

Management Board meeting
24 March 2022



Managing EFSA resource challenge

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Head of the Risk Assessment Production Department

Trusted science for safe food

- 1 Main EFSA challenges**
- 2 Ongoing initiatives**
- 3 Conclusion & Way forward**

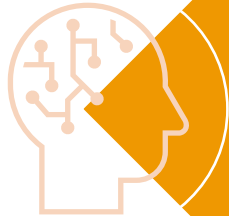


1. Snapshot on main EFSA challenges



Volume of evidence and information

- Technical/scientific data
- Information stemming from stakeholders engagement/Transparency Regulation



Complexity of regulatory science and frameworks

- Progress in methodologies
- New protection goals
- Industry innovation
- Heavy, sometimes overlapping, regulatory processes

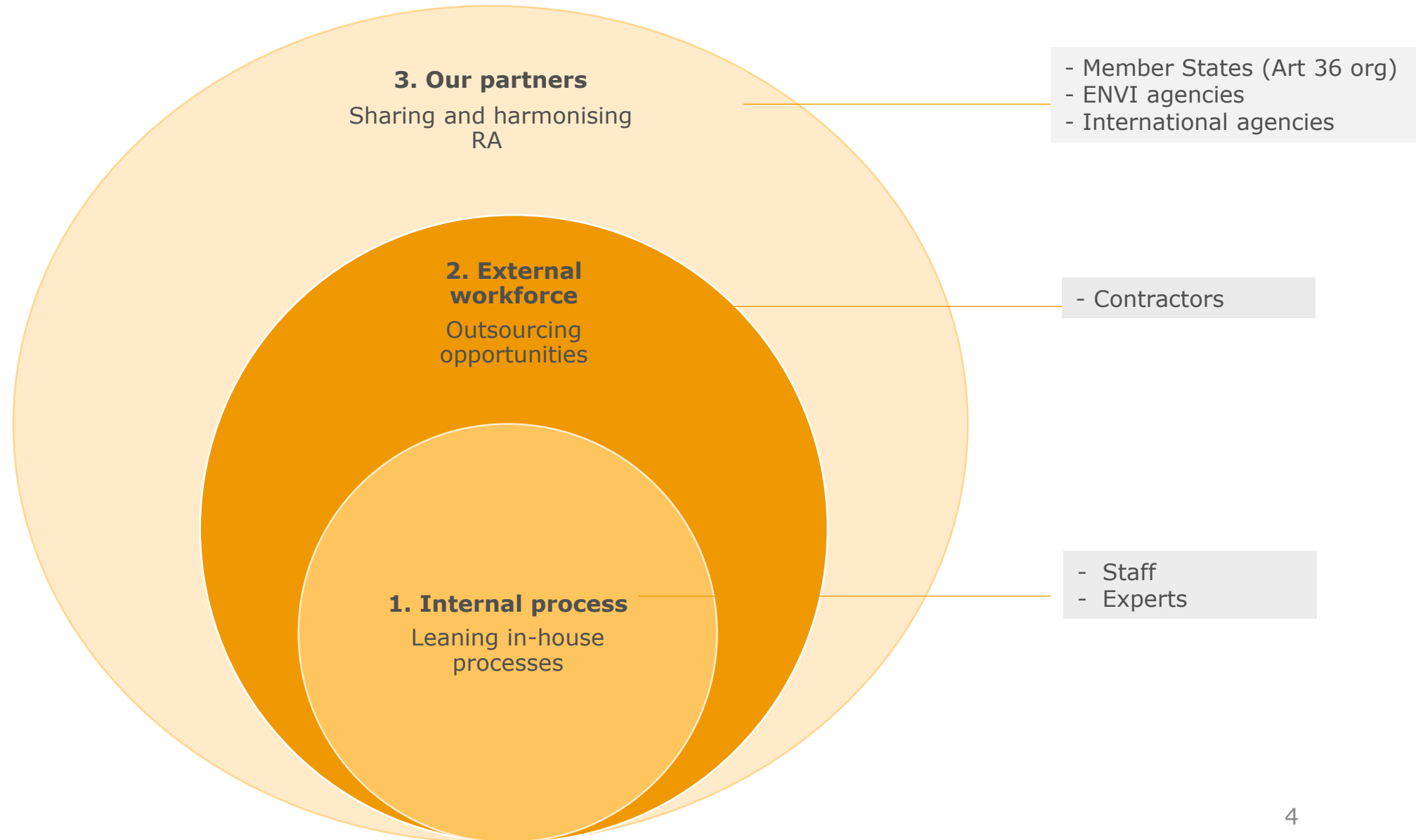


Quality of evidence

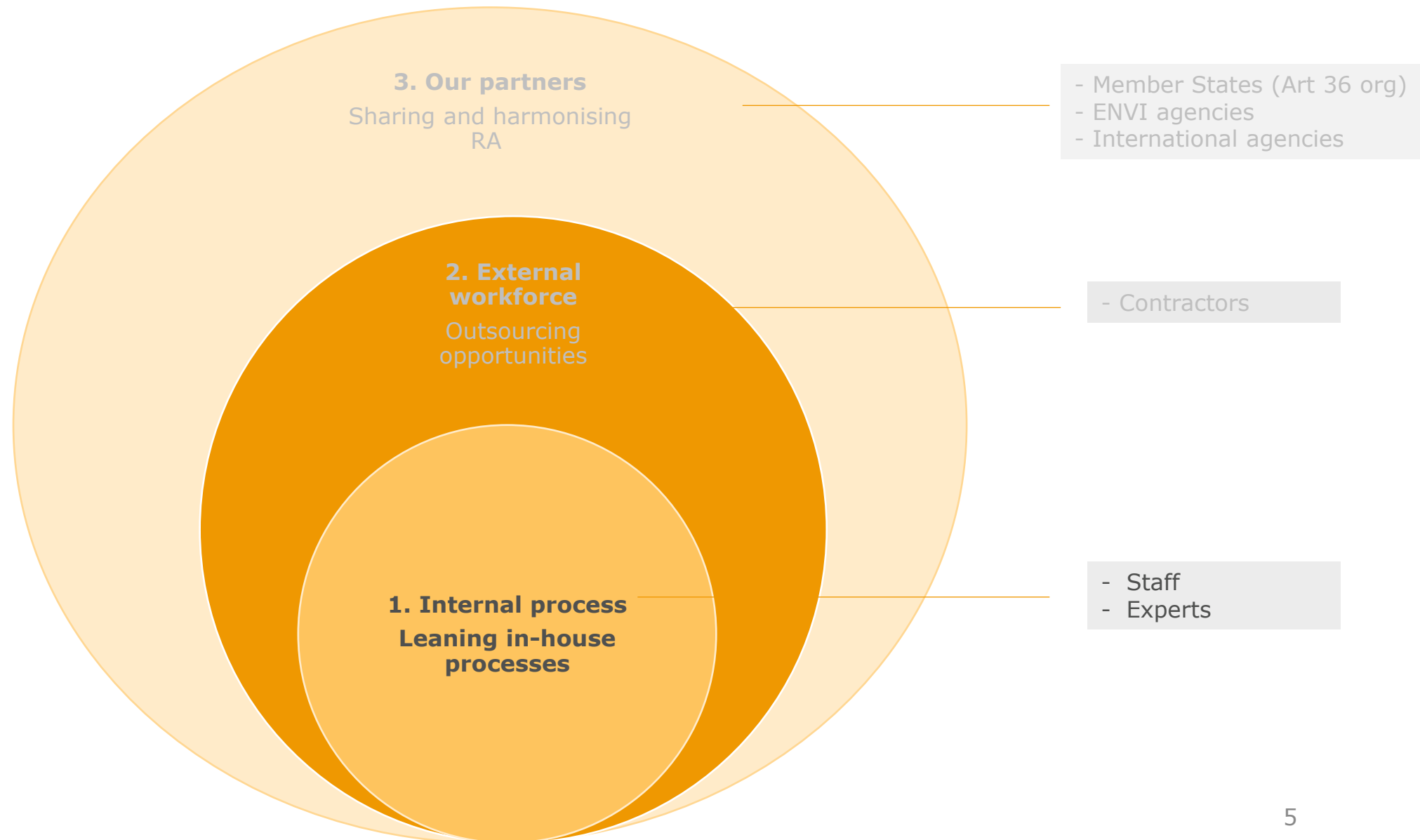
- Compliance with quality standards and evolving data requirements

How can we continue to provide relevant fit-for-purpose scientific advice in the future?

2. Ongoing initiatives for resource gain



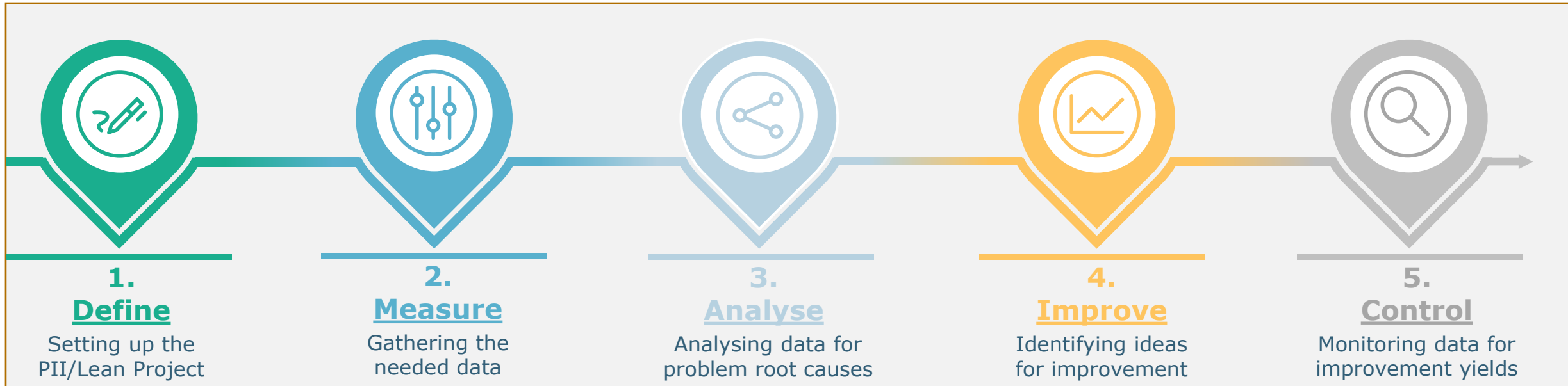
2. Ongoing initiatives – Internal process



