







Celebrating World Food Safety Day in Europe and Central Asia

What happened around World Food Safety Day in 2022



INTRODUCTION

This is a regional report on what happened around World Food Safety Day (WFSD) in 2022 in Europe and Central Asia Region. We hope it inspires you to join in celebrating food safety and raising awareness on important topics for our health, nutrition and well-being.



Food safety saves lives

It is not only a crucial component to food security, but it also plays a vital role in reducing foodborne diseases and promoting economic development. Every year, 600 million people fall sick as a result of around 200 different types of foodborne illnesses. The burden of such illness falls most heavily on the poor and on the young. In addition, foodborne illness is globally responsible for 420 000 preventable deaths every year. In the European Region, WHO estimated (2019) that more than 23 million people fall ill every year because of foodborne diseases and 4700 people lose their lives.

What is World Food Safety Day?

7 June was adopted by the United Nations General Assembly as World Food Safety Day in 2018 to "celebrate the myriad benefits of safe food"¹. The first WFSD was celebrated in 2019 with the theme "Food safety, everyone's business" and it has continued to be one of the unique opportunities to:

- making people aware of food safety issues;
- demonstrating how to prevent illness through improved food safety practices;
- discussing collaborative approaches to improve food safety across sectors;
- promoting solutions and ways of being more food safe.

WFSD 2022 globally

On 7 March 2022 <u>"Safer food, better health"</u> was announced as the theme for World Food Safety Day of the year. <u>QU Dongyu</u> and <u>Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus</u>, FAO and WHO Director General delivered their remarks on video, followed by <u>Naoko Yamamoto, WHO Assistant Director-General</u> and <u>Máximo Torero, FAO Chief</u>

<u>Economist</u>. Along with the launch, FAO published a foresight report <u>"Thinking about the future of food safety"</u> that provides an overview of the major global drivers and trends including climate change, changing consumer behaviour and preferences, new food sources and production systems, technological advances, microbiome, circular economy, food fraud, among others.

The <u>World Food Safety Day Guide</u> in six languages provided ideas for all who wanted to join the celebration, participate and/or organize activities to promote food safety. Everybody was welcome to have their own way of celebration as <u>food safety is everyone's business</u> and we can all play a part in improving food safety. Many events and activities were organized around the globe.

WFSD 2022 in Europe and Central Asia

Countries in Europe and Central Asia presented great enthusiasm and organized many events. We would like to acknowledge all the contributions, we contacted countries to complement our collection and based on their feedback we are happy to present you with this report. We know there were much more happening on World Food Safety Day that is beyond our network and scope so make sure you are not left out in 2023 and let us know if you organize any activity. Photos, news pieces, videos and any creative ideas are welcome. We are grateful for every feedback and contribution to this report.

Albania	Hungary	Poland
Austria	Ireland	Portugal
Azerbaijan	Italy	Republic of Moldova
Bosnia and Herzegovina	Kazakhstan	Slovenia
Croatia	Kyrgyzstan	Spain
Denmark	Lithuania	Tajikistan
France	North Macedonia	Türkiye
Georgia	Norway	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
Greece		Uzbekistan

Celebration of World Food Safety Day in Europe and Central Asia

REGIONAL EVENTS

FAO-WHO webinar – Europe and Central Asia

FAO and WHO celebrated with the theme "Safer food, better health" to highlight the vital role of food safety in saving the lives of millions, and ensuring fair trade all over the world.

On the occasion of this special day, FAO Regional Office for Europe and Central Asia and WHO Regional Office for Europe, on 10 June 2022, invited all interested parties in the region to a lively webinar on the importance of food in Europe and Central Asia: Past, present and future. The webinar included a panel discussion where the panelists talked about historical events which influenced early food control activities and led to critical progress in food safety management; priorities in today's world for public and private actors to ensure the safety of food produced and consumed, and how these priorities are being addressed; and finally the challenges and opportunities the future holds for food safety assurance.

The webinar was targeting all the actors in the food chain, particularly, policy-makers and food safety authorities in the Member States in the region, also food producers and associations, non-governmental organizations, academia, and consumer groups.

Mary Kenny, Food Safety and Consumer Protection Officer from FAO and Peter Sousa Hoejskov, Technical Officer for Food Safety and Zoonotic Diseases from WHO moderated the session. You can find more information about the webinar here.

