



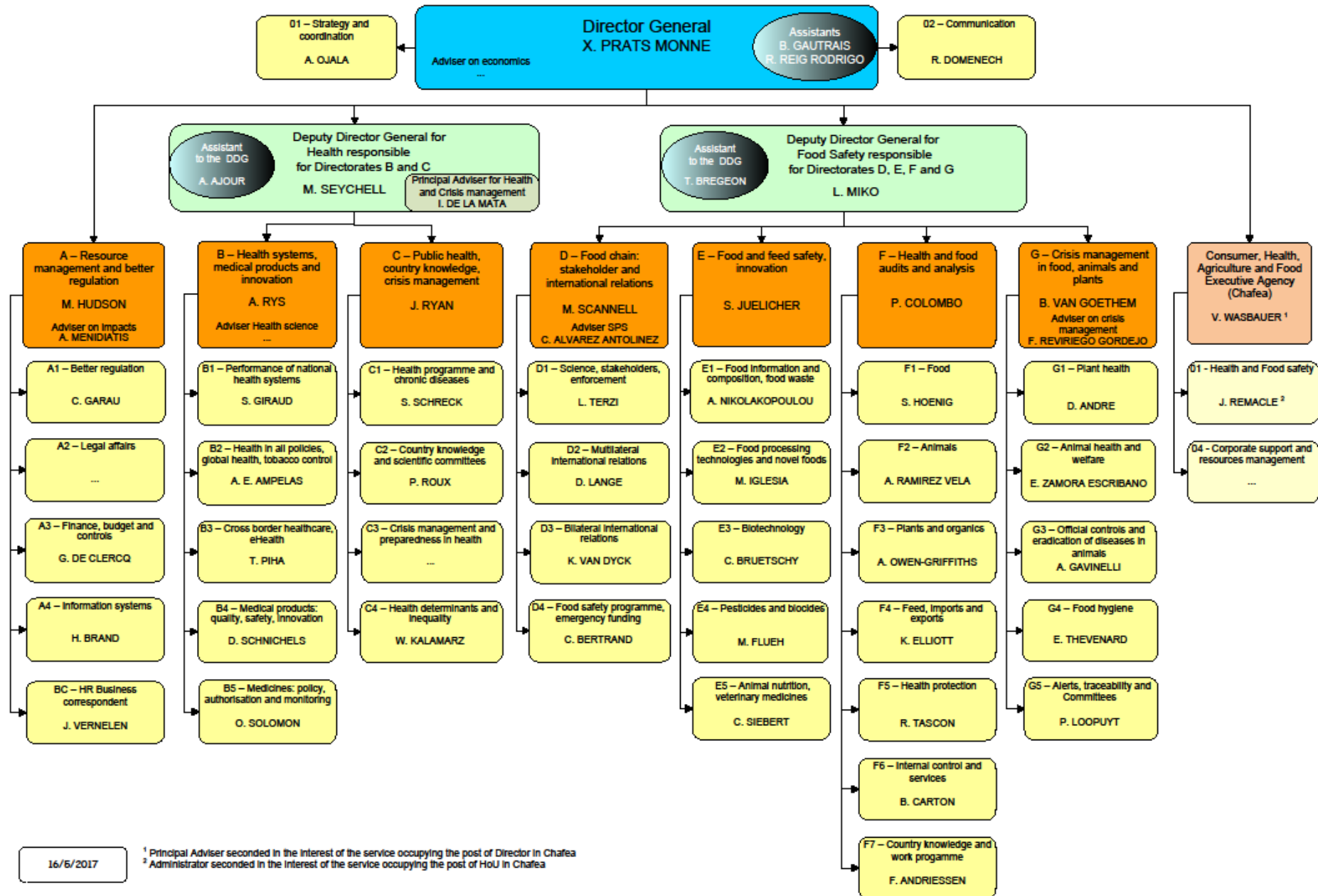
7th Annual European Food Safety and Quality Summit

Food Safety in the EU: Securing consumer protection and fostering innovation throughout the Agri-Food chain

Thomas Brégeon
Policy Assistant to Ladislav Miko
Deputy Director General for Food Safety
DG SANTE, European Commission

Amsterdam, 23 May 2017

Health and Food Safety (SANTE)



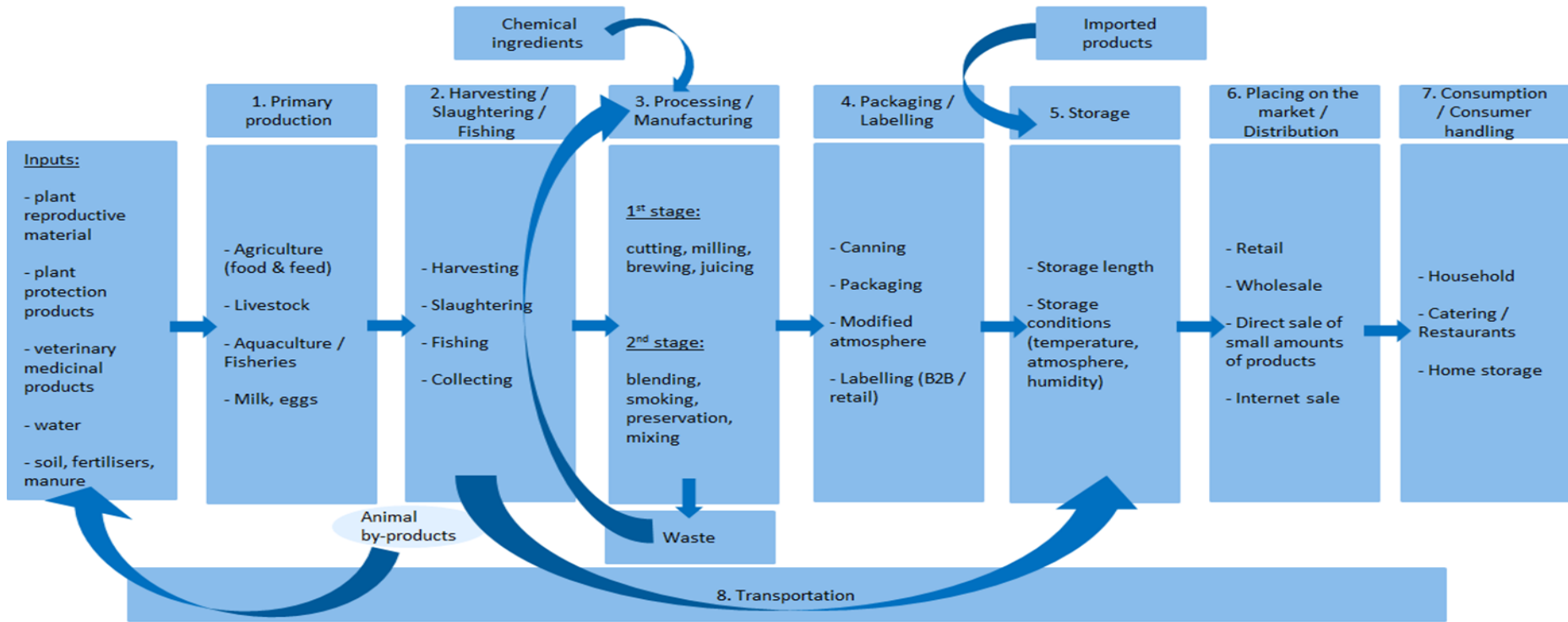
¹ Principal Adviser seconded in the interest of the service occupying the post of Director in Chafea