2. Ongoing initiatives– Internal process

EFSA adopted the **Lean Six Sigma (LSS)** methodology for Continuous Improvement.

LSS helps to detect and eliminate activities which do not add customer value to the final product (i.e. sc. advice).



 **2018** – 1st Lean Initiative: Food Enzyme Risk assessment

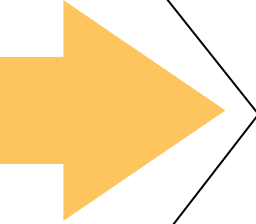
 **2020** – Six Sigma Green Belt certification Training - Kick off

 **2021** – 7 staff members fully certified in LSS


2. Ongoing initiatives – Internal process

Tangible achievements also considering that the Covid impact and the TR focus with ART programme delayed/put on hold some projects.

Title	Dept/Unit	Area
PLH 2020-2026 mandate	ALPHA	SCIENCE
Food Enzyme Risk assessment	FIP	
Food Enzyme experts identification	FIP	
GMO applications leaning	GMO	
Novel Foods & Nutrient Sources applications leaning	NUTRI	
MRLs application leaning	PRES	
Optimization Time Allocation Drafting Reasoned Opinion Art. 12	PRES	
Exposure tool	DATA	
Strategic Sourcing	REPRO	
Food Enzyme WG productivity	FIP	
Feed expert identification	FEED	
APDESK FTES and KPIs	APDESK	
Food Enzyme Risk assessment	FIP	
GMO applications leaning	GMO	
<i>16 initiatives</i>	-	




For 2 Science-related projects, Food Enzyme RA and drafting Reasoned Opinion under Art. 12:




- **FTEs investment** **0.1 FTE** (GPS) + **0.32 FTE** (Units)
- **FTEs gain** **9 FTEs** (long-run gain)

Improved timeliness, e.g.



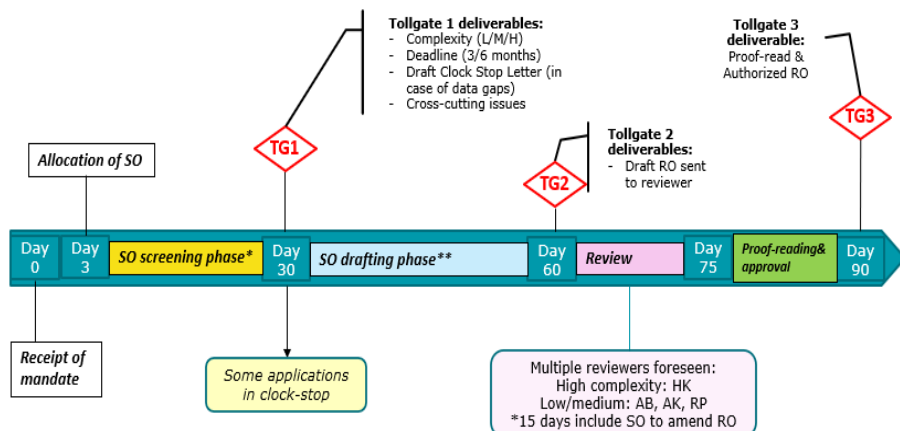
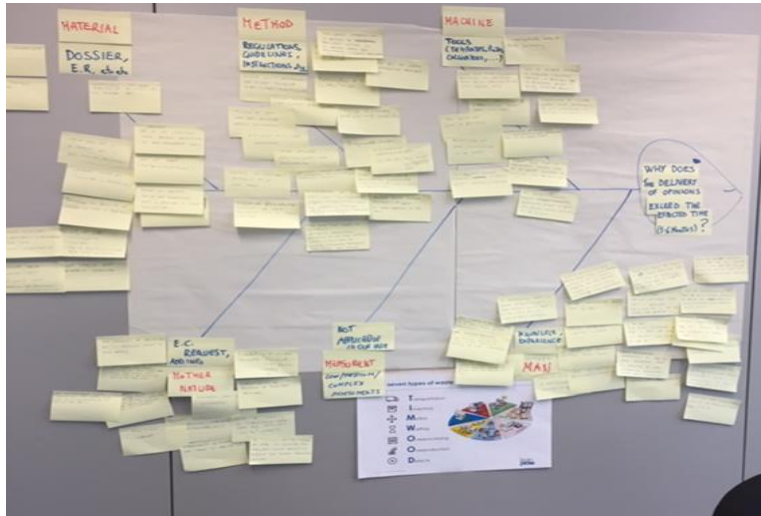
- ✓ **23** days exceeding legal deadline in MRLs app. (-70%)
- ✓ **23** person days to hire experts (- 58%)
- ✓ **205** days GMO applications cycle time (-13%)
- ✓ **4.5** expert days per opinion (-10%)



