



JOINT FAO/WHO FOOD STANDARDS PROGRAMME
CODEx COMMITTEE ON FOOD IMPORT AND EXPORT INSPECTION
AND CERTIFICATION SYSTEMS (CCFICS)

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**INFORMATION ON ACTIVITIES OF FAO AND WHO AND OTHER INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS
RELEVANT TO THE WORK OF CCFICS**

(Information from FAO and WHO)

The present document is a report on the tools produced by FAO and WHO and made available to Member States and the relevant activities carried out by FAO and WHO since the 26th Session of the Codex Committee on Food Import and Export and Inspection and Certification Systems (CCFICS26)

**A. ACTIVITIES OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS (FAO) and
WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION (WHO)**

FAO/WHO Food Control System Assessment Tool

1. The FAO/WHO food control system assessment tool allows Member Countries to assess, in a structured and transparent way, the performance of their national food control systems (NFCS) throughout the entire food chain, identify priority areas for capacity development, and measure and evaluate progress over time.
2. This tool consists of five volumes has been published in English, French, Spanish, Russian and Arabic language. The tool is available at:
 - FAO <https://www.fao.org/food-safety/food-control-systems/assessment-tool/en/>
 - WHO <https://www.who.int/activities/strengthening-national-food-control-systems>
3. To facilitate widespread use of the FAO/WHO Assessment Tool, dissemination packages including global launch, and an introductory booklet (available at: <https://www.fao.org/documents/card/en/c/cb4964en/> and <https://www.who.int/publications/i/item/9789240028371>) have been developed jointly by FAO and WHO. A video has also been developed and is available at: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=A_zdTup2yKY.
4. FAO and WHO are continuing to assist Member countries in utilizing the tool to assess their national food control systems (NFCS).
5. In the pilot phase, FAO and WHO jointly facilitated an assessment in Indonesia, and tested the support for a self assessment in Iran.
6. FAO successfully completed assessments in Malawi, Sudan and Tunisia in 2019, in the Emirate of Abu Dhabi (UAE) in 2021, in the Bahamas and Guyana in 2022. Under a European Union (EU) funded project, assessments were completed in Comoros, Eswatini, Kenya, Mauritius, Rwanda, the Seychelles, Uganda and Zimbabwe in 2023 and will be completed in Djibouti and Egypt in 2024. These assessments will feed into the "African Union (AU) SPS for Africa" programme, also funded by the EU, in support of the implementation of the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) and of the AU Commission SPS policy framework. Additional assessments in Africa will be initiated by FAO in Burkina Faso, Niger and Senegal under a project funded by the African Development Bank, and discussions are ongoing to involve other countries in Africa as well. In Eastern Europe and in Central Asia FAO recently completed an assessment in Azerbaijan, currently facilitates assessments in Belarus and Georgia and will start a new assessment in Uzbekistan in September 2024. An assessment in ongoing in Chile and Barbados and will start in late 2024 in Belize. Regular updates are also posted on <https://www.fao.org/food-safety/news/en/>.
7. WHO also supported the assessments conducted in, Panama, Cameroon and Timor-Leste. WHO is currently conducting the process in Tajikistan and Cape Verde.

Early warning/alert and response to food safety emergencies

8. The Secretariat of the joint FAO/WHO International Food Safety Authorities Network (INFOSAN) continues to develop and strengthen the Network and develop capacity for preparedness and response to food safety incidents. During 2022, the INFOSAN Secretariat was involved in 195 international food safety incidents involving 156 Member States from all regions. The INFOSAN Secretariat maintained close engagement with INFOSAN Emergency Contact Points in concerned Member States by providing rapid information, thereby allowing a prompt response to such incidents.
9. A major INFOSAN Global Alert was issued to the attention of all INFOSAN members in April 2022. The alert concerned a multi-country outbreak of *Salmonella* Typhimurium monophasic linked to chocolate products, distributed internationally to over 113 Member States and territories. Continuous notifications and updates to the Global Alert were provided to all INFOSAN Members as information became available, allowing Member States of FAO and WHO to initiate investigations to identify and recall implicated products, as well as identify possible cases of illness related to the consumption of implicated products. Over 52 Member States reported to the INFOSAN Secretariat initiating a recall or a national investigation in response to the Global Alert. Updates on national response were summarized and shared in a dedicated webpage within the INFOSAN Community Website created for the alert.
10. In 2023 and 2024, activities to strengthen the Network and food safety emergency response capacity were carried out in several sub-regions. In 2023, the INFOSAN Secretariat organized and delivered three introductory workshops in the Democratic Republic of Congo, Congo, Egypt, Iraq and Peru. With the support of the WHO Regional Office for the Western Pacific, an INFOSAN Introductory Webinar for Pacific Island Countries was delivered to 11 Pacific countries aiming to raise awareness about how INFOSAN operates during food safety emergencies and promote cooperation among competent authorities in the sub-region.
11. In 2023, The INFOSAN Secretariat participated in a two-day workshop with countries in Central-Asia, that was held in Kazakhstan. Representatives from Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, and Uzbekistan, including National International Health Regulations Focal Points and INFOSAN Emergency Contact Points, took part in the workshop. The event fostered discussions on strengthening information exchange during food safety emergencies and encouraged the use of INFOSAN for notifications and networking among sectors, countries, and the broader international community. INFOSAN also delivered six online workshops with Jordan, Burkina Faso, Mali, Namibia, Liberia and to Niger in 2024. During the workshops, national authorities with a stake in food safety emergency response had the opportunity to learn more about the Network and understand their roles and responsibilities as INFOSAN members during food safety emergencies. The INFOSAN Secretariat organized and delivered two Regional Meetings for members in the Region of the Americas and in the Asia-Pacific Regions (2023), that allowed INFOSAN members to identify gaps and areas for improvements when communicating during food safety emergencies. The Regional meetings were organized with the support of FAO and WHO Regional Offices and Food Safety Advisors, and the of host country, the Republic of Korea for the Asia-Pacific region.
12. In the context of the celebration of the World Food Safety Day 2024, WHO organized a webinar to celebrate that day and the 20 years of INFOSAN on June 11. The webinar was entitled "Are you ready for the unexpected? Keys for effective national and global communication on food incidents" and was attended by more than 200 participants. During the webinars, representatives from EFSA and the US FDA gave presentations on risk management and communication. Common challenges and ideas on how to address those topics were discussed by the panelists, using recent real-life food safety emergencies as a starting point for the analysis.

