

Ongoing activities against food fraud



Olivier Prunaux
DG SANCO
Safety of the food chain
Unit E5 Enforcement

**ADVISORY GROUP ON THE FOOD CHAIN,
ANIMAL AND PLANT HEALTH**

12 December 2014



European
Commission



2003

Sudan dyes in
imported chilli and
chilli products



2008

Sunflower oil from
Ukraine contaminated
by mineral oil



2008

Melamine in infant
milk in China



2010

Fatty acid intended for
technical purpose used
in animal feeding





European
Commission



January-February 2013

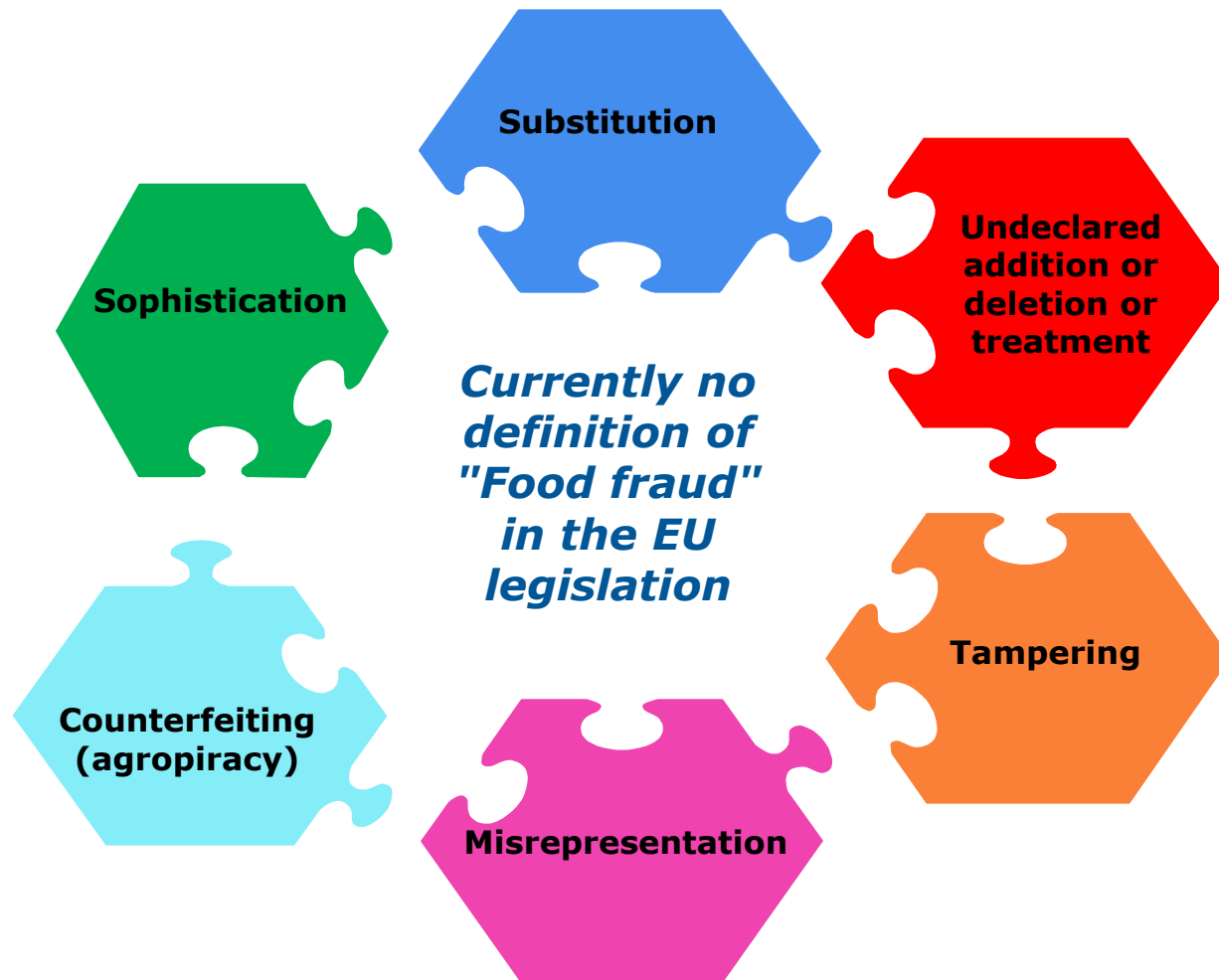
US Pharmacopeia Convention's Food fraud database

- Milk (380)
- Olive Oil (269)
- Honey (125)
- Saffron (125)
- Fish (77)
- Coffee (62)
- Orange juice (32)
- Apple juice (30)
- Black pepper (22)
- Tea (21)