² Administrator seconded in the interest of the service occupying the post of HoU in Chafea



European Commission

The food chain overview



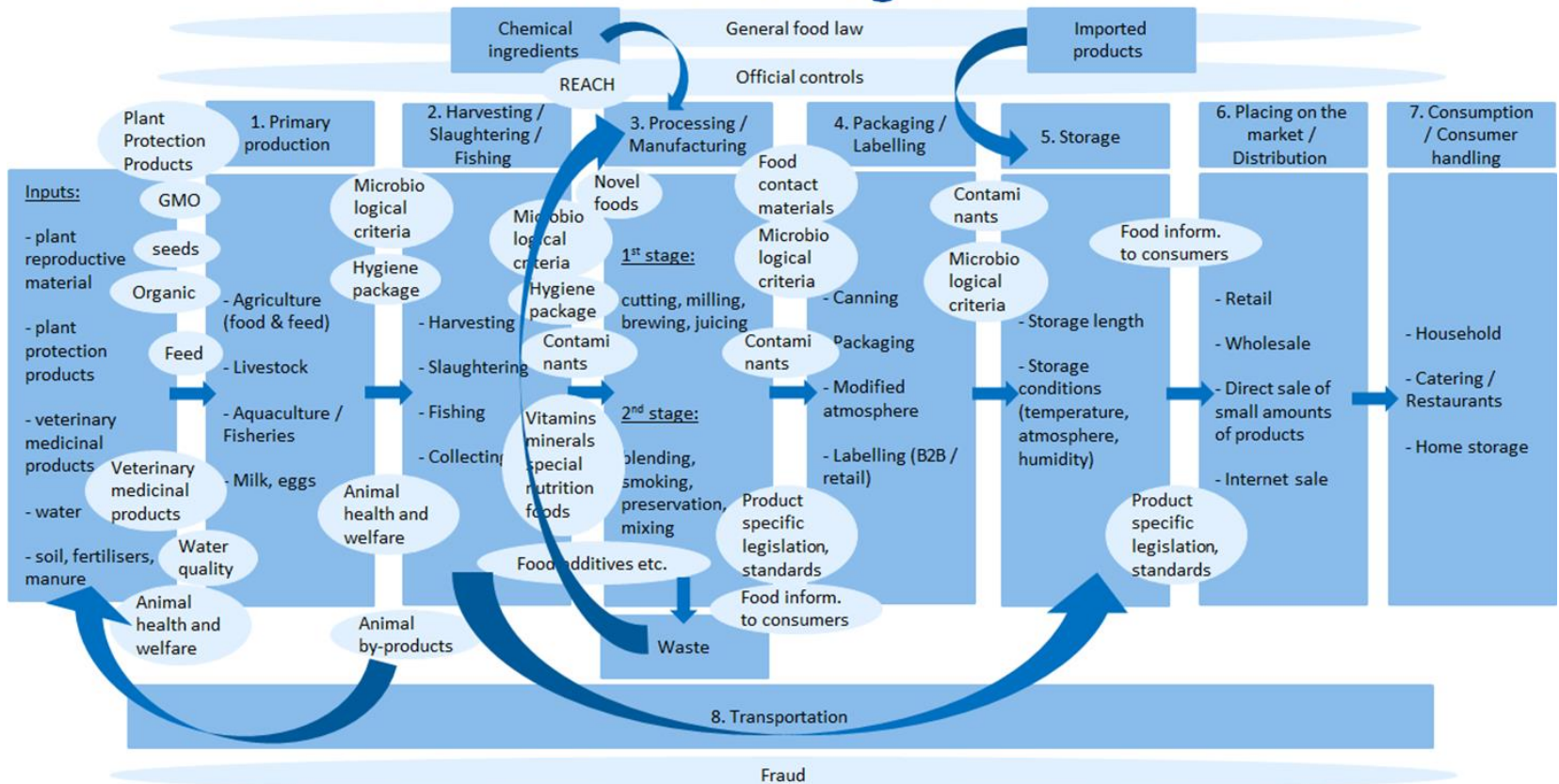
Modified from: Commission SWD (2013) 516 final 'A fitness check of the food chain: State of play and next steps'

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European Commission

The food chain and legislation overview



Modified from: Commission SWD (2013) 516 final 'A fitness check of the food chain: State of play and next steps'

The General Food Law (GFL): 15 years old!

