CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION E



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CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION

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REPORT FOR THE SIDE EVENT ON FAO AND WHO CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES

(Prepared by FAO and WHO)

1. Introduction

1.1 This paper has been prepared by FAO and WHO to provide information on key activities supporting countries to build food safety capacities (implemented by respective HQs or offices at regional and national level).

1.2 The paper is primarily for information purposes, however, feedback is welcome on food safety issues, including member country needs, that should be considered by FAO and WHO when planning programmes of work.

1.3 This document focuses on main initiatives and activities implemented since the 40th Session of the CAC and is structured as follows:

- **PART I:** FAO/WHO partnership and collaboration in building food safety capacities in member countries
- **PART II:** highlights of key initiatives since CAC40
- **PART III:** future focus
- **PART IV:** FAO and WHO publications and tools recently published
- **PART V**: regional/national projects and initiatives¹

PART I: FAO/WHO partnership and collaboration in building food safety and quality capacities in member countries

2.1 FAO and WHO are the main specialised UN agencies with a mandate to address food safety and quality issues. Through their complementary mandates, FAO and WHO cover a range of issues to support global food safety and protect consumer's health, typically with WHO having a particular competence and strong relationship with the public health sector and FAO being in a position to deploy a range of strategies to address issues related to food production along the food chain. Certain activities are implemented jointly at country level or through global joint programmes (e.g. scientific advice, INFOSAN, Codex Trust Fund etc.), while both Organizations also implement work independently in partnerships with government authorities, food industry and primary producers, and other relevant national and international stakeholders.

2.2 FAO and WHO capacity development work supports and promotes the work of Codex by: i) working with countries to strengthen their national food and feed safety systems including the technical skills to more effectively participate in Codex standard setting; ii) developing a range of guidance tools based on relevant Codex texts which effectively "translate" these texts and enable countries to better understand and use the texts in their context; iii) facilitate policy and technical dialogue between governmental authorities and private

¹ <u>http://www.fao.org/food/food-safety-quality/capacity-development/en/</u> and <u>http://www.who.int/foodsafety/capacity/en/</u>

sector (farmers and agri-business), and iv) support data generation and information-sharing activities which facilitate a greater pool of data from an increased number of countries as a basis for decision-making.

2.3 In order to achieve sustainable results at country level and ensure that efforts lead to lasting changes, experience has shown it is important that capacity development activities are tailor-made taking into account the wider national or regional context (e.g. priorities of the relevant stakeholders, including competent authorities, the policy environment, available technical and financial resources, etc.). Training is an important component of capacity development but one-off training events frequently do not result in "new learning" being fully and correctly integrated into the working practices of trainees. Over the last year, there are several examples of FAO's efforts to optimize impact of food safety training. One such example is FAO's partnership with COMESA to organize a sequence of progressive learning events, each of them followed by implementation and experimentation by participants of the concepts or tools reviewed during the previous learning event, which also acts as a preparation for the next event. This training series has focused on building capacities to support risk-based harmonization of food safety regulations across the REC. The partnership with COMESA not only ensures that the topics covered are driven by countries, but also promotes sustained follow up during and after the series of events. The training series has enabled COMESA member countries to carry out national risk assessments of fumonisins and aflatoxins which is serving as the basis of discussions on regional harmonization of regulations. It has also facilitated the development of risk profiles of selected pathogen commodity combinations of trade and public health relevance and to review existing risk management measures as a basis for improving harmonization across countries.

Communicating with us

More information on FAO and WHO publications, tools and project activities are available at:

FAO: http://www.fao.org/food/food-safety-quality/home-page/en/

WHO: http://www.who.int/foodsafety

PART II: HIGHLIGHTS OF KEY INITIATIVES SINCE CAC40

3.1 FAO/WHO activities and perspectives on food borne pathogen contamination and antimicrobial resistance (AMR)

3.1.1 In order to support the food and agriculture sectors to address the issue of AMR many country focused initiatives are ongoing.

3.1.2 The WHO Advisory Group on Integrated Surveillance of Antimicrobial Resistance (AGISAR) has been playing an active role in the implementation of the Global Action Plan based on their five-year strategic framework. The update of the manual on 'integrated surveillance of antimicrobial resistance in foodborne bacteria, application of a One Health approach' was published and the implementation of the AGISAR pilot projects started from 2017 for a period of up to two years in 14 countries (1 year projects: Tanzania, Ethiopia, Chad, Suriname, Argentina, Palestine, Albania, Bhutan, Thailand, Philippines. 2 year projects: Zambia, South Africa, Zimbabwe, Ecuador). The ESBL E.coli tricycle surveillance project implementation started in March 2018 in six countries (Ghana, Indonesia, Madagascar, Malaysia, Pakistan, Senegal) across regions.

3.1.3 FAO is developing capacities of member countries in the areas of awareness raising, surveillance and laboratory capacity, legislation, good practices and prudent use. Activities are underway in selected countries in Africa (including Ethiopia Ghana, Kenya, Tanzania, Sudan, Zimbabwe, Zambia), Asia (including Bangladesh, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Philippines, Thailand, Vietnam), Eastern Europe (Armenia, Belarus, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyz Republic, Tajikistan) and Latin America (including Bolivia, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Honduras, Paraguay). Further outreach is being achieved through collaboration with Regional bodies.

3.1.4 A tool to assess surveillance and laboratory assessment has been further refined to align with the GLASS database, and will be published later this year; a training session for assessors has been held in Asia to increase country capacity to apply the tool, and further training sessions will be rolled over coming months. Reviews of the relevant legislation are underway in several countries and capture of AMR relevant national legislation in the FAOLEX, a comprehensive and up-to-date legislative and policy database has been initiated. Existing prudent use guidelines are currently being reviewed for adaption to national contexts and pilot studies to implement targeted activities to reduce the need for antimicrobial use and encourage responsible use practices are underway in several countries. A self-assessment tool is being developed to assist countries in progressing their development of multi-sectoral One Health National Action Plans on AMR; this will be finalized

later this year. More details on FAO capacity building activity relating to AMR can be found at CX/AMR 17/5/4 and additional information on the recent global developments on AMR and FAO and WHOs scientific and technical work on AMR can also be found in CX/CAC 18/41/16.

