



Organización de las Naciones Unidas  
para la Alimentación y la Agricultura

# *FAO/WHO food control system assessment tool*

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***Committee on Stronger Food and Drug Regulatory Systems Abroad***

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## Increased Urbanization

**70 % global population  
will be urban by 2050**



1970



2009



2050

## Growth of Megacities

10 cities  
1990

28 cities  
2014

41 cities  
2030

De 7400 millones en 2015, la población alcanzará 8500 millones al 2030 y 9700 millones al 2050

# Increasing demand for Natural Resources

De 7400 millones en 2015, la población alcanzará 8500 millones al 2030 y 9700 millones al 2050



52%

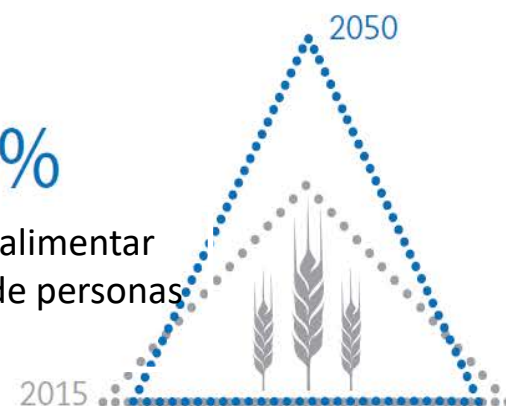
de la tierra agrícola está  
ya afectada por una  
degradación moderada  
a severa

