

The Future of Food Regulation

New Zealand Food Safety – Lecture Series

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Overview

- About FSANZ
- Food Regulation System
- Key drivers affecting the System
- Context for modernisation
- FSANZ's response to change
- The future state

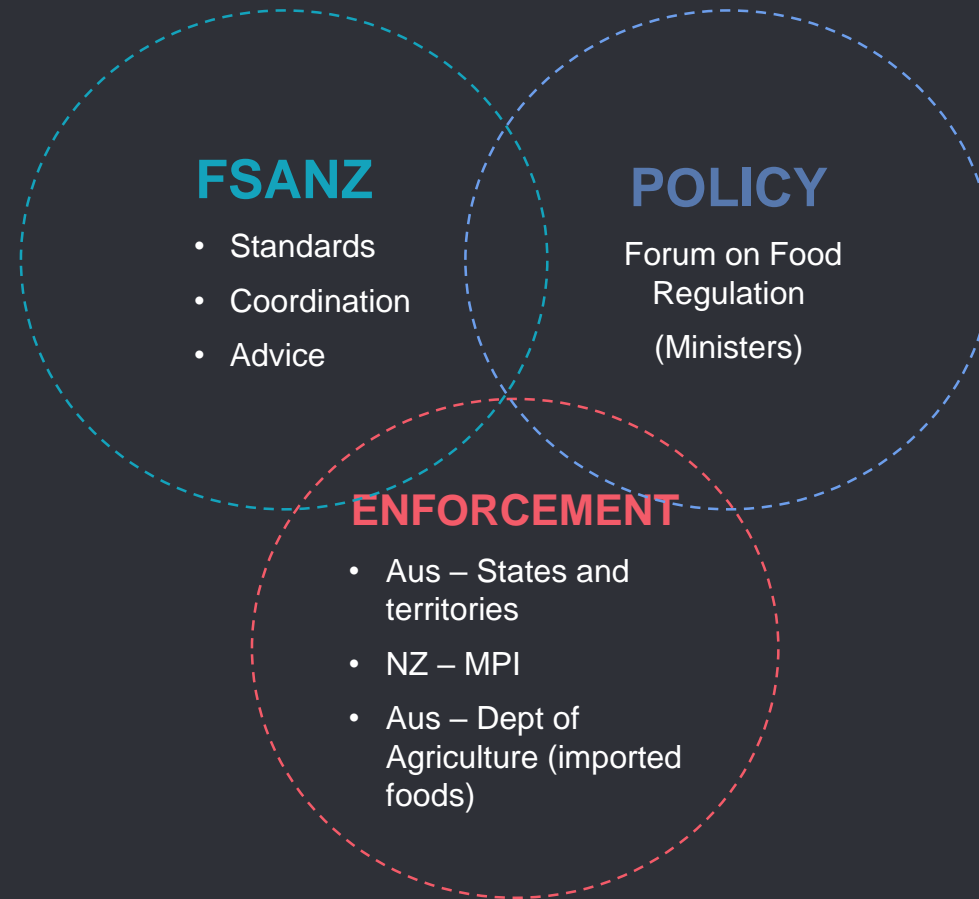


About Food Standards A-NZ

- We are an Australian statutory agency within the Australian Government Health portfolio – we set food standards for both Australia and New Zealand
- Our main function is to develop and administer the Australia New Zealand Food Standards Code (the Code)
- The Code is a legislative instrument, that is given effect by state and territory or New Zealand laws
- We are not responsible for enforcement
- We are Risk Assessors, Risk Managers and Risk Communicators



Food regulation system



Key players in the food regulatory system



Ministers
set policy



FSANZ
establish standards



TGA / Medsafe
approve therapeutic goods



DAWR / MPI
border protection



OGTR / EPA
applications for genetically
modified crops



APVMA / MPI
approve veterinary medicines

Key players in the food regulatory system



ACCC/CP

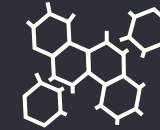
consumer issues including misleading or deceptive claims