Food Fraud

13. FAO contributed to the WTO publication on "Illicit Trade in Food and Food Fraud" (https://www.wto.org/english/res_e/publications_e/tfff_e.htm). International trade in food has helped to reduce global poverty and hunger. However, illicit trade in food and food fraud undermine the global food system and endanger public health. This publication looks into the challenges of combating illicit practices, such as smuggling and counterfeiting, and the role the WTO could play. The publication draws on the expertise of the WTO Secretariat, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the International Seed Federation, SSAFE — a non-profit organization for food safety, the Transnational Alliance to Combat Illicit Trade and the United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute.
14. FAO has authored Chapter 4: "Regulatory solutions and food systems thinking to counter food fraud in supply chains".

15. The Food Safety and Control Laboratory (FSCL) of the Joint FAO/AAEA Centre of Nuclear Techniques in Food and Agriculture has launched three food fraud related open-access E-Learning courses on the IAEA CLP4NET platform; 1) Food Authenticity and Stable Isotopes analysis (<https://elearning.iaea.org/m2/course/view.php?id=1652>); 2) Elemental Analysis for Isotope Ratio Mass Spectrometry applied to food authentication (<https://elearning.iaea.org/m2/course/view.php?id=1506>); and 3) Chemometrics Add-in for Excel (CAFÉ) software and training in multivariate data analysis for food authenticity (<https://elearning.iaea.org/m2/course/view.php?id=1463>). These courses are free to access when the user has registered for an IAEA NUCLEUS account (<https://nucleus.iaea.org/pages/help/registration.aspx>).
16. The Coordinated Research Project “Implementation of Nuclear Techniques for Authentication of Foods with High-Value Labelling Claims” of the Joint Centre FAO/IAEA has so far produced seventeen publications in peer-reviewed international scientific journals related the use of nuclear techniques to protect and promote foods with Geographical Indications or renowned regional, national or global identities, such as Jamaican Blue Mountain coffee, Thai Jasmine rice, Moroccan Taliouine Saffron, and Chinese Jinxiang Garlic (PGI). The project brings together seventeen research institutions from low- and middle-income countries with seven institutions from developed countries to develop isotopic and nuclear methods to verify the provenance of added-value foods that are often subject to substitution and counterfeiting. The consortium is also establishing a Food Authenticity Laboratory Network to share protocols, best practice, training materials, and data produced during the Coordinated Research Project.
17. A number of new methods of analysis were published by the FSCL in peer-reviewed international scientific journals covering, for example, rapid screening methods for rice authentication, “Geographical discrimination of Paw San rice cultivated in different regions of Myanmar using near-infrared spectroscopy, headspace-gas chromatography-ion mobility spectrometry and chemometrics” (<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.talanta.2024.125910>); isotopic methods to detect sugar syrup addition in honey, “A new approach to detecting sugar syrup addition to honey: Stable isotope analysis of hexamethylenetetramine synthesised from honey monosaccharides (fructose and glucose)” (<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.foodchem.2023.137451>); and moving methods from high- to low-field nuclear magnetic resonance to improve their accessibility and cost-effectiveness, “Predicting mandarin fruit acceptability: From high-field to benchtop NMR spectroscopy” (<https://doi.org/10.3390/foods11162384>).
18. An International Symposium on Food Safety and Control was held in Vienna from 27–31 May 2024 and was organized by the FAO and IAEA through the Joint FAO/IAEA Centre. The symposium consisted of several sessions. The Session on “Food Authenticity and Fighting Food Fraud” highlighted the critical role of advanced scientific isotopic, nuclear, and complementary techniques, alongside robust regulatory frameworks, in ensuring food authenticity. Presentations emphasized the need for continued innovation in analytical methods, such as stable isotope analysis, NMR, and proteomics, to address evolving food fraud challenges. It was noted that these methods must be fit for purpose, cost-effective, and supported by adequate databases. Sharing information on food fraud incidence and effective control methods among member states is crucial to disincentivize organized crime involvement. Collaborative efforts at national and international levels are essential to standardize these methods, improve supply chain transparency, protect consumers and honest traders, and facilitate global trade. The symposium recommended, among others, fostering international collaboration, sharing databases, investing in research and development, enhancing regulatory frameworks, promoting transparency through traceability systems, and educating stakeholders on the importance of food authenticity and safety. More than 400 participants attended the symposium, mostly in person.
19. WHO provided presentations entitled “INFOSAN & Food Fraud: Emergencies and Beyond” at two events. These presentations focused on how INFOSAN can contribute to the prevention and response of food fraud incidents, and also highlighted the network’s capacity building potential and strong history of member state information sharing. The first event, “Strengthening national regulatory control systems to detect, prevent and control agri-food fraud,” was a conference convened by the Abu Dhabi Agriculture and Food Safety Authority on 22 – 24 April 2024. Participants included representatives of regulatory authorities in the Gulf Cooperation Council countries, subject matter experts and regulators in the field of combating food fraud, international organizations, and stakeholders from the private sector including producers, manufacturers, and food establishments. The second event was the 31st meeting of the European Food Safety Authority (EFSA) Emerging Risks Exchange Network, held in Larnaca, Cyprus, on 23 – 24 May 2024. Participants included EFSA personnel, representatives from Network member states, and observers from international organizations and non-member entities.