3.2 FAO/WHO Food control system assessment tool

3.2.1 FAO and WHO have worked jointly to offer Member Countries a tool to assess, in structured, transparent and measurable ways, the performance of their food control system throughout the entire food chain, identify priority areas for capacity development, and measure and evaluate progress over time.

3.2.2 FAO and WHO have finalized the content and approach of the food control system assessment tool. To date, the tool has been tested and the process is concluded in Morocco, The Gambia, Zambia (version 1 of the tool), Sierra Leone (version 2.0). Further testing has been successfully concluded by FAO in Zimbabwe, Moldova (version 2.1), Indonesia (version 2.1, jointly with WHO); it is well underway in Malawi; and Iran (version 2.1 but under a self-assessment modality, jointly with WHO). Work is starting with the authorities in Tunisia and Sudan.

3.2.3 The experiences and feedback from field-testing have been incorporated in an updated version 2.2, which is currently in press and expected for release in mid-2018, supported by a package allowing meaningful use for self-assessment. Following its publication, it is expected that the tool will be regularly reviewed and updated based on feedback received from users in countries or directly by FAO and WHO. To facilitate the more widespread use of the FAO/WHO Assessment Tool, training is envisaged to develop a pool of reliable facilitators.

3.3 FAO GM Foods Platform

The FAO GM Foods Platform is a simple online platform to share information on safety assessment of foods derived from recombinant-DNA plants authorized in accordance with the Codex "Guideline for the conduct of food safety assessment of foods derived from recombinant-DNA plants (CAC/GL 45-2003, annex III adopted in 2008) ". This Platform also facilitates the effective utilization of food safety assessment in situations of Low Level Presence (LLP) of r-DNA plant materials in food. The Platform is currently hosting a total of 1,107 records of national data on GM food/feed safety assessment and participated by a total of 176 countries that have nominated Focal Points to the Platform. Among them, 172 countries have successfully registered to the Platform and 22 countries are actively and regularly sharing their data and information. All Codex Members are requested to nominate their Focal Points and actively share relevant data and information with regards to national GM food/feed safety assessment. Contact GM-Platform@fao.org for questions and comments.

3.4 FAO/WHO Work on Whole Genome Sequencing

3.4.1 FAO/WHO/OIE jointly organized a side event at the occasion of the 40th session of Codex Alimentarius Commission entitled "The Global Health Benefit of Using Whole-Genome Sequencing on Foodborne Pathogens" on 21 July 2017 at Geneva, Switzerland.

3.4.2 WHO published the Whole Genome Sequencing for foodborne disease surveillance, landscape paper in April 2018. This document describes the public health impact of WGS as a tool for strengthening integrated surveillance along the food chain, identify barriers to implementation and LMIC and describe the current status of this technology. <u>http://www.who.int/foodsafety/publications/foodborne_disease/wgs_landscape/en/</u>

3.4.3 WHO will host the 11th Global Microbial Identifier (GMI) meeting on 16-18 May 2018. The first day WHO will present the current activities and initiatives to address WGS as a tool to improve the diagnostic capacity of Member States.

3.4.4 In the context of One Health, FAO organized a side event at the occasion of the 25th session of Committee of Agriculture (COAG) entitled "Application of genome sequencing for sustainable agriculture and food security" on 20 September at FAO Headquarters, Rome, Italy. The event discussed various applications in the areas of animal health, plant protection and biodiversity, laboratory capacity building, and food safety. The final report is available at http://www.fao.org/3/a-bq675e.pdf and the presentations delivered can be viewed at http://www.fao.org/3/a-bq675e.pdf and the presentations delivered can be viewed at http://www.fao.org/food/food-safety-quality/a-z-index/wgs/

3.4.5 Since 2016, with support from COMPARE and the WHO, the Global Sewage Surveillance Project has been conducted by The National University of Denmark (WHO Collaborating Centre and European Union Reference Laboratory for Antimicrobial Resistance in Foodborne Pathogens and Genomics). The project collected 80 samples from 63 countries, and has been interpreting the sequencing and residue data. FAO and OIE have also been actively involved.

3.4.6 FAO is facilitating an informal network of developing countries to share information, knowledge and experience in using genome sequencing technology for food safety management. Participating countries include: Bangladesh, Bhutan, Botswana, China, Egypt, Ghana, India, Iran, Mauritius, Mongolia, Mozambique, Namibia, Philippines, Sudan, Tanzania, Thailand, Vietnam. Contact WGS@fao.org to join the network.

3.4.7 Furthermore, in the Asia region, FAO collaborates with Nanyang Technological University (NTU) of Singapore to provide technical assistance on WGS for the process of sequencing as well as interpretation (bioinformatics) through workshops and trainings. Malaysia, Sri Lanka and Thailand have been participating in the project to have their food samples and clinical samples sequenced. Relevant government authorities and reference laboratory staff have participated in the hands-on training held in Singapore on 4-7 February 2018.

3.5 FAO work on foresight for identification of emerging and critical issues in food safety

FAO's Food Safety and Quality Unit continues to engage with colleagues in animal health, fish health and plant health as well as external partners to further develop approaches for the application of foresight. In our globalized and rapidly changing world, the food safety landscape is ever-changing. Drivers like technology development, trade, intensification of food production, consumer behaviors, climate change, and evolving biology impact on the emergence and occurrence of food safety hazards. Food safety systems need to be flexible and take into account the changing environments and adjust to changing trends in order to be strategic and effective. Applying foresight approaches can help foods safety systems to explore possible futures and scenarios, anticipate emerging food safety issues, and use this information to inform policy-making, strategy development and decision-making. FAO's Food Safety and Quality Unit has initiated capacity development activities on foresight in food safety. A first pilot training workshop took place in March 2018 in Nairobi, Kenya with participants from 6 East-African counties. Critical and emerging food safety issues are a topic for discussion in RCCs. The application of foresight processes will support countries in the identification of critical and emerging food safety issues and the further prioritization within a food safety policy context.