+55%

demanda de agua al 2050

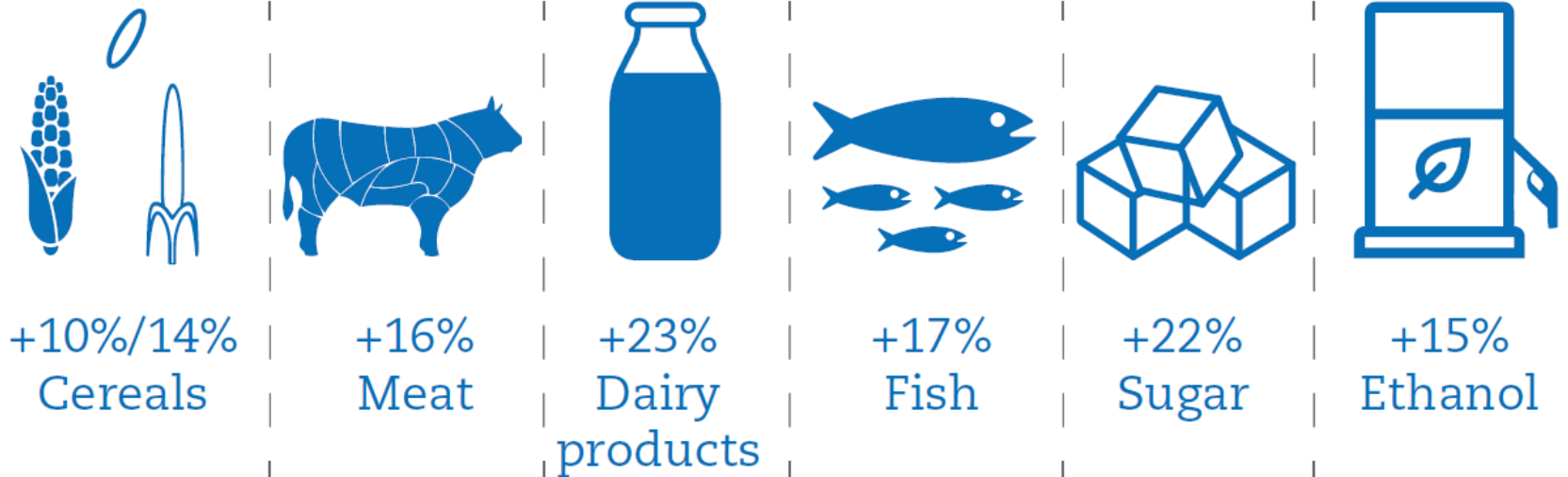
+60%

alimentos para alimentar  
9700 millones de personas  
al 2050

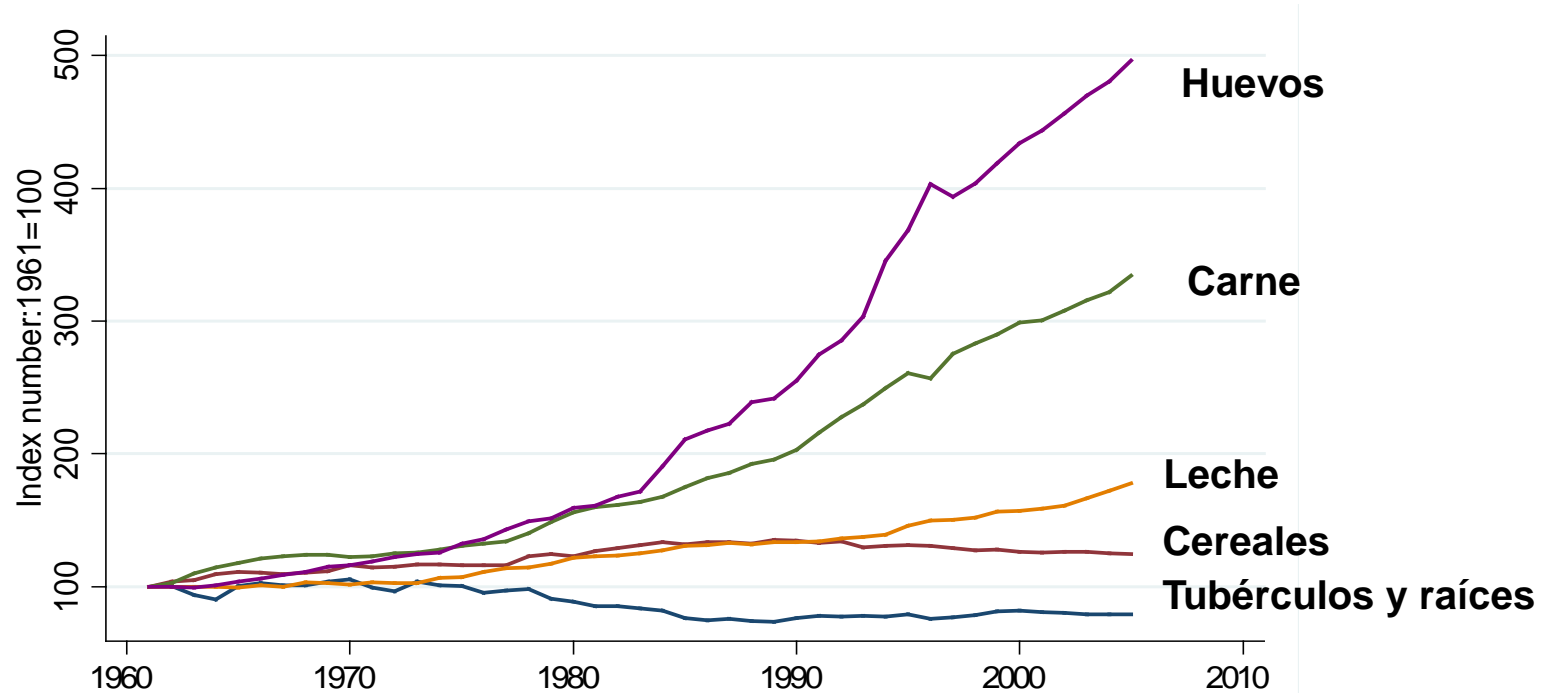


OECD Science, Technology and Innovation Outlook, 2016

# Increase in Agricultural Production by 2025



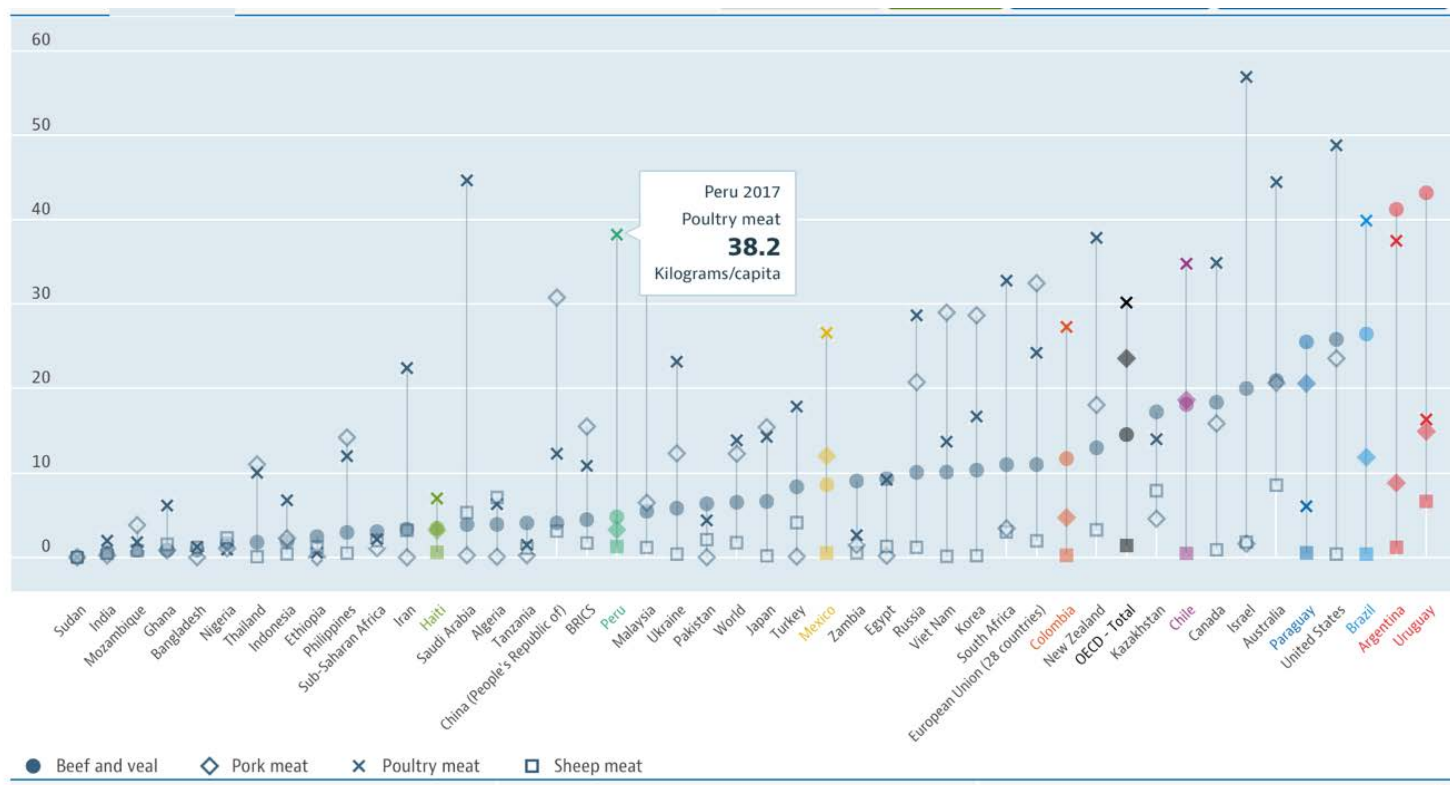
# Consumption is growing rapidly in developing countries



Per caput consumption of major food items in developing countries – kg per caput per year (index numbers 1961=100)

