



Better Training for Safer Food

SUMMARY OF NEW FOOD INVESTIGATION TECHNIQUES

CONTRACT NUM. 2017 96 05

1. Background information

The Better Training for Safer Food on **New Food Investigation Techniques** was launched in 2013, as cases of food fraud were increasing, reaching a great dissemination by the Media at the time of the famous horse meat scandal. Food fraud cases can affect the whole food chain, sometimes using very sophisticated techniques, to avoid being detected. Internet offers multiple choices and options; complete command of these tools should be known and used by those fighting against food fraud products sold in internet.

The current challenge not only require new IT tools, but a better use of the information, methods and integrate this information in a more coordinated way, using the skills and expertise of food fraud units to attend these needs, and working in **collaboration among administrations**, between food safety authorities, police and judicial bodies.

In this context, the new contract offers a total of 12 sessions on 2 main subjects:

- Course 1: General investigation and control techniques (NIT) – 6 sessions
- Course 2: E-commerce of food – Standard level (EC1) – 3 sessions, and Advanced level (EC2) – 3 sessions

2. General and specific objectives, and topics

The objective of the present programme is to improve knowledge and skills of control staff on specific investigation techniques used to identify food fraud (FF) or to perform official control duties on e-commerce of food and food related products, disseminating best practices and enabling the exchange of practical experience.

Course 1 – General investigation and control techniques (NIT)

Specific objectives: To give tools and techniques to design, implement and manage food fraud units; promote risk based investigations; spread the knowledge on methods and investigation techniques for the prevention of food fraud; and ensure that the trainees have a solid understanding of ways to collaborate, coordinate with other enforcement bodies in their countries, other Member States and with other supranational organizations.

Topics: Collaborative approach to combating food fraud, International Collaboration, Intelligence stage, interagency cooperation, conducting investigations and criminal investigations. National & EU cases studies.

Course 2a – E-commerce of food – standard level (EC1)

Specific objectives: To provide tools and techniques to identify internet food business operating and detect those not following the legal requirements; facilitate practical training on internet trading investigation; and spread knowledge on methods to investigate in different internet platforms, and learn practical and legal requirements to undertake official controls on internet food business; and ensure that the participants have a solid understanding of channels of communication, cooperation with different administrations and market stakeholders.

Topics EC1: Legal framework for internet control, hands on IT training, EU legislation, legal aspects and control purchase, setting up an IT system for internet investigations, International cooperation and cross border cooperation, future of on-line investigations. Lectures and practical exercises with laptops.

Course 2b – E-commerce of food – advanced (EC2)

Specific objectives: are the same as course EC1, however the level to reach will be higher as long as the practical exercises requested. Demonstrated experience in investigating food frauds in the internet is compulsory to attend.



Topics EC2: EU legislation and law infringements, advanced level investigation tools, setting up contacts, cross border cooperation, future of on-line investigations. Practical approach and active contributions from participants is expected.

3. Targeted audience

Course 1: Officials from inspection bodies: ideally involved in planning and organizing control activities (preferably at central level) and Police investigators/ Customs officers/Judicial staff... etc.

IMPORTANT NOTE – In order to assure a multidisciplinary approach in the training of this course, NCPs will be required to send participants approximately 2/3 from food safety authorities responsible of inspections, and 1/3 from other enforcement agencies involved in the investigation of food fraud (police, customs, judicial services, etc.).

Course 2a: Officials from inspection bodies: ideally involved in planning and organizing online control activities (preferably at central level).

Course 2b: Enforcement staff currently working in internet search or control unit; same requirements as for Course B1, and indicate having at least 3 years' experience working in competent authorities related to Internet investigations of food frauds. To attend, participants will have to provide information of one case study in which they have participated. This ensures previous knowledge of basic IT investigation techniques in order to be able to put hands on training knowing the basic tools and experience to make basic investigations.

For the three courses, participants should be able to work and make interventions in English, and compromise to disseminate the learnings gained. Guidance on how to disseminate the knowledge will be provided during the sessions, and a follow up questionnaire will be performed to participants attending.

4. Calendar and locations

Session/s	Dates	Location	Language	Registration Deadline
Session 01 - NIT-01	28/05/2018 - 31/05/2018	Lisbon, Portugal	EN	21/05/2018
Session 02 - EC1-01	11-06/2018 - 14/06/2018	Madrid, Spain	EN	28/05/2018
Session 03 - NIT-02	24/09/2018 - 27/09/2018	Madrid, Spain	EN	20/08/2018
Session 04 - EC1-02	08/10/2018 - 11/10/2018	Prague, Czech Republic	EN	03/09/2017
Session 05 - EC2-03	19/11/2018 - 22/11/2018	Bratislava, Slovakia	EN	08/10/2018
Session 06 - NIT-03	10/12/2018 - 13/12/2018	Amsterdam, Netherlands	EN	29/10/2018
Session 07 - NIT-04	February 2019	Lisbon, Portugal	EN	t.b.c.
Session 08 - EC1-04	March 2019	Bratislava, Slovakia	EN	t.b.c.
Session 09 - NIT-05	April 2019	Lisbon, Portugal	EN	t.b.c.
Session 10 - EC2-05	May 2019	Prague, Czech Republic	EN	t.b.c.
Session 11 - EC2-06	September 2019	Madrid, Spain	EN	t.b.c.
Session 12 - NIT-06	October 2019	Amsterdam, Netherlands	EN	t.b.c.

5. Registration

For allocation of places and confirmation of registrations to contractor through BTSF National Contact Points.

https://ec.europa.eu/food/sites/food/files/safety/docs/btsf_national-contact-points.pdf

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