisions that prohibit this.

In January 2011, the Bulgarian Parliament decided to establish a new public authority called the Bulgarian Food Safety Agency. This agency is within the MAF and it is responsible for food and feed safety throughout the food chain. The agency has been operating since February 2011.

#### MAF Ministry of Agriculture and Food

- ▶ Risk management
- ▶ Risk communication
- ▶ Codex Contact Point
- ▶ RASFF Contact Point

Seat: Sofia  
<http://www.mzh.government.bg>

The MAF is responsible for agricultural policy and food and feed safety. It prepares draft legislation in this area and is responsible for the implementation of official controls of food and feed.

Within the MAF there is the Directorate for Animal Health and Food Safety. It is responsible for the development and co-ordination of the implementation of MAF policy in the field of food safety and quality, feed safety, animal health and welfare. The Directorate is responsible for harmonisation of legislation and coordination of control authorities within the Ministry and for the preparation of the multi-annual national control plan. This includes the coordination of specific control and inspection activities with the Ministry of Health (MH). The Directorate for Animal Health and Food Safety is also responsible for market authorisation of GMOs.

**MH**  
**Ministry of Health**

- ▶ Risk assessment
- ▶ Risk communication
- ▶ Risk management

Seat: Sofia  
<http://www.mh.government.bg>



The MH is responsible for health policy and safety of the bottled natural mineral, spring and table water (Directive 98/83/EC) and investigation of foodborne outbreaks. In the past in the field of food safety the MH was responsible for the harmonisation of legislation with European provisions as well as the coordination of inspection of control activities which are carried out by Regional Health Inspections. Most risk assessments were prepared by the Expert Council within the Ministry of Health but it has ceased to exist since the creation of the BFSA and the RAC.

The portfolio of the MH encompasses, amongst other things, novel foods, food supplements, GMOs, contaminants and residues of plant protection products and food contact materials. Two National Reference Laboratories are attached to the MH pursuant to Regulation (EC) No. 882/2004.

**MOEW**  
**Ministry of Environment and Water**

- ▶ Risk assessment
- ▶ Risk communication
- ▶ Risk management

Seat: Sofia  
<http://www.moew.government.bg>



The MOEW deals with environmental policy and the management and protection of water.

**BFSA**  
**Bulgarian Food Safety Agency**

- ▶ Risk management
- ▶ Risk communication

Seat: Sofia  
<http://www.babh.government.bg>



The Bulgarian Food Safety Agency (BFSA) is a specialised body of the MAF. The BFSA incorporates the former National Veterinary Service, the former National Plant Protection Service and the former National Grain and Feed Service, as well as the regional food health inspectors, who were responsible for the control of food of non-animal origin in the Regional Health Inspections (former Regional Inspections for Public Health Protection and Control) under the MH and the quality compliance of fresh fruits and vegetables (under the MAF) with the European Commission standards for placing on the market.

The BFSA is the competent governmental authority for carrying out official controls in Bulgaria in terms of phytosanitary issues, plant protection products and fertilisers, veterinary activities, animal health and welfare, animal by-products not intended for human consumption, feedingstuffs, raw materials and foodstuffs with the exception of bottled natural mineral, spring and table water, materials and articles intended for contact with food, and the quality compliance of fresh fruits and vegetables with the European Commission standards for placing on the market.

The agency has its central office in Sofia. It also has 28 regional food safety directorates distributed across the country as well as four specialised structures – the National Diagnostic and Research Veterinary Institute, the Central Laboratory for Veterinary Control and Ecology, the Central Laboratory for Chemical Testing and Control and the Central Laboratory for Plant Quarantine.

## RAC Risk Assessment Centre

- ▶ Risk assessment
- ▶ Risk communication
- ▶ EFSA Focal Point

Seat: Sofia

<http://www.babh.government.bg>

<http://focalpointbg.com>



The Risk Assessment Centre (RAC) was created via the adoption of the Law on the BFSA and its Code of Organisation. It is managed by a Management Board and assisted by an Advisory Board. The RAC is an independent legal entity within the structure of the BFSA, a third level budget unit to the Minister of Agriculture and Food. The RAC provides independent scientific assessment of risks related to food safety, human health, animal health and welfare, food and feed additives, GMOs, dietetic products, nutrition and allergens, materials and articles intended for contact with food, enzymes, flavourings and supporting substances, biological hazards, contaminants, plant health and plant protection. The RAC works in close collaboration with EFSA and other national and international scientific institutions in the food and feed risk assessment area. The EFSA Advisory Forum representative and the national Focal Point of EFSA are located within the RAC.

## NCPHA National Centre for Public Health and Analysis

- ▶ Risk assessment
- ▶ Risk communication

Seat: Sofia

<http://www.ncpha.government.bg>



The NCPHA is subordinate to the MH and deals with health protection, health education and nutrition. The NCPHA is responsible for the publication of risk assessments in the field of nutrition and hygiene and is also responsible for microbiological hazards, contaminants, residues of plant protection products, GMOs, food contact materials, heavy metals, food supplements, food additives, novel foods and mineral water.

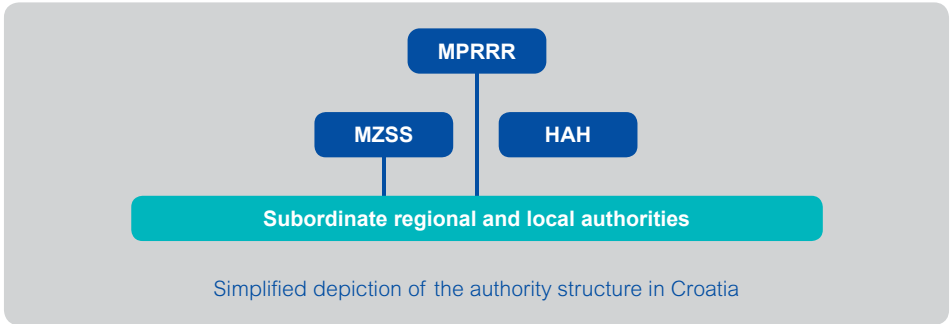
## Regional and local levels

Bulgaria consists of 28 administrative regions with 264 towns and municipalities. Inspections at regional and local levels are conducted by authorities that are subordinate to central government. Both the MH and MAF have 28 regional services which report their activities to the central level in the ministries.

## Institutions involved in the EFSA network pursuant to Art. 36 Reg. (EC) No. 178/2002:

1. Food Research and Development Institute
2. Institute of Biology and Immunology of Reproduction Acad. "Kiril Bratanov", BAS
3. Institute of Soil Science, Agrotechnology and Plant Protection
4. National Centre of Public Health Protection
5. National Diagnostic and Research Veterinary Medical Institute
6. Institute of Cryobiology and Food Technology
7. Agricultural University Plovdiv
8. Central Laboratory of Veterinary Control and Ecology
9. University of Food Technologies
10. The Stephan Angeloff Institute of Microbiology, Bulgarian Academy of Sciences
11. Maritsa Vegetable Crops Research Institute
12. Department of Food Hygiene, Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, Trakia University
13. Joint Genomic Centre to Sofia University
14. Risk Assessment Centre, BFSA

3.4 Croatia



The legal framework for food safety in Croatia is provided by the Food Act, which transposes the provisions of Regulation (EC) No. 178/2002. Infringement of food regulations can lead to measures under criminal law and consumer damage claims under civil law, whereby the final decision rests with the courts. Government measures with regard to food safety are often based on scientific risk assessment. However, the final decision on the legality of governmental measures rests with the courts.

In Croatia risk assessment is institutionally separated from risk management. Risk assessments are published on the Internet unless there are statutory provisions that prohibit this.

**MPRRR**  
**Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Rural Development**

- ▶ Agriculture policy, animal health, animal welfare and plant health
- ▶ Food and feed safety policy
- ▶ Risk management
- ▶ Risk communication
- ▶ RASFF Contact Point

Seat: Zagreb  
<http://www.mps.hr>



The MPRRR is responsible for drafting and enforcing legislation in the area of food and feed safety, quality and hygiene as well as agricultural policy, official controls, plant health, animal health and welfare.

The MPRRR is the competent body for official controls in the area of food and feed safety. This includes controls during the primary production of food of animal origin or food of plant origin, as well as during processing, import, export and retail. The MPRRR develops a single multi-annual national control plan and designates official reference laboratories to analyse food and feed and to safeguard animal health and welfare as well as plant health. The MPRRR is the authority



responsible for informing the public if there are reasonable grounds to suspect that food or feed may represent a risk for human or animal health.

The regulatory authority for plant protection products is the Croatian Centre for Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs (HCPHS).

### MZSS Ministry of Health and Social Welfare

- ▶ Health policy
- ▶ Food safety
- ▶ Risk management
- ▶ Risk communication

Seat: Zagreb  
<http://www.mzss.hr>



In collaboration with the MPRRR, the MZSS is responsible for drafting legislation in the area of food safety of food of non-animal origin, food supplements, food for infants and young children, foods for special medical purposes, quick-frozen foodstuffs, contaminants in foodstuffs, food additives and flavouring as well as functional foods. It is responsible for food sanitary inspections of food of non-animal origin, during production, processing, import and export. The MZSS is also responsible for sanitary inspection in food retail (for food of animal AND non-animal origin), with the exception of establishments already approved by the MPRRR. The MZSS cooperates closely with the MPRRR to supervise and conduct official controls and to develop multi-annual national control plans.

### HAH Croatian Food Agency

- ▶ Risk assessment
- ▶ Communication of risk assessments
- ▶ Scientific and technical support
- ▶ EFSA Focal Point

Seat: Osijek  
<http://www.hah.hr>



The HAH is a government-appointed authority within the portfolio of the MPRRR. The HAH is an independent and science-based authority and provides scientific and technical support on all matters with regards to food and feed safety. It is responsible for risk assessments in this area and the communication of results of risk assessments.

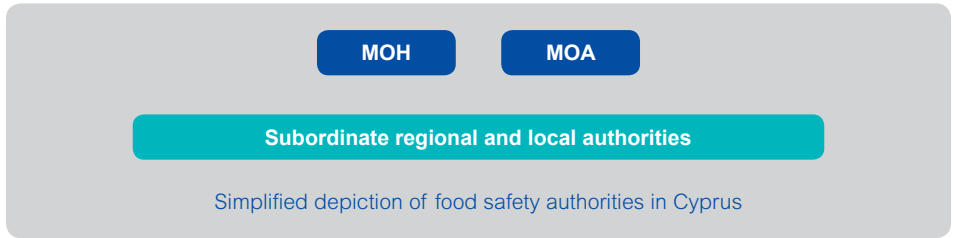
The HAH works in close communication and cooperation with several national and international institutions. National independent experts support the HAH via their participation in the Scientific Committee and in Scientific Panels. The HAH also cooperates closely with the MPRRR in developing multi-annual national control plans. Finally, the HAH is responsible for establishing and coordinating a national network of institutions in the area of food safety.

The Codex Contact Point is at the Croatian Standards Institute (HZN).

### Regional and local levels

Regional and local levels in Croatia consist of 20 counties and the capital city of Zagreb which has county status. At the regional and local level, the inspection of food of animal origin is carried out by state and border sanitary and veterinary inspectors. The regional and local inspections are coordinated and supervised by the Directorate for Sanitary Inspection (MHSW) and the Directorate for Veterinary Inspection (MAFRD).

### 3.5 Cyprus



The central legal founding legislation for food in the Republic of Cyprus is The Food (Sale and Control) Law, which is in line with Regulation (EC) No. 178/2002. Infringement of food regulations can lead to measures under criminal law and consumer damage claims under civil law, whereby the final decision rests with the courts. Government measures with regard to food safety are often based on scientific risk assessment. However, the final decision on the legality of governmental measures rests with the courts.

In Cyprus there is no established food safety authority but there is a Food Safety Council (FSC). In 2003, the FSC of Cyprus was established by the MOH. Its members are representatives of all relevant competent authorities (MOH, MOA, etc.) and stakeholders including municipalities and consumers.

#### MOH Ministry of Health Food Safety Council (FSC)

- ▶ Risk assessment
- ▶ Risk communication
- ▶ Risk management
- ▶ EFSA Focal Point
- ▶ RASFF Contact Point

Seat: Nicosia  
<http://www.moh.gov.cy>  
<http://www.sgl.moh.gov.cy>



The MOH deals with health policy and food safety in Cyprus. The portfolio of the MOH includes food hygiene, food of plant origin, ice-cream, honey, drinking and mineral waters, food supplements, GMOs, residues of plant protection products and contaminants. More specifically, the MOH is responsible for sampling, inspection and enforcement, official laboratory food control, drafting of multi-annual national control plans in cooperation with the MOA, relevant evaluation and risk assessment of the analytical results within the FSC.

The State General Laboratory (SGL) of the MOH is the national EFSA Advisory Forum Member and the EFSA Focal Point. The Medical and Public Health Service (MPHS) is the RASFF Contact Point. The SGL conducts risk assessment of some contaminants and other toxic chemicals in close collaboration with the MOH and the FSC.

Six National Reference Laboratories are attached to the MOH pursuant to Regulation (EC) No. 882/2004.

**MOA**

**Ministry of Agriculture, Natural Resources and Environment**

- ▶ Risk management
- ▶ Risk communication
- ▶ Codex Contact Point

Seat: Nicosia  
<http://www.moa.gov.cy>



**Regional and local levels**

The Republic of Cyprus has six administrative districts. The regional and local levels are subordinate to the central state food safety institutions in a direct chain of instruction and are mainly responsible for the implementation of inspections. Five offices at regional level and six other local institutions report to the MOA. Within the framework of public health five offices have been set up in the administrative districts. Eight out of the 24 autonomous municipalities have their own control competences in the field of food hygiene in the restaurant and catering sector. Their activities are monitored by the MOH.

The MOA deals with agricultural policy and food and feed safety in Cyprus. It prepares draft legislation in the field of food of animal origin (except ice-cream and honey) and feed, and is responsible for state inspections. The National Residues Plan for animals and animal products is carried out by the MOA in cooperation with the MOH. The area of work of the MOA extends beyond food and feed safety to, for instance, veterinary medicinal products, plant protection products, zoonoses, plant health, animal health and welfare as well as the registration and approval of establishments and intermediaries.

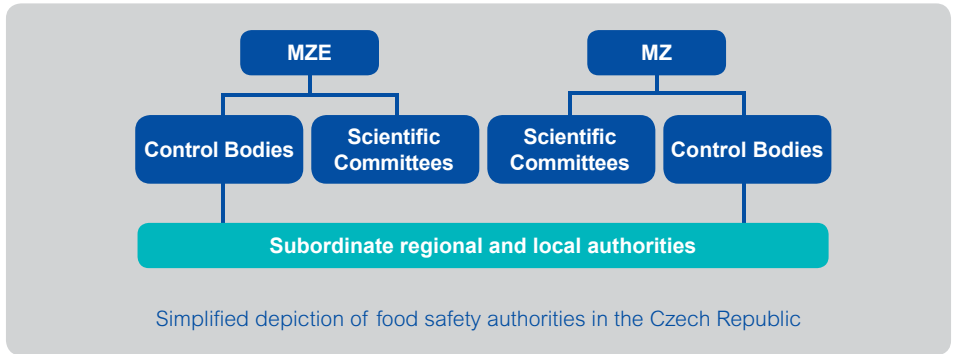
The MOA is the authorisation authority for veterinary medicinal products in Cyprus and the regulatory authority for pesticides and veterinary drugs in Cyprus.

Four National Reference Laboratories pursuant to Regulation (EC) No. 882/2004 are attached to the MOA.

**Institutions involved in the EFSA network pursuant to Article 36 Reg. (EC) No. 178/2002:**

1. State General Laboratory
2. Public Health Services
3. Veterinary Services, Ministry of Agriculture, Natural Resources and Environment
4. Department of Agriculture, Ministry of Agriculture, Natural Resources and Environment
5. Agricultural Research Institute

### 3.6 Czech Republic



Czech Republic

Act No. 110/1997 Coll. on food and tobacco products is the central legal foundation for food legislation in the Czech Republic. The Food Safety and Nutrition Strategy for 2010–2013 is a key document of the Czech Republic in the field of food safety and nutrition.

Infringement of food regulations can lead to measures under criminal law and consumer damage claims under civil law, whereby the final decision rests with the courts. Government measures with regard to food safety are often based on scientific risk assessment. However, the final decision on the legality of governmental measures rests with the courts.

In the Czech Republic there is no institutional separation of risk assessment from risk management, however there is procedural separation of risk assessment and risk management. Risk assessments are published on the Internet unless there are statutory provisions that prohibit this.

#### MZE Ministry of Agriculture

- ▶ Risk assessment
- ▶ Risk communication
- ▶ Risk management
- ▶ Codex Contact Point
- ▶ EFSA Focal Point
- ▶ RASFF Contact Point

Seat: Prague  
<http://eagri.cz>



The MZE deals with agricultural policy and food safety in the Czech Republic. It is responsible for foods of animal and plant origin and also for state food inspections.

The portfolio of the MZE also includes food and feed, animal welfare and health, veterinary medicinal products and plant protection products and their residues, contaminants, drinking water, GMOs and food labelling.

The MZE is in charge of supervision especially in the following areas:

- ▶ Czech Agricultural and Food Inspection Authority – food of plant origin, retail of food products of animal origin.

- ▶ State Veterinary Administration – production, processing and distribution of food and feed of animal origin, animal health and welfare, border inspection.
- ▶ Central Institute for Supervising and Testing in Agriculture – hygiene of production, processing, distribution and retail of feedstuffs.
- ▶ State Phytosanitary Administration – phytosanitary matters, plant protection products. The State Phytosanitary Administration is the regulatory authority for plant protection products.
- ▶ Czech Breeding Inspection – animal identification and registration.
- ▶ Institute for State Control of Veterinary Biologicals and Medicines (in collaboration with State Phytosanitary Administration) – veterinary medicinal products and some aspects of plant protection products. The Institute for State Control of Veterinary Biologicals and Medicines is the regulatory authority for veterinary drugs.

Risk communication is another main area of the MZE remit. The Food Safety Information Centre was set up to provide information, accessible to the general public, on all aspects of food safety ("from farm to fork").

Some National Reference Laboratories are attached to relevant competent authorities, which come within the portfolio of the MZE and the MZ, pursuant to Regulation (EC) No. 882/2004.

## MZ Ministry of Health

- ▶ Risk assessment
- ▶ Risk communication
- ▶ Risk management
- ▶ Food hygiene

Seat: Prague  
<http://www.mzcr.cz>



The MZ deals with public health protection and food safety in the Czech Republic. The portfolio of the MZ includes novel foods, food contact materials, contaminants, additives, mineral water and food supplements.

The inspection competence of the MZ is restricted to food contact materials, food hygiene and, more particularly, the catering trade. The relevant competent authorities are Public Health Authorities (National Institute of Public Health and Regional Public Health Institute).

Some National Reference Laboratories are attached to the MZ.

## Regional and local levels

The Czech Republic consists of 14 regions which are further divided into districts.

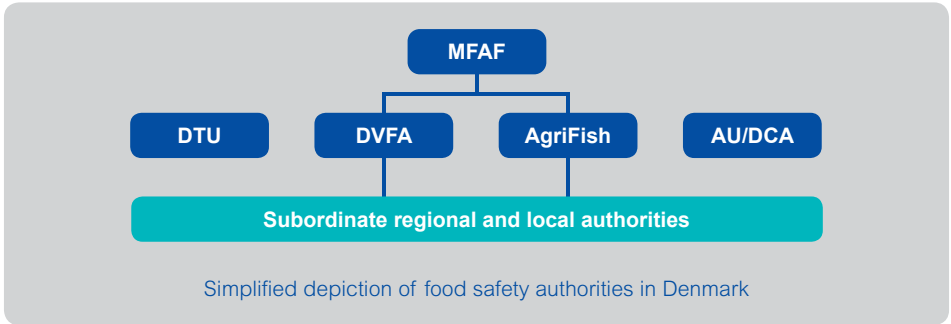
Food and feed inspections are the responsibility of the regions. In all 14 regions there are regional offices of the State Veterinary Administrations and Public Health Authorities. In seven regions there are regional offices of the Czech Agricultural and Food Inspection Authority and the State Phytosanitary Administration, and in six regions there are regional offices of the Central Institute for Supervising and Testing in Agriculture.

Animal welfare is the responsibility of the municipalities, i. e. to inspect, take measures and deal with infringements.

**Institutions involved in the EFSA network pursuant to Article 36 Reg. (EC) No. 178/2002:**

1. Mendel University in Brno, Faculty of Agronomy, Department of Animal Breeding
2. National Institute of Public Health
3. Veterinary Research Institute
4. Crop Research Institute
5. Institute of Animal Science
6. Regional Public Health Institute of Ústí nad Labem
7. Czech University of Life Sciences Prague, Faculty of Agrobiological Sciences, Department of Quality of Agricultural Products
8. Food Research Institute Prague
9. Institute of Chemical Technology Prague, Faculty of Food and Biochemical Technology
10. Regional Public Health Institute of Ostrava
11. Biology Centre, Academy of Sciences (BCAS)
12. Faculty of Veterinary Hygiene and Ecology, University of Veterinary and Pharmaceutical Sciences Brno

3.7 Denmark



The Danish Food Act is the central legal foundation for food legislation in Denmark. Infringement of food regulations can lead to measures under criminal law and consumer damage claims under civil law, whereby the final decision rests with the courts. Government measures with regard to food safety are often based on scientific risk assessment. However, the final decision on the legality of governmental measures rests with the courts. In Denmark risk assessment is institutionally separated from risk management. Some risk assessments are published and others are not.

**MFAF**  
Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Fisheries

▶ Agricultural policy, food safety

Seat: Copenhagen  
<http://www.fvm.dk>

The MFAF deals with agricultural policy and food safety in Denmark. The MFAF prepares draft legislation in the field of food and feed safety. The work of the MFAF is supported by two specialist authorities: The Danish Veterinary and Food Administration (DVFA) and the Danish AgriFish Agency (AgriFish).

The area of work of the MFAF extends beyond food safety to, for instance, nutrition, plant health, animal health and animal welfare.

**DVFA**  
Danish Veterinary and Food Administration

- ▶ Risk management
- ▶ RASFF Contact Point
- ▶ Codex Contact Point

Seat: Copenhagen  
<http://www.fvst.dk>

As a subordinate specialist authority of the MFAF, the DVFA is responsible for risk management in the field of food and feed safety. The DVFA coordinates state food and feed inspections. The risk assessments of the National Food Institute, Technical University of Denmark (DTU) are used by the DVFA as the basis for management measures in the field of food safety. The risk assessments of Danish Centre for Food and Agriculture (DCA), Aarhus University, are used by the DVFA as the basis for management measures in the area of feed.

The remit of the DVFA includes novel foods, food supplements, GMOs, zoonoses, mineral water and residues of plant protection products and veterinary medicinal products. The area of work of the DVFA extends beyond food safety to, for instance, consumer products.



### AgriFish The Danish AgriFish Agency

- ▶ Risk management

Seat: Copenhagen  
<http://www.agrifish.dk>



As a specialist authority that supports the MFAF, AgriFish is responsible for the areas of agriculture, fisheries and aquaculture, as well as plants and horticulture. The remit of AgriFish includes residues of plant protection products and plant health. Seven National Reference Laboratories are attached to AgriFish pursuant to Regulation (EC) No. 882/2004.

The Institute takes a holistic approach that covers the entire production chain from farm to fork. Its activities are focused on food and health, in particular dietary impacts on health, quality of life and longevity. The National Food Institute operates within six technical focus areas – biotechnology, nutrition, food quality, food safety, food technology, environment and health.

The institute serves as national reference laboratories for chemical and microbiological food contamination pursuant to Regulation (EC) No. 882/2004. Furthermore, the National Food Institute is also the EU reference laboratory for pesticides in cereals and feedingstuffs and for antimicrobial resistance. The institute also serves as WHO collaboration centre for antimicrobial resistance for foodborne pathogens and for food contamination monitoring.

### DTU National Food Institute, Technical University of Denmark

- ▶ Risk assessment
- ▶ Research
- ▶ Research-bases decision support
- ▶ EFSA Focal Point
- ▶ Surveillance and monitoring
- ▶ Contingency planning
- ▶ Diagnostics
- ▶ Education
- ▶ Reference Laboratory

Seat: Copenhagen  
<http://www.food.dtu.dk>



The aim of the National Food Institute is to give consumers better access to high-quality healthy, safe food, to promote health, and to prevent diseases related to diet and chemical or microbiological contamination in food.

### DCA Danish Centre for Food and Agriculture, Aarhus University (AU)

- ▶ Research
- ▶ National and international public-sector services
- ▶ Risk assessment

Seat: Foulum, Tjele  
<http://dca.au.dk>



The remit of the DCA includes research-based risk assessments in the field of feed safety. The DCA delivers research-based consultancy and solutions including risk assessments to be used by the MFAF, the Danish AgriFish Agency and the Danish Veterinary and Food Administration as the basis for regulation and legislative work. The DCA cooperates with the DCE in fulfilling tasks i.e. for the MFAF in areas, in which their different kinds of expertise are supplementary.

The areas of work of the DCA include:

- ▶ Livestock: production systems, breeding, health, welfare, feeding and feed safety, cloning, GMOs
- ▶ Food quality: quality assurance, production systems, supply, processing, storage, nutrition, exposure assessment, nanotechnology
- ▶ Plant health: plant protection products including efficacy testing and evaluation
- ▶ Plants: production management, breeding, biotechnology, climatology, agroecology
- ▶ Interactions among climate, soil, plants, animals and humans in agricultural systems
- ▶ Organic farming

**DCE**

**Danish Centre for Environment and Energy, Aarhus University**

- ▶ Research
- ▶ National and international public-sector services
- ▶ Risk assessment

Seat: Roskilde, Silkeborg  
<http://dce.au.dk/en>



The DCE delivers research-based consultancy and solutions to the Danish Ministry of the Environment, the Danish Ministry of Climate and Energy, and others. The DCE cooperates with the DCA in fulfilling tasks i.e. for the MFAF in areas, in which their different kinds of expertise are supplementary.

The work of the DCE includes areas, in which environmental considerations are of major importance for the assessment of food, feed and their production, such as:

- ▶ Contaminants in the food chain
- ▶ GMOs (e.g. environmental risk assessment, plant invasion studies and microbial diversity)
- ▶ Plant protection products and their residues (e.g. ecotoxicology, exposure scenarios, models and ecosystems)
- ▶ Plant health (e.g. pest risk assessment)

The DCE is involved in the development of guidelines for risk assessment and has expertise in antibiotics, growth regulators, and wildlife for the dispersal of emerging diseases.

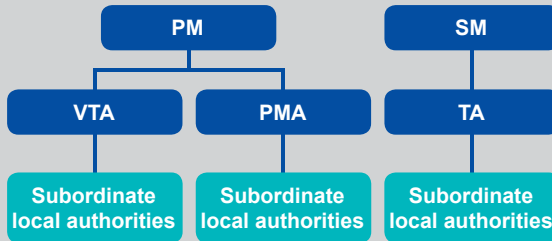
**Regional and local levels**

The regional and local levels in Denmark consist of five regions and 98 districts. The DVFA consists of three local veterinary control offices and five local food control offices. The local offices are an integrated part of the DVFA.

**Institutions involved in the EFSA network pursuant to Article 36 Reg. (EC) No. 178/2002:**

1. National Food Institute (EFSA Focal Point) and National Veterinary Institute of the Technical University of Denmark
2. Danish Centre for Environment and Energy (DCE), Aarhus University
3. Faculty of Science, University of Copenhagen
4. Danish Centre for Food and Agriculture (DCA), Aarhus University

### 3.8 Estonia



Simplified depiction of food safety authorities in Estonia

The central legal foundation for food and feed safety in Estonia are the Food Act and the Feed Act. These acts describe provisions on hygiene, labelling, control as well as the responsible competent authorities or control bodies in the field of food and feed safety. Infringement of food regulations can lead to measures under law on misdemeanour or criminal law and consumer damage claims under civil law, whereby the final decision rests with the courts. Government measures with regard to food safety are often based on risk assessment. However, the final decision on the legality of governmental measures rests with the courts.

