

FOOD SAFETY AND FOOD SECURITY

Prof. Giorgia Purcaro, PhD

Gembloux Agro-Bio Tech, University of Liège , Belgium

gpurcaro@uliege.be

The European Food Safety Authority EFSA

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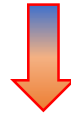
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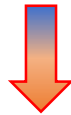
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EFSA

Founded with the General Food Law (Reg 178/2002)



Provides scientific advice & communicates on existing & emerging risks associated with the food chain



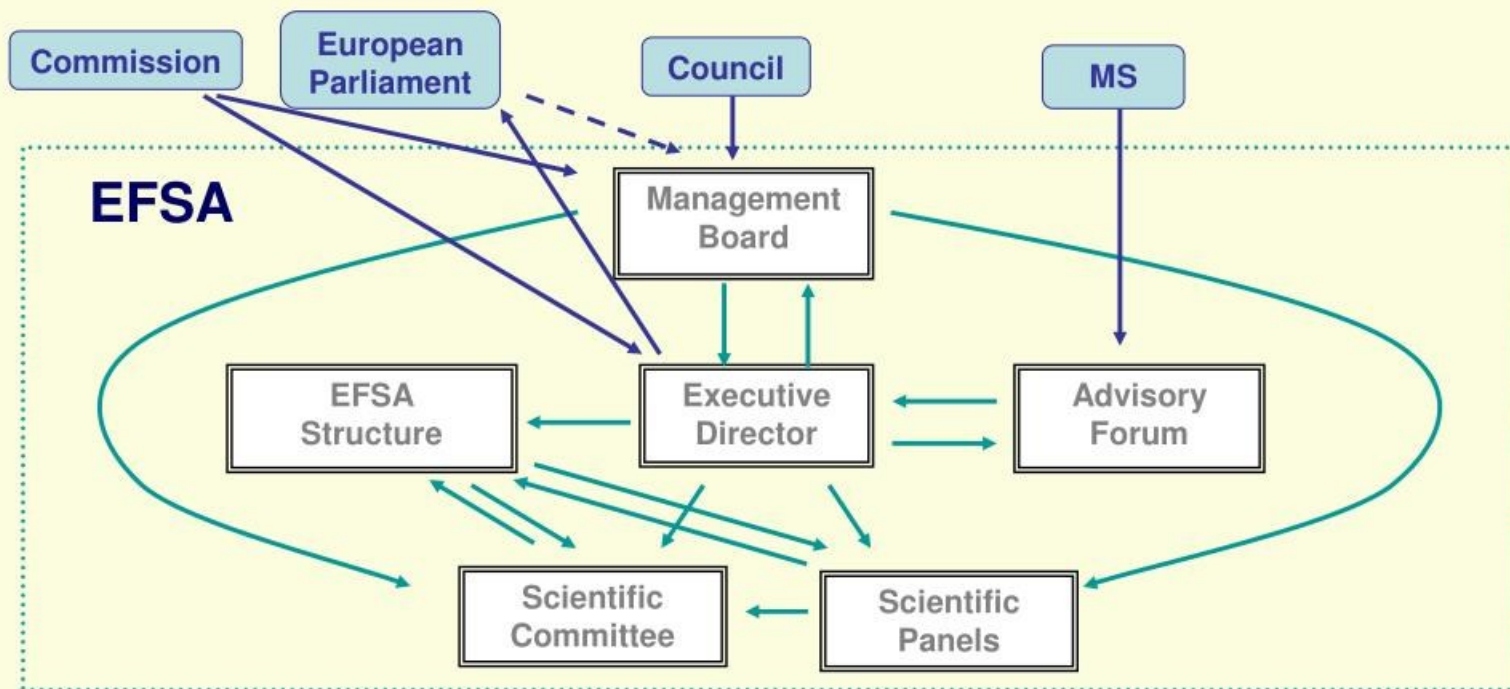
The EFSA is the keystone of European Union (EU) **risk assessment** regarding food and feed safety.

