

Contingency plan to ensure food supply and food security

State of Play

Food donation sub-group – 11 February 2021

Context

Farm-to-Fork Action #2 : Develop a contingency plan for ensuring food supply and food security :

- "common European response to crises"
- "drawing on lessons learned"
- "food crisis response mechanism, coordinated by the Commission and involving Member States"
- "various sectors (agriculture, fisheries, food safety, workforce, health and transport issues)"

CONTINGENCY (this action) vs **LONGER TERM RESILIENCE** OF FOOD SYSTEMS (F2F strategy and its flagship action 1)





What is envisaged?

Contingency plan to ensure **EU** food supply and food security during crises

- Overall objective be better prepared at EU level with MSs for future crises through Ex ante and Cross-Policy coordination
- A common EU food crisis response mechanism:
 - A forum with Member States and/or stakeholders COM coordinates
- An agreed set of procedures to follow to respond to crises → in the form of principles, guidelines and recommendations & (non-binding) agreements w/ MSs



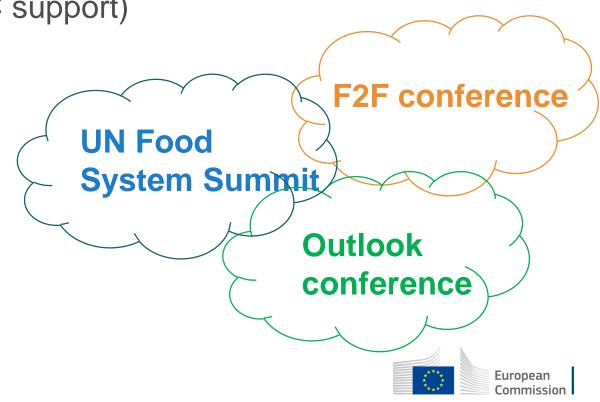
Forum features (roadmap)

- Different sectors represented (agriculture, fisheries and aquaculture, food safety, workforce, health and transport issues, etc.)
- coordinated action and dialogue to support policy consistency across the EU
- a space for the exchange of best practices and lessons learned
- use a solid and up-to-date evidence basis
- continuously evaluate threats to the EU's food system,
- · engage with international partners and organisations, and
- transparent communication to stakeholders and the public.



Timeline (next steps)

- Targeted e-Consultation 25 Feb 60 days until April
- more AGRI-MARE expert groups Q1/Q2-2021
- Workshop with academia Q2-2021 (JRC support)
- Adoption: Q4-2021
- Discussion by other institutions



State of play

Roadmap published / 4 Dec 2020

Feedback on roadmap / 13 Jan 2021 (68 answers)

 1st joint Expert Group AGRI MARE / lessons learnt from COVID / 20 Jan 2021 (150 participants)



State of play

- Recognition of CAP and single market / trade roles during COVID, including flexibility
- Coordination needed between actors including staff in the food chain, sectors, with public bodies, internationally
- Communication / transparency
- Access /affordability
- Funding





Key takeaways

- Communication: Covid-19 virus is not food-borne
- Whole chain to be considered: from seeds/fertilizer/feed though primary production, processing, ... retail, till consumer
- Food safety requirements and official controls remain applicable but flexible, risk-based implementation possible: temporarily and under strict conditions
- Further action needed to support and facilitate matching of supply and demand including redistribution e.g. through food donations



Thank you