In Estonia there is no institutional separation of risk assessment and risk management, however some procedural aspects are separated. There is no routine publishing of the results of risk assessment, however depending on the importance of the result they can be published and/or are available upon request.

#### PM Ministry of Agriculture

- ▶ Agricultural policy and food safety
- ▶ Risk management
- ▶ Risk communication
- ▶ Coordination of risk assessment
- ▶ Codex Contact Point
- ▶ EFSA Focal Point

Seat: Tallinn  
<http://www.agri.ee>

The PM deals with agricultural policy and, more particularly, food safety in Estonia. The PM prepares draft legislation in the field of food and feed and co-ordinates the performance of state tasks in food safety. The Veterinary and Food Board (VTA) and the Agricultural Board (PMA) facilitate the work of the PM within their remit as the competent authorities and executive bodies. They are responsible for official food and feed control. With regard to questions on GMOs, the PM collaborates closely with the Ministry of the Environment (KKM) and the Ministry of Social Affairs (SM).

There are two National Reference Laboratories (Veterinary and Food Laboratory, Agricultural Research Centre) attached to the PM according to Regulation (EC) No. 882/2004. The area of work of the PM extends beyond food and

feed safety to, for instance, plant health, animal health and animal welfare.

**SM  
Ministry of Social Affairs**

- ▶ Health policy
- ▶ Risk management

Seat: Tallinn  
<http://www.sm.ee>

The SM deals with health policy in Estonia. It prepares draft legislation in the field of drinking water, mineral water and spring water. The SM, PM and KKM work together in the field of GMOs. The Health Board (TA) and the State Agency of Medicines (RA) support the work of the SM in their capacity as the competent authorities. The RA is the regulatory authority for veterinary medicinal products in Estonia, except for their use by veterinarians and animal keepers.

The task area of the SM extends to questions on nutrition in public institutions in Estonia (nutritional value of food, diverse and balanced nutrition).

**TA  
Health Board**

- ▶ Risk assessment
- ▶ Risk management
- ▶ Risk communication

Seat: Tallinn  
<http://www.terviseamet.ee>

The TA is subordinate to the SM. The TA is responsible for risk assessment, risk management measures and risk communication in the area of drinking water, natural mineral water and spring water.

The TA is the competent authority for natural mineral water and drinking water, and monitors and coordinates tasks of relevant regional and local authorities.

Two National Reference Laboratories are attached to the TA in accordance with Regulation (EC) No. 882/2004.

**VTA  
Veterinary and Food Board**

- ▶ Risk management
- ▶ Risk assessment
- ▶ Risk communication
- ▶ RASFF Contact Point

Seat: Tallinn  
<http://www.vet.agri.ee>



The VTA is subordinate to the PM. The main focus of the work of the VTA is risk management and risk communication. The VTA monitors and coordinates relevant tasks of local authorities. Risk assessment is outsourced to research institutes and universities.

The activities of the VTA include, amongst other areas, feed, food supplements, GMOs, food contact materials, zoonoses, novel foods and residues of veterinary medicinal products. The area of work of the VTA extends beyond food and feed safety to, for instance, animal health and animal welfare, organic production, animal breeding and market control.

**PMA  
Agricultural Board**

- ▶ Risk assessment
- ▶ Risk management
- ▶ Risk communication

Seat: Saku  
<http://www.pma.agri.ee>

The PMA is subordinate to the PM. The remit of the PMA includes risk assessment, risk management and risk communication with regard

to plant protection products (PPPs). The PMA is the regulatory authority for the authorisation of plant protection products (including pesticides). The PMA also controls the use of PPPs to ensure that relevant regulations are observed.

The area of work of the PMA extends beyond plant protection products to, for instance, plant health.

### Regional and local levels

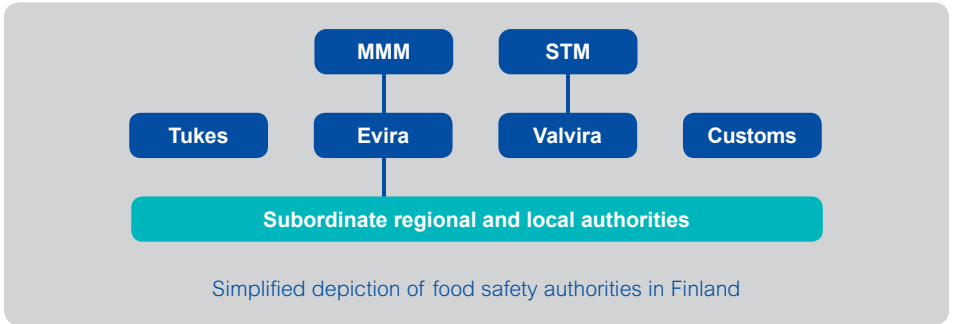
The VTA has a local office in each of the 15 regions of Estonia. These local offices are called Veterinary Centres and are responsible for enacting food and feed legislation and for food and feed inspections. The PMA also has a local office in each region which is responsible for plant health and for controlling the use of plant protection products. The TA consists of a central authority and four regional offices called Health Board Services which have further divisions in 15 counties.

### Institutions involved in the EFSA network pursuant to Article 36 Reg. (EC) No. 178/2002:

1. Estonian Environmental Research Centre
2. Estonian Veterinary and Food Laboratory
3. Health Protection Inspectorate  
Tartu Laboratory
4. University of Tartu
5. Estonian Research Institute of Agriculture
6. Tallinn University of Technology
7. Institute of Veterinary Medicine and  
Animal Sciences of Estonian University  
of Life Sciences
8. Institute for Health Development

3.9 Finland

Finland



The Finnish Food Act is the central legal foundation for food legislation in Finland. Infringement of food regulations can lead to measures under criminal law and consumer damage claims under civil law, whereby the final decision rests with the courts. Government measures with regard to food safety are often based on scientific risk assessment. However, the final decision on the legality of governmental measures rests with the courts. While there is no strict institutional separation of risk assessment and risk management in Finland, procedural aspects of risk assessment and risk management are separated. Risk assessments are publicly available.

**MMM**  
**Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry**

- ▶ Food and feed safety
- ▶ Risk management

Seat: Helsinki  
<http://www.mmm.fi>

Ministerial responsibility for food and feed safety is centralised in Finland within the MMM. It bears policy and legislative responsibility. The portfolio of the MMM includes feed, animal welfare, animal health, plant health and plant protection. The MMM's responsibility for animal products encompasses all processing stages except distribution.

There are three National Reference Laboratories attached to the MMM, pursuant to Regulation (EC) No. 882/2004.

### STM Ministry of Social Affairs and Health

- ▶ Nutrition policy
- ▶ Risk management
- ▶ Risk communication

Seat: Helsinki  
<http://www.stm.fi>



In the food sector the STM deals with nutrition policy, including legislation on drinking water. The Board of Gene Technology at the STM is responsible for coordinating activities under the EC genetic engineering directives.

Evira is responsible for scientific risk assessment and conducts scientific research on food safety. It also acts as the link to consumers and organises risk communication.

The Finnish Zoonosis Centre located within Evira forms a co-operation body between Evira and the National Institute for Health and Welfare (THL). This ensures close co-operation between relevant experts in the field of food and feed safety as well as animal and public health.

The area of work of Evira extends to food, food hygiene, novel foods, zoonoses, GMOs, packaged waters and water quality in food production, feed, residues and consumer safety, as well as food contaminants and supplements.

### Evira Finnish Food Safety Authority

- ▶ Risk assessment
- ▶ Risk management
- ▶ Risk communication
- ▶ Codex Contact Point
- ▶ EFSA Focal Point
- ▶ RASFF Contact Point

Seat: Helsinki, several regional seats  
<http://www.evira.fi>



Evira operates under the MMM and is the central authority in the field of food and feed safety in Finland. Evira plays a leading role in the development and implementation of the national food control programme covering the food chain from “farm to fork”. Some of the inspections are carried out directly by Evira, but main responsibility for the inspections is however assigned to regional and municipal authorities.

The work area of Evira extends beyond food safety to, for instance, animal health, animal welfare and veterinary medicinal products. (The regulatory agency for veterinary drugs however is the Finnish Medicines Agency Fimea).

### Tukes Finnish Safety and Chemicals Agency

- ▶ Risk assessment
- ▶ Risk management

Seat: Helsinki, Tampere, Rovaniemi  
<http://www.tukes.fi>



Tukes supervises and promotes the technical safety and conformity, together with the consumer and chemicals safety in Finland. Tukes is the regulatory agency for pesticides. Tasks related to pesticides are under the Ministry of Employment and the Economy.

### Valvira National Supervisory Authority for Welfare and Health

- ▶ Risk assessment
- ▶ Risk management

Seat: Helsinki  
<http://www.valvira.fi>



Valvira is responsible in the field of food safety for the supervision of tap water. Valvira is also in charge of the implementation and control activities of the national Gene Technology Act. In addition to this Valvira supervises pesticide residues in alcohol products.

### Finnish Customs

- ▶ Risk management

Seat: Helsinki  
<http://www.tulli.fi>

Finnish Customs (under the Ministry of Finance) are the competent authorities for food of non-animal origin at import.

### Regional and local levels

Finland is divided into seven regions which are managed by Regional State Administrative Agencies. These regional agencies are under the Ministry of Finance. The regions are further divided into self-governing municipalities. Food control as well as control of animal health and welfare is carried out by 78 local environmental health care control units which report to the municipalities.

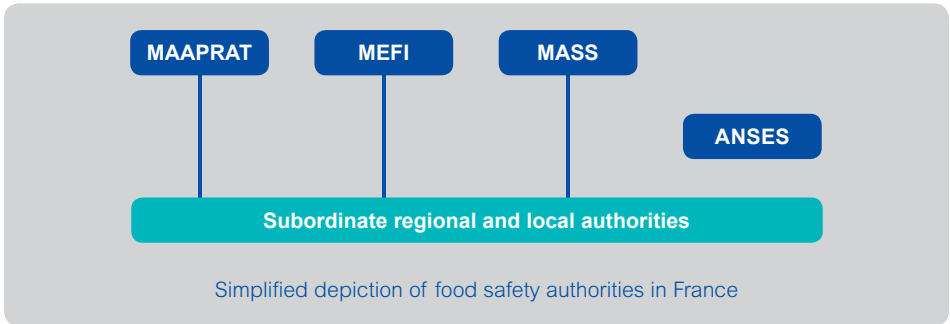
In addition, controls in the area of animal identification, registration, animal feed and plant health are carried out by 15 regional Centres for Economic Development, Transport and the Environment (supervised by the Ministry of Employment and the Economy) on behalf of Evira.

### Institutions involved in the EFSA network pursuant to Article 36 Reg. (EC) No. 178/2002:

1. Radiation and Nuclear Safety Authority
2. Finnish Food Safety Authority (Evira)
3. Finnish Environment Institute
4. University of Helsinki
  - 4.1. Faculty of Veterinary Medicine
  - 4.2. Department of Food and Environmental Sciences
5. University of Kuopio, Institute of Applied Biotechnology
6. Aalto University School of Science and Technology, Department of Biotechnology and Chemical Technology
7. National Institute for Health and Welfare
8. MTT Agrifood Research Finland
9. University of Turku, Functional Foods Forum
10. Finnish Safety and Chemicals Agency (Tukes)



### 3.10 France



France

The 1998 Act on health monitoring and safety control of products intended for human beings is the central foundation for food legislation in France.






Infringement of food regulations can lead to measures under criminal law and consumer damage claims under civil law, whereby the final decision rests with the courts. Government measures with regard to food safety are based on scientific risk assessment. However, the final decision on the legality of governmental measures rests with the courts.

In France risk assessment and risk management are institutionally separated. Risk assessments, scientific opinions and other statements are published on the Internet unless prohibited by statutory provisions.

**MAAPRAT**  
**Ministry of Agriculture, Food, Fisheries, Rural Affairs and Land Use Planning**

- ▶ Agricultural policy, food safety
- ▶ Risk management
- ▶ Risk communication
- ▶ RASFF Contact Point

Seat: Paris  
<http://agriculture.gouv.fr>

MAAPRAT is responsible for agricultural policy, the safety of food of animal or plant origin and the safety of animal feed. MAAPRAT prepares draft legislation in this area and is also responsible for control and inspection. MAAPRAT uses risk assessments prepared by ANSES as the scientific foundation for risk management measures. MAAPRAT is also responsible for risk communication.

MAAPRAT's portfolio encompasses plant protection products, including residues, veterinary medicinal products, GMOs and zoonoses.

The area of work of MAAPRAT extends beyond food safety to plant health, plant protection, animal health and animal welfare. In France there are two RASFF Contact Points, one is at MAAPRAT the other at MEFI.

### MEFI Ministry of Economy, Finance and Industry

- ▶ Consumer policy, food safety
- ▶ Risk communication
- ▶ Risk management
- ▶ RASFF Contact Point

Seat: Paris  
<http://www.minefe.gouv.fr>



The MEFI is responsible for consumer policy including state food inspections of all products of non-animal origin. The MEFI uses risk assessments from ANSES as the scientific foundation for management measures.

The portfolio of the MEFI includes food supplements, novel foods, mineral water, residues of plant protection products and GMOs in food of non-animal origin (other aspects with regard to GMOs are covered by the High Council for Biotechnologies). The MEFI is also involved in risk communication activities.

### MASS Ministry of Health and Social Affairs

- ▶ Health policy, food safety
- ▶ Risk communication
- ▶ Risk management

Seat: Paris  
<http://www.sante.gouv.fr>

MASS deals with health policy and food safety. MASS prepares draft legislation in the field of mineral and drinking water and is responsible for state drinking water inspections. MASS uses the risk assessments from ANSES as the scientific foundation for management measures. In collaboration with MAAPRAT, MASS is in charge of investigations on foodborne diseases. Another main area of MASS is risk communication.

### ANSES French Agency for Food, Environmental and Occupational Health and Safety

- ▶ Risk assessment
- ▶ Risk communication
- ▶ EFSA Focal Point
- ▶ Research, scientific & technical support

Seat: Maisons-Alfort  
<http://www.anses.fr>



In 2010 the two public authorities AFSSA (French Food Safety Authority) and AFSSET (French Agency for Environmental and Occupational Health Safety) were merged into one single institute for risk assessment: ANSES. ANSES is responsible for risk assessment in the area of food safety, environmental and occupational health.

ANSES is supervised by five ministries, three of which have responsibilities in the area of food safety and risk management. These ministries use risk assessments prepared by ANSES as basis for risk management measures. ANSES also identifies (re)emerging health risks and prepares recommendations for risk management measures. ANSES is supported by national experts in 16 scientific advisory panels and related ad hoc working groups. ANSES is also active in the area of risk communication.

ANSES actively conducts and participates in research. Eleven laboratories, holding numerous reference mandates (65 national, 12 OIE, 9 EU, 1 FAO and 1 WHO) are attached to ANSES.

In the area of food and feed safety, the activity of ANSES covers novel foods, food supplements, nutrition, drinking and mineral water, plant protection products, plant health, residues

of veterinary medicinal products, animal health and welfare. ANSES is also responsible for the assessment of the safety of GMOs in the food and feed sector.

The National Agency for Veterinary Medicinal Products (ANMV) is a part of ANSES, and is the regulatory authority for veterinary medicinal products.

The Codex Contact Point in France is located at the Secrétariat général des affaires européennes (General Secretariat for European Affairs).

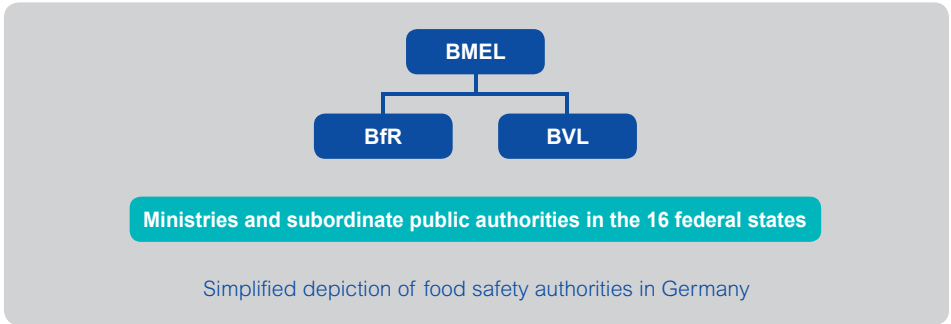
### Regional and local levels

France consists of 26 regions and 101 départements (five départements are located overseas). Feed and food inspections are carried out by regional and local offices of MAAPRAT and MEFI. Public authorities in the départements are also offices of the national ministries and report to the central government.

### Institutions involved in the EFSA network pursuant to Article 36 Reg. (EC) No. 178/2002:

1. French Agency for Food, Environmental and Occupational Health and Safety (ANSES)
2. French West AgroCampus
3. French Agricultural Research Centre for Developing Countries (CIRAD)
4. French National Centre for Scientific Research (CNRS)
5. French National Superior School of Agronomy and Food Industries (ENSAIA)
6. National Veterinary School of Alfort (ENVA)
7. National Veterinary School of Toulouse (ENVT)
8. French Research Institute for Exploitation of the Sea (IFREMER)
9. French National Institute for Agricultural Research (INRA)
10. Institut Pasteur Paris (IP)
11. Institut Pasteur of Lille (IPL)
12. University of Western Brittany, Food Toxicology Laboratory, EA 3880 (UBO/LERCOO)
13. French Superior Training and Research Institute in Food, Animal Health, Agronomic and Environmental Sciences (VetAgroSup)
14. French High Council for Biotechnologies (HCB)
15. French Institute for Public Health Surveillance (InVS)
16. National Laboratory of Plant Protection
17. Food Toxicology Laboratory, University of Burgundy
18. Cemagref

3.11 Germany



In Germany the central legal foundation for food legislation is the Food and Feed Code (Lebensmittel- und Futtermittelgesetzbuch). Infringement of food regulations can lead to measures under criminal law and consumer damage claims under civil law, whereby the final decision rests with the courts. Government measures with regard to food safety are often based on scientific risk assessment. However, the final decision on the legality of governmental measures rests with the courts.

In Germany risk assessment and risk management are institutionally separated at federal level. At regional level, however, (i.e. in the 16 federal states) risk assessment and risk management is not institutionally separated. In Germany, consumer protection laws are enacted at federal level, however, implementation and control is the responsibility of the 16 federal states (i.e. at regional level).

Risk assessments are usually published on the Internet unless there are statutory provisions that prohibit this.

**BMEL**  
**Federal Ministry of Food and Agriculture**

► Agricultural policy and food safety

Seat: Bonn and Berlin  
<http://www.bmel.de>

The BMEL is responsible for agricultural policy and food safety. In the field of food safety the BMEL prepares draft legislation and issues ordinances. The Federal Institute for Risk Assessment (BfR) is a specialist authority within the portfolio of the BMEL. It contributes to the enforcement of legislation by undertaking statutory risk assessments and advises political circles. On management issues, the Federal Office of Consumer Protection and Food Safety (BVL) undertakes preparatory work for the BMEL.

The portfolio of the BMEL also encompasses other federal research institutions such as the Max Rubner-Institute in the field of nutrition.

**BMUB**  
**Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Building and Nuclear Safety**

► Environmental policy

Seat: Bonn and Berlin  
<http://www.bmub.bund.de>

The BMUB is responsible for food safety risks caused by environmental contaminants, introduced into air, water or soil via human activity. The Federal Environmental Agency (UBA), the Federal Office for Nature Conservation (BfN) and the Federal Office for Radiation Protection (BfS) support the work of the BMUB as the competent specialist authorities in its portfolio. Effective environmental protection contributes to the production of healthy, largely uncontaminated food. The BMEL is responsible for the other areas of food safety. The BfR and BVL, the competent specialist authorities in this area, support the BMEL and BMUB in the field of food safety.

**BfR**  
**Federal Institute for Risk Assessment**

- Risk assessment
- Risk communication
- EFSA Focal Point
- Research

Seat: Berlin  
<http://www.bfr.bund.de>



The BfR's remit encompasses scientifically based risk assessments as part of administrative procedures, for instance marketing authorisations for plant protection products, and policy advice. The BfR risk assessments are used by the BMEL, BMUB and regional/local public authorities as the basis for management measures. Without being influenced by scientific, political or social interests, the BfR has the task

of assessing risks, identifying new health risks and drawing up risk minimisation recommendations. In this context, the BfR draws on the support of 15 independent expert committees with around 200 committee members overall. In its capacity as a scientific body, the BfR enjoys independence in respect of the results of its opinions, and prepares expert reports on risk assessment.

The BfR's remit includes novel foods and food ingredients, feed, residues of plant protection products and veterinary medicinal products, GMOs, food supplements, zoonoses, food contact materials and mineral waters. Other main areas of its work are research and transparent communication with the public at large, scientific circles and other stakeholders.

14 National Reference Laboratories are attached to the BfR pursuant to Regulation (EC) No. 882/2004.

In addition to food safety, the BfR is also responsible for risk assessments in the area of safety of consumer products, cosmetics, biocides and chemicals (REACH). The BfR also collects notifications of intoxication caused by chemicals.

**BVL**  
**Federal Office of Consumer Protection and Food Safety**

- Risk management
- RASFF Contact Point

Seat: Braunschweig and Berlin  
<http://www.bvl.bund.de>



The main focus of the BVL is on risk management. In the field of food safety the BVL supports the cooperation between the BMEL, BMUB and the federal states. Together with the federal states, the BVL coordinates programmes for inspection and

control of food to ensure comparable results and procedures in all 16 federal states of Germany.

The BVL is the regulatory authority for novel foods and food ingredients, plant protection products and veterinary medicinal products. In its decision-making process the BVL normally draws on BfR risk assessments. Based on risk assessments by other authorities, the BVL decides on applications for the experimental scientific cultivation of genetically modified plants. Furthermore, the BVL is involved in the EU marketing authorisation of genetically modified organisms (GMOs) in food and feed.

Four National Reference Laboratories are attached to the BVL pursuant to Regulation (EC) No. 882/2004.

In addition to food safety, the activity of the BVL extends, amongst other things, to cosmetics and commodities which come into contact with food for human consumption.

**UBA  
Federal Environmental Agency**

► Risk assessment

Seat: Dessau  
<http://www.umweltbundesamt.de>

The UBA is a specialist authority within the portfolio of the BMUB. The Federal Ministry of Health (BMG) is responsible for the safety of drinking water; the UBA provides support for BMG management decisions. Other statutory tasks include informing the public at large about environmental protection.

**RKI  
Robert Koch Institute**

► Research

Seat: Berlin  
<http://www.rki.de>

The RKI is a federal institute within the portfolio of the BMG. The RKI is responsible for the identification, prevention and control of diseases, especially infectious diseases. The tasks at the RKI include the legal obligation to compile scientific findings as a basis for political decisions concerning health issues. The RKI provides information and advice to the competent federal ministries – especially the BMG – and to the general public.

**Regional and local levels**

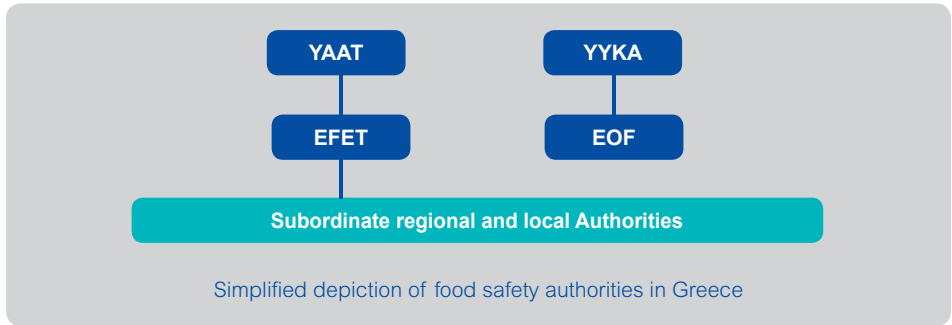
Germany consists of 16 federal states, with large individual differences with regard to the size of each state (between 1 and 20 million inhabitants per state). The 16 federal states of Germany are, in principle, responsible for implementation of the law. Implementation of food and feed safety is therefore the responsibility of the federal states. In this task the federal states are independent, i.e. not bound by instructions of the federal government.

The appropriate ministry in each federal state coordinates and supervises control and inspection activities in this area. To ensure comparable procedures in all 16 federal states, the federal states coordinate their activities mainly in working groups in which the federal level is also involved. Distributed throughout all federal states there are 430 food inspection authorities and approximately 35 food surveillance laboratories.

**Institutions involved in the EFSA network pursuant to Article 36 Reg. (EC) No. 178/2002:**

1. Federal Institute for Risk Assessment (BfR)
2. Federal Office of Consumer Protection and Food Safety (BVL)
3. Federal Agency for Nature Conservation (BfN)
4. Robert Koch Institute (RKI)
5. Julius Kühn Institute (JKI)
6. Friedrich-Loeffler-Institute (FLI)
7. Max-Rubner-Institute (MRI)
8. German Nutrition Society
9. Research Institute of Child Nutrition
10. Federal Environment Agency (UBA)

### 3.12 Greece



Greece

Regulation (EC) No. 178/2002 is the central legal foundation for food legislation in Greece. Infringement of food regulations can lead to measures under criminal law and consumer damage claims under civil law, whereby the final decision rests with the courts. Government measures with regard to food safety are often based on scientific risk assessment. However, the final decision on the legality of governmental measures rests with the courts.

In Greece there is no institutional separation of risk assessment from risk management. Risk assessments are not published.

**YAAT**  
Ministry of Rural Development and Food

- ▶ Agricultural policy, food safety
- ▶ Risk assessment
- ▶ Risk communication
- ▶ Risk management

Seat: Athens  
<http://www.minagric.gr>



The YAAT is responsible for agricultural policy and safety of agricultural (food) products in Greece. The YAAT implements horizontal and vertical legislation in the area of food and feed and is responsible for the co-ordination of veterinary inspections. The basis for YAAT management measures are the risk assessments undertaken by the YAAT itself. The YAAT is also responsible for transparent communication with the consumer on topics around food and feed safety.

The YAAT is also responsible for feed safety, residues of plant protection products and veterinary medicinal products, GMOs and zoonoses. The YAAT monitors veterinary inspections by local authorities and is the regulatory authority for plant protection products (including pesticides). (The regulatory authority for veterinary medicinal products, however, is the EOF).

The area of work of the YAAT extends beyond food safety to, for instance, plant health, plant protection, animal health, animal welfare and biocides.

46 National Reference Laboratories operate in Greece pursuant to regulation (EC) No. 882/2004.

**YYKA**  
Ministry of Health and Social Welfare

- ▶ Health policy, food safety
- ▶ Risk assessment
- ▶ Risk communication
- ▶ Risk management

Seat: Athens  
<http://www.yyka.gov.gr>



The YYKA deals with health policy. It is responsible for risk assessment, risk communication and risk management in the field of mineral waters and drinking water. The YAAT is the regulatory authority for plant protection products.

**EFET**  
Hellenic Food Authority

- ▶ Risk assessment
- ▶ Risk communication
- ▶ Risk management
- ▶ Codex Contact Point
- ▶ EFSA Focal Point
- ▶ RASFF Contact Point

Seat: Athens  
<http://www.efet.gr>



The EFET is a subordinate authority of the YAAT. The EFET ensures that food produced, distributed or marketed in Greece meets food safety and hygiene standards as described by national and European legislation.