3.6 WHO IHR and Emergency Preparedness

3.6.1 The Joint External Evaluation (JEE) is a voluntary, collaborative, multisectoral process to assess country capacity in order to prevent, detect, and respond to public health risks whether occurring naturally or due to deliberate or accidental events. In addition to the mandatory WHO International Health Regulations requirements, (annual reporting, simulation exercises and after-action reviews) the JEE tool and process has been a key components of the WHO IHR Monitoring and Evaluation Framework revised in 2016, and have been developed and implemented in full concordance and collaboration with related efforts such as the Global Health Security Agenda (GHSA), with participation of FAO and OIE. To date, 63 countries have completed the JEE missions, and more missions will be conducted in 2018 onwards. Following the revision of the JEE tool and process in 2017, the second edition of JEE tool was published in January 2018. In addition, the IHR annual reporting tool has been revised, with the new version to be presented for endorsement at the 71st World Health Assembly in May 2018 in WHA document A71/8.

3.6.2 The Secretariat of the joint FAO/WHO International Food Safety Authorities Network (INFOSAN), continues to develop and strengthen this global voluntary Network. In December 2017, the INFOSAN Secretariat hosted a two-day meeting with a small group of INFOSAN members at the WHO headquarters in Geneva, Switzerland. Members were selected to participate in this meeting based on their experience and knowledge of INFOSAN at the operational and technical levels and their shared enthusiasm for strengthening the network. In different ways, each participant has been an active champion for INFOSAN as well as a strong advocate for improved collaboration and information sharing during international food safety emergencies. Because of their demonstrated dedication to improving INFOSAN, these meeting participants have been referred to as the INFOSAN Advocates. It was envisioned by the INFOSAN Secretariat that these INFOSAN, then advocate for such improvements within their respective spheres of influence, subsequently inspiring other INFOSAN members to follow in their paths, leading to a more active, effective and impactful INFOSAN. Outcomes from this meeting are feeding into the development of a new strategic plan for INFOSAN.

3.6.3 The INFOSAN Secretariat responded to 45 food safety emergencies in 2017, facilitating rapid communication among INFOSAN members. One regional meeting for members in the Americas (November 2017), one sub regional workshop in the Caribbean (March 2017), as well as three national workshops in Mexico (June 2017), Bangladesh (August 2017), Chile (October 2017), were organized in 2017. The number of active members in the Network increased by 5% in 2017, with continued growth in Africa and in the Americas. Efforts to strengthen partnerships with regional authorities and networks continued with the EFSA's Emerging Risks Exchange Network (EREN), the EC's Rapid Alert System for Food and Feed (RASFF), the Community of Portuguese Language Countries (CPLP) and the African Union Food Safety Management Coordination Mechanism (AU-FSMCM).

3.6.4 INFOSAN members' knowledge and capabilities to participate actively in the Network has been further developed through the delivery of several webinars, conducted by the INFOSAN Secretariat in English and French. In addition, a 6-part Technical Webinar Series was launched in collaboration with, and presented by, INFOSAN members in the United States of America and was widely attended by INFOSAN members from around the globe.

3.6.5 Online emergency simulation exercises were run in English, French and Spanish for countries in Africa and the Americas, targeting INFOSAN Emergency Contact Points and National IHR Focal Points in order to strengthen capacity for food safety emergency response activities and bolster emergency preparedness.

PART III: FUTURE FOCUS (in addition to Ongoing activities mentioned above)

4.1 FAO/WHO Food control system assessment tool

As mentioned above, FAO/WHO Food control system assessment tool has undergone extensive field-testing in various countries around the globe and will be published soon incorporating lessons learned. FAO and WHO encourage member countries to use this tool to comprehensively assess and strengthen their national food control systems and stand ready to provide support in the assessment and subsequent work to strengthen identified areas.

4.2 GM Foods

FAO, with the support of Canada, is planning to hold a Global Meeting on the GM Foods Platform in 2019, which builds on ongoing work to conduct GM food safety assessment as adopted in the Codex Guidelines. The global meeting (working title: Towards effective risk-based GM food safety assessment and regulatory management) aims at strengthening the capacities and understanding of developing countries with regard to GM food safety assessment, how other countries' assessment information can be analyzed and interpreted to assist in authorization decisions, and how the Platform can assist in this process.

PART IV: FAO AND WHO PUBLICATIONS AND TOOLS RECENTLY PUBLISHED

5.1 Bibliography

Food safety risk management: Evidence-informed policies and decisions, considering multiple factors. FAO Food Safety and Quality Series 4. (also available at <u>http://www.fao.org/3/i8240en/I8240EN.pdf</u>) FAO. 2017.

FAO/WHO Framework for the Provision of Scientific Advice on Food Safety and Nutrition. (also available at <u>http://www.fao.org/3/I7494EN/i7494en.pdf</u>) FAO/WHO. 2017.

Instrumento de diagnóstico para evaluar la situación de los programas nacionales del Codex. (also available at <u>http://www.fao.org/3/I7666ES/i7666es.pdf</u>) FAO/WHO. 2017.

Monitoring and evaluation of the Global Action Plan on Antimicrobial Resistance: proposed approach. (also available at <u>http://www.fao.org/3/a-i7711e.pdf</u>) FAO/OIE/WHO. 2017.

Rolle, R. and Enriquez, O. 2017. Souvenir food packaging – A training resource for small food processors and artisans. Rome. FAO. (also <u>available at http://www.fao.org/3/a-i7353e.pdf</u>)

Reilly, A. 2018. Overview of Food Fraud in the Fisheries Sector. FAO Fisheries and Aquaculture Circular FIAM/C1165 (also available at http://www.fao.org/3/18791EN/i8791en.pdf)

FAO/WHO food control system assessment tool. FAO/WHO. forthcoming.

Guidelines for Risk-Based Meat Inspection. FAO. forthcoming.

Guide to Ranking Food Safety Risks. FAO. forthcoming.

E-commerce in food safety. FAO. forthcoming.

E-certification and broader Trade facilitation issues. FAO. forthcoming.

