



The 'Better Training for Safer Food' initiative

BTSF INFO-DAY
3 September 2020

DG SANTE Policy Unit

**Formerly D1
now F6 from 1 Sept 2020**

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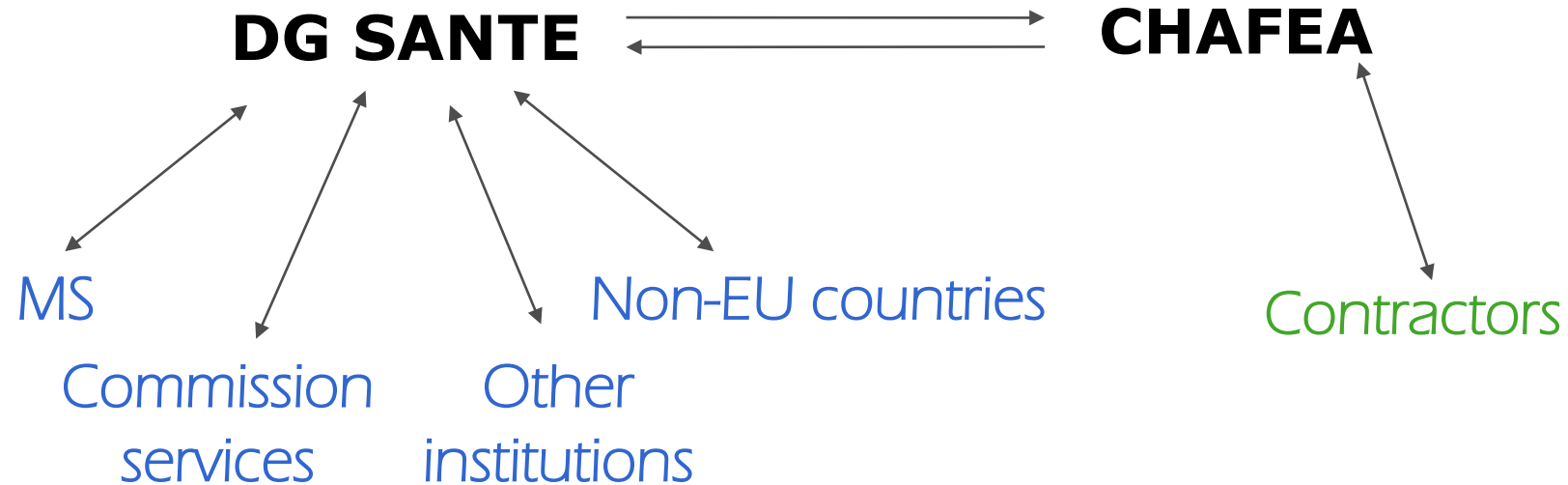
Background and evolution

What is BTSF?



- A DG SANTE training initiative for EU and non-EU country official control staff
- Launched in 2005
- Covering food safety, plant health and animal health and welfare
- Aims: High levels of competence and awareness of EU rules leading to harmonised approach to control systems

BTSF management



BTSF: 15 years already

- Set up in 2005 on the basis of the OFFC Regulation
- Modest beginnings in 2006

NOW

- at the **very heart** of the DG SANTE mission
- a **key player** in SPS enforcement
- a solid **capacity building programme** in the EU and across the world



BTSF today

- A **comprehensive programme**
- Engaged into a **blended learning model**

Face-to-face training courses

- (Regional) training workshops
- *Ad hoc* assistance missions (STMs)

On-line training courses

- BTSF Academy
- E-learning courses, training material, videos



BTSF in figures from 2006 to 2019

- **More than 40 programmes running**
 - **More than 2000 events**
 - **Around 76.000 participants**
- **Budget of approx. € 185 million**