The EFET supervises food inspections in Greece. The EFET central office monitors and coordinates tasks of regional EFET authorities. A scientific committee associated with the EFET prepares risk assessments. Risk assessments are the basis for risk management measures and communication on risk assessment and management. Scientific committee risk assessments are independent.

The area of work of the EFET extends beyond food safety to, for instance, labelling and health claims, including nutrition policy.

**EOF**  
The National Organisation for Medicines

- ▶ Risk assessment
- ▶ Risk communication
- ▶ Risk management

Seat: Athens  
[http://eof1.eof.gr/eof\\_en/enhome.html](http://eof1.eof.gr/eof_en/enhome.html)



The EOF is a public entity within the portfolio of the YYKA. The task of the EOF is to ensure public health and safety of medicinal products for human and veterinary use. The remit of EOF also includes foodstuffs intended for particular nutritional uses, food supplements, biocides, medical devices and cosmetics. The EOF is the regulatory authority for all health-related products in Greece. It monitors the post-marketing product quality, safety and efficacy. The EOF proposes and promotes medical and pharmaceutical research. The EOF also supplies the public and health professionals with objective information on medicines (for human and veterinary use) and other health-related products to ensure their safe and rational use and to support optimal cost-effectiveness.



## Regional and local levels

Regional and local levels in Greece consist of seven decentralised administrations, 13 regions and 325 municipalities. Nine regional EFET authorities and local authorities are responsible for the implementation of food inspections. The YAAT and the central EFET authority are responsible for co-ordinating regional food inspections.

Both the central General Chemical State Laboratory and the regional Chemical Services are under the supervision of the Ministry of Economy and Finance, and are responsible for the laboratory analysis of foodstuffs.

### **Institutions involved in the EFSA network pursuant to Article 36 Reg. (EC) No. 178/2002:**

1. Hellenic Food Authority
2. General Chemical State Laboratory
3. National Agricultural Research Foundation, Institute of Technology of Agricultural Products
4. MS and Dioxin Analysis Lab, NCSR DEMOKRITOS
5. Institute of Food Hygiene
6. Food Industrial Research & Technology Development Company
7. Benaki Phytopathological Institute
8. Directorate of Plant Produce Protection, Department of Pesticides
9. National and Kapodistrian University of Athens, Department of Hygiene and Epidemiology, Public Health Nutrition and Nutritional Epidemiology Unit, Medical school, Laboratory of Analytical Chemistry, Department of Chemistry
10. University of Crete, Faculty of Medicine, Laboratory of Clinical Bacteriology, Parasitology, Zoonoses and Geographical Medicine/WHO Collaborating Centre for Research and Training in Mediterranean Zoonoses
11. Agricultural University of Athens
12. Department of Science of Dietetics-Nutrition, Harokopio University
13. NTUA, School of Chemical Engineering, Laboratory of Food Chemistry and Technology
14. Department of Forensic Medicine & Toxicology
15. Technological Educational Institute
16. University of Thessaly, Veterinary Faculty
17. Hellenic Health Foundation

3.13 Hungary



The Food Chain Act is the central legal foundation for food legislation in Hungary. Infringement of food regulations can lead to measures under criminal law and consumer damage claims under civil law, whereby the final decision rests with the courts. Government measures with regard to food safety are often based on scientific risk assessment. However, the final decision on the legality of governmental measures rests with the courts.

In Hungary, the NÉBIH is responsible for risk management and risk assessment. Risk assessments are not published on the internet yet.

**VM**  
**Ministry of Rural Development**

- ▶ Agricultural policy, food chain safety policy
- ▶ Risk management
- ▶ Risk communication

Seat: Budapest  
<http://www.kormany.hu/en/ministry-of-rural-development>

The Minister of Rural Development supervises almost all food chain safety activities. The ministry’s core tasks are: international relations and drafting legislation in the fields of food chain safety from farm to table.

The portfolio of the VM includes soil, plant health, feed, food, GMOs, zoonoses, mineral water and drinking water. The VM also deals with residues of plant protection products and veterinary medicinal products, however the regulatory authority for pesticides and veterinary drugs is the National Food Chain Safety Office.

The ministry formulates government measures related not only to rural development, but also to the supervision of food chains, environmental protection and the agricultural economy. The ministry's main goals are the sustainable management of natural resources, diversity of rural land use, rural development and creating conditions for the safe and high-quality production and distribution of food products.

**EMMI**  
**Ministry of Human Resources,**  
**State Secretariat for Healthcare**

- ▶ Health policy and consumer protection
- ▶ Risk management

Seat: Budapest  
<http://www.kormany.hu/en/ministry-of-human-resources>

The State Secretariat for Healthcare is responsible for determining the special rules and the preparation of legislation related to the direction of healthcare provision on national level and in institutions of higher education. It regulates national public healthcare tasks.

EMMI's area of competence covers legislation on food supplements, dietetic products, infant and follow-up formulae, health and nutrition claims. EMMI supervises the National Office of the Chief Medical Officer which is responsible for nutrition, health claims, food supplements, food for special nutritional purposes and food-borne diseases.

**NÉBIH**  
**National Food Chain Safety Office**

- ▶ Risk management
- ▶ Risk assessment
- ▶ Risk communication
- ▶ EFSA Focal Point
- ▶ Codex Contact Point
- ▶ RASFF Contact Point
- ▶ WHO Infosan Contact Point

Seat: Budapest  
<http://www.nebih.gov.hu>

The Hungarian Government established the National Food Chain Safety Office (NÉBIH) as the legal successor of the former Central Agricultural Office (MGSZH) and the Hungarian Food Safety Office (MÉBIH). The NÉBIH is an independent legal entity with nationwide competence and responsibility operating under the direct supervision of the Minister of Rural Development. Its annual budget is allocated by the Government. The NÉBIH has a complex organisation structure with different horizontal and professional directorates and testing laboratories. The NÉBIH covers the whole food chain from soil to retail distribution and catering as well, in order to facilitate safety of food and feed production in terms of animal and plant health and soil conservation. The NÉBIH is involved in the authorisation of novel foods. The Directorate for Food Safety Risk Assessment is responsible for risk assessment in Hungary in the field of food safety.

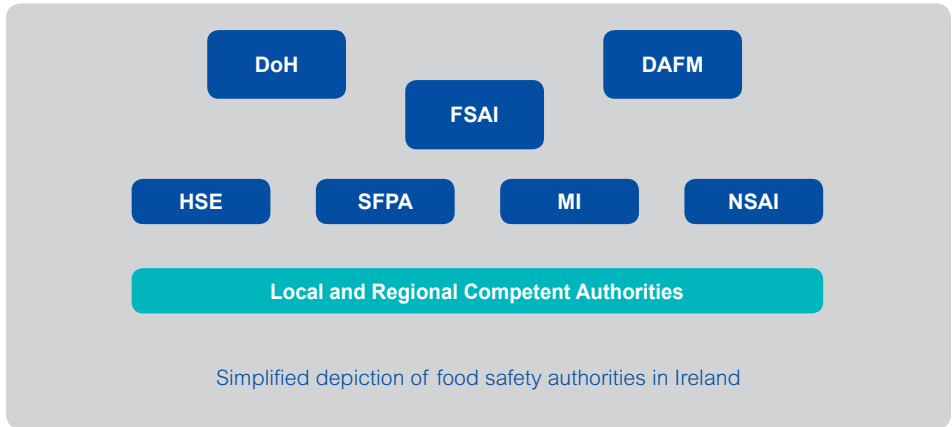
### Regional and local levels

Directorates for Food Chain Safety and Animal Health and also Directorates for Plant Protection and Soil Conservation are established within the 19 County Government Offices newly founded under the Ministry of Public Administration and Justice. The NÉBIH provides professional direction, technical support and supervision to these authorities at regional and local levels.

### Institutions involved in the EFSA network pursuant to Article 36 Reg. (EC) No. 178/2002:

1. National Food Chain Safety Office (EFSA Focal Point)
2. Hungarian Authority for Consumer Protection
3. National Institute for Food and Nutrition Science
4. Hungarian Dairy Research Institute
5. Environmental Protection and Water Management Research Institute
6. Central Food Research Institute
7. Szent István University Faculty of Veterinary Science
8. Institute of Material and Environmental Chemistry, Chemical Research Centre of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences
9. Agricultural Research Institute of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences
10. Plant Protection Institute of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences
11. University of Debrecen, Centre of Agricultural Sciences and Engineering
12. Cereal Research Non-Profit Company
13. Corvinus University of Budapest, Faculty of Food Science
14. Corvinus University of Budapest Research Institute for Viticulture & Enology
15. Hungarian Meat Research Institute (Public Benefit Company)/OHKI KHT
16. National Centre of Epidemiology
17. Research Institute for Fisheries, Aquaculture and Irrigation

### 3.14 Ireland



Ireland

Most Irish food legislation derives from Ireland's membership of the European Union. In Ireland there is no institutional separation of risk assessment from risk management. Risk assessments are in principle published on the Internet unless there are statutory provisions that prohibit this.

**DoH**  
Department of Health

▶ Health policy, food safety policy

Seat: Dublin  
<http://www.dohc.ie>

The DoH is responsible for policy issues in the area of food safety, for formulating and transposing EU regulations and for reviewing national legislation. Its remit covers the retail sectors for food and non-retail processing and distribution of foods of animal and non-animal origin.

**FSAI**  
Food Safety Authority of Ireland

- ▶ Risk assessment
- ▶ Risk communication
- ▶ Risk management
- ▶ EFSA Focal Point
- ▶ RASFF Contact Point

Seat: Dublin  
<http://www.fsai.ie>



The FSAI is a statutory, independent and science based body, dedicated to protecting public health and consumer interests in the area of food safety and hygiene. Established in 1999, its principal function is to ensure that food produced in the State and food distributed or marketed in the State meets the highest standards of food safety and hygiene that are reasonably achievable.

The FSAI is responsible for the enforcement of food legislation in Ireland. It carries out this function through the management of official control activities through service contract arrangements with other bodies, the provision of

scientific and technical support to other bodies through publications and training, and the carrying out of risk assessments to underpin risk management decisions and actions.

The FSAI has a remit to carry out risk assessment, risk management and risk communication relating to food safety. The risk assessment and risk managements functions are carried out by different groups within the Authority.

The Health Service Executive (HSE) was established by the DoH as part of the provisions of the Health Act, 2004. The Primary, Community and Continuing Care (PCCC) Directorate of The HSE delivers health and personal social services in the community and other settings. The Environmental Health Service is part of the PCCC and provides a range of food safety and food control services on behalf of the FSAI. The HSE has nine food laboratories which are official laboratories pursuant to Regulation (EC) No. 882/2004, two of these laboratories have been appointed as National Reference Laboratories.

#### DAFM Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine

- ▶ Agricultural policy, food safety policy
- ▶ Food and feed risk assessment
- ▶ Codex Contact Point

Seat: Dublin

<http://www.agriculture.gov.ie>



The DAFM is responsible for policy development, negotiation at EU level, implementation in national law of EU rules and official controls in the areas of primary production of food, animal health and welfare, feed safety, plant health, fisheries, slaughtering of animals and processing of foods of animal origin up to but

not including the retail level. The DAFM carries out risk assessments in the field of animal feed. DAFM personnel also enforce food law and conduct risk management of food under contract to the FSAI whilst DAFM enforcement of feed law and associated risk management activities are a standalone function. Eight National Reference Laboratories are attached to the DAFM pursuant to Regulation (EC) No. 882/2004. The remit of DAFM extends beyond food safety to, for instance, plant health, animal health, animal welfare, feed, GMOs and zoonoses. The DAFM is the regulatory authority for pesticides and veterinary drugs.

The Sea Fisheries Protection Authority (SFPA) is responsible for the implementation and enforcement of national and EU legislation that deals with health conditions for the production and placing on the market of fish, shellfish and fisheries products. Their remit extends from harvesting and catching through to fish or fish products being placed on the market. Fish and fishery products on retail sale are supervised by the HSE.

The Marine Institute (MI) is responsible for implementation of aquatic animal health legislation under EU and National legislation and monitors the movement of finfish and shellfish into and within Ireland. The MI is the National Reference Laboratory for finfish, molluscs and crustacean disease. It provides scientific advice and support services to both the FSAI and SFPA.

The Irish Medicines Board (IMB) is responsible for the marketing authorisation of veterinary medicinal products in Ireland.

The National Standards Authority of Ireland (NSAI) is responsible for the development of Irish standards, representing Irish interests in the work of the European and International standards bodies CEN and ISO, the recognition of natural mineral waters and controls on suppliers of food contact materials.

## Regional and local levels

The HSE is divided into four geographical regions: Southern Region, Western Region, Dublin Mid-Leinster Region and Dublin North Eastern Region. There are between seven and nine environmental health sections in each region and 33 nationally.

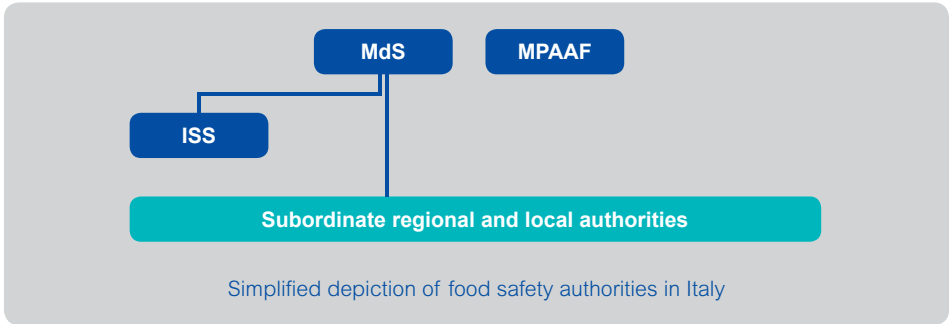
The DAFM national veterinary service is subdivided into four regional animal health and welfare inspectorates with 28 District Veterinary Offices. There are six regional veterinary public health inspectorate regions.

Local authorities (28 in total) which come under the local government structure of the Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government (DEHLG) are multipurpose bodies responsible for an extensive range of services including veterinary services. These are arranged on a county or city level. The SFPA has six offices in the major ports around the coast.

## Institutions involved in the EFSA network pursuant to Article 36 Reg. (EC) No. 178/2002:

1. Food Safety Authority of Ireland (EFSA Focal Point)
2. Department of Agriculture and Food, Pesticide Registration Division
3. Dublin Public Analyst's Laboratory
4. Department of Agriculture and Food, Residues Division of the Pesticide Control Service
5. Safefood, the Food Safety Promotion Board
6. Cork Public Analyst's Laboratory
7. The National Food Centre, Teagasc
8. Marine Institute
9. Teagasc, Moorepark Food Research Centre
10. University College Cork, Department of Epidemiology and Public Health and Department of Nutrition
11. University College Dublin, Centre for Food Safety, School for Agriculture, Food Science and Veterinary Medicine, College of Life Sciences and National Nutrition Surveillance Centre
12. National University of Ireland Galway
13. University of Limerick, Department of Life Sciences
14. Athlone Institute of Technology
15. Dublin Institute of Technology
16. Central Veterinary Research Laboratory

3.15 Italy



Regulation No. 190 is the central legal foundation for food legislation in Italy. Italy implemented the EU Hygiene Package by Legislative Decree No. 193/2007 and introduced sanctions against violation of Reg. (EC) No. 178/2002 by Legislative Decree No. 190/2006. Infringements of food regulations can lead to measures under criminal law and consumer damage claims under civil law, whereby the final decision rests with the courts. Government measures with regard to food safety are based on scientific assessment. In this regard the Directorate General of National Boards for Health Protection was established within the Italian Ministry of Health, identified as the competent Italian authority for the European Food Safety Authority (EFSA). It performs functions related to physical, chemical and biological risk assessment in food safety and to ensuring a link with the regions and also with regard to the planning of risk evaluation activities of the food chain and the operations of the assembly of consumer and producers associations on food safety.

In addition to this, a multi-annual national control plan is developed in compliance with the principles and guidelines laid down in Reg. (EC) 882/2004, according to which plans shall be based on risk assessment (Reg. (EC) 178/2002) and risk categorization (Reg. (EC) 882/2004). This plan describes the Italian system in the

field of official controls on food, feed, animal and health and welfare and plant health and is aimed at rationalising the activities by appropriate risk evaluation and coordination of all actors involved. In Italy there is no institutional separation of risk assessment and risk management.

**MdS**  
Ministry of Health

- ▶ Health policy, food safety
- ▶ Animal health and animal welfare
- ▶ Risk assessment
- ▶ Risk communication
- ▶ Risk management
- ▶ Codex contact point
- ▶ RASFF contact point

Seat: Rome  
<http://www.salute.gov.it>

In Italy most of the competencies for food and feed safety, animal health and animal welfare are assigned at national level to the Ministry of Health (MdS), Department of Veterinary Public Health, Food Safety and Collegial Bodies for Health Protection, as described below.



The ministry's organisational set-up was defined by the Regulation on the Organisation of the Ministry of Health in 2011. This decree also established the Department of Veterinary Public Health, Food Safety and Collegial Bodies for Health Protection. This comprises three Directorates General:

- ▶ Directorate General of Animal Health and Veterinary Medicine
- ▶ Directorate General of Food Hygiene, Food Safety, Nutrition
- ▶ Directorate General of Collegial Bodies for Health Protection

The MdS deals with health policy and food safety. It prepares draft legislation on food and feed and is responsible for the coordination of tasks concerning the central competent authority. Risk assessments are carried out by the National Committee for Food Safety (a consultative technical body consisting of 18 independent experts), the National Health Institute (ISS) and the Experimental Institutes of Zooprophyllaxis, and are the basis for MdS risk management and risk communication measures.

The activity of the MdS includes official controls during import of food and feed, general food and feed hygiene, novel food, food supplements, labelling and nutrition, food contact materials, GMOs, zoonoses, residues of plant protection products, veterinary medicinal products. The MdS is the regulatory authority for plant protection products and veterinary medicinal products and may conduct audits and inspections on the regional competent authorities.

## MPAAF Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Forestry Policies

- ▶ Agricultural policy
- ▶ plant health
- ▶ controls on quality, labelling and traceability of food and feed
- ▶ some aspects in the field of plant protection products and fertilisers
- ▶ Risk communication
- ▶ Risk management

Seat: Rome

<http://www.politicheagricole.gov.it>



Within the MPAAF, the Department of Competitive Policies is responsible for the coordination of activities related to the quality of agricultural products and food. The Directorate General of Competitive Policies for Rural Development is responsible for plant health, seeds, propagation material, fertilisers and some aspects of the field of plant protection products, as well as for husbandry and products of animal origin.

The Central Inspectorate for Quality Controls and Antifraud of Foodstuff and Agricultural Products is an inspection body of the MPAAF responsible for fraud prevention. It carries out controls on labelling and quality of foodstuffs, agricultural product feed, fertilisers and plant protection products by means of its own laboratory network. The MPAAF may undertake specific control activities in the food safety field at the request of the judicial authorities.

**ISS  
National Health Institute**

- ▶ Risk assessment
- ▶ EFSA Focal point

Seat: Rome  
<http://www.iss.it>



At national level, the ISS is the main technical and scientific public body of the Italian National Health Service. The ISS (which is under the portfolio of the MdS) supervises the laboratories of the Italian National Health Service engaged in food and feed control and performs confirmatory analysis. It undertakes risk assessment in the area of feed, novel food, food supplements, GMOs, zoonoses, mineral water, drinking water and residues of plant protection products and veterinary medicinal products on behalf of the MdS. An important activity of the institute, carried out on behalf of the Minister of Health or the regions, is inspection and quality control of food products and packaging.

**Regional and local levels**

Except for those matters explicitly reserved to the central government, such as matters of general state interest, import controls, international disease prevention, risk assessment in the food chain and consultation of producers and consumers, responsibility for controls has been devolved to regional level. The 19 regions and 2 autonomous provinces have responsibility, within their territories, for planning, co-ordination, guidance, authorisation, and verification, while the operational implementation of controls is handled at local level by 146 local units with a high degree of managerial autonomy.

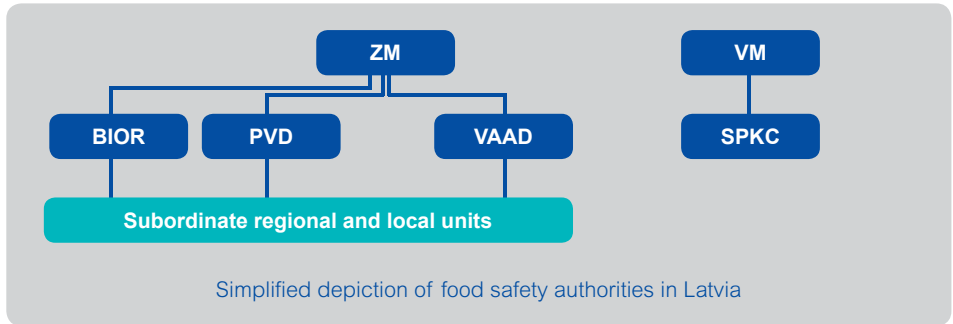
Within the local units public health responsibilities are shared between two separate services: the

Food Hygiene and Nutrition Service, and the Local Veterinary Services. The latter are responsible for animal health, animal welfare, food of animal origin and feed; the former is responsible for food of non-animal origin.

**Institutions involved in the EFSA network pursuant to Article 36 Reg. (EC) No. 178/2002.**

1. Istituto Superiore di Sanità – ISS – Operative structure
2. Istituto Nazionale di Ricerca per gli Alimenti e la Nutrizione – INRAN
3. Agricultural Research Council
4. Stazione Sperimentale per l'Industria delle Conserve Alimentari – SSICA
5. Stazione Sperimentale per le Industrie degli Oli dei Grassi – SSOG
6. Centro Internazionale per gli Antiparassitari e la Prevenzione Sanitaria
7. Istituto Zooprofilattico Sperimentale della Lombardia e dell'Emilia-Romagna
8. Istituto Zooprofilattico Sperimentale della Puglia e della Basilicata
9. Istituto Zooprofilattico Sperimentale della Sicilia
10. Istituto Zooprofilattico Sperimentale dell'Umbria e delle Marche
11. Istituto Zooprofilattico Sperimentale del Lazio e della Toscana
12. Istituto Zooprofilattico Sperimentale dell'Abruzzo e del Molise
13. National Reference Centre for Animal Encephalopathies (CEA)
14. National Reference Centre for Surveillance and Monitoring Animal Feed (C.Re.A.A.)
15. Istituto Zooprofilattico Sperimentale Piemonte, Liguria e V. d'Aosta (Laboratorio Controllo Alimenti)
16. CNR Institute of Sciences of Food Production
17. Istituto Zooprofilattico Sperimentale del Mezzogiorno
18. Reference National Laboratory for Toxoplasmosis (Ce.Tox.) IZS Sicily
19. Istituto Zooprofilattico Sperimentale delle Venezie
20. Thirteen additional universities in Italy

### 3.16 Latvia



Latvia

Food businesses have to follow both the EU food safety legislation and the national legal acts in the area of food safety and quality. The Law on the Supervision of the Handling of Food is the central foundation for food legislation in Latvia. Infringement of food safety legislation concerning routine checks of food establishments, consumer complaints and outbreaks of food-borne diseases can lead to measures under civil law and if necessary under criminal law. Official controls in the area of food safety are carried out on the basis of the risk assessment approach. However, the final decision on the legality of governmental measures rests with the courts.

In Latvia there is clear institutional separation with regard to implementation of functions of risk assessment and risk management in the area of food safety. Risk assessment is carried out by the Food Safety, Animal Health and Environment Institute BIOR, while risk management rests with the Food and Veterinary Service of Latvia. Urgent information with regard to risk assessment and risk management activities, as well as other relevant information for food business operators and consumers is published on the Internet home page of competent authorities on a case by case basis unless there are statutory provisions that prohibit this.

**ZM**  
Ministry of Agriculture

- ▶ Agricultural policy
- ▶ Food safety and quality
- ▶ Food information for consumers
- ▶ Risk communication
- ▶ Risk management
- ▶ Codex Contact Point

Seat: Riga  
<http://www.zm.gov.lv>

The Ministry of Agriculture is responsible for the development and implementation of policy in agricultural and food and feed safety sectors including development of national legal acts for sectors mentioned above. The ZM cooperates with BIOR as risk assessment body and with the Food and Veterinary Service and State's Plant Protection Service as risk management bodies to decide on necessary measures for risk management purposes. The ZM is constantly involved in risk communication activities at different levels.

In general the portfolio of the ZM covers such topics as food safety and quality, plant health and plant protection, animal health and animal welfare. Ministry of Agriculture responsibilities include legal regulation of novel foods, food supplements, GMOs, mineral water, as well as development and implementation of monitoring

and control programs in the field of zoonoses, pesticide residues, residues of veterinary drugs and other food and feed contaminants.

**VM**  
**Ministry of Health**

- ▶ Health care, public health and pharmacy policy
- ▶ Risk communication
- ▶ Risk management

Seat: Riga  
<http://www.vm.gov.lv>

The main task of the Ministry of Health is to develop and implement national policy to safeguard public health and to promote disease prevention by encouraging healthy lifestyles, as well as to create conditions for citizens to receive cost effective, accessible and quality health care services.

The VM is responsible for the development, coordination and updating of nutrition policy, analysis of the results of monitoring of food-borne diseases, as well as preparation of scientific opinions in relation to solving of nutrition problems and giving information on actual nutrition topics to the public.

The VM is responsible for elaboration of recommendations for nutrient and energy intake for different population groups in Latvia and the development of standards of nutrient and energy intake for children in kindergartens and schools, as well as for inhabitants of social care houses and patients in hospitals.

The VM is involved in the monitoring of safety and quality of drinking water with exception of internal water supplies for food establishments. The Nutrition Council under the VM was set up to support the activities in the field of nutrition.

The Ministry of Health is constantly involved in risk communication activities at different levels.

**BIOR**  
**Food Safety, Animal Health and Environment Institute**

- ▶ Risk assessment
- ▶ Risk communication
- ▶ EFSA Focal Point

Seat: Riga  
<http://www.bior.gov.lv>

BIOR carries out scientific activities in food, veterinary, environmental and fisheries sectors, as well as in other sectors of biology. BIOR provides expertise, scientific substantiation and risk assessment in the sectors mentioned above. BIOR implements projects to assess the risk in the field of food safety and animal infectious diseases, ensuring cooperation with institutions and organisations performing activities in these areas. BIOR performs functions of the National Reference Laboratory in the areas defined in the legislation and carries out laboratorial and diagnostic investigations related to state monitoring and food movement control, animal health protection, animal feed and veterinary drugs movement. BIOR is nominated as the Latvia's National Focal Point for the EFSA.

**PVD**  
**Food and Veterinary Service**

- ▶ Surveillance and control
- ▶ Risk management
- ▶ Risk communication
- ▶ RASFF Contact Point

Seat: Riga  
<http://www.pvd.gov.lv>



The PVD operates under supervision of the Ministry of Agriculture. The PVD is responsible for the realisation of the State's surveillance and control function in the area of food safety and quality, as well as in the area of food labelling throughout the entire food chain, including surveillance and border controls of food (concept "from the field to the table"). The PVD carries out registration and approval of food establishments.

If there is a threat to human life or health, the State's chief food and veterinary inspector is entitled to specify restrictions or prohibitions on the distribution of food in the territory of Latvia. The PVD is nominated as the official RASFF Contact Point in Latvia.

### VAAD State Plant Protection Service

- ▶ Risk assessment
- ▶ Risk management
- ▶ Risk communication

Seat: Riga  
<http://www.vaad.gov.lv>



The VAAD operates under supervision of the Ministry of Agriculture. The VAAD performs official surveillance and control in the field of free movement of plant products, fertilisers, plants and plant protection products, plant varieties, seed and planting material. The VAAD collaborates with international organisations and provides exchange of information with other countries on issues of plant protection, plant quarantine, movement of seeds and variety protection rights. The VAAD is responsible for control of GMOs within seeds and other propagating material.

