



# The Better Training for Safer Food initiative

Animal Health Canada Forum 2023

20 September 2023

Des Maguire

European Commission

Directorate-General for Health & Food Safety

Unit F2 BTSF

# What is BTSF?

Background



## **BTSF: Better training for safer food**

A DG SANTE **training initiative** since 2005 for EU and non-EU official control staff, sometimes stakeholders

**Objective:** High levels of competence and knowledge of EU rules leading to harmonised approach to control systems and enforcement, facilitating trade and market access

**Train the Trainer Principle**

# Areas covered by BTSF



ANIMAL HEALTH AND WELFARE



BORDERS, MOVEMENTS, OFFICIAL  
CONTROLS



FOOD AND FEED



ONE HEALTH



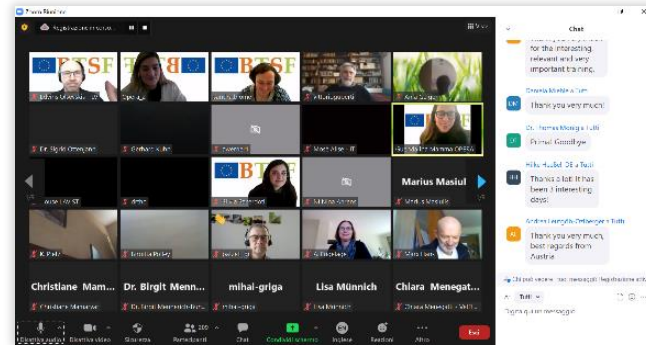
PLANTS



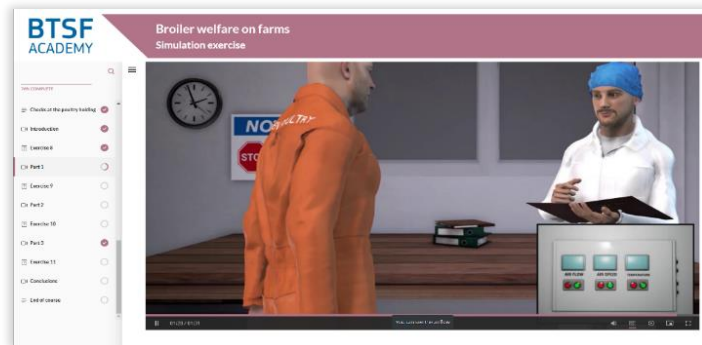
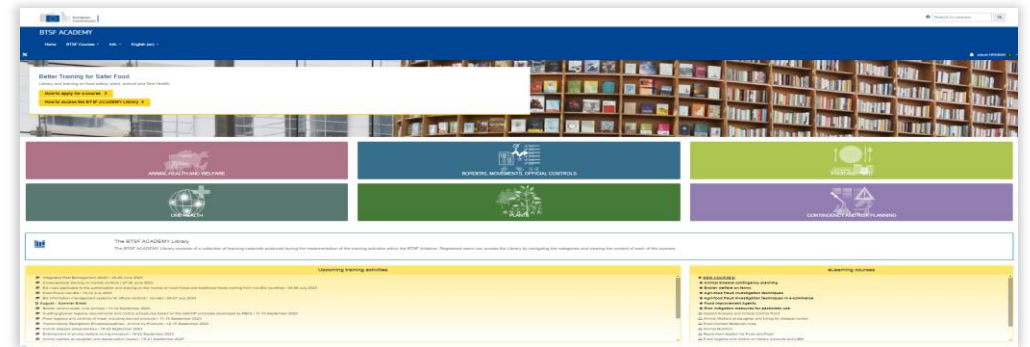
CONTINGENCY AND RISK PLANNING