Guidance on Integrated Surveillance of Antimicrobial Resistance in Foodborne Bacteria. Application of a One Health Approach. <u>http://www.who.int/foodsafety/publications/agisar_guidance2017/en/</u>

Whole genome sequencing for foodborne disease surveillance. Landscape paper. <u>http://www.who.int/foodsafety/publications/foodborne_disease/wgs_landscape/en/</u>

WHO social media deck: Raising awareness about listeriosis through social media <u>http://www.who.int/risk-communication/listeriosis-resources/en/</u> (English, French and 4 Southern African languages)

CBD/FAO/OIE/WHO. forthcoming. Implementation of the Nagoya Protocol in the context of human and animal health, and food safety: Access to pathogens and fair and equitable sharing of benefits: Questions and Answers.

FAO publications related to food safety and quality can be found at: <u>http://www.fao.org/food/food-safety-guality/publications-tools/food-safety-publications/en/</u>

All WHO publications related to food safety can be accessed from our publications website: http://www.who.int/foodsafety/publications/en/

PART V: REGIONAL/NATIONAL PROJECTS AND INITIATIVES

6.1 Various activities were held at regional or national level. These are highlighted in Annexes 1-6 under regional/national events and projects/direct assistance to countries. The information is available at <u>http://www.fao.org/food/food-safety-quality/home-page/en/</u> (FAO) and <u>http://www.who.int/foodsafety/capacity/en/</u> (WHO) and Codex webpages.

6.2 Some projects focus directly on food safety and/or quality, while for others food safety is a component of a broader project. Information on the activities supported by the Codex Trust Fund can be found in CX/CAC 18/41/19.

AFRICA

REGIONAL/NATIONAL EVENTS

Activity (Workshop/Seminar/Training Course)	Organizers	Dates	Venue
Regional Codex workshop: Electronic Working Group – Harmonization of food safety regulation in Africa	FAO, Codex Kenya	7-8 February 2017	Nairobi, Kenya
Regional Codex workshop: Electronic Working Group – Harmonization of food safety regulation in Africa	FAO, Codex Senegal	27-28 February 2017	Dakar, Senegal
Training workshop on risk-based meat inspection for senior management	FAO	23-23 August 2017	Harare, Zimbabwe
Training course on food safety risk ranking and profiling (part 1)	FAO, Gov. of Zimbabwe	28 August-1st September, 2017	Cadoma, Zimbabwe
First regional training workshop on Risk Assessment and Management of Mycotoxins	FAO, and the Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA)	14-16 November 2017	Lusaka, Zambia
Training course on the FAO/WHO food control system assessment tool	FAO, Gov. of Malawi	20 to 24 November 2017	Lilongwe, Malawi
Training course on food safety risk ranking and profiling (part 2)	FAO, Gov. of Zimbabwe	27 November-1st December, 2017	Gweru, Zimbabwe
Codex training for National codex committee and sub-committee members	FAO, Codex Madagascar (CTF)	15 to 19 January 2018	Antananarivo, Madagascar
Codex training for subject matter expert	FAO, Codex Ghana	15 February, 2018	Accra, Ghana
Codex training for National Codex Committee and sub-committee members	FAO, Codex Ghana	13 March, 2018	Accra, Ghana
Second regional training workshop on Risk Assessment and Management of Mycotoxins	FAO, and COMESA	11-12 April 2018	Nairobi, Kenya
Training course on Good hygienic practices for priority value chains (meat and milk value chains) in Zimbabwe (part 1)	FAO, Gov of Zimbabwe	21 to 26 May 2018	Harare, Zimbabwe
National stakeholder workshop on GM food and feed safety	FAO, Gov of	5-7 April 2018	Lusaka, Zambia

assessment and risk communication towards improving national capacity on GM food safety	Zambia		
Training course on HACCP for priority value chains (meat and milk value chains) in Zimbabwe (part 2)	FAO, Gov of Zimbabwe	25 to 30 June 2018	Harare, Zimbabwe
Training course on Risk based approaches for imported food control	FAO, Gov of Zimbabwe	23 to 27 July 2018	Harare, Zimbabwe
Training Workshop on Foresight related to food safety involving Ethiopia, Kenya, Malawi, Rwanda, Uganda, Tanzania.	FAO	20-23 March 2018	Nairobi, Kenya
Regional Technical Meeting on listeriosis outbreak and country emergency preparedness for 16 countries in Central, Southern Africa and Indian Ocean.		19-21 April 2018	Johannesburg, South Africa
WHO AFRO Regional Laboratory training on isolation, antibiotic susceptibility testing, molecular characterization of foodborne bacteria using a One Health approach	WHO/AGISAR	19-23 February 2018	Nairobi, Kenya

Summary of activities	Organizer	Countries	Status
TCP Project: Improving the implementation of sanitary and phytosanitary standards and norms for domestic animal and plant health in Sudan	FAO	Sudan	Approved Jan 2018
Project on "Improving food packaging for Small and Medium Agro- Enterprises in sub-Saharan Africa- MTF/RAF/499/IMA	FAO/ITC	Cameroon, Cote d'Ivoire, Ghana, Kenya, Nigeria, Senegal, Tanzania and Zambia	Ongoing (2015-2018)
Strengthening national capacity to conduct food/feed safety assessment of foods derived from recombinant-DNA organisms in Africa	FAO	Kenya, Uganda and Zambia	2016-2018 (Ongoing)
Amélioration de la prévention et de la réponse aux urgences de sécurité sanitaire des aliments au Sénégal et au Burkina Faso (GCP /SEN/072/LUX)	FAO	Senegal	2018-2020
Scaling up project to promote nutrition and food hygiene through the nutrition friendly schools initiative. (WHO/AFRO/HKI/ University of Montreal)	WHO	Burkina Faso	Scaling up
Country / pilot projects for integrated surveillance of foodborne antimicrobial resistance (AGISAR)	WHO/AGISAR	Tanzania, Ethiopia, Chad, Zambia, South Africa, Zimbabwe, Togo and The	Completed in Togo and The Gambia; Ongoing in the rest of the countries