### SPKC Centre for Disease Prevention and Control

- ▶ Risk management
- ▶ Risk communication

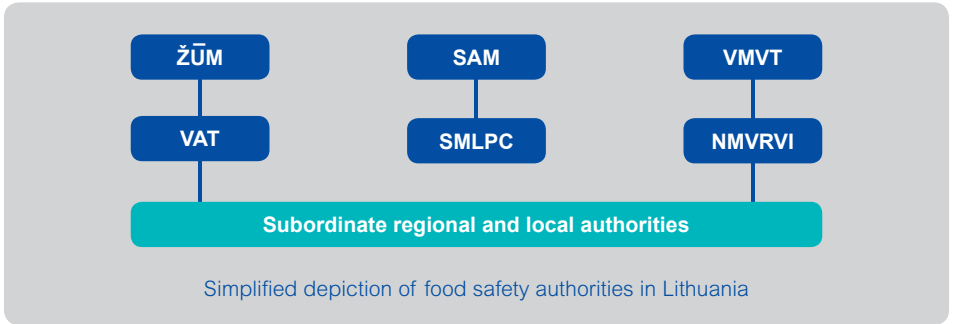
Seat: Riga  
<http://www.spkc.gov.lv>

The SPKC carries out epidemiologic surveillance and monitoring and maintain related data basis, as well as takes the necessary measures to prevent and localize infection diseases. It carries out public health monitoring, maintains the related reporting system and consults public on health and healthy life-style issues. The SPKC is responsible for the Early Warning and Response System for communicable diseases for communicable diseases in the EU (EWRS), performs the tasks of the coordinator of The European Surveillance System (TESSy) and is nominated as Focal Point for WHO and European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control.

### Institutions involved in the EFSA network pursuant to Article 36 Reg. (EC) No. 178/2002.

1. Institute for Food Safety, Animal Health and Environment (BIOR)
2. Food and Veterinary Service
3. State Plant Protection Service – Plant Protection Department
4. Latvia University of Agriculture (Faculty of Food Technology, Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, Research Institute of Biotechnology and Veterinary Medicine)
5. University of Latvia (Faculty of Biology, Faculty of Chemistry)
6. Riga Stradins University

3.17 Lithuania



The Lithuanian Law on Food is the central legal foundation for food legislation in Lithuania. It covers requirements of food placed on the market, handling of food, competencies of public authorities in the area of food safety, duties and liability of food producers, food operators and food trade.

Infringement of food regulations can lead to measures under criminal law and consumer damage claims under civil law, whereby the final decision rests with the courts. Government measures with regard to food safety are often based on scientific risk assessment. However, the final decision on the legality of governmental measures rests with the courts.

In Lithuania risk assessment and risk management are institutionally separated. Risk assessments are published on the Internet.

**SAM**  
**Ministry of Health**

- ▶ Health policy and food safety
- ▶ Codex Contact Point

Seat: Vilnius  
<http://www.sam.lt>

SAM is responsible for health policy and food safety in Lithuania. SAM prepares draft legislation in the area of food and food safety taking into account scientific assessments of risk to human health. SAM's portfolio includes food additives, food supplements, maximum permitted concentrations of contaminants in food, addition of vitamins, minerals and other substances to foods, foods for particular dietary uses, irradiated food, genetically modified food, novel food and food contact materials. SAM also stipulates mandatory requirements to protect the consumer, i.e. food labelling and use of nutrition and health claims. It also stipulates mandatory requirements with regard to the health of persons handling food, required health examination procedures and obligatory hygiene training.

The National Public Health Surveillance Laboratory (NVSTL) is attached to SAM in accordance with Regulation (EC) No. 882/2004.

## ŽŪM Ministry of Agriculture

- ▶ Agricultural policy

Seat: Vilnius  
<http://www.zum.lt>

The ŽŪM is responsible for food quality and food safety in Lithuania. This includes regulation of food labelling, handling of food, cultivation of crops for human consumption, use of plant protection products as well as organic farming. In collaboration with the Ministry of the Environment and the Ministry of Health, the ŽŪM is involved in the regulation of the use of GMOs.

## VMVT State Food and Veterinary Service

- ▶ Risk management
- ▶ Risk communication
- ▶ EFSA Focal Point
- ▶ RASFF Contact Point

Seat: Vilnius  
<http://www.vmvt.lt>



The VMVT is accountable to the Government of the Republic of Lithuania, and prepares and implements regulations in the area of food quality, food safety as well as animal health and welfare. Activities of the VMVT are usually based on scientific opinions from the National Food and Veterinary Risk Assessment Institute (NMVRVI).

The VMVT monitors and controls animal health, including outbreaks of zoonoses and other contagious animal diseases. It is the aim of VMVT to ensure that all necessary biological measures are applied to prevent introduction of zoonoses and other contagious animal diseases into the territory of Lithuania and the EU.

The VMVT performs an official control of the entire food chain, according to the principle “from farm to fork”. The VMVT monitors the food on the Lithuanian market, as well as that intended for export its safety compliance, labelling and other mandatory legal requirements.

## NMVRVI National Food and Veterinary Risk Assessment Institute

- ▶ Risk assessment
- ▶ Research

Seat: Vilnius  
<http://www.nmvrvi.lt>



As a subordinate specialist authority of the VMVT, the NMVRVI is responsible for science-based risk assessments, identification of new health risks and recommendations for risk reduction. The remit of the NMVRVI includes safety and effectiveness of veterinary preparations and veterinary biocides, assessment of biological, chemical and other risk factors in food and feed, zoonoses, assessment of the safety and efficacy of food and feed supplements, risk assessment of GMOs for living animals and GMOs in food and feed.

The NMVRVI is the regulatory authority for veterinary medicinal products in Lithuania. One National Reference Laboratory is an integral part of the NMVRVI in accordance with Regulation (EC) No. 882/2004. The remit of the NMVRVI extends beyond food safety, for instance, to animal health.

**SMLPC**

**The Health Education and Disease Prevention Centre**

- ▶ Consumer food safety education
- ▶ Research (food consumption and monitoring)

Seat: Vilnius  
<http://www.smlpc.lt>



The SMLPC is a specialist authority within the portfolio of SAM. The SMLPC organises and performs nutrition and food safety education for the residents, communities and professionals. The SMLPC carries out regular monitoring of food consumption in Lithuania.

**VAT**

**State Plant Service**

- ▶ Risk assessment
- ▶ Risk management

Seat: Vilnius  
<http://www.vatzum.lt>



The VAT is a subordinate specialist authority within the portfolio of ŽŪM. The VAT is responsible for the implementation and the control of the safe application of plant protection products and phytosanitary measures.

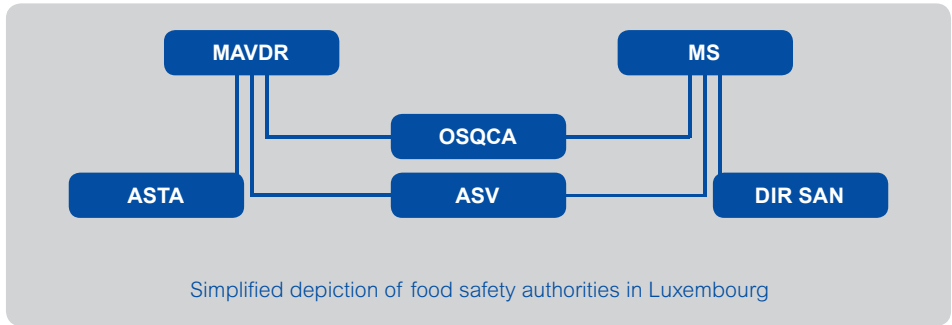
The VAT evaluates and authorises the use of plant protection products and carries out post-registration control (import, storage, sale, labelling, package and use of PPPs). The VAT also controls the cultivation of GM plant crops and the use of propagating materials (including GMOs). In these contexts the VAT monitors and coordinates the tasks of the 10 regional divisions and 22 district officers.

**Institutions involved in the EFSA network pursuant to Article 36 Reg. (EC) No. 178/2002:**

1. State Food and Veterinary Service
2. Health Education and Disease Prevention Centre, Ministry of Health
3. State Plant Protection Service, Ministry of Agriculture
4. National Food and Veterinary Risk Assessment Institute



### 3.18 Luxembourg



Regulation (EC) No. 178/2002 and national food laws are the central legal foundation for food legislation in Luxembourg. Infringement of food regulations can lead to measures under criminal law and consumer damage claims under civil law, whereby the final decision rests with the courts. Government measures with regard to food safety are often based on scientific risk assessment. However, the final decision on the legality of governmental measures rests with the courts.

In Luxembourg there is no institutional separation of risk assessment from risk management.

#### MAVDR Ministry of Agriculture, Viticulture and Rural Development

- ▶ Agricultural policy, food safety
- ▶ Risk management
- ▶ Risk communication
- ▶ Codex Contact Point

Seat: Luxembourg  
<http://www.ma.public.lu>

The MAVDR deals with agricultural policy and prepares draft legislation in specific areas of food and feed safety. Both ministries, the MAVDR and MS, are supported by competent authorities, such as the ASTA and ASV. The

portfolio of the MAVDR extends beyond the area of food and feed safety to plant health, plant protection products, animal health and animal welfare.

#### MS Ministry of Health

- ▶ Health policy, food safety
- ▶ Risk management
- ▶ Risk communication

Seat: Luxembourg  
<http://www.ms.public.lu>

The MS deals with health policy and food safety and prepares draft legislation in this area. State food safety inspections are carried out by subordinate authorities and are monitored by the MS. The MS is supported by competent authorities such as DIR SAN, the DPM and ASV. The portfolio of the MS extends beyond the field of food safety to, for instance, biocides and cosmetics.

**OSQCA**  
**Organisation for the Safety and Quality of the Food Chain**

- ▶ Risk assessment
- ▶ Risk management
- ▶ Risk communication
- ▶ EFSA Focal Point
- ▶ RASFF Contact Point

Seat: Luxembourg  
<http://www.securite-alimentaire.public.lu>



The OSQCA is a subordinate authority within the portfolio of the MAVDR and MS. It is the task of the OSQCA to ensure optimal cooperation between all authorities in the area of food and feed safety. Policy and management measures on the part of the MAVDR and the MS are based on risk assessments prepared by the OSQCA (as well as ASTA, ASV and DIR SAN). At the request of the MAVDR and MS, OSQCA prepares additional recommendations on food safety. The OSQCA is responsible for the coordination of state food and feed inspections. It audits competent authorities responsible for the control of food safety throughout the entire food chain. In addition, the OSQCA provides training for these authorities, as described in Regulation (EC) No. 882/2004.

The remit of the OSQCA includes the whole field of food and feed safety as described in Regulation (EC) No. 882/2004, including novel foods, residues of plant protection products and veterinary medicinal products, food supplements, GMOs, zoonoses, mineral waters and drinking water.

**ASTA**  
**Agricultural Technical Services Administration**

- ▶ Risk assessment
- ▶ Risk management

Seat: Luxembourg  
<http://www.asta.etat.lu>



The ASTA is a subordinate authority within the portfolio of the MAVDR. The ASTA is responsible for risk assessment and implementation of state inspections of feed, plant protection products and EU quality labels PDO, PGI and TSG. The ASTA is the regulatory authority for pesticides. The ASTA is responsible for the control of primary production of food of non-animal origin.

**ASV**  
**Veterinary Service Administration**

- ▶ Risk assessment
- ▶ Risk management

Seat: Luxembourg  
<http://www.asv.public.lu>



The ASV is a subordinate authority within the portfolio of the MAVDR and MS. The ASV is responsible for risk assessment and the implementation of state inspections in the field of food of animal origin, animal health and animal welfare.

## DIR SAN Directorate of Public Health

- ▶ Risk assessment
- ▶ Risk management

Seat: Luxembourg  
<http://www.securite-alimentaire.public.lu>



DIR SAN is subordinate to MS. The Division of Food Safety (SECUALIM) within DIR SAN is responsible for risk assessment and the implementation of state food safety controls in the area of food hygiene, HACCP, microbiological agents, contaminants, pesticide residues, GMOs, novel food, food supplements, food additives, special dietary food, food labelling, food contact material, irradiation, import of food and beverages of non-animal origin.

In the area of food hygiene, SECUALIM collaborates closely with the customs administration. Common procedures and checklists are in place for inspection and control activities.

The Division of Pharmacy and Medicine (DPM), within DIR SAN is responsible for risk assessment and the implementation of state food safety controls in the area of medicated feed and medicinal products. DPM is the regulatory authority for veterinary medicinal products.

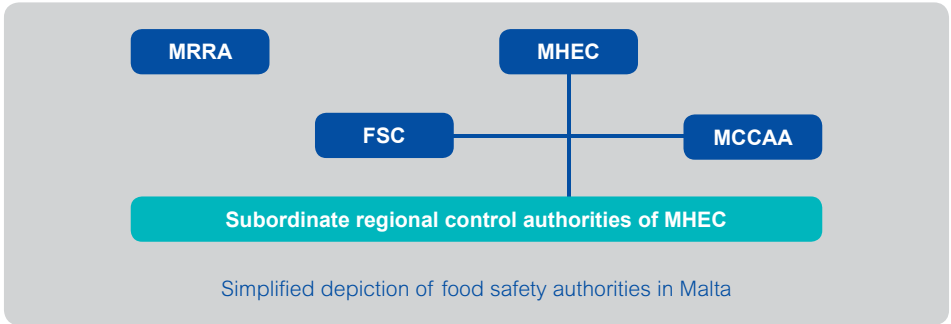
## Regional and local levels

Implementation of feed, food and other types of inspections is undertaken by central authorities.

### Institutions involved in the EFSA network pursuant to Article 36 Reg. (EC) No. 178/2002:

1. Centre de Recherche Public de la Santé
2. Laboratoire National de Santé
3. Centre de Recherche Public-Gabriel Lippmann

3.19 Malta



The Food Safety Act is the central legal foundation for food legislation in Malta. Infringement of food regulations can lead to measures under criminal law and consumer damage claims under civil law, whereby the final decision rests with the courts. Government measures with regard to food safety are often based on scientific risk assessment. However, the final decision on the legality of governmental measures rests with the courts.

In Malta risk assessment is institutionally separated from risk management. Risk assessments are not published.

Generally speaking Malta has a national centralised system. Due to the small scale of the services, the offices at central level are responsible not only for policy and co-ordination but also for direct implementation of controls.

**MRRRA**  
**Ministry of Resources and Rural Affairs**

- ▶ Agricultural policy, food and feed safety
- ▶ Risk management

Seat: Valletta  
<http://mrrra.gov.mt>

The MRRRA deals with agricultural policy and, more particularly, food and feed safety in Malta. It is the competent authority for controls of food of animal origin. The MRRRA is responsible for guidance, approval and inspection of all types of establishments for food of animal origin and for import controls on food of animal origin and feed.

The portfolio of the MRRRA includes feed, GMOs, zoonoses, and residues of plant protection products and veterinary medicinal products. The MRRRA is the regulatory authority for veterinary medicinal products in Malta. The MRRRA area of work extends beyond food safety to, for instance, plant health, animal health and animal welfare.

## MHEC Ministry for Health, the Elderly and Community Care

- ▶ Social and health policy, food safety
- ▶ Risk management

Seat: Valletta  
<http://www.sahha.gov.mt>



The MHEC deals with social policy, health policy and food safety in Malta. It is responsible for controls of foodstuffs and food hygiene as well as for supervising and co-ordinating the implementation of controls. The actual controls are carried out by seven regional bodies. The portfolio of the MHEC includes hygiene, novel foods, food supplements, mineral water and drinking water.

The MHEC area of work extends beyond food safety to, for instance, nutrition.

## FSC Food Safety Commission

- ▶ Risk communication
- ▶ Risk management
- ▶ Codex Contact Point
- ▶ RASFF Contact Point
- ▶ Research

Seat: Msida  
[http://ehealth.gov.mt/HealthPortal/others/foodsafetycom/introduction/duty\\_of\\_food\\_safety\\_commission.aspx](http://ehealth.gov.mt/HealthPortal/others/foodsafetycom/introduction/duty_of_food_safety_commission.aspx)



The FSC is an independent governmental coordinating body which reports to the MHEC. The FSC is responsible for risk management and

risk communication. The FSC is the coordination office for issues related to food safety and provides a forum for cooperation between the MRRA, MHEC and the MCCA, as well as other entities involved in food safety. The FSC is responsible for the registration of all food establishments.

In Malta, the Public Health Laboratory is the National Reference Laboratory pursuant to Regulation (EC) No. 882/2004. It draws on the services of National Reference Laboratories in other EU Member States.

## MCCA Malta Competition and Consumer Affairs Authority

- ▶ Risk assessment
- ▶ EFSA Focal Point

Seat: Blata I-Bajda  
<http://www.mccaa.org.mt/>



The MCCA is a government-appointed authority within the portfolio of the Ministry for Fair Competition, Small Business and Consumers. The Food Safety Act assigns specific responsibility for risk assessment to the MCCA. MCCA risk assessments are used by the MRRA and MHEC as the basis for management measures in the field of food safety. The MCCA assesses risks, identifies new health risks and prepares risk reduction recommendations. The MCCA provides technical and scientific advice to FSC.

The remit of the MCCA includes novel foods, food supplements, health and nutrition claims and natural mineral water. The MCCA is the regulatory authority for plant protection products in Malta. The area of work of the MCCA extends beyond food safety to, for instance, cosmetics, biocides and consumer products.

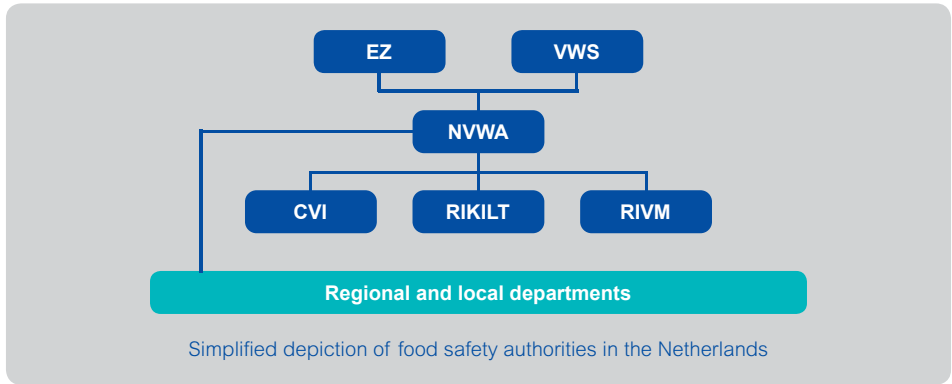
### Regional and local levels

The implementation of food inspections is done through seven regional control bodies which are subordinate to the MHEC. Coordination of food and feed inspection is carried out at the Food Safety Commission level.

### Institution involved in the EFSA network pursuant to Article 36 Reg. (EC) No. 178/2002:

Technical Regulations Division within the Malta Competition and Consumer Affairs Authority (MCCAA)

### 3.20 The Netherlands



The Netherlands

The Framework Commodities Act is the central legal foundation for food legislation in the Netherlands. Infringement of food regulations can lead to measures under criminal law and consumer damage claims under civil law, whereby the final decision rests with the courts. Government measures with regard to food safety are often based on scientific risk assessment. However, the final decision on the legality of governmental measures rests with the courts.

Based on the Dutch "Independent Risk Assessment Act" from 2006, risk assessment and risk management are largely institutionally separated. Risk assessments are published on the Internet unless there are statutory provisions that prohibit this.

#### VWS Ministry of Health, Welfare and Sport

- ▶ Health policy, food safety
- ▶ Risk management

Seat: Den Haag  
<http://www.government.nl/ministries/vws>



The VWS pursues a "good food" policy based on, amongst others, recommendations and guidelines prepared by the Dutch Health Council. The VWS is responsible for health policy and safety of food of non-animal origin and prepares draft legislation in this area. The VWS bases risk management measures on risk assessments prepared by BuRO, a department within the Netherlands Food and Consumer Product Safety Authority (NVWA).

The VWS portfolio includes food supplements, novel foods, mineral water, drinking water, botanicals, residues of plant protection products and veterinary medicinal products as well as GMOs in the field of food of non-animal origin. Its area of work extends beyond the field of food safety to cosmetics and consumer products.

**EZ**  
**Ministry of Economic Affairs**

- ▶ Agricultural policy, food safety
- ▶ Animal health and welfare
- ▶ Risk management

Seat: Den Haag  
<http://www.government.nl/ministries/ez>



The EZ is responsible for agricultural policy and safety of food of animal origin (i. e. during primary production by farmers, growers and fishermen). The EZ prepares draft legislation in this field and ensures the traceability of food of animal origin.

In the Netherlands, it is the responsibility of the food producer to ensure safe foods and to conduct appropriate day to day quality control. The Government, however, supervises this self-control system (“supervising the supervisor”).

The EZ bases risk management measures on risk assessments prepared by the Office for Risk Assessment and Research (BuRO), a department within the Netherlands Food and Consumer Product Safety Authority (NVWA).

The portfolio of the EZ includes zoonoses, GMOs as well as residues of plant protection products and veterinary medicinal products in animal feed. The area of work of the EZ extends beyond food safety to plant health, plant protection, animal health and animal welfare. The EZ is the regulatory authority for plant protection products and veterinary medicinal products.

**NVWA**  
**Netherlands Food and Consumer Product Safety Authority**

- ▶ Risk assessment
- ▶ Risk communication
- ▶ Risk management
- ▶ EFSA Focal Point
- ▶ RASFF Contact Point

Seat: Utrecht  
<http://www.vwa.nl>



The NVWA is an independent specialist authority, subordinate to the EZ and VWS. In April 2010, three authorities (VWA, PD and AID) were merged into one authority named NVWA. The NVWA has been operating as a single authority since January 2012. The three main tasks of the NVWA are the implementation and supervision of food safety control and inspection activities, risk assessment and risk communication. The NVWA is also responsible for incident and crisis management, including technical and scientific support and advising the EZ and VWS. Within the NVWA risk management is separated functionally from risk assessment.

The Office for Risk Assessment and Research (BuRO) is an independent unit within the NVWA and conducts risk assessments on behalf of the EZ and VWS. BuRO is a scientific unit that is independent and its scientific opinions are free of specific political, social or scientific interests. BuRO also identifies new health risks, prepares risk reduction recommendations and recommends preventive measures to ensure food and feed safety. Another main area for BuRO is the transparent communication with the public at large and others. BuRO is also involved in active research. BuRO is active in the area of novel foods, food supplements, mineral water, drinking water, GMOs, zoonoses, animal feed, residues of plant protection and veterinary medicinal products.



Several National Reference Laboratories are attached to NVWA, pursuant to Regulation (EC) No. 882/2004.

The area of work of the NVWA extends beyond the field of food safety to animal health, animal welfare, plant health and non-food consumer products.

**CVI – RIKILT – RIVM**  
**Central Veterinary Institute (CVI)**  
**Institute of Food Safety (RIKILT)**  
**National Institute of Public Health and the Environment (RIVM)**

- ▶ Risk assessment
- ▶ Risk research

Seat: Lelystad, Wageningen, Bilthoven  
<http://www.cvi.wur.nl>  
<http://www.rikilt.wur.nl>  
<http://www.rivm.nl>

The CVI, RIKILT and RIVM are independent research organisations. The CVI operates in the field of veterinary science, and contributes to protecting the health of animals and humans by undertaking research and making recommendations on animal diseases (zoonoses). RIKILT is an organisation in the field of food and feed safety and human health. RIKILT conducts research on substances in food of plant or animal origin and animal feed. RIVM is a recognised leading centre of excellence in the area of health, nutrition and environmental protection.

Several National Reference Laboratories are attached to the CVI, RIKILT and RIVM, pursuant to Regulation (EC) No. 882/2004.

## Regional and local levels

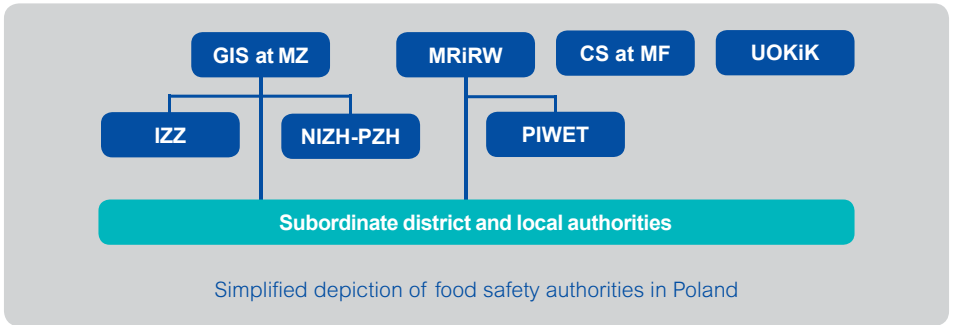
The Netherlands is divided in 12 provinces and 441 municipalities. Food and feed inspections are co-ordinated and implemented by regional departments and offices of the NVWA.

### Institutions involved in the EFSA network pursuant to Article 36 Reg. (EC) No. 178/2002:

1. Netherlands Food and Consumer Product Safety Authority (NVWA)
2. Institute of Food Safety (RIKILT)
3. National Institute for Public Health and the Environment (RIVM)
4. Central Institute for Animal Disease Control (CVI)
5. Institute for Environmental Studies, Vrije Universiteit
6. Board for the Authorisation of Pesticides
7. Alterra B.V.
8. Plant Research International B.V.
9. ASG Veehouderij B.V.
10. Landbouw-Economisch Instituut
11. Utrecht University – Faculty of Veterinary Medicine
12. Plant Protection Service

3.21 Poland

Poland



The central legal foundation for food legislation in Poland is the Food and Nutrition Safety Act of 25th August 2006. Infringement of food regulations can lead to measures under criminal law and consumer damage claims under civil law, whereby the final decision rests with the courts. Government measures with regard to food safety are often based on scientific risk assessment. However, the final decision on the legality of governmental measures rests with the courts. In Poland risk management and risk assessment are institutionally separated. Risk assessments are not published.

**GIS at MZ**  
**The Chief Sanitary Inspectorate (GIS)**  
**at the Ministry of Health (MZ)**

- ▶ Health policy and food safety
- ▶ Risk management
- ▶ EFSA Focal Point
- ▶ RASFF Contact Point

Seat: Warsaw  
<http://www.mz.gov.pl>  
<http://www.gis.gov.pl>

The Ministry of Health (MZ) is responsible for public health policy and food safety. The MZ prepares draft legislation in food hygiene, pesticide residues, contaminants and import of foods of non-animal origin. The portfolio of the MZ extends beyond food safety to, for instance, medicinal products. The Office for Registration of Medicinal Products, Medical Devices and Biocidal Products at the MZ is the regulatory authority for veterinary drugs in Poland.

The Chief Sanitary Inspectorate (GIS) is subordinate to the MZ and is the competent authority for food safety in Poland. It cooperates with the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (MRiRW) on matters regarding food safety and with both the MRiRW and the Ministry of

Environment (MS) on matters regarding GMOs. The GIS coordinates and supervises the activities of the State Sanitary Inspectorates (PIS) which are responsible for official control of all aspects of food safety, i.e. food hygiene, pesticide residues, contaminants, import of food of non-animal origin, food contact materials, food additives, GMOs in food, food supplements and novel foods. The GIS is also responsible for monitoring contaminants in food of non-animal origin. GIS risk management measures are based on scientific risk assessments carried out by the National Food and Nutrition Institute (IZZ) and the National Institute of Public Health – National Institute of Hygiene (NIZP – PZH).