# How do we achieve training objectives?

## Face-to-face & virtual classes



## BTSF ACADEMY



## eLearning



## BTSF Library

# How do we achieve training objectives?

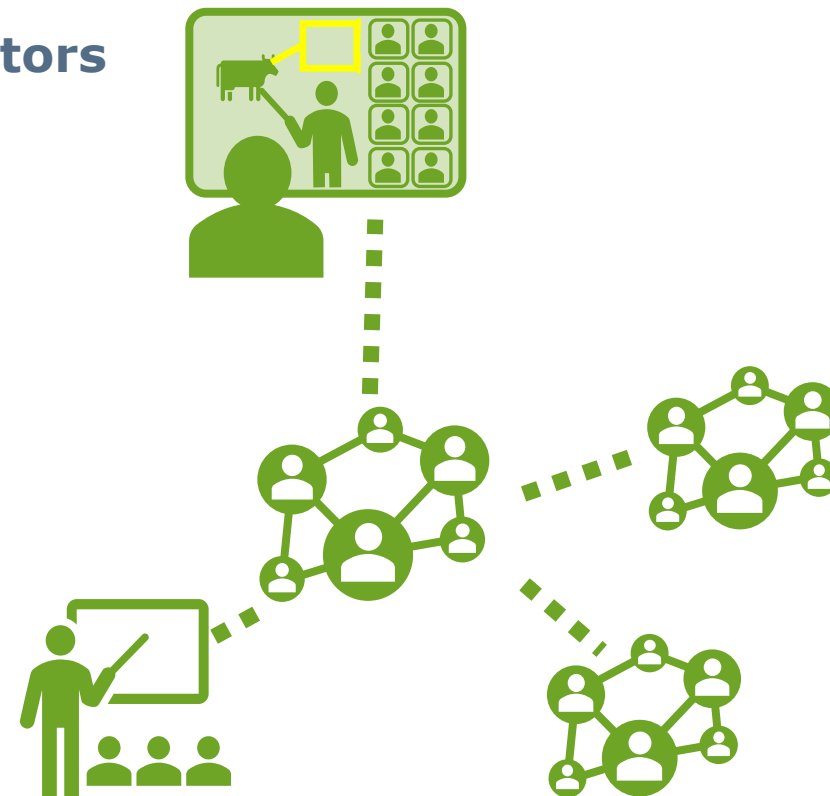
- **Training is *usually* organised by external contractors**

- Workshops or
- Workshops and Sustained training missions STM  
(individual experts – individual country/region)

- eLearning

- **Basic principles**

- Knowledge/experience sharing and networking
- Train-the-trainer approach



# What has BTSF achieved since 2005?

>45

Programmes running

>3000

Training events

All training moved  
online during **COVID19**  
pandemic

>85 000

Participants

~19K registered users  
**BTSF ACADEMY** network

~20%  
Activities in non-EU countries

# Specific **objectives** for non-EU training

- **Ensure fair trade** with non-EU countries, particularly developing countries
- **Enhance SPS regulatory cooperation** with non-EU countries
- **Help non-EU countries to better understand** and meet more easily EU rules/standards
- **Reduce rejections at EU borders** and **facilitate access** to the EU market
- **Contribute to safer food for non-EU country consumers** and a more diverse range of **safe food products in the EU**



# BTSF activities in non-EU countries

## ANTIMICROBIAL RESISTANCE

to develop cooperation activities on AMR at international level with a view to promote a 'One-Health' approach for addressing AMR in both humans and animals

## NOVEL FOODS

to raise awareness and contribute to a better understanding of existing EU rules applicable to the authorisation and placing on the market of novel foods

## IMSOC

to further raise awareness and contribute to a better understanding and more efficient use of existing EU SPS information management systems

## AGRI-FOOD FRAUD

- to develop cooperation activities with non-EU trade partners
- to improve the effectiveness of official control systems dealing with agri-food fraud, including Internet sales, and their ability to detect fraud

## FOOD SAFETY CRISIS PREPAREDNESS

to deepen the collaboration (including through INFOSAN) between EU and non-EU countries in the management of food safety crises, taking stock of the experience and achievements in the EU and beyond

## RISK ANALYSIS

to develop cooperation activities on risk analysis at international level with a view to ensure the establishment of scientifically sound food safety control systems



# BTSF activities in non-EU countries

## BTSF WORLD

- Animal health & welfare
- Food
- Plant health

## Regional workshops

**28 four-day workshops, 1.08/1.540 participants**

- Trade-facilitating, trade-oriented
- Seeking reciprocity (import vs. export) with full day on EU SPS system to focus on its robustness
- Result oriented: selection of beneficiaries
- to further raise awareness and contribute to a better understanding and more efficient use of existing EU SPS information management systems

## Sustained Training Missions

**770 STM days in 15 non-EU countries**

- Tailor-made interventions for the beneficiary
- Organised in consecutive follow-up missions in the same country on the same subject
- Targets: Competent Authorities or the private sector

For example:

- Workshop on safety of plant products in Senegal, 2023
- STM on food control systems in Indonesia, 2023

