

Better Training for Safer Food

The EAHC is responsible for carrying out implementation tasks within the Better Training for Safer Food initiative (BTSF). The BTSF initiative is managed by the European Commission Directorate-General for Health and Consumers. It entails the development of an EU training strategy for such areas as food and feed law, plant health and animal health and welfare.



After successful completion of the pilot phase, this initiative is now being developed further. Staff from appropriate EU Member State authorities are trained in order to keep them up to date with Community law. This should ensure that controls are carried out in a more uniform, objective and adequate manner in all Member States. Training is also available to non-EU countries so as to share essential knowledge of EU standards and import requirements.

More information about public procurement related to the Better Training for Safer Food initiative is provided at: ec.europa.eu/eahc/food

EAHC Facts and Figures

The EAHC implements the Health and Consumer Programmes and Better Training for Safer Food initiative by:

- Managing grants agreements (projects, conferences, joint actions with Member States, operating grants) and procurement contracts,
- Managing relationships between over 3,000 partners with a total Community contribution of over 200 million Euros,
- Working with diverse types of beneficiaries including non-governmental organisations, public sector bodies, higher education establishments, and commercial firms from all EU member states.

EAHC was set up in 2005 as the Public Health Executive Agency and transformed into the Executive Agency for Health and Consumers in 2008. It is based in Luxembourg with 50 staff members.

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Executive Agency for Health and Consumers



 Directorate-General for
Health & Consumers

 Executive
Agency for
Health and
Consumers

Foreword

Promoting and protecting the health, safety and consumer rights of Europeans is the core principle underlying the programmes of Community action on Health and Consumers. The European Commission has entrusted the Executive Agency for Health and Consumers (EAHC) with the important task of implementing the programmes effectively. The Agency supports projects that can make a difference to our lives, projects that help make it easier and safer to buy and sell across EU borders; improve people's health security; fight obesity; contribute to reducing unacceptable health inequalities across the EU; projects that help make our food safer and encourage the exchange of knowledge and expertise. A key component of the Agency's mandate is to keep you informed of issues of importance to you. With this in mind, I invite you to read more about the work of EAHC in this leaflet and to contact the Agency's staff if you require any further information.

John Dalli, European Commissioner for Health and Consumer Policy



The Mission

The Executive Agency for Health and Consumers (EAHC) implements the EU Health and Consumer Programmes and the Better Training for Safer Food initiative by managing grants and service contracts, and by providing other support to the European Commission. The Agency works closely with the European Commission's Directorate General for Health and Consumers.

The EAHC strives to attract the best proposals in the field of public health, consumer affairs, and food safety to promote the objectives of the European Union. The Agency provides excellent management skills and scientific expertise to ensure cost-efficiency and high quality of outcomes.



What we do

The EAHC implements the Health and Consumer Programmes and Better Training for Safer Food initiative by:

- managing financial support to fund activities in health and consumer affairs,
- training experts in food safety,
- disseminating knowledge and best practices, fostering networks among European experts,
- providing feedback to the European Commission (DG for Health and Consumers) for policy-making.



Public Health

The EU Health Programme is the main instrument of the European Commission for implementing the EU health strategy.

The objectives of the current programme (2008–13) are:

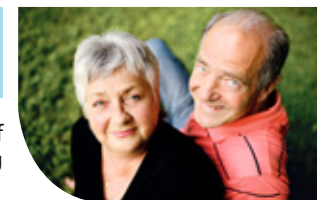
- To improve citizens' health security;
- To promote health, including the reduction of health inequalities,
- To generate and disseminate health information and knowledge.



The EAHC supports the implementation of this programme by managing grants and service contracts. The EAHC launches calls for proposals and calls for tender under Health Programme. The Agency coordinates evaluation of offers, concludes grant agreements and service contracts, and oversees their implementation. The projects and other actions, for example, promote healthy lifestyles (proper nutrition and tobacco control), facilitate responses to health threats (e.g. influenza or bioterrorism), or improve access to health information for patients with rare diseases. The first Programme of Community action in the field of public health (2003–2008) co-funded 352 projects and other activities.

More information about the funding in the Health Programme is provided at:

ec.europa.eu/eahc/health



Consumer Affairs

The EAHC works closely with the European Commission to give consumers information and advice, empowering them and increasing consumer confidence.

The EAHC manages various projects in consumer policy financed by the European Commission. These projects aim to improve the conditions for cross-border purchases and to further integrate retail markets, as well as to better identify the needs of consumers in the enlarged EU.

Some examples of activities to be managed by the EAHC are: the European Consumer Centres Network (ECC-Net), market surveys, information campaigns in the new Member States and funding organisations involved in promoting consumers' interests at the European level. More information about the grants and tenders in the Consumer Programme is provided at: **ec.europa.eu/eahc/consumers**

