



The Republic of Macedonia on its way to the EU Building up of the food safety system in cooperation with EFSA

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Outline of presentation

- 1. EFSA Pre-Accession programme
- 2. Main tasks of Assistant Coordinator, FP
- 3. Delivered Results
- 4. Food and Veterinary Agency
- 5. Challenges

Introduction

- Effective national food control systems are essential to protect the health and safety of consumers.
- » Risk assessment approach provides an objective scientific basis for decision making in ensuring the safety of the food chain.
- The process of establishment of risk assessment procedures and methodologies might present a challenge that developing countries need to overcome.



Start of the Pre-Accession programme



"Preparatory Measures for the Participation of the Candidate Countries and the Potential Candidate Countries in EFSA"

The overall objective:

To promote understanding of EFSA's work in the Pre Accession Countries, share expertise, create information exchange mechanisms, and involve the national authorities in crisis coordination exercises.



Start of the Pre-Accession programme European Food Safety Authority

- Seminar on BSE-TSE in Zagreb, Croatia 27.03-28.03.2008- first event for Macedonia
- Series of seminars, workshops, trainings, colloquia, conferences
- Participation of national experts in EFSA meetings as observers (AF, FP, AF Comm and EFSA networks)



Continuation of the progamme

- Competent Authorities representatives, scientific and communication experts participated in a number of events organised within Pre-Accession Programme:
- trainings to risk assessment in different food safety areas,
 workshops/seminars and
 study tours

During the period from 2011-2014 the total number of organized events for the Republic of Macedonia was 68 with participation of 125 Macedonian food safety experts.



Main tasks of AC

- Support the practical implementation of the Programme, activities related to networking and scientific cooperation, and to raise the visibility of EFSA and the Programme work at national level;
- Support the appointed National coordinator in all tasks related to the EFSA Pre-Accession Programme;
- Ensure the exchange of the information on the development of important risk assessment, results of relevant scientific research project and ongoing risk assessment and opinions.

- AC in coordination with National coordinator created a list of relevant authorities and stakeholders in Food Safety in the country (contacts, links, phone numbers, etc);
- Disseminate materials concerning EFSA within the country;
- Assist in preparing the Pre-Accession meeting/seminars/conferences/study tours in the country or abroad;







Информација за повик за вклучување на експерти во ЕФСА

Почитувани,

Би сакале да Ве информираме за следната можност да се вклучите во работата на EФСА како национални експерти (Seconded national experts).

Цепта на овој повик на ЕФСА е да кренра база на соодветни експерти кои можат да работат на различни области на кои работи ЕФСА, како и меѓународна соработка и претпристапни програми. Повикот е отворен за експерти од адининстрација, универзитети, институти ити.

На следната веб страна можете да добиете повеќе информации за повикот http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/vacancies/vacancy/sne130227.htm

Експертите од Македонија исто така се поттикнуваат да аплицираат на овој оглас. Во исто време апликацијата е потребно да ја испратите и до мисијата на Република Македонија во Брисел.

Доколку сте заинтересирани за повеќе детали околу повикот, Ве молиме да се обратите на следната маил адреса: dusicasanta@yahoo.com , Душица Санта- асистент координатор на претпристапната програма на ЕФСА.

- Draft reports on Pre-Accession seminars/meetings/conferences/study tours in the country or abroad for the website and the final report on the Programme;
- Promoting EFSA projects, the renewal of the EFSA Panels and Scientific Committee and the calls for national experts at EFSA;



- Assisting in organisation of travelling and accommodation arrangements for the participants;
- Informing participants about practical information regarding their participation in EFSA events
 - travel and accommodation,
 - prepaid ticket,
 - per diem,
 - financial identification form for reimbursement of expenses.



Examples of published info on www.fva.gov.mk

- Information for the Pre-Accession programme activities
- Training on nutrition risk assessment in Skopje, 12-14.11.2013
- Information for EFSA's Scientific conference "Shaping the Future of Food Safety, Together" in Milan in 2015.

- Proof read the English text of EFSA material translated into Macedonian language
- Corporate brochure "Science protecting consumers from field to fork" published by EFSA;
- Subtitles on the EFSA's corporate video "Science protecting consumers from field to fork";
- Risk Communication guideline" When Food is cooking up a Storm Proven Recipes for Risk Communication;
- Guidance on General principles for the collection of national food consumption data in the view of a pan-European dietary survey.

Assistant coordinator facilitated the preparation of food safety country profiles for the Food Safety Almanac that provide an overview of the legal basis, responsible institutions and food safety structures at regional and local level.





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2014



Food and Veterinary Agency



- Established on 1st of January 2011
- It coordinates all food and feed safety related activities within the Republic of Macedonia
- It is also responsible for the communication with EU institutions.
- Food and Veterinary Agency is responsible institution for centralisation of data collected on risk/hazards in the food chain in accordance with Food safety Law
- Director Mr Zoran Popovski, National Coordinator of the Programme, AF member observer



Country progress

- The result of the national endeavors and international assistance has largely contributed to the improvement of the food and feed safety in the Republic of Macedonia.
- This has been continuously noted in the European Commission annual progress reports where, for the year 2015, in the area of food safety, veterinary and phytosanitary policy some level of preparation has been achieved. In addition, some progress was made, particularly related to food safety issues.

Challenges

Macedonia should increase the administrative capacities, in particular of inspection services and laboratories, as well as the risk assessment capacity. In addition, in order to reach the EU standards, the capacities for data collection and exchange should be improved







Challenges



- Cooperation with national stakeholders!
- National Council for food and feed safety was established on 03.11.2015- Consisted of representatives from 19 institutions
- First constitutive meeting on 25.12.2015
- More involvement of scientific experts and academia



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