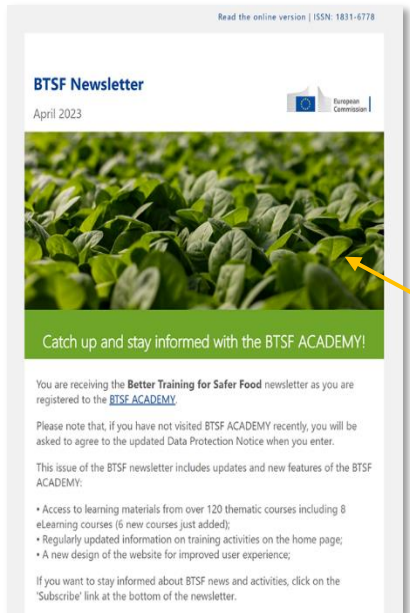
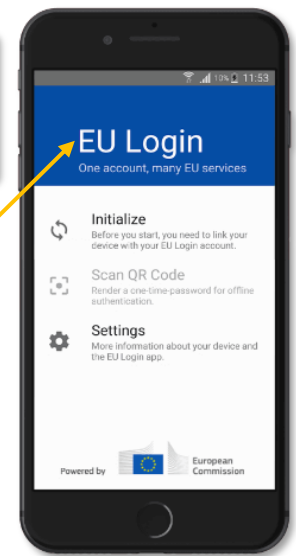
# Non-EU activities – workshops 2022-2023



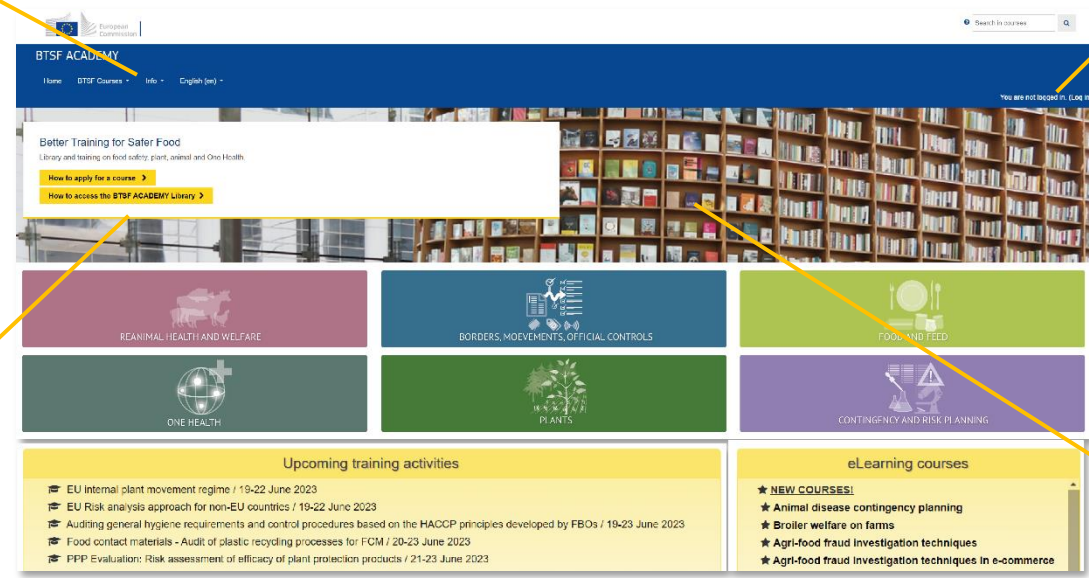
# BTSF ACADEMY

[better-training-for-safer-food.ec.europa.eu](https://better-training-for-safer-food.ec.europa.eu)

