

Looking at enhanced crisis preparedness and early detection of outbreaks in the EU.

World Health Day on 07 April 2014

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DDG2.G4.: Food, alert systems and training



Outline

- Legal framework
- Channels for early detection of outbreaks and trends
- Tools for enhanced crisis preparedness
- Communication
- Concluding remarks

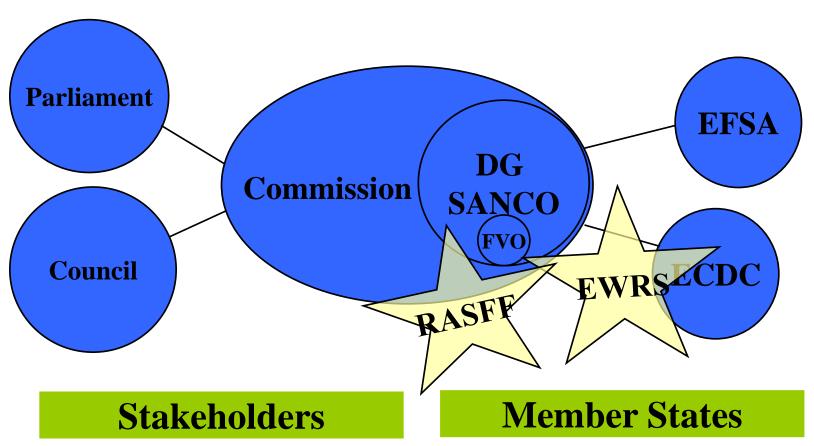


Why early detection or crisis prepardness?

- To limit the effects on human health and avoid spread of hazards (E. coli crisis:46 deaths; 782 HUS patients)
- To limit the need for food re-calls, trade restrictions or other economic consequences (loss during first two weeks: 812 Million EURO, Exports loss: 600 Million EURO, EC market support: 210 Million EURO)
- To agree on responsibilities and procedures beforehand and anticipate possible reactions of press/general public



Multiple EU players with one goal









Legal framework

Preparedness and Monitoring

- Decision No 2119/98/EC: Epidemiological surveillance of Communicable (human) diseases and Early Warning and Response System (EWRS)
- Directive 2003/99/EC on zoonoses monitoring in food and animals and foodborne outbreak investigations



Legal framework

Outbreak management & coordination (food)

- Regulation (EC) No 178/2002: RASFF, emergencies and crisis management
- Regulation (EC) No 882/2004: Official controls including drawing up of contingency plans at national level

Outbreak management & coordination (humans)

- Regulation (EC) No 851/2004: ECDC founding act
- The Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union (Treaty of Lisbon)
- Decision No 1082/2013/EU on serious cross border health threats



Contingency planning

- Commission Decision 2004/478/EC concerning the adoption of a general plan for food/feed crisis management (implementing article 55 of Regulation 178/2002)
 - > Plan further elaborated in SOPs
 - Creation of a network of crisis coordinators in MS
 - Communication strategy



Channels for early detections and trends



Channels for early detection of outbreaks

- EFSA trend reports on zoonoses and AMR
- systems: RASFF, EWRS, EPIS, etc.
- EURL network of expertise
- Media screening by ECDC
- International collaboration via WHO and other networks
- EFSA Stakeholder Consultative Group on Emerging Risks



Overall trends

EFSA figures on outbreaks



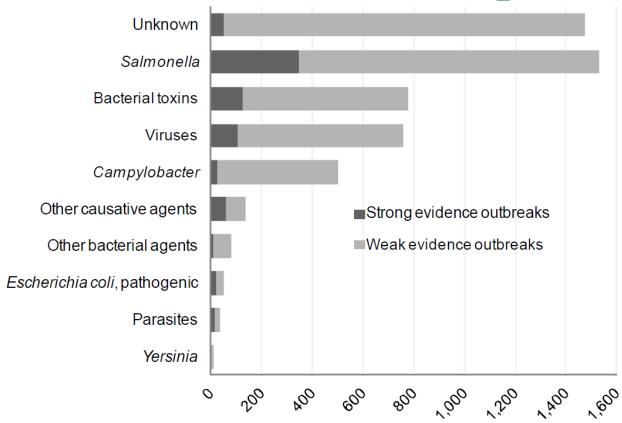
Food-borne outbreaks 2007-2011

Oubreaks due to:	Total number of foodborne outbreaks (%)	Human cases (%)	Hospitalisations (%)	Deaths (%)
FoNAO	219 (<mark>10</mark>)	10,543 (26)	2,798 (35)	57 (<mark>46</mark>)
FoAO	2,065 (90)	30,230 (74)	5,090 (65)	68 (54)
Total	2,284	40,773	7,888	125

Source: Opinion of the EFSA BIOHAZ Panel on Risk posed by pathogens in food of non-animal origin (FoNAO): Part 1 (outbreak data analysis and risk ranking of food/pathogen combinations)



Food-borne outbreaks: causative agents



Source: EFSA/ECDC EU Summary Report on Trends and Sources of Zoonoses, Zoonotic agents and Food-borne Outbreaks in 2012