High-level advocacy activities for food safety

20. To accelerate progress in the indicator for foodborne disease surveillance (Joint External Evaluation¹ P.6.1), one of the progress indicators of the WHO Global Strategy for Food Safety, WHO established a Food Safety Alliance (WHO Alliance) that brings together WHO-Collaborating Centers and key partners. The work plan of the WHO Alliance focuses on integrated surveillance, use of genomics, and on the collection of data related to antimicrobial resistance in foodborne pathogens, in alignment with the Quadripartite One Health Joint Plan of Action. The WHO Alliance also aims to improve awareness and advocate for inclusion of foodborne diseases in the national surveillance programmes.
21. FAO and WHO developed a framework for coordination of the FAO Strategic Priorities for Food Safety (2022–2031) and the WHO Global Strategy for Food Safety (2022–2030). Through the joint framework, FAO and WHO aim to harmonize strategic work on food safety and pave the way for implementation with a common vision – safe food for all at all times. The framework identifies four areas of collaboration: Codex Alimentarius, scientific advice programmes, strengthening and continuously improving national food control systems and communication on food safety. The guiding principles of the framework are sustainable agrifood system approach, One Health approach, sound science as a foundation, focus on prevention and international collaboration.
22. A Cooperation Agreement was signed between WHO and International Finance Corporation (IFC)/ World Bank to develop a self-assessment tool based on the strategic objectives of the WHO Global Strategy for Food Safety to support Member States in developing/updating their national roadmaps to strengthen food safety systems and to prepare them to use the FAO/WHO Food Control Systems Assessment Tool.
23. An investment case is under development to support advocacy for investment and for implementing the Strategy. It aims to estimate the return on investment in foodborne disease surveillance, data analytics, and associated training on public health outcomes.

World Food Safety Day

24. In 2023, for the fifth time, FAO and WHO jointly facilitated the observance of the World Food Safety Day inviting governments, food businesses, nonprofit organizations, academia, schools, universities and consumers around the world to come together on June 7 in order to draw attention and inspire action to help prevent, detect and manage foodborne risks. The campaign started on 7 March 2023 with the launch of the theme “Food standards save lives”. Over 500 initiatives took place in 139 countries including conferences, webinars, training sessions, workshops, sporting events and video campaigns. FAO and WHO Directors-General opened the global high-level event hosted at FAO headquarters in Rome by FAO, WHO and the Codex Secretariat on June 7. The news articles summarizing many of the activities are available on the WFSD website. In particular a well attended event on the FAO efforts to support the African Union Commission (AUC) in relation to the establishment of the African Continental free trade area (AfCFTA) by facilitating assessments of the national food control systems of 10 countries members of the AUC, as well as of the phytosanitary capacity evaluation of 11 countries (most of which overlapping with these where food control capacities were assessed) therefore establishing specific baselines for 2 of the 3 SPS domains.
25. In 2024, WHO and FAO jointly coordinated the World Food Safety Day campaign, launched on 7 March 2024 with the announcement of the theme “Food safety: prepare for the unexpected”, to underly the importance of being prepared for food safety incidents and to present an opportunity to celebrate the 20th anniversary of the FAO/WHO International Food Safety Authorities Network (INFOSAN). On 6 June, WHO hosted Ask WHO Live Q&A² on WHO X, Facebook, LinkedIn and YouTube platforms inviting the online audience to ask the FAO and WHO experts questions on maintaining food safety during unexpected events. On 7 June, WHO and FAO jointly participated in the press briefing³ organized by the United Nations Information Service in Geneva. The World Food Safety Day website⁴, hosted by Codex, features information about many of the events and initiatives that took place around the world.

¹ <https://extranet.who.int/sph/jee>

² <https://x.com/WHO/status/1798641327359607164>

³ <https://www.unognewsroom.org/story/en/2200/un-geneva-press-briefing-07-june-2024>

⁴ <https://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/world-food-safety-day/wfsd-news/en/>

FAO guidance on risk-based inspection

26. FAO presented its two upcoming publications on risk categorization to guide risk based inspection programmes at the IAFP 2024 Conference. The first one is a global guidance manual, providing countries with practical and progressive approaches to develop their own risk categorization models to improve the targeting of food business and/or sectors based on scientific data and evidence, and focus efforts and public investments towards the greater risks. The release of the publication is expected by the end of 2024 and will be available at <https://www.fao.org/food-safety/food-control-systems/official-controls/food-inspection/en/>. In addition, a digital tool will complement this package to facilitate the use of multicriteria decision making processes underpinning risk categorization.

