



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)

➡ **2021 Q4** (Communication + SWD) ← roadmap

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



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- 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 through 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