European Food Safety Authority (EFSA)

Raising consumer awareness

The European Food Safety Authority (EFSA) together with national food safety bodies across Europe highlighted their joint communication campaign #EUChooseSafeFood for World Food Safety Day 2022. The focus was to inspire Europeans to make food choices with confidence by raising awareness about the science behind food safety. Among topics we can find Additives, Allergens, Animal Welfare, Bee Health, Food Contaminants, Food Hygiene, Food Supplements, Food Waste, Foodborne Diseases, Novel Foods, Packaging and Plant Health.

- WFSD News details | CODEXALIMENTARIUS FAO-WHO
- Read more about EFSA

ALBANIA

Raising awareness through World Food Safety Day celebration

In Albania, several online portals raised awareness of World Food Safety Days and shared information for the public.

7 Qershor: Dita Botërore e Sigurisë së Ushqimit - Ushqimi i sigurt, shëndeti i mirë - Motilokal.com



"Dita Botërore e Sigurisë së Ushqimit" means World Food Safety Day in Albanian.

AUSTRIA

Austrian Agency for Health and Safety fuels the interest of Austrians towards food safety

The Austrian Agency for Health and Food Safety (AGES) GmbH celebrated World Food Safety Day 2022 by publishing a news article on the <u>website</u> and postings on Social Media (<u>Twitter</u>, <u>Facebook</u>, <u>LinkedIn</u>).

Three quarters of the Austrian population are not worried about food safety, captured by the Risk Barometer which is a periodic survey of the risk perception of the Austrian population since 2017. Risk perception in food has decreased or unchanged except when it comes to microplastics in food, ingredients of food packaging materials and misleading information on food packaging as they concern people. Issues such as mould toxins in food and harmful substances that are produced during preparation are topics that three quarters of Austrians would like more information about. These activities also marked the start of the #EUChooseSafeFood campaign that AGES did in cooperation with EFSA.

AZERBAIJAN

Video from the Azerbaijan Food Safety Agency

AFSA - Azerbaijan Food Safety Agency – launched <u>series of video</u> on its YouTube channel on the 7th of June.





BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA

Celebration of World Food Safety Day online and on-site

The Food Safety Agency of Bosnia Herzegovina joined the celebration with a <u>news piece</u> on their website to spread the world about World Food Safety Day. In addition, the Institute for Public Health of Canton <u>shared evidence-based information</u> about why food safety is important and highlighted useful resources like the Five keys to safer food manual (who.int).



Ledo, the ice-cream company decided to mark World Food Safety Day 2022 for the first time with its employees, but also with the most loyal ice cream consumers, children.

Ledo visited children in a nearby kindergarten and presented them how to wash their hands properly and children learned how important it is to consume safe food. What else could be a better surprise than the arrival of Ledo Medo, the bear who distributed their favorite Ledo ice creams.



The company hang up posters throughout the week (06.06.-10-06.2022) and printed T-shirts with the logo and slogan "Safer food, better health". They organized fun activities, a short presentation and discussion on WFSD to get to know about potential food safety risks, foodborne diseases, and the data that needs to be displayed on the label of each product.



They presented a great inspiration for food chain actors and showed that how much fun WFSD can be both for adults and the youngest.

Find their story here: Obilježen Svjetski dan sigurnosti hrane – Novosti — (ledo.ba)

CROATIA

4th Croatian Food Safety Risk Assessment Conference with International Participation and the Celebration of World Food Safety Day

A 2-day conference was organized by Croatian Agency for Agriculture and Food on food safety risk assessment in Osijek. Welcome and opening remarks were delivered by Mary Kenny, FAO Regional Office for Europe and Central Asia delivered welcome remarks on behalf of FAO and Peter Sousa Hoejskov, WHO Regional Office for Europe on behalf of WHO. Beyond celebrating World Food Safety Day, the conference covered a wide range of topics under 3 sections: 1) "Data collection and management – experiences and future challenges"; 2-3) "Risk assessment – current events and trends part 1 and 2". Several relevant stakeholders (public agencies, academia, research institutes, NGOs and intergovernmental organizations) participated presenting a multi-sectoral committee.