General Food Law Objectives

1. High level of **protection of human health** and **consumers' interests**
2. Effective **functioning of the internal market**

Key features of the General Food Law

- From 'farm' to 'fork'
- Common definitions, general principles and requirements underpinning EU and MS food law

Risk Assessment <-> Risk Management <-> Risk Communication

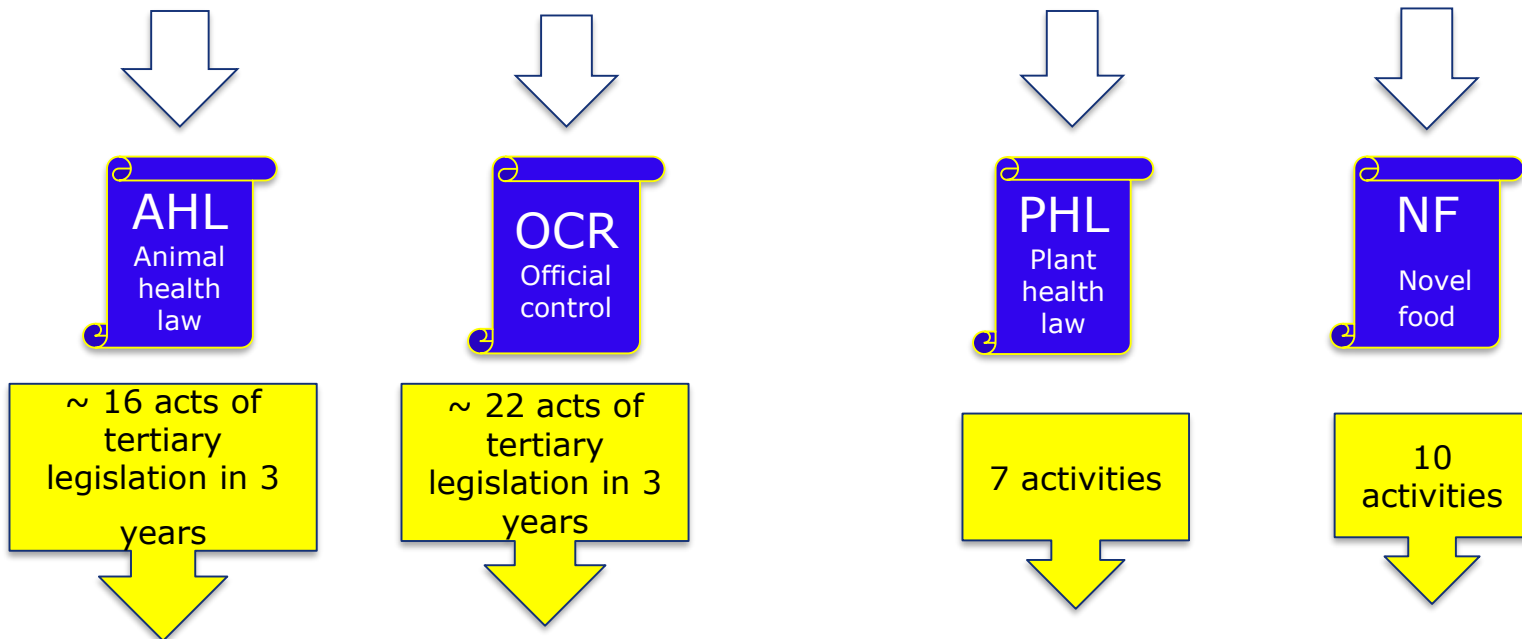
- Science-based legislation - Creation of the European Food Safety Authority (EFSA)
- Focus on the prevention and management of crises through a set of tools and procedures

Ongoing "REFIT" exercises

*REFIT: Regulatory Fitness and Performance programme.
Action is taken to make EU law simpler and to reduce regulatory costs, thus contributing to a clear, stable and predictable regulatory framework supporting growth and jobs.*

- **Plant Protection Products Regulation**
- **Regulation on Pesticides MRLs**
- **General Food Law**