Support to countries and regional organisations to strengthen their food safety legislation

27. The Development Law Service of the FAO Legal Office (LEGN) provides assistance to countries to review and revise their food safety and quality legislation, in close collaboration with the food safety and quality colleagues in HQ and regional offices. In the past year, LEGN has supported the revision of food safety legislation in Sri Lanka and Mauritius. LEGN has also supported the development of a tool to assess compliance of national legislation and food control systems with the Codex standards relevant to antimicrobial resistance (AMR), and supported the implementation of the tool in Bolivia, Cambodia, Colombia, Mongolia, Nepal and Pakistan. In Kyrgyzstan, the Tool is being used to assess the level of implementation of the Codex Alimentarius texts on foodborne antimicrobial resistance with FAO support. Through LEGN, FAO has also partnered with UNEP, WHO and WOA (the Quadripartite) and based on the FAO methodology to develop the Quadripartite One Health Legislative Assessment Tool (OHLAT) for the analysis of AMR-relevant legislation in the humans, animal, plant and environmental sectors, which contains a specific chapter on food safety, and has been piloted in four countries (Cambodia, Morocco, Peru and Zimbabwe). Finally, food safety legislation has been analysed in China, Indonesia, India, Korea, Japan and Vietnam in the context of a FAO, WHO and WOA global project to improve AMR preparedness in the food sector in Asia.

Activities with Standards and Trade Development Facility (STDF)

28. FAO and WHO contribute technical expertise and policy advice to STDF. FAO and WHO review project proposals, information and inputs for coordinating SPS capacity development support among development agencies, discuss innovative practices on selected thematic topics that cut across SPS areas and trade, including public-private partnerships (PPPs), electronic SPS certification, use of evidence-based approaches to prioritize SPS investments (P-IMA) and good regulatory practices.
29. The STDF Policy Committee was held online on 12 June 2024. STDF partners, donors and experts from developing countries reviewed the STDF external programme evaluation's key findings and recommendations. Endorsing five out of six evaluation's recommendations, some of them subject to further discussion among STDF members, the Policy Committee affirmed the evaluator's proposal to harness key strategic opportunities to further strengthen the STDF's global partnership.
30. Members of the Policy Committee including FAO and WHO, also reflected on what the evaluation's lessons and recommendations mean for the STDF's next strategy. The current Strategy concludes at the end of 2024. Members of the STDF's global partnership will meet on 19 June to begin the process of creating a new Strategy for 2025 and beyond, followed by the STDF Working Group meeting on 20 and 21 June.

REGIONAL AND NATIONAL ACTIVITIES

Legal and policy support to improved food controls

	<u>Country/ies or regional organization</u>	<u>Leading agency</u>	<u>Technical content</u>
<u>Africa</u>	COMESA	FAO	COMESA Trade facilitation project: National and Regional Stakeholders' Workshops for the Harmonization of Food Safety Regulatory and Non-Regulatory Risk Management Measures in COMESA Region (Kenya, Uganda, Zambia and Zimbabwe).
	Senegal	FAO	Strengthening the shellfish industry in Senegal by bringing it up to Sanitary and Phytosanitary (SPS) standards to promote the safety of shellfish and their access to regional and international markets: training of competent Authorities and shellfish actors on risks profiling, training in sampling for microbiological analysis and scientific characterization, monitoring and inspection of shellfish production and farming areas in Senegal.
	Algeria	WHO	Elaboration of Food safety plan.
<u>Asia-Pacific</u>	Bangladesh	FAO	Notification of food standards harmonized with Codex texts (completed in March 2023) to WTO.
	Sri Lanka	FAO	Food safety situation analysis report completed in December 2023; drafting of national food safety policy in progress.
	Timor-Leste	WHO	Assessment of National Food Control System Drafting of Food Safety Act in Timor-Leste. Timor-Leste joined CAC in 2018 and WTO in 2024 and in the process of accession to ASEAN Economic Community. Timor-Leste is currently implementing CTF project and Food Safety Act has been drafted as per assessment result of the NFCS.
	Maldives and Nepal	WHO/FAO	Food Safety Act in Maldives and Nepal passed by the parliament. Food control and safety-related amendments to the Food Act, 1966 (completed in 2023) and gazetted in 2024. Both countries have been struggling to convince parliamentarians and high officials for moving Food Safety Act for last 3 years. The CTF project organized high level policy advocacy and interaction with parliamentarians and the Act was passed this year by National Parliament.
	Kiribati	WHO	Revision of the National Food Safety legislation - the Food Safety Acts 2006 and Food Standards & Regulations 2014 in Kiribati (May 2024) and identified the provisions to be proposed for an amend of Export and Import regulations with the support of the National Codex Committee members.

	<u>Country/ies or regional organization</u>	<u>Leading agency</u>	<u>Technical content</u>
	Solomon Islands	WHO	Support to review of National Food Safety legislation - the Pure Food Act, 1996 including the import and export regulation (March 2024).
	Lao PDR	WHO	Providing support for the revision of the National Food Safety Policy: revising the National Food Safety Policy 2018 in Lao PDR (May 2023) and supporting the amendment of import and export regulations in line with their National Work Plan.
<u>Near East and Eastern Mediterranean</u>	13 countries in the NENA region	FAO, WTO-STDF, ITC	Enhancing Food Trade in the Near East and North Africa: Food Safety and Trade Facilitation. Workshop, May 2023, Jordan.
<u>Europe and Central Asia</u>	Azerbaijan	FAO	Drafting of secondary regulations on food safety (May 2023- March 2024).
	Georgia	FAO	Evaluation of the recently expired Food Safety Strategy and development of the new strategy (December 2023- March 2024).
	Kyrgyzstan	FAO	Review of the new draft Food Law (January 2024).
<u>Latin America and Caribbean</u>	CCLAC countries	PAHO/WHO	Development of a manual on “Good practices in traditional food markets in the Region of the Americas” to mitigate potential spillovers of pathogens between animals and humans (2023).
	Colombia	PAHO/WHO	Workshop for the implementation of the tools of the manual on “Good practices in traditional food markets in the Region of the Americas” and application of the tool to mitigate (2023).
	Paraguay	PAHO/WHO	Workshop for the implementation of the tools of the manual on “Good practices in traditional food markets in the Region of the Americas” and application of the tool to mitigate (2023).
	Caribbean countries	PAHO/WHO	Webinars on the impact of climate change on food safety (2023).
	Barbados	PAHO/WHO	Development of Climate Resilient National Food and Water Safety Plan (2024).
	Trinidad and Tobago	PAHO/WHO	Development of Climate Resilient National Food and Water Safety Plan (2024).

