



# Horizons for Food Safety Research

Stef Bronzwaer MD, MPH, PhD  
Research Coordinator  
Executive Director's Office, EFSA

**Croatia, 18 December 2020**  
Remote participation



## Risk Assessment Research Assembly (RARA)

Utrecht, 7 February 2018

**EFSA organised the first Risk Assessment Research Assembly (RARA), with a view to stimulating new partnerships in food safety research to safeguard public health, and highlighting the importance of public funding.**

Bringing together EU and national research funders, policy/decision makers and leading food safety researchers, RARA served as a platform to:

- exchange research ideas, which may form part of future calls, and
- identify partners and possible ways of funding.

### Outcome

---

The first RARA attracted 200 scientists, risk assessors and policy makers from 40 countries. To learn more about the event, you can check out the event report, the programme and a leaflet highlighting the key outcomes.

- [Event report](#)
- [Event programme](#)
- [Key outcomes](#)

Note: If you wish to print the leaflet, make sure to select the setting 'flip on short edge'.

### Event documents

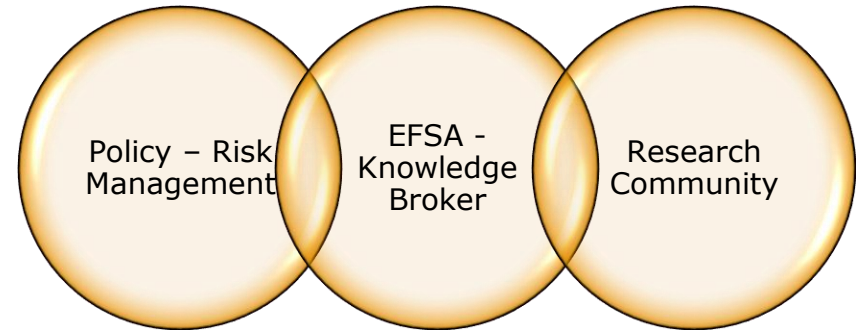
---

RARA was organised as a dynamic and interactive event. Participants' input and contributions have been captured in the following documents.

- [e-Inventory of research ideas](#) – shared among participants before the event
- [Posters & slides](#) – presentations supporting research pitches made during the event
- [EFSA-supported networking via joint projects \(2015-2017\)](#) – poster presented at RARA
- [Food for thought](#) – booklet of abstracts from keynote speakers and panellists
- [Satisfaction survey](#) – summary statistics from participants' feedback

<https://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/events/event/180207>

## Knowledge broker function



## Tools

- Funding programmes
- Upcoming calls
- Partner search
- On-going research
- Project ideas
- Twitter / LinkedIn

Stakeholders

Consultations

Calls for data

Observers

Careers

Procurement

Grants

**Research Platform**

Funding programmes

Upcoming calls

Knowledge Centre

Fellowship programme

### Research Platform

EFSA's Research Platform is home for the wider food safety research community. It aims to support project ideas, promote consortia formation, and help scientists find opportunities for public research funding in food safety.

The Platform has been created in response to a call for coordination in the area of food safety research at EFSA's first Risk Assessment Research Assembly ([RARA](#)), where participants called on EFSA to be a knowledge-broker between scientists and policy makers.

The platform offers access to the following tools:

**Funding programmes:** a selection of current funding opportunities that are most relevant to food safety.

**Upcoming calls:** announced calls in EFSA's remit that are selected to allow researchers to monitor upcoming opportunities.

**Partner search:** there are useful websites to help you find partners or express your interest to [participate in consortia](#). In addition, EFSA has a large network of [competent organisations](#) and researchers we work with. To find partners in your country, please contact your national [EFSA Focal Point](#).

**Research projects and ideas:** should you wish to find out about ongoing research projects, click [here](#). If you would like to share a research idea, please contact our Research Coordinator. You can follow the Research Coordinator on [Twitter](#) or [LinkedIn](#), or simply send an [email](#).

For more insights please visit our [Knowledge Centre](#).

Stay always up to date by signing up to the [EFSA newsletter](#)!