Legislative packages on food/feed/plants adopted in 2015-2016

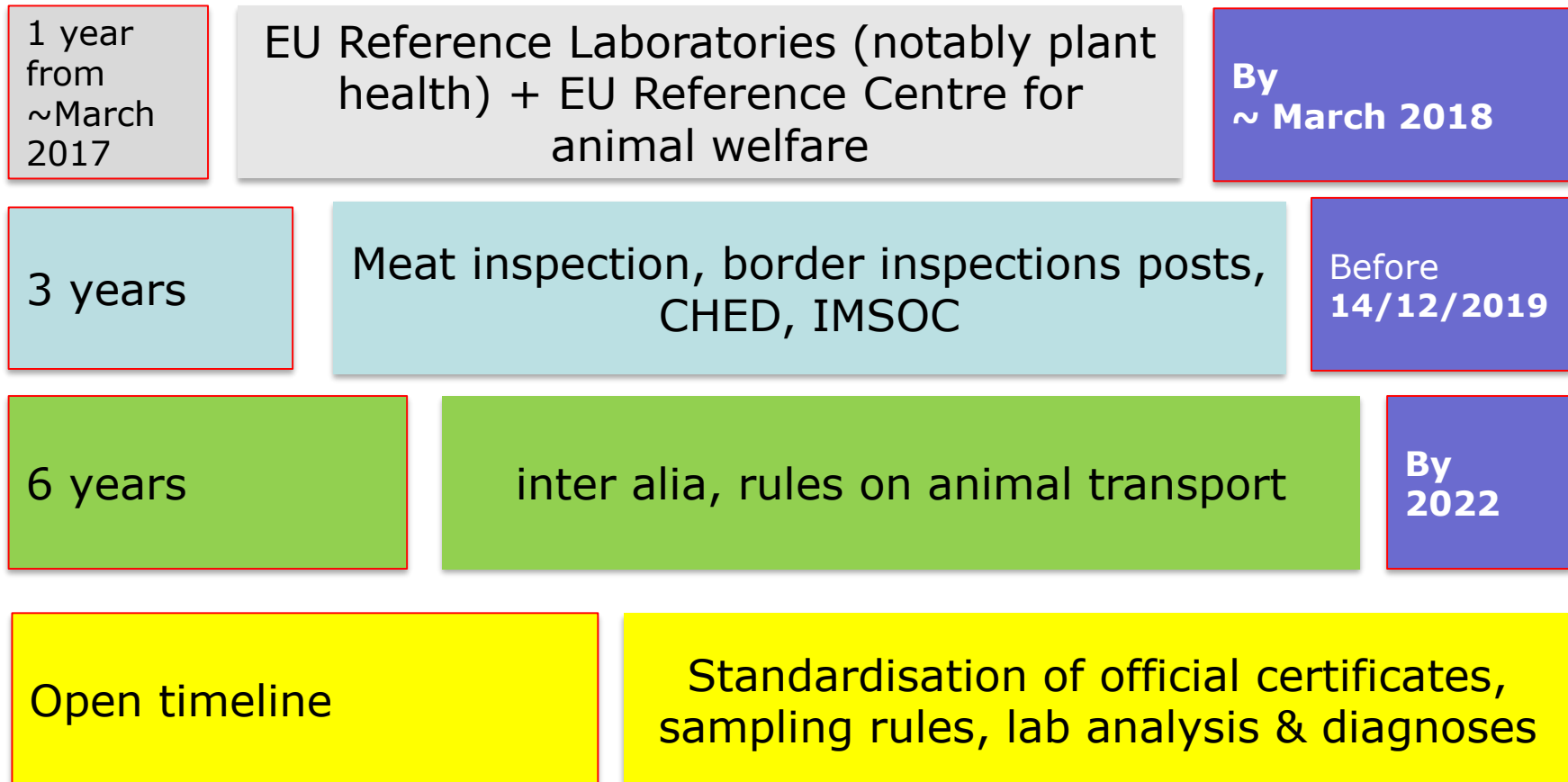


Increased coherence in food, feed, and plant legislations

Main goals of the OCR revision:

- ❑ **Simplify and clarify the legislative context** to cover the **whole agri-food chain** (plants + animal-by-products included in the scope)
- ❑ **Increase the quality of official controls**, to keep ensuring food safety
- ❑ **Modernise the legislation** (more coherent rules on imports, streamlined + digitalized exchange of information among Member States) and **strengthen** legal basis **against food frauds**
- ❑ Having a legal basis **to adapt the legislation to the future changes** in technology and trade patterns (legislation "future-proof")