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EFSA



EFSA – Organisation and link with institutions and Member States



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How does EFSA work?

EFSA's scientific work is led by its [scientific committee and its 10 panels](#), made up of leading scientists.

If more specialised knowledge is needed, a panel may set up a **working group**. These groups include **both EFSA scientists and external experts**.

EFSA also works closely with **other EU agencies** active in the field of health and safety issues relating to **humans, animals and the environment**:

- [European Medicines Agency \(EMA\)](#)
- [European Chemicals Agency \(ECHA\)](#)
- [European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control \(ECDC\)](#)
- [European Environmental Agency \(EEA\)](#)

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EFSA

EFSA Panels:

- 1. Panel on Animal Health and Welfare**
- 2. Panel on Food Additives and Flavourings**
- 3. Panel on Biological Hazards**
- 4. Panel on Food Contact Materials, Enzymes and Processing Aids**
- 5. Panel on Contaminants in the Food Chain**
- 6. Panel on Additives and Products or Substances used in Animal Feed**
- 7. Panel on Genetically Modified Organisms**
- 8. Panel on Nutrition, Novel Food and Food Allergens**
- 9. Panel on Plant Health**
- 10. Panel on Plant Protection Products and their Residues**

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Panel on Contaminants in the Food Chain

CONTAM













The Panel on Contaminants in the Food Chain (CONTAM) provides scientific advice on contaminants in the food chain and undesirable substances such as natural toxicants, mycotoxins and residues of unauthorised substances.

CONTAM Panel Members are scientists from across Europe with expertise in:

- *Chemistry* – organic, inorganic, analytical chemistry, food and feed processing in the area of chemical contaminants
- *Exposure assessment* – expertise is required especially in relation to dietary exposure assessment of chemical contaminants including knowledge on food consumption surveys
- *Human and veterinary toxicology (in risk assessment of chemicals)* – absorption, distribution, metabolism, excretion (ADME) of substances (toxicokinetics and toxicodynamics), sub-chronic and chronic toxicity (repeated dose studies), genotoxicity and mutagenicity, developmental and reproductive toxicity, carcinogenicity, allergenicity and immunotoxicity.
- *Toxicological tests in experimental animals* – interpreting toxic effects of chemical contaminants in farm and pet animals
- *Epidemiology* – biomarkers of the effects and exposure and interpretation of human data)
- *Statistics* – assessment of dose-response effects, e.g. benchmark dose modelling and analysis of complex (epidemiological) data sets
- *Animal nutrition* – animal exposure assessment.