### Tweets



Stef Bronzwaer  
@sbronzwaer

In just 4 days another Open Door towards @EU\_H2020 calls: Towards a European research and innovation roadmap on soils and land management. Opening: 15 October 2019 Deadline: 22 January 2020 - 17:00 (CET). Code: FNR-04-2020. [ow.ly/83J450wEnlm](https://ow.ly/83J450wEnlm)



2m



Stef Bronzwaer  
@sbronzwaer

EU member states are discussing nine new ideas for research partnerships to be funded by Horizon Europe, the EU next research programme. They include topics such as antimicrobial resistance, smart cities, shipping and forestry. [ow.ly/B3fc50wEoRn](https://ow.ly/B3fc50wEoRn)

3h



Procurement

Grants

Research Platform

**Funding programmes**

Upcoming calls

Knowledge Centre

Fellowship programme

[EEA Grants and Norway Grants](#)

**Topics:** Innovation, Research, Education and Competitiveness , Social Inclusion, Youth Employment and Poverty Reduction, Environment, Energy, Climate Change and Low Carbon Economy, Culture, Civil Society, Good Governance and Fundamental Rights and Freedoms, Justice and Home Affairs

**Main link:** [EEA Grants and Norway Grants website](#)

[OECD Research Fellowships and Conference Sponsorship](#)

**Main link:** [OECD website](#)

[Visegrad Fund](#)

**Main link:** [Visegrad Fund webpage](#)

[COST – European Cooperation in Science & Technology](#)

**Topics:** Workshops, Conferences, Training Schools, Short-Term Scientific Missions (STSMs), Dissemination Activities

**Main link:** [COST website](#)

[Horizon 2020](#)

**Topics:** Excellent science: Frontier research funded by the European Research Council (ERC); Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions., Societal challenges: Health, demographic change and wellbeing; Food security, sustainable agriculture and forestry, marine and maritime and inland water research and the bioeconomy.

**Main link:** [Horizon 2020 Website](#)

[LIFE - Programme for the Environment and Climate Action](#)

**Topics:** Environment and resource efficiency, Nature and biodiversity, Climate change mitigation, Climate change adaptation, Environmental governance and information, Climate governance and information

**Main link:** [LIFE website](#)

[PRIMA – Partnership for Research and Innovation in the Mediterranean Area](#)

[Careers](#)[Procurement](#)[Grants](#)[Research Platform](#)[Funding programmes](#)[Upcoming calls](#)[Knowledge Centre](#)[Fellowship programme](#)

## Upcoming calls

---


### [COST Open Call: A simple one-step application process](#)

● Opening: 1 July 2019 ● Deadline: 13 November 2020

**Call link:** [COST website](#) 

### [Digital Life Science Open Call](#)

● Opening: 15 September 2020 ● Deadline: 22 December 2020

**Call link:** [EOSC-Life Open Call](#) 

### [Fostering regulatory science to address combined exposures to industrial chemicals and pharmaceuticals: from science to evidence-based policies](#)

● Opening: 22 September 2020 ● Deadline: 26 January 2021

Code: LC-GD-8-2-2020:

**Call link:** [H2020 EU Green Deal call](#) 

### [Innovative, systemic zero-pollution solutions to protect health, environment and natural resources from persistent and mobile chemicals](#)

● Opening: 22 September 2020 ● Deadline: 26 January 2021

Code: LC-GD-8-1-2020

**Call link:** [H2020 EU Green Deal call](#) 

### [Restoring biodiversity and ecosystem services](#)

● Opening: 22 September 2020 ● Deadline: 26 January 2021

Code: LC-GD-7-1-2020

**Call link:** [H2020 EU Green Deal call](#) 

### [Testing and demonstrating systemic innovations in support of the Farm-to-Fork Strategy](#)

● Opening: 22 September 2020 ● Deadline: 26 January 2021

Code: LC-GD-6-1-2020

**Call link:** [H2020 EU Green Deal call](#) 



Stakeholders

Consultations

Calls for data

Observers

Colloquia

Careers

Innovation prizes

Procurement

Grants

Research Platform

Funding programmes

Upcoming calls

**Knowledge Centre**

Fellowship programme

## Knowledge Centre

› Food 2030

› Strategy papers

▼ EU Project databases

- [CORDIS Database](#) for Horizon2020 Research Projects
- [LIFE Projects](#) Database
- [EU Health Programme](#) Project Database
- [INTERREG Projects](#) Database

› External Projects involving EFSA

- [Harnessing Research and Innovation for FOOD 2030: A science policy dialogue](#)
- [FOOD 2030: Future-Proofing our Food systems through Research and Innovation](#)
- [FOOD 2030: Innovative EU research ensures food system is future-ready](#)
- [Executive Summary - Recipe for change: An agenda for a climate-smart and sustainable food system for a healthy Europe](#)
- [European Research & Innovation for Food & Nutrition Security](#)