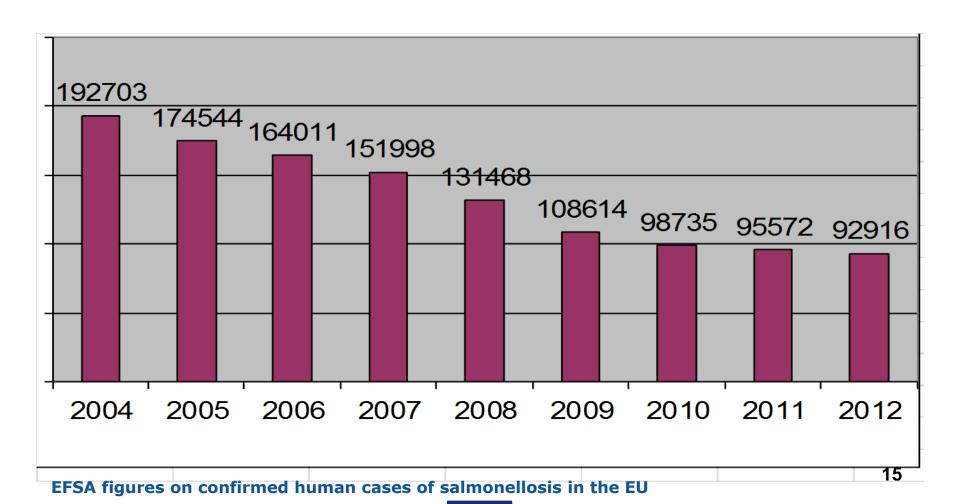


Overall trends

- EFSA figures on outbreaks
- EU success story on Salmonella

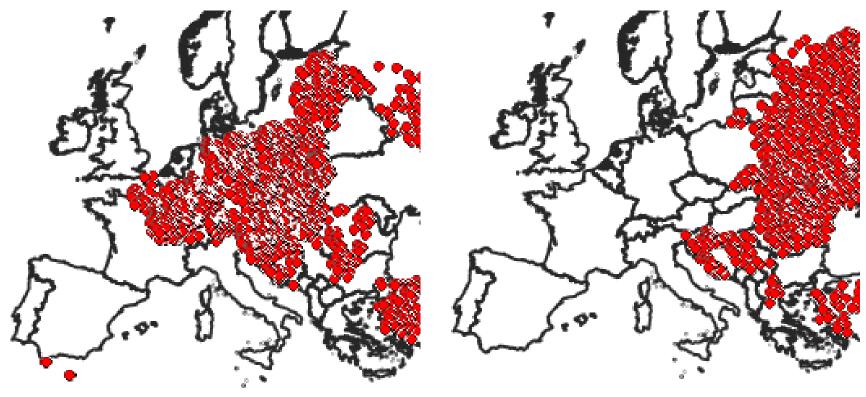


EU Salmonella strategy





EU rabies control





Overall trend

- EFSA figures on outbreaks
- EU success story on Salmonella
- New foodborne challenges:
 - Food of non-animal origin
 - Global sources of zoonotic agents via food
 - AMR







 FVO fact-finding series on 'emergency preparedness' to identify best practices



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- SOPs between EFSA, ECDC and the Commission on procedures for foodborne outbreaks



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- Molecular database on isolates from humans (ECDC), animals, food and feed (EFSA)



Database on molecular testing

- The purpose is to collect molecular typing data and compare isolates from human cases (ECDC), food, feed and animals (EFSA)
- In close collaboration with relevant EURLs
- EFSA self-mandate on the integration of molecular methods in outbreak epidemiology



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- SOPs for the RASFF
- EU-wide and national exercises on crisis or major foodborne events



Exercises: on EU and national level

- To test contingency pla
- To establish SOPs betw
- To be prepared for maje
- To think about scenario bioterrorism, etc.
- EU-wide:
 - EFSA crisis exercise in 1
 - Aristaeus in 05/2013
- National exercises

Exercise Aristaeus report

Food-borne outbreak Luxembourg 14&15 May 2013



Exercise Aristaeus FINAL report 26.06.13

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BTSF training on foodborne outbreak investigations



BTSF Food borne outbreak investigations

- Teams of public health and veterinary / food safety authorities
- Main subjects:
 - Outbreak preparedness
 - Outbreak management
 - Crisis communication



- BTSF training on foodborne outbreak investigations
- EURL workshops and special training



- BTSF training on foodborne outbreak investigations
- EURL workshops and special training
- ECDC training incl. EPIET-programme



- BTSF training on foodborne outbreak investigations
- EURL workshops and special training
- ECDC training incl. EPIET-programme
- MSs: specific training of staff





Communication

- Verification of information in RASFF and EWRS by CA essential and shall be based on sound scientific advice or risk assessment
- Advanced announcement to all parties involved
- Development of the iRASFF online platform to increase speed, availability and interactivity of information.
- Communicators network both on the public health side as well as on food incidents to assess and anticipate possible reactions of the press/general public



Conclusions

- Legal tools are in place
- Vigilance of MSs and stakeholders is vital
- Good collaboration between the sectors is beneficial for all
- Constant learning process based on lessonslearned
- An appropriate communication strategy is crucial for success
- Be prepared!



Thank you very much for your attention!

DG Health & Consumers

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Public Health







Consumer Affairs