 **> 19K** registered users  
**~ 4K** active users



Opening Rate: **90.6%**

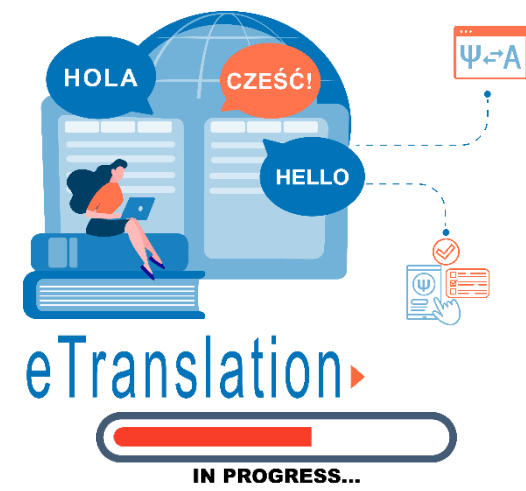
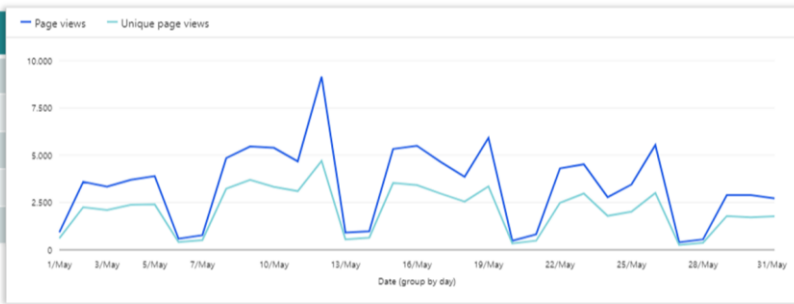


**BTSF Library**



**> 120**  
Thematic courses

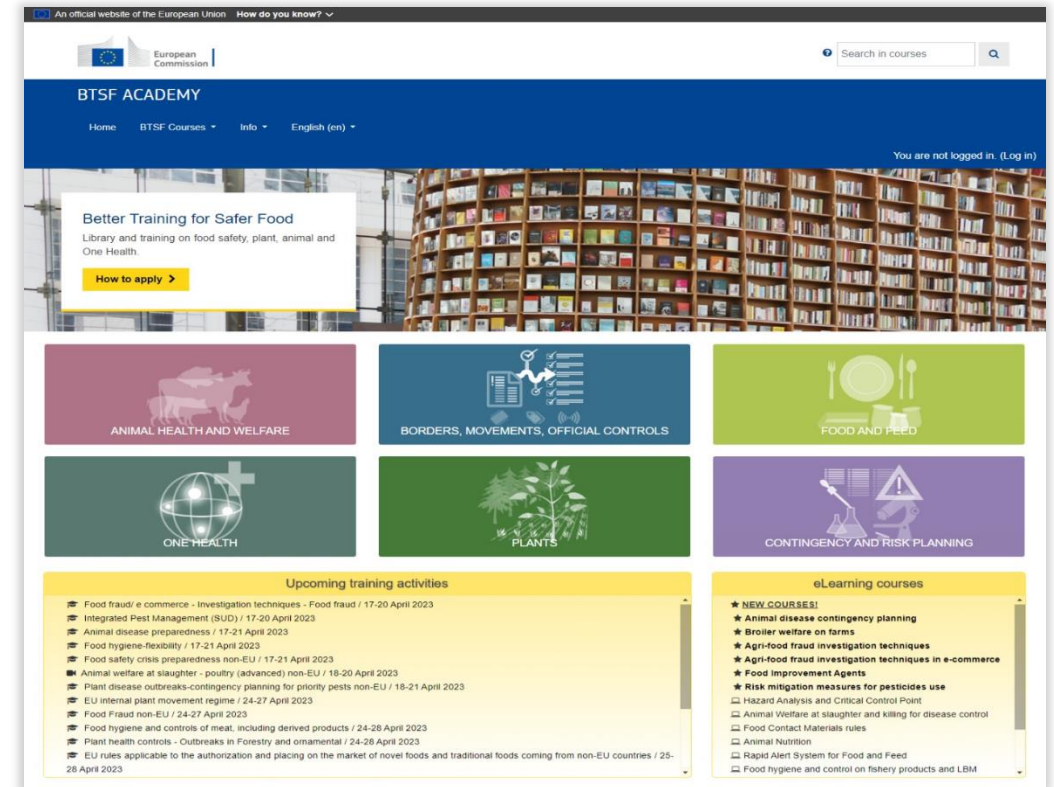
| 2023     | Page views |
|----------|------------|
| January  | 81.913     |
| February | 83.388     |
| March    | 91.013     |
| April    | 97.262     |
| May      | 104.910    |



# BTSF ACADEMY

## • **BTSF LIBRARY**

- **Over 100 thematic courses** uploaded
  - **Regular updates** of training resources
  - Training session **video recordings**
- 
- **Multilingual** BTSF eLearning
  - BTSF platform for **VCs/webinars**
  - BTSF course **forums**
  - **BTSF Newsletters, reports, statistics**



