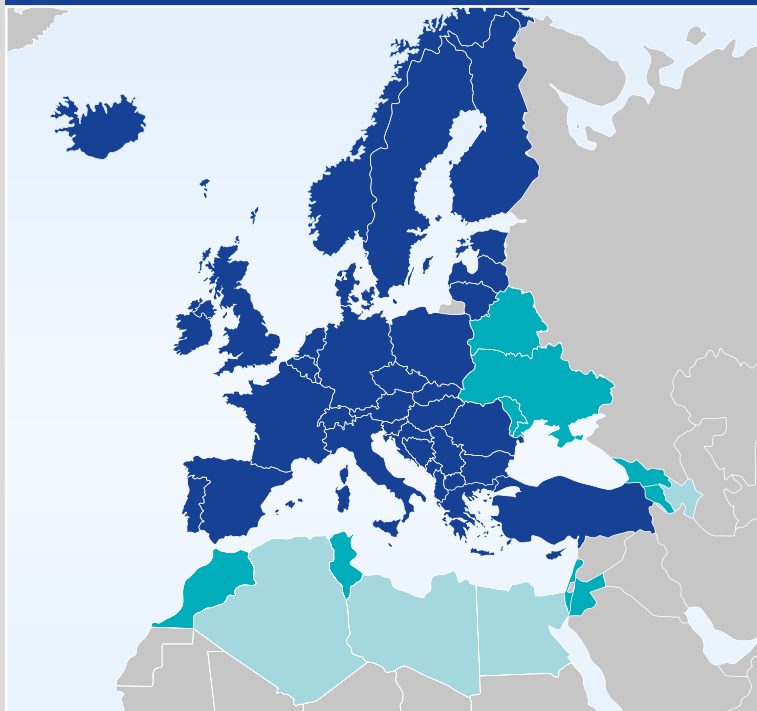


# ENP Food Safety Almanac

## European Neighbourhood Policy (ENP)



INFORMATION

2017



Bundesinstitut für Risikobewertung

Please open this page



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The ENP Food Safety Almanac is available online ([www.bfr.bund.de/en](http://www.bfr.bund.de/en)) or as a printed brochure.

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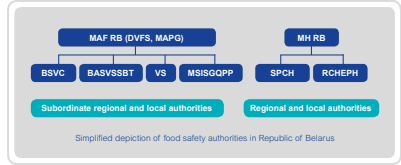
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## Country profiles – how to read the Almanac

Each country profile provides an overview of public institutions in the area of food and feed safety.

**Diagram of national institutions:** Each chapter starts with a simplified diagram depicting the organisational structures and hierarchies. The main institutions of each country are given as an acronym. The list of abbreviations (Chapter 5) contains the full names of all institutions listed in the Almanac (in English as well as the language of each country). Institutions at central/national level are illustrated in blue boxes, regional/local institutions in turquoise ones.



**Legal foundation:** Brief description of national legal foundations in the area of food and feed safety at the beginning of the chapter.

**Institutions at central level (shown in blue boxes):** Tasks and activities of each institution are described in a separate section for each institution. The blue box at the beginning of each section contains the acronym and the full name of the institution. The grey box below lists the main tasks in the area of food and feed safety, followed by the city in which the institution is based and the website.

**RCHEPH**  
Republican Centre for Hygiene, Epidemiology and Public Health

- ▶ State sanitary and epidemiological surveillance
- ▶ Risk management
- ▶ Risk communication

Seat: Minsk  
<http://www.rcheph.by>

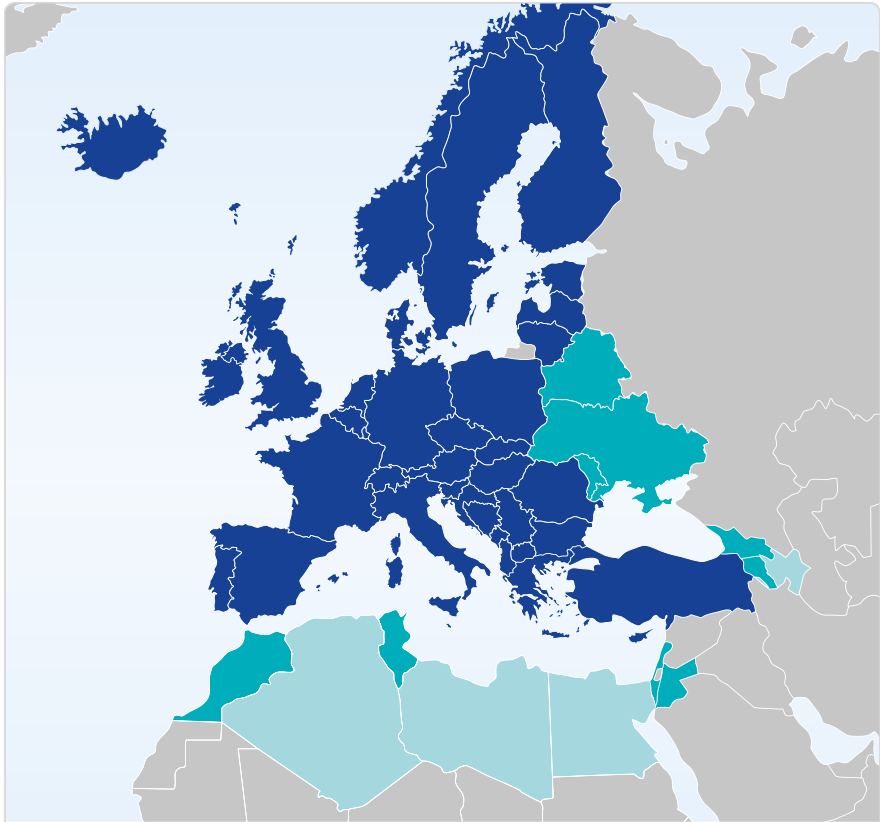
**Responsibility:** Ten pictograms are used to illustrate the areas of responsibility of each respective institution.

Plant protection products	Drinking water	Genetic engineering	Contaminants
Feed	Food supplements	Residues of veterinary medicinal products	
Mineral water	Novel foods	Zoonoses	

**Regional and local level:** Institutions on a regional and local level are described in a separate section. They are highlighted by turquoise coloured boxes.

**Regional and local levels**

In total, six veterinary departments under agriculture and food committees, the state institution "Minsk City Veterinary Station" and 118 district (municipal) veterinary stations operate on the regional and local levels. ...



- ENP\* countries with profiles in the Almanac
- ENP\* countries not included in the Almanac (country profiles requested)
- European Member States, EFTA countries and EU enlargement (candidate and potential candidate) countries (see EU Food Safety Almanac for details)

\* For EFSA definition of ENP countries look at <https://www.efsa.europa.eu/de/partnersnetworks/international>.

# ENP Food Safety Almanac

European Neighbourhood Policy (ENP)

Bundesinstitut für Risikobewertung (BfR)  
German Federal Institute for Risk Assessment

Dr. Lea Herges, Dipl.-Ing. Susanne Kaus, Nadja Wieler, PD Dr. Gaby-Fleur-Böl, Dr. Nicole Gollnick

**In cooperation with the**

European Food Safety Authority (EFSA)

Stef Bronzwaer, Jelena Vračar Filipović, Elena Marani, Stylianos Koulouris



European Food Safety Authority

# Foreword

## Food Safety in European neighbouring countries: an Almanac

Dear Readers,

This Food Safety Almanac gives an overview of the competent public institutions and the structure of food safety systems of the EU's European Neighbourhood Policy (ENP) countries. The EU works with its southern and eastern neighbours through the ENP to achieve the closest possible political association and the greatest possible degree of consumers' protection.

Due to the free movement of food/feed and potential food crises, neighbourhood countries' awareness of EU regulations and procedures on consumer safety – including food crisis response – are crucial for protecting consumers while promoting regional trade. The ENP countries require information about risk assessment and risk communication, and the European food safety system including its institutions, such as the European Food Safety Authority (EFSA). The aim is to increase their knowledge on the EU's food safety policy and decisions that are based on solid science, with a view to facilitate enhanced cooperation between ENP countries and EFSA.

EFSA's cooperation with the ENP countries dates back to 2009 when the first training seminar on EU food safety and the role of EFSA was organised. Building on the previous experiences,

EFSA continued its cooperation with the EU Neighbourhood countries via the programme funded from the European Neighbourhood and Partnership Instrument (ENPI). Through this Programme EFSA is actively pursuing greater cooperation in food safety risk assessment with the following countries: Algeria, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Egypt, Georgia, Israel, Jordan, Lebanon, Moldova, Morocco, Palestine<sup>1</sup>, Tunisia and Ukraine.

This brochure is intended for everyone who would like to find out more about food safety structures and institutions, as well as people who work in the following institutions and fields: food safety agency staff, trade and general interest press, consumer associations, the food industry, science and politics.

This Food Safety Almanac covers the country profiles of ten ENP countries. The brochure does not claim to give a full description of each national structure, but is limited to the essential aspects in the interest of clarity and is intentionally restricted to the subject of consumer protection as a regulated area. This does not mean, however, that other regulated areas, such as environmental protection, animal welfare, and health and safety at work, are any less important.

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<sup>1</sup> *This designation shall not be construed as recognition of a State of Palestine and is without prejudice to the individual positions of the Member States and neighbouring countries on this issue.*

During the preparation of this Almanac, the BfR worked in close cooperation with EFSA and received committed support of the participating ENP countries. In the name of EFSA and the BfR, we would like to sincerely thank everyone involved for their contributions.

With this Food Safety Almanac including ENP countries you are getting an up-to-date and comprehensive overview of food and feed safety within some of the ENP countries. In doing so, we hope to be able to make a valuable contribution towards strengthening risk assessment capacities and expanding international cooperation and capacity building.



Dr. Bernhard Url  
Executive Director of the  
European Food Safety Authority (EFSA)



Professor Dr. Dr. Andreas Hensel  
BfR President and German Representative  
of the EFSA Advisory Forum





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# 1 European Neighbourhood Policy (ENP) and the European Food Safety Authority (EFSA)

The European Neighbourhood Policy (ENP) governs the EU's relations with 16 of the EU's closest Eastern and Southern Neighbours. To the South: Algeria, Egypt, Israel, Jordan, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco, Palestine<sup>2</sup>, Syria and Tunisia and to the East: Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Moldova and Ukraine. The ENP has been launched in 2003 and developed throughout 2004, with the objective of avoiding the emergence of new dividing lines between the enlarged EU and its neighbours and instead strengthening the prosperity, stability and security of all. It is based on the values of democracy, rule of law and respect of human rights.

The funding for implementing the European Neighbourhood Policy derives from the European Neighbourhood Instrument (ENI) (2014–2020), which succeeds the European Neighbourhood and Partnership Instrument (ENPI, funding period 2007–2013).

EU agencies, including the European Food Safety Authority (EFSA), contributed to EU ENPI/ENI programmes through the European Commission (EC) Multi-country action entitled "Promoting the participation of European Neighbourhood Policy countries in the work of EU agencies".

EU's food safety policy is an integral part of the EU policy on consumer protection and health. The *acquis* related to food safety covers a large number of legislative acts and set of rules which are based on solid science and thorough risk assessment.

EFSA was set up in 2002 to carry out risk assessment and provide scientific advice to the EC, European Parliament and EU Member States (MS), in close collaboration with national food authorities and in open consultation with its stakeholders. EFSA's independent scientific advice and clear communication on existing and emerging risks underpins the EU food laws and evolving policies aiming to protect consumers from food-related risks. It also plays an essential role in helping the EU to respond swiftly to food safety crises.

Food safety crises do not respect national borders. Scientific cooperation is central to EFSA's scientific work. EFSA is working closely with partners and stakeholders across Europe and the world, sharing scientific expertise, data and knowledge. It is essential that the ENP countries are informed about the operations of EFSA. An introduction into how the EFSA operates, including exchange of information concerning emerging issues, scientific expertise and findings should serve to help the ENP countries to prepare them for closer cooperation. Several of the ENP countries are building up their food and feed infrastructure and at the same time build both capacity and contacts/links with EFSA, the EC and the EU MS and vice versa.

EFSA cooperation with the ENP countries dates back to 2009 when the first training seminar on EU food safety and the role of EFSA was organised. This joint EFSA-DG SANTE seminar was financed by Technical Assistance and Information

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<sup>2</sup> This designation shall not be construed as recognition of a State of Palestine and is without prejudice to the individual positions of the Member States and neighbouring countries on this issue.

Exchange (TAIEX) instrument and the aim was to establish contacts with relevant food authorities and to present the food safety system of the EU.

Building on the previous experiences, EFSA continued its cooperation with the EU Neighbourhood countries within the Programme funded from the ENPI.

The overall objective of the Programme was to promote the understanding of EFSA's work in the EU ENP countries, share expertise and create information exchange mechanisms.

The programme was implemented under the Grant Contract ENPI/2013/325-487 established between the EC and the EFSA.