16 National Reference Laboratories belong to the GIS in accordance with Regulation (EC) No. 882/2004.

**MRiRW**  
**The Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development**

- ▶ Agricultural policy and safety of food of animal origin
- ▶ Risk management
- ▶ FAO/WHO Codex Contact Point

Seat: Warsaw  
<http://www.minrol.gov.pl>



The MRiRW is responsible for agricultural policy and the safety of food of animal origin and prepares draft legislation in this area. The MRiRW is supported by three competent specialist authorities responsible for control and inspection: the General Veterinary Inspectorate (GIW), the Main Inspectorate for Seeds and Plant Health (PIORIN) and the Agricultural and Food Quality Inspection (IJHARS). The FAO/WHO Codex Contact Point for Poland is located at IJHARS.

The work of the MRiRW is mainly focused on risk management on food of animal origin and is based on scientific risk assessments prepared by the National Veterinary Research Institute (PIWET). The portfolio of the MRiRW include safety of feed, residues of veterinary medicinal products, GMOs and zoonoses. In these areas, the MRiRW monitors the activities of the district and local authorities.

The MRiRW is the regulatory authority for pesticides and plant protection products. In food safety, the MRiRW cooperates with the MZ, and for GMOs with both i.e. the MZ and MS. The portfolio of the MRiRW extends beyond food safety to animal health and animal welfare. The MRiRW is also responsible for the monitoring of contaminants in food of animal origin.

**CS at MF**  
**The Customs Service (CS) at the Ministry of Finance (MF)**

- ▶ Risk management

Seat: Warsaw  
<http://www.mf.gov.pl>

The Customs Service is subordinate to the MF and is responsible for the border control of food. The Customs Service cooperates with three specialist authorities: the GIW on controls of export and import of animals, food of animal origin and feed; PIORIN on controls of export and import of regulated plants and plant material and the GIS on controls of export and import of food of plant origin.

**UOKiK**  
**The Office of Competition and Consumer Protection**

- ▶ Risk management

Seat: Warsaw  
<http://www.uokik.gov.pl>

The UOKiK aims to protect the interests of the consumer and to ensure free and fair competition within a free market. The President of the UOKiK reports directly to the Prime Minister. It is the task of the UOKiK to protect the health of consumers and ensure that only safe products that meet the essential requirements set forth in Polish regulations are available on the market. Other tasks of the UOKiK are to prevent dominant entities from operating on the market (cartels) and the monitoring of efficiency and impact of state aid on the free market.

**IZZ****The National Food and Nutrition Institute**

- ▶ Risk assessment
- ▶ Research

Seat: Warsaw  
<http://www.izz.waw.pl>



The IZZ prepares scientific risk assessments on nutrition and novel foods, and is involved in active research within this area.

**NIZP-PZH****The National Institute of Public Health – The National Institute of Hygiene**

- ▶ Risk assessment
- ▶ Research

Seat: Warsaw  
<http://www.pzh.gov.pl>



The NIZP-PZH prepares scientific risk assessments on food additives, biological risks, added chemical substances, residues of plant protection products and drinking water. The NIZP-PZH also performs active research in this area.

**PIWET****The National Veterinary Research Institute**

- ▶ Risk assessment
- ▶ Research

Seat: Puławy  
<http://www.piwet.pulawy.pl>



The PIWET prepares scientific risk assessments on feed, residues of veterinary medicinal products and zoonoses. The PIWET also performs active research.

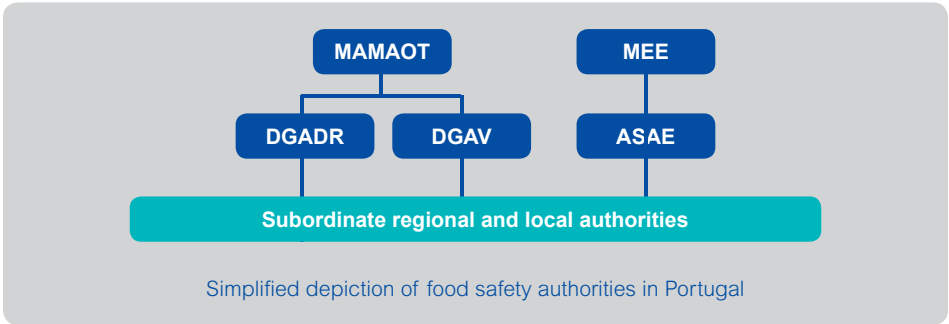
**Regional and local levels**

In Poland there is a three tier division in public administration: 16 regions (voivodships), 379 districts (powiats) and 2,478 local authorities (gminas). At district and local levels the specialist authorities of the GIS and MRiRW are responsible for enacting food laws and carrying out food inspections. They are instructed and monitored by the GIS and MRiRW in their respective areas of activity.

**Institutions involved in the EFSA network pursuant to Article 36 Reg. (EC) No. 178/2002**

1. National Veterinary Research Institute
2. National Research Institute of Animal Production
3. Institute of Natural Fibres Medicinal Plants
4. National Institute of Public Health – National Institute of Hygiene
5. National Food and Nutrition Institute
6. Institute of Soil Science and Plant Cultivation – State Research Institute (IUNG – PIB)
7. Sea Fisheries Institute in Gdynia
8. Warsaw University of Life Sciences, Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, Department of Food Hygiene and Public Health
9. University of Warmia and Mazury in Olsztyn
10. Research Institute of Pomology and Floriculture

### 3.22 Portugal



Together with European food laws, Regulation No. 113/2006 is the central legal foundation for food legislation in Portugal. Infringement of food regulations can lead to measures under criminal law and consumer damage claims under civil law, whereby the final decision rests with the courts. Government measures with regard to food safety are often based on scientific risk assessment. However, the final decision on the legality of governmental measures rests with the courts.

In Portugal there is no institutional separation of risk assessment and risk communication from risk management. Risk assessments are not published.

**MAMAOT**  
**Ministry of Agriculture, Sea, Environment and Spatial Planning**

- ▶ Agricultural policy, food safety
- ▶ Risk management
- ▶ Codex Contact Point
- ▶ RASFF Contact Point

Seat: Lisbon  
<http://www.portugal.gov.pt/en/the-ministries/ministry-of-agriculture,-sea,-environment-and-spatial-planning.aspx>

Within the MAMAOT, the Food and Veterinary Directorate (DGAV) is in charge of coordinating legislation, preparing bills and the multi-annual control plan. It is also responsible for the implementation of food safety controls for food of non-animal origin. Most activities in the area of food safety and food inspections are supervised by the MAMAOT. Food and Veterinary Directorate (DGAV) is a subordinate specialist authority of the MAMAOT.

The MAMAOT's area of work extends beyond the field of food safety to, for instance, plant health, animal health, animal welfare and biocides. Three National Reference Laboratories pursuant to Regulation (EC) 882/2004 are attached to the National Institute for Biological Resources (INRB). The INRB is subordinate to the MAMAOT.

**MEE**  
**Ministry of Economy and Employment**

- ▶ Consumer policy, food safety
- ▶ Risk management

Seat: Lisbon  
<http://www.portugal.gov.pt/en/the-ministries/ministry-of-economy-and-employment.aspx>

The MEE deals with consumer policy and food safety in particular in Portugal. The Economy and Food Safety Standards Authority (ASAE) is the competent specialist authority that supports the work of the MEE.

**ASAE**  
**Economy and Food Safety Standards Authority**

- ▶ Risk assessment
- ▶ Risk communication
- ▶ Risk management
- ▶ EFSA Focal Point

Seat: Lisbon  
<http://www.asae.pt>



As a subordinate specialist authority of the MEE, the ASAE is responsible for risk assessment, risk communication and risk management (food inspection) in the field of food safety.

The ASAE operates as the national authority with responsibility to carry out inspections to combat and prevent fraud in all economic areas, including food, feed and residues. It is also responsible for risk assessment and communication in relation to food and feed. This is handled by a Scientific Directorate that coordinates all EFSA-related activities including the Portuguese representation in EFSA's Advisory Forum and Focal Point. The organic structure of this Authority covers the whole country and several Central

and Regional Control Services. The remit of the ASAE includes feed, novel foods, food supplements, GMOs, zoonoses, residues of plant protection products as well as contaminants in meat, fish, plant products and mineral water. Safety of drinking water is responsibility of the regulatory authority for water and waste.

The area of work of the ASAE extends beyond food safety to, for instance, plant health, animal health and animal welfare.

One National Reference Laboratory is attached to the ASAE pursuant to Regulation (EC) No. 882/2004.

**DGAV**  
**Directorate-General for Food and Veterinary Issues**

- ▶ Risk assessment
- ▶ Risk management

Seat: Lisbon  
<http://www.dgv.min-agricultura.pt>



The DGAV is the subordinate specialist authority of the MAMAOT. Based on its own science-based risk assessments, the DGAV implements state food policy and carries out inspections.

Regarding the operation of control systems for food and feed safety, animal health and animal welfare, activities are carried out through five regional authorities, which report directly to the DGAV.

The remit of the DGAV includes GMOs feed, zoonoses, residues of veterinary medicinal products. The DGAV is the regulatory authority for veterinary medicinal products in Portugal. By contrast, the Directorate-General for Agriculture and Rural Development (DGADR) is the regulatory authority for plant protection products.

The area of work of the DGAV extends beyond the field of food safety to, for instance, animal health, animal nutrition, transmissible spongiform encephalopathies, animal by-products, veterinary medicinal products and animal welfare.

**DGADR**  
**Directorate-General for Agriculture and Rural Development**

- ▶ Risk assessment
- ▶ Risk management

Seat: Lisbon  
<http://www.dgadr.pt/>



The DGADR is a subordinate specialist authority of the MAMAOT and is active in the field of agriculture, plant genetics, plant health and plant protection products, including pesticide residues in plants. As the national authority for plant health, the DGADR develops standards for the regulation of plant protection products. The DGADR plans and implements national control programmes on residues of plant protection products (including pesticides). The DGADR is responsible for risk assessment and risk management in this area. The remit of the DGADR includes seeds and plant propagation materials, certification of national plant varieties, genetically modified seeds and plant varieties, as well as the prevention of the introduction of plant diseases into Portugal.

**Regional and local levels**

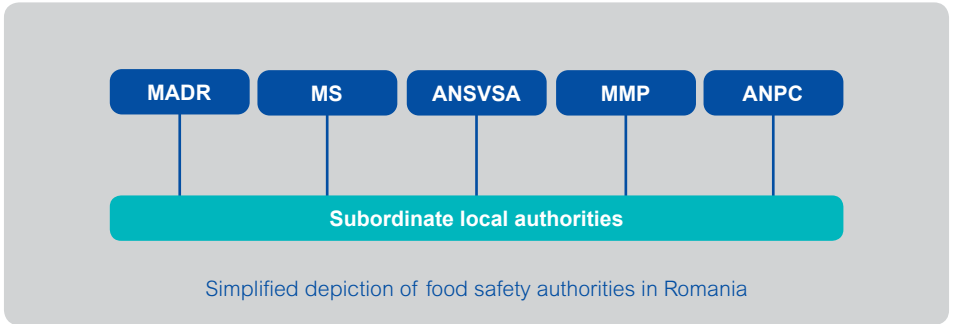
Portugal is administratively divided into five regions on the mainland (North, Centre, Lisbon and Tejo's Valley, Alentejo and Algarve) and two autonomous regions (Azores and Madeira). The regions on the mainland do not have any legislative powers but Azores and Madeira each have an elected assembly with devolved powers to enact legislation.

**Institutions involved in the EFSA network pursuant to Article 36 Reg. (EC) No. 178/2002:**

1. Economy and Food Safety Standards Authority
2. Instituto Nacional de Saúde
3. Direcção-Geral de Protecção das Culturas
4. National Institute of Pharmacy and Medicines
5. Direcção Geral de Veterinária
6. Laboratorio Nacional de investigação veterinaria
7. Faculdade de Farmácia da Universidade de Lisboa
8. Universidade de Lisboa Faculdade de Medicina Veterinária
9. Instituto Superior de Engenharia – Universidade do Algarve
10. Universidade de Lisboa
11. University of Coimbra
12. Clínica Universitária de Medicina – Faculdade de Medicina – Coimbra
13. Instituto Superior de Ciências da Saúde Egas Moniz
14. University of Porto, Faculty of Nutrition and Food Sciences
15. Faculdade de Medicina da Universidade do Porto
16. Faculdade de Farmacia da Universidade do Porto
17. ICETA Instituto de Ciências e Tecnologias Agrárias e Agro-Alimentares
18. Área Departamental de Ciencia e Tecnologia de Alimentos, Escola Superior Agrária Instituto Politécnico de Beja
19. Instituto Politécnico de Leiria
20. Instituto Politécnico de Santarém
21. Instituto Superior de Agronomia
22. Universidade Lusófona de Humanidades e Tecnologia
23. Universidade Católica Portuguesa
24. ITQB-UNL
25. Escola Superior Agrária
26. University of Aveiro – Food Biochemistry Group
27. Faculty of Sciences and Technology/UNL
28. Universidade do Minho
29. Instituto de Ciências Agrárias Mediterrânica
30. National Institute for Engineering, Technology and Innovation

**3.23 Romania**

Romania



Law No. 150/2004 (with amendments) is the legal foundation for food and feed legislation in Romania. Infringement of food and feed regulations can lead to measures under criminal law and consumer damage claims under civil law, whereby the final decision rests with the courts. Government measures with regard to food safety are often based on scientific risk assessment.

In Romania there is no institutional separation of risk assessment and risk management. Risk assessments are not published on the Internet.

**MADR**  
**Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development**

- ▶ Risk assessment
- ▶ Risk communication
- ▶ Risk management

Seat: Bucharest  
<http://www.madr.ro>



The MADR deals with agricultural policy and food safety in Romania. It prepares draft legislation in the area of food and feed of non-animal origin, residues of plant protection products and cultivation of GMOs. The MADR also carries out risk assessments in these fields. Activities of the MADR with regard to plant protection products are supported by the National Environmental Protection Agency and the Ministry of Health.

Two National Reference Laboratories are attached to the MADR pursuant to Regulation (EC) No. 882/2004.



## MS Ministry of Health

- ▶ Risk assessment
- ▶ Risk communication
- ▶ Risk management

Seat: Bucharest  
<http://www.ms.ro>



The MS is responsible for health protection and food safety in Romania. The MS prepares draft legislation in the field of food safety and is responsible for official controls in the area of food safety. The portfolio of the MS includes novel foods, food supplements, food for populations with special nutritional requirements, food additives, enzymes and flavourings, treatment of food with ionizing irradiation, food contact materials as well as mineral water. The MS is also responsible for risk assessment in these areas.

## ANSVSA National Sanitary Veterinary and Food Safety Authority

- ▶ Risk assessment
- ▶ Risk communication
- ▶ Risk management, border controls
- ▶ Codex Contact Point
- ▶ EFSA Focal Point
- ▶ RASFF Contact Point

Seat: Bucharest  
<http://www.ansvsa.ro>



The ANSVSA is subordinate to the Romanian Government and activities of the ANSVSA are coordinated by the Prime Minister of Romania. The ANSVSA manages all activities in the area of food safety – from raw materials to the consumer issues. ANSVSA is responsible for of-

ficial control, preparation of draft legislation as well as preparation of risk assessments in the following areas: contaminants, residues of plant protection products, import of animal and plant products, traceability and labelling of genetically modified food and feed, zoonoses, veterinary medicinal products and their residues, feed, animal health and welfare.

The ANSVSA ensures that HACCP and hygienic requirements are implemented in food production and catering businesses.

National Reference Laboratories pursuant to Regulation (EC) No. 882/2004 are subordinate to the ANSVSA and attached to the Institute of Diagnosis and Animal Health, the Institute of Hygiene and Veterinary Public Health, the State Sanitary Veterinary and Food Safety Laboratory and the Institute for Control of Biological Products and Veterinary Medicines.

## MMP Ministry of Environment and Forests

- ▶ Risk assessment
- ▶ Risk communication
- ▶ Risk management

Seat: Bucharest  
<http://www.mmediu.ro>



The MMP deals with environmental policy and is the main competent authority for plant protection products and GMOs. The MMP authorises and controls the use of GMOs and plant protection products and monitors their impact on the environment. In this area the MMP is supported by the National Protection Agency and the National Environmental Guard. Authorisation of plant protection products in Romania requires the approval of three ministries, the MADR, MS and MMP. The MMP is also responsible for the management of obsolete pesticides.

**ANPC  
National Authority for Consumer Protection**

► Risk management

Seat: Bucharest  
<http://www.anpc.ro>

The ANPC monitors whether food, food advertising, and food labelling conforms to legal requirements. The ANPC also handles consumer complaints.

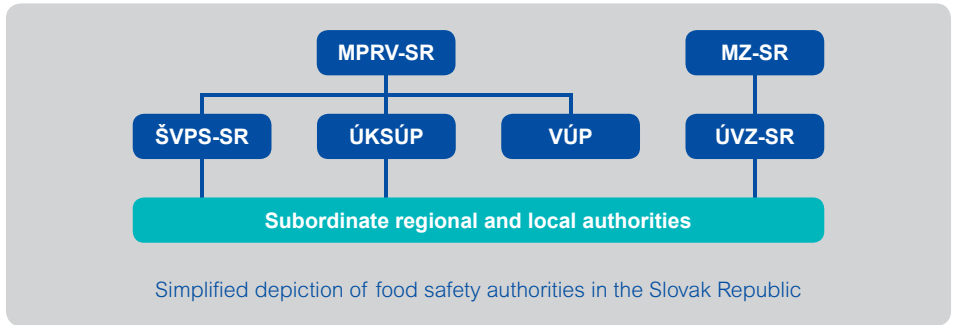
**Regional and local levels**

Romania has a unitary governmental structure with decentralised regional administration offices. The regional level (42 administrative districts) has no autonomous competency. The regional administration supervises the work of local authorities. All authorities (MADR, MS, ANSVSA, MMP and ANPC) have regional offices that carry out inspections and control in the area of food and feed safety, plant protection and plant health as well as veterinary inspections.

**Institutions involved in the EFSA network pursuant to Art. 36 Reg. (EC) No. 178/2002:**

1. Romanian Sanitary Veterinary and Food Safety Authority
2. Institute for Diagnosis and Animal Health
3. Ministry of Public Health – Department of Public Health Authority and Department of Sanitary State Inspection
4. Institute for Hygiene and Veterinary Public Health
5. Banat's University of Agricultural Science and Veterinary Medicine
6. Sanitary Veterinary and Food Safety Directorate of Bucharest – Sanitary Veterinary Laboratory of State
7. University of Agricultural Sciences and Veterinary Medicine – Cluj Napoca
8. University Dunarea De Jos – Faculty of Food Science and Engineering
9. National Institute of Research and Development for Food Bioresources
10. IBA Bucharest

### 3.24 Slovak Republic



Slovak Republic

The central legal foundation for food legislation in Slovakia is the act on foodstuffs (No. 152/1995 Coll.). Infringement of food regulations can lead to measures under criminal law and consumer damage claims under civil law, whereby the final decision rests with the courts. Government measures with regard to food safety are often based on scientific risk assessment. However, the final decision on the legality of governmental measures rests with the courts. In Slovakia risk assessment and risk management are institutionally separated. Risk assessments are published on the Internet.

coordination of risk assessment. The MPRV-SR manages and coordinates the official control authorities in the area of food and feed safety (the ŠVPS-SR and ÚKSÚP). The Food Safety and Nutrition Department of the MPRV-SR coordinates laboratory analysis and authorises laboratories to conduct analytical work (including designation of national reference laboratories).


The Commission for Food Safety and Nutrition is an advisory body of the Food Safety and Nutrition Department of the MPRV-SR. The Commission issues advice with regards to nutrition and food safety throughout the food chain, particularly with regard to creation and implementation of strategies and policies in this area. Scientific risk assessments are prepared by scientific bodies, research institutions and universities.

Several National Reference Laboratories are attached to the MPRV-SR pursuant to Regulation (EC) No. 882/2004.

**MPRV-SR**  
Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development

- ▶ Coordination of risk assessment
- ▶ Risk communication
- ▶ Risk management
- ▶ Codex Contact Point
- ▶ EFSA Focal Point

Seat: Bratislava  
<http://www.mpsr.sk>



The MPRV-SR is responsible for agricultural policy, animal health and welfare, animal feed, food safety, plant health and GMOs. The MPRV-SR is involved in risk communication and the

**MZ-SR**  
Ministry of Health

- ▶ Risk management

Seat: Bratislava  
<http://www.health.gov.sk>



The MZ-SR is responsible for health policy and is the central competent authority for official food controls in the hotel, restaurant and catering sector and for the production and placing following products on the market: novel foods, food supplements, foods intended for particular nutritional uses (including foods for infants and young children) as well as natural mineral water, spring water for infants and young children, foodstuffs treated with ionising radiation and food contact materials. The competent authority responsible for co-ordinating the implementation of official food controls in this sector is the Public Health Authority of the Slovak Republic (ÚVZ-SR) and its regional authorities.

The MZ-SR has authorised several laboratories to conduct laboratory analysis of samples taken during official food control. All these laboratories are accredited according to EN ISO/IEC 17025 by the SNAS (Slovak National Accreditation Service), DAP (Deutsches Akkreditierungssystem Prüfwesen) or the CIA (Czech Accreditation Institute).

National Reference Laboratories are attached to the MZ-SR pursuant to Regulation (EC) No. 882/2004.

### ŠVPS-SR State Veterinary and Food Administration

- ▶ Risk management
- ▶ RASFF Contact Point

Seat: Bratislava  
<http://www.svsss.sk>



The ŠVPS-SR is subordinate to the MPRV-SR and responsible for the official control of animal health and welfare, food of animal and non-animal origin at all stages of production, processing and distribution, except in the catering sector, which is the responsibility of the Ministry of Health

(MZ-SR). The remit of the ŠVPS-SR extends to feed materials of animal origin, feedingstuffs used directly at farm level, medicated feedingstuffs, veterinary medicines and their residues and animal by-products.

The ŠVPS-SR manages and coordinates the activities of the State Veterinary Institute, three State Veterinary and Food Institutes, the Institute for State Control of Veterinary Biopreparations and Medicines, and the Institute of Postgraduate Study for Veterinary Surgeons.

The State Veterinary Institute and the three State Veterinary and Food Institutes have been designated by the MPRV-SR as official laboratories to conduct analysis of samples taken during official controls of animal health and the safety of food of animal and plant origin, including analyses of imported and domestically-produced feedingstuffs. These laboratories are accredited in accordance with EN ISO/IEC 17025. The regulatory authority for veterinary drugs is the Institute for State Control of Veterinary Biopreparations and Medicines (Seat: Nitra, <http://www.uskvbl.sk>).

### ÚKSÚP Central Controlling and Testing Institute in Agriculture

- ▶ Risk management

Seat: Bratislava  
<http://www.uksup.sk>



The ÚKSÚP is subordinate to the MPRV-SR and responsible for the official control of the agricultural sector. The UKSUP remit covers plant health, seeds and seedlings, plant varieties, plant protection products, animal feed and animal nutrition. ÚKSÚP assists during drafting of legislation and provides advisory services.

The ÚKSÚP performs phytosanitary controls on imported and exported plants and plant materials at three border crossing points. The ÚKSÚP is the competent authority for organic farming in Slovakia designated by the Department of Environmental Protection and Organic Farming (DEPOF). Analysis of samples taken during official controls are performed by its own accredited laboratories.

official food controls in the sectors mentioned in the preceding section. The authority co-ordinates all food safety activities, including the preparation of control programmes and related reports, the organisation of laboratory capacity and co-operation with the MPRV-SR and on consumer-protection issues. Controls are implemented by 36 regional public health authorities.

### VÚP Food Research Institute

- ▶ Risk assessment
- ▶ RASFF Contact Point

Seat: Bratislava  
<http://www.vup.sk>



The VÚP is subordinate to the MPRV-SR and one of its main role is research focused on food safety and development of new analytical methods and techniques. The Institute acts as part of the Rapid Alert System for Feed and Food (RASFF) in the Slovak Republic and provides scientific opinions with regard to contaminants and pesticides in food. The VÚP is also involved in drafting food legislation. The VÚP provides training for both businesses and official authorities and is active in education and information with regard to food. The Institute's laboratories are accredited to the EN ISO/IEC 17025 and ISO 9000 standards.

### ÚVZ-SR Public Health Authority

- ▶ Risk management

Seat: Bratislava  
<http://www.uvzsr.sk>



The ÚVZ-SR is the competent authority responsible for co-ordinating the implementation of

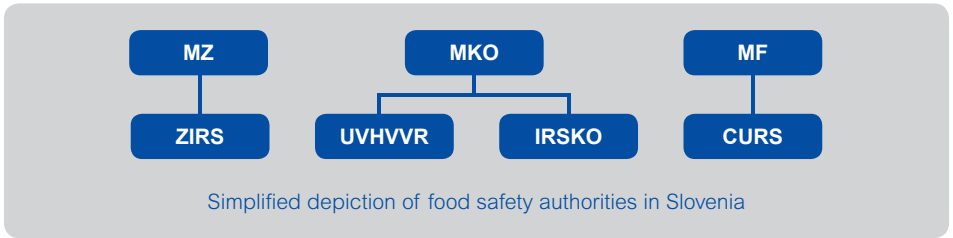
### Regional and local levels

The Slovak Republic consists of eight regions and 79 districts. Food and feed inspections, as well as veterinary and phytosanitary care are coordinated and conducted by the ŠVPS-SR, ÚKSÚP and ÚVZ-SR. The ŠVPS-SR is supported by eight regional and 40 district veterinary and food authorities, as well as four laboratories and three border inspection posts. The ÚVZ-SR is supported by 36 regional authorities and 10 laboratories.

### Institutions involved in the EFSA network pursuant to Article 36 Reg. (EC) No. 178/2002:

1. Research Institute for Animal Production
2. Public Health Authority of the Slovak Republic
3. Regional Public Health Authority in Proprad
4. Central Agricultural Inspection and Testing Institute
5. State Veterinary and Food Institute – Bratislava
6. State Veterinary and Food Institute – Dolny Kubin
7. Food Research Institute
8. State Veterinary and Food Institute – Kosice
9. Slovak Medical University
10. University of Veterinary Medicine
11. Slovak University of Agriculture
12. Slovak University of Technology, Faculty of Chemical and Food Technology
13. Comenius University, Faculty of Pharmacy
14. Institute of Neuroimmunology, SAS
15. State Veterinary Institute – Zvolen
16. Institute of Plant Genetics and Biotechnology, SAS
17. Institute of Parasitology, Slovak Academy of Sciences

**3.25 Slovenia**



Several national laws and governmental regulations represent the legal foundation for official controls. Infringement of these regulations can lead to administrative and/or penalty measures being taken by the ZIRS, UVHVVR, IRSKO and CURS. Measures can also be taken under criminal law (Public Prosecution Office) and civil law (civil claims). The above measures are based on legal requirements or on risk analyses in cases where no EU or national legal requirements exist. The final decision on the legality of measures taken rests with the courts.

Processes of risk assessment and risk management are institutionally separated. Risk assessments are not published on the internet.

**MZ**  
**Ministry of Health**

- ▶ Risk communication
- ▶ Risk management

Seat: Ljubljana  
<http://www.mz.gov.si>

The MZ is responsible for policy and legislative framework in the area of healthcare, including public health and health insurance. The portfolio of the MZ includes safety of food and drinking water and conducting a general policy on nutrition. Within the food safety area the MZ is responsible for the preparation of legislation and overseeing its implementation with regard to food for particular nutritional uses, food supplements and food contact materials.

**ZIRS**  
**Health Inspectorate of the Republic of Slovenia**

- ▶ Risk management
- ▶ Inspection and control

Seat: Ljubljana  
<http://www.zi.gov.si>

The ZIRS is responsible for the official control of food supplements, foods for particular nutritional uses, food safety in the catering sector,

food contact materials and potable water. The ZIRS requests risk assessments from appointed scientific institutions and research organisations, such as the Public Health Institute Maribor and the National Institute of Public Health.