<https://better-training-for-safer-food.ec.europa.eu/training/>

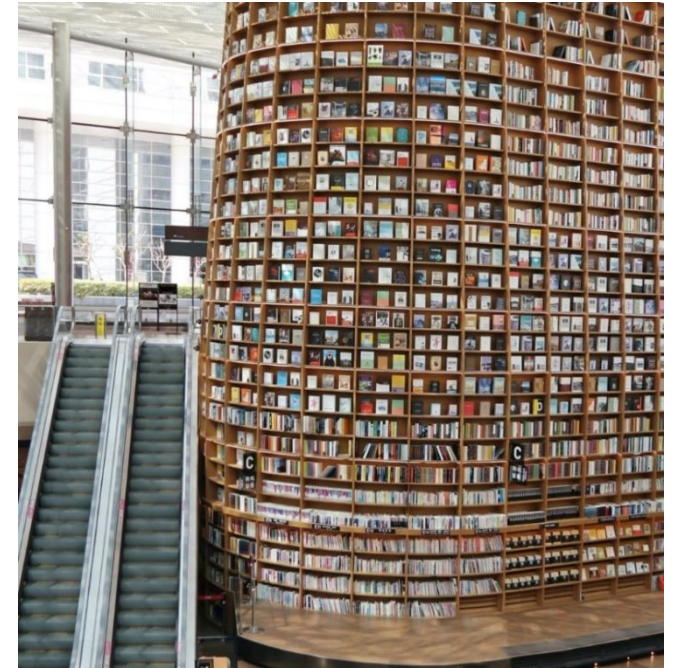
**BTSF LIBRARY** SANTE gives open access to all registered users (Competent Authority officials in EU and non-EU) to all existing and future course training materials and eLearning. Certain courses will also be available to stakeholders.

# How do I access BTSF training information?

- **Register** to receive **BTSF Newsletters**, reports and to access **BTSF Library** training materials
- **Send an email from your official address** or by **enclosing an official CA request** to:

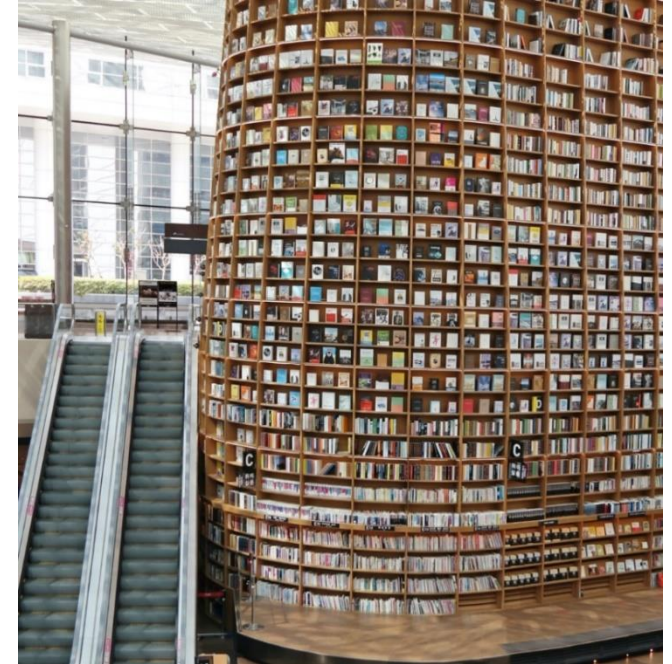


[HaDEA-BTSF-ACADEMY-SUPPORT@ec.europa.eu](mailto:HaDEA-BTSF-ACADEMY-SUPPORT@ec.europa.eu)