Chemical contaminants working groups

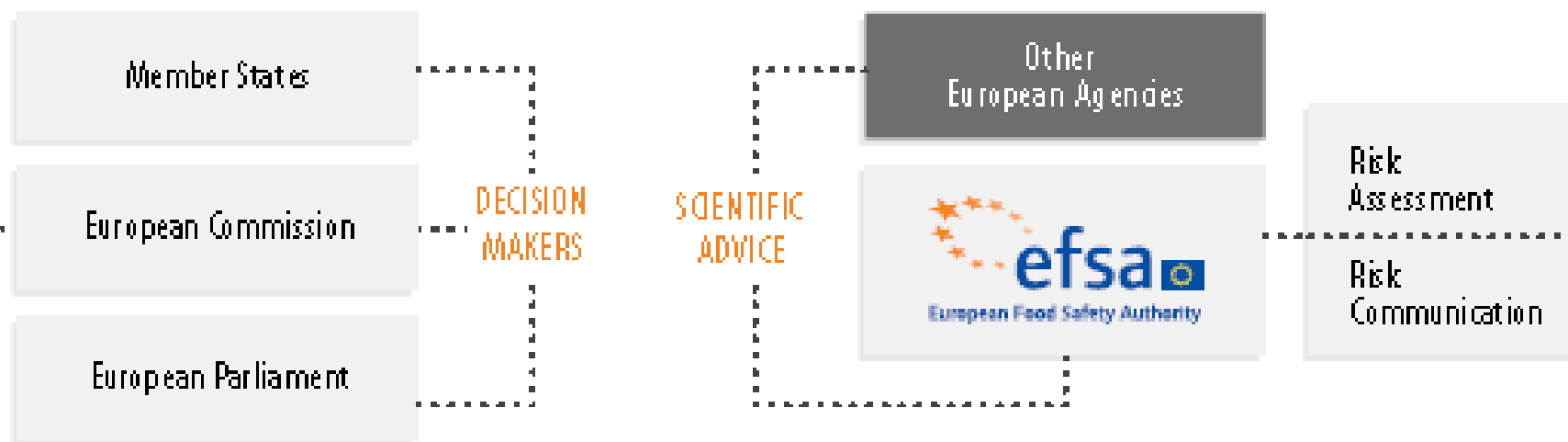
Name ^	Minutes (last update)	Composition
BFRs in food	17 July 2020 	Members and declarations
Glycoalkaloids in food and feed	30 June 2020 	Members and declarations
Nickel in food	24 July 2020 	Members and declarations
Nitrites and nitrates in feed	26 May 2020 	Members and declarations
Non-allowed pharmacologically active substances in food and feed and their reference points for action (2015-2018) - Mandate 	18 June 2018 	Members and declarations
PFAS in food	7 July 2020 	Members and declarations
SWG on feed detoxification - Mandate 	22 January 2018 	Members and declarations
SWG on non-allowed pharmacologically active substances in food and feed and their reference points for action (2015-2018)	Available soon	Members and declarations
WG on scallops	7 August 2020 	Members and declarations

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EFSA adheres to a number of principles and practices :

- A commitment to openness and transparency in all works.
- The development of a comprehensive body of good risk assessment practices to guide the Scientific Committee and Panel experts.
- A quality management system (QMS) that continually monitors and strengthens the quality of EFSA's scientific work.
- Reviews and inspections carried out by an internal auditor reporting to the EFSA's Management Board's Audit Committee, which advises senior management on possible improvements to work practices.
- External evaluation: EFSA's Founding Regulation obliges the Authority to commission independent external evaluations of its work and working practices. Based on these evaluations, the Management Board makes recommendations on EFSA's future management plans and strategies.

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Provides scientific advice & communicates on existing & emerging risks associated with the food chain

The European Food Safety Authority (EFSA) provides **independent scientific advice on food-related risks**.

EFSA issues advice on existing and emerging food risks. This advice informs European laws, rules and policymaking – and so helps **protect consumers from risks in the food chain**. Its remit covers:

- food and feed safety
- nutrition
- animal health and welfare
- plant protection
- plant health.