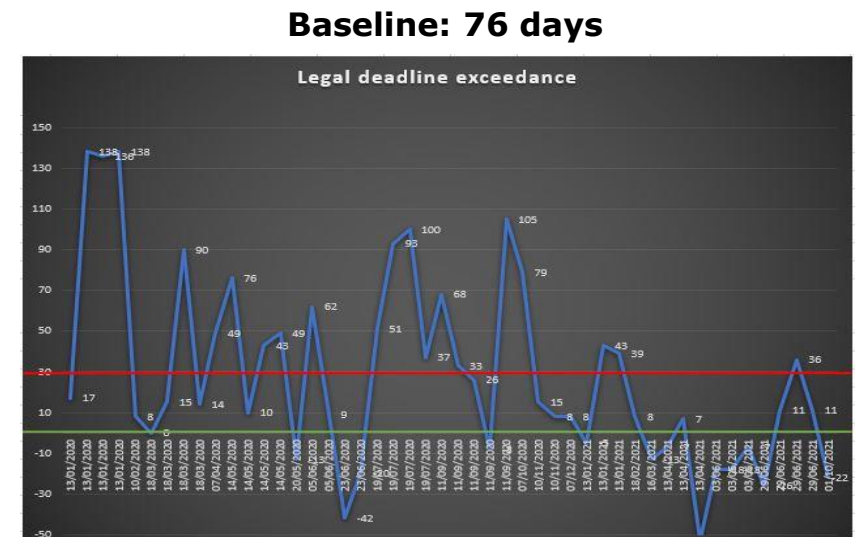
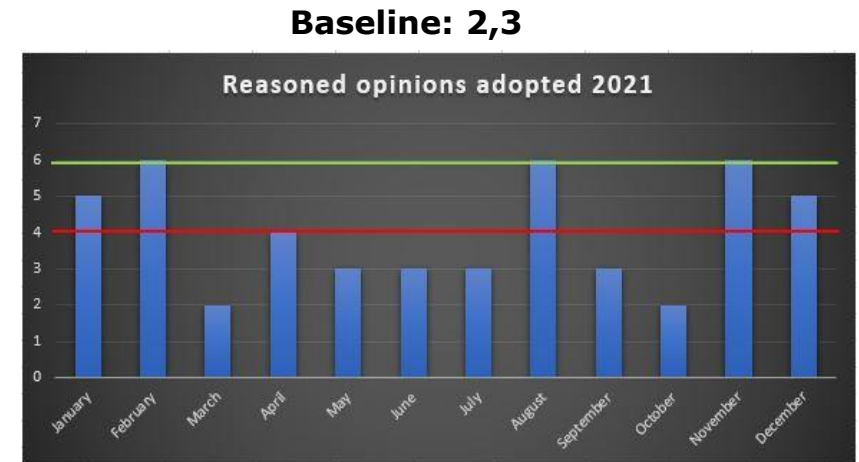
- ✓ **Delivery of new strategic sourcing** process and model
- ✓ **Redesign of onboarding** process for newcomers
- ✓ **Available documentation and methodology** for Reputation management Council and Committee