# Meat consumption (beef/pork/chicken/sheep, kg/cápita)

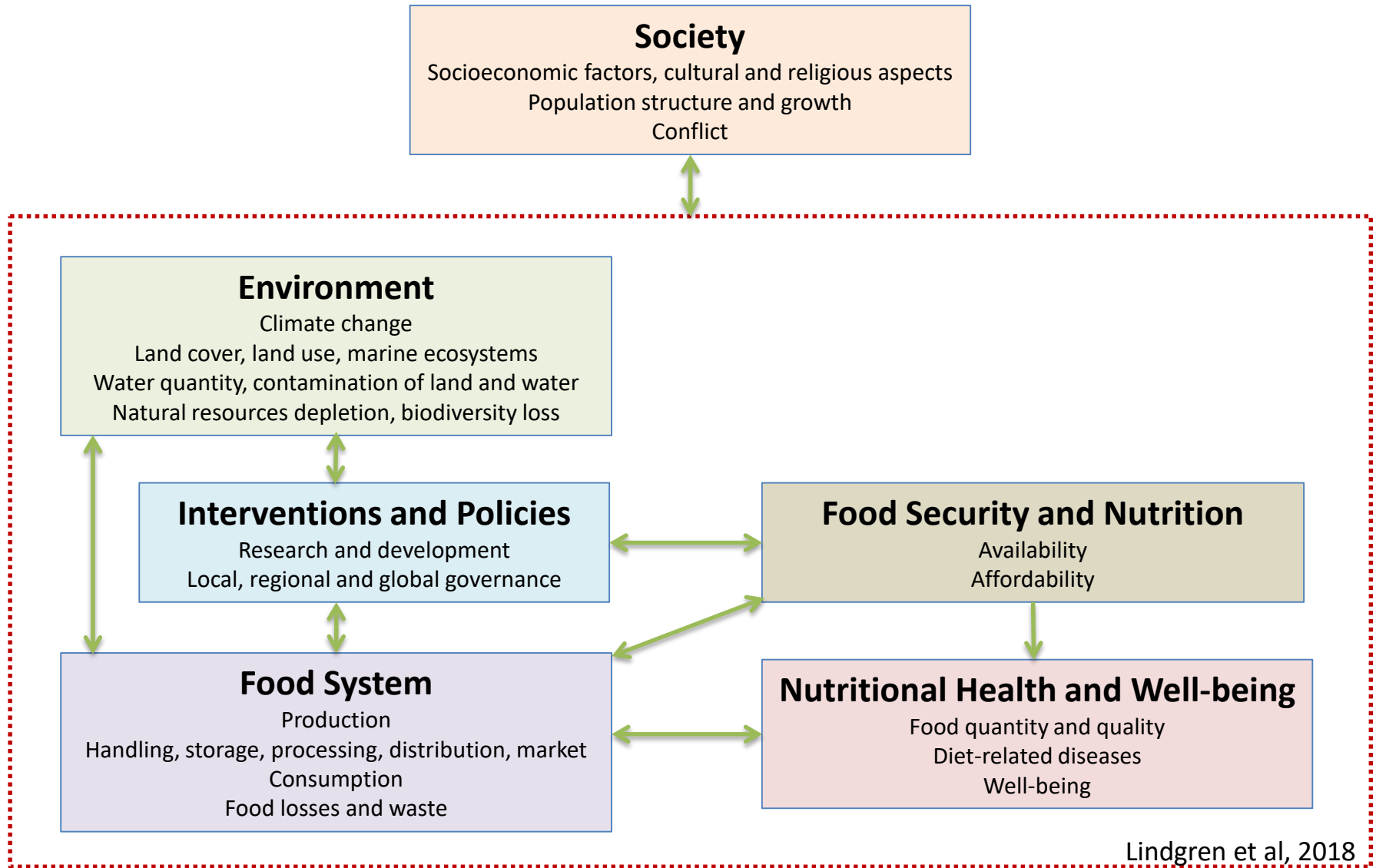
OECD-FAO Agricultural Outlook 2017



# Global factors that impact on FS



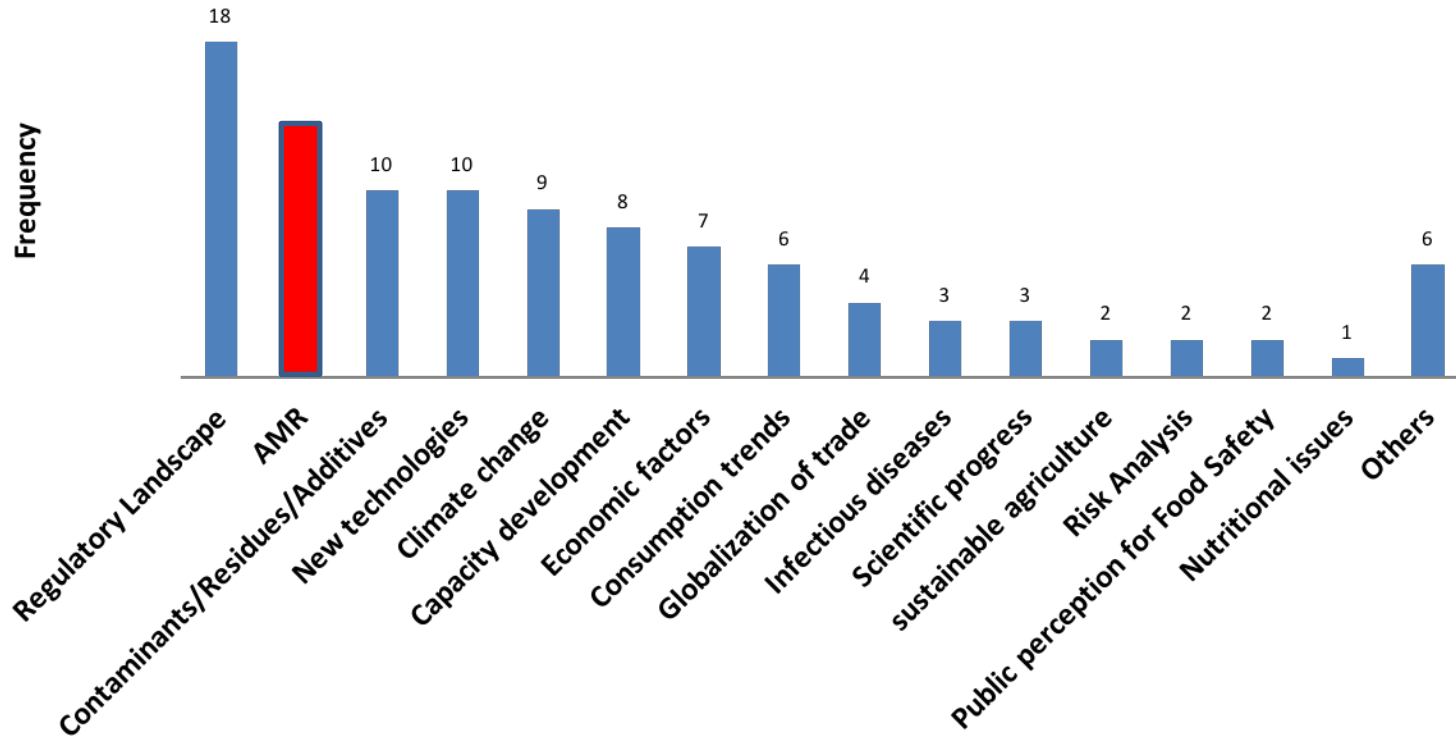
# Interactions between health, food systems, environment and society