▼ External Projects involving EFSA

- [ANSWER](#) - Antibiotics and mobile resistance elements in Wastewater Reuse applications: risks and innovative solutions
- [ASF-STOP](#) - Understanding and combating African Swine Fever in Europe
- [COMPARE](#) - Collaborative Management Platform for detection and Analyses of (Re-) emerging and foodborne outbreaks in Europe
- [CS-EU](#) - Citizen Science to promote creativity, scientific literacy, and innovation throughout Europe
- [Defend2020](#) - Addressing the dual emerging threats of African Swine Fever and Lumpy Skin Disease in Europe
- [DELTA-FLU](#) - Dynamics of avian influenza in a changing world
- [EBO-SURSY](#) - Capacity building and surveillance for Ebola Virus Disease (FOOD-2016-379-660)
- [EcoStack](#) - Stacking of ecosystem services: mechanisms and interactions for optimal crop protection, pollination enhancement, and productivity
- [ERBFacility](#) - European Raptor Biomonitoring Facility
- [EUROMIX](#) - A tiered strategy for risk assessment of mixtures of multiple chemicals
- [EuroXanth](#) - Integrating science on Xanthomonadaceae for integrated plant disease management in Europe
- [EU-ToxRisk](#) - An Integrated European 'Flagship' Programme Driving Mechanism-based Toxicity Testing and Risk Assessment for the 21st century
- [FIT4FOOD2030](#) - Fostering Integration and Transformation for FOOD 2030
- [GRACIOUS](#) - Grouping, Read-Across, Characterisation and classification framework for regulatory risk assessment of manufactured nanomaterials and Safer design of nano-enabled products
- [HRM4EU](#) - European Human Biomonitoring Initiative
- [Indirect](#) - Direct and indirect biorefinery technologies for conversion of organic side-streams into multiple marketable products
- [JAMRAI](#) - Joint Action on Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR) and Healthcare-Associated Infections (HCAI)
- [Landmark](#) - LAND Management: Assessment, Research, Knowledge base
- [One-health EJP](#) - One-Health programme on zoonoses, foodborne outbreaks and AMR
- [PATROLS](#) - Physiologically anchored tools for Realistic nanomaterial hazard assessment
- [PoshBee](#) - Pan-European assessment, monitoring and mitigation of stressors on the health of bees
- [SafeConsumE](#) - Safer food through changed consumer behavior: Effective tools and products, communication strategies, education and a food safety policy reducing health burden from foodborne illnesses

## 1. SAFE FOOD SYSTEMS - Improve food safety while moving towards alternative & sustainable production systems.

- Anticipate impacts on food safety of **innovation** in food production and food systems. At **processing level as well as primary production level, hence include animal and plant health**.
- Does not suffice to assess risks, but **also benefits, impacts and alternatives need to be assessed**.
- Preparedness for **big social changes** related to climate change, migration, and changing consumer choices.

## 2. INNOVATION IN RISK ASSESSMENT - Anticipating impact of innovations and new technologies on integrated risk assessment.

- **Current approach too resource-intensive, mostly animal-based** raising issues of reproducibility and ethics.
- This current RA paradigm is challenged by recent **technical advances, and public demands**.
- Today, still, we work too much in silo's, and further research needs an integrated **OneHealth approach**.