Approx. 20% of this activity covers non-EU countries

Organising training activities under BTSF

BTSF principles

- *Not to replace initial training for inspectors*
 - ⇒ **MS responsibility for initial training**
- *To complement initial training in areas where difficulties exist at EU level*
 - ⇒ **EU message / Mix of tutors team**
- *To favour knowledge sharing and networking to increase compatibility of control procedures throughout the EU*
 - ⇒ **Mix of tutors and participants**
- *To follow a train-the-trainer approach*
 - ⇒ **Dissemination is a key factor for BTSF success**





Main features

- Training is organised by external contractors
- Training consists of workshops and/or secondment of individual experts
- Tuition by experts from the Member States, non-EU countries and international organisations

Requested training services

- To recruit a qualified tutoring team
- To develop a training programme meeting the objectives of the course and the requested technical coverage
- To ensure a balanced mix of theoretical and practical sessions using interactive learning methodologies
- To develop the training material
- To promote the course and ensure appropriate participation through NCP network
- To identify appropriate training locations and organise all logistical aspects for participant attendance
- To test the understanding of the trained subjects and measure the impact of the training

Open BTSF Calls

Food Fraud Non-EU (*Chafea/2019/BTSF/05*)

General features (1.900.000 €, two phases)

- 8 three-day sessions (+ VC option)
- 280 participants (around 35 participants per course)

Objectives

- To spread knowledge about official control systems, import controls and investigation techniques,
- To promote good practices, tools and procedures relating to investigation techniques helping to detect fraud in the agri-food sector,
- To promote good practices, procedures and requirements relating to issuance of e-certificate and on e-commerce surveillance for preventing threats.

Target

- Officials from competent authorities in non-EU countries involved in planning and organising official control activities (preferably at national/regional levels) in the fields of the training.

New EU Animal Health Law (Chafea/2020/BTSF/01)

General features (1.870.000 €, two phases)

- 10 four-day courses (+ VC option)
- 300 supported participants in total (30 participants per course)

Objectives

- Spreading knowledge and disseminating best practices in order to increase the level of expertise with regard to the rules introduced by the new EU AHL legal framework
- favouring exchange of experience in order to increase the level of consistency of their implementation across the EU.

Target

- Officials from relevant competent authorities involved in policy making, planning and control activities (at central or regional level)
- Field inspectors involved in such control activities, including border control post staff.

Plant Health Surveys (Chafea/2020/BTSF/02)

General features (1.640.000 €, two phases)

- 10 three-day courses (+VC option)
- 300 supported participants in total (30 participants per course)

Objectives

- Build capacity at national level for the planning and implementation of plant health surveys.
- Improve knowledge of the new Plant Health Regulation and Financial Framework, EFSA surveillance toolkit and survey cards, relevant international standards and new technologies.
- Develop specific skills, through training, site visits and the exchange of experience and best practices.
- Ensure the new skills, knowledge and best practices learned are disseminated effectively within Member States.

Target

- Preferably senior staff responsible for the planning, implementation, analysis and reporting of plant health surveys.

Geographical Indications *(Chafea/2020/BTSF/03)*

General features (2.020.000 €, two phases)

- 12 three-days courses: wine, spirits, agricultural products and market controls (+ VC option)
- 360 supported participants in total (30 participants per course)

Objectives

- To improve knowledge of this complex area of work
- To further harmonise the approaches and practices of the Member States
- To increase the efficacy of the competent authorities/control bodies to verify compliance with the legal requirements in the field of protected designations.

Target

- Competent authority staff involved in planning and coordinating control activities of the quality schemes (preferably at central level) as well as field inspectors involved in the delivery of such controls
- Staff of private control bodies to which specific tasks relating to control activities of the quality schemes may have been delegated
- Staff of national accreditation bodies and customs authorities involved in this sector.

COVID-19 impact

BTSF and COVID19

- BTSF face to face trainings have been temporarily suspended until 16 October.
- Temporary suspension is under revision
- BTSF approach:
 - Providing sufficient flexibility to contractors (extension)
 - Exploring alternative options (virtual classrooms)
 - Developing adequate IT tools (BTSF Academy)



Thank you for your attention

https://ec.europa.eu/food/safety/btsf_en

<http://ec.europa.eu/chafea/food/index.html>