Through this Programme EFSA was actively pursuing greater integration of the following countries into its work: Algeria, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Egypt, Georgia, Israel, Jordan, Lebanon, Moldova, Morocco, the State of Palestine<sup>3</sup>, Tunisia and Ukraine. Each of those countries has a different organisational structure and is dealing with different food safety issues but they all have expressed a strong interest and desire for further cooperation with EFSA.

Within the Programme EFSA has developed cooperation and established a network of contact points in 14 partner countries. Based on the input provided by the beneficiaries it appears that the awareness and understanding of EFSA's role as well as outputs at international level has been sig-

nificantly improved. Implemented activities and events addressed topics of special interest to each of the countries.

Several MS have participated in joint activities within the programme and, within the framework of EFSA's Advisory Forum, Spain, Portugal, Germany, Cyprus and Croatia have expressed a strong interest to continue with such cooperation in the future. For example Belgium hosted a study visit for representatives while Cyprus has organised a workshop on risk assessment. In addition, Latvia took an active part in cooperation with ENP countries by participating in expert mission to Azerbaijan. Such approach enables further involvement of the EU MS and enhances a greater mutual ownership by ENP partners and the EU MS.

In order to gather information on the functioning of food safety systems in the partner countries EFSA initiated the preparation of ENP food safety country profiles for an ENP Food Safety Almanac. The Almanac provides an overview of the legal basis, responsible institutions and food safety structures at regional and local level. The country profiles list relevant institutions and contact points which may also facilitate cooperation, especially during food crisis situations. This is a joint initiative between EFSA, the German Federal Institute for Risk Assessment (BfR) and the ENP institutions.

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## 2 European Food Safety Structures

Effective cooperation between state actors in Europe strengthens food safety. If all parties involved are familiar with the relevant actors and the legal framework in the European Member States, countries are able to work together more efficiently, thus avoiding duplication of work and effectively maintaining consumer protection. Improved cooperation contributes to harmonised risk assessment methods and to the efficient control of risks. It also increases the transparency of decision-making processes and facilitates the search for European partners for project cooperation.

The aim of food safety and effective consumer protection is to protect health, prevent fraud and provide proper consumer information. Common European legal regulations provide a uniform and reliable level of protection for European consumers. National measures alone are not enough to provide sufficient protection in a globalised world.

Without releasing companies and consumers from their responsibilities and due diligence obligations, it is the responsibility of the state to protect consumers in the area of food safety through risk assessment, risk management and risk communication.

The following procedure is followed here:

As a first step, a risk is evaluated using scientific methods ("risk assessment"). In its "Guidance Document for Health Assessments", the German Federal Institute for Risk Assessment (BfR) has stipulated national processes which form a starting point for discussion within the scope of European harmonisation efforts:

[http://www.bfr.bund.de/cm/364/guidance\\_document\\_for\\_health\\_assessments.pdf](http://www.bfr.bund.de/cm/364/guidance_document_for_health_assessments.pdf)

Competent institutions in risk management use risk assessments to decide on the necessary measures ("risk management"). In addition to



*Guidance Document for Health Assessment (BfR)*

scientific risk assessments, this process also incorporates social and economic aspects in order to evaluate the suitability and efficiency of these measures.

Consumers are only able to make self-determined purchase decisions if they have been adequately informed. For this reason, transparent risk communication is essential in all respects. For this purpose, information on food safety should be made accessible in an appropriate form. Other affected and involved parties from science, politics, associations, NGOs and public institutions should also be included in the interactive exchange of information and opinions.

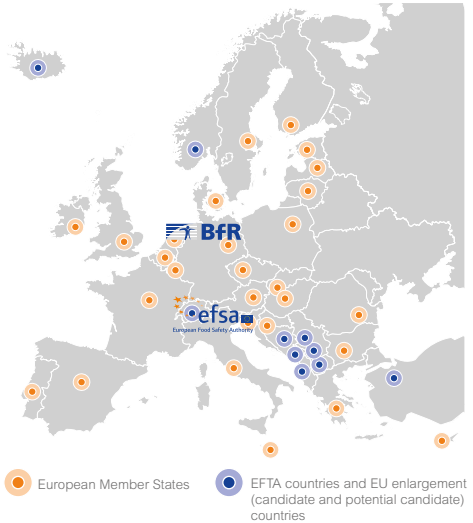
In 2000, the EU Commission's White Paper provided the impetus for a new structure of food safety in Europe. A new concept for effective and comprehensive consumer health protection was introduced whereby food safety is to be guaranteed

in all stages of production and processing along the entire food chain “from the farm to the fork”. In 2002, the European Food Safety Authority (EFSA) was founded as an independent scientific body for risk assessment at EU level. The same year also saw the establishment of the BfR which has a similar function in Germany. These and other newly created bodies then led to the set-up of a network of competent institutions which operates as a link between the national and European levels, as well as between bodies in the various Member States.

At European level, risk assessment and risk communication are tasks assigned to EFSA, while risk management remains with the European Commission and Council of the European Union.

Information from the EU Rapid Alert System for Food and Feed (RASFF) on food and feed that poses serious health risks is communicated on a daily basis between the Member States and the European Commission. Risk assessments are published by many national institutions as well as EFSA. The media and product testing organisations also provide information which enhances transparency for consumers.

The EU Food Safety Almanac (EU Almanac) serves as a work of reference which provides an overview of the current legal frameworks that exist with regard to food safety. It is an example of the constructive cooperation practised between all bodies involved in food safety in Europe. EFSA as well as its Focal Points in all EU Member States and 10 neighbouring countries have contributed to the EU Food Safety Almanac produced by the BfR. Overall, 38 country profiles are presented. The EU Food Safety Almanac is available in six languages (English, German, French, Portuguese, Spanish and Chinese) and can be downloaded under the following website:  
[http://www.bfr.bund.de/en/publication/eu\\_almanac-192693.html](http://www.bfr.bund.de/en/publication/eu_almanac-192693.html)

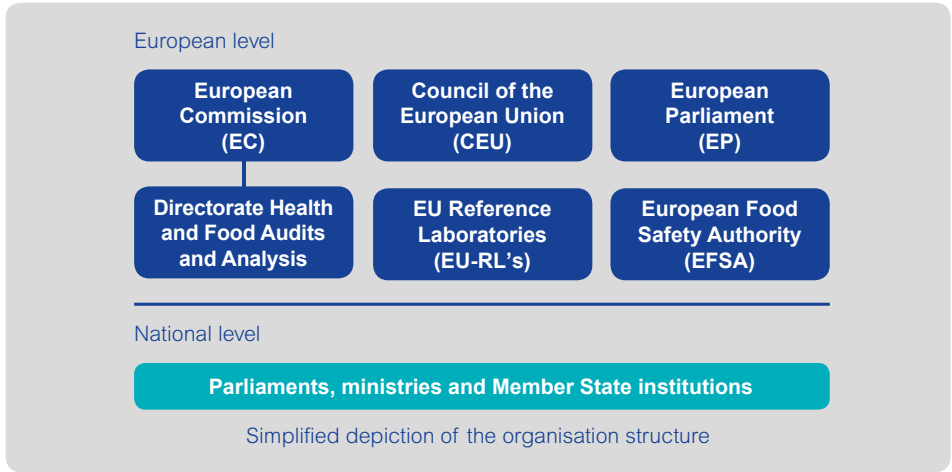


*EFSA Focal Point Network*

In the various European states, the work allocation of risk assessment, risk management and risk communication has different legal structures. Some countries, including Germany, prefer to spread responsibility for risk assessment and risk management between different institutions. Other countries unite these tasks in a single institution.

The relevant government institutions along with their tasks and legal foundations in relation to food and feed safety can be found in each country profile. The profiles also state whether (and to what extent) a country publishes its risk assessments.

Interestingly, some countries tend to have their risk assessments conducted by external experts (commissions), whereas in others the institutions largely carry out risk assessments by themselves. The distribution of responsibility between the national, regional and local levels within a given country also has an impact on efficient food safety regulation. This aspect is outlined in the EU Food Safety Almanac for each of 38 European countries described.



Regulations (EC) No. 178/2002 and No. 882/2004 are the main legal foundations of food legislation in the European Union (EU). EU regulations apply directly in all Member States of the EU without each one having to enact national laws.

Regulation (EC) No. 178/2002 lays down the general principles and requirements of food law within the EU. It covers all stages of food production and processing along the food chain, “from the farm to the fork”. In addition, it establishes and specifies the remit of the European Food Safety Authority (EFSA) and establishes the European Rapid Alert System for Food and Feed (RASFF). Regulation (EC) No. 882/2004 lays down the general principles of official controls performed to ensure compliance with food and feed law. This means that in the EU, in particular the set-up of a multi-annual national control plan (MANCP) by the Member States is prescribed along with the corresponding reporting.

At EU level, risk assessment and risk communication are formally separated from risk management. While risk assessments are undertaken by the European Food Safety Authority (EFSA), EU risk management is dealt with by the European Commission (EC). Risk communication, the third

element of risk analysis, is a shared competence between risk assessors and managers.

**EC**  
**European Commission**

- ▶ European law making
- ▶ Risk management
- ▶ Food safety policy

Seat: Brussels, Belgium  
<http://ec.europa.eu>

It is the role of the EC to promote the general interest of the EU as a whole. The “College of Commissioners” (currently one commissioner from each Member State) defines policy and makes decisions.

The EC is the EU’s executive body: as the “guardian of the treaties”, the EC is responsible for ensuring that EU law is properly implemented and applied in all EU Member States. In the event of infringements or doubts about the inter-

pretation on EU law, the European Court of Justice has the final say.

The EC is the only institution with the right of legislative initiative. In practice, the proposals for legislation (Regulations, Directives and Decisions) are prepared by specific EC departments. The EC Directorate-General for Health and Food Safety, DG SANTE, prepares draft legislation in the area of food and feed, animal and plant health, for example, while the EC Directorate General for Environment prepares draft legislation in this area.

DG SANTE coordinates the RASFF. It collects, verifies and disseminates food and feed safety information among the Member States and EFSA.

### CEU Council of the European Union

- ▶ European law making
- ▶ Food safety policy
- ▶ Risk management

Seat: Brussels, Belgium  
<http://www.consilium.europa.eu>



Together with the European Parliament, the Council of the European Union (CEU) is the main decision-making body in the EU. One minister from each national government attends CEU meetings. Which minister attends a meeting depends on the topic to be discussed. The minister represents his/her Member State. Food safety issues, for example, are dealt with at meetings of the CEU "Agriculture and Fisheries", while food labelling would be addressed at the CEU "Employment, Social Policy, Health and Consumer Affairs".

European legislation in the field of consumer health protection and food and feed safety is adopted through the "co-decision procedure", the most frequently applied legislative procedure in EU law. "Co-decision procedure" means that draft legislation needs to be adopted by both the CEU and the European Parliament (EP).

### EP European Parliament

- ▶ Food safety policy
- ▶ European law making
- ▶ Risk management

Seat: Strasbourg, France  
<http://www.europarl.europa.eu>



The European Parliament (EP) is elected by the citizens of the EU. It has 751 members from 28 EU countries and represents the interests of more than 500 million people. The fact that the EP is directly elected by the citizens helps guarantee the democratic legitimacy of European law.

The EP exercises democratic supervision over the other EU institutions, especially the EC. The EP has the power to approve or reject the nomination of commissioners and also has the right to censure the EC as a whole. The EP shares authority over the EU budget with the CEU and can therefore influence EU spending. At the end of the process, it either adopts or rejects the budget in its entirety.

The EP also prepares draft legislation in the area of food and feed safety. The EP has 22 standing committees. The "Standing committee of Environment, Public Health and Food Safety" deals with food safety and drinking water issues.

## EFSA European Food Safety Authority

- ▶ Risk assessment
- ▶ Risk communication

Seat: Parma, Italy  
<http://www.efsa.europa.eu>



EFSA is an independent European Agency and the keystone of risk assessment regarding food and feed safety in the EU. In close collaboration with national institutions and in open consultation with other stakeholders, EFSA delivers independent scientific advice as well as clear and understandable communication on existing and emerging risks. In its capacity as a risk assessment authority, EFSA prepares scientific opinions and recommendations which form a sound foundation for European policies and legislation to support the EC, EP and EU Member States in taking effective and timely risk management decisions. All risk assessments are published on the EFSA website.

Although EFSA receives requests for risk assessments from the EC, EP and Member States, it also undertakes scientific work on its own initiative. EFSA's remit covers risk assessments on food and feed safety, nutrition, animal health and welfare, plant protection and plant health.

## Directorate Health and Food Audits and Analysis

- ▶ Risk management (inspection and control)

Seat: Grange, Ireland  
[http://ec.europa.eu/food/audits\\_analysis\\_en](http://ec.europa.eu/food/audits_analysis_en)



The Directorate Health and Food Audits and Analysis is part of the EC Directorate-General for Health and Food Safety (DG SANTE), and its activities are outlined in Regulation (EC) No. 882/2004 (Articles 45 and 46).

