# WHAT IS RISK ANALYSIS?

**"RISK ANALYSIS" IS A PROCESS CONSISTING OF THREE INTERCONNECTED COMPONENTS:**


## "RISK ASSESSMENT"

Scientifically based process consisting of four steps: hazard identification, hazard characterisation, exposure assessment and risk characterisation.

## "RISK MANAGEMENT"

The process, distinct from risk assessment, of weighing policy alternatives in consultation with interested parties, considering risk assessment and other legitimate factors, and, if need be, selecting appropriate prevention and control options.

## "RISK COMMUNICATION"

The interactive exchange of information and opinions throughout the risk analysis process as regards hazards and risks, risk-related factors and risk perceptions, among risk assessors, risk managers, consumers, feed and food businesses, the academic community and other interested parties, including the explanation of risk assessment findings and the basis of risk management decisions.

Using the risk analysis framework is intended to ensure effective regulatory decisions. Its use encourages communication between all interested parties including consumers. Food regulators aim to ensure health and safety risks from food are negligible for the whole population, and that consumers can make informed choices. When this is achieved, public confidence in the effectiveness of food legal texts is maintained.

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