



# **Regulatory Fitness and Performance Programme (REFIT) - Fitness Check on Regulation 178/2002**

# Introduction to REFIT programme

## Some say EU legislation.....

Ignores the  
views of  
those  
affected

Violates the  
subsidiarity  
principle

Is too costly,  
complex,  
burdensome,  
unclear

Difficult to  
implement,  
to enforce, to  
comply with

Does not  
deliver on its  
objectives

# Smart Regulation

*.... is about ensuring high quality EU legislation which .....*

- Respects the principles of subsidiarity and proportionality;
- Results in a simple, clear, stable and predictable regulatory framework;
- Delivers most effectively on EU policy objectives at minimum cost.

## Smart regulation is ...

1. About the **whole policy cycle** – from the design of a piece of legislation, to implementation, enforcement, evaluation and revision.
2. About actively **engaging those affected** by interventions.
3. A **shared responsibility** of the European institutions and of Member States.

## Putting Smart Regulation into Practice: Regulatory Fitness and Performance Programme ("REFIT")

- Identify burdens, inconsistencies, gaps and ineffective measures across acquis ('Mapping')
- Take action: withdraw, repeal, simplify, improve
- Assess: evaluations and Fitness Checks
- Consult: Involve Stakeholders
- Track Progress: Scoreboard

