



F2F - Contingency plan to ensure food supply and food security

Crops Market Observatory – 26/03/2021

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)”*

➡ **2021 Q4** (Communication + SWD) ← roadmap = no IA

Context - related initiative

F2F Action #1: *proposal for a legislative framework for sustainable food systems*

- Delivery: 2023
- consider, among others, strengthening the resilience of food systems and the ability to respond to crises threatening food security
- Includes impact assessment

Context – COVID19

- Food supply chain proved resilient
 - EU policies helped (CAP, CFP, single market...)
 - COM and MSs ad hoc coordination helped (DG HOME COVID group)
- But in initial stages lack of coordination & fast moving situation
 - Barriers to movement: between MSs of goods, services, workers needed to maintain food supply (incl. cross-border and seasonal workers)
 - Sudden disappearance of significant demand sources ('HORECA')



**We avoided a food crisis on top of the sanitary crisis,
but we can improve (*ex ante*, cross-policy) coordination**

What is envisaged?

Contingency plan to ensure food supply and food security during crises

- A common EU food crisis response mechanism:
 - A **forum** with Member States (& possibly stakeholders) – COM coordinates
 - (also: market monitoring and risk assessment, and market management measures → already existing)
- An agreed set of procedures to follow to respond to crises → in the form of guidelines and recommendations & (non-binding) agreements w/ MSs
 - **Informed** by the work of the forum



**Framed by, and consistent with, F2F objectives
(sustainability, etc.)**

Forum features

- different sectors represented
- 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 base
- continuously evaluate threats to the EU's food system,
- engage with international partners and organisations, and
- transparent communication to stakeholders and the public.

Contingency Plan – Roadmap feedback

- *68 replies received*

➔ <https://europa.eu/!jv63gY>

Roadmap feedback – main insights

- Recognition of CAP, CFP, food safety rules, and single market / intl. trade role during pandemic, including flexibility
- Coordination needed between actors including staff in the food chain, sectors, with public bodies, internationally
- Communication & transparency
- Access & affordability
- Funding

Stakeholder questionnaire

- Targeted to stakeholders, open to all
- All EU languages
- Open for 2 months → to 3 May

<https://europa.eu/!Mt64MV>

Main next steps

- Q1-Q2 2021: stakeholder consultation, following roadmap feedback
 - Incl. targeted questionnaire
- AGRI-MARE expert groups – monthly (up to Summer)
- Technical workshop (w/ JRC)
- Market Observatories, CDGs, and other consultative bodies, ad hoc meetings

Q4 2021: F2F → Communication and SWD

Thank you.