Welcome to the first FOODINTEGRITY newsletter

Welcome to the first edition of the FoodIntegrity Newsletter. The aim is to provide you with a brief update on some of the progress on this multifaceted project and let you know how you can get involved. I hope you find the newsletter useful. Please contact us (www.Foodintegrity.eu) with any suggestions for improvement.

Paul Brereton, project co-ordinator, Food and Environment Research (York, UK)

The first Consortium meeting of FoodIntegrity

The first meeting of the FoodIntegrity consortium was held at the Food and Environment Research Agency on 25th-26th February 2014.

More than 200 delegates from 28 countries registered for the event.

The week included the following events:

- Formal launch with high level overviews by stakeholders on the impact of food fraud and the actions they are taking to counter it.
- 1st meeting of the FoodIntegrity consortium,
- Thursday 27th - a Defra-sponsored one-day conference ‘Food Fraud - the Analytical Tools’
- Friday 28th - half-day technical workshop on determining the geographical origin of food.

For more information and presentations visit: https://secure.fera.defra.gov.uk/foodintegrity/index.cfm?sectionid=3

This project has received funding from the European Union's Seventh Framework Programme for research, technological development and demonstration under grant agreement no 613688.
Food Integrity (FI) Network was launched in December 2014. The network is a platform for stakeholders and experts to exchange knowledge and expertise in food authenticity, safety and quality; and to rapidly share information and intelligence about suspected and actual incidents to protect consumers and food products from damaging effects of food misdescription. The overall objectives of the FI Network is to bring together producers, distributors, processors, retailers, regulators, researchers enforcers and consumers to assure the integrity of the food chain.

Please register at https://secure.fera.defra.gov.uk/foodintegrity/expertdb/index.cfm to access the stakeholder/expert database.

**About FoodIntegrity (FI)**

€12M (€9M EC contribution) FP7 project with 38 partners

The aim of FI is to provide Europe with a state of the art and **integrated** capability for detecting fraud and **assuring** the integrity of the food chain. Comprising an inner core of 38 project participants from industry, academia, research institutes, and a global network of stakeholders, FI will provide a **sustainable** body of expertise that can inform high level stakeholder platforms on food fraud / authenticity issues and priorities.

For more information visit:

www.foodintegrity.eu or e-mail foodintegrity@fera.gsi.gov.uk

FoodIntegrity Network

Food Integrity (FI) Network was launched in December 2014. The network is a platform for stakeholders and experts to exchange knowledge and expertise in food authenticity, safety and quality; and to rapidly share information and intelligence about suspected and actual incidents to protect consumers and food products from damaging effects of food misdescription. The overall objectives of the FI Network is to bring together producers, distributors, processors, retailers, regulators, researchers enforcers and consumers to assure the integrity of the food chain.

Please register at https://secure.fera.defra.gov.uk/foodintegrity/expertdb/index.cfm to access the stakeholder/expert database.
In the news “Preventing Food Crime: The UK”

Professor Chris Elliott, Director of the Institute for Global Food Security at Queen’s University Belfast, and a FI work package leader, has published his review looking at how the safety and authenticity of food supplies in the UK can be better protected in the wake of the horsemeat scandal.

In his report he discussed the development of a National Food Crime Prevention Framework.


Knowledge Base

We are building a comprehensive Knowledge Base linking each food product and its potential fraud or integrity issues to appropriate analytical strategies that can be used for food fraud detection or authenticity testing. The output is a Web-based tool for use by industry and regulatory authorities to identify, easily and rapidly, potential threats to a given food product or ingredient and the existing solutions. The Knowledge Base will contain a wealth of information including the type, frequency, and impact of the fraudulent practice, the analytical methods available, their use, cost and performance criteria, and the availability of reference data with links to literature and open-access databases.

For detailed information, click on this link: https://secure.fera.defra.gov.uk/foodintegrity/index.cfm?pageid=16

Food Fraud Early Warning System

FI is developing an early warning tool intended to help direct and prioritise industry monitoring and regulatory enforcement activities against food fraud. The tool will integrate data on known drivers of food fraud with expert knowledge of risk associated EU food supply chains and products across main food sectors. This tool, which accounts for uncertainties associated with drivers and their effect on industry and regulatory decision-making, involves four sequential analytical stages as sketched out in diagram below.

![Diagram of Food Fraud Early Warning System]

We would welcome stakeholder involvement, for more detailed information, click on this link: https://secure.fera.defra.gov.uk/foodintegrity/index.cfm?pageid=16
The Second Conference of FoodIntegrity- Registration open!

REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN! The 2nd FoodIntegrity conference “Assuring the integrity of the food chain: food authenticity research priorities and funding opportunities” will take place in Bilbao on 26-27 March 2015.
http://www.azti.es/foodintegrity

The 1 ½ day conference will:
• Present the latest research outputs from the FoodIntegrity project:
  ▪ A European expert network on food authenticity
  ▪ A European knowledgebase on analytical methodology and databases for food authenticity
  ▪ Chinese consumer attitudes to European products
  ▪ The development of an Early Warning System for predicting food fraud
  ▪ Identifying gaps in present research
• Establish how researchers can apply to access the 2015 FoodIntegrity research calls.
• Bring together national funding bodies to establish priorities for transnational funding
• Present Horizon 2020 strategic requirements in the food sector
• Identify and address research gaps by procuring and delivering €3M of commissioned projects.

Fl at the EU Parliament

Food Integrity project has been selected as a showcase at the “EU Science: Global Challenges, Global Collaboration” (ES:GC2) Conference, which will be held in EU Parliament in Brussels on 2–6 March 2015.

The conference objective is to create an environment where scientists and policymakers can exchange knowledge and views with a view to both optimising policy options and providing the optimal regulatory and policy environment, where science is enabled.

For the registration and conference programme, please visit
http://www.globalsciencecollaboration.org/ES:GC2%202015

www.foodintegrity.eu