2. Ongoing initiatives – Internal process

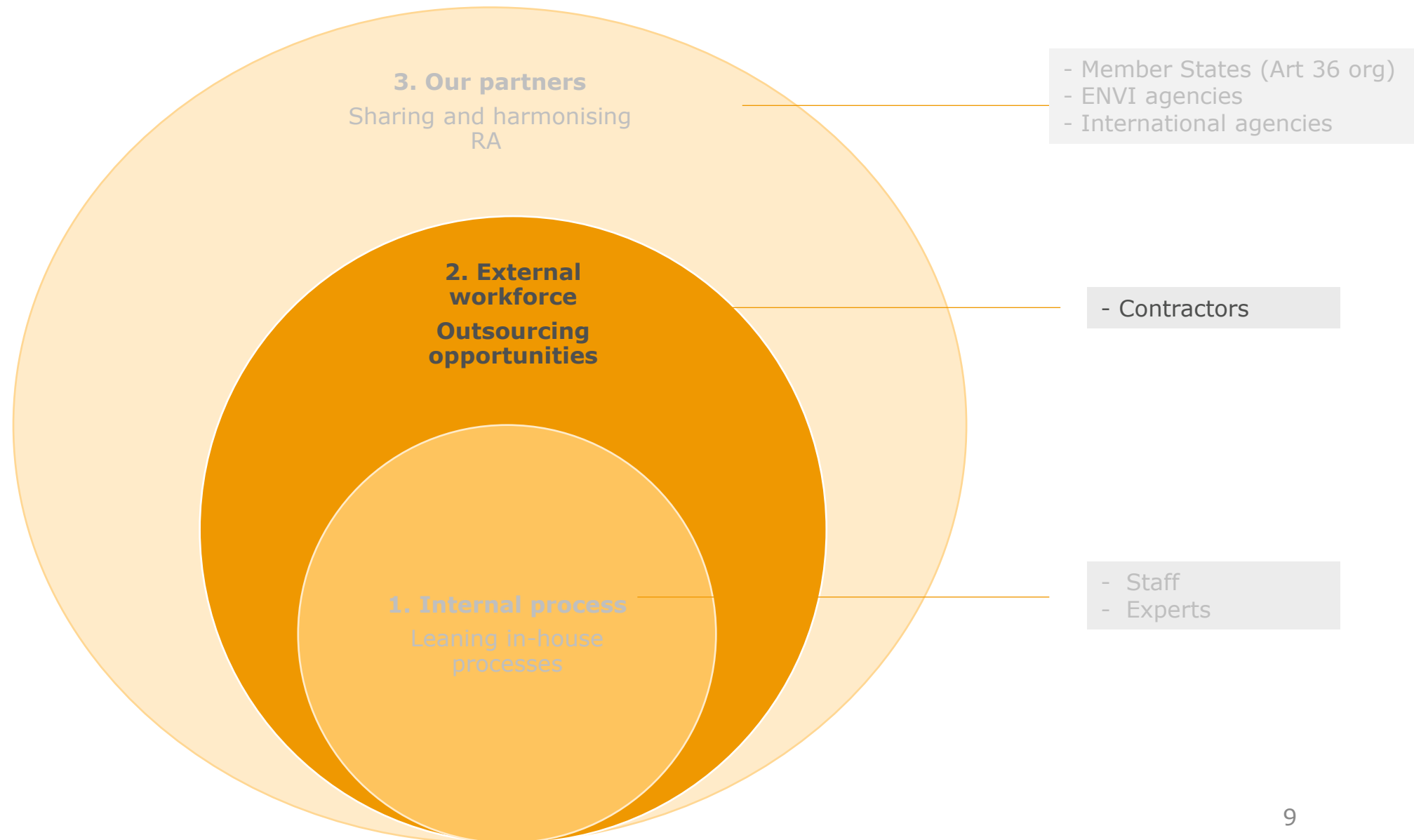
Lean Six Sigma methodology was applied to Art.10 and Art.12 processes during 2019-2020 to improve **timeliness and number of Questions closed** per year



* Table with regulatory history of the o.s. will be provided by PC
 ** SO drafting phase will include preparation of the pre-filled template by PC



2. Ongoing initiatives – External workforce



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Sourcing Development – What has been done?

- Creation of an Inter-Department Sourcing Task Force

Development of sourcing model (evaluate need) and process (execute)