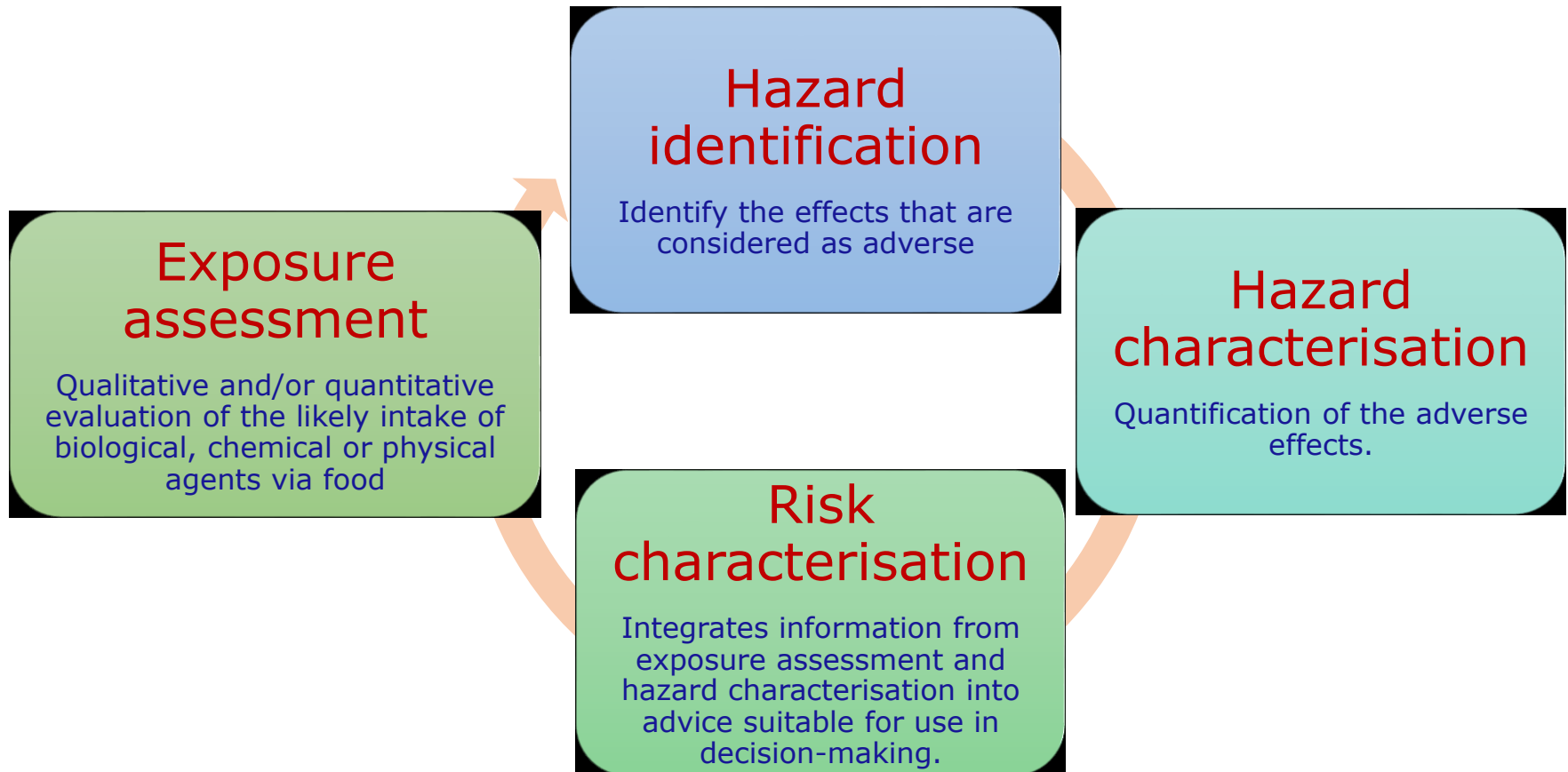
EFSA's work involves:

- gathering **scientific data and expertise**
- providing **independent, up-to-date scientific advice** on food safety issues
- **communicating** its scientific work to the public
- cooperating with **EU countries, international bodies**, and other **stakeholders**
- **boosting trust** in the EU's **food safety** system by providing **dependable advice**.