Improved coordination and management of food control activities, including use of the risk analysis paradigm and multisectoral collaboration

	<u>Country/ies or regional organization</u>	<u>Leading agency</u>	<u>Technical content</u>
<u>Africa</u>	Burkina Faso, Niger, Senegal	FAO	Elaboration activity of the countries food control system profile using the FAO/WHO food control system assessment tool.
	Senegal	FAO	Strengthening the shellfish industry in Senegal by bringing it up to Sanitary and Phytosanitary (SPS) standards to promote the safety of shellfish and their access to regional and

			international markets: training of competent Authorities and shellfish actors on risks profiling, training in sampling for microbiological analysis and scientific characterization, monitoring and inspection of shellfish production and farming areas in Senegal.
	Burkina Faso, Mali, Senegal	FAO	Strengthening capacity to respond to food safety emergencies and improve the health quality of street food in Burkina Faso, Mali and Senegal.
	Burkina Faso, Benin and Malawi	WHO	Training on risk assessment and data generation in support of standard's setting.
Asia-Pacific	ASEAN	FAO	Regional workshop on risk assessment of heavy metal using case studies of arsenic and cadmium.
	ASEAN	FAO	Regional workshop on the risk assessment of pesticide residues.
	ASEAN, Sri Lanka, Timor-Leste and Kiribati Island	FAO/WHO	Virtual workshop on GEMS/Food contamination database on the request of the ASEAN Risk Assessment Center (ARAC).
	Cambodia	FAO	Situation analysis of the national food control system (2023).
	Mongolia	FAO	Review of pesticide regulations and registration procedures in Mongolia (2023).
	Pakistan	FAO	Development of strategic action plan to control pesticide residues and aflatoxins in food crops.
	Sri Lanka	FAO	Technical discussions ongoing on proposed changes in the Food Act and to the Food Control Administrative Unit to include more competent authorities.
	Asia pacific	WHO SEARO and WPRO	Third Biregional Advocacy Meeting on Risk Mitigation in TFM in the Asia-Pacific region was held from 19 to 21 September 2023 at Siem Reap, Cambodia,
	Asia pacific	WHO SEARO and WPRO	A Multisectoral Roadmap for Safer Traditional Food Markets in the Asia-Pacific Region was finalized in 2023.
	WPRO	WHO	WHO developed a risk communication and awareness materials (5 keys manual, video, posters) and campaigns have been adapted to national contexts in Lao PDR, Cambodia and Papua New Guinea during April 2023 to June 2024.
	Lao PDR	WHO	Lao PDR developed a communication campaign and awareness-raising action on risk mitigation measures for public health threats in Traditional Food Markets by adapting the risk communication package to their national context – February 2024.
	WPRO	WHO	Support to Member States including Cambodia, Kiribati, Lao PDR, Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands and Viet Nam to implement the Regional Framework for Action on Food Safety in the Western Pacific from April 2023 to June 2024.

	WPRO	WHO	Development of the “Operational guide: use of referral laboratories for the analysis of foodborne hazards in the Pacific” – published in April 2023,
	Papua New Guinea	WHO	Healthy marketplace training for market managers to address safer traditional food markets and the launch of the Healthy Markets declaration of Kokopo healthy marketplace in November-December 2023.
	Cambodia	WHO	Subnational workshops at provincial level on safer traditional food markets.
<u>Near East/eastern Mediterranean</u>	Egypt	FAO	Implementation of a food control system assessment, strengthen governance and improve strategic planning around two main components: food safety and plant health (funded by the EU).
	United Arab Emirates	FAO	Developing and piloting an integrated biosecurity assessment tool for food and agriculture sectors, (2020-2024, United Arab Emirates).
	20 countries in the region (except UAE and Pakistan)	WHO	Rapid assessment of the national food control systems using the FAO/WHO food control assessment tool October 2023-March 2024.
	Afghanistan	WHO	Conducting situation analysis and action plan for food safety regulatory system, November 2023.
	Afghanistan	WHO	National Training on the capacities of the International Health Regulations (2005) at Points of Entry, April 2024.
<u>Europe and Central Asia</u>	Azerbaijan	FAO	Assessment of the food control system by using the FAO/WHO Tool completed, priority action areas determined (April 2024).
	Belarus	FAO	Assessment of the food control system by using the FAO/WHO Tool (June 2024-May 2025).
	Georgia	FAO	Assessment of the food control system by using the FAO/WHO Tool (targeted completion September 2024). Direct advice and trainings on food safety and SPS reforms and revision of procedures under ENPARD IV (April 2023-September 2024). Food safety trainings to food businesses, small scale female cheesemakers (May 2023-January 2024).
	Uzbekistan	FAO	Assessment of the food control system by using the FAO/WHO Tool starts (September 2024).
	Azerbaijan, Republic of Moldova, Türkiye, Tajikistan and Kyrgyzstan	FAO	Regional Workshop on regional cooperation and effective risk communication in Ankara, Türkiye (April 2024).
	Kyrgyzstan	FAO	Food safety trainings to fruit and vegetable farmers and food processors (July 2023-October 2024).