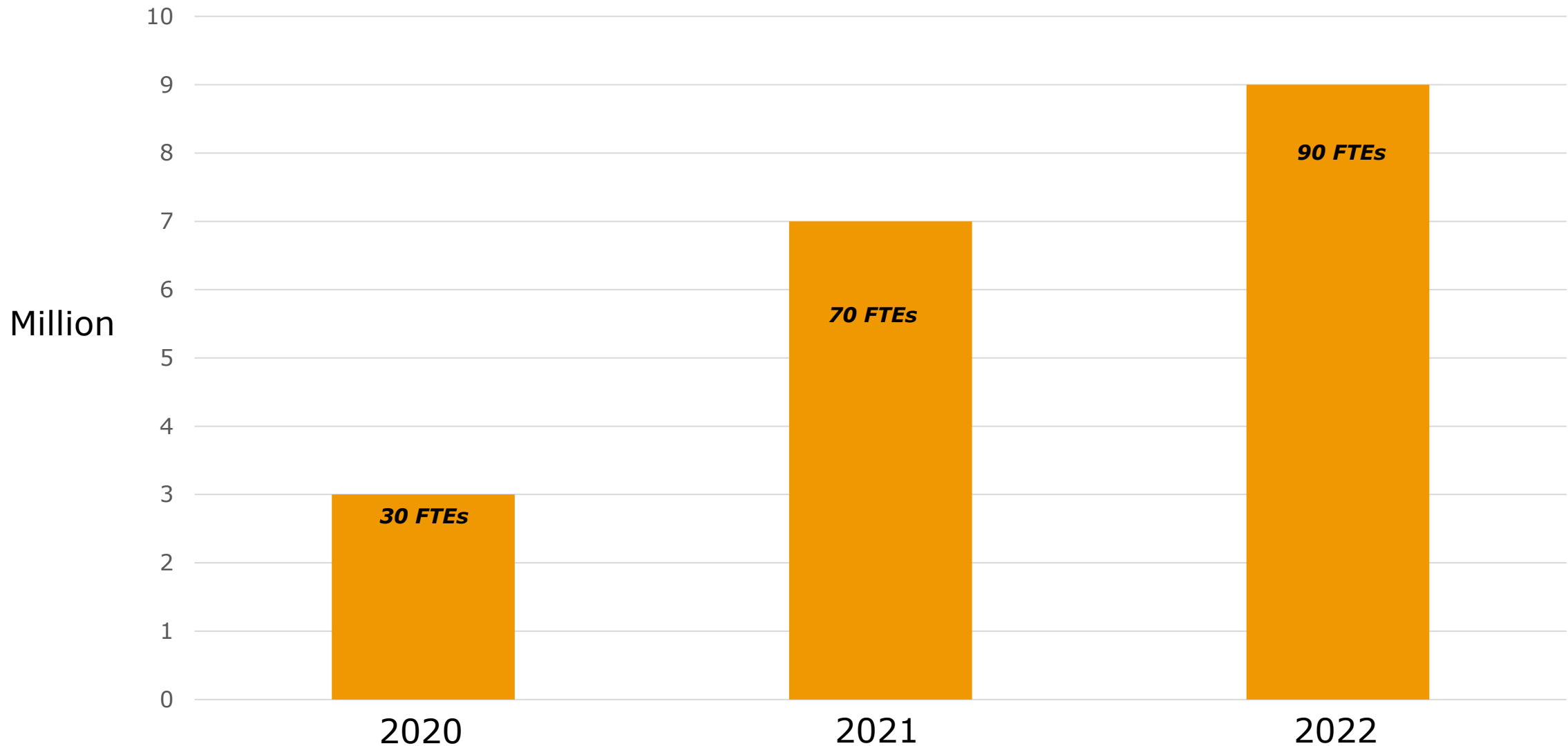
Set up of sourcing target and delivery plan for identified sourcing opportunities

Identification of (short and medium term) sourcing needs for BAU

Further developed the Individual Scientific Advice support scheme (ISA)

2. Ongoing initiatives – External workforce

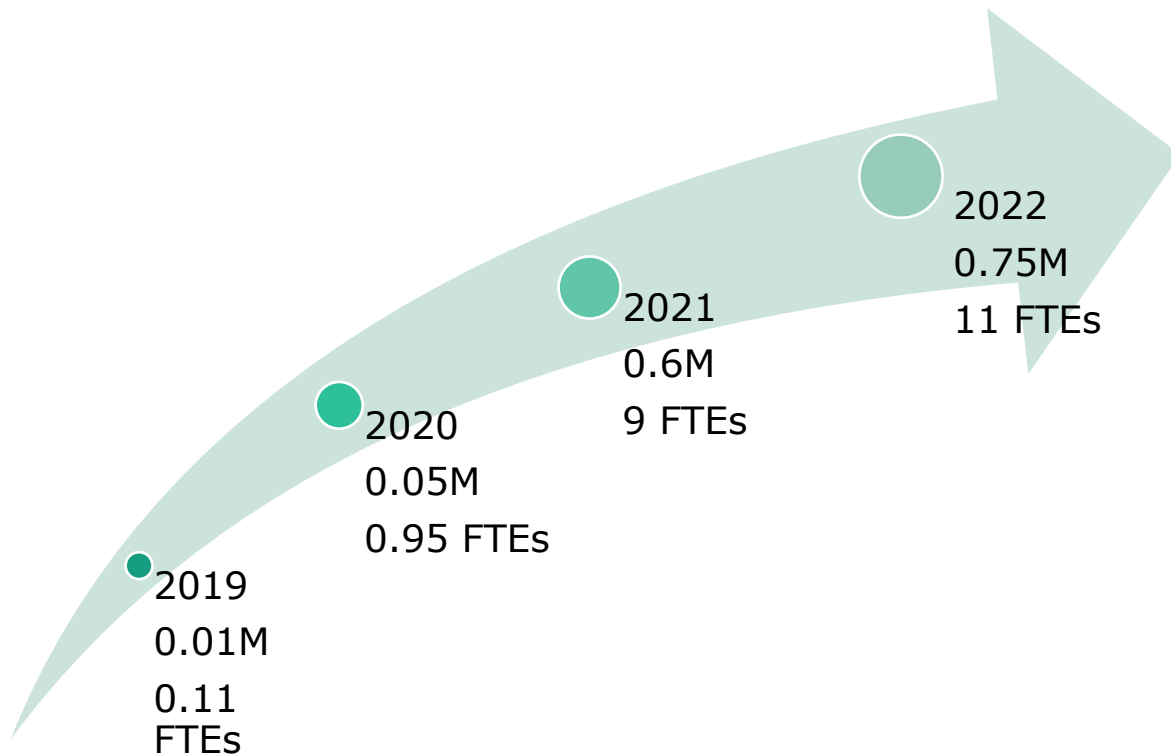
Total budget for Grants & Procurements for BAU outsourcing



