



Executive summary

Report on taxonomy of impact areas

Deliverable Number*	D7.9
Organisation name of lead contractor for this deliverable:	Uni-Bonn
Contact	<p>For further use, questions or queries please contact the dissemination manager:</p> <p>Daniel Spichtinger , M.A.</p> <p>RTD Services</p> <p>Lazarettgasse 3/4</p> <p>1090 Vienna, Austria</p> <p>Tel: +43 1 3231000 -21</p>

* a deliverable is a formal output produced by a (EU) project

Content Summary

The main purpose of the economical assessment group is to evaluate the impact of food safety policy on European society. The evaluation process is complex because the effects are felt in several areas, and European society has a multitude of actors subjected to the regulation. Despite this the European Union needs to react rapidly in an ever changing world with increasing global interaction. Thus, there is little time to evaluate whether new regulations will have positive or negative consequences.

MoniQA is working towards a Decision Support System (DSS) that is able to evaluate and quickly identify the main consequences of a new regulation within the food sector. The theoretical background on decision-aiding demonstrates the importance of a structured decision support model as well as focusing on the most relevant aspects of the final decision. Since the system is broad and complex, the DSS cannot capture completely the detailed information but its output has added-value for reliability in the decision-making process.

The concepts underlying the modelling framework, which is the basis for the DSS, are explained. Part of the model realization is the taxonomy, which is the selection, description and denomination of the categories and elements it will use. Although the analytical tools of the model (the indicators) are considered as part of the taxonomy, they cannot yet be described fully. This is because parts of the model, specifically its operational mechanism, will be further developed using data and empirical calculation tests. Definition of the taxonomy is an on-going and iterative process throughout the duration of MoniQA.

The outline of the model explains the main assumptions used to obtain the impact of a new regulation. The logical pathway in the model moves from the requirements to the consequences for citizens, in combination with cause-effect relationships, which involve all affected by the new regulation. Since citizens depend on manufacturers and retailers (enterprises), it is important to include the view of enterprises in the assessment. If the enterprises are not implementing a new regulation on food safety in an appropriate way food safety cannot be improve. The model focuses particularly on linking the enterprise behaviour (micro level) with consequences for citizens (macro level).



To describe this connection, the horizontal part of the model forecasts behaviour with respect of new requirements in food safety. The subsequent vertical part of the model connects the consequences of the enterprises behaviour with the final impact for the citizens. Both are included in the outline, which will lead to a unique computational system.

The model is modular, which means it is applicable in a specific region or nation. In the future we will deal with the problem of data aggregation from different modules, and the synthesis of information moving from the requirements to the output or impact.

About MoniQA – www.moniqa.org

MoniQA ("Monitoring and Quality Assurance in the Food Supply Chain") is a Network of Excellence (NoE) funded by the European Commission under the 6th Framework Programme. The Network aims to make food safer by harmonising methods for food analyses. The project is coordinated by the Vienna-based International Association for Cereal Science and Technology (ICC). More than 155 researchers and scientist from 33 international partners from 20 countries are involved in MoniQA.

Join us!

MoniQA offers associated partnerships for interested organisations, SMEs and institutions. For more information see <http://www.moniqa.org/associates> or contact:

MoniQA Project Manager
Marcella Gross, ICC
marcella.gross@icc.or.at