

SAFE FOOD FOR ALL

The European Commission will highlight the importance of food safety standards and how the European Union helps make food safer during a webinar on Friday, 26 February 2021 from 14:00-15:30 via Zoom. The webinar will also be shared live on the EU Infopoint Facebook page.

During the webinar, Mehmet Demirpençe from the Veterinary Department will present the progress made so far on the food safety and provide recommendations for the way forward. Donald Aquilina, the team leader of the EU funded Farm Advisory Services project, will outline the EU funded activities contributing to food safety, within the scope of their project. Kemal Öztürk from the Cyprus Turkish Chamber of Industry will talk about the challenges for food businesses in establishing food safety standards. Ankica Labrovic from the EU Program Support Office will introduce the new EU funded project to support the implementation of EU standards along the food chain.

The EU is standing by to support the Turkish Cypriot community and improve the food safety chain. As part of the EU Aid Programme for the Turkish Cypriot community, since 2007, the EU has spent over €16 million on more than 200 projects supporting agriculture and food safety in the Turkish Cypriot community. This year the EU will sign a new three-year, €3m project on food safety and crisis-preparedness in the Turkish Cypriot community. Food safety is about safeguarding the food production and supply chain from hazardous organisms, chemical agents, non-approved food additives or food-contact materials, or physical items. The new EU funded Food Safety project will develop and implement core components of the food safety system and support the effective implementation of EU standards all along the food chain. The EU is committed to continue to work tirelessly with its partners to ensure food safety and sustainable agriculture which are essential for protecting human health and ecosystems.

Background:

The European Commission adopted a comprehensive Farm to Fork Strategy for a fair, healthy and environmentally friendly food system. In line with the European Green Deal, the Farm to Fork strategy proposes to transform our food systems into global standards for competitive sustainability, the protection of human and planetary health, as well as the livelihoods of all actors in the food value chain. The COVID-19 crisis has demonstrated how vulnerable the increasing biodiversity loss makes us and how crucial a well-functioning food system is for our society. Therefore the EU Farm to Fork Strategy together with the Biodiversity Strategy put the citizen at the centre, by committing to increase the protection of land and sea, restoring degraded ecosystems and establishing the EU as a leader on the international stage both on the protection of biodiversity and on building a sustainable food chain.

For more information:

https://ec.europa.eu/food/overview_en
<https://ec.europa.eu/food/safety>

Media contact: EU Infopoint: info@abbilgi.eu, 228 2577