European
Commission



Health and
Consumers



Working definition used by the Food Fraud Network

"Intentional violation of the rules covered by Regulation 882/2004 which are applicable to the production of food and feed, motivated by the prospect of economic or financial gain"



Food quality	Food fraud
Food safety	Food defense
Unintentional	Intentional
Action	

**Motivated by the
prospect of
economic or
financial gain**





5-point action plan (March 2013)

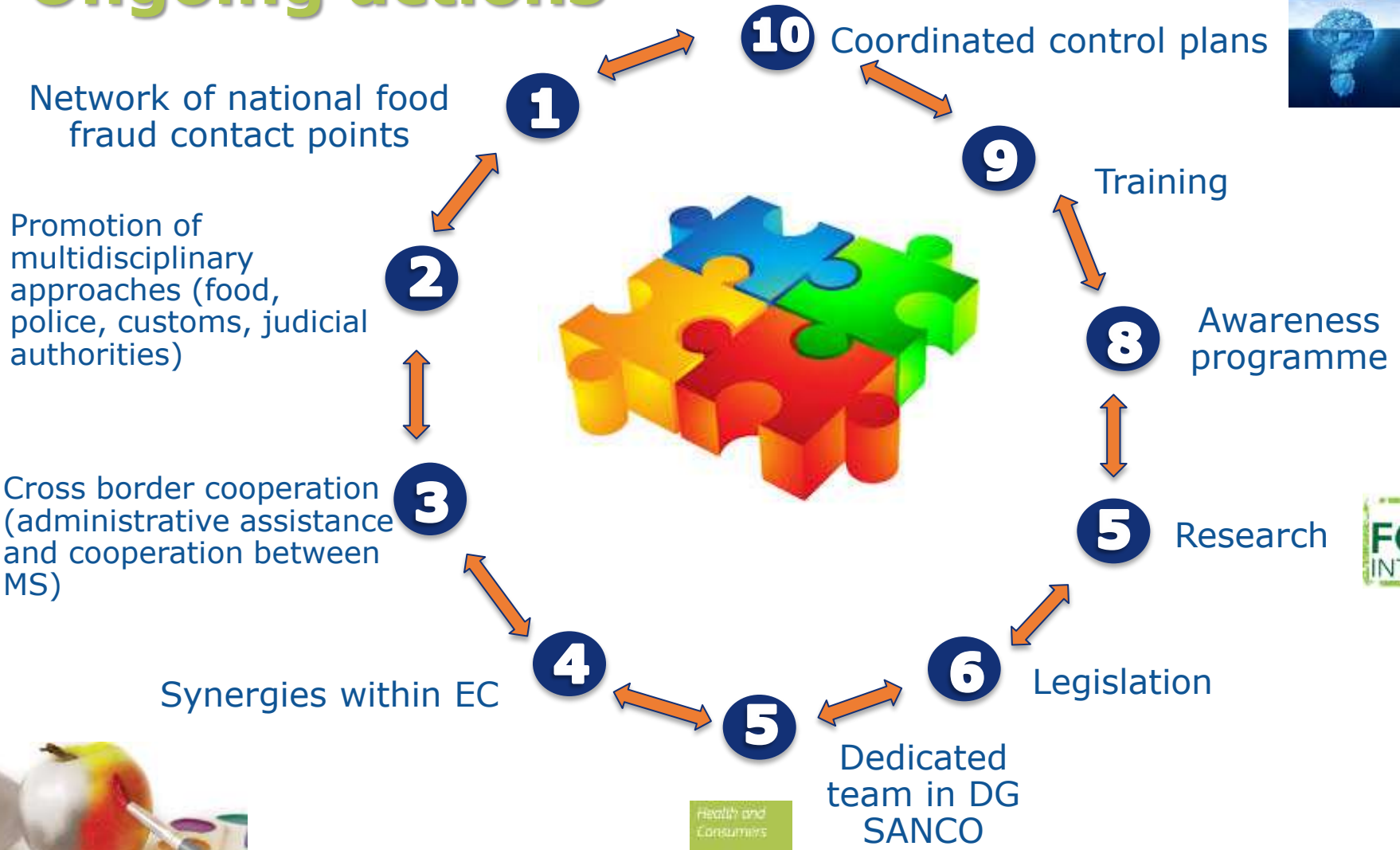
- Testing programme for horsemeat
- Horse passport
- Strengthened fight against food fraud (mapping tools and mechanisms, facilitate exchange of information and cooperation)
- Official controls, implementation and penalties
- Origin labelling