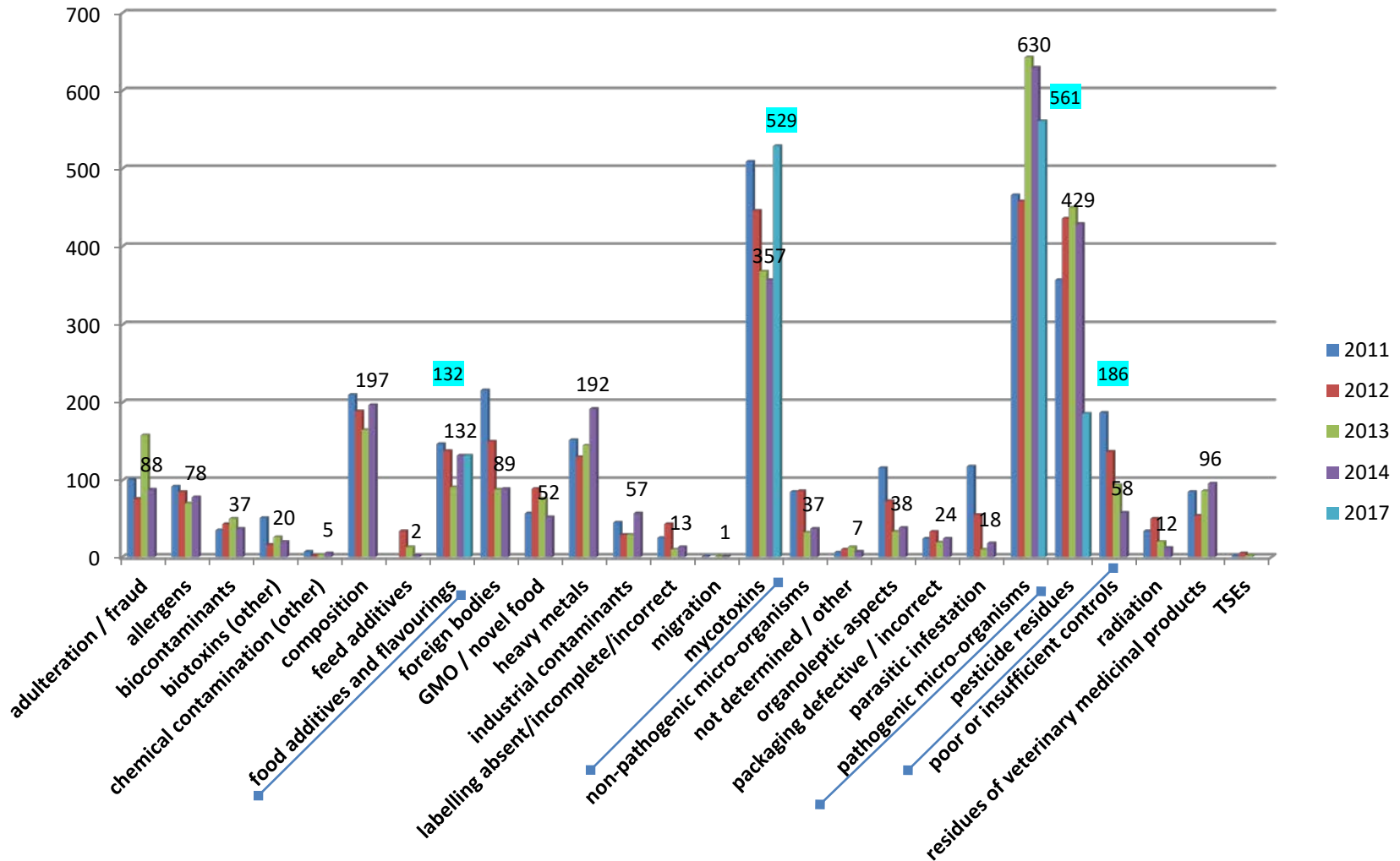
# Regional Context: Trends

## Critical and emerging issues in the LAC region (2016)



# Notificaciones por categorías de peligro (n = 3832)

## RASFF, 2018

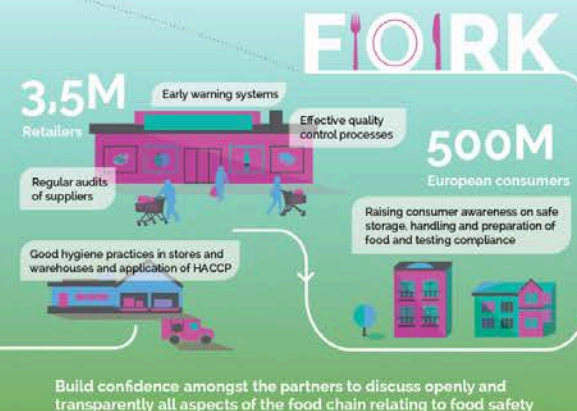
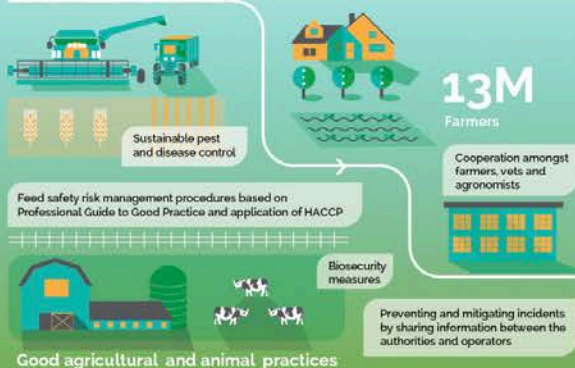


# The food chain

## SAFE FOOD FOR CONSUMERS FROM FARM TO FORK

Food safety, from farm to fork, is paramount and is dependent on strong partnerships along the food chain. A wide range of regulatory and self regulatory measures, combined with the highest standards and the right handling of food at home, deliver safe food from farm to fork.

### FARM



### Sources:

FEFAC (European Food Manufacturers' Federation) [www.fefac.eu](http://www.fefac.eu)  
 COPA COGECA [www.copa-cogeca.eu](http://www.copa-cogeca.eu)  
 CELCAA (European Liaison Committee for the Agricultural & Agri-Food Trade) [www.celcaa.eu](http://www.celcaa.eu)

FoodDrinkEurope [www.fooddrinkeurope.eu](http://www.fooddrinkeurope.eu)  
 EuroCommerce [www.eurocommerce.eu](http://www.eurocommerce.eu)  
 BEUC (The European Consumer Organisation) [www.beuc.eu](http://www.beuc.eu)



**copa\*cogeca**  
 european farmers european agri-cooperatives



# Ensuring Safe Food: From Production to Consumption (NAP, 1998)

*“The mission of an effective food safety system is to protect and improve the public health by ensuring that foods meet science-based safety standards through the integrated activities of the public and private sectors.”*

- Monitoreo y vigilancia
- I+D
- Análisis de riesgos
- BP en producción de alimentos, procesamiento, manufactura, comercialización, transporte, preparación y manipulación
- Asistencia técnica
- Investigación en IA
- Información y transferencia de tecnología
- Educación al consumidor

# A long involvement into capacity development for food control...



***“National Food Control Systems play a pivotal role in protecting health of consumers and ensuring fair practices in trade” ( CAC/GL 82-2013)***



***FAO and WHO support national governments and their competent authorities to improve their national food control systems***



**2003    *FAO/WHO guidelines for food control system***

***integration of mandatory regulatory activities and non regulatory approaches***



***2006/07 FAO guides to assess capacity building needs for food control, WHO food safety system needs assessment tool (2014)***



**2013    *Adoption by CAC of Codex Principles and Guidelines on National Food Control Systems ( CAC/GL 82-2013)***



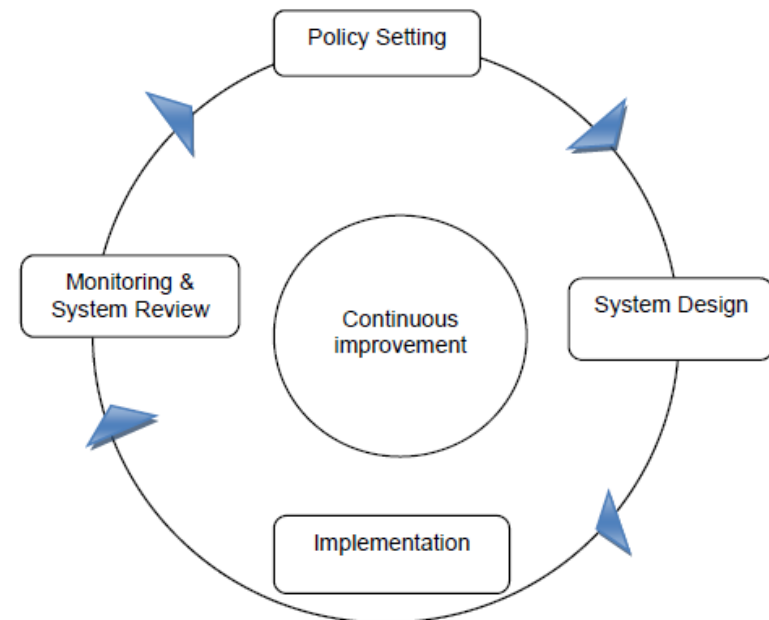
**2017    *Presentation to CAC at Step 5/8 Principles and guidelines for monitoring the performance of national food control systems***

# Process to develop the tool

- Review of other tools: e. g. PVS, PCE, IICA, IHR, CTF2
- Pilots: 2 subsequent versions
- Where are we now?
- Use of the tool: self assessment, facilitated assessments (FAO and/or WHO)