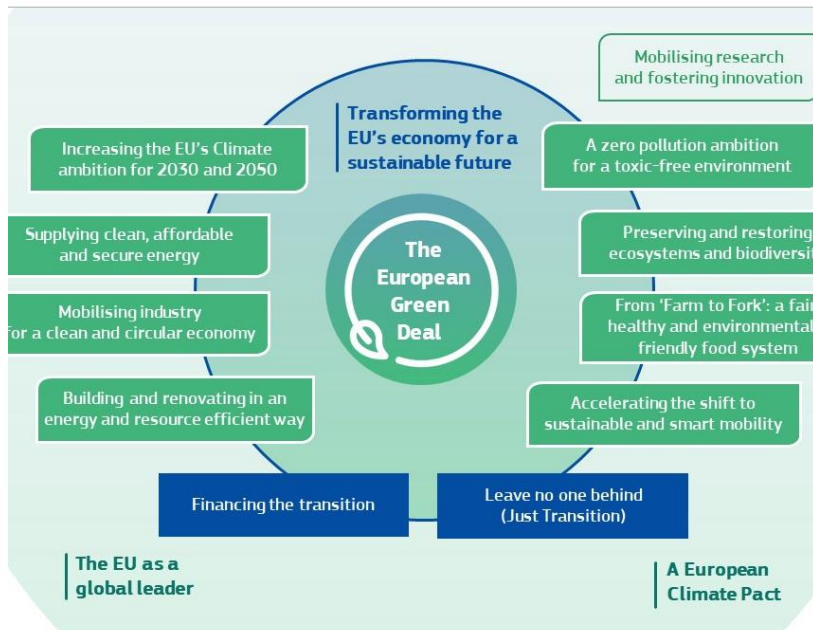
## 3. HOLISTIC RISK ASSESSMENT - Understanding the context, delivering and communicating impactful science.

- To understand the context, research will focus on **understanding citizens' perceptions and expectations, integrate risks and benefits, while at the same time promoting education and mobility of experts**.
- Use of **big data and AI**.
- Intrinsic **link between R&I and capacity building**.