This Directorate assesses how EU regulations are complied with within the EU and in non-EU countries that export to the EU. This is achieved mainly through inspections of the competent institutions of the Member States and non-EU countries.

The Directorate for Health and Food Audits and Analysis provides information on the results of its assessments. Where appropriate, it also recommends measures to remedy shortcomings and monitors their implementation. Inspection reports are published on the Internet along with the comments of the countries inspected.

## EU-RLs European Union Reference Laboratories

- ▶ Analytics and diagnostics
- ▶ Harmonisation of laboratory methods

European Union Reference Laboratories (EU-RLs) are analytical laboratories designated by EU directives and regulations. Several EU-RLs are part of the Joint Research Centre (JRC) which is a Directorate-General of the EC. EU-RLs provide the EC with technical and scientific support in the area of diagnostic and analytical tests. The remit of EU-RLs includes the set-up of EU-wide test standards, routine procedures and reliable methods, the organisation of comparative tests, training of analysts from national laboratories and networking with National Reference Laboratories. EU-RLs have an overview of international standards and practices, reference substances, reagents and their suppliers.

The EU-RLs for food and feed are listed in Annex VII of Regulation (EC) No. 882/2004:  
<http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=OJ:L:2004:165:0001:0141:EN:PDF>



# 3 Food Safety in the European neighbouring countries

## 3.1 Armenia



Armenia

The central legal foundations for food and feed safety in Armenia are:

- ▶ Law on Food Safety State Control
- ▶ Veterinary Law
- ▶ Phytosanitary Law
- ▶ Law on Feed

In Armenia, risk assessment and risk management are institutionally separated. Risk assessment is carried out by the “Scientific Center for Food Safety Risk Assessment and Analysis” (SNCO), and the Risk Control Department is responsible for risk management. Risk assessments are not published online.

### SSFS State Service for Food Safety

- ▶ Food safety
- ▶ Animal health and animal welfare
- ▶ Phytosanitary safety
- ▶ Pesticides and agrochemicals
- ▶ Feed safety
- ▶ Risk assessment
- ▶ Risk communication
- ▶ Risk management
- ▶ RASFF contact point

Seat: Yerevan  
<http://www.snund.am>



In order to ensure prevention of negative nutrition-related effects on the health of the consumers, a need to develop and implement a unified regulatory policy in the field of food safety in the Republic of Armenia has emerged during the last decade.

On 31 December 2010, the President of the Republic of Armenia officially launched the State Service for Food Safety of the Republic of Armenia.

The State Service for Food Safety (SSFS) of the Ministry of Agriculture of the Republic of Armenia is the single authorised body for the control of food safety and quality in the Republic of Armenia, having territorial branches in all eleven provinces (*marzes*) of the Republic as well as the nine Border Inspection Points (BIPs).

The SSFS was established in line with European best practices and aims to implement control in the entire food chain, based on internationally accepted principles, i. e. “from farm to fork” and “from stable to table”.

The priorities in the activities of the SSFS are:

- ▶ Uniform and effective control throughout the entire food chain,
- ▶ Ensuring state control both in food production and in retail through the traceability of products
- ▶ Risk-based inspection,
- ▶ Raising public consumer awareness,
- ▶ Creation of effective cooperation mechanisms between food business operators and the government,
- ▶ Modernisation of the system and application of IT technologies, international best practices, development of the databases,
- ▶ Identification, prevention of the spread and elimination of hazards to human health.

**RVSPCLS SNCO**  
**Republican Veterinary-Sanitary,**  
**Phyto-Sanitary Laboratory Services Center**

- ▶ **Laboratory analysis and diagnosis**

Seat: Yerevan  
<http://www.snund.am>



The Republican Veterinary-Sanitary, Phyto-Sanitary Laboratory Services Center (RVSPCLS SNCO) currently provides services in all *marzes* of the Republic, in all regions and at all border control points.

Its responsibilities comprise laboratory diagnostics of animal diseases, including birds, furred animals, fish and bees, laboratory analysis of animal origin food and raw materials, implementation of sero-monitoring, implementation of serological examination, detection of plant quarantine organisms, diseases and weeds in the territory of RA. Additionally, the RVSPCLS SNCO implements laboratory analysis of raw materials of animal origin, food and foodstuffs, as well as post-vaccination monitoring of diseases of agricultural animals. Further, the RVSPCLS SNCO is responsible for the delivery of veterinary vaccines and disinfectants, veterinary and other resources to the organisations providing veterinary services within the scope of the state funded projects.

**FSRAASC SNCO**  
**Food Safety Risk Assessment and**  
**Analysis Scientific Center**

- ▶ Risk assessment
- ▶ Risk communication

Seat: Yerevan  
<http://www.snund.am>



The Food Safety Risk Assessment and Analysis Scientific Center (FSRAASC SNCO) is a non-commercial, non-profit state organisation with legal status.

The founder of the organisation is the Republic of Armenia on behalf of the Government of RA. The organisation functions in line with the constitution, the Civil Code of the Republic of Armenia, the RA law “On State Non-Commercial Organisations” and other legal acts.

Some of its functions are: risk assessment and scientific justification of food safety, activities in the veterinary and phytosanitary fields, testing of new medicines and disinfectants and determination of their effectiveness.

The FSCFRAA is responsible for veterinary services, animal breeding and plant protection.

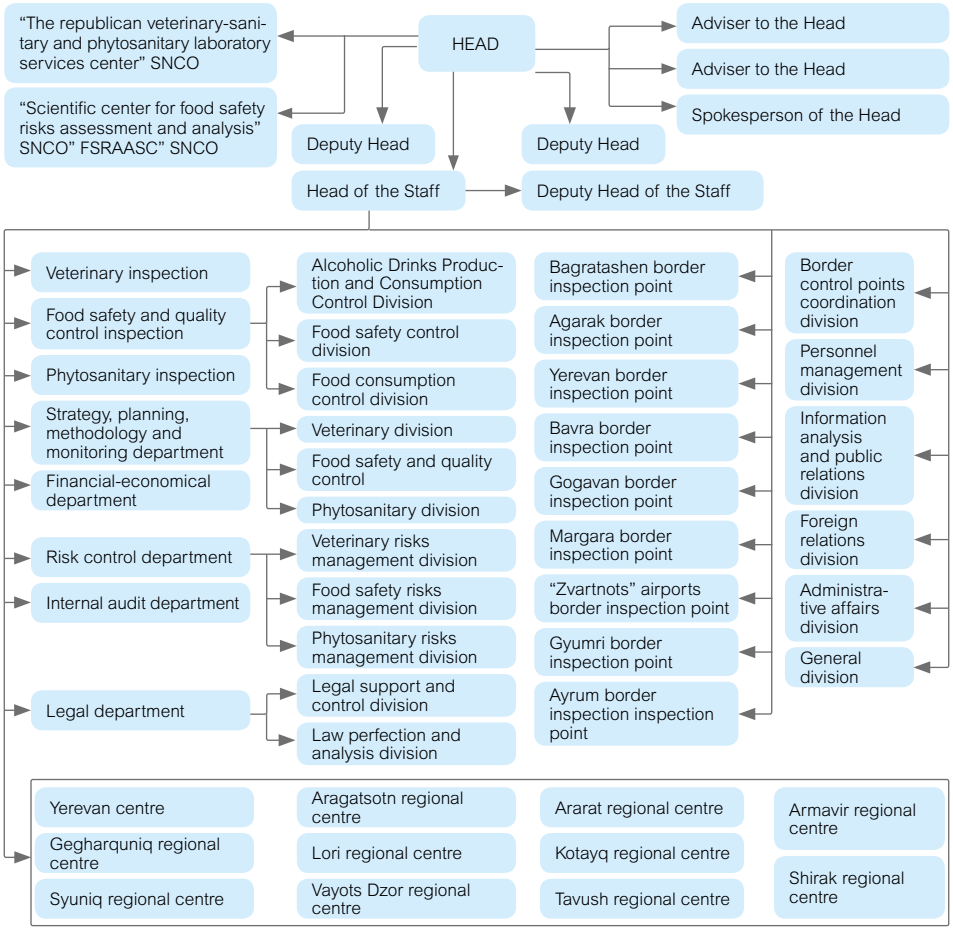
Animal breeding divisions are engaged in species survival of agricultural animals and birds in

Armenia, developing activities and addressing questions in the area of production.

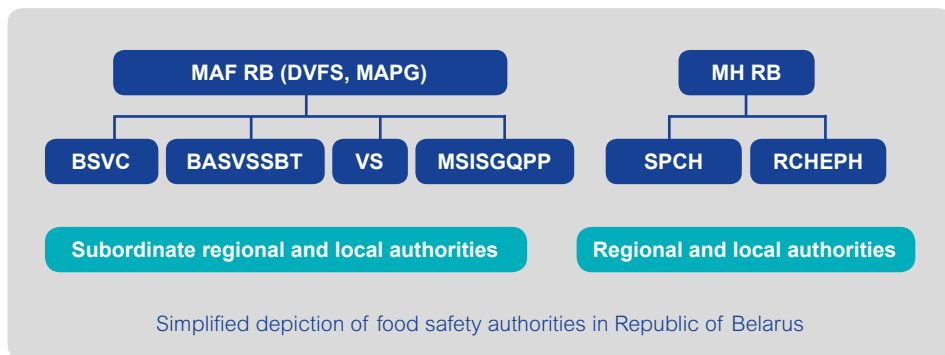
Veterinary divisions are engaged in the prevention of diseases in animals and birds, treatment measures and implementation of laboratory research, as well as diagnostic methods.

Plant protection divisions study the species of crop and forest pests.

### Regional and local levels



### 3.2 Belarus



In the Republic of Belarus food product safety is defined by the laws of the Republic of Belarus “On Sanitary and Epidemiological Welfare of the Population” of 7 January 2012, No. 340-Z (updated 5 January 2016 No. 355-Z) , “On Veterinary Activity” of 2 July 2010 No. 161-Z (updated 24 October 2016 No. 438-Z), “On protection of plants” of 25 December 2005 No. 77-Z (updated 28 December 2009 No. 93-Z) and “On Quality and Safety of Food Raw Materials and Food Products” of 29 June 2003 No. 217-Z (updated 4 January 2014 No. 130-Z).

In general, the main provisions of these documents are equivalent to the requirements of EU Regulation No. 178/2002 of 28 January 2002.

In Belarus, risk assessment and risk management are largely institutionally separated.

Risk assessments are not yet published online.

#### MAF RB Ministry of Agriculture and Food of the Republic of Belarus

- ▶ Agriculture policy and food safety
- ▶ Animal health and animal welfare
- ▶ Plant health
- ▶ Controls of quality and safety, traceability of food and feed
- ▶ Some aspects in the field of plant protection products and fertilisers
- ▶ Risk management
- ▶ Risk communication

Seat: Minsk  
<http://mshp.minsk.by>



Activities of the Ministry of Agriculture and Food of the Republic of Belarus (MAF RB):

- ▶ Pursuing the single state policy, carrying out state administration and regulation in the field of agriculture, fishery, food production, as well as in the field of seed growing, strain testing, quarantine and plant protection, preservation and improvement of soil fertility, pedigree stock-breeding, veterinary medicine, quality assurance of food raw materials and food products, amelioration, mechanisation and electrification of agricultural production,

- ▶ Regulation and coordination of activities of the national state administration authorities and other organisations subordinated to the Government of the Republic of Belarus, such as local executive and regulatory authorities, on issues falling within its competence,
- ▶ Improvement of economic policies and methods of economic management, taking measures aimed at enhancement of production efficiency in the field of agriculture, fishery activity and food production.

**DVFS**  
**Department of Veterinary and Food Supervision**

- ▶ State control and supervision in the field of veterinary medicine
- ▶ Control of quality and safety of food, raw products and foodstuffs (but not implementation of trade activity)
- ▶ Registration and supervision of veterinary drug use
- ▶ Safety of genetic engineering (within competence of MAF RB)

Seat: Minsk  
<http://dvfn.gov.by>



The Department of Veterinary and Food Supervision (DVFS) heads the following authorities with these specific activities:

State Institution "Belarusian State Veterinary Center" (BSVC): laboratory diagnostics of animal diseases, monitoring and control of quality of veterinary drugs, veterinary and sanitary safety of food raw materials and food products, feed and feed additives, accredited according to ISO 17025.

State institution "Belarusian Authority of State Veterinary Supervision at the State Border and Transport" (BASVSSBT): veterinary supervision at the state border and transport for import, export and transit purposes.

State institution "Veterinary Supervision" (VS): control of the fulfilment of general health and animal disease control measures, control (supervision) in the field of veterinary medicine, including veterinary and sanitary safety of food raw materials and food products.