Timing of tertiary legislation



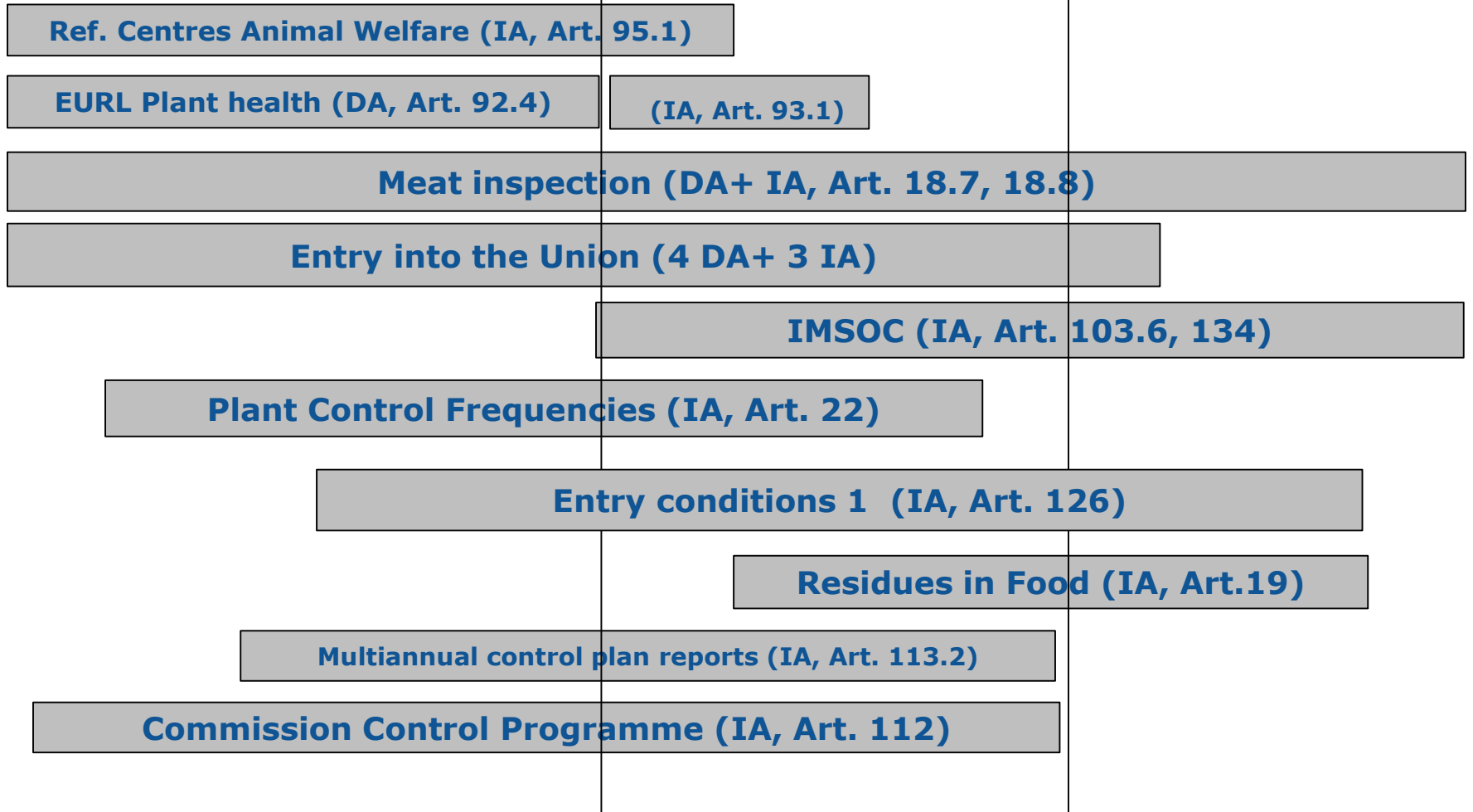


OCR Priority projects

2018

2019

2020

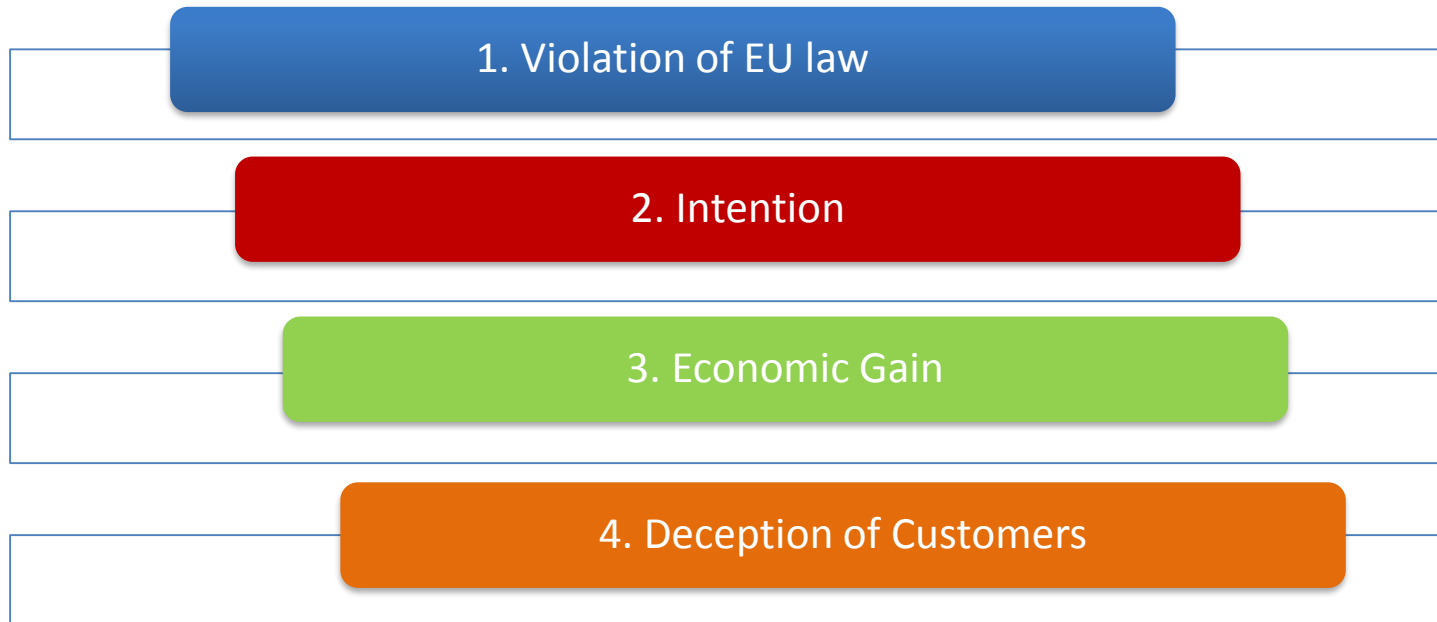


EU FIGHT AGAINST FOOD FRAUD



FOUR OPERATIONAL CRITERIA FOR FOOD FRAUD

No EU legal definition



Fraudsters have no interests in creating public health incidents!



draws attention of Authorities/Media

A COOPERATIVE APPROACH BASED ON TRUST

The EU Food
Fraud Network



*Promoting cooperation
between authorities*



Judiciary

Investigative legal
powers

Member States

EUROPOL

Administrative
(inspectors)

Police / customs

OLAF
EUROPEAN COMMISSION
EUROPEAN ANTI-FRAUD OFFICE

Expertise/Enforcement

Intelligence



Interpol

CURRENT INITIATIVES



The **EUROPEAN FOOD FRAUD NETWORK & EU COORDINATED CASES**



EU-WIDE COORDINATED CONTROL PLANS
on horse meat (2013), fish (2015) and honey (2015)