Summary of activities	Organizer	Countries	Status
		Ghana, Gambia	
Technical support to strengthen foodborne disease surveillance system	WHO/AGISAR	Chad, Mali and Niger	Pipeline
Support in the drafting of national food safety strategic plan	WHO	The Gambia, Senegal, Swaziland	Completed Senegal, The Gambia and Swaziland
Elaboration inspection guidelines	WHO	Togo and Burkina Faso	Completed Togo; pipeline Burkina Faso
Codex Trust Fund 2 project for strengthening national Codex structures	WHO/FAO	Senegal	Ongoing
WHO Five Keys to Safer Food Initiatives	WHO	Cape Verde, Chad, Comoros, Cote d'Ivoire, Gabon, Madagascar, Togo	Cape Verde scaling up; Ongoing Cote d'Ivoire and Togo; pipeline Chad, Gabon, Madagascar
Joint External Evaluation (JEE) of IHR Core Capacities	WHO	The Gambia, Seychelles	Completed
Country pilot projects for integrated surveillance of foodborne antimicrobial resistance (AGISAR)	WHO	South Africa, Zimbabwe, Zambia	Ongoing
Implementation of the ESBL Ec Tricycle surveillance, a One Health integrated surveillance on AMR in the food chain and environment	WHO	Ghana, Madagascar, Senegal	Ongoing
Strengthening the national Codex programme and capacities to effectively participate in Codex (funded through the CTF)	FAO/WHO	Ghana	2016-2019
Strengthening the national Codex programme and capacities to effectively participate in Codex (funded through the CTF)	FAO/WHO	Madagascar	2016-2019

ASIA

REGIONAL/NATIONAL EVENTS

Activity (Workshop/Seminar/Training Course)	Organizers	Dates	Venue
National workshop on food safety and quality control in supply chain management of livestock products	FAO	21-23 August 2017	Chiangmai, Thailand
National training workshop on Enhancing Effective Participation in Codex Activities in the Philippines	FAO	30 August – 1 September 2017	Quezon city, the Philippines
Training of Trainers (ToT) workshop on risk analysis to improve capacity of effective risk-based food import control	FAO	12-17 September 2017	Kathmandu, Nepal
Regional workshop on the One Health Regional Initiative	FAO	11-13 October 2017	Bangkok, Thailand
National stakeholder workshop on risk-based food import control	FAO	24 October 2017	Lalitpur, Nepal
National stakeholder workshop on development of food safety policy, using evidence and data	FAO	24-26 October 2017	Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar
National workshop on risk-based food import control within a One Health framework	FAO	6-9 November 2017	Nay Pyi Taw and Yangon, Myanmar
National training workshop for better coordination to implement risk- based food import control	FAO	17-19 November 2017	Rupandehi, Nepal
National training workshop on enhancing effective participation in Codex Activities in Viet Nam	FAO	21-23 November 2017	Nha Trang City, Viet Nam
National workshop on risk-based food import control within a One Health framework	FAO	30 November 2017	Colombo, Sri Lanka
Regional Consultation on Food Safety Indicators for Asia and the Pacific	FAO	4-9 December 2017	Singapore
National meeting on Food Safety Policy	FAO	20 December 2017	Lalitpur. Nepal
National training workshop on risk-based food import control aligning to the Food Safety Policy	FAO	22-24 December2017	Lalitpur, Nepal
National workshop on the outcomes of the food control system assessment of Indonesia	FAO-WHO	22-24 January 2018	Jakarta, Indonesia
Tripartite meeting of regional offices of WHO, OIE and FAO on food safety activities in the Asia-Pacific region	FAO	16 February 2018	Bangkok, Thailand
National workshop on risk-based food import control within a One Health framework	FAO	19-21 February 2018	Manila, the Philippines
National training workshop on enhancing effective participation in Codex Activities in Lao PDR	FAO	20-22 March 2018	Vientiane, Lao PDR
Regional consultation meeting on development of country specific Good Agriculture Practices (GAP) standards and harmonization of	FAO-SAARC	8-10 April 2018	Kathmandu, Nepal

Activity (Workshop/Seminar/Training Course)	Organizers	Dates	Venue
SAARC GAP for vegetables and fruits			
National Food Safety Forum: Plant and plant derived products	FAO	16-17 April 2018	Ulaan Bataar, Mongolia
Advocacy meeting on CODEX and INFOSAN	WHO	August 2017	Dhaka, Bangladesh
Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation	WHO	11-13 October 2017	Santiago, Chile
Assessment of foodborne disease surveillance and response	WHO	2017	Maldives and Myanmar
Assessment of foodborne disease surveillance and response	WHO	July 2018	Timor-Leste
Technical orientation on Codex	WHO/FAO	April 2018	Timor-Leste
Two Workshops on Assessment of National Food Control System	WHO/FAO	April 2017 and January 2018	Indonesia
Outbreak investigation and response training	WHO	November 2017	Timor-Leste
Outbreak investigation and response training	WHO	November 2017	Myanmar
Outbreak investigation and response training	WHO	June 2018	Bhutan
Establishment of National Codex Committee	WHO	January 2018	Myanmar
Roundtable Meeting on the Burden of Foodborne Diseases in China.	WHO	26-27 October 2017	Beijing, China
Consultation workshop on Food Poisoning Outbreak Investigation and Response	WHO	31 October 2017	Hanoi, Vietnam
Meeting on the Revision of the National Food Safety Policy and Strategy	WHO	24 January 2018	Vientiane, Lao PDR
Meeting on the Draft Food Safety Policy for Cambodia	WHO	23 February 2018	Phnom Penh, Cambodia
WHO Orientation workshop on Integrated Global Survey of ESBL- Producing E.coli	WHO	6-10 November 2017	Jakarta, Indonesia
Regional Framework for Action on Food Safety in the Western Pacific	WHO	N.A	Regional
Regional workshop on nutrition labelling to promote healthy diets	WHO	22-26 March 2018	Bangkok, Thailand

Summary of activities	Organizers	Countries	Status
Support for capacity building for international food safety standards development and implementation in ASEAN countries	FAO	ASEAN countries	Ongoing
Improving food safety in Bangladesh	FAO	Bangladesh	Ongoing
Institutionalization of food safety in Bangladesh for safer food	FAO	Bangladesh	Ongoing
Development of standards and scheme for Good Agriculture	FAO	Cambodia	Ongoing