**MAPG**  
**Main Authority of Plant Growing**

- ▶ Supervision in the field of seed growing, quarantine and plant protection
- ▶ Selection and seed growing of agricultural plants
- ▶ Tests of plant protection products and fertilisers
- ▶ Quality control of plant protection products

Seat: Minsk  
<https://www.mshp.gov.by/>  
<http://www.ggiskzr.by> (MSISGQPP)



State institution "Main State Inspectorate for Seed Growing, Quarantine and Plant Protection" (MSISGQPP) activity: plant protection products and fertilisers; phytosanitary control of quarantine products; phytosanitary certification.

**MH RB**  
**Ministry of Health of the Republic of Belarus**

- ▶ Health policy, food safety policy
- ▶ Risk management
- ▶ Risk communication
- ▶ RASFF Contact Point

Seat: Minsk  
<http://minzdrav.gov.by>



The Ministry of Health of the Republic of Belarus (MH RB) is responsible for policy and legislation in the field of food safety and nutrition of the population including chemical and microbiological contaminants, hygiene requirements, labelling and claims, baby food, dietetic products, food contacting materials, drinking, bottled and mineral water, food additives and food supplements. The MH RB coordinates and/or monitors the activities of national governmental authorities and other stakeholders concerning the health and well-being of the population in connection with food safety, the performance of risk management and risk communication. The RASFF Contact Point is at the MH RB.

### SPCH Scientific Practical Centre of Hygiene

- ▶ Research in the field of food safety and human nutrition
- ▶ Risk assessment
- ▶ Risk communication
- ▶ Research-based decision support
- ▶ Codex Contact Point

Seat: Minsk  
<http://www.rspch.by>  
<http://www.certificate.by>



The Scientific Practical Centre of Hygiene (SPCH) performs fundamental and applied research in the field of food safety and human nutrition, including risk assessment, and provides research-based decision support.

The national Codex Contact Point is located in the SPCH. The SPCH is responsible for preparing drafts of food safety legislation on a national and a Eurasian Economic Union level. The SPCH laboratories cover the areas of microbiology, chemistry, biology and toxicology and are accredited according to ISO 17025.

### RCHEPH Republican Centre for Hygiene, Epidemiology and Public Health

- ▶ State sanitary and epidemiological surveillance
- ▶ Risk management
- ▶ Risk communication

Seat: Minsk  
<http://www.rcceph.by>



The Republican Centre for Hygiene, Epidemiology and Public Health (RCHEPH) coordinates the activity of regional and local authorities in the state sanitary and epidemiological surveillance system, including laboratory testing of food.

### Regional and local levels

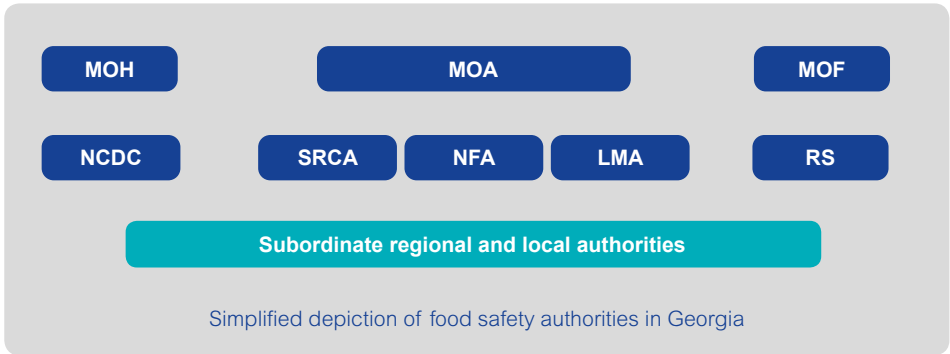
In total, six veterinary departments under agriculture and food committees, the state institution "Minsk City Veterinary Station" and 118 district (municipal) veterinary stations operate on the regional and local levels.

Sanitary and epidemiological supervision in the field of food safety (both during production and on the market) covers 137 regional and local centres for hygiene, epidemiology and public health.

Participation in EFSA's activities:

As one of the European Neighbourhood Policy (ENP) partner countries, the Republic of Belarus participates in the project for cooperation in the area of food safety.

### 3.3 Georgia



Georgia

The central legal foundation for food and feed safety in Georgia is the “Code of Food/Feed Safety, Veterinary and Plant Protection”. This act describes provisions on hygiene, labelling, traceability, principles of risk analysis, HACCP principles, and control of responsible competent authorities in the field of food and feed safety. The law aims to ensure a high level of protection of consumers’ health and their economic interests, and determines the general requirements related to food safety as well as the obligations of food and feed business operators. Infringements of the regulations can lead to measures under the Code of Administrative Offences of Georgia (N161/1984), and the final decision lies with the court.

resolutions: No. 173/2010 (EC No. 852/2004); No. 90/2012 (EC No. 853/2004); No. 55/2015 (EC No. 854/2004); No. 567/2015 (EC No. 1881/2006); No. 578/2015 (EC No. 16/2011); No. 581/2015 (EC No. 2073/2005). The Risk Assessment Service was established as a structural unit of a legal entity called the Scientific Research Center of Agriculture under the Ministry of Agriculture of Georgia (MOA) in April 2014, leading to institutional separation with regard to the implementation of the functions of risk assessment and risk management, strengthening the protection of human health and consumers’ interests in relation to food and feed as well as implementation of the EU requirements in the area of food safety.

Under the ENP, Georgia is bringing its laws into line with those of the European Union. The central law is harmonised with (EC) No. 178/2002 and No. 882/2004 regulations. The main vertical legislation consists of the government

Risk assessment contributes to scientific knowledge and technical support in the implementation of the state policy in the field of food safety. Risk assessment publications can be found at [www.srca.gov.ge](http://www.srca.gov.ge).

## MOA Ministry of Agriculture

- ▶ Develops and implements a unified sustainable agricultural policy
- ▶ Ensures food safety and security
- ▶ Supports land consolidation and agricultural cooperation
- ▶ Strengthens trade policy on local and international markets

Seat: Tbilisi (and regional offices)  
<http://www.moa.gov.ge>

The EU and Georgia are in the process of forging a closer political and economic relationship by signing an Association Agreement (AA). This includes the goal of creating a Deep and Comprehensive Free Trade Area (DCFTA) between the EU and Georgia. In this process, the Ministry of Agriculture (MOA) of Georgia is the main institution responsible for bringing national SPS legislation into line with that of the EU.

## NFA (MOA) National Food Agency

- ▶ Food/Feed safety, veterinary and phytosanitary state control
- ▶ Risk management & communication
- ▶ Codex Contact Point
- ▶ RASFF Contact Point
- ▶ INFOSAN Contact Point
- ▶ OIE Contact Point
- ▶ IPPC Contact Point

Seat: Tbilisi (and offices in 12 regions)  
<http://nfa.gov.ge/ge/>



The National Food Agency (NFA) is the central authority in the fields of food/feed safety, veterinary and plant protection state control. The agency is represented by its Central Office and 12 Regional Offices. The National Food Safety

Control programme based on risk and covering the food chain “from farm to fork” is developed and implemented by the NFA. State control activities include inspection of food business operators (FBO), sampling, supervision and documentary checks. In addition, the NFA is responsible for assignment of the water trade mark category for drinking and bottled water and PDO/PGI (protected designation of origin/protected geographical indication) registration; also for licensing the production of children’s and infants’ food. The NFA covers the areas of animal feed, food supplements, genetically modified organisms (GMOs), food contact materials and residues of veterinary drugs and agrochemicals. The agency issues veterinary, health and phytosanitary certificates and permits import of certain products.

The Veterinary Department within the NFA is the state authority responsible for animal health and welfare. Activities include: state vaccination campaigns, extremely dangerous pathogens (EDPs) of zoonotic impact, active and passive surveillance and disease control, outbreak management. Animal traceability is conducted through identification, registration and movement control. The Veterinary Department is also responsible for the state registration and control of veterinary drugs in Georgia.

The Phytosanitary Department supervises and controls phytosanitary quarantine measures and evaluates the phytosanitary situation of the country; issues phytosanitary certificates for the export of products of plant origin; regulates activities within the registration process of pesticides and agrochemicals; publishes and updates a state catalogue of permitted pesticides and agrochemicals in Georgia. The regional offices are fully responsible for their areas and fulfil almost all functions of the NFA. Their activities are coordinated and supervised by the Central Office.



### SRCA (MOA) Scientific Research Centre of Agriculture

- ▶ EFSA Contact Point
- ▶ Risk assessment for food and feed safety
- ▶ Develops methodologies and harmonise international standards and guides for risk assessment
- ▶ Provides scientific-technical support to risk managers
- ▶ Research, rehabilitation and conservation of local breeds of crops and animals
- ▶ Explores and adapts international breeds
- ▶ Encourages and promotes organic production, develops certified systems
- ▶ Researches pests and plant diseases
- ▶ Elaborates the integrated control measures
- ▶ Develops and promotes extension programmes & advanced agricultural technologies.

Seat: Tbilisi (offices and sites in regions)  
<http://www.srca.gov.ge>



The risk assessment function of the Scientific Research Centre of Agriculture (SRCA) is fulfilled by the Risk Assessment Division and the Risk Assessment Scientific Council. The scientific council brings together 106 independent scientists from 15 different scientific/research institutions all over the country. The head of the council is elected by the members.

Risk assessors identify potential chemical, biological and physical hazards, conduct appropriate scientific studies and provide recommendations to risk managers based on newly drafted scientific opinions.

The Risk Assessment Service disseminates information from EFSA, FAO, WHO and other official websites regarding threats, risk assessment studies and results. Risk assessment processes and findings are transparent and available to all

interested parties. The service maintains an online database of scientists and experts involved in risk assessment work.

### LMA (MOA) Laboratory of the Ministry of Agriculture

- ▶ Animal disease diagnoses
- ▶ Pest and plant disease diagnoses
- ▶ Food/feed testing on microbiological and chemical contaminations

Seat: Tbilisi (and in regions)  
<http://www.lma.gov.ge>



The NFA and the Revenue Service (RS) collaborate with the Laboratory of the Ministry of Agriculture (LMA) and also with private laboratories according to their spheres of accreditation.

### NCDC (MOH) National Center for Disease Control and Public Health

- ▶ Protects, monitors and analyses the overall state of public health
- ▶ Detects and identifies risks & hazards connected with (non)-communicable diseases
- ▶ Controls and prevents diseases according to newly available scientific information
- ▶ Research, monitoring and laboratory testing of health risk determinants
- ▶ Develops emergency plans
- ▶ Informs the population about emergency risks and hazards
- ▶ Ensures the functional arrangement of the overall communicable disease system

Seat: Tbilisi (and in regions)  
<http://www.ncdc.ge/>



The National Center for Disease Control and Public Health (NCDC) is responsible for protection and improvement of public health based on scientific evidence on diseases, including food-borne diseases. It is also responsible for prevention, preparedness and timely response to public health threats. The NCDC and the NFA use a real time notification system for the urgent exchange of information.

**RS (MOF)  
Revenue Service  
(Customs Department)**

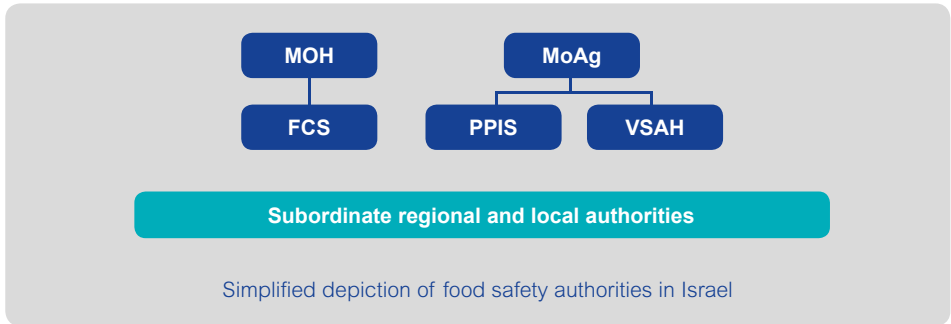
- ▶ Veterinary border quarantine control (documentary/identity/physical checks according to the monitoring plan or based on suspicion)
- ▶ Phytosanitary border control (documentary/identity checks/plant health control/physical checks)

Seat: Tbilisi (and at custom control sites)  
<http://www.rs.ge>



The Legal Entity of Public Law (LEPL) Revenue Service (RS) implements state phytosanitary and veterinary border-quarantine controls, based on policies defined by the MOA. The RS reports to the NFA and is in particular responsible for checking that documents are complete, authentication and checking products. Based on these reports, border control plans are updated and adapted, and the frequency of physical checks and laboratory sampling at the Border Inspection Posts (BIPs) are adjusted. In case of critical non-compliance, the RS notifies the NFA, which decides whether to interrupt the clearance process. Cooperation and exchange of information between the NS and the RS is regulated by Government Resolution No. 429 of 31 Dec 2010.

### 3.4 Israel



Israel

The main food legislation for the Ministry of Health (MOH) in Israel is the Public Health Protection Law (food) 2015, which gives the MOH the mandate to establish regulations regarding food safety, quality and labelling, and to supervise food production, importation and marketing. This law also allocates the responsibility for adequate health, safety and quality of the food placed on the Israeli market to the food manufacturer, importer and distributor of the food.