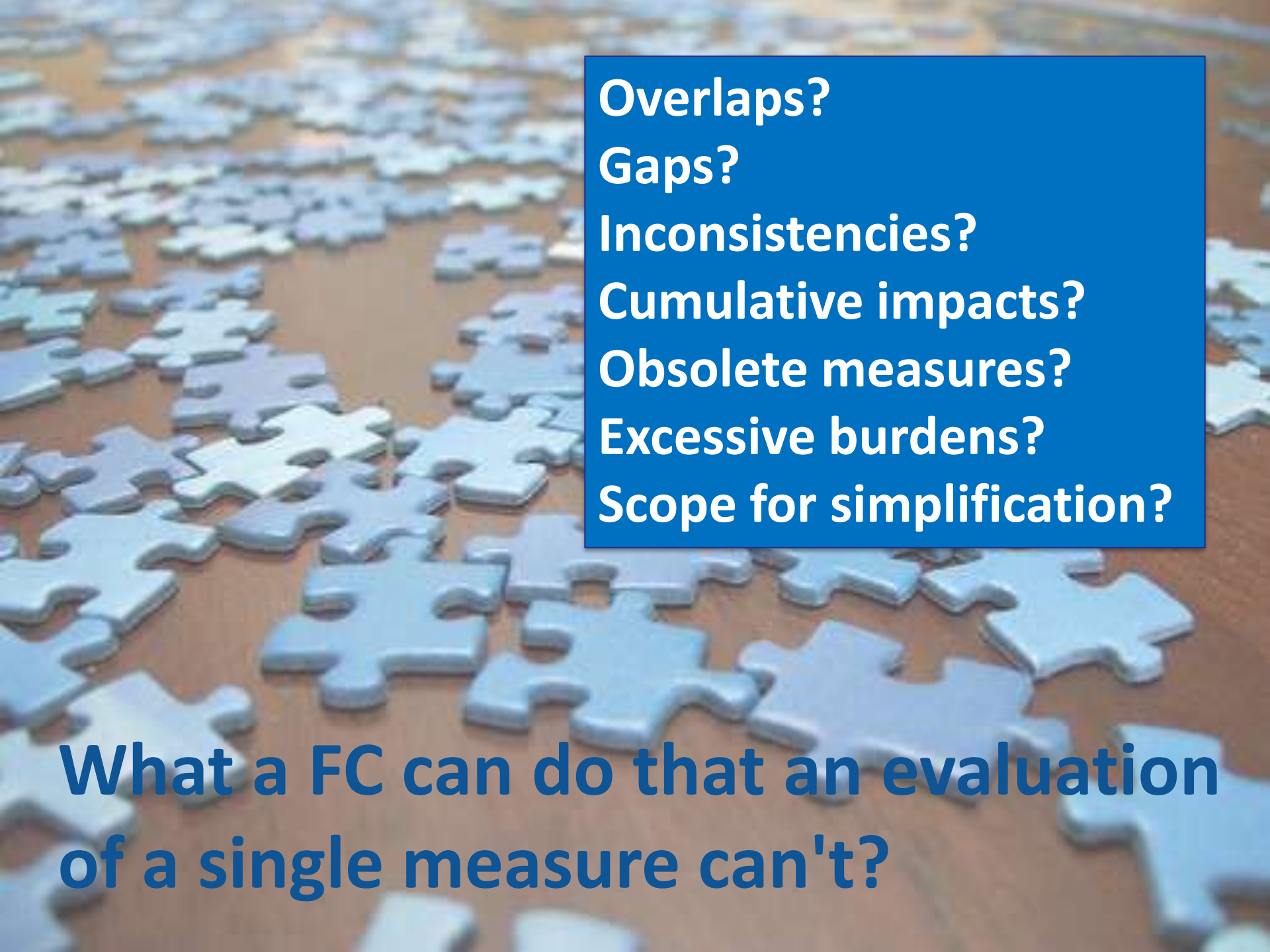


# General introduction to Fitness Checks

# Fitness Check

**a comprehensive policy evaluation**  
assessing whether the (regulatory)  
framework for a policy area is fit for  
purpose.





**Overlaps?  
Gaps?  
Inconsistencies?  
Cumulative impacts?  
Obsolete measures?  
Excessive burdens?  
Scope for simplification?**