Summary of activities	Organizers	Countries	Status
Practices (GAP) implementation and certification based on ASEAN GAP			
Technical assistance to establish a Geographical Indication system	FAO	Afghanistan	Ongoing
Mapping of food systems architecture and assessment of regulatory capacity for fortified foods.	FAO	Pakistan	Ongoing
Developing sustainable food systems for urban areas	FAO	Bangladesh	Ongoing
The cases of New Delhi and Dhaka on cost and benefits related to food safety - rural-urban market and value chain integration in South Asia	FAO-World Bank	Bangladesh, India	Ongoing
Strengthening One-Health Programme in the Asia Pacific Region	FAO	Nepal, Papua New Guinea, Vietnam	Ongoing
Strengthening risk-based import control through One Health approaches	FAO	Myanmar, Nepal, Philippines, Sri Lanka	Ongoing
Capacity development for reviewing and drafting law on crop production	FAO	Vietnam	Ongoing
Technical support for the formulation of a national clean agriculture development programme	FAO	Laos	Ongoing
Assessment of national food control system in Indonesia, using the FAO/WHO food control system assessment tool	FAO/WHO	Indonesia	Completed
Technical assistance for awareness of Geographical Indications	FAO	Sri Lanka	Completed
Strengthening veterinary public health to support the new food safety law and improve surveillance and reduce the risk of food- borne and zoonotic pathogens in Viet Nam	FAO	Vietnam	Completed
Institutional strengthening on food safety and quality control in supply chain management of livestock products	FAO	Thailand	Completed
Implementation of the ESBL Ec Tricycle surveillance. A One Health integrated Surveillance on AMR project	WHO	Indonesia, Malaysia	Ongoing
Joint External Evaluation (JEE) in Australia, Singapore, Japan and Federated States of Micronesia	WHO	Australia, Singapore, Japan and Federated States of Micronesia	2017-2018
Joint External Evaluation (JEE) mission	WHO	Bangladesh, Maldives, Myanmar and Sri Lanka	2016-2017
Pilot projects for integrated surveillance of foodborne antimicrobial resistance (AGISAR)	WHO	Bhutan, Thailand, Philippines	Pipeline
Strengthening national capacity for the surveillance of and response to foodborne diseases	WHO	Bhutan, Indonesia, Maldives, Myanmar, Nepal, Sri Lanka	2016-17

Summary of activities	Organizers	Countries	Status
Technical assistance to review and strengthen the system for risk- based food inspection in Vietnam	WHO	Vietnam	2017-2018
Technical assistance to review and amend the Law on Food Safety in Vietnam	WHO	Vietnam	2017-2018
Strengthen national capacity to investigate and respond to foodborne diseases	WHO	Cambodia	2018
Technical assistance to strengthen integrated surveillance of ESBL producing E.coli	WHO	Malaysia	2017-2018

EUROPE

REGIONAL/NATIONAL EVENTS

Activity (Workshop/Seminar/Training Course)	Organizers	Dates	Venue
40th Session of ECA – Agenda item 4: Antimicrobial resistance (AMR): the loss of a major defence to the emerging challenges (ECA/40/17/4)	FAO	27-28 September 2017	Budapest, Hungary
Regional Symposium on Sustainable Food Systems for Healthy Diets in Europe and Central Asia	FAO, WHO, UNICEF, WFP	4-5 December 2017	Budapest, Hungary
Technical consultation on Geographical Indications Schemes: reviewing recommendations on GI schemes for REU countries to become an element of national food quality and export promotion policies.	FAO	11-13 December	Budapest, Hungary
Global Forum for Food and Agriculture: Expert panel discussion on "Antimicrobial resistance in Europe and beyond"	FAO and "Bread for the world" NGO	19 January 2018	Berlin, Germany
Improving the ability of target countries to assess and analyze the existing AMR and AMU knowledge, and strengthening the capacities and regulatory frameworks related to AMU in food, agriculture, fisheries and livestock. (GCP /RER/057/RUS)	FAO	Ongoing since 30 March 2017	Armenia, Republic of Belarus, Republic of Kazakhstan, Kyrgyz Republic, Republic of Tajikistan
CCEURO regional platform for policy consultation on regulatory framework for formalizing informal food market and non-regulatory measures to improve food safety practices at all stages of the local food chain.	FAO	To be implemented before September 2019	To be confirmed
Support to countries in the CCEURO region to strengthen their capacity and preparedness for the next session of CCEURO	FAO/WHO/Codex Secretariat	October 2018 (tentative)	Astana, Kazakhstan

Summary of activities	Organizers	Countries	Status
Technical and policy support to Albania to develop the framework for a sustainable national school food and nutrition programme and to update the Albanian National Food and Nutrition Action Plan 2013-2020 and align it with the ICN2 Framework for Action the UN Decade of Action on Nutrition. (TCP/ALB/3602/C2)		Albania	Ongoing
Discussions held with Ministry of Agriculture on the need for food safety support in ongoing work to improve quality and safety of traditional typical foods in Albania.		Albania	Pipeline

Summary of activities	Organizers	Countries	Status
Assistance to the State Service for Food Safety of the Ministry of Agriculture of Armenia with risk assessment methodology and system in the fields of food safety, veterinary services and phytosanitary in Armenia and support on the development of food business rating systems (TCP/ARM/3603/C2)	FAO	Armenia	Ongoing since June 2017
Improvement of the Veterinary Laboratory Network and Food Safety Quality Management System in Azerbaijan – planned TCP project with a relevant component on food safety.	FAO	Azerbaijan	In the pipeline
Assessment of current capacities in official food control system, and identification of needs to ensure continuous improvement of the system. (TCP/BYE/3603/C2)	FAO	Belarus	In the pipeline
Support on strengthening effective participation in Codex	FAO/WHO, supported by Codex Trust Fund.	FYR Macedonia	Expected start date June 2018
Support to Strengthening the Food Safety System in Moldova (TCP/MOL/3601)	FAO	Moldova	Project closed on 31 March 2018
Supporting the food and agriculture sectors to minimize the impact of antimicrobial resistance of Salmonella and Campylobacter sp. from food chain perspective and increase the evidence base for chemical risk management.	FAO	Moldova	Completed by February 2018
Project closing workshop – strengthening capacities to collect evidence for AMR and chemical risk management	FAO	Moldova	February 2018
Strengthening the capacities of national food control authorities and food producing enterprises for the implementation of risk analysis framework.	FAO, National Sanitary Veterinary and Food Safety Authority in Romania	Moldova	Ongoing
Support capacity development to apply risk analysis by governmental food safety competent authorities and food business operators in selected value chains in Kazakhstan	FAO - Rospotrebnadzor	Kazakhstan	In the pipeline
Improved operation of the national food control system, particularly its inspection, monitoring and laboratory components (TCP/TAJ/3604)	FAO-TJ	Tajikistan	Ongoing
Enabling Market Access for Tajik Agricultural Products Through Improved Food Safety System (STDF/PG/447) FAO is responsible for Output 1: Regulatory and control system for use of agri-	ITC and FAO	Tajikistan	May 2018 2021

