

Summary & conclusions



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- Risk ranking is **relatively new** but of **increasing importance** and it is **applicable to all the partners** involved in the food chain.
- More than 260 participants subscribed to this symposium manifesting a real and **international interest** in the subject.





- **Economic constraints** induce a reduced allocation of resources with respect to food safety issues. Indeed some priority choices have to be made by decision makers.
- In this symposium:
 - the **state of the art** on “risk ranking” was presented;
 - the **needs and expectations** of the decisions makers and stakeholders were described;
 - a number of **practical examples** of risk ranking in the food chain were discussed.



- Some **examples of implementation** of risk ranking in policy were also explained.
- We thank all the speakers, the numerous stakeholders, decision makers and consumers present at this symposium rendering the **debate** on risk ranking fruitful.



At the end of this symposium, debate and voting some conclusions can be drawn, for instance:

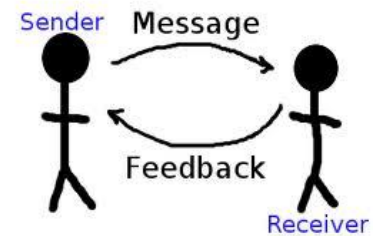
- **Each partner** involved in the food chain can use risk ranking;
- An **integrated framework** of risk ranking should be depicted;
- The **use** of risk ranking requires an understanding of risks, risk assessment, and decision making process as well as consequences (impacts) of the risk;



- Before starting risk ranking, **clear objectives** should be defined as well as the list of the risks to be addressed;
- **Attributes and determinants** to assess the risks could be identified;
- **Data collection** and **data sharing** concerning risks are challenging but also good opportunities to complete missing data and to share these data between actors involved in the food chain;
- Risk ranking must be **scientific** and based on **evidence**;



- The **appropriated methodology** to assess the risk ranking, which depends of the objectives fixed must be retained (continuum between qualitative and quantitative approaches);
- Risk ranking needs to identify and integrate **uncertainty**;
- The process of risk ranking should be **traceable** at each step;
- The **communication** and reporting of practical examples of risk ranking serves to popularize its use;





- The use of risk ranking induces more structured **contacts and exchanges of information and mitigation** between partners of the food chain and should be promoted;
- Risk ranking should not be a unique exercise but should be **regularly repeated** and updated with time.
- **After this symposium we hope that risk ranking will be better accessible and will be more widely used in the future to contribute to food safety.**