TRAINING FOR FOOD FRAUD

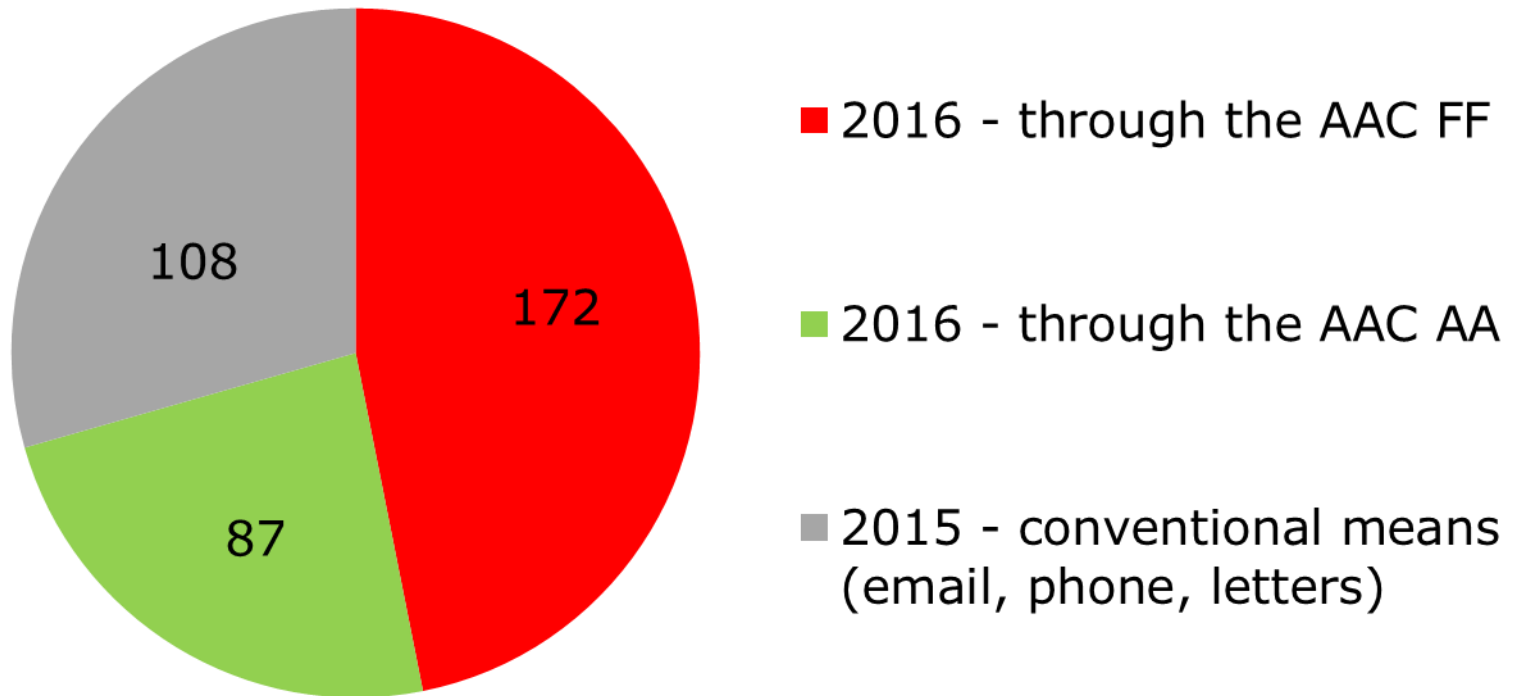
Five specific workshops per year on eCommerce and Investigation Techniques



NEW LEGISLATION ON OFFICIAL CONTROLS

EU Reference Centres for food authenticity, stronger sanctions and broader scope for food fraud

300+ CASES EXCHANGED VIA THE NETWORK



Recently published: EU FFN - Annual report 2016

https://ec.europa.eu/food/sites/food/files/safety/docs/food-fraud_network_activity_report_2016.pdf