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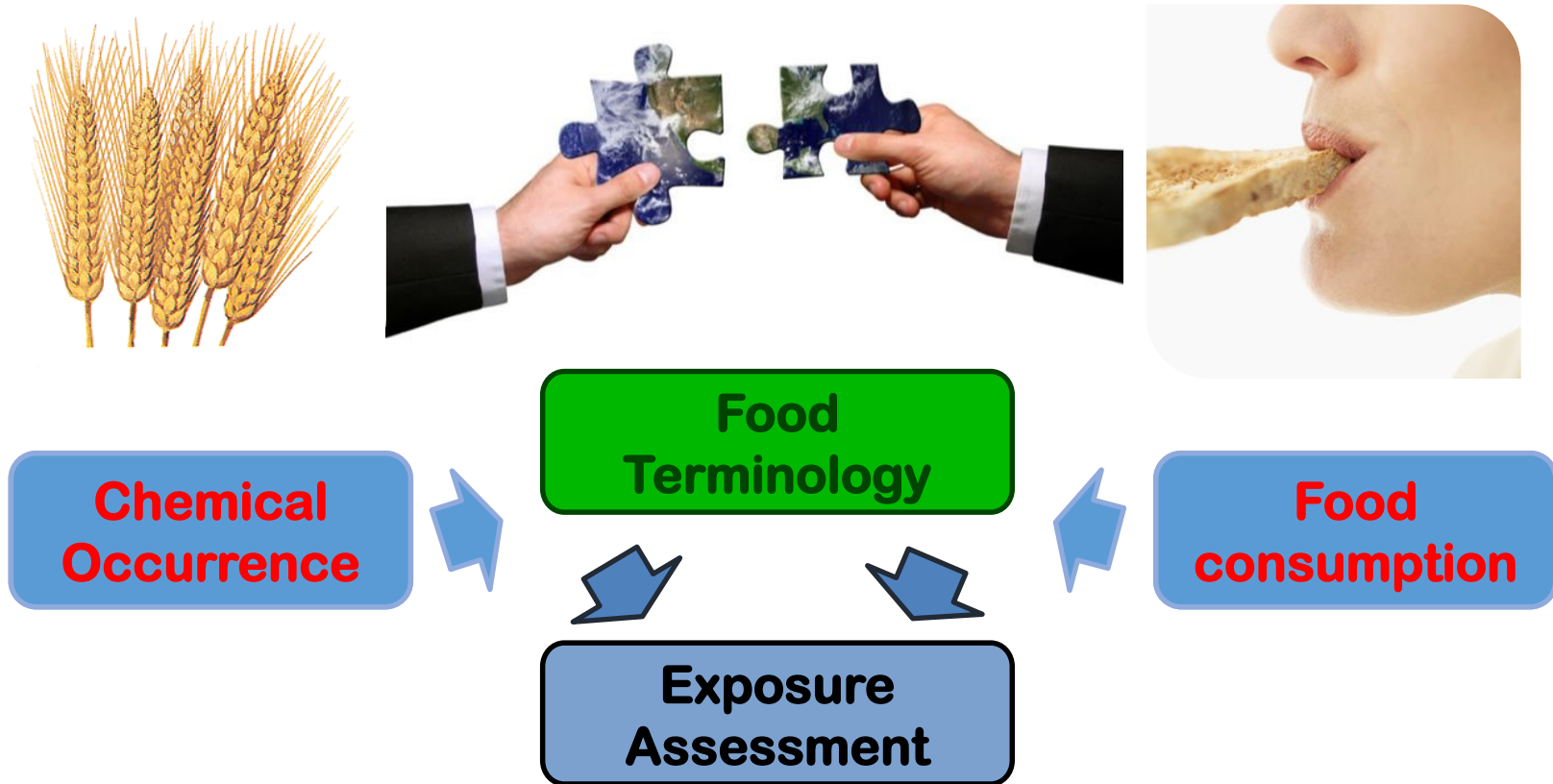
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Dietary exposure assessment



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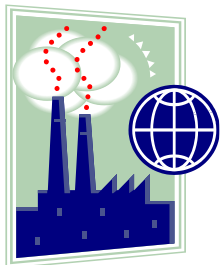
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Data providers

Member States
European Commission



Industry



Consumers
associations



University,
academia,
etc.