# Training information animal health & contingency planning

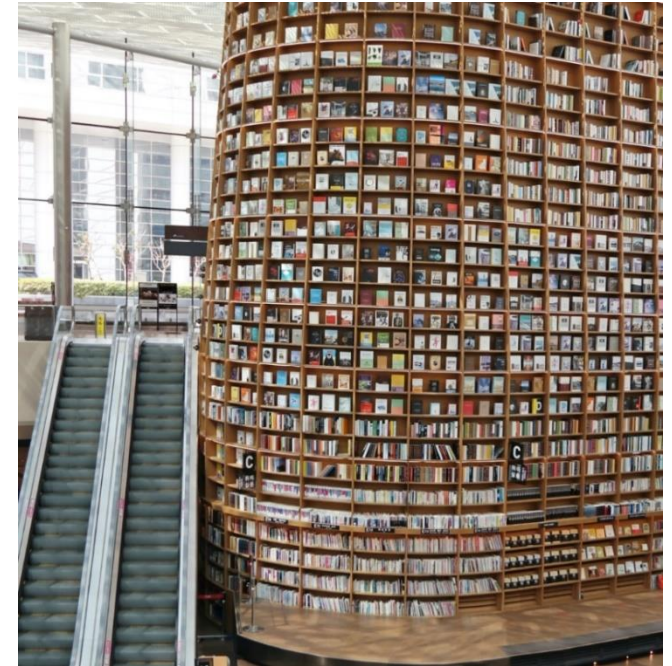
- **BTSF LIBRARY**
  - **Animal Health**
    - Animal health law (face to face: F2F)
    - 4 Associated training courses for candidate countries and national experts (online)
    - Regional workshop on *peste des petits ruminants* (online)
  - **Contingency Planning**
    - Animal disease preparedness (F2F)
    - Crisis management-inter-sectoral simulation exercises in Animal Sector
    - Regional workshop on animal disease preparedness non-EU (F2F)
    - 2 Regional Workshops African Swine Fever EU (online & F2F)
    - FAO-EUFMD Commission information
    - Animal disease contingency planning - eLearning module (incl AW SOPs etc.)



# Training information animal welfare

- **BTSF LIBRARY**

- 3 eLearning modules
  - Animal welfare at slaughter - including killing for disease control
  - Animal welfare at slaughter and killing for disease control for poultry
  - Broiler welfare on farms
- 9 Face to face courses
  - Enforcement of animal welfare during transport (basic and advanced)
  - **Animal welfare at slaughter and depopulation (basic)**
  - **Animal welfare at slaughter and depopulation (advanced cattle, sheep and goats)**
  - Animal welfare at slaughter and depopulation (advanced poultry)
  - Animal welfare in pig production
  - Animal welfare in poultry production-broiler
  - Animal welfare livestock vessels
  - Animal welfare - Retrospective checks on transport of animals
  - Türkiye 2023 Animal welfare at slaughter



# Training information on Risk Planning

- **BTSF LIBRARY**

- **3 Face to face courses (Animal health area)**
  - **EU Risk analysis approach for non-EU countries**
  - **Risk assessment applied to animal health and welfare**
  - **Evidence collection, management and integration**
- **6 Face to face courses**
  - **Chemical risk assessment**
  - **Environmental risk assessment**
  - **Microbiological risk assessment**
  - **Pest and plant protection risk assessment**
  - **Risk assessment in biotechnology**
  - **Risk assessment in nutrition**





# BTSF ACADEMY - eTranslation



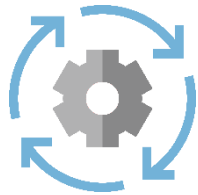
## Web Browsers for translation

How to use in-browser translation: Microsoft Edge



Translate a webpage into your preferred language

1. Open a webpage and right-click anywhere on the page. Select Translate to language <sup>1</sup>



3-phase move to



all content translatable to  
**all EU languages**

+ Arabic, Chinese, Icelandic, Japanese, Norwegian, Russian, Turkish and Ukrainian

The screenshot shows the BTSF ACADEMY website. At the top, there is the European Commission logo and a search bar. The main header includes 'BTSF ACADEMY' and navigation links for 'Thuis', 'BTSF-cursussen', 'Info', and 'Nederlands (nl)'. A user status indicator says 'Je bent niet ingelogd (Login)'. The main content area features a banner for 'Better Training for Safer Food' with two call-to-action buttons: 'Hoe zich aan te melden voor een cursus' and 'Toegang tot de BTSF ACADEMY-bibliotheek'. Below the banner is a grid of six topic cards: 'GEZONDHEID EN WELZIJN VAN DIEREN', 'GRENZEN, BEWEGINGEN, OFFICIËLE CONTROLES', 'VOEDING EN VOEDING', 'EEN GEZONDHEID', 'PLANTEN', and 'CONTINGENCY EN RISICOPLANNING'. At the bottom, there are two sections: 'Komende opleidingsactiviteiten' and 'eLearning-cursussen'.

