



Food and Agriculture
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#WorldFoodSafetyDay

FAO Regional Office for Europe and Central Asia and WHO Regional Office for Europe

present

Joint Event on 7 June 2021 World Food Safety Day

Food Safety in the context of Sustainable Food Systems: Moving Forward for a Healthy Tomorrow in Europe and Central Asia

**Monday, 7 June 2021
11:00 - 12:30 CEST**

The event can be followed on [Zoom](#) in English and Russian
or streamed on [YouTube](#) in English.

Please [click here](#) to register.



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The evolving context of food production, trade and consumption is challenging the way food safety risks are managed and the availability of safe and nutritious food for all. Urgent action at all stages of the food chains with a systems approach is necessary to protect people's health, the environment, economies and cultures. **Food safety is an integral part of sustainable food systems** and it is an issue that requires action and collaboration between various sectors, groups of stakeholders and countries.

Factors including improper use of technologies in production of foods of animal and plant origin, complexity of the international food trade, changing climate pose new risks of emerging diseases. In order to understand and reduce food safety risks, preventive measures and appropriate response mechanisms need to be in place. This requires a thorough investigation of the **connections between the health of people, animals, and plants**. Examples of a systems perspective in food safety include **One Health** approach to minimize Antimicrobial Resistance and address zoonotic diseases, or **Farm to Table** to improve sustainable production and distribution of safe and nutritious food, and minimize food losses and waste.

Managing food safety risks is a continuous process of adaptation and improvement even during crisis situations as **observed during the COVID-19 pandemic**. Public authorities and food businesses are often faced to take preventive measures, or react to the alarming situations rapidly with the most appropriate actions. Currently, much food safety prioritization and management is not science-based and hence may not be justifiable or represent the best use of scarce resources. Adopting a whole-system approach in food safety policy development and food control practices, research and monitoring and evaluation is crucial to manage trade-offs.

Better informed decisions to ensure food safety would be achieved by **utilizing science and technology** solutions for better **data generation and accessibility**. Sharing applicable (actionable) knowledge with all actors in the food system, as well as other countries in the region offers many opportunities. For instance, **the FAO/WHO Regional Coordinating Committee for Europe** provides an excellent platform for exchanging experience and better communication among the countries.



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Objective and theme

On the occasion of the [World Food Safety Day 7 June 2021](#), FAO Regional Office for Europe and Central Asia and WHO Regional Office for Europe are inviting all the interested actors in the region to discuss **food safety in the context of sustainable food systems** and actions needed to address food safety issues in the human-animal-environment interface for **“safe food now for a healthy tomorrow”**.

Target audience and language

The meeting is 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, technical agencies and tripartite partners, and consumer groups.

The meeting will be held in English with simultaneous translation into Russian.

Meeting Format

•Opening remarks by

Vladimir Rakhmanin, FAO Assistant Director General, Regional Representative for Europe and Central Asia

Hans Henri P. Kluge, WHO Regional Director for Europe

•Keynote speech

Food safety in the context of sustainable food systems and One Health

Delia Grace Randolph, Professor Food Safety Systems,
Natural Resources Institute, University of Greenwich

•Panel discussion

Leading experts in food safety

•Questions from the audience