Summary of activities	Organizers	Countries	Status
chemicals and veterinary medicines established and operational.			
Coordination of the national food safety system for fishery and aquaculture products in Ukraine to move towards harmonization with the EU (GCP /UKR/003/NOR)		Ukraine	Ongoing since April 2017
Pilot projects for integrated surveillance of foodborne antimicrobial resistance (AGISAR)	WHO	Albania	In the Pipeline

LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

REGIONAL/NATIONAL EVENTS

Activity (Workshop/Seminar/Training Course)	Organizers	Dates	Venue
FAO Workshop: Introduction into chemical Risk Assessment in Food safety	FAO (GCP /GLO/520/USA)	8-9 Nov 2017	Port of Spain, Trinidad and Tobago
FAO Workshop: Microbiological Risk Assessment in Food Safety	FAO (GCP /GLO/520/USA)	April 11-12, 2018	Bridgetown, Barbados
FAO Workshop: Introduction into risk ranking	FAO (GCP /GLO/520/USA)	2018; exact date and place tbd	2018, exact date and place tbd
Joint FAO/Switzerland Food Safety Capacity Building Workshop on Foods of Animal Origin for the Caribbean	FAO/RLC	October 17-18, 2017	Castries, St. Lucia
FAO Regional Worskhop on Gaps in Governance, Surveillance and Containment of AMR "	FAO/RLC	October 23-26, 2017	Mexico City, Mexico
1st Regional Workshop on the Development of National Action Plans for AMR	FAO/RLC	April 18-20, 2017	San Salvador, El Salvador
Capacity building of national staff within the framework of the PANAFTOSA/PAHO-WHO cooperation agreement with the Brazilian Ministry of Health and the National Food Surveillance Agency (ANVISA) in various aspects related to Food Risk analysis Chemical Risk assessment FBD surveillance and Burden of disease	SVS, ANVISA PANAFTOSA/PAH O-WHO	ongoing	National, Brazil
Capacity building of national staff within the framework of the PANAFTOSA/PAHO-WHO cooperation agreement with the Brazilian Ministry of Health and the National Food Surveillance Agency (ANVISA) in various aspects related to Food Risk analysis Chemical Risk assessment FBD surveillance and Burden of disease	SVS, ANVISA PANAFTOSA/PAH O-WHO	ongoing	National, Brazil
Regional workshop to strengthen the International Food Safety Authorities Network (INFOSAN) in the Americas	PANAFTOSA/PAH O-WHO, FAO, WHO	27 - 28 November 2017	Miami, Florida, USA

PROJECTS/DIRECT ASSISTANCE

Summary of activities	Organizers	Country	Status
Country / Pilot projects for integrated surveillance of foodborne antimicrobial resistance (AGISAR)	WHO	Suriname, Argentina, Ecuador	Pipeline
Support project development for application to Codex Trust Fund for the strengthening the national Codex programme and capacities to effectively participate in Codex		Guatemala	2016-2017
PANAFTOSA/PAHO-WHO is supporting Paraguay to strengthen its national food safety system	PANAFTOSA/PAH O-WHO	Paraguay	Ongoing
PANAFTOSA/PAHO-WHO is supporting Costa Rica to strengthen its national food safety system	PANAFTOSA/PAH O-WHO	Costa Rica	Ongoing
PANAFTOSA/PAHO-WHO is supporting El Salvador to strengthen its national food safety system	PANAFTOSA/PAH O-WHO	El Salvador	Ongoing
Technical support to the national food analysis laboratory network in Chile	PANAFTOSA/PAH O-WHO	Chile	May 2017
Technical support to the national food analysis laboratory network in Dominican Republic	PANAFTOSA/PAH O-WHO	Dominican Republic	June 2017

NEAR EAST/EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN

REGIONAL/NATIONAL EVENTS

Activity (Workshop/Seminar/Training Course)	Organizers	Dates	Venue
Regional symposium on sustainable food systems for healthy diets and improved nutrition in the near East and North Africa	FAO/WHO/WFP/U NICEF	11-12 December 2017	Muscat, Oman
Regional training workshop on the FAO/WHO food control system assessment tool.	FAO/UNIDO	16-19 October 2017	Tunis, Tunisia
Workshop on food standards-setting in the Arab region	FAO/UNIDO	31st January 2018	Rabat, Morocco
Training workshop on prioritizing Codex work in Arab countries at national and regional levels	FAO/UNIDO	11-12 April 2018	Beirut, Lebanon
Support to GCC Secretariat for a Project to strengthen and harmonize GCC-wide border inspection post /risk based approach to food import inspections.	FAO	GCC States	In pipeline Concept Note submitted
Support to a GCC-wide strategy for the adoption of HACCP principles by food businesses	FAO	GCC States	In pipeline Concept Note submitted
A study on: Imported Food Control Systems in the Near East: A situation assessment	FAO-RNE	All countries	Ongoing
Regional meeting to develop national food safety work plans in line with the Regional Plan of Action for Food Safety for the Eastern Mediterranean (2017 – 2022)	WHO/EMRO	All Member States, September 2017	Amman, Jordan
Workshop to develop national AMR plan of action including One Health component	WHO/EMRO	April, September 2017, January 2018	Qatar, Iraq and Jordan
Regional meeting to support the introduction of Whole Genome Sequencing to the ongoing work in PulseNet Middle East	WHO-EMRO	February 2018	Muscat, Oman