**CAC/GL 82-2013** is the “mother” text – but also **other Codex guidance** (risk analysis, import/export...)

*Framework for the development of a national food control system*

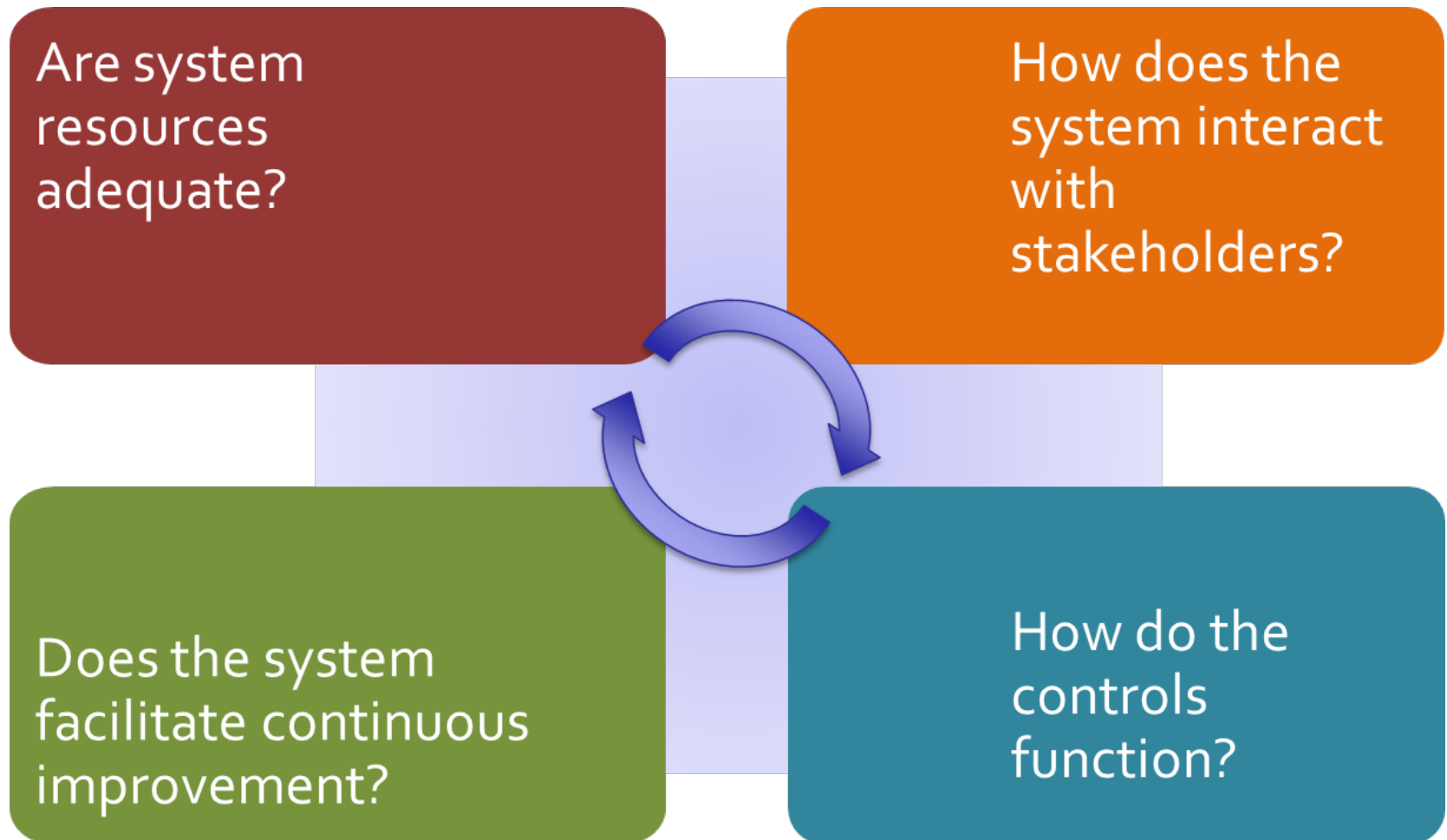


Revolves around:

- the notion of **Competent Authorities ( CAs)**
- **Continuous improvement**

# FAO/WHO food control system assessment tool

*Foundations for our tool:*



# FAO/WHO tool to assess NFCS

## Tool structure

### Structure

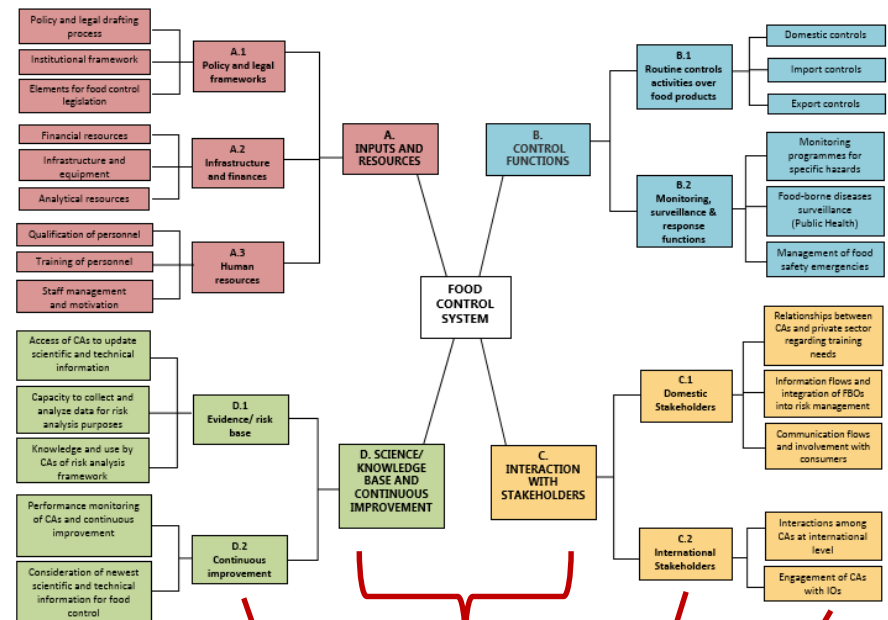
#### ➤ Dimensions (4)