	Türkiye	FAO	Rapid assessment of food safety risk communication capacities (January-March 2024).
	Kazakhstan	WHO	Strengthening multisectoral coordination to address foodborne and zoonotic diseases.
	Armenia	WHO	Strengthening multisectoral coordination to address foodborne and zoonotic diseases.
	Azerbaijan	WHO	Strengthening multisectoral coordination to address foodborne and zoonotic diseases.
	Kyrgyzstan	WHO	Strengthening multisectoral coordination to address foodborne and zoonotic diseases.
	Bulgaria	WHO	Strengthening multisectoral coordination to address foodborne and zoonotic diseases.
<u>Latin America and Caribbean</u>	Guyana	FAO	Assessment of the national food control system using the FAO/WHO tool just concluded, strategic plan endorsed.
	The Bahamas	FAO	Assessment of the national food control system using the FAO/WHO tool just concluded, strategic plan endorsed.
	Chile	FAO	Assessment of the national food control system using the FAO/WHO tool ongoing.
	El Salvador	PAHO/WHO	Workshop on the Principles of Risk Analysis applied to Food Safety according to the Codex Alimentarius (2023).
	Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Cuba, Honduras, Guatemala, El Salvador, Ecuador, Panama, Paraguay, Peru and Uruguay	PAHO/WHO	Regional training on food safety risk management for establishing food contaminants maximum levels (2023).
	Argentina, Belize, Brazil, Bolivia, Chile, Cuba, El Salvador, Honduras, Guatemala, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay and Uruguay.	PAHO/WHO	Provision of two proficiency tests through the Inter-American Network of Food Analysis Laboratories (INFAL) aiming at strengthening technical capabilities of food analysis laboratories (2023).
	CCLAC countries	PAHO/WHO	Capacity building on liquid chromatography, food microbiology and risk analysis through the Inter-American Network of Food Analysis Laboratories (INFAL).

Improved Inspection practices

	<u>Country/ies or regional organization</u>	<u>Leading agency</u>	<u>Technical content</u>
<u>Africa</u>	COMESA	FAO	Trade facilitation project: Technical support to COMESA secretariat and selected member countries: training course on risk-based import control procedures in Madagascar (October 2023), Tunisia (November 2024) and Djibouti (January / February 2024).
	Burkina Faso, Mali, Senegal	FAO	Development or strengthening of interconnected food safety electronic data collection platforms in Burkina Faso and Senegal.
	Burkina Faso, Mali, Senegal	FAO	Operationalization and improvement of the street food inspection system in Burkina Faso and Senegal: situational diagnosis of street food in the main pilot cities of Burkina Faso, Mali and Senegal and identification of the roles and responsibilities of the services in charge of inspection and surveillance and upgrading of the regulations on the control of street food in Burkina Faso.
	Senegal	FAO	Strengthening the shellfish industry in Senegal by bringing it up to Sanitary and Phytosanitary (SPS) standards to promote the safety of shellfish and their access to regional and international markets: training of competent Authorities and shellfish actors on risks profiling, training in sampling for microbiological analysis and scientific characterization, monitoring and inspection of shellfish production and farming areas in Senegal.
	Ghana	FAO	Development of remote food inspection.
<u>Asia-Pacific</u>	Cambodia	FAO	Workshops on food control and risk-based inspection (2023).
	Mongolia	FAO	Workshops on border quarantine, SPS and risk-based inspection (April 2023).
	Timor-Leste	WHO	A tailor made manual on risk based food inspection. WHO supported development of tailer made manual on risk-based food inspection on the request of the government which is translated in Tetun and a training will be conducted for municipal health officials.
	Solomon Islands	WHO	Sequence of workshops on Strengthening food control systems, risk based food inspection, International Health Regulations – food safety indicator and food imports (April and March 2024).
	WPRO	WHO	Development of a guidance manual “Risk-based food inspection system: practical guidance for national authorities” – published in February 2024.

	<u>Country/ies or regional organization</u>	<u>Leading agency</u>	<u>Technical content</u>
<u>Near East/eastern Mediterranean</u>	Yemen	WHO	Establishing a national training programme for food inspectors based on Good Food Hygiene Practices and Good Manufacturing Practices, November 2023. National training of food inspectors in Adan and Sanaa, November 2023.
<u>Europe and Central Asia</u>	Azerbaijan	FAO	Development of HACCP-based food inspection checklists and capacity development trainings on food inspection to the inspectors (July 2024).
	Kyrgyzstan	FAO	Trainings and direct advice on HACCP inspection and audit procedures on fruit and vegetable processing (June 2024).
	Republic of Moldova	FAO	Training of central and border control staff on imported food control procedures for animal-origin products (June 2023). Trainings and direct advice on HACCP inspection and audit procedures in high-risk businesses. (February 2024).
<u>Latin America and Caribbean</u>	CCLAC countries	PAHO/WHO	Publication of the “Manual on Risk-based food inspection for food establishments” (2023).
	Guatemala	PAHO/WHO	Workshop series on risk-based food inspection for food establishments (2024).

Improved surveillance, early warning, rapid response and information sharing mechanisms (including INFOSAN related activities)

	<u>Country/ies or regional organization</u>	<u>Leading agency</u>	<u>Technical content</u>
<u>Africa</u>	Burkina Faso, Mali, Senegal	FAO	Development/reinforcement of national food safety emergency response plans (PNRUSSA) in Burkina Faso, Mali and Senegal: reinforcement of the INFOSAN network in Burkina Faso and initiation of food safety surveillance plans in Burkina Faso and Senegal.
	Burkina Faso, Niger, Benin, Mali, Namibia, Liberia,	FAO + WHO + INFOSAN Secretariat	INFOSAN revitalization workshop: building capacity workshop of INFOSAN focal points and support the implementation of the roadmap for strengthening INFOSAN in different countries.
	Senegal	FAO	Strengthening the shellfish industry in Senegal by bringing it up to Sanitary and Phytosanitary (SPS) standards to promote the safety of shellfish and their access to regional and international markets: training of competent Authorities and shellfish actors on risks profiling, training in sampling for microbiological analysis and scientific characterization, monitoring and inspection of shellfish production and farming areas in Senegal.