In addition, there are several other laws that regulate the food supply chain. The Control of Commodities and Services Law (1957), with its amendments, is the foundation for food supervision enforcement. An additional law is the Business License Law (1968), which gives the local authorities the mandate to license food business operators (FBOs).

According to the Standards Law (1953), the Standards Institute of Israel (SII) prepares standards to ensure the quality of products which are produced locally or are imported. The legal foundation of the Plant Protection and Inspection Services (PPIS) is the Plant Protection Law (1956) and the pursuant regulations on registration and labelling of plant protection products.

Infringements of food regulations or standards may lead to measures under criminal as well as civil law. Governmental measures with regard to food safety are usually based on scientific risk assessment.

In Israel, risk assessment and risk management are not institutionally separated. The Risk Management unit within the Food Control Service (FCS) is specifically dedicated to science-based risk analysis.

Surveys of pesticide residues, mycotoxins, heavy metals, dioxins and other contaminants are published on the FCS website. Risk assessment reports based on these surveys are also published on the FCS website. Reports on the monitoring of residues in food of animal origin are published annually on the website of the Veterinary Services and Animal Health (VSAH).

**MOH – Ministry of Health  
FCS – Food Control Service**

- ▶ Food safety policy, regulation and enforcement
- ▶ Risk assessment
- ▶ Risk management
- ▶ Risk communication
- ▶ Control of local production of food of animal and non-animal origin
- ▶ Control of fish and food import
- ▶ Participation in Codex committees
- ▶ RASFF Contact Point
- ▶ INFOSAN Contact Point

Seat: Tel Aviv  
<http://www.health.gov.il>



The Israeli Food Control Service (FCS) is responsible for all aspects of food, both locally produced and imported. The service is active in safeguarding food of animal and non-animal origin through the establishment of legislation, policy, and inspections. The FCS ensures the production and marketing of safe food and uses routine risk assessment, risk management, and risk communication on an ongoing basis to reduce the risks of foodborne poisoning and disease. The MOH has its own laboratories that conduct both chemical and biological analyses. The FCS monitors contaminants and pesticide residues in raw and processed products available on the Israeli market. The veterinary unit within the FCS is responsible for ensuring the safety of food of animal origin on the Israeli market, including creating legislation and policy regarding food of animal origin and its domestic production as well as the inspection of imported fish and meat products. The FCS has responsibilities together with departments within the MOH and other ministries.

The FCS is responsible for the coordination of inspections and implementation of policy within the districts.

**MoAg – Ministry of Agriculture  
VSAH – Veterinary Services and Animal Health**

- ▶ Animal health and animal welfare
- ▶ Feed policy and inspection
- ▶ Official controls of primary and some secondary production
- ▶ Chemical residue control in animal products
- ▶ Control of animal waste
- ▶ Control of import and export of animals and some animal products
- ▶ Competent authority for export of food of animal origin
- ▶ OIE Contact Point

Seat: Beit Dagan  
<http://www.moag.gov.il>



The Veterinary Services and Animal Health (VSAH) is responsible for the research, prevention and eradication of animal diseases, including licensing and testing of medications and vaccines to prevent hazards in animal products. It performs official controls and inspections within farms (1<sup>st</sup> prod.), slaughterhouses, abattoirs, egg/fish sorting facilities (2<sup>nd</sup> prod.), FBOs that export food of animal origin (3<sup>rd</sup> prod.) and waste facilities. The VSAH plans and implements the annual programme for residue control in animal products. It inspects imports of animals, raw meat and shell eggs. The VSAH creates legislation and enforces policy regarding feed production, feed import and food safety. It is jointly responsible with other departments and ministries for the registration of veterinary medical products, veterinary pesticides and veterinary biocides.

**MoAg – Ministry of Agriculture  
PPIS – Plant Protection and Inspection  
Services**

- ▶ Plant protection policy
- ▶ Licensing pesticides for agricultural use
- ▶ Inspecting pesticide residues at the farm level
- ▶ Organic produce standardisation
- ▶ Authorisation of GMO field trials
- ▶ Laboratory services

Seat: Beit Dagan  
<http://www.moag.gov.il>



Plant Protection and Inspection Services (PPIS) is responsible for the pre-market entry of fresh plant products, including pesticide residue monitoring, standardisation and certification of organic products. It is also tasked with licensing and analysis of genetically modified plants, including field trial authorisation as well as inspection of the quality of agricultural produce and the provision of special treatments for produce intended for export in accordance with the requirements of the destination countries. The laboratories of the PPIS have the capability to analyse and diagnose viruses, nematodes, fungi and bacteria as well as chemical residues.

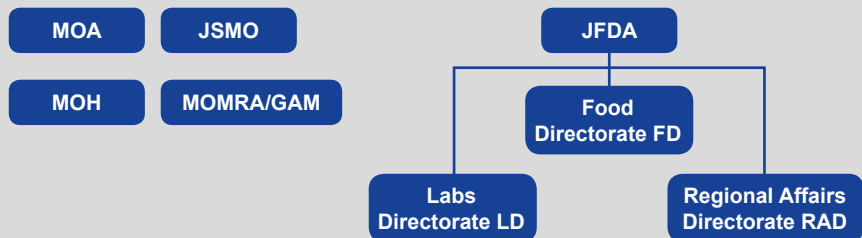
**Regional and local levels**

FCS: Seven health districts are responsible for FBO inspection and sampling products available on the market according to the risk management unit's annual sampling plan for food contaminants.

VSAH: The Control Department of Animal Products (CDAP) in the VSAH is the CCA (Central Competent Authority) regarding animal products with regional OVs (Official Veterinarians) in two regions. In the facilities, local OVs in 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> production facilities perform the daily controls on each level and supervise the subordinate levels.

PPIS: The country is divided into five regions for inspection purposes. The inspectors in each region are responsible for sampling and supervising plant produce for quality and safety standards, including pesticide residue analyses.

## 3.5 Jordan



Simplified depiction of food safety authorities in The Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan

The Food Law No. 30 of 2015, which is a central legal foundation for food safety standards, stipulates the performance of food control based on risk assessment as well as the introduction of sanctions on violation and aims to increase general customer awareness. Infringements of food regulations can lead to measures under criminal law, and the final decision rests with the courts.

The Jordan food and drug administration (JFDA) applies a risk-based system for inspection of imported food consignments at border inspection posts (BIPs) where the procedures are computerised using ASYCUDA. It covers requirements for food placed on the market, handling food, competencies of public authorities in the area of food safety and duties and liability of food producers, food operators and the food trade.

In Jordan there is no institutional separation of risk assessment and risk management; however, there is a procedural separation of risk assessment and risk management. Risk assessment is not published on the JFDA website.

### JFDA Jordan Food and Drug Administration

- ▶ Food safety
- ▶ Laboratory analysis
- ▶ Surveillance and control
- ▶ Controls on quality, labelling and traceability
- ▶ Risk assessment
- ▶ Risk communication
- ▶ Risk management
- ▶ RASFF Contact Point
- ▶ EFSA Contact Point
- ▶ USFDA Contact Point
- ▶ WHO INFOSAN Contact Point
- ▶ WHO INFOSAN emergency national focal point

Seat: Amman  
<http://www.jfda.jo>



The Jordan Food and Drug Administration (JFDA), in coordination with various official agencies, guarantees seamless delivery of food safety services in line with an agreed high standard.

The JFDA performs food conformity evaluation procedures with technical regulations and standards to ensure food safety. Moreover, the JFDA inspects, based on risk analysis, places where food comes into contact with humans. Further, the JFDA controls good manufacturing practices, hazard analysis and critical control points of food handling operations according to the regulations in place. In addition, the JFDA cooperates with public and private agencies, universities, Jordanian scientific centres, regional Arabian and international organisations working in the fields of food, environment, diseases, technical and health regulations and provides advice on food safety issues to other government agencies involved in food control as well as to the food industry and consumers. The JFDA officially controls food additives and food contact materials.

### MOH Ministry of Health

- ▶ Social and health policy
- ▶ WHO Contact Point

Seat: Amman  
<http://www.moh.gov.jo/>



The Ministry of Health (MOH) is responsible for occupational health, the safety of school canteens and drinking water.

Responsibility for inspection and food control in some regions is assigned to the health directorates (MOH) by a memorandum of understanding between the JFDA and the MOH.

### MOA Ministry of Agriculture

- ▶ Agricultural policy, food and feed safety
- ▶ Laboratory analysis
- ▶ Veterinary and phytosanitary policy
- ▶ Plant health including plant protection and residues
- ▶ Controls on quality, labelling and traceability for feed
- ▶ RASF National contact point for food
- ▶ FAO Contact Point
- ▶ OIE Contact Point
- ▶ WTO/ SPS Notification and Enquiry point
- ▶ Contact Point for IPPC
- ▶ Risk communication
- ▶ Risk management

Seat: Amman  
<http://www.moa.gov.jo/>



The Jordanian Ministry of Agriculture (MOA) is responsible for the preparation, review and enforcement of sanitary measures relevant to livestock farming, in order to protect human and animal life and health. In addition, it is also responsible for the safety of fresh fruit and vegetables (Plant Protection Department) and livestock and slaughtered animals (Veterinary Department).

### JSMO Jordan Standards and Metrology Organisation

- ▶ Codex Contact Point
- ▶ WTO/ TBT Enquiry point
- ▶ Genetic engineering certificates

Seat: Amman  
<http://www.jsmo.gov.jo/>

The Jordan Standards and Metrology Organisation (JSMO) is the Kingdom's national body that is mandated to develop standards and technical regulations. It is the leading agency on all matters concerning conformity assessment procedures. The JFDA is part of the committees that issue these technical regulation standards.

**MOMRA and GAM**  
**Ministry of Municipalities & Rural Affairs**  
**and Greater Amman Municipality**

► [Inspection and control](#)

Seat: Amman  
<http://www.ammancity.gov.jo>  
<http://www.mma.gov.jo>

The Ministry of Municipalities & Rural Affairs (MOMRA) and the Greater Amman Municipality (GAM) have the responsibility of monitoring the slaughterhouses as laid down in a memorandum of understanding with the JFDA.



### 3.6 Lebanon



Lebanon

Lebanon has a multi-authority system of food safety. Thus, many ministries or departments are involved in the process, but every governmental ministry has a certain mandate in dealing with food safety issues.

A national committee was established to coordinate the issues related to food safety between all concerned authorities.

In the area of legislation, Lebanon is working on modernising food safety legislation as well as strengthening public administration regarding the “from farm to table” approach in compliance, as far as possible, with the World Trade Organization Agreements on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures (the “SPS Agreement”) and Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT). In late 2015, a food safety law was issued by the parliament.

Key regulations:

- ▶ Food safety law No. 35/2015
- ▶ Law on technical regulations and conformity with assessment procedures No. 224/2012
- ▶ Metrology Law No. 158/2011
- ▶ Plant Quarantine Law No. 778/2006
- ▶ Consumer Protection Law No. 659/2005
- ▶ The Establishment of the Lebanese Accreditation Council Law No. 572/2004
- ▶ Decree No. 4962/1982 on specifying the licensed labs that shall perform the necessary research, tests and analysis

Lebanon mainly refers to the recommendations and norms issued by the three sister organisations: Codex, the International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC) and the World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE). However, the EU regulations are used as a reference in some sectors and cases.

The competent authority proposes a project law and suggests the technical references that need to be adopted which can then be distributed for review to all affected stakeholders.

In Lebanon, there is no institutional separation of risk assessment, risk management and risk communication, but there is some procedural separation. In the future, and according to the new food safety law, after entry into force, risk assessment will be conducted and coordinated by the Food Safety Lebanese Commission (FSLC).

The results of risk assessment are not published on a regular basis. When available, results are published on the Internet unless prohibited by statutory provisions.

### MoA Ministry of Agriculture

- ▶ Agricultural policy
- ▶ Food and feed safety
- ▶ Plant health
- ▶ Animal health
- ▶ Risk management
- ▶ Risk communication
- ▶ Infosan Emergency Contact Point
- ▶ SPS Contact Point
- ▶ National Codex Coordinator

Seat: Beirut (services in every region)  
<http://www.agriculture.gov.lb>

The Ministry of Agriculture (MoA) is responsible for drafting and enforcing legislation in the area of food and feed safety and hygiene as well as agricultural policy, official controls, plant health, animal health and welfare. The MoA is a competent body for official controls in the area of food and feed safety. This includes controls during the primary food production of animal origin or food of plant origin, as well as during processing, import, export and retail in specific cases. The MoA develops a single multi-annual national control plan and designates official reference laboratories to analyse food and feed and to safeguard animal health and welfare as well as plant health. The MoA is the regulatory authority for plant protection products. In addition, the MoA is the authorisation authority for veterinary medicinal products and the regulatory authority for pesticides and veterinary drugs, genetically modified organisms (GMOs).