PROJECTS/DIRECT ASSISTANCE

Summary of activities	Organizers	Countries	Status
Capacity building programme in support of the Palestinian National	FAO	West Bank/Gaza Strip	Ongoing
Authority – Sanitary and Phyto-Sanitary measures			
(OSRO/GAZ/402/NET). The project is complemented by the			
Capacity building programme in support of the Palestinian National			
Authority - Sanitary and Phytosanitary (SPS) measures			

Summary of activities	Organizers	Countries	Status
(GCP/GAZ/013/SW)			
Establishment of a food contamination monitoring system prototype in Lebanon (TCP/LEB/3603)	FAO-RNE	Lebanon	Ongoing
Enhancement of regional trade capacities in food through a harmonized regional conformity assessment and food safety systems (UNJP/RNE/010/UID)	FAO/UNIDO	AIDMO members (Arab Industrial Development an mining Organization)	Ongoing
Support to development of geographical indications	FAO-RNE	Jordan	Pipeline
Strengthening the National Codex Committee and the Codex Contact point in Lebanon (TCP/LEB/3401)	FAO-RNE	Lebanon	Ongoing
UTF / Strengthening food safety in UAE (building on the foundation provided by TCP/SNG/3401)	FAO-SNG	UAE	CN submitted Project in pipeline
FAO/WHO continued their technical assistance activities in capacity building of national food safety and quality control system as well as import and export regulatory system, to assess the safety or the risks associated with genetically modified food and development of guidelines for evaluating the safety of food and food ingredients produced using GM technology; development of national integrated systems of food safety hazards, capacity building on the analysis of chemical contaminants of food and foodborne disease surveillance, development of training packages for food inspectors, strengthening capacity of national Codex Committees, harmonizing food standards and regulations and strengthening capacity of food safety.		Afghanistan, Bahrain, Egypt, Iran, Iraq, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libya, Oman, Pakistan, Palestine Occupied Territory, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Somalia, Sudan, Tunisia	Ongoing
Technical support provided to the self-assessment of the national food control system performed by Iranian authorities	FAO/WHO	Iran	Ongoing
Pilot projects for integrated surveillance of foodborne antimicrobial resistance (AGISAR)	WHO	Palestine	Pipeline
Implementation of the ESBL Ec Tricycle surveillance. A One Health integrated Surveillance on AMR project	WHO	Pakistan	Ongoing

NORTH AMERICA AND THE PACIFIC

REGIONAL/NATIONAL EVENTS

Activity (Workshop/Seminar/Training Course)	Organizers	Dates	Venue
Developing a food security information system in the Pacific	FAO/SPC	Ongoing	NA
Review of the Pacific Regional Food Based Dietary Guidelines	SPC/FAO	2017	Fiji
Online training course for food inspectors in the Pacific	WHO through the Pacific Open Learning Health Network (POLHN)	Ongoing	NA
Regional workshop to strengthen the International Food Safety Authorities Network (INFOSAN) in the Americas	PANAFTOSA/PAH O, FAO, WHO	27 - 28 November 2017	Miami, Florida, USA

Activity		Country	Status
Increased capacity of rural communities to process and market local food	FAO	Fiji	Ongoing
High quality, sustainable fish products with extended shelf life	FAO	Federated States of Micronesia	Ongoing
Strengthening Food Control Capacity in Kiribati	FAO	Kiribati	Ongoing
Improving the capacity of small famers to market a consistent supply of safe, quality food	FAO	Samoa	Ongoing
Strengthening the capacity of farmers and food vendors to supply safe nutritious food in Guadalcanal, Malaita and Temotu provinces of Solomon Islands	FAO	Solomon Islands	Ongoing
Strengthening the capacity of the National Public Health Laboratory to provide services in support of market access for Solomon Island fish exporters	FAO/STDF	Solomon Islands	Ongoing
Imported Food Control Guidelines for Pacific Island Countries on risk-based inspection of imported food in the Pacific Island Countries	FAO	Kiribati, Republic of the Marshall Islands, Solomon Islands, Nauru, Federated States of Micronesia	Ongoing
Development of Operating Procedures to facilitate risk-based	FAO	Kiribati, Republic of the	Ongoing

imported food control		Marshall Islands, Solomon Islands, Nauru, Federated States of Micronesia	
Implementing food components of the Pacific Guidelines for Healthy Living	FAO	Cook Islands, Kiribati, Republic of the Marshall islands, Nauru, Samoa, Tokelau, Tonga, Solomon Islands, Fiji	Under Development
Updating the Pacific Islands Food Composition Tables	FAO	Cook Islands, Kiribati, Republic of the Marshall Islands, Nauru, Samoa, Tokelau, Tonga, Solomon Islands, Fiji, Vanuatu, Niue, Palau, Tuvalu	Under Development
Technical assistance on strengthening legal framework for food quality and safety in Tonga	WHO	Tonga	Ongoing
Development of standard for mandatory fortification of rice and other amendments to Food (Control) Regulations, 2009	WHO/FAO/FFI	Solomon Islands	Ongoing
Updating and revising the legal framework for food quality and safety	WHO	Fiji	Ongoing
Technical assistance on food regulations and standards development	WHO	Vanuatu	Ongoing
Strengthening the capacity for food recall	WHO	Samoa	2016-2017
Development of factsheet on ciguatera fish poisoning in Fiji	WHO	Fiji	2017
Report on ciguatera fish poisoning in specific Pacific island countries from 2009 to 2014	WHO	Pacific	2016-2017
Review of food analysis capacity in the Pacific and development of guidance to access appropriate food analysis capacity in Pacific island countries and areas and in the Pacific rim	WHO	Pacific	2017-2018
Development of factsheet on mercury and fish consumption: A health issue for Pacific Islanders	WHO	Pacific	2018
Technical assistance to strengthen risk-based food inspection in Federated States of Micronesia	WHO	Federated States of Micronesia	2017

Development of an operational plan for the food safety part of the Fiji Policy on Food and Nutrition Security 2018 and revision of the the Food Safety Act 2003 and its subordinate regulations		Fiji	2018
Technical assistance to manage food safety during mass gatherings	WHO	Papua New Guinea	2018