

**EFSA Annual Activity Report**2021





# General context - Major developments in 2021





### 2021 Performance overview



Legend: On track/above target Moderate deviation Relevant deviation

### **5 Strategic Objectives**



**SO1.** Prioritise public and stakeholder engagement in the process of scientific assessment



**SO2.** Widen EFSA's evidence base and optimise access to its data



**SO3.** Build the EU's scientific assessment capacity and knowledge community

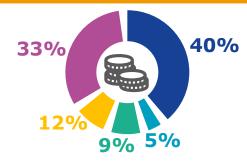


**SO4.** Prepare for future risk assessment challenges

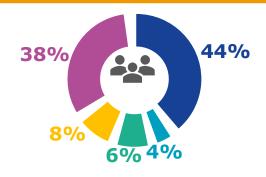


**SO5.** Create an environment and culture that reflect EFSA's values

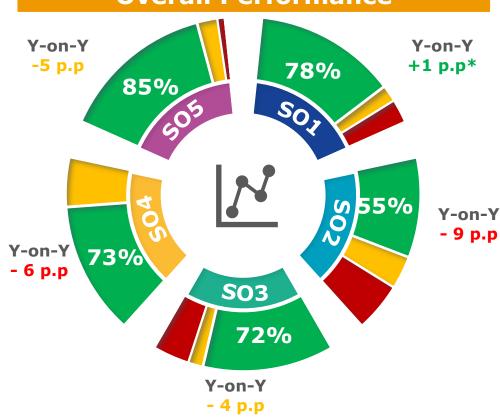
### EUR 129.1 M budget



### **538 FTEs**



### **Overall Performance**



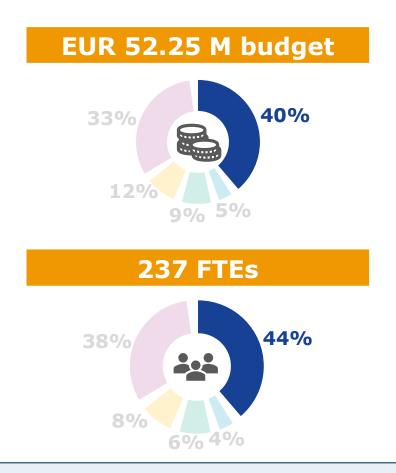
#### **KEY METRICS**

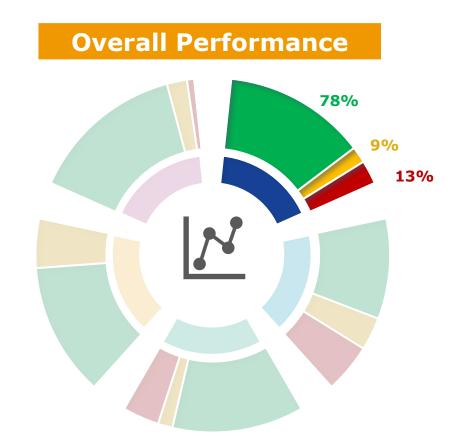
- 704 scientific questions closed (81 less than planned but in line with 2020 result of 697)
- Overall timeliness of adoption of scientific questions: 85% (2 p.p. better than 2020)
- Timeliness of publication of scientific outputs: 94% (6 p.p more than 2020)
- **64,121 citations of EFSA scientific outputs** (higher-than-planned increase)
- **100%** budget execution, despite budget increase of **19%** (to EUR 129 M)

\*p.p stands for percentage point(s)