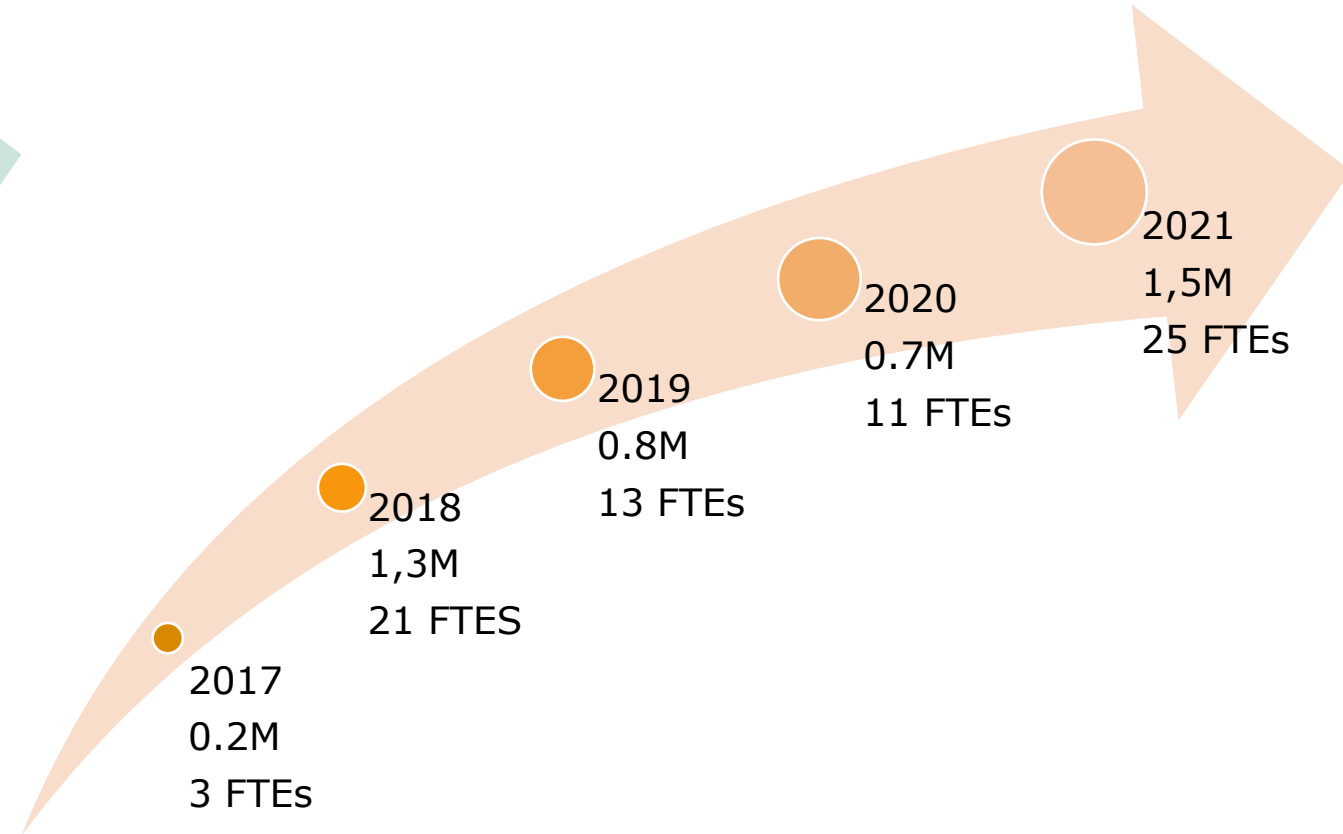
2. Ongoing initiatives – External workforce