The Croatian Institute of Public Health also published a <u>news piece</u> on its website.



DENMARK

Food Nation webinar for World Food Safety Day in Denmark

On World Food Safety Day, 7 June 2022, the Danish Agriculture & Food Council and Food Nation organized an online event from 10.00 – 12.00 to mark Codex Alimentarius' worldwide World Food Safety Day for the fourth time. First theme focused on cooperation by sharing experiences and knowledge about the importance of collaboration in a food safety context both locally and globally. Second topic covered plant-based foods in relation to food safety. You can find the detailed program on their website.

WFSD Event details | CODEXALIMENTARIUS FAO-WHO

FRANCE

Cleaning and disinfection essential for food safety

GSF, a cleaning and service provider in the food industry, promoted an E-learning challenge on food safety, which goal was to train as many employees as possible before World Food Safety Day on 7 June.

GSF also organized a webinar on the implementation of the food safety culture, attended by more than 70 managers, and brought together more than 20 manufacturers into a symposium on food safety this spring.

WFSD Event details | CODEXALIMENTARIUS FAO-WHO

Ministry of Health and Prevention posted a <u>tweet</u> with a video on its Twitter page about the proper food preservation and storage.



GEORGIA

Raising public awareness and promoting safe food

A World Food Safety Day public event was organized in Mziuri Park of Tbilisi on 7 June 2022 funded by the United States Department of Agriculture under Safety and Quality Investment Project, in collaboration with development stakeholders and relevant Government of Georgia institutions, including LEPL National Food Agency. The event inspired action to help prevent, detect, and manage foodborne risks, that contribute to food security, human health, economic prosperity, agriculture, market access, tourism, and sustainable development. Approximately 30 private business in the dairy and beef market system, representatives from Georgian government institutions, United States Government representatives, and various development organizations attended and contributed to raising awareness and improving private and public entities capacity to assure better food safety.

Check out videos about the event:

- Georgian Farmers Association's (GFA) YouTube video
- Georgia Safety and Quality in Livestock (SQIL) video on Facebook





WFSD Event details | CODEXALIMENTARIUS FAO-WHO



GREECE

Hellenic Food Authority helps businesses and consumers

EFET Hellenic Food Authority in Greece posted on its <u>website</u> about World Food Safety Day. EFET participates daily in the effort to implement and ensure food safety by informing and supervising the businesses operating in the food sector and by informing consumers on food safety issues. They also mentioned about the participation in the communication campaign of <u>#EUChooseSafeFood</u>, which aims to help European citizens make informed food choices, after explaining to them the science behind food safety.

HUNGARY

Online food safety awareness campaign

On the occasion of the World Food Safety Day, Nébih, the National Food Chain Safety Office, a background institution of the Ministry of Agriculture, launched an <u>online awareness campaign</u> to increase consumer awareness and draw attention to food safety and their personal responsibility, since 70 percentage of foodborne illnesses can be prevented. The aim was to inform consumers about a wide range of topics from conscious shopping, through appropriate kitchen technology methods to safe food preparation to create healthy eating habits with a focus on the consumer, increase awareness of key rules and concepts of food safety and how to prevent foodborne illness. They promoted information about Nébih's programs.

The awareness raising campaign ran successful not only on their <u>website</u> but also on Facebook and YouTube. 3 videos were published:

- #preventable campaign
- Animated film containing advice on preventing foodborne illness
- Animated film on the correct storage of food



IRELAND

Raising awareness of food safety

The Food Safety Authority of Ireland (FSAI) shared a number of quotes from a range of stakeholders answering the question "What does food safety mean to you?" The campaign showcased passionate and innovative approaches taken to food safety in Ireland and aimed to make consumers aware of their right to safe food. FSAI shared pictures and videos on its Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn and Instagram pages.

The FSAI World Food Safety Day celebrations also included a webinar outlining what food businesses can expect when an Environmental Health Officer (EHO) carries out an inspection on a food business.

WFSD Event details | CODEXALIMENTARIUS FAO-WHO





Today on #WorldFoodSafetyDay, we are launching a campaign to make consumers aware of their right to safe food.

Anyone who experiences unfit food or poor hygiene when eating out or buying food can make a complaint at: http://ow.ly/KilQ50JrgmH.