### Strategic objective 1 – Overview







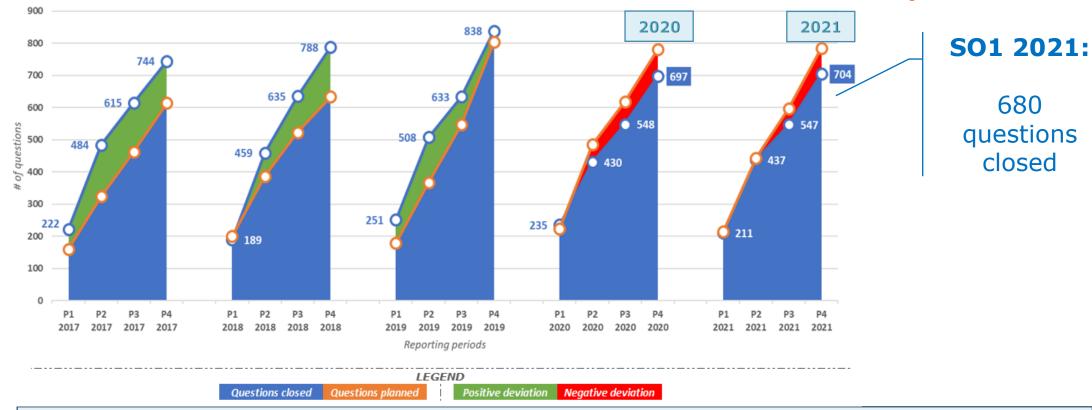
Most of the measured indicators reached or surpassed their initial targets, in line with the 2020 performance.

The impact of this result is below the last pre-SARS-CoV-2 performance (84%, in 2019) and this reflects the increased complexity of EFSA's RA and increased workload, in addition to the challenges from the transition to the TR implementation.

## Number of questions closed over the years



### Number of questions closed over the last 5 years (SO1-SO4): actual vs plan



out of which, in SO1:

#### General risk assessment

- About 250 questions received
- Closed 244 in total, slightly below the initial plan of 268 questions, but higher than the results in 2020 (209) and 2019 (195).

#### Regulated products

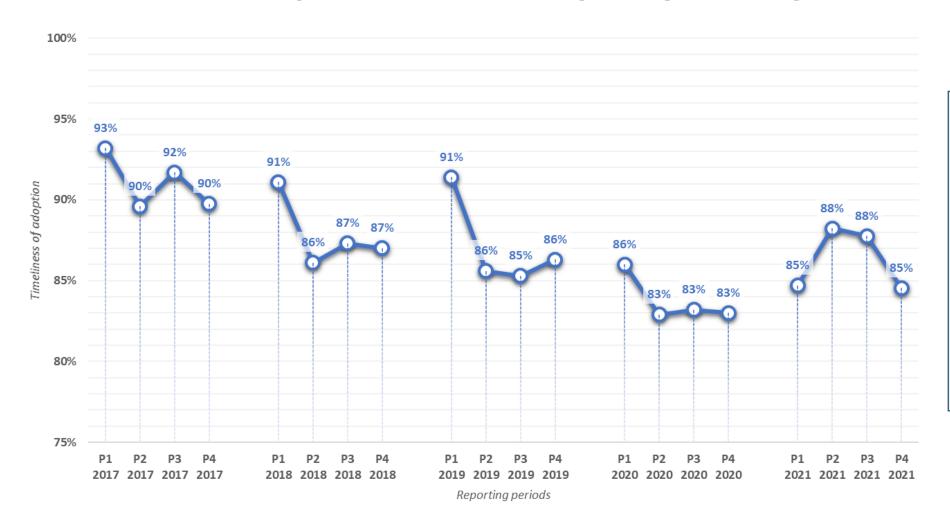
- About 410 applications received
- Closed 383 questions in total, slightly below the plan of 405 and below the results in 2020 (424) and 2019 (546)\*.

<sup>\*</sup> The expected number of questions to be closed as of 2020 has decreased for regulated products and increased for general risk assessment when compared to the previous years as a result of a technical adjustment between the two areas implemented to properly reflect the architecture of EFSA's processes.

## Timeliness of adoption over the years



### Timeliness of adoption over the last 5 years (SO1-SO4)



#### Focus on SO1

#### General risk assessment

The result can be considered on track, at 98.7% versus a target of 100% for the year 2021.

#### Regulated products

The index stood at 75%, below the target of 90% and below the results in 2020 (76%) and 2019 (82.8%).

