



# **Risk Assessment Capacity Building – A vision for the future**

Nicole Gollnick

Capacity building has become an important field of activity for EFSA and food safety institutions in Europe.

Main focus:  
Improvement of food safety, consumer and environmental protection.



Stillkost

# Advisory Forum Discussion Group on Capacity Building

## Member organisations

BfR, Germany (**Chair**, Prof. Reiner Wittkowski, BfR Vice-President)

AECOSAN, Spain

ASAE, Portugal

NVWA, The Netherlands

VKM, Norway

ANSES, France

FSAI, Ireland

EFSA

Since September 2016



## Terms of Reference of the AFDG on Capacity Building

- To provide advice and guidance to EFSA on defining and strengthening Capacity Building
- To support the AF in developing a common European strategy for Capacity Building
- To take into consideration risk assessment capacity building activities by other international risk assessment organisations within and outside the EFSA network
- To develop realistic ideas about how to join forces, leverage expertise and achieve synergies in the area of Capacity Building.

## International risk assessment knowledge community: Current challenges

- Globalization of food supply and change of food consumption habits,
- Heterogeneous and constantly changing food safety systems and standards (in terms of capability and capacity),
- Rapid developments regarding global trade and global travel,
- Emerging risks (new or geographically new risks),
- Big data,
- Diverging views,
- Increased complexity and work load but decreased resources,
- Lack of risk assessors.

## Key objectives to meet these challenges through a partnership approach to capacity building are:

- Harmonised Food safety systems
- Preparedness and rapid reaction capacity
- Encourage the introduction of RA into the curriculum of higher educational systems in Europe
- Systems to explain, communicate and provide solutions to diverging views
- Accessible, comparable and “SMART” (specific, measurable, attainable, realistic, and timely)
- Centers of Excellence (e.g. Universities offering training)
- Virtual training center (blended learning)
- Network to collaborate and optimise use of available resources
- Create a European pool of training material and tutors
- Address European and international demand in a coordinated and harmonised way

## Capacity Building: Demand by national and international institutions

- National ministries
- European Commission
- Food safety authorities from third countries (Range of risk assessment capacity: none to high)
- EU Agencies including EFSA
- International Organisations such as WHO, FAO, OIE, Codex, WTO, OECD



## Current activities by EU Member States

- **Mostly bilateral**
- **Often based on similar requests**

**Knowledge creation** (e.g. joint projects),

**Knowledge exchange** (physical and virtual) (including policy advice), and

**Knowledge maintenance** (e.g. training the next generation, implementation of new knowledge).





Dr. Nicole Gollnick, October 17, 2017, 2nd Croatian Food Safety Risk Assessment Conference

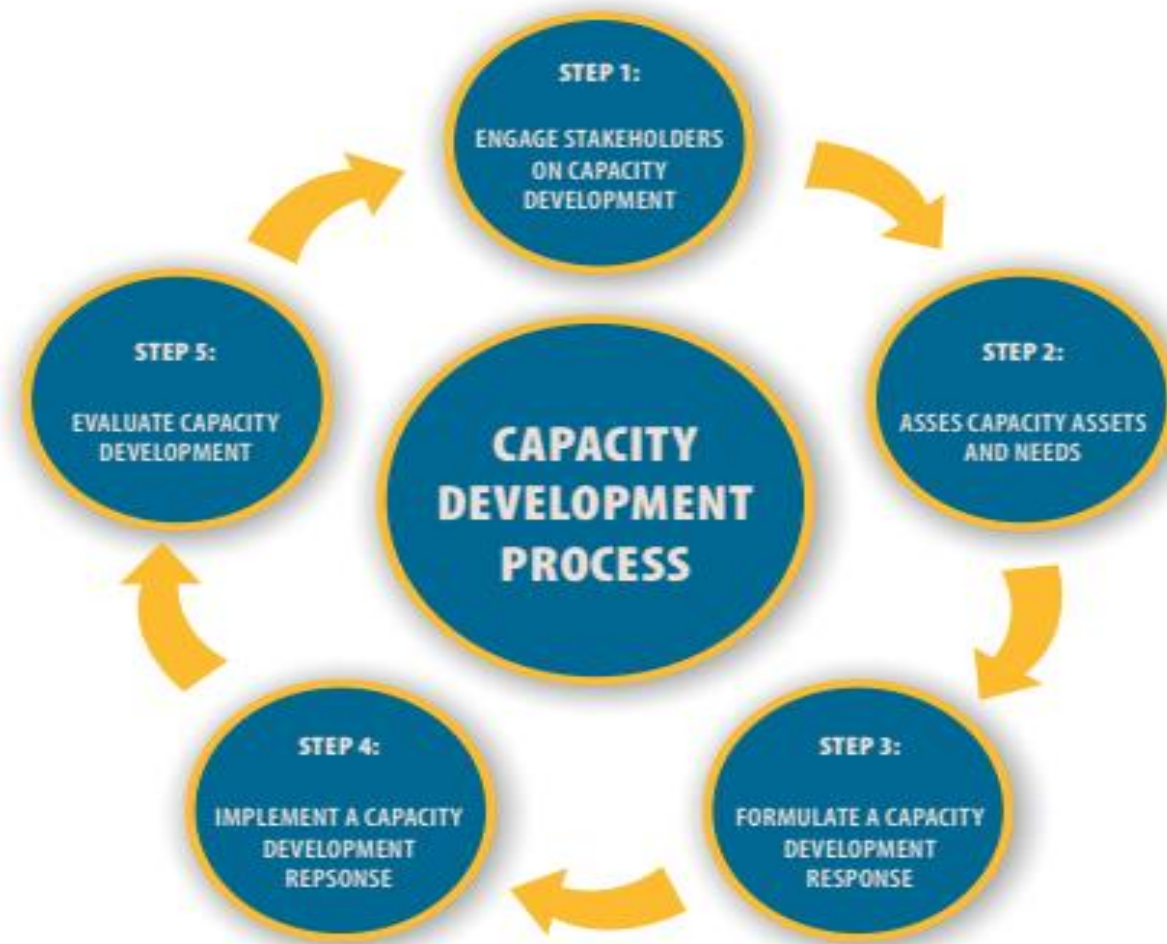
A vision for the future

# Harmonised Risk Assessment Capacity



iStockphoto/Thomas Vogel

# Definition „Capacity Building“



Source: United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)



## Future ahead

Effective use of **synergy effects** and the use of potentials created by diversity and difference between the 28 EU

Fostering **joint** international collaboration and expand the network of competent international partners in the areas of food safety, consumer and environmental protection

Facilitate harmonization and improvement of risk assessment methodologies and capacities across the world ...

... resulting also in better risk management and crisis management practices.

# Future ahead









# **Thank you for your attention**

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