	<u>Country/ies or regional organization</u>	<u>Leading agency</u>	<u>Technical content</u>
	Liberia, Mali, Namibia, Niger	WHO	Held training workshops to enhance participation in the INFOSAN and strengthen multisectoral collaboration mechanisms for food safety events.
	Benin, Burkina Faso Cote d'Ivoire, Sierra Leone	WHO	Progress review of country roadmaps to enhance participation in the INFOSAN.
	Liberia	WHO	Training of county health teams for food borne disease surveillance from 3 selected counties (Montserrado, Bong, and Grand Bassa).
	Burkina Faso, Senegal and Nigeria	WHO	Implementation of integrated Extended Spectrum Beta-Lactamase <i>E. coli</i> surveillance concurrently in the food chain, humans and the environment.
<u>Asia-Pacific</u>	ASEAN countries +Timor-Leste + Sri Lanka+Kiribati	FAO/WHO	Virtual workshop on GEMS/Food contamination database on 23 May 2024. FAO and WHO jointly organized virtual workshop on Global Environmental Monitoring System (GEMS) virtual workshop on the request of ASEAN Risk Assessment Center (ARAC) and participants were made familiar with GEMS database and importance of sharing and using data for Codex standard setting.
	Asia Pacific countries	FAO/WHO	A webinar on World Food safety Day 2024 on INFOSAN and food safety emergency preparedness and response on 11 June 2024. FAO and WHO jointly organized a webinar to commemorate WFSD under theme 'Food safety: Prepare for the unexpected'. There were presentations on food safety emergency preparedness and response planning and Bangladesh, Cambodia, India, Japan, Malaysia and Solomon Island shared their experience with food safety emergency management.
	WPRO	WHO	Provide technical support and contextual guidance to foodborne disease outbreaks in the region (Philippines, Viet Nam).
	WPRO	WHO	Developed risk communication materials on: food safety risks during emergencies and natural disasters – overall tips to reduce food safety risks on floods, fires and power outage for households, vendors/food suppliers and food inspectors; mass gatherings and regional festivals – published in April 2024.
<u>Near East/eastern Mediterranean</u>	Regional Near East	FAO	Establishing Research Network and Food Safety Innovation Hub (RNFSIH) through South-South and Triangular Cooperation, (2023-2025, Regional Near East).
	Jordan	WHO	Delivering a national Training on improving food safety emergency response - June 2023.
	Egypt	WHO	Webinar: Introducing national focal points on INFOSAN from Egypt, Iraq and Afghanistan.

	<u>Country/ies or regional organization</u>	<u>Leading agency</u>	<u>Technical content</u>
	Tunisia	WHO	National workshop: Estimating the national burden of foodborne diseases, November 2023.
<u>Europe and Central Asia</u>	Azerbaijan, Republic of Moldova, Türkiye	FAO	Food safety emergency response preparedness improved: Technical capacity development training and direct advice provided, food safety crisis management plans and communication plans developed (April 2023-April 2024).
	Republic of Moldova	FAO	Capacity development trainings on food incident management and development of e-notification systems in line with EU RASFF (February 2024).
	Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan	FAO, WHO, INFOSAN Secretariat	Technical report of the subregional workshop on rapid exchange of information during food safety emergencies in central Asia: Almaty, Kazakhstan, 24–25 May 2023.
	Western Balkans	WHO	Strengthening countries' capacity to rapidly share information during food safety emergencies.
	Central Asia	WHO	Strengthening countries' capacity to rapidly share information during food safety emergencies.
<u>Latin America and Caribbean</u>	Guyana	PAHO/WHO	Implementation of the Food Safety Component (SPAR-C13) of the IHR States Parties Self-Assessment Annual Report tool to assess the capabilities for food safety emergency response (2023).
	Suriname	PAHO/WHO	Implementation of the Food Safety Component (SPAR-C13) of the IHR States Parties Self-Assessment Annual Report tool to assess the capabilities for food safety emergency response (2023).
	Guyana	PAHO/WHO	Hands-on training for strengthening Guyana laboratory capacities to assess the microbiological risks from food and animal sources and antimicrobial resistance (AMR) along the food value chain (2023).
	Cuba	PAHO/WHO	Virtual capacity building trainings on AMR phenotyping in bacteria from food and animal sources along the food value chain (2023).
	Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Mexico, Paraguay, Peru and Uruguay.	PAHO/WHO	Hands on trainings on phenotypic and genotypic methodologies applied to resistant pathogens of importance in food and food animals (2023).
	Guyana	PAHO/WHO	Training on molecular methods for identification and characterization of Salmonella spp. and Campylobacter spp. from food (2024).
	Bolivia	PAHO/WHO	Hands-on training on AMR phenotyping in Salmonella from food along the food value chain (2024).

	<u>Country/ies or regional organization</u>	<u>Leading agency</u>	<u>Technical content</u>
	CCLAC countries	PAHO/WHO	Webinar on the Estimating of the global burden of foodborne diseases (2024).