# Strategic objective 1 – Detailed performance

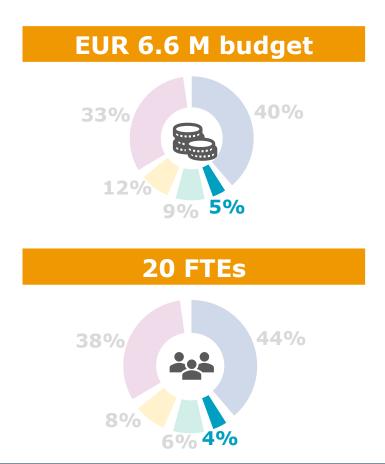


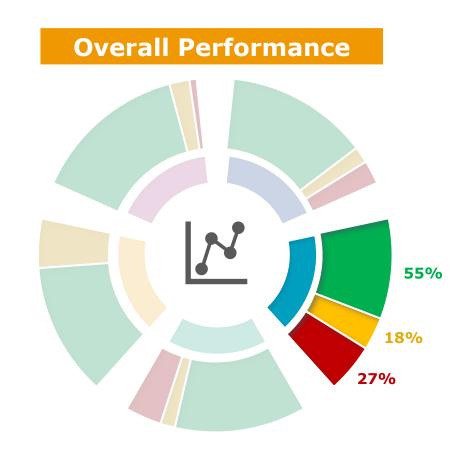
Area	Indicator	P1 P2 P3 P4
General RA	244 questions closed, below the target of 268	
	Timeliness of adoption at 98.7%, in line with target of 100%	
Regulated Products  Engagement	383 questions closed, slightly below the target (405)	
	Timeliness of adoption at 75%, below the target of 90% and under the results of the past year (76% in 2020)	
rioducts	Bulk evaluation for MRL Art.12 reached the target with 28 questions closed	
	# of registered stakeholders in line with target (134 vs 135)	
	99% of stakeholders' enquiries replied within deadline, higher than target of 97%	
Engagement	<b>Feedback from stakeholders above target</b> for engagement activities carried out and for the effectiveness of the Stakeholders Engagement Approach (SEA)	
	# of public consultations on EFSA outputs below with the target (106 vs 450)	
	# of <b>public consultations' comments</b> received below the target (2,924 vs 14,400)	
	# of service catalogue activities with applicants on track (136 vs 135)	
Communicat	Very positive results for EFSA Journal's user satisfaction (98% vs 80%)	
ion of	Timeliness of publication on EFSA Journal at 94%, above target of 83% and slightly increased from 2021 (88%)	
findings	Impact, visibility and discoverability of EFSA's outputs above targets in terms of access, download and citations	
	Impact of media coverage in the neutral area $(16/16)$	
Visibility	99% of media enquiries replied within deadline, over the target (95%)	
	Social media effectiveness indexes continue increasing	
	Traffic to EFSA's web content below the initial target but in line with the forecast	
VDI- famulaida - massau	Newsletters' subscribers above the target	

KPIs for which a measurement in 2021 is not available are not included in this table.

## Strategic objective 2 – Overview







55% of the measured indicators reached or surpassed their initial targets, a performance below what was registered in 2020

This decrease is mainly due to erroneous planning for what concerns the number of scientific questions to be closed, which was higher than it should have been.

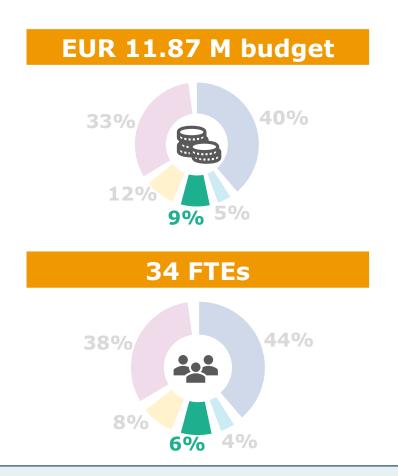
# Strategic objective 2 – Detailed performance