Challenges 2017

Cooperation

with

Third Countries

- Contact Points
- Bilateral Agreements
- Sanctions/Imports

Enhancement of

EU Coordinated Cases

IT Systems

- Data
Sharing
- Data Mining

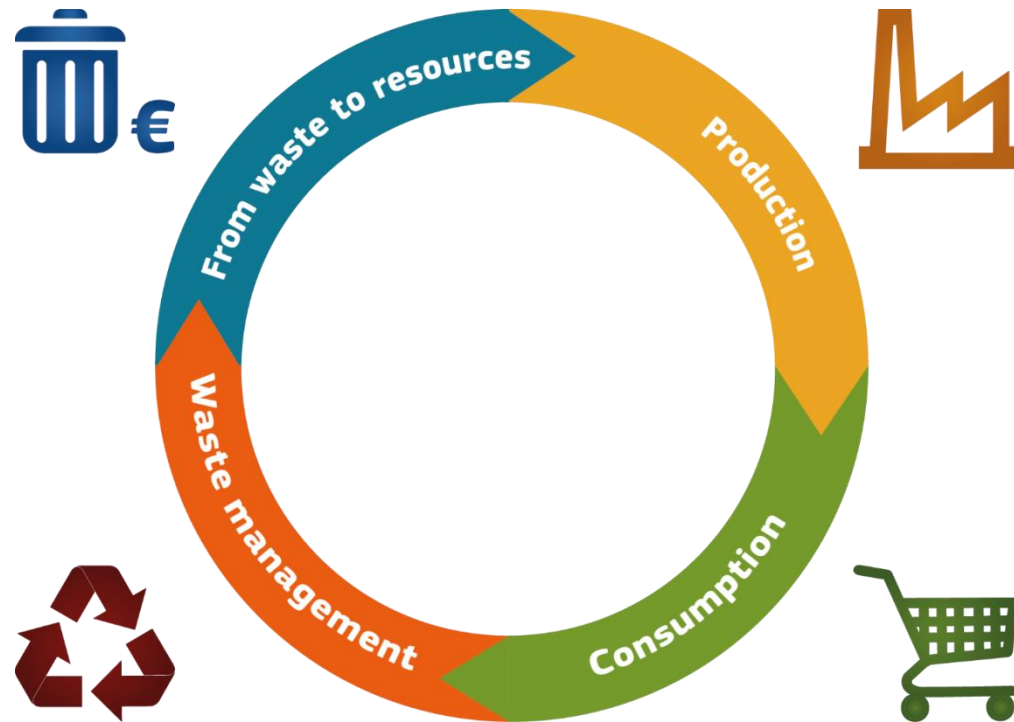
Cooperation with Stakeholders



Fighting food losses and waste at each stage of the food value chain



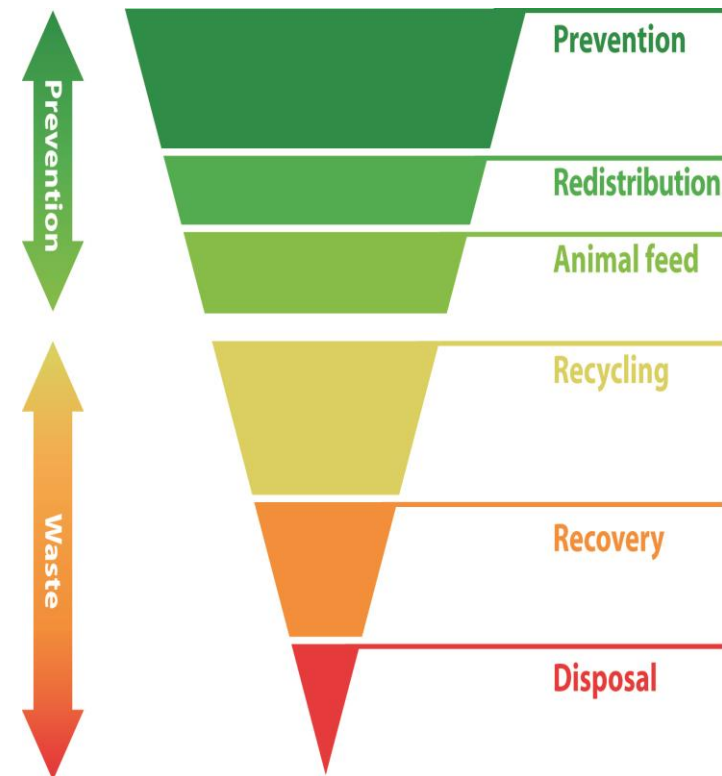
Food waste prevention: integral part of Circular Economy Package



Launch of EU Platform dedicated to food waste prevention



Waste legislation proposal:



The proposal reflects commitment to SDG 12.3 and requires Member States to:

- reduce food waste at each stage of the food supply chain (including households);
- monitor food waste levels;
- and
- report back on progress.

Fight Food Waste: No impact on safety of the food and feed chain



- Measure and monitor food waste
- EU guidelines to facilitate food donation
- Optimise safe use of food in feed
- Promote better understanding and use of date marking
- EU Platform on Food Losses and Food Waste

EU food donation guidelines

**The European Commission will develop
in co-operation with Member States and stakeholders**



EU food donation guidelines

The guidelines will help food donors and food banks/charity organisations to comply with relevant EU legislation (food safety, traceability, food hygiene, labelling etc.) with adoption forecast for end 2017.

EU guidelines: former food to feed

- > Facilitate the safe feed use of former food
- > Hindrance due to legal uncertainty and unnecessary administrative burden should be paved away
- > Intensive consultation with authorities and stakeholders
- > Publication of the guidelines scheduled for this autumn





European
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Date marking



... KNOW YOUR DATES!

"USE BY"

informs you about

FOOD SAFETY

≠

"BEST BEFORE"

informs you about

FOOD QUALITY

58% consumers say they always look at date marking when shopping and preparing meals, but less than 1 in 2 understand its meaning.

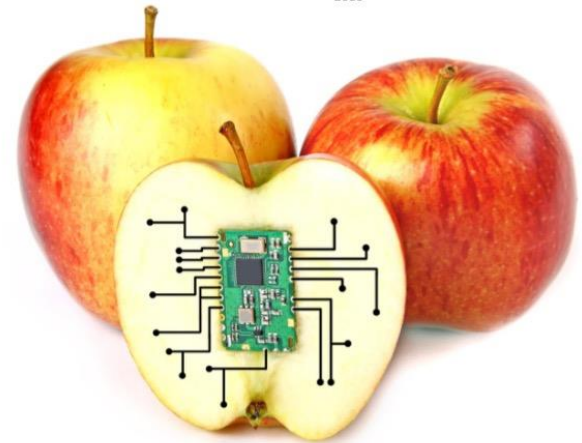
Looking ahead

JRC SCIENCE FOR POLICY REPORT

Delivering on EU Food Safety and Nutrition in 2050 - Future challenges and policy preparedness

Kalliopi Mylona, Petros Maragkoudakis, Anne-Katrin Bock,
Jan Wollgast, Sandra Caldeira, Franz Ulberth