TOOLS- Recent innovations

Individual Scientific Support Scheme



Tasking Grants



Steady increase in budget amount and FTEs since inception of the schemes

2. Two examples – External workforce

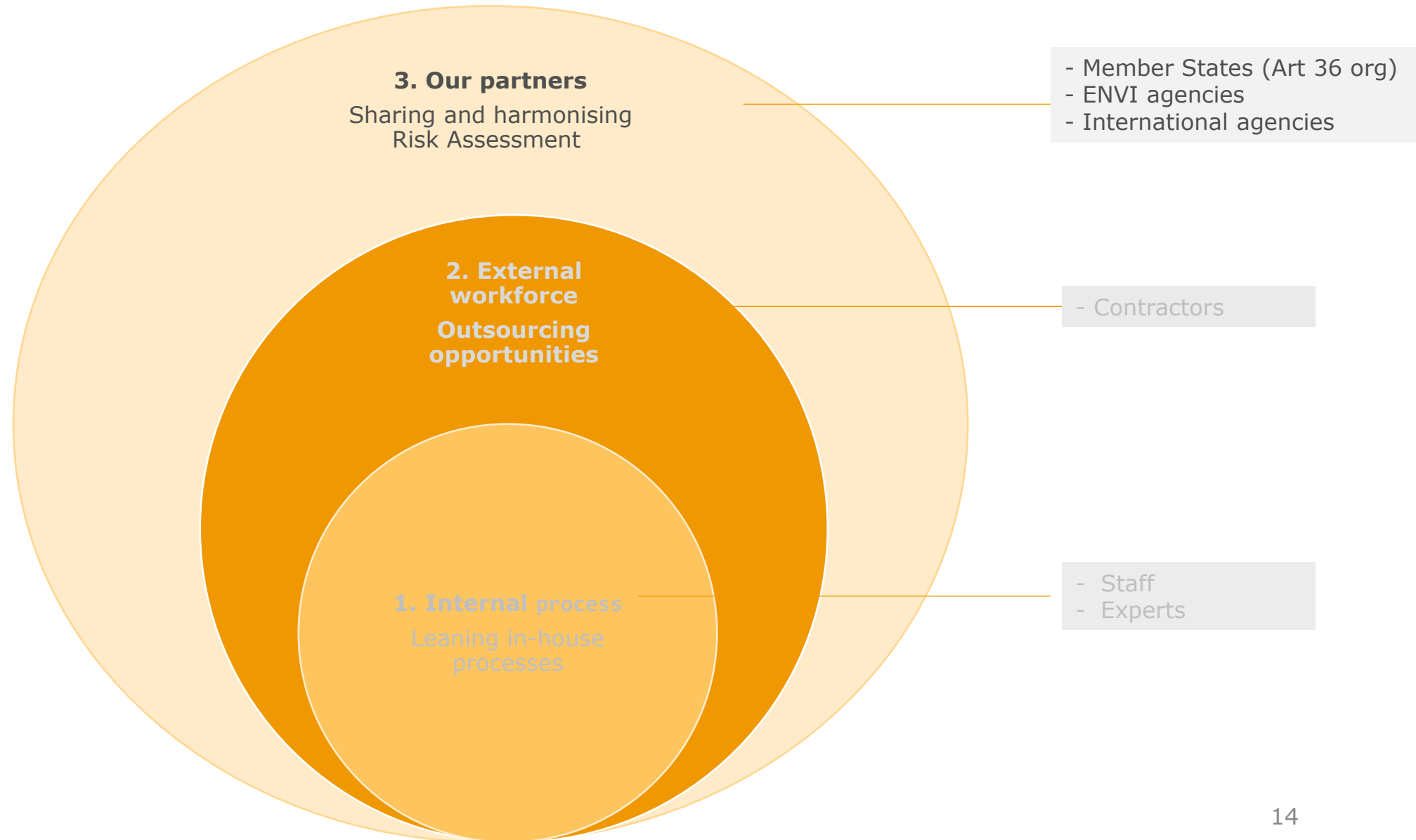
Scientific opinion on the Tolerable Upper Intake levels of 8 vitamins and minerals by 2023

- Open Call by NUTRI Unit
- 12 months direct contract
- Institutes awarded: University of Oslo, Karolinska Institute, University of Helsinki, University of Iceland, University of Copenhagen
- Total value: 1,5M

EU One Health 2020 Zoonoses report (EUOHZ) and the EUOHZs

- FWC by Biocontam Unit
- 4 years contract
- Awarded Consortium: Three Italian Zooprohylactic Institutes, Italian Health Institute and ANSES
- Total value: 2.3M

2. Ongoing initiatives – Partners



Multiple 'PROs'

- To co-create the Risk Assessment (mutual understanding)
- To broaden the EU-wide Risk Assessment capacity to meet the demand of innovation
- **To share expertise**
- **To make best use of resources**

Partnership with ENVI agencies

ECHA to avoid diverging opinions on a same substance (Sulfur dioxide, Silver). Joint mandates (phtalates)

Next step Chemical Strategy for Sustainability/One Substance One Assessment

ECDC on EU Union Summary Report on Antimicrobial Resistance in zoonotic and indicator bacteria from humans, animals and food

Partnership with Member States

Enzymes and Novel Foods



3. Conclusion & Way forward

WAY FORWARD

Leaning

- Foster further initiatives for efficiency gain
- Improve measurement and monitoring system

Outsourcing

- Sourcing needs systematically assessed for BAU activities (new process on 'workforce planning')
- Monitoring for early identification of long-term, big opportunity, sourcing initiatives
- Continue strategic thinking in developing multiannual G&P workplan

Partnering

- Engage further with Member States (new process on 'partnering')
- Consolidate and expand existing cooperation with sister agencies (Chemical Strategy on Sustainability/One Substance One Assessment)

CONCLUSION

Continuous improvement of EFSA resource efficiency is necessary to address the growing volume and complexity of risk assessments – but not sufficient...

MORE TO COME...



SAVE
THE
DATE!

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