### Mol Ministry of Industry

- ▶ Monitors industrial developments
- ▶ Issues industrial licenses
- ▶ Quality control
- ▶ Standards conformity control

Seat: Beirut (services in every region)  
<http://www.industry.gov.lb>

The Ministry of Industry (MoI) is mainly responsible for issuing industrial licenses for food establishments and continually verifying conformity with license requirements in a joint control programme with the MoA.

The Lebanese Standards Institution (LIBNOR) is a public institution attached to the Ministry of Industry. It has the sole right to prepare, publish and amend national standards, to coordinate the issuing of technical regulations, as well as to grant the Lebanese Conformity Mark NL.

LIBNOR is the national contact point for Codex.

### MoPH Ministry of Public Health

- ▶ Health policy
- ▶ Risk assessment
- ▶ Risk management
- ▶ Risk communication
- ▶ WHO Focal Point

Seat: Beirut (services in every region)  
<http://www.moph.gov.lb>

The Ministry of Public Health (MoPH) is responsible for health policy and for the investigation of foodborne outbreaks. The MoPH is the competent authority for the assessment of the safe treatment of bottled natural mineral, spring and table water.

In addition, the MoPH is responsible for the epidemiological monitoring programme and coordinating the inspection activities which are carried out by Regional Health Inspectorates. The health assurance system for food workers is located under the umbrella of the MoPH.

The portfolio of the MoPH encompasses, amongst other things, novel foods, food supplements, food additives, contaminants and food contact materials.

## MoET Ministry of Economy and Trade

- ▶ Consumer protection policy
- ▶ Risk assessment
- ▶ Risk management
- ▶ Risk communication
- ▶ RASFF Contact Point

Seat: Beirut (services in every region)  
<http://www.economy.gov.lb>

The Ministry of Economy and Trade (MoET) is responsible for consumer protection policy and market surveillance through the consumer protection directorate.

The activities of the MoET include official controls on the import of certain groups of food items. It ensures the quality and safety of goods placed on the market and services, especially food products and their compliance with the national standards.

In addition to these activities, the MoET verifies the safety of raw materials and assesses the food storage and transportation conditions throughout the processed food chain.

Among other things, the MoET manages a centre for consumers' complaints and conducts the appropriate investigations in order to prevent the reoccurrence of non-conformities. Consumer awareness is mainly the responsibility of MoET.

In case of a threat to human health, the Minister of Economy and Trade specifies restrictions or prohibitions on the importation and distribution of suspected goods.

## FSLC Food Safety Lebanese Commission

- ▶ Food safety policy
- ▶ Risk assessment
- ▶ Risk management
- ▶ Risk communication

Since there is an allocation of responsibilities between ministries for separate areas of food control, Lebanon has adopted an integrated approach in the food safety system by creating an independent authority to oversee and coordinate the responsibilities of the entire food safety system. The Food Safety Lebanese Commission (FSLC) reports to the Prime Minister.

The responsibilities of this commission include issuing and enforcing the national food safety policy, conducting scientific research and studies, risk analysis, verifying food traceability systems, and establishing and managing a national rapid alert system as well as crisis management.

Authorities related indirectly to food safety:

- ▶ MoT: Ministry of Tourism: control of hotels, restaurants and cafés,
- ▶ MoF: Ministry of Finance via customs at ports of entry of products,
- ▶ MoE: Ministry of Environment: assistance in industrial licensing and control of solid waste management.

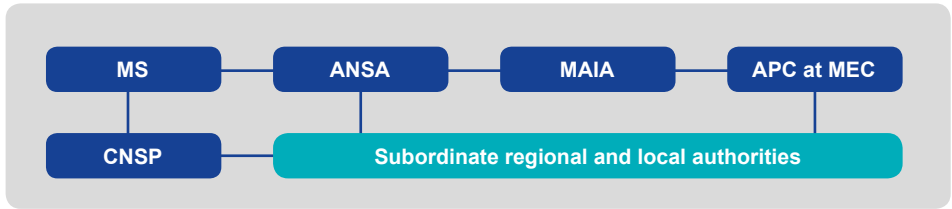
## Regional and local levels

The Republic of Lebanon has seven administrative districts. The regional and local levels are subordinate to the central departments/authorities in a direct chain of command and are mainly responsible for the implementation of inspection activities.

In addition, controls in the area of animal identification, registration, animal feed and plant health are carried out by 28 agricultural regional centres connected to the MoA.

At the local level, municipalities have their own control competences in the field of food hygiene in the food business sector.

**3.7 Moldova**



Moldova

The following three laws represent the statutory system of food safety legislation in the Republic of Moldova: Law No. 221/2007 dealing with sanitary-veterinary activities, Law No. 119/2004 dealing with phytosanitary products and fertilisers and Law No. 113/2012 dealing with the definition of general principles and requirements for the legislation of food safety.

ANSA is the executive body in the range of food safety, while ministries are mostly responsible for policies and methodology in given circumstances.

ANSA is responsible for the unified coordination of supervision and monitoring of all actions taken within the entire food chain from “farm to fork.”

ANSA manages all issues related to food and feed safety, traceability in the food chain, animal health and welfare, veterinary checks, control of livestock, control of contagious animal diseases, zoonoses and zoonotic agents, seed control, plant protection, plant health and plant quarantine, import of animal and plant products, veterinary medicinal products and their residues.

**ANSA  
National Food Safety Agency**

- ▶ Risk assessment
- ▶ Risk management
- ▶ Risk communication
- ▶ Border controls
- ▶ Food safety assurance
- ▶ Animal welfare
- ▶ Phytosanitary control
- ▶ EFSA Contact Point

Seat: Chisinau  
<http://www.ansa.gov.md>

The National Food Safety Agency (ANSA), subordinated to the Government of the Republic of Moldova, has the following structure:

- ▶ Food safety territorial subdivisions with legal character
- ▶ Veterinary control posts organised within the customs stations performing veterinary and phytosanitary controls.

The National Food Safety Agency (ANSA) ensures that food business operators provide safe products for the market.

**MAIA  
Ministry of Agriculture and Food Industry**

- ▶ Risk assessment
- ▶ Risk management
- ▶ Risk communication
- ▶ Agricultural policy
- ▶ Food safety regarding quality, quantity and accessibility

Seat: Chisinau  
<http://www.maia.gov.md>

The Ministry of Agriculture and Food Industry (MAIA) of the Republic of Moldova is responsible for the development of policy in agricultural and food and feed safety and for the harmonisation of the legislation with European provisions.

## MS Ministry of Health

- ▶ Risk assessment
- ▶ Risk management
- ▶ Risk communication
- ▶ Evaluation of the state of health of the population
- ▶ Responsible for public health monitoring

Seat: Chisinau  
<http://www.ms.gov.md>

The Ministry of Health (MS) is responsible for policy issues in the area of healthcare, including public health and health insurance. The portfolio of the MS includes defining a general policy on nutrition. Within the food safety area, the MS is responsible for preparing legislation and overseeing its implementation with regard to food for particular nutritional uses, food supplements and food contact materials.

## APC at MEC Agency for Consumer Protection at the Ministry of Economy

- ▶ Risk assessment
- ▶ Risk management
- ▶ Risk communication
- ▶ Organisation and surveillance regarding compliance of products and services rendered
- ▶ Information and education of citizens on their rights as consumers

Seat: Chisinau  
<http://www.consumator.gov.md>

The Agency for Consumer Protection (APC), subordinated to the Ministry of Economy (MEC), is responsible for market surveillance and consumer protection rights.

Consumer protection services perform risk assessment by controlling the labelling of products and reviewing consumer complaints.

## CNSP National Centre for Public Health

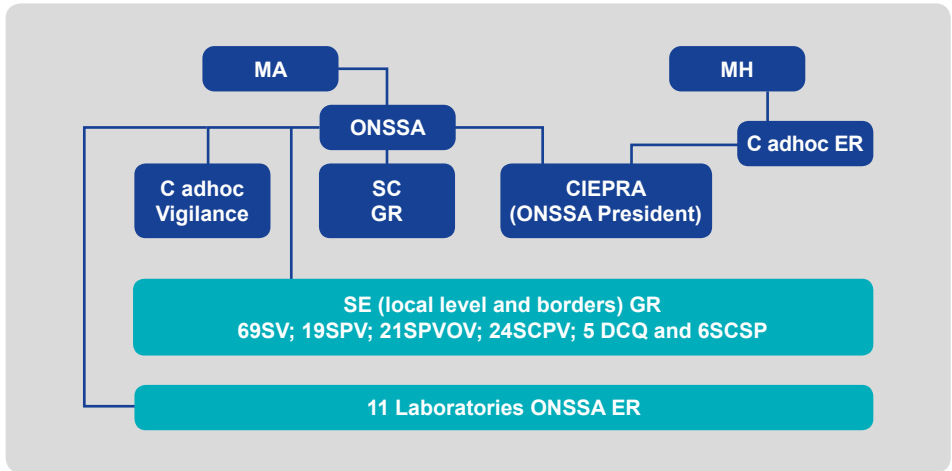
- ▶ Risk assessment
- ▶ Risk management
- ▶ Risk communication
- ▶ Codex Contact Point
- ▶ Health promotion
- ▶ Food safety
- ▶ Control of infectious diseases

Seat: Chisinau  
<http://www.cnsp.md>

The National Centre for Public Health (CNSP) is subordinated to the Ministry of Health and is responsible for epidemiological surveillance, health promotion and disease prevention. The CNSP is in charge of fighting addictions such as harmful consumption of alcohol, tobacco and drugs. In addition, it is the CNSP's mission to combat negative lifestyles such as sedentary lifestyles or obesity and to re-orientate the population to a healthy dietary regime and behavior to prevent a number of chronic non-communicable diseases, such as cardiovascular diseases, cancer, digestive diseases, injuries, food poisoning etc. CNSP further supervises the safety of food and drinking water.

3.8 Morocco

Morocco



Regarding the legal foundations: joint decision of Agriculture Minister and Finance Minister

The Directorate of Risk Assessment is completely separate and independent of other technical directorates (management)

Work on the online publication of risk assessments is currently in progress.

**ONSSA**  
National Office of Sanitary Food Safety

- ▶ Risk management
- ▶ Risk communication
- ▶ Risk assessment
- ▶ Animal health
- ▶ Food safety
- ▶ Codex Contact Point
- ▶ OIE/IPPC Contact Point
- ▶ Advisory committee
- ▶ Scientific committee
- ▶ Health monitoring committee
- ▶ INFOSAN emergency
- ▶ PS committee
- ▶ Pesticide approval committee
- ▶ Veterinary drug approval committee
- ▶ Laboratories

Seat: Rabat  
<http://www.onssa.gov.ma>

In order to carry out its various assignments, the National Office of Sanitary Food Safety (ONSSA) is organised into central, regional and local structures and has a substantial network of analysis laboratories spread over the whole country. The ONSSA is a public institution with legal and financial autonomy, supervised by the Department of Agriculture.

The ONSSA performs functions on behalf of the state related to the protection of consumer health and the preservation of animal and plant health at every stage of the food chain. It is the national authority responsible for SPS negotiations to facilitate trade in animals, plants, animal and plant products and animal feed.

The ONSSA is the competent authority responsible, in accordance with the laws and regulations in force, for the following tasks:

- ▶ Plant and animal health and food safety from raw materials to the end consumer, including food intended for use as animal feed,
- ▶ Protection of the health of the country's plant and animal life and control of plant and animal products and products of plant and animal origin, including fishery products, during import, export and in the domestic market,
- ▶ Registration of veterinary drugs and veterinary pharmaceutical establishments,
- ▶ Control of food additives, packaging material and products and materials liable to come into contact with food products as well as with fertilisers and irrigation water,
- ▶ Approval of pesticides and of establishments producing, importing or exporting pesticides.

It should be noted that the revision of the organisational chart of the ONSSA took place in 2015 with the creation of the Directorate of Risk Assessment and Legal Affairs, at which time the SPS Risk Assessment Division was created with responsibility for assessing risks distinct from management entities.

The ONSSA is the official Moroccan authority responsible for the focal points relating to the following international organisations:

- ▶ Joint FAO/WHO Food Standards Programme (Codex Alimentarius Commission): Secretariat of the National Codex Alimentarius Committee,
- ▶ WTO for the implementation of the SPS Agreement: enquiry point for SPS measures,
- ▶ OIE: National Delegate representing Morocco before the World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE),
- ▶ International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC): Moroccan contact point.

The ONSSA created two committees: an Advisory Committee and a Scientific Committee.