European Commission

Ongoing actions



Health and Consumers



Network of national food fraud contact points

Promotion of multidisciplinary approaches (food, police, customs, judicial authorities)

Cross border cooperation (administrative assistance and cooperation between MS)

Synergies within EC



10 Coordinated control plans

Training

8 Awareness programme

5 Research

6 Legislation

Dedicated team in DG SANCO



Network of national food fraud contact points

(liaison body in the meaning of Art 35 Reg 882/2004)

Aim:

Facilitate administrative assistance and cooperation in the case of suspicion of fraud with a cross-border dimension

Facilitate cooperation between the EC and MS as well as the tasks of coordination of the EC

Scope:

Cross-border dimension

Violation of EU food chain law

Deception with "intention"

Economic or financial gain for the potential fraudster(s)

Advantage: rapid exchange of information

NB: if risk to public health → RASFF notification





Cross-agencies cooperation at MS level

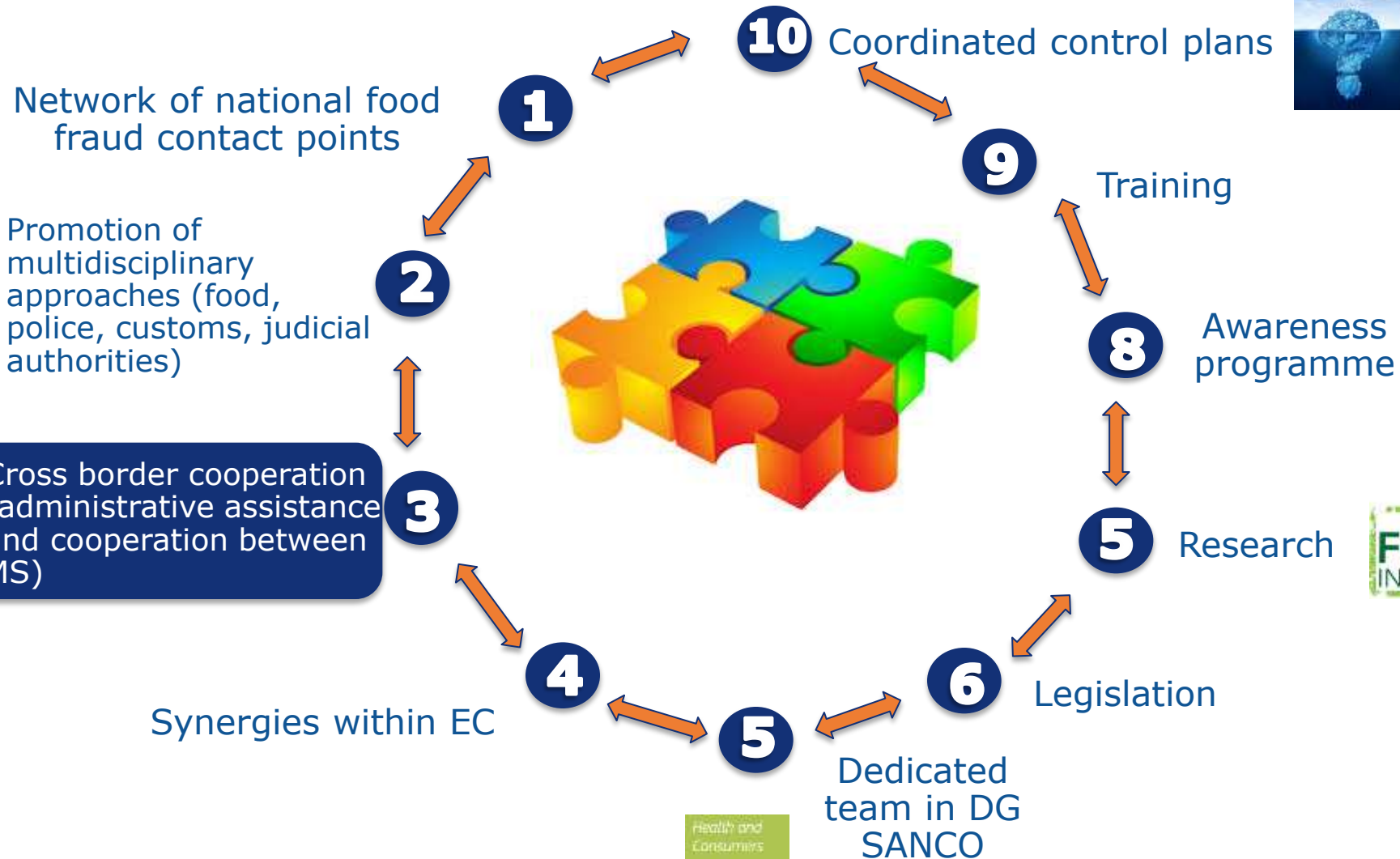


**Police / customs
(investigation)**

**Official controls in
the food sector
(inspection)**

**Judicial system
(prosecution)**





Cross border cooperation - EU networks

Investigation

Europol



Prosecution

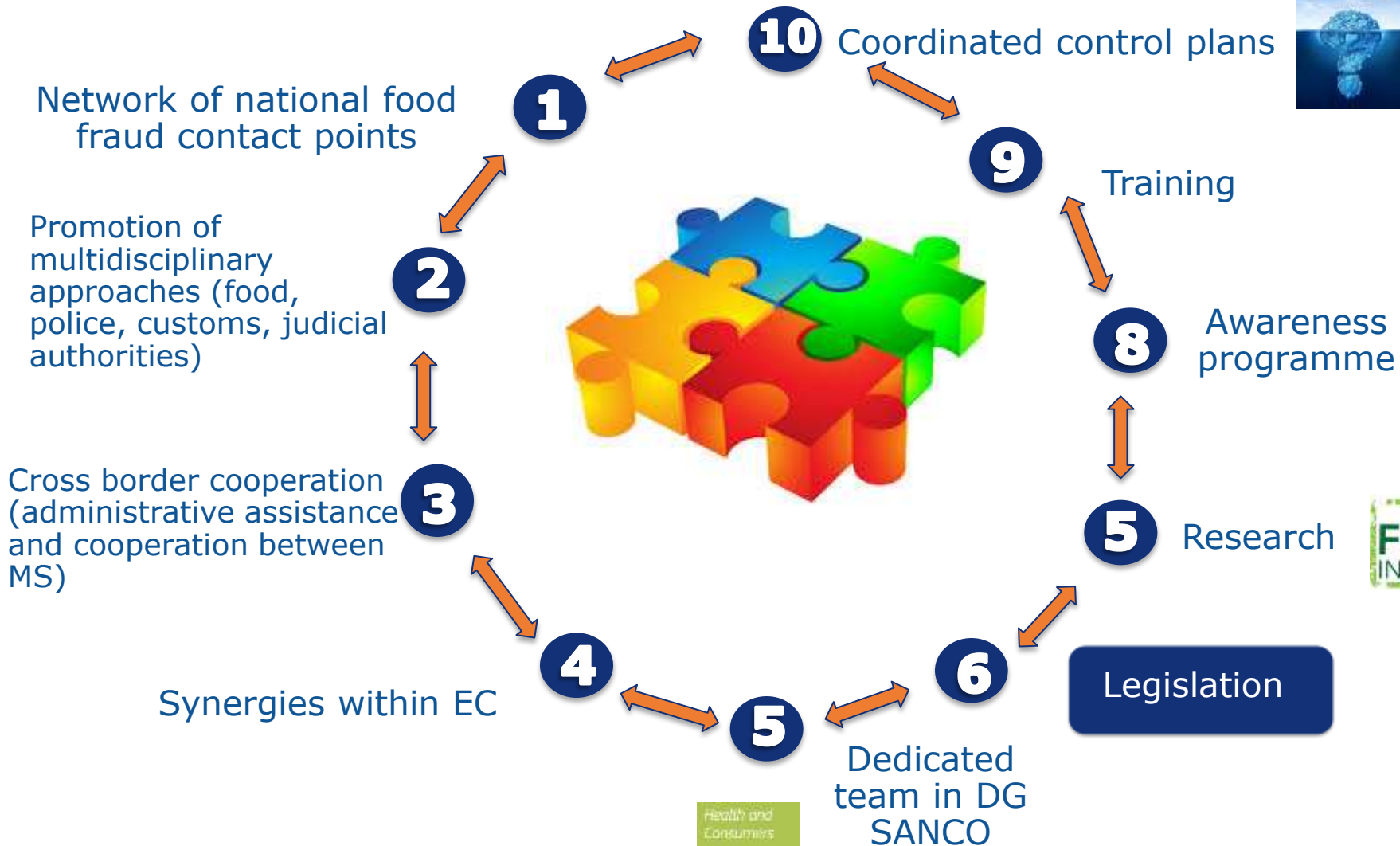
Eurojust

Food inspection



**Network of national food
fraud contact points for AAC**





General food Law (Regulation 178/2002)

Article 8 - Protection of consumers' interests

1. Food law shall aim at the protection of the interests of consumers and shall provide a basis for consumers to make informed choices in relation to the foods they consume. It shall aim at the prevention of:

- (a) fraudulent or deceptive practices;
- (b) the adulteration of food; and
- (c) any other practices which may mislead the consumer.