#### ➤ Sub-Dimensions

#### ➤ Competencies

#### ➤ Assessment criteria

- Guidance
- Possible outcomes
- Possible indicators
- Sources of evidence



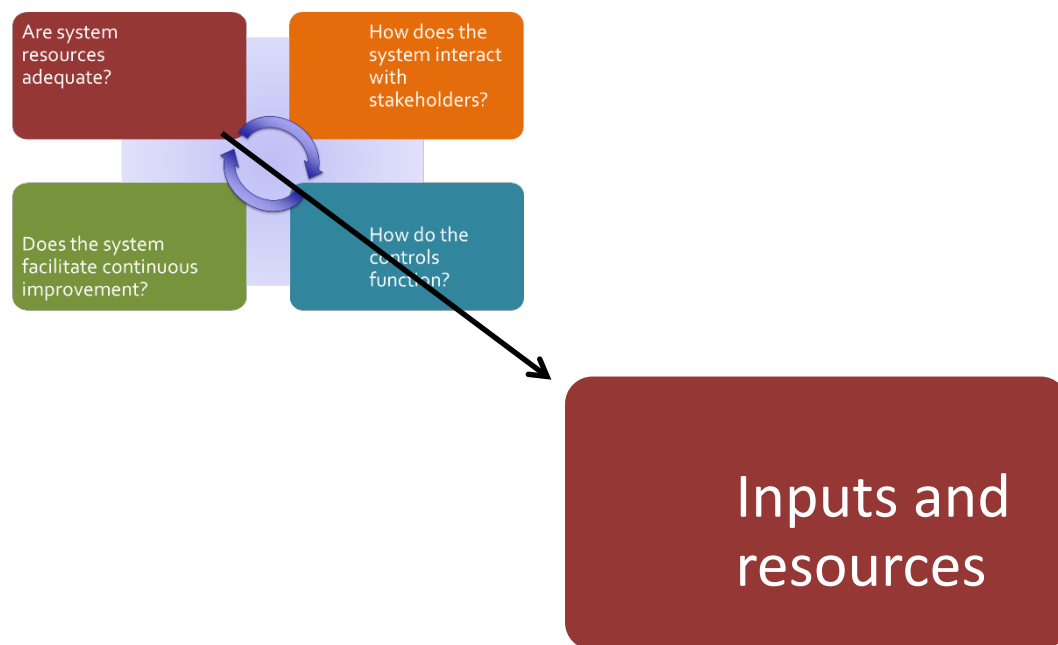
*Dimensions*

*Sub-Dimensions*

*Competencies*



# Are System resources adequate?



## Competencies

*Policy and legal drafting process*

*Institutional framework*

*Elements for food control legislation*

*Financial resources*

*Infrastructure and equipment*

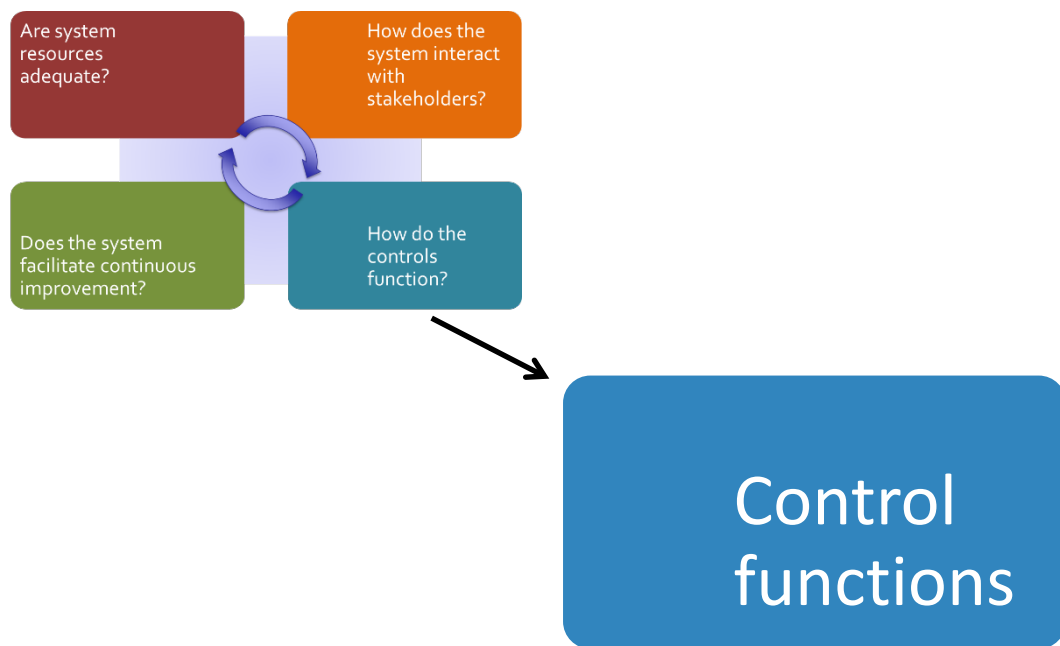
*Analytical resources*

*Qualification of personnel*

*Training of personnel*

*Staff management and motivation*

# How do the controls function?



## *Competencies*

*Domestic controls*

*Import controls*

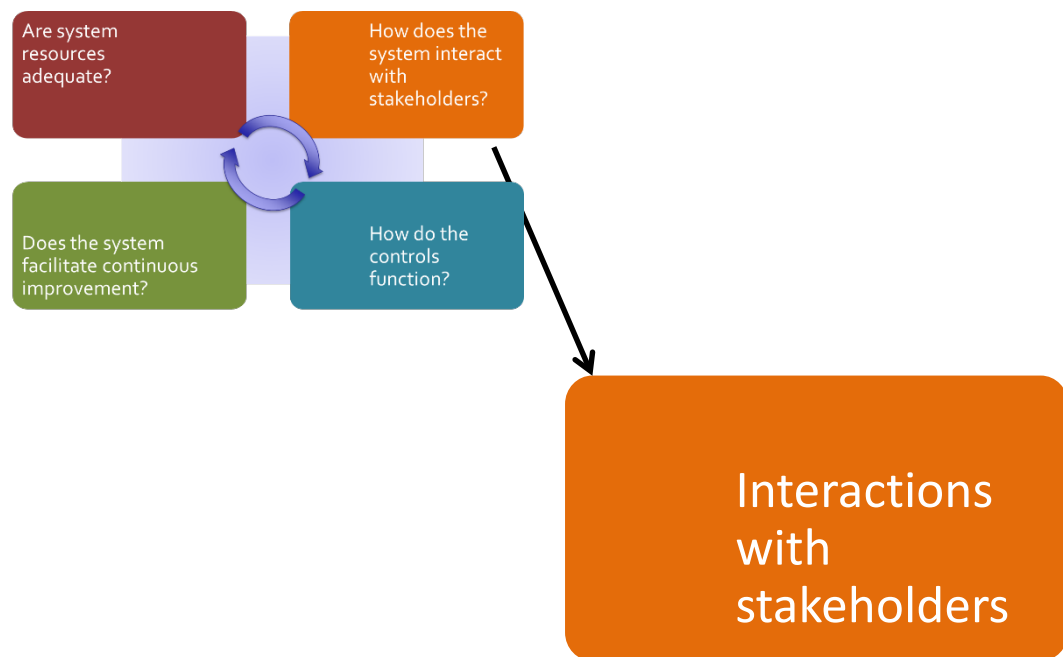
*Export controls*

*Food monitoring and surveillance programmes*

*Food-borne diseases surveillance (Public Health)*

*Management of food safety emergencies*

# How does the system interact with stakeholders?



## Competencies

*Relationships between competent authorities and private sector regarding training needs*

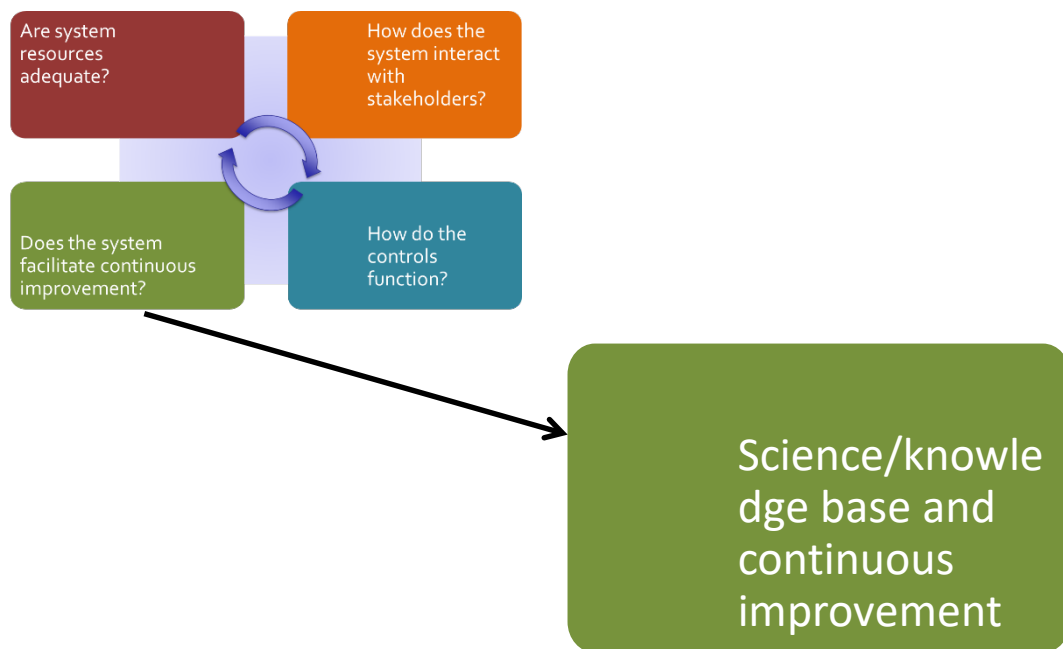
*Information flows and integration of food business operators into risk management*

*Communication flows and involvement with consumers*

*Interactions among competent authorities at international level*

*Engagement of competent authorities with international organizations*

# Does the system facilitate continuous improvement?



## *Competencies*

*Access of competent authorities to updated scientific and technical information*