Other institutions involved in food safety in coordination with the ONSSA:

1. National Hygiene Institute (INH) under the MS
2. National Fisheries Research Institute (INRH)
3. Institut Pasteur (IP)
4. Official Laboratory of Analysis and Chemical Research (LOARC)
5. Autonomous Establishment Coordination and Export Control (EACCE)
6. National Institute of Agronomy and Veterinary Hassan II (IAVH II)
7. National Institute of Agronomic Research (INRA)
8. Approved private laboratories ONSSA
9. Control Laboratory of Veterinary Drugs and Inputs (AMM)
10. Epidemiological service and health monitoring

**MH**  
**Ministry of Health**

- ▶ Health policy
- ▶ Foodborne outbreaks
- ▶ Risk management related to foodborne diseases
- ▶ Declaration of foodborne diseases

Seat: Rabat  
<http://www.sante.gov.ma>



The activities of the Ministry of Health (MH) in connection with product safety involve the coordination of actions related to food intoxications and the fight against zoonosis vectors.

**Regional and local levels**

The MH is represented in each province by staff dealing mainly with public sanitary measures.



### 3.9 Tunisia



The legislative framework governing quality and food safety in Tunisia is as follows:

- ▶ Law No. 92-117 of 7 December 1992 on the protection of consumers,
- ▶ Law No. 2005-95 of 18 October 2005 on live-stock and animal products,
- ▶ Law No. 2009-38 of 30 June 2009 concerning the national standardisation system and
- ▶ Law No. 66-27 of 30 April 1966 promulgating the Labour Code.

The consumer protection act is a harmonised and horizontal law. It was established in 1992 and aims to cover the entire spectrum of goods including food. The consumer protection act is based on national and international regulations in order to evaluate products without discrimination between local, imported or exported goods. The law defines four institutions that are involved in the control of products: controllers from the Ministries of Trade, Agriculture, Home Affairs and Health. The role of coordination, however, is assigned to trade services. A current review of the text is expected to divide it into a “Food Safety Act” and a consumer protection law for other goods.

Official controls for food, feed, animal health and welfare and plant health are not based on an appropriate local risk evaluation framework but on international standards such as those of Codex Alimentarius.

#### MS Ministry of Health

- ▶ Health policy, food safety
- ▶ Food control activities
- ▶ Food outbreak surveillance
- ▶ Risk assessment
- ▶ Risk communication
- ▶ Risk management
- ▶ EFSA contact point

Seat: Tunis  
<http://www.santetunisie.rns.tn>



The ministry’s organisational set-up was defined by the decree of the Organisation of the Ministry of Health (MS) in 1974 and completed by two decrees in 1981 and 1982.

The regional directorates of public health are governed directly by means of decree No. 2010-1668 of 5 July 2010, establishing the responsibilities and organisation of the regional directorates of public health.

The official control structures for quality and food safety in the MS are:

- ▶ The Directorate of Environmental Health and Protection of the Environment (DHMPE),
- ▶ The National Agency of Sanitary and Environmental Control Products (ANCSEP).

**MARHP**  
**Ministry of Agriculture,**  
**Water Resources and Fishery**

- ▶ Agricultural policy
- ▶ Agricultural products
- ▶ Plant health
- ▶ Animal health
- ▶ Controls on quality, labelling and traceability of food and feed
- ▶ Plant protection products and fertilisers
- ▶ Risk assessment
- ▶ Risk management
- ▶ Risk communication
- ▶ RASFF Contact Point

Seat: Tunis  
<http://www.agriculture.tn>



The official control systems for quality and food safety in the Ministry of Agriculture, Water Resources and Fishery (MARHP) are:

- ▶ General Directorate of Veterinary Services (DGSV),
- ▶ General Directorate of Protection and Control and Quality of Agricultural Products (DGPCQPA),
- ▶ Regional Commissions for Agricultural Development (CRDA),
- ▶ The National Centre of Zoo Sanitary Monitoring and Surveillance (CNVZ).

Risk assessment opinions and reports are drafted by the first expert committee on animal health (CESSA) at the CNVZ but are not yet completely published online; however, a summary of the opinions and reports can be found on the CNVZ's website.

**MIC**  
**Ministry of Industry and Commerce**

- ▶ Fraud repression
- ▶ Market surveillance
- ▶ Controls on quality, labelling and traceability of food and feed
- ▶ Plant protection products and fertilisers
- ▶ Risk management
- ▶ Risk communication
- ▶ RAPEX contact point
- ▶ Agreement
- ▶ Support to industry
- ▶ Industrial factories
- ▶ National Codex Committee
- ▶ Products of plant and animal origin
- ▶ Non-food products

Seat: Tunis  
<http://www.industrie.gov.tn>



The Ministry of Industry and Commerce (MIC) plays the role of a coordinator according to the consumer protection act. The metrology services are also under the governance of this ministry.

There are 64 control quality inspectors (out of hundreds of economic inspectors).

The official control systems for quality and food safety at the Ministry of Industry and Commerce are:

- ▶ Directorate of Quality and Consumer Protection (DQPC) of the Directorate General of Quality, Internal Trade, Services
- ▶ Directorate of Technical Control of the Central Directorate of Studies and Promotion (DCEP) of the Office of Commerce of Tunisia (OCT)
- ▶ General Directorate of the Agro-Food Industry (DGIA), where horizontal commissions give the industry permission to export and open special food factories
- ▶ Regional Directorates of Commerce: 24 Directorates.

The technical centre of food industries, an institution under the governance of the MIC, supports the national programmes to promote the food industry.

A standardisation body called INNORPI has, in addition to its standardisation department, a department of certification (for products and systems) and another department dealing with industrial property.

The National Codex Committee, which was created in 2000, is subordinated to the Ministry of Industry and Commerce. Its secretariat is subordinated to the technical centre of food industries (CTAA).

Created in 1994, the Tunisian Accreditation Council (TUNAC) is recognised by ILAC, IAF and has accredited more than 100 laboratories.

### MLAE Ministry of Local Affairs and Environment

- ▶ Risk management
- ▶ Control of public establishments
- ▶ Slaughterhouse
- ▶ Meat products, groceries

Seat: Tunis  
[boc@mineat.gov.tn](mailto:boc@mineat.gov.tn) (email)



The control services are included in the 264 existing municipalities and have only local authority. The municipalities play an important role in food hygiene through the control of public establishments (Organic Municipalities Act: Law number 33 March 1975). However, specialised services exist only for big towns; for example, the Municipality of Tunis (most important hygiene service) has 35 inspectors.

### Regional and local levels

There are central services (headquarters) and 24 regional (provincial) services for the three departments (health, trade and agriculture) following the administrative division of the country.

The Ministry of Local Affairs and Environment operates as a central department (headquarters).

In Tunisia there are more than 206 municipals. These municipals perform control activities at the local level, especially those located in main cities with hygiene services. Testing laboratories involved in food control: there is no specific law organising these laboratories.

Even though there are no official requirements, many public labs have been empowered by their ministries to carry out analysis under the consumer protection act.

Under MS there are 22 regional hygiene labs, the "Pasteur Institute Lab" (national salmonella reference lab) and the lab of the National Institute of Nutrition and Food Technology. The Pasteur Institute food and water lab and two regional labs are involved in accreditation processes.

The Tunis Municipality Food Lab is subordinate to the MLAE (accredited).

Under the MARHP: lab of the National Veterinarian Institute (involved in an accreditation process) and Lab of Quarantine. Under the Ministry of Industry and Commerce: LCAE (the main control lab in Tunisia) which is accredited in chemical and microbiological analysis of water; accreditation in microbiological food analysis is in progress. It is also accredited in metrology.

In the private sector there are food laboratories, but these laboratories are mainly used by factories for their own inspections and controls.

**3.10 Ukraine**

Ukraine



The main legal basis in the field of food products in Ukraine is the Law of Ukraine on Food Safety and Quality.

According to the Resolution of the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine of 10 September 2014, No. 442 “On optimization of the system of central executive bodies”, the State Service of Ukraine on Food Safety and Consumer Protection was not only established but also reorganised. The State Veterinary and Phytosanitary Service was transformed and the State Inspection for Consumer Protection and the State Sanitary and Epidemiological Service were organisationally integrated into the newly established State Service. The function of implementation of the law, which was previously performed by reorganised authorities, was also assigned to the newly created service. The division of responsibilities presented here is up-to-date.

The central executive body that formulates and implements state policy in the field of food safety and indicators of quality is the Ministry of Agrarian Policy and Food of Ukraine (MAPFU). The MAPFU establishes the order for approval of export items, inserting and removing them from the registry. It is further responsible for conducting regular consultations with the competent authorities of other countries for mutual agreement on equivalent sanitary measures and signing of relevant agreements.

The MAPFU approves:

- ▶ Requirements for implementation of state controls,
- ▶ Provision of templates that can be applied by the state inspectors during implementation of state controls,
- ▶ Long-term plans for state controls,
- ▶ Methods of zoonoses control, pathological methods in the post-mortem stage,
- ▶ Order and criteria of authorisation for the accredited laboratories, including reference laboratories,
- ▶ Requirements and rules for animal slaughter.

**MAPFU**  
**Ministry of Agrarian Policy and Food of Ukraine**

- ▶ Agricultural policy
- ▶ Food security and food safety
- ▶ Risk management

Seat: Kiev  
<http://minagro.gov.ua/>



**MOHU**  
Ministry of Health of Ukraine

- ▶ Health policy
- ▶ Risk management

Seat: Kiev  
<http://www.moz.gov.ua>



The central executive body that formulates and implements state policy in the field of public health is the Ministry of Health of Ukraine (MOHU):

The MOHU

- ▶ Establishes an adequate level of protection of human health,
- ▶ Establishes the order of notification in the event of food poisoning,
- ▶ Carries out state registration and maintains these registers by adding the latest food products, food additives, flavourings, enzymes, drinking and mineral water according to established criteria.

The MOHU approves:

- ▶ Indicators of food safety and other objects of sanitary measures, hygiene requirements for the objectives of sanitary measures,
- ▶ Criteria of drinking water as "mineral drinking water",
- ▶ A list of reference methods,
- ▶ Certain indicators of quality food,
- ▶ Methodological guidelines and uploads them to its official website on the day following approval.

**SSUFSCP**  
State Service of Ukraine on Food Safety and Consumer Protection

- ▶ Food safety and feed safety
- ▶ Animal health and animal welfare
- ▶ Identification and registration of animals
- ▶ Quarantine and plant protection
- ▶ Protection of plant variety rights
- ▶ Plant health
- ▶ Controls on quality, labelling and traceability of food and feed
- ▶ Protection products and fertilisers
- ▶ Risk communication
- ▶ Risk assessment
- ▶ Risk management
- ▶ RASFF Contact Point

Seat: Kiev  
<http://www.consumer.gov.ua/>



The central executive body that implements state policy in food safety and specific indicators of quality (competent authority) is the State Service of Ukraine on Food Safety and Consumer Protection (SSUFSCP).

The SSUFSCP

- ▶ Organises and carries out state controls, including state controls of the agricultural markets and border controls,
- ▶ Delegates the powers for implementation of state controls in cases specified by the legislation,
- ▶ Develops and implements the long-term plans for state controls and reports annually on the status of implementation,
- ▶ Approves the annual plans for state controls and the state monitoring plans,
- ▶ Carries out ante-mortem/post-mortem inspection of hunted animals,
- ▶ Publishes authorisation documents.





- ▶ Executes state control over the implementation of the permanent procedures that are based on the principles of Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Points (HACCP),
- ▶ Authorises laboratories and reference laboratories for research (testing) into objectives of sanitary measures in line with the targets determined by state controls,
- ▶ Establishes the frequency of state controls based on the results of risk analysis,
- ▶ Carries out epizootic investigations or, if necessary, participates in investigations aimed at establishing causes and conditions for the admission of the circulation of dangerous food products and those not fit for human consumption,
- ▶ Provides within its powers the actions necessary to eliminate violations and files criminal charges against those responsible for violations.

### Regional and local levels




Ukraine consists of 27 regions with twenty-four *oblasts* (regions) and one Autonomous Republic of Crimea (ARC). Additionally, both the capital Kiev and Sevastopol have a special legal status. The 24 *oblasts* and ARC are subdivided into 490 districts and city municipalities of regional significance, or second-level administrative units. The SSFUSCP is responsible for the enforcement of food laws and carrying out food inspections.