States & Territories

MPI

regulators



NICNAS/EPA

industrial chemicals



Consumers

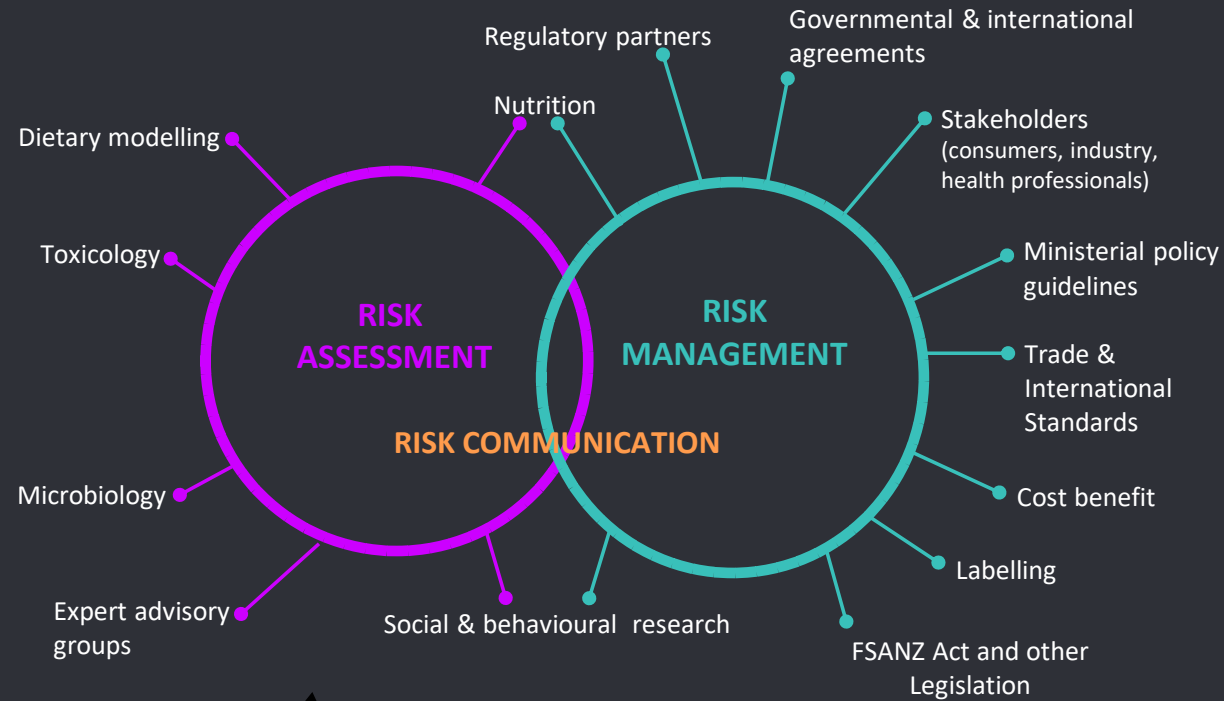


NGOs



Industry

Things we take into account at FSANZ



Key drivers affecting the System

- Increased globalisation of food production and supply
- Growing pace of technological change and industry innovation
- Proliferation of e-commerce
- Greater consumer expectations around access to food information coupled with a stronger societal focus on diet, health and wellbeing
- Greater industry expectations for more proportionate regulation
- Fiscal constraints on government agencies



Key drivers affecting the System

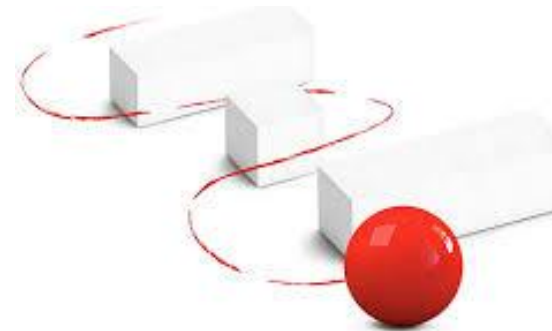
Additional impetus for change arising from three Ministerial priorities:

1. Reducing foodborne illness, particularly related to *Campylobacter* and *Salmonella*
2. Supporting the public health objectives to reduce chronic disease related to overweight and obesity
3. Maintaining a strong, robust and agile FRS



Context for modernisation

- World class, strong system but the settings are 20+ years old
- Food regulation increasingly important – surging consumer interest and growing understanding of the link to economies
- Change is all around us
- We must become more:
 - Responsive
 - Agile
 - Collaborative
 - Strategic



Context for modernisation

- Perceptions and views
 - Overall leadership uncertain
 - Lack of agency to provide consistency of advice across jurisdictions
 - Unclear methods to link into policy process
 - Perceptions of excessive timescales and bureaucracy
 - System unable to meet challenges of new technologies
 - System not reviewed in two decades



FSANZ's response to change

- Modernisation 1.0
 - Application Handbook
 - Streamlining the end-to-end standards setting process
- Modernisation 2.0
 - Metrics
 - Emerging risks
 - Intelligence
 - Culture
- Modernisation 3.0 +



Metrics

- 'Measuring up for the Future'
- Objective evidence to support our performance story focussing on:
 - Delivery – projects (Applications and Proposals), recalls, science and information
 - Customer / stakeholder confidence in FSANZ
 - Staff engagement
 - Consumer trust in labels and FSANZ / the System



Intelligence

- Ensuring the correct information is collected, analysed and distributed to enable insightful decision making
 - Supports all decision making (including planning, standards, responses, capability needs)
 - Scope includes nutrition, labelling and food safety risks
 - Enables system insights e.g. digitisation, cannabis edibles and new breeding techniques



The future state

- Proportionate regulation
 - Consumer protection + industry innovation
- A more networked and responsive system
- Mechanisms for consistency across the system
- Agility to meet new challenges and technologies – eg NBTs
- More transparent links into policy processes
- High level of trust in FSANZ and the ‘system’
- Greater intelligence gathering
- International cooperation

Thank You

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