FROM CHAOS TO ORDER

Standardisation e
harmonization

Coordinated approaches
Standard protocols
Compatible systems



EFSA STRATEGY AND VALUES

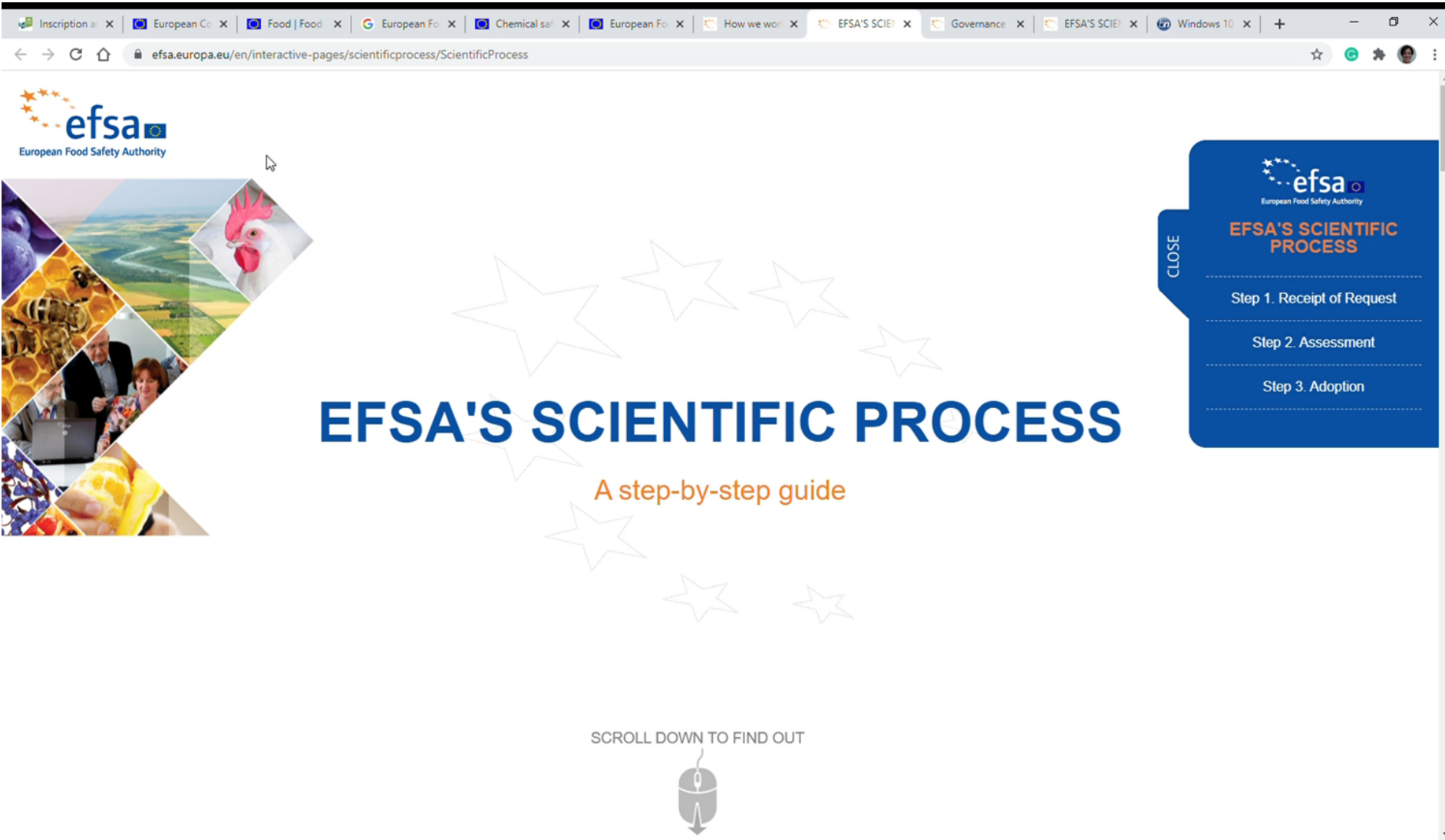
EFSA aims to enhance the quality of its outputs by giving direct **access to data** and promoting the development of collaborative platforms in Europe and internationally, as well as **fostering data re-use and innovation**.