*Capacity to collect and analyse data for risk analysis purposes*

*Knowledge and use by competent authorities of risk analysis framework*

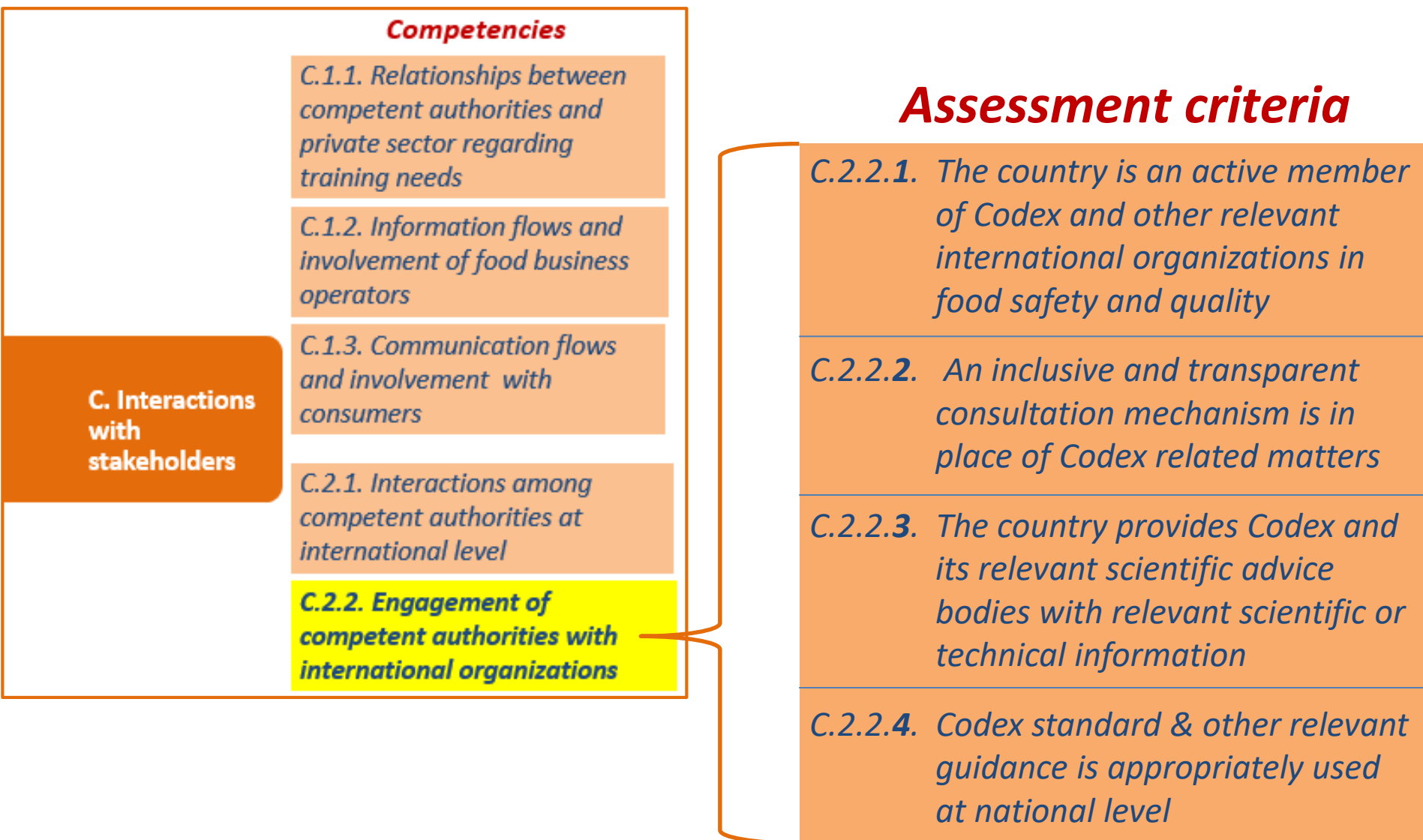
*Performance monitoring of competent authorities and continuous improvement*

*Consideration of newest scientific and technical information for food control*

# Foundations for our tool: **competencies**



# Competencies are measured through **Assessment Criteria**



# Measuring each **competency**

## C.2.2. Engagement of CAs into international organisations

Competency

*Overall outcome: CAs are actively engaged in IOs to inform and benefit from international expertise.*

**C.2.2.1. ASSESSMENT CRITERIA:** The country is an active member of Codex and other relevant IOs with mandates in food safety and quality.

Assessment  
criteria

**Guidance:** The engagement of the country into the international food control governance can happen (i) through its membership to relevant IOs (such as Codex Alimentarius Commission, FAO, WHO, WTO, OIE...), and also (ii) by active service through its CAs and its experts on the committees which decide on technical issues of food control and best approaches to challenges.

Membership in the Codex Alimentarius Commission requires the nomination of a **Codex Contact Point (CCP)** and its TORs are provided in the Codex procedural manual (see section on "Core functions of Codex contact points", including dissemination of documents, managing official communication on Codex matters). Nonetheless, it is recognized that operations of CCP will differ for each country depending on the legislation, government structure and practices.

**Possible outcome:** The country has the opportunity and channels to influence international food safety and quality governance.

### Possible indicators:

- Country membership in International Organizations which have mandates in food safety and food quality or consumer protection (WHO/FAO/Codex Alimentarius/ WTO/ OIE);
- Instances of national officers or experts contributing to relevant committees of IOs;
- Designated Codex Contact Point (CCP);
- Clearly defined responsibilities;
- Documented procedures of work which are supporting and complementary of Codex processes.

Indicators

### Sources of evidence:

- Terms of reference for CCP;
- Records of communications sent by CCP to CAs;
- Records of communication of CCP to CAC Secretariat;
- Interviews with CCP;
- Interviews with other CAs participating in Codex work and recipient of Codex services.