# eLearning



**8 eLearning courses**  
(~ 8 hours)

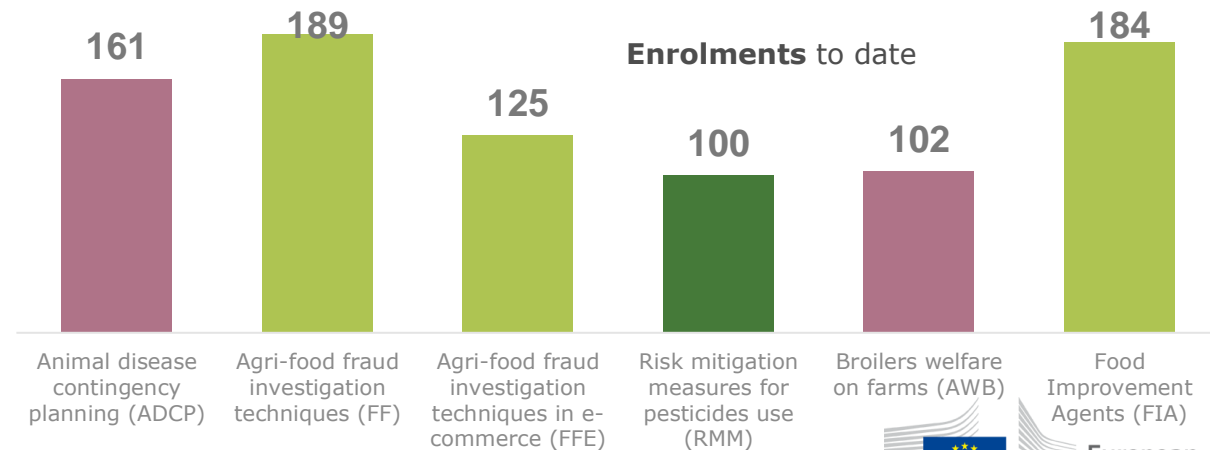
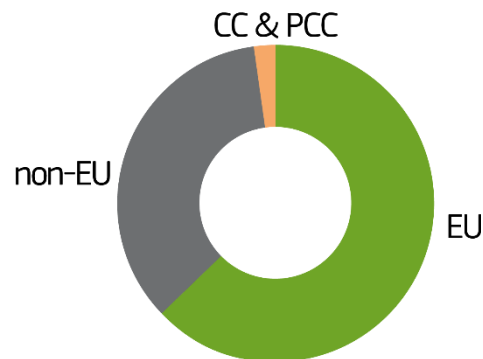


|                               |   |   |                                   |
|-------------------------------|---|---|-----------------------------------|
| <b>AW at depopulation</b><br> | <b>AW at depopulation - poultry</b><br> | <b>Prevention, control and eradication of TSE</b><br> | <b>RASFF</b><br>                  |
| <b>HACCP</b><br>              | <b>Animal nutrition</b><br>             | <b>Food hygiene requirements - fish &amp; LBM</b><br> | <b>Food contact materials</b><br> |

**6 NEW basic level eLearning courses**  
(~ 4 hours)

|                                      |  |  |
|--------------------------------------|--|--|
| <b>Food fraud</b><br>                | <b>E-Commerce</b><br>                          | <b>Food Improvement Agents</b><br>                   |
| <b>Animal welfare - broilers</b><br> | <b>Animal Disease Contingency Planning</b><br> | <b>Plant protection products risk assessment</b><br> |

over  
**21,000**  
enrolments  
since 2018



# Where can I find more BTSF information?

## BTSF ACADEMY

- **BTSF info section on home page**
- **BTSF course planner/calendar dates and locations regularly updated**

## BTSF Library

- **Individual course details in Category drop down/course search menus**
- **Summary of training material in Dissemination Kit folder for each course**
  - ❑ The course presentations
  - ❑ Study notes on field trips and group activities/discussions and conclusions
  - ❑ The course syllabus
  - ❑ The training information sheet: A two-page summary of course for promotional purposes
  - ❑ Glossary of terms and abbreviations
  - ❑ Additional references for further study
  - ❑ Written guidance on how to actively disseminate course knowledge – train the trainer
  - ❑ Other information and material delivered from the course

# Thank you



Please send any additional questions to  
[SANTE-TRAININGFORSAFERFOOD@ec.europa.eu](mailto:SANTE-TRAININGFORSAFERFOOD@ec.europa.eu)