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<http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/interactive-pages/scientificprocess/ScientificProcess>



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EFSA'S SCIENTIFIC PROCESS

Step 1. Receipt of Request

Step 2. Assessment

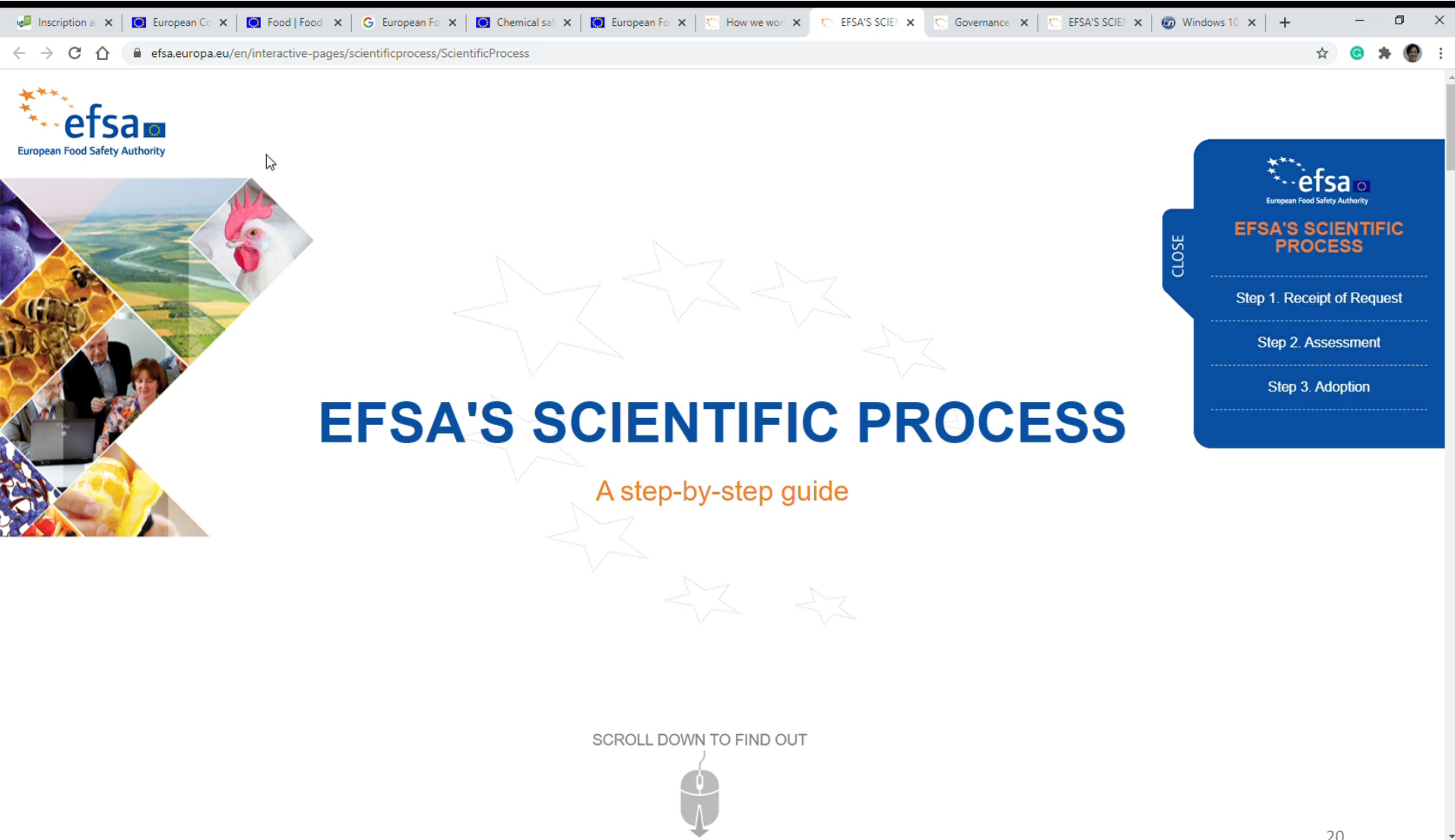
Step 3. Adoption

SCROLL DOWN TO FIND OUT

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EFSA'S SCIENTIFIC PROCESS

A step-by-step guide

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Step 1. Receipt of Request

Step 2. Assessment

Step 3. Adoption