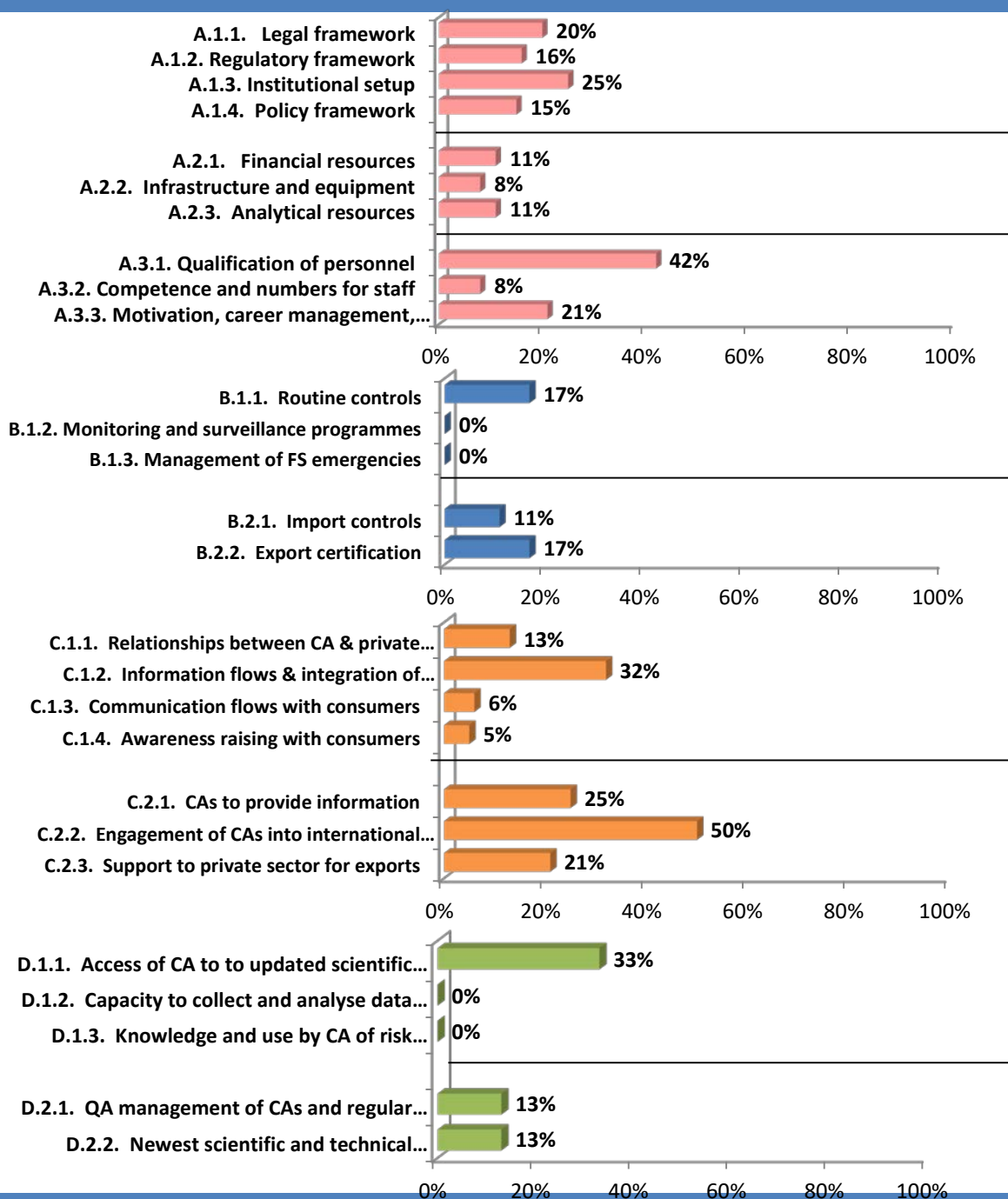
# Measuring each **competency**

- For each assessment criterion, information collected and provided by each CA: **evidence based assessment**
- Each assessment criterion gets an **achievement score (not/partially/fully)**
- Sum of scores, percentage of relative achievement, and indicators, for each competency **at system level** (across all CAs)
- No aggregation of scores at dimension or system level, no comparison among CAs!



# **Outputs** of a facilitated assessment process

- **Assessment report;**
- **Strategic analysis of findings;**
- **Support to programme approach (logical frameworks/roadmaps)**



**Example of  
summary  
feedback  
provided to  
field tested  
country**

# Objectives of the assessment

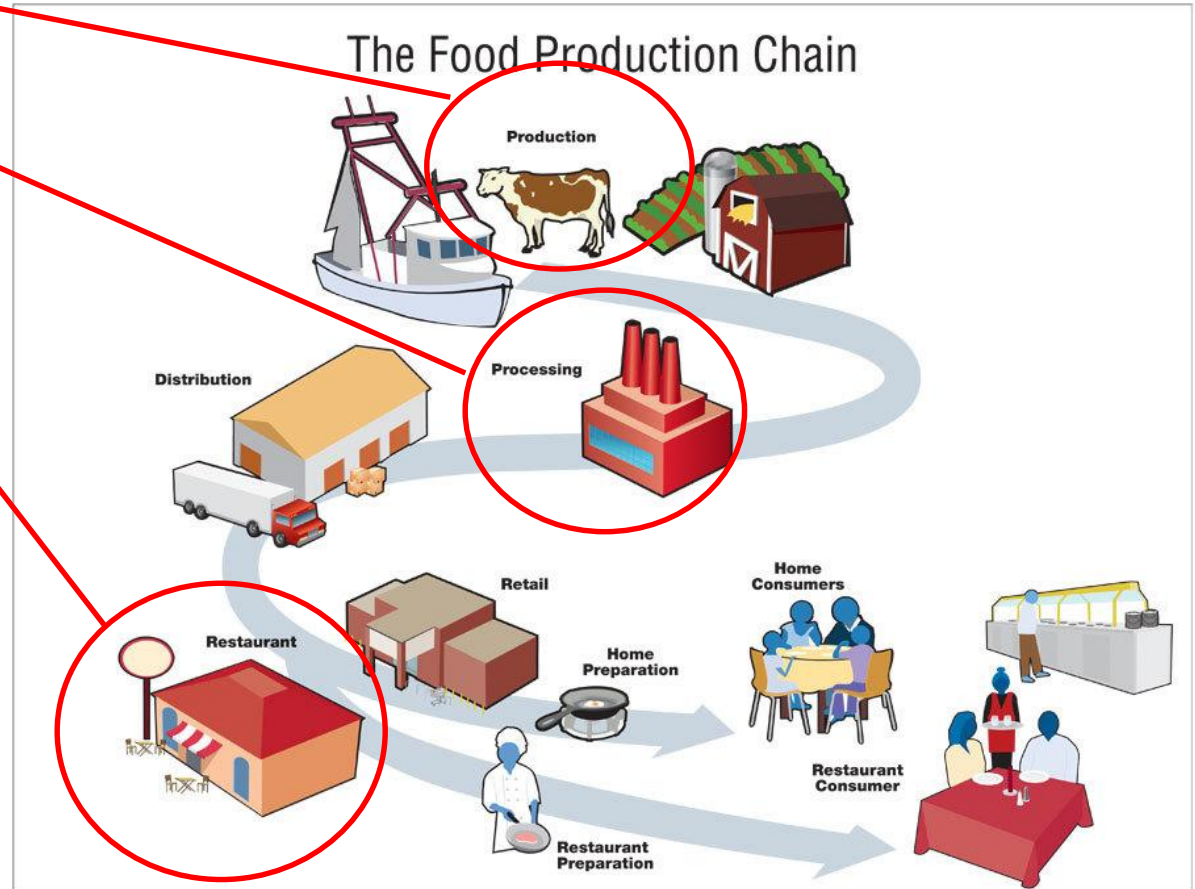
*The use of the FAO/WHO food control system assessment tool supports national governments in measuring the performance of their FCS in a systematic way – based on CAC/GL 82-2013*

- ✓ Measure performance on key competencies, thus providing a baseline to record improvements around a set of self defined indicators
- ✓ Identify priorities for short-, medium- and long-term action plans based on a strategic analysis of the performance measurements and provides a basis for communication with decision makers
- ✓ In so doing, improve Competent Authorities' understanding:
  - Of the different competencies essential for a modern, efficient and sustainable food control system
  - Of the necessity of efficient collaboration and information sharing mechanisms
  - Of the value of a risk based approach to set up priorities and optimize the use of resources



# All stakeholders involved in FCS along the entire food chain need to get engaged

**CAs primary respondents;** division of roles and responsibilities are different in every countries;  
central/decentralized levels



Also need to reach out to **other stakeholders** to gather secondary information

# Contribution of FAO/WHO tool to continuous improvement

Introduces CAs to a self critical and periodic reflexion on how they perform their mandates, and how these are integrated at system level



## **FAO/WHO Assessment (of NFCS)**

Assesses the specific competencies

Ratings are not provided at the CAs level but at system level.



# Assessment of NFCS

## Ownership and Confidentiality of Results

The  
(ex  
ag  
ba  
CA

**When facilitating assessments, FAO and WHO will not publicly disclose the assessment reports nor communicate about it without Government agreement**

nts at

**Quality of assessment results depends on collaborative attitude of CAs for a collective sharing and reporting of evidence.**

# Overall process to assess NFCS (facilitated assessment by FAO and/or WHO)

## Preliminary Information gathering

- Preparation of a draft country profile to provide more contexts to the assessment mission
- Initial sensitization of competent authorities in preparation for introductory workshop
- Training workshop/methodology
- Information collection by focal points in national authorities

## Formal assessment

- Preparatory work by international team and review of preliminary information and evidence sent by national authorities
- Assessment mission of the international team to undertake fact finding field visits
- Preparation of mission report

## Strategic analysis

- Mission to discuss findings, ratings and recommendations with the government, elaboration of a strategic analysis and
- As relevant to the national context and specific objectives for the assessment, support preparation of related documents (e.g. logframe)

# Using the results of the assessment

- Use **scores to measure performance** but also monitor **progress over time** : step towards monitoring performance
- Need to be placed in **context**: **strategic analysis** of assessment results – define **specific objectives**
- Tool supports **identification of priorities** and **communication with decision makers**
- **Integrated vision** of capacity development activities



# Value of this approach

- **Participatory approach** : you learn while getting a neutral external and integrated feedback
- **Commitment**: Work intensive process, that heavily relies on country data, even when facilitated by FAO or WHO.
- Anchored on **Codex principles** and internationally recognized good practices
- **Facilitates implementation of Codex** principles in food control activities by Competent Authorities



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**Thank you!**