#SeeSomethingSaySomething



ITALY

A matter of mushrooms on World Food Safety Day

Italy's Scientific Society for Evidence on Environment, Food and Workplace Safety (UNPISI ATS) organized a World Food Safety Day webinar on the subject of "Mushrooms: food safety and supplements".

WFSD Event details | CODEXALIMENTARIUS FAO-WHO

More information:

https://www.unpisi.it

http://www.floramediterranea.it/





KAZAKHSTAN

Workshop for World Food Safety Day in Kazakhstan

A scientific and methodological workshop was organized on the topic: "Safety and quality of various nuts" at the basis of NJSC Kazakh Agrotechnical University named after. S. Seifullin (KazATU). Participants discussed topics like the role of the Codex Alimentarius in food safety, the WHO global strategy for food safety, the role of risk analysis and assessment at the country level, food safety control in Kazakhstan, the establishment of Maximum Levels (MLs) for aflatoxins in nuts.

In the picture, the laboratory of the KazATU department demonstrates analyses of nuts to determine aflatoxins in them.

Find out more in the Codex Alimentarius News!

KYRGYZ REPUBLIC

Seminar examines health and economic benefits of safe food products and policies in the Kyrgyz Republic

In the Kyrgyz Republic, before World Food Safety the Ministry of health of Kyrgyz Republic launched a video contest for school children.

In Bishkek, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), together with the Department of Disease Prevention and State Sanitary and Epidemiological Surveillance of the Ministry of Health, held a consultation seminar "Safer food – better health" to mark World Food Safety Day on 1 June 2022. The seminar was to inform representatives of the food businesses, trade and competent authorities about the importance and role of the use of healthy nutrition for the population. The seminar also covered technical regulations in food safety, including the system of labelling and tracking of food and food products, the application of new practices and food promotion policies in the field of food safety and nutrition, which directly affects both the economic and social condition of the country.

They also had a radio release on <u>Sputnik Kyrgyzstan</u> about food safety dedicated to the World Food Safety Day. <u>FAO International Expert on Food Safety Management</u>
<u>Systems</u> Galina Lyashenko spoke about the main causes of intestinal infections and poisoning in Kyrgyzstan. Find further food safety related episodes <u>here</u>.

Read more on the <u>website</u> and <u>Facebook</u> of UN Kyrgyzstan, or the <u>website of Ministry of</u> Health of Kyrgyz Republic.





LITHUANIA

The mission of ensuring food safety

"Ensuring food safety is an absolute priority for us. We control food from the farm, including short food supply chains, home-made and sold or imported food. We share information about the requirements set out in the legislation for food safety, consult entrepreneurs on how to fulfil them, educate consumers and the public. It is clear that the safer the food we eat, the healthier we are," says Jurgita Bakasėnienė, Deputy Director of the State Food and Veterinary Service.

In the laboratory of the National Institute for Food and Veterinary Risk Assessment under the VMVT, over a million chemical, microbiological, molecular, radiological, sensory and other food safety and quality studies are carried out per year.

More info: Trečią kartą minime Pasaulinę maisto saugos dieną | Valstybinė maisto ir veterinarijos tarnyba (vmvt.lt)



NORTH MACEDONIA

Spreading the word about World Food Safety Day

The Food and Veterinary Agency of the Republic North Macedonia made sure to note to forget about World Food Safety Day. They shared information and materials on their website.



NORWAY

Norwegian Food Safety Authority's celebration with a press release

The Norwegian Food Safety Authority (NFSA) shared some insightful information about food safety on their <u>website</u> and organized an open meeting to present a major report on a risk- and benefit assessment of fish in the Norwegian public diet. During the <u>introduction of the report</u>, WFSD was highlighted several times. The risk assessment was ordered by the NFSA from the Norwegian Scientific Committee for Food and Environment.

POLAND

Details of Poland's Food Fakty Safety Week now available

Food Fakty, a food safety and quality portal in Poland, organised a week-long event to promote food safety. Every day, 6-10 June 2022, 2-hour sessions were aimed to assist all interested to indicate best strategies and methods to improve food safety.