### MKO Ministry of Agriculture and the Environment

- ▶ Risk communication
- ▶ Risk management
- ▶ Codex Contact Point
- ▶ EFSA Focal Point

Seat: Ljubljana  
<http://www.mko.gov.si>



The MKO is responsible for policy and legislative framework in the area of agriculture, fisheries, forestry and the environment including food and feed quality e.g. marketing standards for food, protected designation of origin, protected geographical indication, traditional speciality guaranteed and indication of products of higher quality.

### UVHVVR Administration for Food Safety, Veterinary Sector and Plant Protection

- ▶ Risk management
- ▶ Risk communication
- ▶ Inspection and controls
- ▶ RASFF Contact Point

Seat: Ljubljana  
<http://www.uvhvvr.gov.si>

The UVHVVR is responsible for policy, legislative framework and official controls in the area of safety, quality and labelling of food and feed and other animal products, animal health, animal welfare, identification of animals, zoonoses, residues, pesticides, contaminants, irradiation,

GMOs, health and nutrition claims, natural mineral waters, plant health and plant protection, use of veterinary medicinal products and antimicrobial resistance. The UVHVVR is also responsible for import and export controls of food, feed, other animal products and animals – except regarding controls which are carried out by CURS.

The UVHVVR requests risk assessments from appointed scientific institutions and research organisations, such as:

- ▶ University of Ljubljana, Veterinary Faculty – National Veterinary Institute
- ▶ Public Health Institute Maribor
- ▶ National Institute of Public Health
- ▶ Agricultural Institute of Slovenia
- ▶ National Institute of Biology
- ▶ Slovenian Institute for Hop Research and Brewing

### IRSKO Inspectorate of the Republic of Slovenia for Agriculture and the Environment

- ▶ Inspection and controls

Seat: Ljubljana  
<http://www.iko.gov.si>

IRSKO is responsible for official controls (on-the-spot checks) of identification and registration of animals.

**MF**  
**Ministry of Finance**  
**Customs Administration (CURS)**

► **Inspection and controls**

Seat: Ljubljana  
<http://www.carina.gov.si>

Customs Administration (CURS) is subordinate to the Ministry of Finance (MF). CURS is responsible for official import controls regarding:

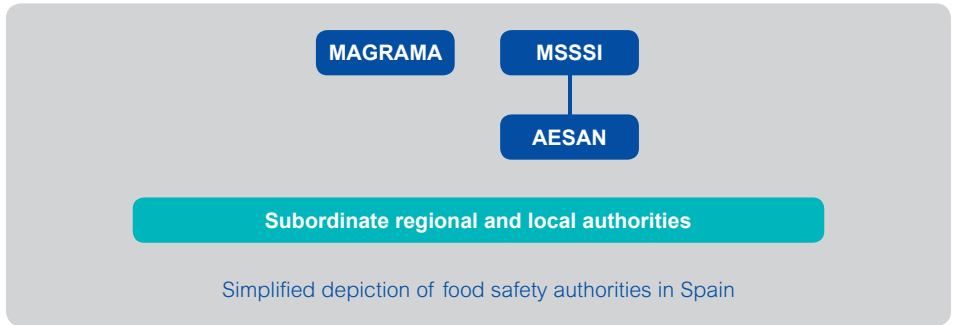
- products of animal origin for personal consumption
- non-commercial movements of pet animals
- documentary and identity checks on animal feedstuffs of non-animal origin
- wooden packaging material
- detection of illegal imports

**Institutions involved in the EFSA network pursuant to Article 36 Reg. (EC) No. 178/2002:**

1. National Institute of Public Health
2. Agricultural Institute of Slovenia
3. Slovenian Institute for Hop Research and Brewing
4. University of Ljubljana, Veterinary Faculty – National Veterinary Institute
5. University of Ljubljana – Biotechnical Faculty, Department of Food Science and Technology
6. University of Maribor, Faculty of Agriculture and Life Sciences and Medical Faculty
7. Jozef Stefan Institute
8. National Institute of Biology (NIB), Department of Biotechnology and Systems Biology
9. University of Ljubljana, Biotechnical Faculty, Department of Agronomy, Chair of Entomology and Phytopathology
10. University of Ljubljana, Biotechnical Faculty, Zootechnical department
11. Public Health Institute Maribor
12. Slovenian Forestry Institute



### 3.26 Spain



Spain


Regulation (EC) No. 178/2002 is the central foundation for food legislation in Spain. Infringement of food regulations can lead to measures under criminal law and consumer damage claims under civil law, whereby the final decision rests with the courts. Government measures with regard to food safety are often based on scientific risk assessment. However, the final decision on the legality of governmental measures rests with the courts.





In Spain there is no institutional separation of risk assessment and risk management. Risk assessments are published on the Internet unless there are statutory provisions that prohibit this.


**MAGRAMA**  
Ministry of Agriculture,  
Food and Environment

- ▶ Agricultural policy, food safety
- ▶ Risk assessment
- ▶ Risk management

Seat: Madrid  
<http://www.magrama.es>





MAGRAMA deals with agricultural policy, feed safety and the safety of food of animal and plant origin during primary production. MAGRAMA prepares draft legislation and is responsible for the coordination of state food inspections in this area. MAGRAMA is also responsible for the preparation of risk assessments with regard to residues of plant protection products and animal feed. MAGRAMA is the regulatory authority for plant protection products.

The MAGRAMA portfolio includes GMOs, zoonoses and veterinary medicinal products. MAGRAMA is the regulatory authority for pesticides, i. e. MAGRAMA registers, authorises and monitors the use of pesticides. However, before MAGRAMA authorises the use of pesticides, AESAN is consulted to provide a risk assessment of residues in food, the MSSSI

is consulted to assess the safety of the user, and MAGRAMA itself assesses the efficacy of the pesticide in question and its safety for the environment.

MAGRAMA's area of work extends beyond food safety to plant health, animal health and animal welfare.

Four National Reference Laboratories are attached to MAGRAMA pursuant to Regulation (EC) No. 882/2004.

### MSSSI Ministry of Health, Social Services and Equality

- ▶ Health policy, food safety
- ▶ Risk management

Seat: Madrid  
<http://www.MSSSI.es>



The MSSSI deals with health policy and food safety. The MSSSI prepares draft legislation in the field of food (secondary food production) and is responsible for the coordination of state food inspections in this area. The MSSSI is in charge of control and inspection of food of animal and plant origin during import, export and transit. It is also responsible for the control and monitoring of residues of plant protection products in food of animal origin.

The MSSSI's area of work extends beyond food safety to nutrition, and MSSSI is supported by the Spanish Food Safety and Nutrition Agency (AESAN).

The regulatory authority for veterinary medicinal products is the Spanish Agency for Medicines and Health Products, a subordinate agency of the MSSSI.

### AESAN Spanish Agency for Food Safety and Nutrition

- ▶ Risk assessment
- ▶ Risk communication
- ▶ Risk management
- ▶ Codex Contact Point
- ▶ EFSA Focal Point
- ▶ RASFF Contact Point

Seat: Madrid  
<http://www.aesan.msc.es>



AESAN is a subordinate specialist authority within the portfolio of the MSSSI. AESAN is the competent authority for all legislative projects with regard to safety of food available in Spain, this includes incorporation of EU directives into national law as well as new national regulations.

As a scientific institution that enjoys independence in terms of the results of its opinions, AESAN prepares expert reports on risk assessment, particularly in relation to novel foods, residues of veterinary medicinal products, food supplements, zoonoses and mineral waters, drinking water. AESAN prepares recommendations for risk reduction and identifies new health risks. AESAN is also responsible for the risk management of GMOs (food).

Other main AESAN remit areas are research and transparent communication with the public at large, science and other involved or interested circles. AESAN is also involved in the coordination of state food inspections. AESAN's area of work extends beyond food safety to nutrition.

Two National Reference Laboratories are attached to AESAN pursuant to Regulation (EC) No. 882/2004. AESAN has one National Reference Laboratory (National Centre for

Food, CNA) and 1 EU Reference Laboratory (EURLMB, for Marine Biotoxins).

### Regional and local levels

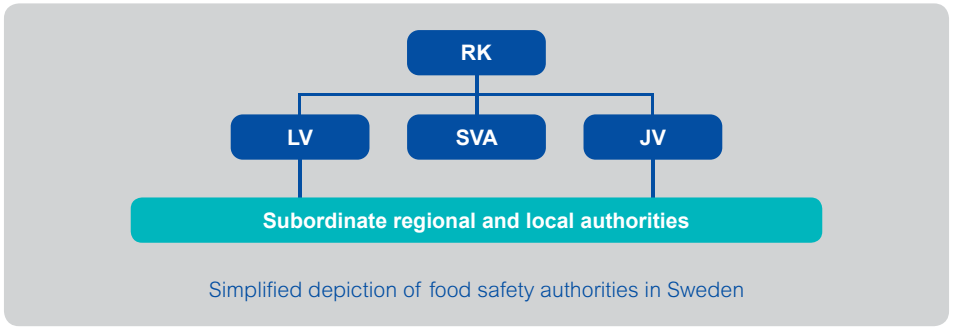
The regional and local levels in Spain consist of 17 autonomous regions, two autonomous towns (Ceuta and Melilla) and 52 provinces. Some regional food safety authorities carry out risk assessments at the regional level. The implementation of feed and food inspections is task of regional and local authorities.

#### Institutions involved in the EFSA network pursuant to Article 36 Reg. (EC) No. 178/2002:

1. Centro Nacional de Alimentación
2. Consejo Superior Investigaciones Científicas
3. European Union Reference Laboratory for Marine Biotoxins
4. Laboratorio Regional de Salud Pública de la Comunidad de Madrid
5. Laboratori Agroalimentari
6. Laboratorio de Salud Pública de la Delegación Provincial de la Consejería de Sanidad de Lugo
7. Departamento de Nutrición, Bromatología y Tecnología de los Alimentos, Facultad de veterinaria, Universidad Complutense
8. Universidad de Córdoba
9. Universidad Complutense de Madrid
10. Universidad de las Islas Baleares – Laboratorio de Biología Molécula, Nutrición y Biotecnología
11. Drug Analysis Service – Universidad Autónoma de Barcelona – Facultad de Veterinaria
12. Grupo de Investigación Dh03 – Universidad de León – Facultad de Veterinaria
13. Fundació Centre de Recerca en Sanitat Animal
14. Laboratorio Arbitral Agroalimentario de Madrid
15. Agència Catalana de Seguretat Alimentària
16. Institut de Recerca i Tecnologia Agroalimentàries
17. Laboratorio Central de Veterinaria
18. Laboratory of Mycology
19. Nutrición y Bromatología, Facultad de Veterinaria, Universidad de Murcia
20. Institute of Nutrition and Food Technology
21. Saluvet Group
22. Elika
23. University of Santiago de Compostela
24. Instituto Vasco de Investigación y Desarrollo Agrario (NEIKER)

3.27 Sweden

Sweden



The Food Act is the central legal foundation in food legislation in Sweden. Infringement of food regulations can lead to measures under criminal law and consumer damage claims under civil law, whereby the final decision rests with the courts. Government measures with regard to food safety are often based on scientific risk assessment. However, the final decision on the legality of governmental measures rests with the courts.

In Sweden there is no institutional separation of risk assessment from risk management. Risk assessments are published on the Internet unless there are statutory provisions that prohibit this.

**RK**  
**Ministry of Rural Affairs**

- ▶ Agricultural policy, food safety
- ▶ Risk management

Seat: Stockholm  
<http://www.regeringen.se/sb/d/1473>

The RK is responsible for agricultural policy and food safety in Sweden. The main focus of the RK’s work is risk management and the coordination of state tasks in the field of food safety. The work of the RK is supported by The National Food Agency (LV), the Swedish Board of Agriculture (JV) and the Swedish National Veterinary Institute (SVA).

The portfolio of the RK extends beyond food safety to plant health, animal health, animal feed and animal welfare.

### LV National Food Agency

- ▶ Risk benefit assessment
- ▶ Risk communication
- ▶ Risk management
- ▶ Codex Contact Point
- ▶ EFSA Focal Point
- ▶ RASFF Contact Point

Seat: Uppsala  
<http://www.slv.se>



The LV is an independent, non-ministerial government authority. Nonetheless, the LV is accountable to the government and the RK.

In the area of food safety, the LV is responsible for risk benefit assessment, risk communication and risk management. The LV prepares draft legislation on the basis of its own science-based risk assessments. It is also responsible for state food inspections and, if necessary, for the subsequent information of the government of the outcome of the control and inspection activities.

The remit of the LV includes novel foods, food supplements, GMOs, foodborne infections, contaminants mineral water, drinking water, residues of both plant protection products and veterinary medicinal products. However, the regulatory authority for plant protection products is the Swedish Chemicals Inspectorate and the regulatory authority for veterinary medicinal products is the Medical Product Agency (Läkemedelsverket).

The area of work of the LV extends beyond food safety to, for instance, nutrition.

### JV Swedish Board of Agriculture

- ▶ Risk assessment
- ▶ Risk communication
- ▶ Risk management

Seat: Jönköping  
<http://www.jordbruksverket.se>



The JV is an independent, non-ministerial government authority. Nonetheless, the JV is accountable to the government and the RK.

In the area of feed safety, the JV is responsible for risk assessment, risk communication and risk management. It prepares draft legislation on the basis of its own science-based risk assessments. It is also responsible for state feed inspections and if necessary, subsequent information of the government of the outcome of control and inspection activities.

The remit of the JV includes residues of plant protection products and GMOs in feed and extends beyond food safety to plant health, animal health and animal welfare.

### SVA Swedish National Veterinary Institute

- ▶ Risk assessment
- ▶ Risk communication

Seat: Uppsala  
<http://www.sva.se>



The SVA is subordinate to the RK and supports the work of the JV with laboratory analytical services, epidemiological and microbiological expertise. The SVA prepares science-based risk assessments particularly in the field of

zoonoses and animal health. The area of work of the SVA extends beyond food safety to animal health.

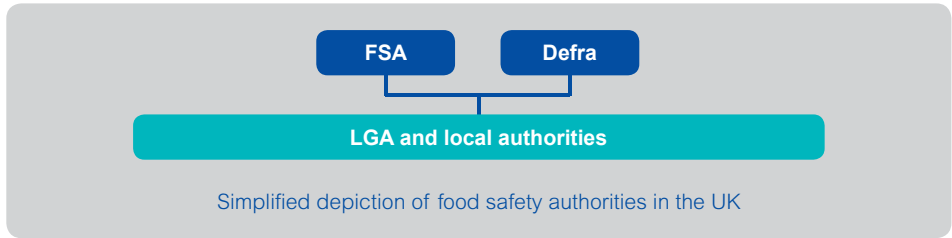
### Regional and local levels

The regional level in Sweden consists of 21 county authorities and the local level of 290 municipal authorities. The county authorities are responsible for the coordination of food inspections at the regional level. However, in some cases, activities of the regional authorities are steered by the government. Municipal authorities also carry out food inspections at farms, they work and take their decisions independently.

### Institutions involved in the EFSA network pursuant to Article 36 Reg. (EC) No. 178/2002:

1. National Food Agency Sweden (EFSA Focal Point)
2. National Veterinary Institute
3. Swedish Chemicals Inspectorate
4. The Swedish Institute for Food and Biotechnology (SIK)
5. Swedish Museum of Natural History, Contaminant Research Group
6. Swedish Environmental Protection Agency
7. Swedish Institute for Infectious Disease Control
8. Karolinska Institute
- 8.1. Veterinary resources
- 8.2. Institute of Environmental Medicine-IMM
- 8.3. Microbiological and Tumor Biological Centre
9. Stockholm University
- 9.1. Department of Applied Environmental Science (ITM)
- 9.2. Department of Environmental Chemistry
10. Örebro University Hospital, Department of Occupational and Environmental Medicine
11. Swedish University of Agricultural Science, Department of Food Science, EFOP (the Environmental Fate and Pesticide Group), Faculty of Animal Science and Veterinary Medicine
12. Göteborg University, Department of Home Economics
13. MTM Research Centre at Örebro University
14. Lund University, Department of Food Technology, Engineering and Nutrition
15. Faculty of Natural Resources and Agricultural Sciences, SLU
16. Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences, (SLU), Dept. Plant Biology & Forest Genetics
17. Unit for Agricultural Entomology, Dept. of Ecology, SLU
18. Department of Crop Production Ecology, SLU
19. Uppsala University Department of Public Health and Caring Sciences/Clinical Nutrition and Metabolism
20. Linneaus University, School of Natural Sciences

### 3.28 United Kingdom



United Kingdom

The central legal foundations in food legislation in the United Kingdom are the Food Safety Act 1990 and the General Food Regulations 2004. The Food Safety Act 1990 is the framework for all the food laws in Great Britain, with similar legislation in Northern Ireland. The General Food Regulations 2004 bring the Food Safety Act 1990 into line with Regulation (EC) No. 178/2002 and allow enforcement of the food safety requirements of this Regulation.

Infringement of food regulations can lead to measures under criminal law and consumer damage claims under civil law, whereby the final decision rests with the courts. Government measures with regard to food safety are often based on scientific risk assessment. However, the final decision on the legality of governmental measures rests with the courts.

In the United Kingdom there is no institutional separation of risk assessment, risk communication and risk management. Risk assessments are published on the Internet unless there are statutory provisions that prohibit this.

#### FSA Food Standards Agency

- ▶ Risk assessment
- ▶ Risk communication
- ▶ Risk management
- ▶ EFSA Focal Point
- ▶ RASFF Contact Point
- ▶ Research

Seat: central office in London; regional offices in England (York), Northern Ireland, Scotland and Wales  
<http://www.food.gov.uk/>



The FSA is the central authority in the field of food safety in the United Kingdom. It is an independent non-ministerial Government Department, governed by an independent Chair and nonexecutive Board responsible for overall strategic direction of the Agency and for ensuring it meets its legal obligations. It is accountable to the British Parliament, the Northern Ireland Assembly, the Scottish Parliament and the National Assembly of Wales through Health Ministers. Besides questions about standards for food safety, the FSA is also responsible for meat inspection duties in fresh meat premises in England, Scotland and Wales (which is the responsibility of the DARD in Northern Ireland). FSA responsibilities also include monitoring of local enforcement authorities. The FSA is a UK wide body with its headquarters in London and offices

in York (England), Northern Ireland, Scotland and Wales to ensure its priorities are delivered in a country-specific context. Each office also has its own distinct areas of work. On relevant issues, the FSA cooperates closely with local authorities. The FSA receives information, advice and proposals from its expert scientific committees. The FSA normally publishes risk assessments on the Internet, and the main policy issues are decided by the FSA Board in open session in the light of scientific and other evidence. The FSA informs the government and public at large.

The FSA's area of work includes food additives and contaminants, microbiological safety of food, feed, GMOs, novel foods and food supplements. The FSA also has a watchdog role in the authorisation and surveillance of pesticides and veterinary medicines.

National Reference Laboratories are appointed by the FSA in accordance with Regulation (EC) No. 882/2004. The FSA has posted a list on the Internet of the laboratories that are attached to authorities, hospitals and private companies.

### Defra Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs

- ▶ Risk assessment
- ▶ Risk management
- ▶ Risk communication

Seat: London  
<http://www.defra.gov.uk>



Defra is a government department that is responsible – together with its executive agencies – for legislation as well as implementation and monitoring of food safety unless this comes under the remit of the FSA.

The Veterinary Medicines Directorate (VMD) is an executive agency of Defra responsible for, amongst other things, assessment, issue and maintenance of all national marketing authorisations for veterinary medicinal products; surveillance for residues of veterinary medicines and illegal substances in animals and animal products; and co-ordinating work in the area of anti-microbial resistance. The Chemicals Regulation Directorate (CRD) part of the Health and Safety Executive is the regulatory authority for pesticides on behalf of Defra. With regard to food safety activity, the Directorate carries out an official programme of pesticide residues testing of food in the UK in accordance with Regulation (EC) No. 396/2005 and publishes the results on a quarterly basis. The Directorate is also responsible for taking appropriate enforcement action.

Some of Defra's duties, for instance in the field of legislation, implementation and inspection, are delegated to the Agriculture/Rural Affairs Departments in the Devolved Administrations in Northern Ireland, Scotland and Wales. Defra publishes risk assessments in the field of animal health and welfare. Furthermore, it cooperates, where appropriate, with FSA working groups.

Defra is responsible for all aspects of water policy in England and works closely with the Drinking Water Inspectorate, which is responsible for regulating the quality of drinking water. There are similar arrangements in Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland. Defra's remit extends beyond food safety to, for instance, animal health, animal welfare and plant health.



## Regional and local levels

The United Kingdom consists of the four countries Northern Ireland, Scotland and Wales (each of which has its own parliament/assembly) as well as England (where the UK parliament is based).

The main administrative structure in these countries is a single-tier administration, responsible for all regional and local administrative tasks. England has 120, Northern Ireland 26, Scotland 32 and Wales 22 administrative units. In England there are 27 administrations with a two-tier structure which include 207 district councils. These authorities report to the FSA and are responsible for enforcing the vast majority of food and feed laws and carrying out inspections.

In its capacity as a local government authority, the Local Government Association (LGA) represents the local authorities and coordinates the activities amongst the local authorities and between the local authorities and both the FSA and Defra.

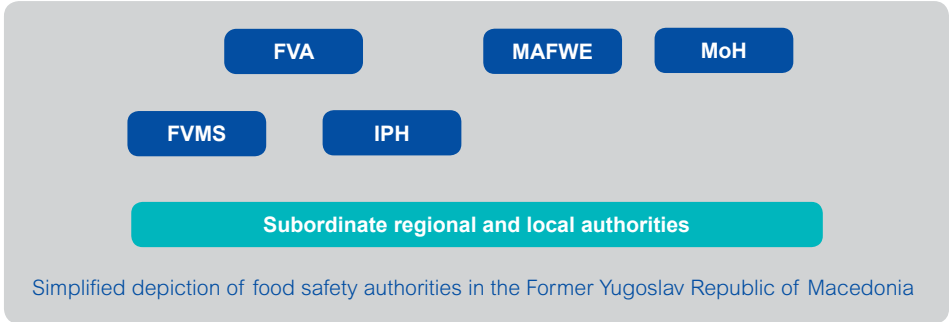
### **Institutions involved in the EFSA network pursuant to Article 36 Reg. (EC) No. 178/2002:**

1. UK Food Standard Agency
2. Biomathematics & Statistics Scotland
3. Hampshire Scientific Service
4. Glasgow Scientific Services
5. Animal Health and Veterinary Laboratories Agency
6. Staffordshire Country Laboratory and Scientific Services
7. Leicestershire Country Council Scientific Services
8. Centre for Environment Fisheries and Aquaculture Science
9. Somerset Scientific Services
10. Institute of Food Research
11. Aberdeen City Council, Laboratory of the Public Analyst
12. Food and Environment Research Agency
13. City of Edinburgh Council
14. Chemicals Regulation Directorate
15. Health and Safety Laboratory
16. MRC Collaborative Centre for Human Nutrition Research
17. Dundee City Council Scientific Services
18. Durham Scientific Services
19. Royal Veterinary College
20. University of Plymouth
21. University of Birmingham, Food Safety and Production Group
22. Institute of Environment and Health, Cranfield University
23. University of Southampton
24. Natural Resources Institute of the University of Greenwich
25. University of Newcastle upon Tyne
26. University of Glasgow, Research and Enterprise
27. Food and Nutrition for Health Unit, University of Central Lancashire
28. University of Aberdeen
29. Agri-Food and Biosciences Institute (AFBI)
30. Health Protection Agency
31. Institute of Occupational Medicine
32. Kent Scientific Services
33. LGC Limited
34. University of Liverpool
35. Scottish Crop Research Institute
36. Worcestershire Scientific Services
37. University of Hull, Department of Diabetes and Endocrinology
38. University of Hull, Department of Diabetes and Endocrinology

## 4 Food Safety in Neighbouring States

### 4.1 Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia

FYROM



The legal framework for food safety in the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia is the Food Safety Law. Infringement of food regulations can lead to measures under criminal law and consumer damage claims under civil law, whereby the final decision rests with the courts. Government measures with regard to food safety are often based on scientific risk assessment.

In the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia there is a functional separation of risk assessment and risk management. Risk assessments are not published on the Internet.

**FVA**  
**Food and Veterinary Agency**

- ▶ Food and feed safety
- ▶ Veterinary policy, public health policy
- ▶ Risk assessment
- ▶ Risk communication
- ▶ Risk management
- ▶ EFSA Focal Point
- ▶ RASFF Contact Point

Seat: Skopje  
<http://www.fva.gov.mk>

The FVA is an independent governmental authority and started its activities in January 2011. The FVA develops, coordinates and implements food and feed safety and veterinary policy to protect public health, animal health and the environment. The FVA is responsible for the implementation of relevant EU legislation with regard to food and feed safety. The FVA coordinates all food and feed safety related activities within the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and is also responsible for the communication with EU institutions.

The FVA supervises official controls of feed and food of animal and non-animal origin – during production, processing, storage, transport, trade, import and export. The FVA is also responsible for control and inspection activities of food business operators.

The FVA remit includes food of animal origin, import of food of animal and non-animal origin, animal health and welfare, animal feed and animal nutrition, TSE and animal by-products, veterinary medicines and residues of veterinary medicines, residue pesticides as well as general food hygiene.

### MAFWE Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Economy

- ▶ Agricultural policy, food safety in primary production
- ▶ Risk management

Seat: Skopje  
<http://www.mzsv.gov.mk>



The MAFWE is responsible for the development and implementation of agricultural policy and the safety of food and feed of plant origin during primary production.

The MAFWE prepares draft legislation and is responsible for the implementation, inspection and control in following areas: plant health, plant protection products, establishing and operating the “plant passport system”, recognition, approval and protection of plant and seed varieties, and laboratory analysis of plants and plant products.

As part of the MAFWE, the State Agriculture Inspectorate (SAI) conducts inspection and control during primary protection of fruit and vegetables.

### MoH Ministry of Health

- ▶ Health policy
- ▶ Risk management

Seat: Skopje  
<http://www.moh.gov.mk>



The MoH is responsible for all aspects of public health and healthcare. This includes the preparation of draft legislation as well as the subsequent implementation and control of consumer protection against fraud. The MoH actively participates in the harmonisation of Macedonian legislation with EU legislation.

### FVMS Faculty of Veterinary Medicine

- ▶ Laboratory analysis
- ▶ Risk assessment

Seat: Skopje  
<http://www.fvm.ukim.edu.mk>

FVMS laboratories (Food Institute and Veterinary Institute) are authorised to perform laboratory analysis of samples collected during official controls conducted by the FVA. FVMS laboratories are accredited according to MKC ISO/IEC 17025:2006. The FVMS is also involved in FVA risk assessment activities. FVMS laboratories cover the area of microbiology, biology and biochemistry, more specifically the analysis of food products, beverages, water, feed, and the examination of animal diseases.

## IPH Institute of Public Health

- ▶ Laboratory analysis
- ▶ Risk assessment

Seat: Skopje  
<http://www.iph.mk>

The IPH is authorised for laboratory analysis of food and feed samples collected by state food inspectors. The IPH is accredited according to ISO/ IEC 17025. The IPH also supports the FVA and MAFWE in risk assessment activities.