Official controls (Regulation 882/2004)

Article 1 - Subject matter and scope

1. This Regulation lays down general rules for the performance of official controls to verify compliance with rules aiming, in particular, at:

- (a) preventing, eliminating or reducing to acceptable levels risks to humans and animals, either directly or through the environment; and
- (b) **guaranteeing fair practices in feed and food trade and protecting consumer interests, including feed and food labelling and other forms of consumer information.**





European Commission



Coordinated control plans

Training

Awareness programme

Research



Dedicated team in DG SANCO

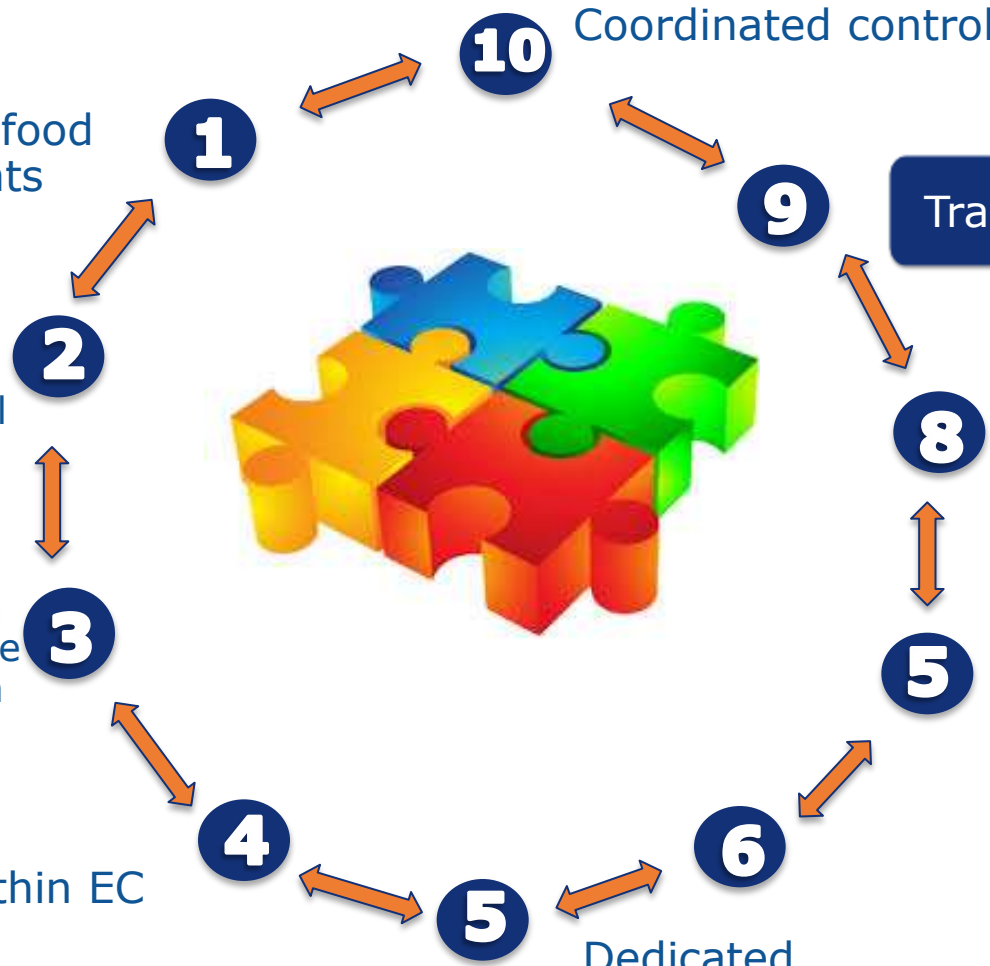
Health and Consumers

Synergies within EC

Cross border cooperation (administrative assistance and cooperation between MS)

Promotion of multidisciplinary approaches (food, police, customs, judicial authorities)

Network of national food fraud contact points



10

9

8

5

6

5

4

3

2

1



BTSF 2014-2015

Investigation techniques to detect food fraud

2 courses in 2014 and 3 for 2015

E-commerce of food, i.e. sales of food and food related products over the internet

3 courses in 2014 and 2 for 2015







Coordinated control plans

2013

4144 DNA tests by MS

Non conform: **4,66%**

(+ 7999 DNA tests by FBOs

Non conform: 1,39%)

3133 tests on phenylbutazone by MS

Non conform: 0,51%

2014

2622 DNA tests

Non conform: **0,61%**





SANCO-882-FOOD-FRAUD@ec.europa.eu