The purpose of the dedicated Food Fakty Safety Week was to exchange knowledge and share the latest achievements in food safety management. Invited guest speakers represented major players in the food market, food businesses, public institutions and academia. Mary Kenny, Food Safety and Consumer Protection Officer at FAO, as a speaker, introduced the importance of food safety culture and communication, the role of science in food safety and how food supply chain and food establishments can prevent foodborne illnesses. In addition, presentations were also given by members of the FAO/WHO Codex Contact Point for Poland. The lectures covered a variety of issues considering the context of the work of the Codex Alimentarius Commission.

The presentations enjoyed great interest and a positive response.

Details of the event: WFSD Event details | CODEXALIMENTARIUS FAO-WHO

On the occasion of the celebration of the World Food Safety Day, the Provincial Sanitary and Epidemiological Station in Szczecin, in cooperation with KWOR OT Szczecin and the Sportsmen of the Szczecin Sports School Complex, organized a sports tournament for school students on June 14. Sports competitions were combined with education and workshops related to food hygiene, consumer education and physical activity and a balanced diet. You can find more here.





PORTUGAL

Portugal's Sumol+Campol organizes World Food Safety Day event to promote company-wide food safety awareness

<u>Sumol+Compal</u>, the Portuguese fruit and vegetable juice and snack company, promoted World Food Safety Day on 8 June with a webinar for all employees, which aimed to promote and consolidate the culture of quality and food safety within the organization.

The webinar, which took place in collaboration with Sumol+Compal partners and official entities, addressed a number of food safety issues.

The first presentation was from Filipa Melo de Vasconcelos, Sub-inspector General of the Portuguese Economic and Food Safety Authority (ASAE) and Portugal's representative to the European Food Safety Authority (EFSA), who spoke on the subject of "Fraud and Food (In)Security within our borders or without". Subsequently, Maria José Gonçalves from APCER, the certification, audit and training services company spoke on the "Culture of Quality and Food Safety" and Maria Helena Gomes and Nuno Oliveira spoke on behalf of Colab4Food, a" Collaborative Laboratory for Innovation in the Agri-Food sector" on technological solutions for the food industry. In closing, Milena Parnigoni from Logoplaste, a packaging company, spoke about recycled plastics and their environmental and food safety.

The event was attended by 162 people, 97 percent of whom said the event met or exceeded their expectations.

Check out their post on LinkedIn!





WFSD News details | CODEXALIMENTARIUS FAO-WHO

REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA

Posts about what we can do for safe food

The National Food Safety Agency of Republic of Moldova posted on it webpage on 7 June. Check it out!

The National Agency for Public Health joined the celebration on its <u>website</u> by emphasizing what decision makers, producers and consumers can do for safe food. They also shared data about how many cases of food borne diseases they count annually, including deaths among children under the age of 5 and adults. Every year, there are approximately 22 epidemic outbreaks from 5-10 up to 300 patients.

The situation regarding acute diarrheal diseases in the country is also complicated due to the high biological contamination of food products, open water pools, lack of hygiene in the places of education/education, work and at home.



SLOVENIA

Press release at the Slovene Consumers' Association

ZPS (Zveza Potrošnikov Slovenije), the Slovene Consumers' Association also joined to celebrate World Food Safety Day with a <u>press release on their website</u>. They highlighted that everyone must take an active role in the chain - whether we produce, process, transport, store, sell, buy, prepare or serve food. They shared tips for ensuring food safety at home.

SPAIN

Barcelona Food Safety is celebrating WFSD for the fourth year

The Barcelona Food Safety Forum (Barcelona Seguridad Alimentaria - BSA) celebrated with presentations and round table discussions at the Barcelona School of Management on 7 June. The event was organized by food hygiene companies, Bioser and Christenys, with the Government of Catalunya's, Department of Health and IRTA, and the Autonomous University of Barcelona. Alternative sources of proteins were in the spotlight.



7 DE JUNIO 2022

DÍA MUNDIAL DE LA SEGURIDAD ALIMENTARIA

AUDITORIO UPF BARCELONA SCHOOL OF MANAGEMENT

C. Balmes, 132, 08008 Barcelona
COMO LLEGAR

Spain's Veraliment to celebrate World Food Safety Day for the 4th year

Under the slogan "To protect lives", Veraliment organized a meeting for professionals in the food sector. Watch the recording!