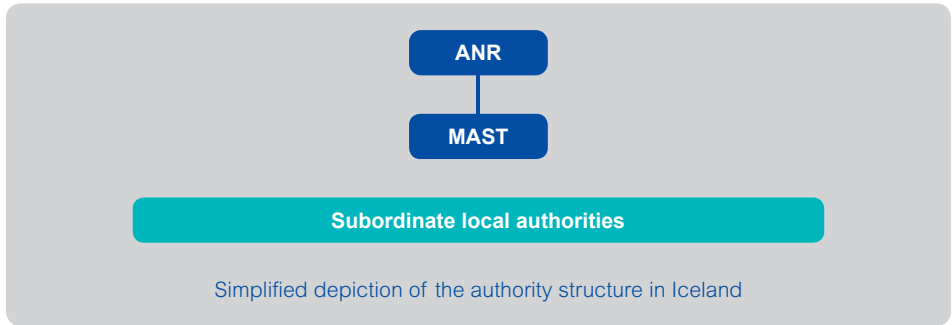
### Regional and local levels

Ten regional independent laboratories perform chemical, toxicological and microbiological analysis of food and water. Control and inspection activities are coordinated and supervised by the FVA. 28 regional offices of the FVA operate at the regional and local level to inspect food of non-animal and animal origin, animal health and welfare, and the import and export at border inspection posts.

### Institutions involved in the food safety system in the Republic of Macedonia:

1. Foods and Veterinary Agency
2. Phytosanitary Directorate, MAFWE
3. State Agricultural Inspection, MAFWE
4. Directorate for Seeds and Seedling Materials, MAFWE
5. Veterinary Institute, Faculty of Veterinary medicine-Skopje
6. Food Institute, Faculty of Veterinary medicine-Skopje
7. Phytosanitary Laboratory, MAFWE
8. Institute for Public Health of R. Macedonia, Skopje
9. Regional Centre for Public Health, Skopje
10. Regional Centre for Public Health, Bitola
11. Regional Centre for Public Health, Tetovo
12. Regional Centre for Public Health, Veles
13. Regional Centre for Public Health, Kumanovo
14. Regional Centre for Public Health, Kocani
15. Regional Centre for Public Health, Ohrid
16. Regional Centre for Public Health, Prilep
17. Regional Centre for Public Health, Strumica
18. Regional Centre for Public Health, Stip
19. Laboratory for biochemistry and molecular biology, Faculty of agricultural sciences and food
20. Research Centre for Genetic Engineering and Biotechnology, MASA
21. Centre of Preventive Medicine – Military Medical Centre
22. Faculty of Pharmacy, University of St. Cyril and Methodius, Skopje
23. Faculty of Medicine, University of St. Cyril and Methodius, Skopje

## 4.2 Iceland



The Food Act is the central legal foundation for food legislation in Iceland. Infringement of food regulations can lead to measures under criminal law and consumer damage claims under civil law, whereby the final decision rests with the courts. Government measures with regard to food safety are often based on scientific risk assessment. However, the final decision on the legality of governmental measures rests with the courts.

In Iceland there is no institutional separation of risk assessment and risk management. Some risk assessments are published on the Internet.

### ANR Ministry of Industries and Innovation

- ▶ Food and feed safety
- ▶ Risk communication
- ▶ Risk management

Seat: Reykjavik  
<http://www.sjavarutvegsraduneyti.is>



The ANR is responsible for fisheries and agricultural policy and food safety in Iceland. It prepares legislation in the field of fish and agricultural products, foods of animal and plant origin and other food and feed, and is responsible for state food inspections.

The portfolio of the ANR includes drinking water, plant health, animal health, feed animal welfare, seeds, fertilisers and fishing catches.

**Matis Ltd.**  
**Icelandic Food and Biotech R&D**

- ▶ Food and feed safety
- ▶ Risk communication
- ▶ Risk management

Seat: Reykjavík  
<http://www.matis.is>

Matis Ltd. is an independent research institute owned by the Icelandic government. Matis Ltd. provides laboratory services as well as risk assessments in the area of food safety.

**MAST**  
**Icelandic Food and Veterinary Authority**

- ▶ Risk assessment
- ▶ Risk management
- ▶ Risk communication
- ▶ EFSA Focal Point
- ▶ RASFF Contact Point

Seat: Selfoss  
<http://www.mast.is>



MAST consists of a head office, an office for import and export control and regional offices. MAST supervises food control activities of the municipalities. MAST is subordinate to the ANR and is the central authority in the field of food safety, animal health and animal welfare. MAST carries out risk assessment in the area of food and feed, contaminants in drinking water, residues of veterinary medicinal products and plant protection products. MAST is also involved in risk communication as well as preparatory work for legislation (in support of ANR activities).

MAST is responsible for inspection and control during the import and export of food, feed, plants and live animals. In the area of food of animal origin, MAST conducts controls and inspection during primary production, in slaughterhouses, during processing of meat and fish, in dairies and egg production.

MAST cooperates with the Institute for Experimental Pathology in Keldur, University of Iceland, with regard to risk assessment in the area of animal disease. The Institute for Experimental Pathology in Keldur also provides scientific advice and support in the area of animal and human disease, monitoring of human health, as well as laboratory diagnostic services in the field of animal disease.

MAST also cooperates with several other scientific and governmental institutions within Iceland, e.g. the Chief Epidemiologist of the Directorate of Health on topics regarding communicable diseases, the Directorate of Customs regarding import and export and the Icelandic Medicines Agency regarding evaluation and registration of veterinary medicinal products.

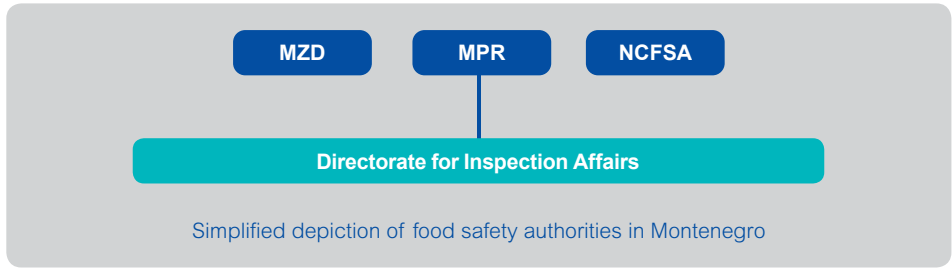
**Regional and local levels**

Iceland is divided into six veterinary districts, each with a regional office of MAST. Ten independent municipal Environmental and Public Health Offices are responsible for food safety controls at the retail level and are supervised by MAST.

**Institutions involved in the EFSA network pursuant to Article 36 Reg. (EC) No. 178/2002:**

1. The Icelandic Food and Veterinary Authority
2. Directorate of Health
3. Matis Ltd.
4. Unit for Nutrition Research, Landspítali-University Hospital and University of Iceland

### 4.3 Montenegro



Montenegro

The basic law in Montenegro on food safety is the Food Safety Law (OJ of Montenegro No. 14/2007). It contains general principles on risk analysis, transparency, precaution, traceability and consumer interests. The law aims at ensuring a high level of protection of human life and consumer health and determines the general requirements relating to food safety as well as the obligations of food and feed business operators.

Infringement of food regulations can lead to measures under criminal law and consumer damage claims under civil law, whereby the final decision rests with the courts. Government measures with regard to food safety are often based on scientific risk assessment. However, the final decision on the legality of governmental measures rests with the court.

In Montenegro risk assessment and risk management are institutionally separated.

**MPR**  
**Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development**

- ▶ Food and feed safety
- ▶ Risk management
- ▶ Veterinary and phytosanitary policy

Seat: Podgorica  
<http://www.mpr.gov.me>



The Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (MPR) is the competent state body in charge of policy and adoption of regulations for implementation of laws in the field of food safety, veterinary and phytosanitary policy. The Veterinary Directorate is responsible for the implementation of regulations regarding food of animal origin, feed and animal health and welfare. It prepares the technical basis for legislation and cooperates in policy-making in these fields.

The Phytosanitary Directorate is responsible for the implementation of regulations in the field of plant health protection, safety of food of plant origin at the primary production level, plant protection products, pesticides residues and GMOs.

The Directorate for Inspection Affairs established by the Food Law performs monitoring and surveillance activities following the provisions of the Food Safety Law. It checks control systems

established by the food business operators, inspects establishments, takes samples and controls compliance with specific hygiene requirements.

Three state laboratories are tasked with performing the scientific duties and the daily tasks relating to food safety: The Institute of Public Health (micro-biological and physical-chemical examinations of food), the Centre for Eco-Toxicological Researches (physical-chemical examinations of food and feed) and the Diagnostic Veterinary Laboratory (diagnostic examinations of animal diseases, microbiological examinations of food and feed of animal origin).

#### **MZD** **Ministry of Health**

- ▶ Food safety
- ▶ Risk management
- ▶ EFSA Focal Point

Seat: Podgorica  
<http://www.mzd.gov.me>

The Ministry of Health (MZD) is the competent public administration body in charge of the policy, adoption and implementation of regulations in the field of safety of food of plant origin following the primary production level, food safety of composite products and other food.

Within the Sector for Health Protection the Department for Food Safety was formed in 2009 via an MZD work description act.

#### **NCFSA** **National Council for Food** **Safety Assessment**

- ▶ Food Safety
- ▶ Risk Assessment

Seat: Podgorica

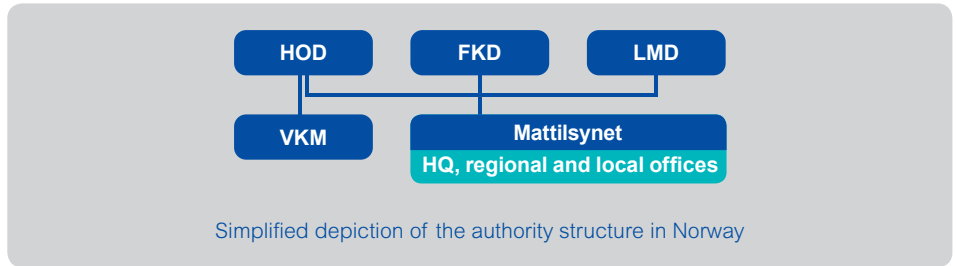
The NCFSA was established in accordance with the Law on Food Safety by the Government of Montenegro. The Council continually monitors and performs risk assessment concerning food and feed safety aiming to improve health and living standards for people and animals. It makes proposals for deciding upon technical issues and provides scientific and professional assistance in decision-making and preparation of regulations from the field of food and feed safety.

#### **Regional and local levels**

Controls and inspections on food are carried out by 20 veterinary inspectors, 17 phytosanitary inspectors and 34 sanitary inspectors at local level.



#### 4.4 Norway



In Norway the central legal foundation for food legislation is the Food Act. The EU Food Law is incorporated in the Norwegian Food Act. Infringement of food regulations can lead to measures under criminal law and consumer damage claims under civil law, whereby the final decision rests with the courts. Government measures with regard to food safety are often based on scientific risk assessment.

In Norway risk assessment and risk management are separated institutionally. Risk assessments conducted by the Norwegian Scientific Committee for Food Safety (VKM) are published on the Internet unless there are statutory provisions that prohibit this.

The Ministry of Agriculture and Food, the Ministry of Fisheries and Coastal Affairs and the Ministry of Health and Care Services share responsibility for shaping food policy and for the management of foodstuffs from production to the consumer.

The Ministry of the Environment bears special responsibility for environmental policy issues.

**HOD**  
Ministry of Health and Care Services

- ▶ Food issues, food safety and nutrition policy
- ▶ Risk communication
- ▶ Risk management

Seat: Oslo  
<http://www.regjeringen.no/nb/dep/hod>



The HOD deals with health policy, including nutrition and food safety. It is responsible for legislation in the field of health protection, food safety and food, except primary production. The HOD's responsibilities include drinking water and cosmetics. The HOD is responsible for the Norwegian Directorate of Health (Helsedirektoratet) which deals with public health, including nutrition. The HOD finances and appoints the otherwise independent Norwegian Scientific Committee for Food Safety (VKM).

Norway

**FKD**  
**Ministry of Fisheries and Coastal Affairs**

- ▶ Risk communication
- ▶ Risk management

Seat: Oslo  
<http://www.regjeringen.no/nb/dep/fkd>



The FKD is responsible for legislation in the field of primary production in aquaculture, both wild and farmed fish and shellfish as well as fish feed. The FKD portfolio also includes feed for marine animals, fish health and welfare and sustainable use of marine resources.

**LMD**  
**Ministry of Agriculture and Food**

- ▶ Risk communication
- ▶ Risk management
- ▶ Food: primary production

Seat: Oslo  
<http://www.regjeringen.no/nb/dep/lmd>



The LMD is the main ministry in charge of Mattilsynet (the Norwegian Food Safety Authority). It deals with agricultural policy in Norway. It is responsible for draft legislation within the primary (agricultural) production of food and feed. The area of work of the LMD extends beyond food safety to, for instance, plant health as well as animal health and welfare.

**MD**  
**Ministry of the Environment**

- ▶ Risk communication
- ▶ Risk management

Seat: Oslo  
<http://www.regjeringen.no/nb/dep/md>



The MD deals with environmental policies of the government. It bears responsibility for the Biotechnology Act in Norway.

**DN**  
**Directorate for Nature Management**

- ▶ Risk communication
- ▶ Risk management

Seat: Trondheim  
<http://www.dirnat.no/>



The DN is the national governmental body for preserving Norway's natural environment. The directorate is responsible for preparatory work for the MD and enactment of the biotechnology legislation.

**VKM**  
**Norwegian Scientific Committee for Food Safety**

- ▶ Risk assessment
- ▶ Risk communication
- ▶ EFSA Focal Point

Seat: Oslo  
<http://www.vkm.no>



The VKM is an independent risk assessment body, consisting of a secretariat and a committee of approximately 90 experts, organised with a Scientific Steering Committee and nine Scientific panels similar to the EFSA structure. The VKM is financed and appointed by the Ministry of Health and Care Services. The VKM carries out risk assessments at the request of Mattilsynet across the authority's field of responsibility. The VKM is also responsible for the environmental risk assessments of GMOs on behalf of the Directorate for Nature Management (DN).

Norwegian Medicines Agency is responsible for the approval of veterinary drugs.

### Regional and local levels

Norway has a centralised structure. The food supervision activities of the communes come under the responsibility of Mattilsynet with its head office and 8 regional and 54 district offices.

### Institutions involved in the EFSA network pursuant to Article 36 Reg. (EC) No. 178/2002:

1. Bioforsk – Norwegian Institute for Agricultural and Environmental Research, Plant Health and Plant Protection Division
2. National Institute of Nutrition and Seafood Research (NIFES)
3. Norwegian Veterinary Institute
4. Norwegian Forest and Landscape Institute
5. Norwegian Institute for Air Research (NILU)
6. Norwegian Institute for Water Research (NIVA)
7. Norwegian Institute of Public Health, Division of Environmental Medicine, Division of Infectious Disease Control
8. Norwegian School of Veterinary Science
9. Norwegian University of Life Sciences, Department of Animal- and Aquacultural Sciences
10. Department of Nutrition, Institute of Basic Medical Sciences, University of Oslo
11. The Norwegian Food Safety Authority (NSFA, Mattilsynet)
12. The Norwegian Scientific Committee for Food Safety (VKM)

### Mattilsynet Norwegian Food Safety Authority

- ▶ Risk management
- ▶ Risk communication
- ▶ Codex Contact Point
- ▶ RASFF Contact Point

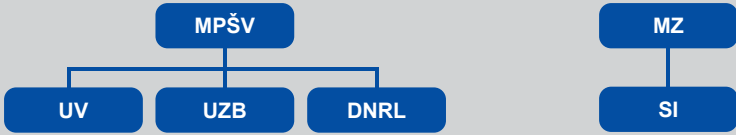
Seat: Oslo  
<http://www.mattilsynet.no>



Mattilsynet consists of a head office, regional and district offices, all part of one large organisation. Mattilsynet's role is to draft and provide information on legislation, perform risk-based inspections, monitor food safety as well as plant, fish and animal health and provide updates on developments in their field and plan for emergencies. Mattilsynet does preparatory work for legislation under the three main food ministries LMD, FKD and HOD.

Mattilsynet's regulations cover ethical keeping of animals and encourage environmentally friendly production. Mattilsynet also regulates and controls cosmetics and animal health personnel. Mattilsynet is the regulatory authority for pesticides. Mattilsynet is responsible for residues of veterinary drugs. However the

4.5 Serbia



Simplified depiction of the authority structure in Serbia

Serbia

The Food Safety Law is the central legal foundation for food safety in Serbia. This act transposes Regulation 178/2002 and elements of the EU Hygiene Package. Infringement of food regulations can lead to measures under criminal law and consumer damage claims under civil law, however the final decision rests with the courts.

In Serbia risk assessment is still being developed, therefore there is no institutional separation between risk assessment and risk management. Risk assessments are not published on the Internet.

**MPŠV**  
**Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Management**

- ▶ Agricultural policy
- ▶ Animal health and animal welfare
- ▶ Plant health including plant protection products and residues
- ▶ Food and feed safety policy
- ▶ Risk management
- ▶ Risk communication
- ▶ EFSA Focal Point

Seat: Belgrade  
<http://www.minpolj.gov.rs>



The MPŠV is responsible for drafting and enforcing legislation in the area of food and feed safety, quality and hygiene as well as agricultural policy, animal health and welfare, plant health including plant protection products and residues and official controls.

The competent authority for official controls in the area of food and feed safety is the MPŠV. The Veterinary Directorate and the Plant Protection Directorate are integral parts of the MPŠV with competences such as policy making, official controls and risk management/communication. There are three inspection areas within the MPŠV covering food safety: the Veterinary Inspection, the Phytosanitary Inspection and the Agricultural Inspection, each of them covering

the responsibilities within their competence in accordance with the Food Safety Law.

### UV Veterinary Directorate

- ▶ Animal health and welfare
- ▶ Residues of veterinary medicinal products
- ▶ Food and feed safety
- ▶ Risk management
- ▶ Risk communication

Seat: Belgrade  
<http://www.vet.minpolj.gov.rs>



The Veterinary Directorate is a subordinate specialist authority within the MPŠV tasked with animal health and welfare, veterinary public health, ensuring a system for risk management in the production and circulation of food of animal origin. The Veterinary Inspection is an integral part of the Veterinary Directorate and veterinary inspectors are responsible for carrying out official controls of products of animal origin.

The UV monitors and controls animal welfare, including zoonoses and other contagious disease outbreaks. Thirteen veterinary institutes throughout the entire country support the work of the UV.

### UZB Plant Protection Directorate

- ▶ Food and feed safety
- ▶ Plant health
- ▶ Plant protection products and residues
- ▶ Risk management
- ▶ Risk communication

Seat: Belgrade  
<http://www.uzb.minpolj.gov.rs>



This Plant Protection Directorate is a subordinate specialist authority within the MPŠV and is the National Plant Protection Organisation (NPPO), which carries out and coordinates activities in the field of plant protection. The Phytosanitary Inspection is an integral part of the Plant Protection Directorate and phytosanitary inspectors perform official controls of plant origin products in primary production.

The UZB is the regulatory authority for plant protection products, responsible for the evaluation, authorisation and post-registration control. The UZB monitors the implementation of legislation and the enforcement of official controls in these areas.

Plant protection institutes and agricultural services throughout the country support the work of the UZB. Forty-six laboratories are authorised to perform work for the UZB in the area of food safety.

### DNRL Directorate for National Reference Laboratories

- ▶ Plant health
- ▶ Food safety

Seat: Belgrade  
<http://www.dnrl.minpolj.gov.rs>

The Directorate for National Reference Laboratories was established by the Food Safety Law which provides for the DNRL to perform tasks within the field of food safety, plant health, residues, milk and plant gene bank.

Pursuant to Article 19 of the Food Safety Law the DNRL, among other tasks, collaborates with national reference laboratories of other countries, establishes uniform criteria and methods as well as implements standards for activities of designated laboratories and establishes the system of quality control not only for its own use but also for designated laboratories.

## MZ Ministry of Health

- ▶ Health policy
- ▶ Food safety
- ▶ Public health

Seat: Belgrade  
<http://www.zdravlje.gov.rs/>



The MZ is also the competent authority for food safety according to the Food Safety Law. The MZ is responsible for tasks related to public health, nutrition, drinking water, health care and pharmaceuticals. The remit of the MZ with regard to food safety covers legislation on drinking water, packed potable water, dietary foods, infant formulae – breast milk substitutes, food additives, flavourings, enzymes of non-animal origin, accessories of non-animal origin, novel foods, health and nutrition claims, materials that come into contact with food.

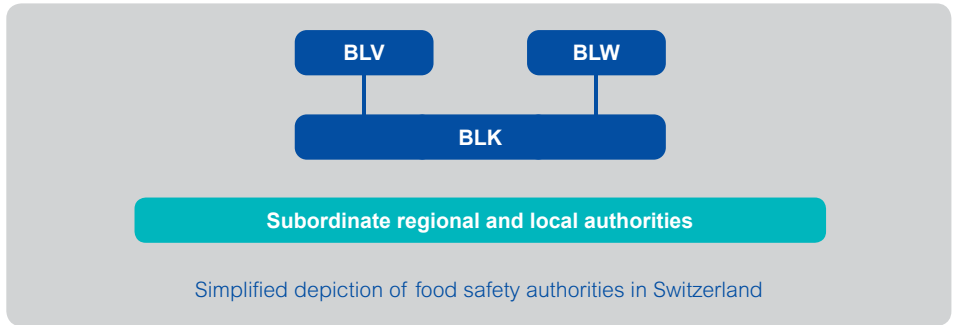
The Sector for Inspection is an integral part of the Ministry of Health. Within the Sector for Inspection the Sanitary Inspection Department performs inspection control in accordance with the Food Safety Law, as well as control of supplying the public with hygienic drinking water and control of the sanitary-hygienic status of facilities under sanitary supervision.

Under the remit of the MZ the Institute of Public Health of Serbia “Dr Milan Jovanović Batut” represents an expert institution for Public Health, providing advice, support and guidance for the Serbian Government and the network of 23 public health institutes and departments for public health. The Institute carries out public health functions and services and conducts independent research on public health issues in Serbia. The main tasks of the Institute are monitoring environmental risks to the health of the population, controlling and monitoring food safety, safety of water, cooperating with the sanitary inspection, hygiene standards controls, as well as coordinating and monitoring the work of 23 professional institutes of public health throughout Serbia.

### Regional and local levels

Serbia has a centralised structure. There are no authorities on a regional and local level in charge of food safety.

## 4.6 Switzerland



Switzerland

The Federal Food and Consumer Products Act is the central legal foundation for food law in Switzerland. Also relevant in this area is the Federal Act on Agriculture and related ordinances on feed, animal health, animal welfare, as well as the import, transit and export of animals and food of animal origin.

Infringement of food regulations can lead to measures under criminal law and consumer damage claims under civil law, whereby the final decision rests with the courts. Government measures with regard to food safety are based on scientific risk assessment. However, the final decision on the legality of governmental measures rests with the courts.

In Switzerland there is no institutional separation of risk assessment and risk management. In specific cases, risk assessments are published on the internet.

### BLV Federal Food Safety and Veterinary Office

- ▶ Risk assessment
- ▶ Risk management
- ▶ Codex Contact Point
- ▶ RASFF Contact Point
- ▶ EFSA Focal Point

Seat: Bern, Switzerland  
<http://www.blv.admin.ch>



The BLV is a new office of the Federal Department of Home Affairs as of January 2014. In the area of animal health and welfare, food safety and consumer protection, the BLV is responsible for risk assessment as well as for risk management. Risk assessments focus on the safety of food, as well as the evaluation of chemical, microbiological and biotechnological risks. This includes safety of novel foods, food supplements, mineral water and drinking water, GMOs, safety of feed, residues of plant protection products, residues of veterinary medicinal products and the prevention of zoonoses.

The BLV is also responsible for the safety of other consumer goods including toys and cosmetics. The BLV remit extends beyond food safety to animal health and animal welfare; it monitors and controls the import, export and transit of livestock and domestic animals, animal products, food of animal origin and internationally protected flora and fauna (CITES Convention). In close collaboration with the BLV, the Swiss Federal Customs Administration (EZV, Eidgenössische Zollverwaltung) is responsible for the inspection and control of foodstuffs at the border.

In cooperation with importing countries, the BVL also issues veterinary documents for the export of animals and animal products. The Border Inspection Posts (Zurich, Geneva airports) are responsible for the import control of animals and animal products.

The regulatory authority for veterinary drugs is the Swiss Agency for Therapeutic Products (Swissmedic), while risks associated with residues of veterinary drugs in food of animal origin are covered by the BLV.

**BLW  
Federal Office for Agriculture**

- ▶ Risk assessment
- ▶ Risk management

Seat: Bern, Switzerland  
<http://www.blw.admin.ch>



The BLW is an office of the Federal Department of Economic Affairs and responsible for agricultural policy, safety of food of plant origin during primary production and safety of animal feed. Together with the cantons and farmers' organisations, the BLW implements decisions by the people, the parliament and the government.

The BLW is responsible for risk assessment and risk management in the field of animal feed. Actual control and inspection activities are carried out by the research institute "Agroscope Liebefeld-Posieux".

The BLW remit includes residues of plant protection products, GMOs and plant health. The BLW is the regulatory authority for pesticides.

**BLK  
Federal Food Chain Unit**

- ▶ Risk management

Seat: Bern, Switzerland  
<http://www.bvet.admin.ch/blk>

On behalf of the BLW and BLV, the BLK audits the implementation and enforcement of national legislation by federal and cantonal authorities in the area of feed safety, food safety, animal health and animal welfare. The BLK also prepares and coordinates the implementation and evaluation of the multi-annual national control plan.

**Regional and local levels**

The federal government of Switzerland is responsible for the inspection and control of the import, export and transit of all consumer products including food. The federal government of Switzerland is also responsible for the inspection and control of feed safety. The government is supported by the BLK and the Federal Customs Authority.

The cantons (i. e. the individual federal states of Switzerland) are responsible for the enforcement of food safety and for the enforcement of agricultural legislation. Cantonal food control authorities are responsible for food safety inspections. Cantonal veterinary offices are



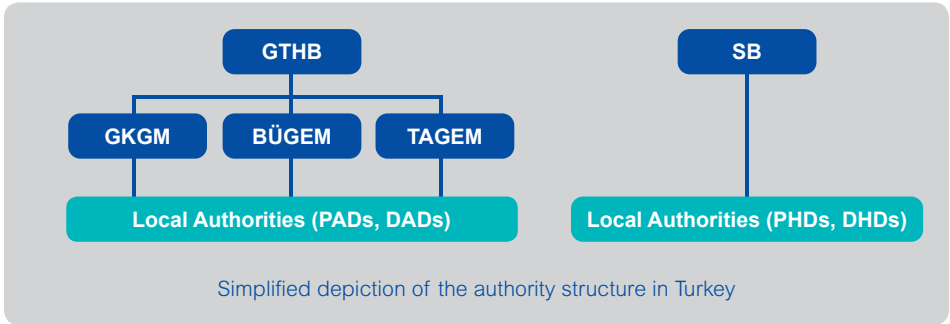
responsible for the enforcement of legislation on animal health, animal welfare and veterinary medicinal products. They inspect livestock prior to slaughter and carry out meat inspections. Both cantonal authorities report to BLV.

**Institutions involved in the EFSA network:**

Switzerland has observer status for various EFSA working groups such as the EFSA Advisory Forum and the Focal Point Network where delegates participate. The BLW participates in the AF Representatives on Plant Health and the BVET participates in the AF Representatives on Animal Health and Welfare.

Access to the Rapid Alert System for Food and Feed (RASFF) is limited to border rejection notifications and notifications that directly concern Switzerland.

4.7 Turkey



The legal foundation for food safety in Turkey is Law No. 5996 addressing Veterinary Services, Plant Health, Food and Feed. Law No. 5996 covers provisions described in Reg. (EC) No.178/2002, 852/2004, 853/2004, 854/2004, 882/2004 as well as relevant provisions in various other EU legislation with regard to veterinary and phytosanitary issues.

