



Local
Agriculture

and

Short
Food Supply
Chains

>20 april 2012
Brussels



Workshop C

Workshop outcomes



Workshop C:

A better use of the hygiene and food safety regulatory framework for small food producers

Questions

- *1. What are the specificities of the local production and short food supply chains in terms of sanitary norms?*
- ***2. Some flexibility in the application of hygiene rules to short food chains is already foreseen in the hygiene package. What are the barriers to a full application of this flexibility?***
- *3. How can we harmonise the relationship between production and economic sustainability on the one hand and sanitary and veterinary standards on the other hand, taking into account the food safety requirements in the context of simple processing and short shelf life?*

1. What are the specificities of the local production and short food supply chains in terms of sanitary norms?

- *Every producer should ensure the same food safety levels*
- *The problem is differences and specificities*
 - **Short vs long chains**
 - Different complexity
 - Producers communicate with (local) consumers
 - **Place where they are sold**
 - Mixing together products of different origins
 - **Diversity of food → diversity of production processes**
 - **Possible higher level of involvement**
 - **Continuity of responsibility along the process**
 - **Continuity of responsibility**



What are the barriers to a full application of flexibility?

- *Knowledge : how to implement flexibility? [risk analysis]*
- *Cultural differences and different approaches*
- *Responsibility of competent authorities to deal with characteristics of short chain production*
- *Lack of involvement of all stakeholders, and first of all small farmers*
- *Lack of guidelines at member State level and uncertainty on rules to apply*
- *Access to european funds*
- *Tailoring of control*
- *Common training at EU level (better training for safer food) and national/regional/local level*



How can we harmonise the relationship between production and economic sustainability on the one hand and sanitary and veterinary standards on the other hand?

- *There should be no contradiction between economic sustainability and food safety*
- *To adapt controls to the context*
- *Promoting research in this area → different risks for different categories of products*
- *Training, also with new models*

Recommendations

- *Proactive role of State Members: business as usual no option*
- *Dialogue between stakeholders*
- *Inclusion of small farmers*
- *Training for CA and stakeholders (BTSF)*
- *Research to identify critical points (risk analysis, communication gaps, governance, design of control systems)*
- *Circulation of good practices guidelines*
- *Simplification of notification procedures*
- *Access to funds for small farmers*
- *Access to information*



Thank you!