WFSD Event details | CODEXALIMENTARIUS FAO-WHO



Tenerife World Food Safety Day to be commemorated in webinar discussion

The Tenerife Quality Observatory organized with the University of La Laguna and Dinosol Supermarkets a conference to celebrate World Food Safety Day. The purpose was to raise awareness about the importance of food safety as a shared responsibility for everyone to guarantee safe and sustainable food. Professionals from food companies, consumer technicians, consumer associations, professionals from the commercial and retail sectors and consumers in general were all welcome to participate.

You can watch the <u>recording on YouTube!</u>

WFSD Event details | CODEXALIMENTARIUS FAO-WHO

TAJIKISTAN

FAO and partners hold World Food Safety Day activities in Tajikistan

FAO office in Tajikistan led a scientific conference on the theme "Safer food, better health". The conference focused on Al issues related to food safety, prevention of zoonosis, AMR. At the city market of Mehrgon, student volunteers raised awareness by distributing information on WHO's 5 Keys to Safer Food, AMR, issues related to food safety, prevention of zoonosis and reduction of waste.



TÜRKIYE

Promoting food safety among school children

Hasan Polatkan Primary School students in Kayseri province Melikgazi district celebrated World Food Safety Day with the theme of "Safer food, better health". Potential solutions to food safety problems were proposed and presented in a <u>video</u>.



UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND

A lesson in food safety for World Food Safety Day

At a school in the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, students celebrated World Food Safety Day this year by learning all about the WHO's Five Keys to Safer Food. Raising awareness by making posters and videos made learning very enjoyable for student and their families.

Check out the their posts on <u>Twitter</u> and <u>Facebook</u>! Find out more in the <u>Codex</u> <u>Alimentarius News!</u>

UZBEKISTAN

World Food Safety Day at the supermarket

Korzinka, a supermarket chain, shared the message of World Food Safety Day "Safer Food, Better Health" using the translated poster in Uzbek on its <u>Facebook</u> page.



Want to explore more?

Find out more about food safety on the FAO, WHO, Codex Alimentarius and INFOSAN websites.

- WHO World Food Safety Day panel discussion: Safer food, better health
- World Food Safety Days News
- World Food Safety Day 2022 campaign website
- World Food Safety Day 2022 Posters
- Guide to World Food Safety Day 2022
- Flickr album (Celebration of World Food Safety Days worldwide)

Want to explore more?

VIDEO MESSAGES



WHO Director-General,
Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus



FAO Director-General, QU

Dongyu



WHO Assistant Director-General,

Naoko Yamamoto



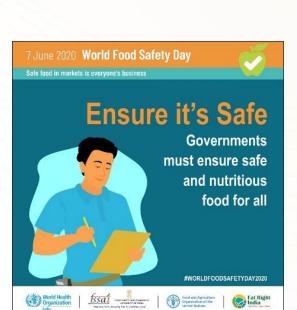
FAO Chief Economist, Máximo Torero



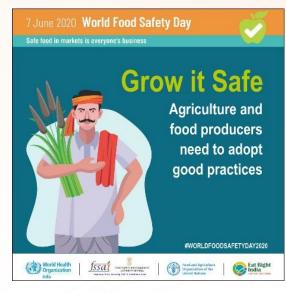
Thinking about the future of food safety – A foresight report

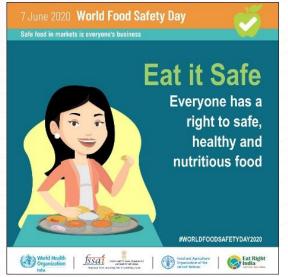
- World Food Safety Day Asset Bank (posters, virtual backgrounds, gadgets, email signatures, banners)
- World Food Safety Day 2020 campaign creative visuals (who.int)

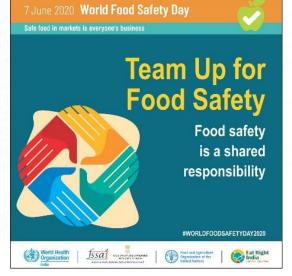
Are you inspired? Show us how YOU celebrate WFSD in 2023!





















Good Luck with Celebrating World Food Safety Day 2023!