Infringement of food regulations can lead to measures under criminal law and consumer damage claims (under the Law No. 4077) whereby the final decision rests with the courts. Government measures with regard to food safety are often based on scientific risk assessment. However, the final decision on the legality of governmental measures rests with the courts.

Although there is no institutional separation in Turkey, risk management is procedurally separated from risk assessment which is undertaken by the Scientific Committee and Scientific Commissions. Risk assessment outputs are not yet regularly published.

**GTHB**  
Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Livestock

- ▶ Agricultural policy, food and feed safety, veterinary and phytosanitary tasks
- ▶ Risk assessment
- ▶ Risk management
- ▶ Risk communication

Seat: Ankara  
<http://www.tarim.gov.tr>

The GTHB is responsible for food and feed safety, including veterinary and phytosanitary aspects. The GTHB aims to protect public health, plant and animal health, animal welfare and consumer interests taking into consideration the protection of the environment. The GTHB is responsible for official control and inspection at all stages of the food and feed chain.

To protect human and animal health, the GTHB cooperates with the Ministry of Health and other relevant institutions with regard to the monitoring of certain zoonotic diseases and agents and antimicrobial resistance. Another reason for the GTHB cooperation with other institutions is to jointly conduct epidemiological research projects to investigate foodborne zoonotic diseases.

The GTHB in Ankara consists of eight units, three of them are involved in the development

and enforcement of food and feed safety, veterinary policy and phytosanitary policy (i. e. GKGM, BÜGEM, TAGEM).

### SB Ministry of Health

- ▶ Health policy, foodborne outbreaks
- ▶ Food safety
- ▶ Risk assessment
- ▶ Risk management
- ▶ Risk communication

Seat: Ankara  
<http://www.saglik.gov.tr>



The SB is responsible for specific aspects in the area of food safety. The SB prepares the legislation and is responsible for inspection and control of the quality of water intended for human consumption, natural mineral water, dietary foods for special medical purposes for babies and adults respectively, as well as products which do not require prescription but have been scientifically and clinically proven to be used as drugs, including enteral nutritional products. The SB is represented by Provincial Health Directorates (PHD) and District Health Directorates (DHDs) in provinces and districts.

### GKGM General Directorate of Food and Control

- ▶ Food and feed safety
- ▶ Risk assessment
- ▶ Risk communication
- ▶ Risk management
- ▶ Codex Contact Point
- ▶ EFSA Focal Point
- ▶ RASFF Contact Point

Seat: Ankara  
<http://www.gkgm.gov.tr>



The GKGM is a unit of the GTHB and responsible for developing policies and preparing legislation, as well as the subsequent enforcement, control and inspection of food and feed safety, animal health, animal welfare and plant health at the central level. The GKGM is the regulatory authority for pesticides and veterinary drugs.

Laboratory services for animal health, plant health as well as food and feed safety are provided by 8 veterinary control and research institutes, 8 plant protection research institutes, 4 quarantine laboratories, 39 provincial control laboratories, 1 food control and central research institute, and 1 national food reference laboratory under the supervision of the GKGM. There are also 84 private laboratories operating with the authorisation of the GKGM. Most of the practical implementation and enforcement activities are carried out by 81 Provincial Agricultural Directorates (PADs) and 914 District Agricultural Directorates (DADs) with a vertical chain of command between the two.

### BÜGEM General Directorate of Plant Production

- ▶ Organic production of agricultural products
- ▶ Risk management
- ▶ Risk communication

Seat: Ankara  
<http://www.bugem.gov.tr>

BÜGEM is a unit of the GTHB and responsible for determination and inspection of standards and the convenience of use of the agricultural inputs and the production technologies such as the organic production of agricultural products.

**TAGEM****General Directorate of Agricultural Research and Policy**

- ▶ Agricultural researches
- ▶ Risk assessment
- ▶ Risk communication

Seat: Ankara  
<http://www.tagem.gov.tr>



TAGEM is a unit of the GTHB and involved in agricultural research in the field of plant health, animal health, food and feed safety, animal husbandry, fishery, horticulture and field crops to identify the priorities and strategies of agricultural research and development taking into account the national development plans and to prepare and implement in those areas.




Some specific areas such as issues with regard to residues of plant protection products and veterinary drugs, heavy metals and other contaminants, mycotoxins, additives, microbiological criteria are studied in research institutions and laboratories, such as the Plant Protection Central Research Institute and the Veterinarian Central Research and Control Institute.

Some of the laboratories associated with TAGEM carry out laboratory analysis of samples collected during food, feed, animal disease and phytosanitary control and inspection under GKGM supervision. TAGEM is also secretariat of the Biosafety Board which is responsible for the authorisation of GMOs for food and feed use and also secretariat of its Scientific Commissions which are responsible for risk assessment.


**Regional and local levels**

There are 81 provinces and 957 districts in Turkey. The GTHB is represented by local GTHB offices (PADs and DADs) in all provinces and 914 districts. PADs consist of seven units responsible for food, feed, animal health, breeding, fishery, plant production and plant health. Three of them are involved in the enforcement of food and feed safety, veterinary policy and phytosanitary policy.

## 5 Glossary

Biocide or biocidal product	Active substance (or preparations containing one or more active substances) intended to destroy, deter or exert a controlling effect on harmful organisms by chemical or biological means. The term biocide (or biocidal product) implies that the active substance(s) are present in a form or product which can be supplied to the user (cp. Directive 98/8/EC).
Codex Alimentarius	(Latin for “food code”) Collection of internationally adopted food standards, guidelines and codes of practice. Although the standards described in the “Codex Alimentarius” are not binding, they serve as a guideline for national food-law regulations. Codex Alimentarius follows the principle that consumers have a right to expect their food to be safe, of good quality and suitable for consumption. The Codex Alimentarius is prepared by the Codex Alimentarius Commission, a working group of the United Nations (FAO) and the World Health Organization (WHO), consisting of 180 member governments.
Codex Contact Point	Codex Contact Points act as the link between the Codex Alimentarius Secretariat and member countries. Codex Contact Points receive all Codex final texts (standards, codes of practice, guidelines and other advisory texts) and working documents of Codex sessions and ensure that they are circulated to those concerned within their own countries.
Competent authority	An organisation that has the legally delegated authority to perform a designated function.
Contaminant 	Any substance not intentionally added to food which is present in such food as a result of the production (including operations carried out in crop husbandry, animal husbandry and veterinary medicine), manufacture, processing, preparation, treatment, packing, packaging, transport or holding of such food, or as a result of environmental contamination. Extraneous matter, such as, for example, insect fragments, animal hair, etc, is not covered by this definition. (Regulation (EEC) No 315/93).
Drinking water 	Water from the tap, intended for human consumption.
EFSA Focal Point	EFSA Focal Points act as link between the European Food Safety Authority (EFSA) and EU Member States.
EU Directive	EU Directives are legislative acts of the EU, which have to be implemented into national law by the Member States.
EU regulation	EU regulations apply directly in all Member States of the EU without the Member State having to enact national laws.
Feed or Feedingstuff 	Any substance or product, including additives, whether processed, partially processed or unprocessed, intended to be used for oral feeding to animals (Commission Recommendation 2011/25/EU).
Food or Foodstuff	Processed, partially processed or unprocessed product or substance intended or reasonably expected to be ingested by humans. (Regulation (EC) No 178/2002)

Food hygiene	Five keys of food hygiene defined by WHO: 1) Prevention of contaminating food with pathogens spreading from people, pets and pests; 2) Separation of raw and cooked foods to prevent contaminating the cooked foods; 3) Cooking of foods for the appropriate length of time and at the appropriate temperature to kill pathogens; 4) Storage of food at the proper temperature; 5) Use of safe water and raw materials.
Food safety	Food safety ensures that food consumption (according to its intended use) does not cause harm and/or foodborne illness to the consumer. Appropriate food hygiene contributes towards food safety; however the term food safety also includes the absence of harmful substances such as environmental contaminants or residues of veterinary medicinal products.
Food supplements	Nutrients or other substances with a nutritional or physiological effect aimed to supplement the normal diet. Food supplements are usually on the market as capsules, pastilles, tablets, pills, sachets of powder, ampoules of liquids, drop dispensing bottles, and other similar forms of liquids and powders designed to be taken in measured small unit quantities (Directive 2002/46/EC).
Genetic engineering	All modern molecular biology techniques used to isolate, manipulate and transfer genes from one organism to another.
Institutions involved in the EFSA network pursuant to Article 36 Reg. (EC) No. 178/2002	Organisations which are approved to undertake work on behalf of EFSA (i. e. data collection, preparatory work for the development of scientific opinions or other scientific and technical support). EFSA distributes “calls for proposals” which describe EFSA’s research questions that need to be answered, and “Article 36 organisations” can apply for the “job”.
Mineral water	Bottled water for human consumption either a) natural mineral water, b) natural spring water or c) processed tap water. Natural mineral water is groundwater that has emerged from the ground and contains a certain amount of minerals. Spring water is also groundwater that has emerged from the ground but contains a lower amount of minerals. The icon does not refer to bottled water that is intended for medicinal purposes.
Multi annual control plans	A multi annual control plan describes how certain aspects of governmental control and inspection in the area of food and feed safety are organised, conducted and/or implemented. This includes the frequency of inspections, the distribution of inspections amongst business sectors and operators and number of samples to be analysed.
Novel food	Novel foods are foods and food ingredients that have not been used for human consumption to a significant degree within the EU before 15 May 1997. In order to ensure the highest level of protection of human health, novel foods must undergo a safety assessment before being placed on the EU market. Only those products considered to be safe for human consumption are authorised for marketing.

<p>Plant protection products or Pesticides</p> 	<p>Active substances and preparations containing one or more active substances intended to protect plants (or plant products) against harmful organisms. The term plant protection product (or pesticide) implies that the active substance(s) are present in a form or product which can be supplied to the user.</p> <p>Active substances in plant protection products may also destroy undesired plants or influence life processes of plants in a way other than as a nutrient (for example growth regulators).</p>
<p>Primary food production</p>	<p>Growth, cultivation, harvesting, collection or catching of food, for example harvesting, slaughter, milking or fishing. The term primary food production does not include substantial transformation of food, for example manufacturing or canning, or sale or service of food directly to the public.</p>
<p>RASFF Contact Point</p>	<p>The Rapid Alert System for Food and Feed (RASFF) is an information exchange tool for national control authorities within the EU. RASFF has 33 members. Each member has an RASFF Contact Point. When a RASFF member has any information about a serious health risk from food or feed, it must immediately notify the European Commission using RASFF. In particular, Member States have to notify the Commission if they take measures such as withdrawing or recalling food or feed products from the market in order to protect consumers' health and if rapid action is required. The Commission immediately transmits the notification to all members of the network through the contact points.</p>
<p>Residue</p>	<p>Substance present in or on plants, plant products, edible animal products or drinking water resulting from the use of plant protection products or veterinary drugs, including their metabolites, breakdown or reaction products.</p>
<p>REACH</p>	<p>Regulatory framework for the registration, evaluation and authorisation of chemicals to ensure greater safety in the manufacture and use of chemical substances.</p>
<p>Risk assessment</p>	<p>Scientific activity consisting of hazard identification, hazard characterisation, exposure assessment and risk characterisation.</p>
<p>Risk communication</p>	<p>Interactive exchange of information of risk assessors, risk managers, consumers, feed and food businesses, academic community and other interested parties with regard to risks, hazards and risk perceptions. Risk communication also includes explanation of scientific risk assessment and risk management decisions.</p>
<p>Risk management</p>	<p>Process of weighing policy alternatives, taking decisions and implementing control and inspection procedures to handle risk associated with the food chain.</p>
<p>Zoonosis</p>	<p>Any disease and/or infection which is naturally transmissible directly or indirectly between animals and humans.</p>

## 6 List of Abbreviations

Austria	AGES	Österreichische Agentur für Gesundheit und Ernährungssicherheit	Austrian Agency for Health and Food Safety
	BAES	Bundesamt für Ernährungssicherheit	Federal Office for Food Safety
	BMG	Bundesministerium für Gesundheit	Ministry of Health
	BMLFUW	Bundesministerium für Land- und Forstwirtschaft, Umwelt und Wasserwirtschaft	Federal Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, Environment and Water Management
Belgium	FASFC	Agence Fédérale pour la Sécurité de la Chaîne Alimentaire	Federal Agency for the Safety of the Food Chain
	CODA-CERVA	Centre d'Etude et de Recherches Vétérinaires et Agrochimiques	Veterinary and Agrochemical Research Centre
	WIV-ISP	Institut scientifique de Santé Publique	Scientific Institute of Public Health
	FPS	Service public fédéral Santé publique, Sécurité de la Chaîne alimentaire et Environnement	Federal Public Service for Health, Food Chain Safety and Environment
Bulgaria	MH	Министерство на здравеопазването	Ministry of Health
	MOEW	Министерство на околната среда и водите	Ministry of Environment and Water
	MAF	Министерство на земеделието и храните	Ministry of Agriculture and Food
	RAC	Risk Assessment Center	Risk Assessment Centre
	BFSA	Българска агенция по безопасност на храните	Bulgarian Food Safety Agency
	NCPHA	National Centre for Public Health and Analysis	National Centre for Public Health and Analysis
Croatia	MPRRR	Ministarstvo poljoprivrede, ribarstva i ruralnog razvoja	Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Rural Development
	MZSS	Ministarstvo zdravstva i socijalne skrbi	Ministry of Health and Social Welfare
	HAH	Hrvatska agencija za hranu	Croatian Food Agency
Cyprus	MOA	Υπουργείο Γεωργίας, Φυσικών Πόρων και Περιβάλλοντος	Ministry of Agriculture, Natural Resources and Environment
	MOH	Υπουργείο Υγείας	Ministry of Health
Czech Republic	MZ	Ministerstvo Zdravotnictví České Republiky	Ministry of Health
	MZE	Ministerstvo Zemědělství	Ministry of Agriculture



Denmark	AgriFish	NaturErhvervstyrelsen	The Danish AgriFish Agency
	DTU	Fødevareinstituttet, Danmarks Tekniske Universitet	National Food Institute, Technical University of Denmark
	DCA	Nationalt Center for Fødevarer og Jordbrug	Danish Centre for Food and Agriculture
	DCE	Nationalt Center for Miljø og Energi	Danish Centre for Environment and Energy
	DVFA	Fødevarestyrelsen	Danish Veterinary and Food Administration
	MFAF	Ministeriet for Fødevarer, Landbrug og Fiskeri	Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Fisheries
Estonia	PM	Põllumajandusministeerium	Ministry of Agriculture
	SM	Sotsiaalministeerium	Ministry of Social Affairs
	TA	Terviseamet	Health Board
	PMA	Põllumajandusamet	Agricultural Board
	VTA	Veterinaar- ja Toiduamet	Veterinary and Food Board
Finland	Evira	Elintarviketurvallisuusvirasto	Finnish Food Safety Authority
	–	Tulli	Finnish Customs
	MMM	Maa- ja Metsätalousministeriö	Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry
	STM	Sosiaali- ja Terveysministeriö	Ministry of Social Affairs and Health
	Tukes	Turvallisuus- ja kemikaalivirasto	Finnish Safety and Chemicals Agency
	Valvira	Sosiaali- ja terveysalan lupa- ja valvontavirasto	National Supervisory Authority for Welfare and Health
Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	MoH	Министерство за здравство	Ministry of Health
	MAFWE	Министерство за земјоделство, шумарство и водостопанство	Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Economy
	IPH	Институт за јавно здравје	Institute for Public Health
	FVA	Управа за ветеринарство	Food and Veterinary Agency
	FVMS	Факултетот за ветеринарна медицина	Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, Skopje
France	ANSES	Agence nationale de sécurité sanitaire de l'alimentation, de l'environnement et du travail	French Agency for Food, Environmental and Occupational Health and Safety
	MAAPRAT	Ministère de l'agriculture, de l'alimentation, de la pêche, de la ruralité et de l'aménagement du territoire	Ministry of Agriculture, Food, Fisheries, Rural Affairs and Land Use Planning
	MEFI	Ministère de l'économie, des finances et de l'industrie	Ministry of Economy, Finance and Industry
	MASS	Ministère des affaires sociales et de la santé	Ministry of Health and Social Affairs

Germany	BfR	Bundesinstitut für Risikobewertung	Federal Institute for Risk Assessment
	BMEL	Bundesministerium für Ernährung und Landwirtschaft	Federal Ministry of Food and Agriculture
	BMUB	Bundesministerium für Umwelt, Naturschutz, Bau und Reaktorsicherheit	Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Building and Nuclear Safety
	BVL	Bundesamt für Verbraucherschutz und Lebensmittelsicherheit	Federal Office of Consumer Protection and Food Safety
	RKI	Robert Koch-Institut	Robert Koch Institute
	UBA	Umweltbundesamt	Federal Environmental Agency
Greece	EFET	ΕΝΙΑΙΟΣ ΦΟΡΕΑΣ ΕΛΕΓΧΟΥ ΤΡΟΦΙΜΩΝ	Hellenic Food Authority
	EOF	Εθνικός Οργανισμός φαρμάκων	The National Organisation for Medicines
	YAAT	Υπουργείο Αγροτικής Ανάπτυξης και Τροφίμων	Ministry of Rural Development and Food
	ΥΥΚΑ	Υπουργείο Υγείας και Κοινωνικής Αλληλεγγύης	Ministry of Health and Social Welfare
Hungary	VM	Vidékfejlesztési Minisztérium	Ministry of Rural Development
	EMMI	Emberi Erőforrások Minisztériuma	Ministry of Human Resources, State Secretariat for Healthcare
	NÉBIH	Nemzeti Élelmiszerlánc-biztonsági Hivatal	National Food Chain Safety Office
Iceland	ANR	Atvinnuvega- og nýsköpunar-ráðuneytið	Ministry of Industries and Innovation
	MAST	Matvælastofnun	Icelandic Food and Veterinary Authority
	Matís Ltd.	/	Icelandic Food and Biotech R&D
Ireland	DoH	Department of Health	Department of Health
	DAFM	Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine	Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine
	FSAI	Food Safety Authority of Ireland	Food Safety Authority of Ireland
Italy	MdS	Ministero della Salute	Ministry of Health
	MPAAF	Ministero delle politiche agricole alimentari e forestali	Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Forestry Policies
	ISS	Istituto Superiore di Sanità	National Health Institute
Latvia	BIOR	Pārtikas Drošības Dzīvnieku Veselības un Vides Zinātniskais Institūts	Food Safety, Animal Health and Environment Institute
	PVD	Pārtikas un Veterinārais Dienests	Food and Veterinary Service
	SPKC	Slimību Profilakses un Kontroles Centrs	Centre for Disease Prevention and Control
	VAAD	Valsts Augu Aizsardzības Dienests	State Plant Protection Service

Latvia	VAAD	Valsts Augu Aizsardzības Dienests	State Plant Protection Service
	VM	Veselības Ministrija	Ministry of Health
	ZM	Zemkopības Ministrija	Ministry of Agriculture
Lithuania	NMVRVI	Nacionalinis maisto ir veterinarijos rizikos vertinimo institutas	National Food and Veterinary Risk Assessment Institute
	SAM	Sveikatos Apsaugos Ministerija	Ministry of Health
	SMLPC	Sveikatos mokymo ir ligų prevencijos centras	The Health Education and Disease Prevention Centre
	VAT	Valstybinė augalininkystės tarnyba prie Žemės ūkio ministerijos	State Plant Service
	VMVT	Valstybinė maisto ir veterinarijos tarnyba	State Food and Veterinary Service
	ŽŪM	Žemės Ūkio Ministerija	Ministry of Agriculture
	Luxembourg	ASTA	Administration des Services Technique de l'Agriculture
ASV		Administration des Services Vétérinaires	Veterinary Service Administration
DIR SAN		Direction de la santé	Directorate of Public Health
MAVDR		Ministère de l'Agriculture, de la Viticulture et du Développement rural	Ministry of Agriculture, Viticulture and Rural Development
MS		Ministère de la Santé	Ministry of Health
OSQCA		Organisme pour la Sécurité e la Qualité de la Chaîne Alimentaire	Organisation for the Safety and Quality of the Food Chain
Malta	FSC	Food Safety Commission	Food Safety Commission
	MHEC	Ministry for Health, the Elderly and Community Care	Ministry for Health, the Elderly and Community Care
	MCCAA	Malta Competition and Consumer Affairs Authority	Malta Competition and Consumer Affairs Authority
	MRRA	Ministry of Resources and Rural Affairs	Ministry of Resources and Rural Affairs
Montenegro	MPR	Ministarstvo Poljoprivrede i Ruralnog Razvoja	Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development
	MZD	Ministarstvo Zdravlja	Ministry of Health
	NCFSA	National Council for Food Safety Assessment	National Council for Food Safety Assessment
Netherlands	CVI	Central Veterinary Institute	Central Veterinary Institute
	EZ	Ministerie van Economische Zaken	Ministry of Economic Affairs
	NVWA	Nederlandse Voedsel- en Warenautoriteit	Netherlands Food and Consumer Product Safety Authority
	RIKILT	Instituut voor Voedselveiligheid	Institute of Food Safety
	RIVM	Rijksinstituut vor Volksgezondheit en Milieu	National Institute of Public Health and the Environment
	VWS	Ministerie van Volksgezondheid, Welzijn en Sport	Ministry of Health, Welfare and Sports

Norway	DN	Direktoratet for naturforvaltning	Norwegian Directorate for Nature Management
	FKD	Fiskeri- og kystdepartementet	Ministry of Fisheries and Coastal Affairs
	HOD	Helse- og omsorgsdepartementet	Ministry of Health and Care Services
	LMD	Landbruks- og matdepartementet	Ministry of Agriculture and Food
	Mattilsynet	Statens tilsyn for planter, fisk, dyr og næringsmidler	Norwegian Food Safety Authority
	MD	Miljøverndepartementet	Ministry of Environment
	VKM	Vitenskapskomiteén for mattrygghet	Norwegian Scientific Committee for Food Safety
Poland	CS at MF		The Customs Service at the Ministry of Finance
	GIS at MZ	Główny Inspektorat Sanitarny	The Chief Sanitary Inspectorate (GIS) at the Ministry of Health (MZ)
	IZZ	Instytut Żywności i Żywienia	National Food and Nutrition Institute
	MF	Ministerstwo Finansów	Ministry of Finance
	MRiRW	Ministerstwo Rolnictwa i Rozwoju Wsi	Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development
	NIZP-PZH	Narodowy Instytut Zdrowia Publicznego – Państwowy Zakład Higieny	National Institute of Public Health -National Institute of Hygiene
	PIWET	Państwowy Instytut Weterynaryjny – Państwowy Instytut Badawczy	National Veterinary Research Institute
	UOKiK	Urząd Ochrony Konkurencji i Konsumentów	Office of Competition and Consumer Protection
Portugal	ASAE	Autoridade de Segurança Alimentar e Económica	Authority for Food Safety and Economics
	DGADR	Direcção-Geral de Agricultura e Desenvolvimento Rural	Directorate-General for Agriculture and Rural Development
	DGAV	Direcção-Geral de Alimentação e Veterinária	Directorate-General for Food and Veterinary Issues
	MAMAOT	Ministério da Agricultura, do Mar, do Ambiente e do Ordenamento do Território	Ministry of Agriculture, Sea, Environment and Spatial Planning
	MEE	Ministério da Economia e do Emprego	Ministry of Environment and Employment
Romania	ANSVSA	Autoritatea Națională Sanitară Veterinară și pentru Siguranța Alimentelor	National Sanitary Veterinary and Food Safety Authority
	ANPC	Autoritatea Națională pentru Protecția Consumatorilor	National Authority for Consumer Protection
	MADR	Ministerul Agriculturii și Dezvoltării Rurale	Ministry of Agriculture and Development of Rural Areas

Romania	MMP	Ministerul Mediului și Pădurilor	Ministry of Environment and Forests
	MS	Ministerul Sănătății	Ministry of Health
Serbia	DNRL	Direkcija za Nacionalne Referentne Laboratorije	Directorate for National Reference Laboratories
	MPŠV	Министарство пољопривреде, шумарства и водопривреде	Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Management
	MZ	Министарство здравља	Ministry of Health
	UV	Управа за ветерину	Veterinary Directorate
	UZB	Управа за заштиту биља	Plant Protection Directorate
Slovak Republic	MPRV-SR	Ministerstvo pôdohospodárstva a rozvoja vidieka Slovenskej republiky	Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development
	MZ-SR	Ministerstvo zdravotníctva Slovenskej republiky	Ministry of Health of the Slovak Republic
	ŠVPS-SR	Štátna veterinárna a potravinová správa Slovenskej republiky	State Veterinary and Food Administration of the Slovak Republic
	ÚKSÚP	Ústredný kontrolný a skúšobný ústav poľnohospodársky	Central Controlling and Testing Institute in Agriculture
	ÚVZ-SR	Úrad verejného zdravotníctva Slovenskej republiky	Public Health Authority of the Slovak Republic
	VÚP	Výskumný ústav potravinársky	Food Research Institute
Slovenia	CURS	Carinska Uprava Republike Slovenije	Customs Administration
	IRSKO	Inšpektorat Republike Slovenije za Kmetijstvo in Okolje	Inspectorate of the Republic of Slovenia for Agriculture and the Environment
	MF	Ministrstvo za Finance	Ministry of Finance
	MKO	Ministrstvo za Kmetijstvo in Okolje	Ministry of Agriculture and the Environment
	MZ	Ministrstvo za zdravje	Ministry of Health
	UVHVVR	Uprava Republike Slovenije za Varno Harno, Veterinarstvo in Varstvo Rastlin	The Administration of the Republic of Slovenia for Food Safety, Veterinary Sector and Plant Protection
	ZIRS	Zdravstveni inšpektorat Republike Slovenije	Health Inspectorate of the Republic of Slovenia
Spain	AESAN	Agencia Espanola de Seguridad Alimentaria y Nutrición	Spanish Food Safety and Nutrition Agency
	MAGRAMA	Ministerio de Agricultura, Alimentación y Medio Ambiente	Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Environment
	MSSSI	Ministerio de Sanidad, Servicios Sociales e Igualdad	Ministry of Health, Social Services and Equality
Sweden	RK	Regeringskansliet	Ministry of Rural Affairs
	JV	Jordbruksverket	Swedish Board of Agriculture
	LV	Livsmedelsverket	National Food Agency
	SVA	Statens Veterinärmedicinska Anstalt	Swedish National Veterinary Institute

Switzerland	BLK	Bundeseinheit für die Lebensmittelkette	Federal Food Chain Unit
	BLV	Bundesamt für Lebensmittelsicherheit und Veterinärwesen	Federal Food Safety and Veterinary Office
	BLW	Bundesamt für Landwirtschaft	Federal Office for Agriculture
Turkey	GTHB	Gıda Tarım ve Hayvancılık Bakanlığı	Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Livestock
	SB	Sağlık Bakanlığı	Ministry of Health
	GKGM	Gıda ve Kontrol Genel Müdürlüğü	General Directorate of Protection and Control
	BÜGEM	Bitkisel Üretim Genel Müdürlüğü	General Directorate of Plant Production
	TAGEM	Tarımsal Araştırmalar Ve Politikalar Genel Müdürlüğü	The General Directorate of Agricultural Research and Policy
United Kingdom	Defra	Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs	Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs
	FSA	Food Standards Agency	Food Standards Agency









## **Federal Institute for Risk Assessment**

Max-Dohrn-Straße 8–10  
10589 Berlin, GERMANY

Phone +49 30 18412-0  
Fax +49 30 18412-4741  
[bfr@bfr.bund.de](mailto:bfr@bfr.bund.de)  
[www.bfr.bund.de/en](http://www.bfr.bund.de/en)



**Bundesinstitut für Risikobewertung**

Institution of the



Federal Ministry of  
Food, Agriculture  
and Consumer Protection