Support to Codex Alimentarius related activities

	<u>Country/ies or regional organization</u>	<u>Leading agency</u>	<u>Technical content</u>
<u>Africa</u>	Madagascar	FAO	Support to national Codex processes: national workshop (October 2023) and support to co-chairmanship on the EWG on development of an annex for vanilla standard (December 2023/January 2024).
	Guinea Bissau, Cap-Verde, Comoros, EAC countries (Burundi, Kenya, South Sudan, Tanzania and Uganda), Mali, Nigeria, Rwanda.	FAO	Support to the implementation of the Codex Trust Fund Project in several African countries: elaboration of national codex manual, sharing experience activities with advanced countries in codex management, advocacy activities with the high-level authorities for national codex funding.
	Ghana, Kenya and Burkina Faso	FAO	UN to UN agreement project of mycotoxins in Africa: assessment activity in Africa to establish the status of mycotoxins contamination in maize, groundnuts, and spices.
	Cameroon, Central Africa Republic, Chad, Congo, Democratic Republic of Congo, Eswatini, Mauritania, Mozambique, Somalia	WHO	Training workshop on enhancing participation in the work of Codex and preparation of robust applications for submission to CTF, November 2023.
	Botswana, Burkina Faso, Benin, Cote d'Ivoire, Ethiopia, Guinea, Lesotho, Malawi, Mauritius, Niger, Sierra Leone, Senegal & Zambia	WHO	Different stages in the implementation of CTF project aimed at strengthening national codex programmes, effective participation in the work of Codex and increasing uptake of Codex standards.
<u>Asia-Pacific</u>	ASEAN	FAO	Workshop on "Enhancing Effective Participation in Codex Work".
	ASEAN/Global	FAO	Series of e-learning courses on Codex developed: Course 1: Introduction to Codex Course 2: Engaging in Codex Course 3: Science and risk analysis in Codex Course 4: Codex collaboration at regional level

	<u>Country/ies or regional organization</u>	<u>Leading agency</u>	<u>Technical content</u>
	ASEAN/Global	FAO	Publication on Codex standard on Nutrition Labelling (https://www.fao.org/3/cc7508en/cc7508en.pdf).
	Cambodia and Lao PDR		Support to individual country projects through CTF.
	Pacific Islands	FAO	Support to multi-country and to individual country projects (Samoa, Tonga) through CTF.
	Sri Lanka	FAO	Workshops on introduction to Codex and the harmonization process for food safety standards.
	Bhutan+India+Nepal	WHO	First group CTF project approved and successfully implemented through south-south cooperation. A good practice of conceptualizing and implementing a CTF group project has been documented. An intercountry workshop on enhanced participation in Codex Activities has been initiated based on successful Codex mock-drill exercise carried out under group CTF project in these countries. These countries are working for development of new work for Codex standard (Large cardamom) after completion of the project.
	Maldives	WHO	An individual CTF project under implementation to build Codex capacity including establishment of National Codex Committee and capacity building through training.
	Timor-Leste	WHO	An individual CTF project under implementation to build Codex capacity including establishment of National Codex Committee and capacity building through training.
	Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Maldives, Sri Lanka and Timor-Leste	WHO	An intercountry workshop on enhancing participation in Codex Activities is organized from 24-28 June 2024 in Mumbai in collaboration with Food Safety and Standard Authority of India (FSSAI) under CTF project. It is practical hands-on training and Codex mock drill exercise for 30 Codex and food safety officials from 6 countries which will strengthen national Codex capacity.
	WPRO / China	WHO	Coordinated support to CTF Project – Mauritius from WHO Collaborating Centre for Food Contamination Monitoring - China National Center for Food Safety Risk Assessment (CHN-24); on risk assessment and Codex matters.
	Fiji	WHO	Provided technical support to address queries on detection of metal particles (physical contaminants) in sugar; Irradiation of foods and x-ray machines in food processing plants (June 2023).
	Kiribati	WHO	Provided technical support to address queries on frozen chicken, sugar products, food regulations, dry east products, and food package labels (Codex Standards for date marks on food la Codex Standards for date marks on food labels).

	<u>Country/ies or regional organization</u>	<u>Leading agency</u>	<u>Technical content</u>
	Samoa	WHO	Provided technical support to revision of safe levels of methanol in alcoholic beverages (June 2023).
	WPRO	WHO	Supported the development of the 26th Session of the Codex Committee on Food Import and Export Inspection and Certification Systems (CCFICS26) by contribution to WPRO's Regional and National Activities.
<u>Europe and Central Asia</u>	Azerbaijan	FAO	Mentoring sessions and trainings with twinning country to the NCC and CCP, support in preparation for attending the Codex meetings, an international event on "Advancing Food Standards and Codex Participation in Europe and Central Asia" organized in Baku (September 2023).
	North Macedonia	FAO	Support in preparation for attending the Codex meetings (November 2023-July 2024).
	Uzbekistan	WHO	Strengthening Uzbekistan's participation in Codex Alimentarius including adoption of Codex standards as a means to facilitate the WTO membership process for Uzbekistan.
	Kazakhstan	WHO	Strengthening Kazakhstan's participation in Codex Alimentarius.
	Tajikistan	WHO	Strengthening Tajikistan's participation in Codex Alimentarius.
	Turkmenistan	WHO	Strengthening Turkmenistan's participation in Codex Alimentarius.
<u>Latin America and Caribbean</u>	Guyana	PAHO/WHO	Strengthening Guyana's National Codex Structure and participation in Codex Alimentarius through CTF project.
	El Salvador and Guatemala	PAHO/WHO	Strengthening El Salvador and Guatemala's National Codex Structures and participation in Codex Alimentarius through a joint CTF project.