## 4 Glossary

Biocide or biocidal product		Active substance (or preparations containing one or more active substances) intended to destroy, deter or exert a controlling effect on harmful organisms by chemical or biological means. The term biocide (or biocidal product) implies that the active substance(s) are present in a form or product which can be supplied to the user (cp. Directive 98/8/EC).
Codex Alimentarius		(Latin for “food code”) Collection of internationally adopted food standards, guidelines and codes of practice. Although the standards described in the “Codex Alimentarius” are not binding, they serve as a guideline for national food-law regulations. Codex Alimentarius follows the principle that consumers have a right to expect their food to be safe, of good quality and suitable for consumption. The Codex Alimentarius is prepared by the Codex Alimentarius Commission, a working group of the United Nations (FAO) and the World Health Organization (WHO), consisting of 188 Codex Members and 219 Codex Observers.
Codex Contact Point		Codex Contact Points act as the link between the Codex Alimentarius Secretariat and member countries. Codex Contact Points receive all Codex final texts (standards, codes of practice, guidelines and other advisory texts) and working documents of Codex sessions and ensure that they are circulated to those concerned within their own countries.
Competent authority		An organisation that has the legally delegated authority to perform a designated function.
Contaminant		Any substance not intentionally added to food which is present in such food as a result of the production (including operations carried out in crop husbandry, animal husbandry and veterinary medicine), manufacture, processing, preparation, treatment, packing, packaging, transport or holding of such food, or as a result of environmental contamination. Extraneous matter, such as, for example, insect fragments, animal hair, etc, is not covered by this definition (Regulation (EEC) No. 315/93).
Drinking water		Water from the tap, intended for human consumption.
EFSA Focal Point		EFSA Focal Points act as link between the European Food Safety Authority (EFSA) and EU Member States and neighbouring countries.
EU Directive		EU Directives are legislative acts of the EU, which have to be implemented into national law by the Member States.
EU Regulation		EU regulations apply directly in all Member States of the EU without the Member State having to enact national laws.
Feed or Feedingstuff		Any substance or product, including additives, whether processed, partially processed or unprocessed, intended to be used for oral feeding to animals (Commission Recommendation 2011/25/EU).
Food or Foodstuff		Processed, partially processed or unprocessed product or substance intended or reasonably expected to be ingested by humans (Regulation (EC) No. 178/2002).

Food hygiene	Five keys of food hygiene defined by WHO: 1) Prevention of contaminating food with pathogens spreading from people, pets and pests; 2) Separation of raw and cooked foods to prevent contaminating the cooked foods; 3) Cooking of foods for the appropriate length of time and at the appropriate temperature to kill pathogens; 4) Storage of food at the proper temperature; 5) Use of safe water and raw materials.
Food safety	Food safety ensures that food consumption (according to its intended use) does not cause harm and/or foodborne illness to the consumer. Appropriate food hygiene contributes towards food safety; however the term food safety also includes the absence of harmful substances such as environmental contaminants or residues of veterinary medicinal products.
Food supplements 	Nutrients or other substances with a nutritional or physiological effect aimed to supplement the normal diet. Food supplements are usually on the market as capsules, pastilles, tablets, pills, sachets of powder, ampoules of liquids, drop dispensing bottles, and other similar forms of liquids and powders designed to be taken in measured small unit quantities (Directive 2002/46/EC).
Genetic engineering 	All modern molecular biology techniques used to isolate, manipulate and transfer genes from one organism to another.
Institutions involved in the EFSA network pursuant to Article 36 Reg. (EC) No. 178/2002	Organisations which are approved to undertake work on behalf of EFSA (i.e. data collection, preparatory work for the development of scientific opinions or other scientific and technical support). EFSA distributes “calls for proposals” which describe EFSA’s research questions that need to be answered, and “Article 36 Organisations” can apply for the “job”. An up-to-date list of the institutions involved in the EFSA network pursuant to Article 36 Reg. (EC) No. 178/2002 is available in the internet at: <a href="https://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/assets/art36listg.pdf">https://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/assets/art36listg.pdf</a>
Mineral water 	Bottled water for human consumption either a) natural mineral water, b) natural spring water or c) processed tap water. Natural mineral water is groundwater that has emerged from the ground and contains a certain amount of minerals. Spring water is also groundwater that has emerged from the ground but contains a lower amount of minerals. The icon does not refer to bottled water that is intended for medicinal purposes.
Multi-annual national control plans	A multi-annual national control plan describes how certain aspects of governmental control and inspection in the area of food and feed safety are organised, conducted and/or implemented. This includes the frequency of inspections, the distribution of inspections amongst business sectors and operators and number of samples to be analysed.
Novel food 	Novel foods are foods and food ingredients that have not been used for human consumption to a significant degree within the EU before 15 May 1997. In order to ensure the highest level of protection of human health, novel foods must undergo a safety assessment before being placed on the EU market. Only those products considered to be safe for human consumption are authorised for marketing.



<p>Plant protection products or Pesticides</p> 	<p>Active substances and preparations containing one or more active substances intended to protect plants (or plant products) against harmful organisms. The term plant protection product (or pesticide) implies that the active substance(s) are present in a form or product which can be supplied to the user. Active substances in plant protection products may also destroy undesired plants or influence life processes of plants in a way other than as a nutrient (for example growth regulators).</p>
<p>Primary food production</p>	<p>Growth, cultivation, harvesting, collection or catching of food, for example harvesting, slaughter, milking or fishing. The term primary food production does not include substantial transformation of food, for example manufacturing or canning, or sale or service of food directly to the public.</p>
<p>RASFF Contact Point</p>	<p>The Rapid Alert System for Food and Feed (RASFF) is an information exchange tool for national control authorities within the EU. RASFF has 35 members. Each member has an RASFF Contact Point. When a RASFF member has any information about a serious health risk from food or feed, it must immediately notify the European Commission using RASFF. In particular, Member States have to notify the Commission if they take measures such as withdrawing or recalling food or feed products from the market in order to protect consumers' health and if rapid action is required. The Commission immediately transmits the notification to all members of the network through the contact points.</p>
<p>REACH</p>	<p>Regulatory framework for the registration, evaluation and authorisation of chemicals to ensure greater safety in the manufacture and use of chemical substances.</p>
<p>Residue</p>	<p>Substance present in or on plants, plant products, edible animal products or drinking water resulting from the use of plant protection products or veterinary drugs, including their metabolites, breakdown or reaction products.</p>
<p>Residues of veterinary medicinal products</p> 	<p>Substances contained in plants, plant products, edible animal products or drinking water which originate from the use of veterinary medicines, including metabolites, decomposition and reaction products.</p>
<p>Risk assessment</p>	<p>Scientific activity consisting of hazard identification, hazard characterisation, exposure assessment and risk characterisation.</p>
<p>Risk communication</p>	<p>Interactive exchange of information of risk assessors, risk managers, consumers, feed and food businesses, academic community and other interested parties with regard to risks, hazards and risk perceptions. Risk communication also includes explanation of scientific risk assessment and risk management decisions.</p>
<p>Risk management</p>	<p>Process of weighing policy alternatives, taking decisions and implementing control and inspection procedures to handle risk associated with the food chain.</p>
<p>Zoonosis</p> 	<p>Any disease and/or infection which is naturally transmissible directly or indirectly between animals and humans.</p>

## 5 List of Abbreviations

Armenia	FSRAASC SNCO	Մնկադաճիւթի անվտանգության ոլորտի ռիսկերի գնահատման և վերլուծության գիտական կենտրոն	Food Safety Risk Assessment and Analysis Scientific Center
	SSFS	Մնկի անվտանգության պետական ծառայություն	State Service for Food Safety
	RVSPCLS SNCO	Հանրապետական անասնաբուժասանիտարական և բուսասանիտարական լաբորատոր ծառայությունների կենտրոն	Republican Veterinary-Sanitary and Phytosanitary Laboratory Services Center
Belarus	BASVSSBT	Государственное учреждение «Бело- русское управление государственного ветеринарного надзора на государ- ственной границе и транспорте»	State institution “Belarusian Authority of the State Veteri- nary Supervision at the State Border and Transport”
	BSVC	Государственное учреждение «Бело- русский государственный ветеринар- ный центр»	State institution “Belarusian State Veterinary Center”
	DVFS	Департамент ветеринарного и продовольственного надзора	Department of Veterinary and Food Supervision
	MAF RB	Министерство сельского хозяйства и продовольствия Республики Беларусь	Ministry of Agriculture and Food of the Republic of Belarus
	MAPG	Главное управление растениеводства	Main Authority of Plant Growing
	MH RB	Министерство здравоохранения Республики Беларусь	Ministry of Health of the Republic of Belarus
	MSIS- GQPP	Государственное учреждение «Главная государственная инспекция по семено- водству, карантину и защите растений»	State institution “Main State Inspectorate for Seed Grow- ing, Quarantine and Plant Protection”
	RCHEPH	Государственное учреждение «Респу- бликанский центр гигиены, эпидемио- логии и общественного здоровья»	Republican Centre for Hygiene, Epidemiology and Public Health
	SPCH	Республиканское унитарное предприятие «Научно-практический центр гигиены»	Scientific Practical Centre of Hygiene
VS	Государственное учреждение «Ветеринарный надзор»	State institution “Veterinary Supervision”	
Georgia	LMA	სოფლის მეურნეობის სამინისტროს ლაბორატორია	Laboratory of the Ministry of Agriculture
	MOH	საქართველოს შრომის, ჯანმრთელობისა და სოციალური დაცვის სამინისტრო	Ministry of Labour, Health and Social Affairs

Georgia	MOA	საქართველოს სოფლის მეურნეობის სამინისტრო	Ministry of Agriculture
	MOF	საქართველოს ფინანსთა სამინისტრო	Ministry of Finance
	NFA	სურსათის ეროვნული სააგენტო	National Food Agency
	NCDC	დაავადებათა კონტროლისა და საზოგადოებრივი ჯანმრთელობის ეროვნული ცენტრი	National Center For Disease Control and Public Health
	RS	შემოსავლების სამსახური	Revenue Service
	SRCA	სოფლის მეურნეობის სამეცნიერო-კვლევითი ცენტრი	Scientific Research Centre of Agriculture
Israel	FCS	יצרוא וזומה תוריש	Food Control Service
	MoAg	תואלקח דרשמ	Ministry of Agriculture
	MOH	תואירבה דרשמ	Ministry of Health
	PPIS	תרוקיבלו חמוצה תנגהל מיתוריש	Plant Protection and Inspection Services
	VSAH	הנקמה תואירבו מייירניטווה מיתוריש	Veterinary Services and Animal Health
Jordan	JFDA	المؤسسة العامة للغذاء والدواء	Jordan Food and Drug Administration
	JSMO	مؤسسة المواصفات والمقاييس	Jordan Standards and Metrology Organisation
	MOA	وزارة الزراعة	Ministry of Agriculture
	MOH	وزارة الصحة	Ministry of Health
	MOMRA and GAM	وزارة البلديات و أمانة عمان الكبرى	Ministry of Municipalities & Rural Affairs and Greater Amman Municipality
Lebanon	FSLC	الهيئة اللبنانية لسلامة الغذاء	Food Safety Lebanese Commission
	MoA	وزارة الزراعة	Ministry of Agriculture
	MoET	وزارة الاقتصاد والتجارة	Ministry of Economy and Trade
	Mol	وزارة الصناعة	Ministry of Industry
	MoPH	وزارة الصحة العامة	Ministry of Public Health
Moldova	ANSA	Agenția Națională pentru Siguranța Alimentelor	National Food Safety Agency
	APC at MEC	Agenția pentru Protecția Consumatorului în incinta Ministerului Economiei și Comerțului	Agency for Consumer Protection at the Ministry of Economy
	CNSP	Centrul Național pentru Sănătatea Publică	National Centre for Public Health

Moldova	MAIA	Ministerul Agriculturii și Industriei Alimentare	Ministry of Agriculture and Food Industry
	MS	Ministerul Sănătății	Ministry of Health
Morocco	C adhoc ER	Comité adhoc Evaluation des risques	adhoc Risk Assessment Committee
	C adhoc Vigilance	Comité adhoc Vigilance	adhoc Vigilance Committee
	CIERPA	Comité Interministériel Evaluation des Risques des Produits Alimentaires siege à l'ONSSA president et secretariat	Interministerial Committee for Risk Assessment of Food Products, headquarters at the ONSSA President and Secretariat
	DCQ	Direction du Contrôle et de la Qualité aux frontières (Import/Export)	Control Department and Quality at Border (import/export)
	MA	Ministère de l'Agriculture	Ministry of Agriculture
	MH	Ministère de la Santé	Ministry of Health
	ONSSA	Office National de Sécurité Sanitaire des Produits Alimentaires	National Office of Sanitary Food Safety
	SC GR	Services Centraux de l'ONSSA chargés de l'Evaluation des Risques	Central Services ONSSA responsible for risk assessment
	SCPV	Service de Contrôle des Produits Végétaux	Plant Products Control Service
	SE ONSSA	Services Exterieurs de l'ONSSA chargés de la gestion des risques	External Services ONSSA responsible for risk management
	SPV	Service de la Protection des Végétaux	Plant Protection Service
	SV	Services Vétérinaires	Veterinary Services
Tunisia	MARHP	Ministère de l'Agriculture, des Ressources Hydraulique et de la Pêche	Ministry of Agriculture, Water Resources and Fishery
	MIC	Ministère de l'Industrie et du Commerce	Ministry of Industry and Commerce
	MLAE	Ministère des affaires locales et de l'environnement	Ministry of Local Affairs and Environment
	MS	Ministère de la Santé	Ministry of Health
Ukraine	MAPFU	Міністерство аграрної політики та продовольства України	Ministry of Agrarian Policy and Food of Ukraine
	MOHU	Міністерство охорони здоров'я України	Ministry of Health of Ukraine
	SSUFSCP	Державна служба України з питань безпечності харчових продуктів та захисту споживачів	State Service of Ukraine on Food Safety and Consumer Protection



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