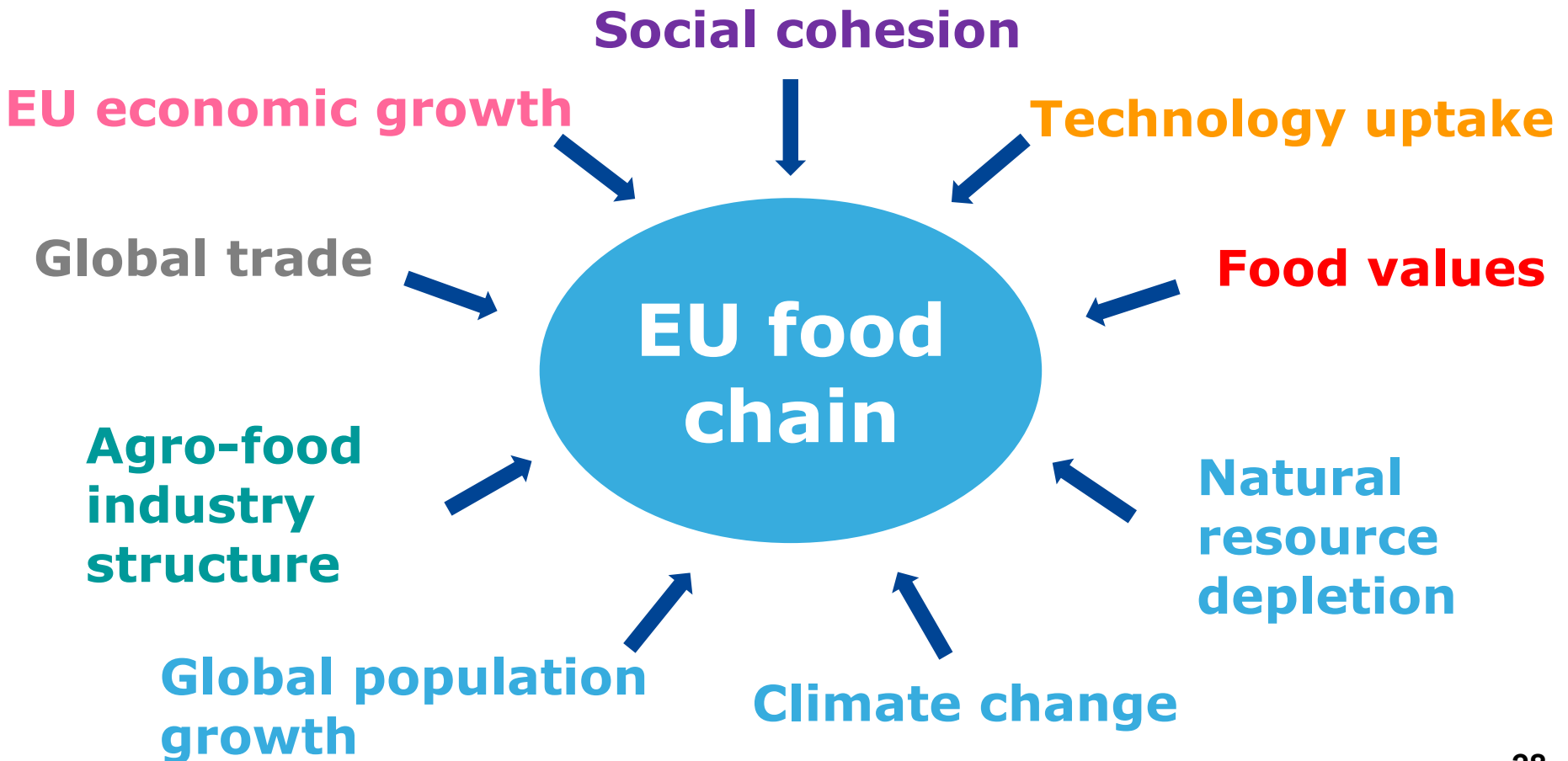
2016



IS OUR FOOD SYSTEM FIT FOR FUTURE CHALLENGES?

- *Food security studies/foresights: gap in food safety („integral part“)*
- *Are we sure that our direction/development is right and sustainable?*
- *Foresight analysis on “Delivering on Food Safety and Nutrition in 2050” to:*
 - *Identify the **critical challenges***
 - *Assess their **impact on food (safety) policy framework***
 - *Define the **potentially critical changes necessary** to maintaining the standards of food safety and nutrition*
 - *Provide insight and guidance towards the development of **future policy responses and research needed** to support EU policy response to these challenges*

DRIVERS USED FOR SCENARIO BUILDING

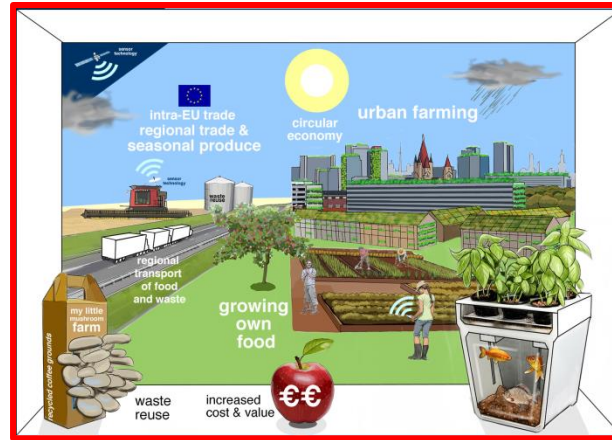




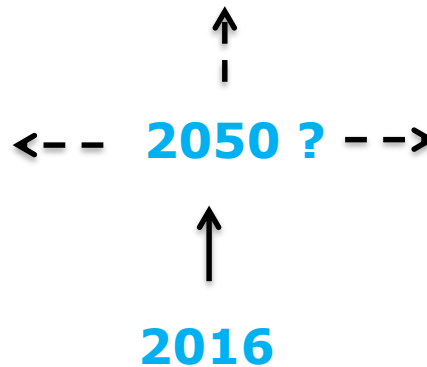
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Scenarios

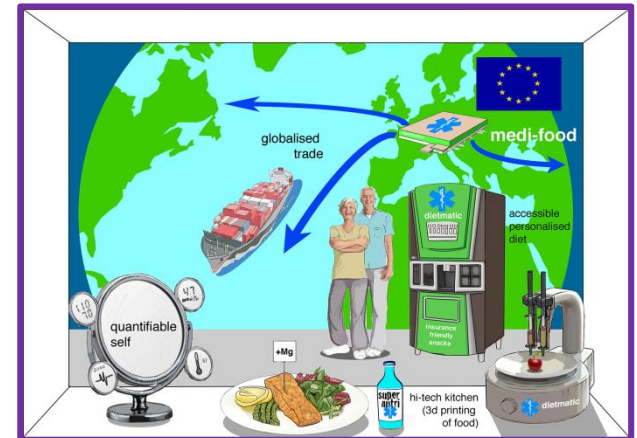
Local Food



Global Food



Pharma Food



Driver characteristics per scenario

Driver	"Global Food"	"Local Food"	"Pharma Food"
Global trade	Full liberalisation	Disrupted and fragmented	Full liberalisation
EU economic growth	Medium	Decoupled, GDP no longer used as indicator	High
Agro-food chain structure	Concentration	Diversification, alternative food chains	Concentration
Technology uptake	High	High with focus on environmental sustainability	High with focus on nutrition & health
Social cohesion	Low	High	High
Food values	Low	High with focus on local production & quality	High with focus on nutrition & health
Climate change	2°C threshold of temperature increase to be reached by 2050		
Depletion of natural resources	Progressive natural resource depletion towards 2050		
World population growth	World population will increase to about 9 billion by 2050		

Conclusions of the study

- *The legislative framework governing food safety in the EU is robust, effective and efficient*
- *Action needed for improving the effectiveness of EU nutrition policies*
- *Harmonisation of risk assessment approaches to allow for the inclusion of other legitimate factors such as health benefits and socio-economic consequences*
- *A suitable and harmonised metric for benchmarking and monitoring food safety performance in the EU needs to be established*
- *An effective early warning system for emerging hazards at EU level is missing*
- *Adaptation of official control and inspection services to future needs*
- *Investment in providing food safety and nutrition education to the public*

Thank you for your attention!