



FoodChain-Lab Training

8th – 10th November 2017

Venue:

**Bundesinstitut für Risikobewertung
Diedersdorfer Weg 1
12277 Berlin Marienfelde
GERMANY**

House 3, Rooms D145 + D146

Foodborne outbreak investigations and food tracing are becoming increasingly complex due to changing patterns in the global food production and supply chain network resulting in more and more complex delivery chains. Moreover, since 2002 traceability of food is legally required in the European Union. Since then, there was a strong demand for simple and fast analysis tools that would enable the responsible authorities to quickly and reliably help to identify and solve foodborne outbreaks. For this purpose the German Federal Institute for Risk Assessment (BfR) developed the tool FoodChain-Lab (FCL).

FoodChain-Lab is a free and open-source software that was successfully applied in several national and EU-wide foodborne outbreaks. It provides trace back and forward analyses for food items along food supply chains, e.g. in case of foodborne disease outbreak investigations.

FCL provides integrated data management, validation, enrichment and visualization features as well as interactive analysis and reasoning methods. For each product (food item or ingredient) and each station (e.g. food producer, restaurant) scores are computed to estimate the likelihood that the product/station is related to a contamination event (e.g. causing an outbreak). The software also allows running simulations based on geographical parameters or cross contamination events in food production facilities.

Workshop organizers:

The FoodChain-Lab team, Department Biological Safety, German Federal Institute for Risk Assessment (BfR)

- The workshop is funded by the European Food Safety Authority and the BfR. -

What: We offer an intensive practical course in which we demonstrate specific applications of the software and provide hands-on training on using FCL.

Who: Anyone may apply. However, the target audience is employees of European risk management and assessment authorities with IT-application experience. Ideally, the participant will be a contact point in future international tracing investigations and for their respective countries and is interested in participating in an EFSA network about tracing.

Aim: Providing expert knowledge on the use of FoodChain-Lab for tracing contaminated foods in foodborne outbreak events.

Requirements:

Each participant needs to bring a laptop that is able to connect to Wi-Fi. Please install FoodChain-Lab (see <https://foodrisklabs.bfr.bund.de/index.php/installation>) and either MS Excel or Libre Office Calc (version 5.0 or later).

It would be of great value if the participants can report on their institutional experience on tracing – or problems they have been facing during investigations. Sharing (anonymized) (supply chain) data on foodborne outbreaks could be used to demonstrate the efficiency of FCL and is more than welcome.

Cost: The workshop is free of charge. However, participants are requested to pay for their travel and accommodation expenses.

Agenda:

Day 1 – Introduction and Basic Training (10:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.)

- Introduction to tracing and FCL
- FCL demonstration
- Interactive tutorials on data collection and visualization

Day 2 – Basic Training (9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.)

- Interactive tutorials on highlighting and geographical visualization
- Interactive application of FCL in a fictional outbreak scenario
- EFSA Perspectives

Day 3 – Advanced Training (9:00 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.)

- Participants stories guided by FCL team
- FCL web application
- Optional: FCL in current events

Details about the agenda are updated at <https://foodrisklabs.bfr.bund.de/events/>

Interested?

Please register **by 25th October 2017** via e-mail (foodrisklabs@bfr.bund.de). The number of seats is limited.

For further information please visit <https://foodrisklabs.bfr.bund.de/foodchain-lab/>.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us via e-mail (foodrisklabs@bfr.bund.de).