



## Executive summary Review of evaluation methodologies

<b>Deliverable Number*</b>	<b>D7.3</b>
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\* a deliverable is a formal output produced by a (EU) project

### Content Summary

A body of food safety legislation has been set up across the European Union to ensure the protection of human and animal health. As a result Europeans enjoy one of the highest levels of food safety in the world, but this does not come without cost. Decision makers need to be informed about the likely (ex ante) and actual (ex post) consequences of policies and regulations, and monitor their effects during application. These consequences may be positive (benefits) or negative (costs) or both; they may be monetary (actual costs) or non-monetary (e.g. lost confidence); and they may impact various actors (consumers, industry, institutions etc.) at different levels (economic, environmental, social etc.).

Regulatory evaluation performed by the European Commission for all policy areas – not only food safety – has been reviewed recently in response to the call for better regulation and more evidence-based policies. As was agreed at the Göteborg (June 2001) and Laeken (December 2001) European Councils, the European Commission has launched a new approach to impact assessment (COM(2002)276), which was listed as a concrete action of the Better Regulation Action Plan (COM(2002)278), and aims to simplify and improve the European regulatory environment. This new approach will integrate, reinforce and replace the sector-based impact assessments carried out previously. This change was made in order to demonstrate politically the European Commission's intention to improve the quality of EU legislation and make its working methods more transparent.

We have reviewed both the theoretical foundations and empirical applications of a range of methodologies used for evaluating food safety regulations such as Cost-Benefit, Cost-Effectiveness, Risk-Risk, Health-Health, and Multi-Criteria analyses. In particular we have looked at the different approaches to regulatory impact assessment (RIA) used in selected countries within the EU and examined the procedures used to assess the impact of regulatory choices as well as the individual quantitative and statistical methodologies employed for benefits and costs calculation.

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#### About MoniQA – [www.moniqa.org](http://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.monika.org/associates> or contact:  
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