**What a FC can do that an evaluation  
of a single measure can't?**

# **Fitness check on Regulation 178/2002 (General Food Law)**

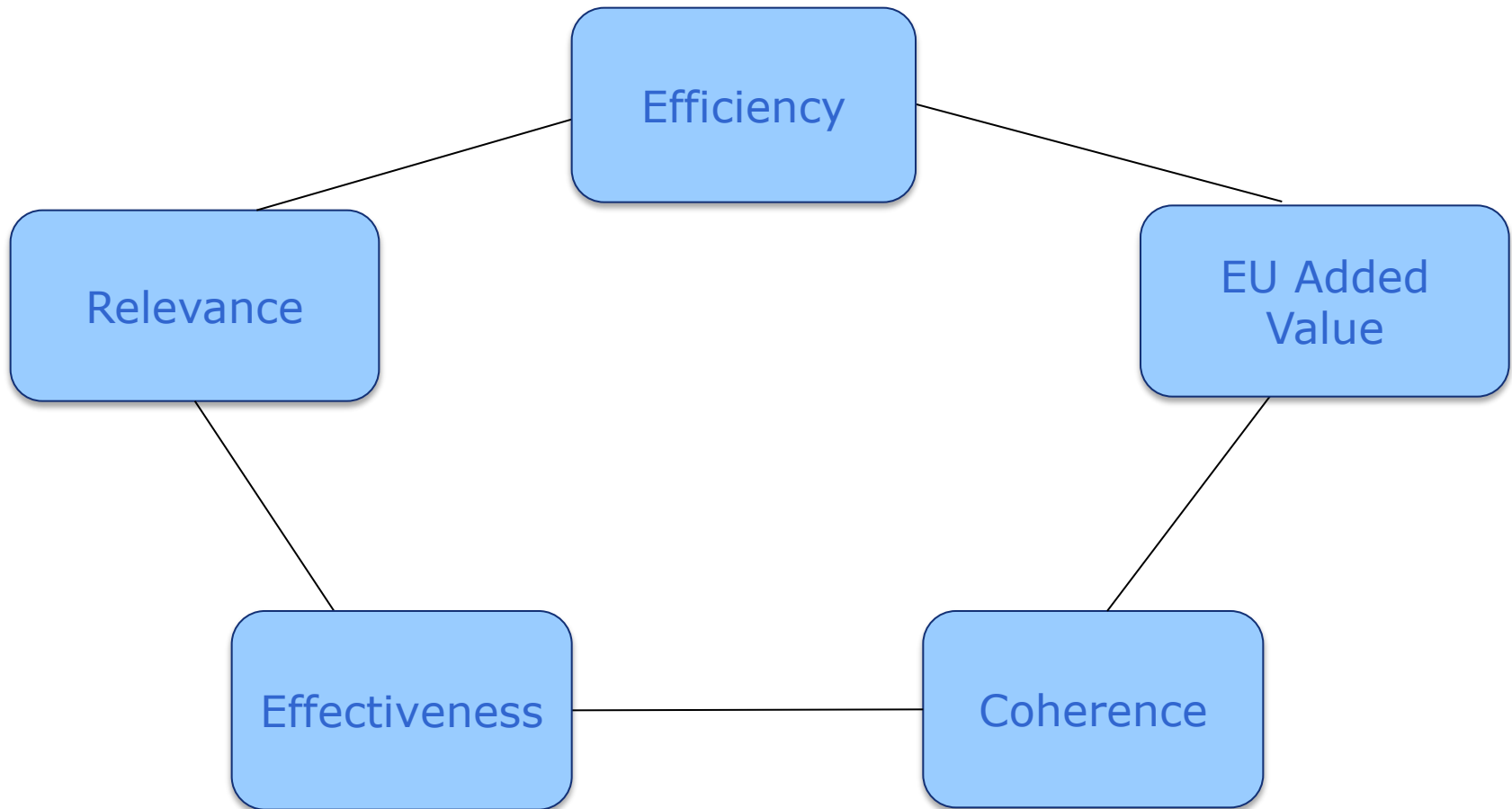
# Why Regulation 178/2002

- Regulation (EC) No 178/2002 is the foundation of the EU food policy.
  - It sets out:
    - Basic objectives of food law
    - Definitions
    - General principles
    - General Requirements
    - Procedures for the management of emergencies and crises (including the Rapid Alert System for Food and Feed (RASFF))
  - It establishes:
    - The European Food Safety Authority (EFSA)

## Overall purpose

The Fitness Check on Regulation 178/2002 is a **comprehensive policy evaluation** assessing whether the regulatory framework for the **entire food sector is 'fit for purpose'**.

# Criteria to be covered



# Criteria to be covered



Eu European  
Cc Commission

## Effectiveness:

*to what extent were the set objectives attained, i.e. do the **effects** correspond to the **objectives**?*

## Efficiency:

*were the **effects** achieved **at a reasonable cost**?*

## Relevance:

*do the **objectives** correspond to the **needs**?*

## Coherence:

*interventions do **not contradict** others with similar objectives*



## EU added value:

***additional value** resulting from EU activities, compared to what could be achieved by MS at national and/or regional levels*



# Data sources of Fitness Check (1)

- 2 external studies to be carried out focusing on:
    - The general provisions of Regulation 178/2002 (e.g. definitions, principles, requirements *etc.*). This study will also include stakeholder consultations as well as an SME survey.
    - RASFF/emergencies/crisis management
- Both studies are expected to be completed by May 2015

## Data sources of Fitness Check (2)

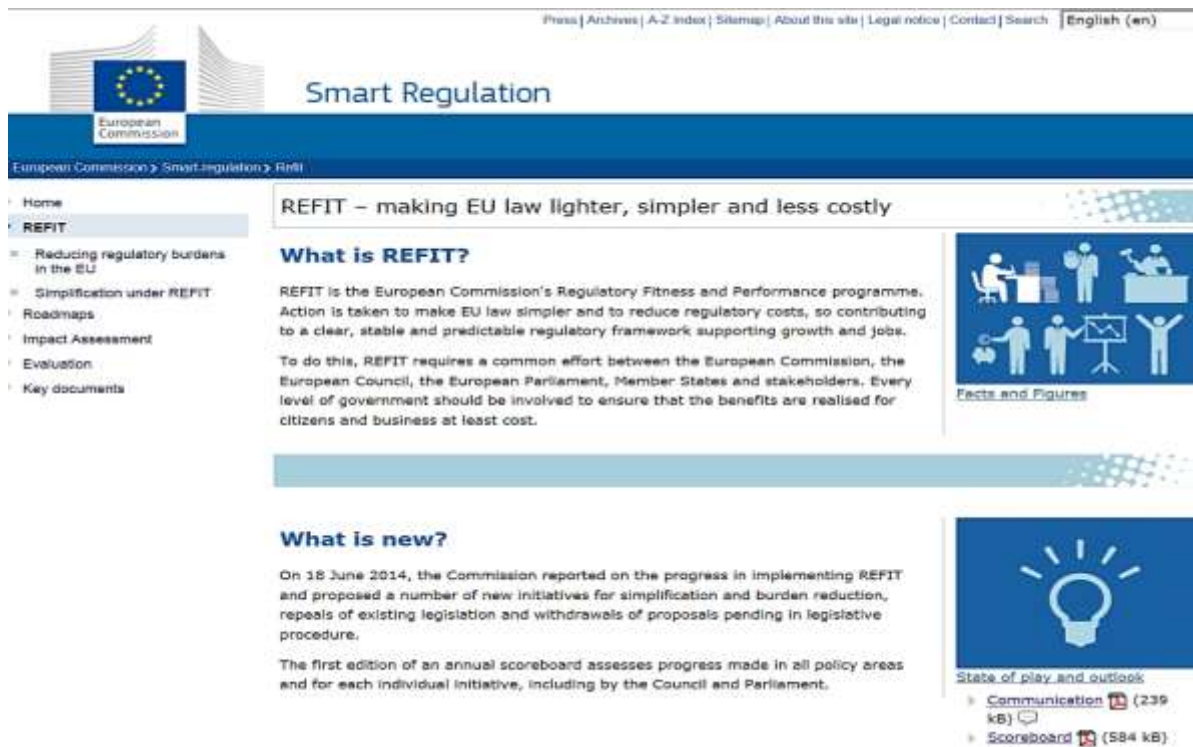
- Joint evaluation together with the Member States
  - involvement of the High Level Group on Administrative Burden – Possibility for Member States to carry out their own case studies
- EFSA Reports
- Complaints/infringements
- Previous evaluations/impact assessments
- Implementation