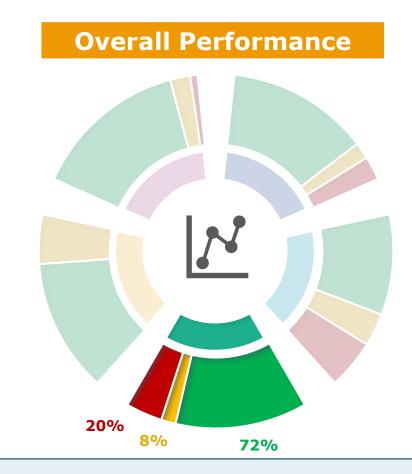


Area	Indicator	P1	P2	Р3	P4
	# of questions closed below target (9 vs 26)				
Data collection & reporting	Timeliness of adoption on track at 100%				
	# of new tools below the target (1 vs 2)				
Improved data	#of <b>publicly accessible data collections</b> published with no data aggregation from EFSA <b>on track</b> (9 vs 9)				
access	Data Quality index above the target (93% vs 90%)				

## Strategic objective 3 – Overview







72% of the measured indicators reached or surpassed their initial targets, a performance slightly lower than the result registered in 2020 (76%).

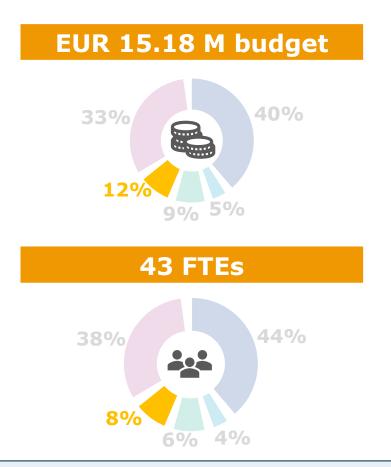
# Strategic objective 3 – Detailed performance

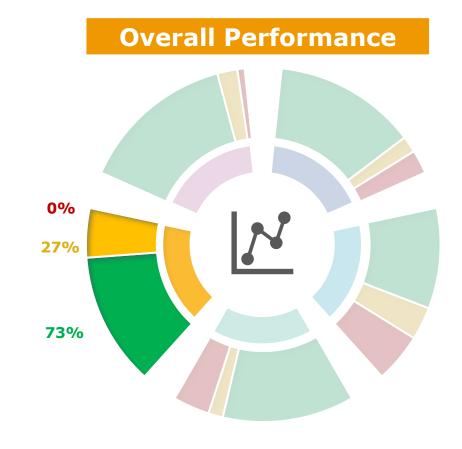


Area	Indicator	P1	P2	Р3	P4
Efficiency	24 MS active in sharing RA information, in line with the target (25)				
	Process of identification of potential duplications/divergences and resolution of issues: no cases recorded in 2021				
Scientific cooperation	# of MS cooperation activities well above the target (103 vs 50) as some of the activities postponed in 2020 due to the SARS-CoV-2 pandemic were carried out in 2021  Risk assessment agenda's composite take-up index above targets, except for number of				
	joint projects awarded which is below the target (4 vs 6) <b>68 international cooperation activities completed in 2021,</b> against a target of 43				
	<b>No cooperation agreements</b> with international and third-country organisations signed in 2021 (vs target of 2)				
	<b>35 joint activities with international partners</b> under cooperation agreements (in line with target of 34)				
	Outreach of supporting publications on grants and procurements well above the targets				
	70 Art. 36 organisations applied to EFSA grants, below the target (90)				
Scientific capacity building	Application rate for EFSA's open calls below the target (3.1 vs >4)				
	30 research projects in which EFSA is participating, better than target (24)				
	Elapsed 'time to hire' for working group experts at 2.3 months, with the target of 1.5				
	8 questions closed, slightly below the target of 9				
	Timeliness of adoption on track at 100%				

## Strategic objective 4 – Overview







73% of the measured indicators reached or surpassed their initial targets, a performance below the result registered in 2019 (79%). This discrepancy can be explained by the lingering effect of the reprioritization exercise run by EFSA in 2020 to react to the threat posed by the pandemic on its business as usual, as well as by the fact that this area has a limited number of indicators. On a positive note, in 2021 no KPIs have registered a relevant deviation (red area), compared to 14% registered last year.