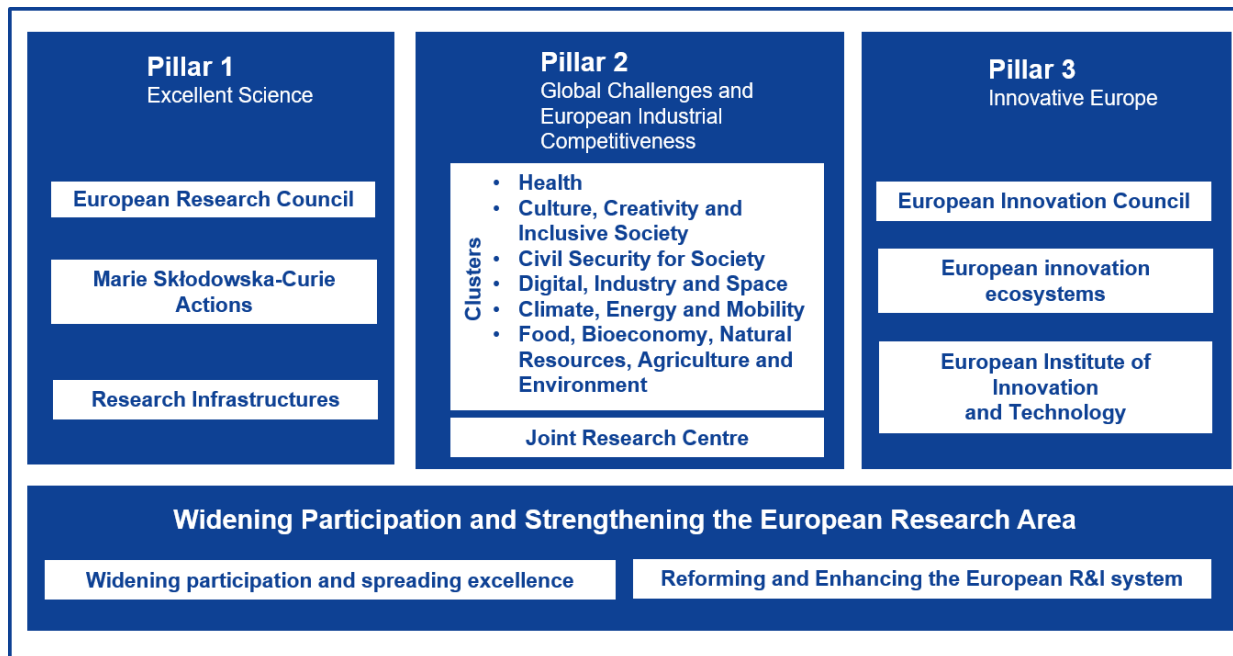


# CHANGING WORLD

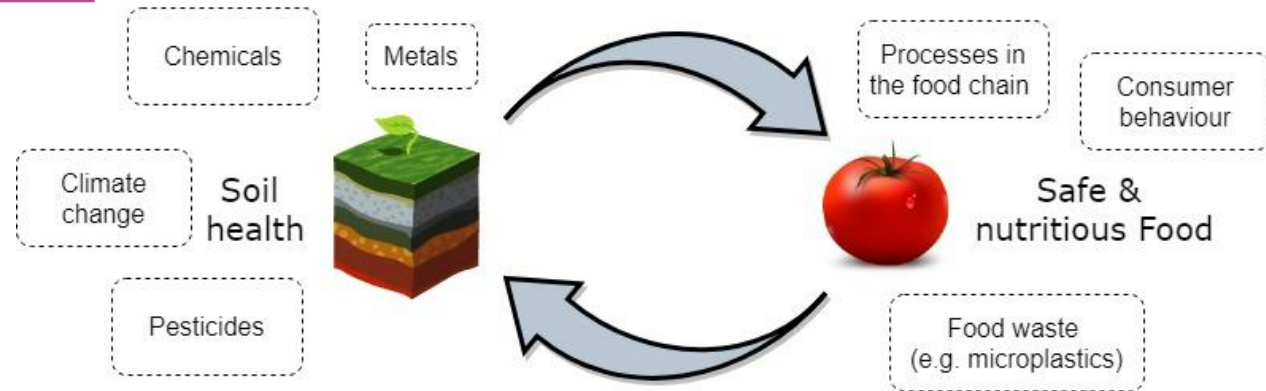




- political agreement on Horizon Europe on 11/12/2020, subject to formal approval by Parliament and Council EU
- Budget around **€95.5 billion** 2021-2027 (current prices)



1. Adaptation to climate change including societal transformation
2. Cancer
3. Climate-neutral and smart cities
4. Healthy oceans, seas, coastal and inland waters
5. Soil health and food



Overview of multiple factors that play a bidirectional role in soil health and safe food.  
Figure inspired by the Soil Health and Food Mission Report. Courtesy Mirelle Geervliet.

## Co-programmed

- These are partnerships between the Commission and private and/or public partners. They are based on memoranda of understanding and/or contractual arrangements.

## Co-funded

- Partnerships involving EU countries, with research funders and other public authorities at the core of the consortium.

## Institutionalised

- These partnerships require legislative proposals from the Commission and are based on a Council Regulation ([Article 187](#)) or a Decision by the European Parliament and Council ([Article 185](#)).

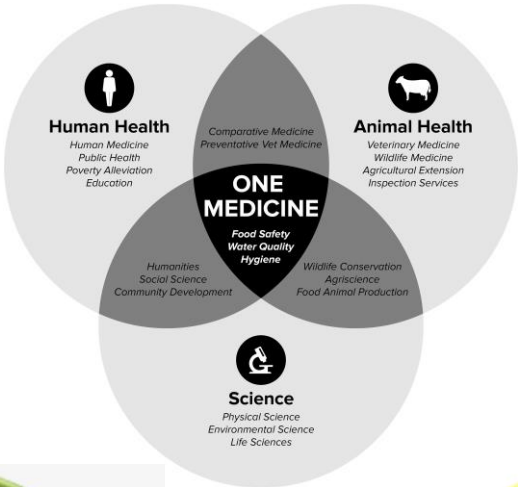
## Full list of 49 candidate Partnerships

The current list of candidate European Partnerships is found in Annex 7 of the [Orientations towards the first Strategic Plan for Horizon Europe](#) (at the very end). Partnerships interesting for EFSA include:

- [Animal health: fighting infectious diseases partnership](#)
- [One Health-AMR](#)
- [Environmental Observations for a sustainable EU agriculture](#)
- [Safe and Sustainable Food System for People, Planet & Climate](#)
- [EIT Food](#)
- [Chemical Risk Assessment \(PARC\)](#)



# One Health – One Medicine – One World – One Planet



# STAY CONNECTED!



## Subscribe to

[www.efsa.europa.eu/en/news/newsletters](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/news/newsletters)

[www.efsa.europa.eu/en/rss](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/rss)



## Engage with careers

[www.efsa.europa.eu/en/engage/careers](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/engage/careers)



## Follow us on Twitter

@efsa\_eu

@plants\_efsa

@methods\_efsa

## Dr. Stef Bronzwaer

Research Coordinator EFSA

[stef.bronzwaer@efsa.europa.eu](mailto:stef.bronzwaer@efsa.europa.eu)

## Updates research opportunities

LinkedIn: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/stefbronzwaer/>

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/sbronzwaer> @sbronzwaer

## EFSA's Research Platform

<http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/engage/research-platform>