# Timeline

- April 2014: Launch of Fitness Check on General Food Law
- September 2014 – June 2015: Launch and carrying out of external studies
- December 2015: Presentation of the outcome of the Fitness Check on General Food Law (Commission Staff Working Document)

# Further information



The screenshot shows the 'Smart Regulation' page on the European Commission website. At the top right, there are navigation links: 'Press', 'Archives', 'A-Z Index', 'Sitemap', 'About this site', 'Legal notice', 'Contact', 'Search', and 'English (en)'. The main header features the European Commission logo and the title 'Smart Regulation'. Below the header, a breadcrumb trail reads 'European Commission > Smart Regulation > Refit'. A left-hand navigation menu includes 'Home', 'REFIT', 'Reducing regulatory burdens in the EU', 'Simplification under REFIT', 'Roadmaps', 'Impact Assessment', 'Evaluation', and 'Key documents'. The main content area is titled 'REFIT – making EU law lighter, simpler and less costly' and contains a section 'What is REFIT?' with a paragraph explaining the programme's goals and a list of stakeholders. To the right of this text is an icon representing 'Facts and Figures'. Below the main text is a section 'What is new?' with a paragraph about a 2014 report and a list of new initiatives. To the right of this text is an icon representing a 'State of play and outlook' with a list of documents: 'Communication (239 kB)' and 'Scoreboard (584 kB)'.

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## Smart Regulation

European Commission > Smart Regulation > Refit

- Home
- REFIT**
- Reducing regulatory burdens in the EU
- Simplification under REFIT
- Roadmaps
- Impact Assessment
- Evaluation
- Key documents

### REFIT – making EU law lighter, simpler and less costly

#### What is REFIT?

REFIT is the European Commission's Regulatory Fitness and Performance programme. Action is taken to make EU law simpler and to reduce regulatory costs, so contributing to a clear, stable and predictable regulatory framework supporting growth and jobs.

To do this, REFIT requires a common effort between the European Commission, the European Council, the European Parliament, Member States and stakeholders. Every level of government should be involved to ensure that the benefits are realised for citizens and business at least cost.

#### Facts and Figures

#### What is new?

On 18 June 2014, the Commission reported on the progress in implementing REFIT and proposed a number of new initiatives for simplification and burden reduction, repeals of existing legislation and withdrawals of proposals pending in legislative procedure.

The first edition of an annual scoreboard assesses progress made in all policy areas and for each individual initiative, including by the Council and Parliament.

#### State of play and outlook

- Communication (239 kB)
- Scoreboard (584 kB)

REFIT: [http://ec.europa.eu/smart-regulation/refit/index\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/smart-regulation/refit/index_en.htm)

SANCO website: [http://ec.europa.eu/food/food/foodlaw/index\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/food/food/foodlaw/index_en.htm)