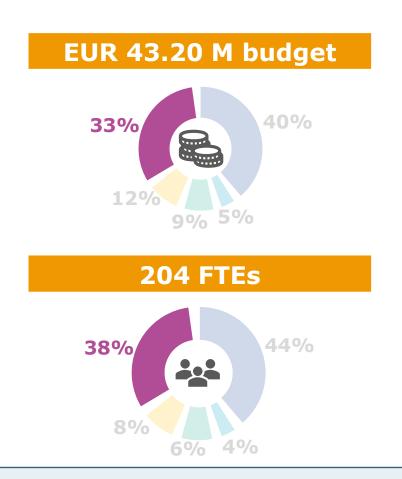
# Strategic objective 4 – Detailed performance

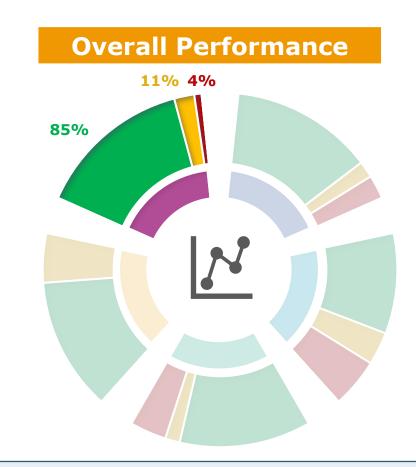


Area	Indicator	P1	P2	Р3	P4
Preparedness & Response	Preparedness with data (90%), methods (95%), and expertise (96%) to address RA questions in line with targets				
	86% of questions with negotiated deadline delivered within the initially agreed timelines, below the target (95%)				
	<b>60 questions closed, against a plan of 78</b> , as an effect of the de-prioritisations in this area				
	<b>Timeliness of adoption at 93.5%, below target</b> (100%) but with an improvement with respect to 2020 (73.9%)				
Harmonisation & Accessibility of methods/tools	Use of EFSA's guidance documents (in terms of access, download, and citations) above the targets				
	Use of EFSA's statistical models: <b>4,100 registered users in the R4EU platform, more than the target</b> of 2,407				

## Strategic objective 5 – Overview







85% of the indicators reached or surpassed their initial targets, a performance that is similar to last year's result (90%) and that can be considered positive.

# Strategic objective 5 – Detailed performance



Area	Indicator	P1	P2	Р3	P4
Sound operational performance & compliance	Composite KPIs' indexes showed mixed results, intermediate impact registered positive results, outcome and output were below their targets				
	Clean discharge achieved for the financial year 2019, EFSA's accounts were approved and observations were followed up within the prescribed deadlines				
	<b>Budgetary indicators</b> (commitments and payments) <b>closed the year in line with targets</b> (100%, 87% and 100%)				
	<b>Compliance index</b> (# of `critical', `significant', or `very important' findings) <b>on track</b> (only 1 finding vs a target of less than 5)				
Efficiency	Projects' efficiency index at 80.5% and below target (90%)				
Enabling working environment	Service delivery index closed the year on track (81.8% vs 80%)				
	# of active social collaboration platforms up to 204 (target: 170), also due to the impact of remote working				
People & culture	Competence management maturity level: EFSA's compliance with ESCO in line with target (85% vs 86%)				
	Occupancy rate at 97.8%, slightly above target (97%)				
	Metric on TR-posts below its target (67.6% vs 73%)				

## Resources management – Budget



#### **Commitment execution:**

€ 129.2M (100%, target 100% met)

#### **Payment execution:**

€ 106.8M (89%)

- Non-differentiated credits: € 91.3M (87% out of target 90%)
- Differentiated credits: € 15.5M (100%, target 100% met)\*

### **Carry forward to 2022**

(C1 non-differentiated credits): € 13.4M (13%, out of target <=10%)

#### **Cancellation of C8 credits**

(non-differentiated credits carried forward from 2020): 4%

### **Budget transfers**

