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JUSTITIA PIETAS FIDES

UNPACKING FOOD REGULATORY FUNCTIONS

Second Set of Horizontal Functions

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Paramaribo – Suriname

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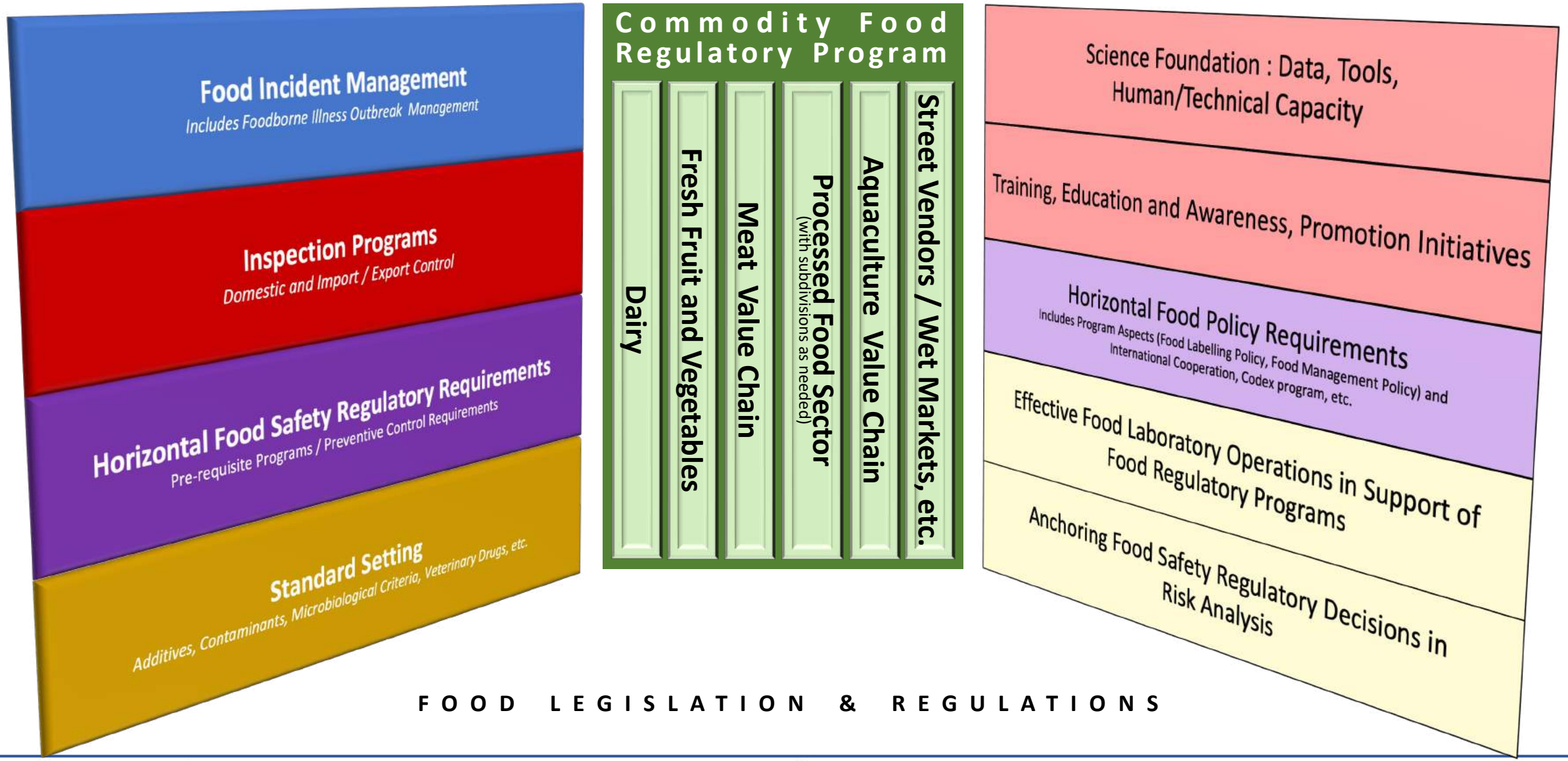
Building a Robust & Integrated Food Regulatory Operation



F O O D L E G I S L A T I O N & R E G U L A T I O N S

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Mapping Food Regulatory Functions

1. FOOD SAFETY REGULATORY ENABLERS

a) Existing food (safety) scientific capacity supporting food regulatory functions

b) Horizontal food (safety) policy capacity

c) Training, Awareness Development and a Culture of learning

2. GOVERNANCE AND STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT

a) Existing mechanisms of food safety decision making through a documented governance

b) Existing Capacity to engage and exchange information, data, consultations and develop collaborations with the stakeholder community

3. OPERATIONAL EFFECTIVENESS, PLANNING AND RESOURCING

a) Existing mechanisms to deliver food regulatory functions through a documented procedures and protocols for key functions exercised by the various regulators

b) Existing approaches to resource food regulatory functions, and to allocate such resources in alignment with the overall policies / strategies and where the need is most identified (i.e., using a risk-based lens)

Scientific Capacity (1): Food Safety Laboratory Testing Capacity

- Access and adoption to laboratory methodologies that can be relied upon in data collection efforts.
  - E.g. multi-residue pesticide analysis, multi-residue veterinary drug analysis, multiple mycotoxins and other natural toxins.
- Training (where Applicable) must follow a scalable, reproducible approach following a “train the trainers” methodology.
  - Accreditation of selected laboratory procedures against the ISO17025 standard.
- Food laboratory operation is meant to be adapted to respond to compliance and enforcement activities.

Scientific Capacity (2): Support to Decision-Making – Data

A food regulatory system, must be based on robust evidence, anchored in data portraying **the level of exposure of consumers** to **contaminants** and their intake of key nutrients:

- ❑ *Total Diet Study*
  - Collection of data on the **occurrence of key food contaminants** in a **market basket of foods** relevant to the national population, as consumed.
- ❑ *Food Consumption Data Collection*
  - Data collection is imperative on how the national population, with its different age / gender and socioeconomic strata, consume food products
  - Food consumption data collection methodology: follows internationally accepted methodologies to the region / country targeted.
- ❑ *Biomonitoring Initiatives*
  - Where possible, interventions will be planned to contribute to design and implementation of biomonitoring programs that help estimate the overall intake of nutrients and exposure to contaminants, as well as the contribution of food as a vector for such exposures: e.g. human milk surveys conducted periodically

Aspects of Food Policy: International Policy

Enhance the contribution to and reliance upon international standard setting processes:

- Development of International collaborations and key partnerships with sister agencies regionally and internationally.
- Effective Contribution to the International Standard Setting Process (Codex) including the ability to rely on Codex and other international standards in developing national standards and shaping the food safety policy agenda.

Overall Operational Effectiveness

Enhance the overall operational effectiveness of the food regulatory program:

- ❑ Personnel and Competencies
  - Adequate Training and Continued Education Programs
- ❑ Procedures and Protocols
  - Includes Governance Structure
- ❑ Tools
  - Includes Information Management and IT

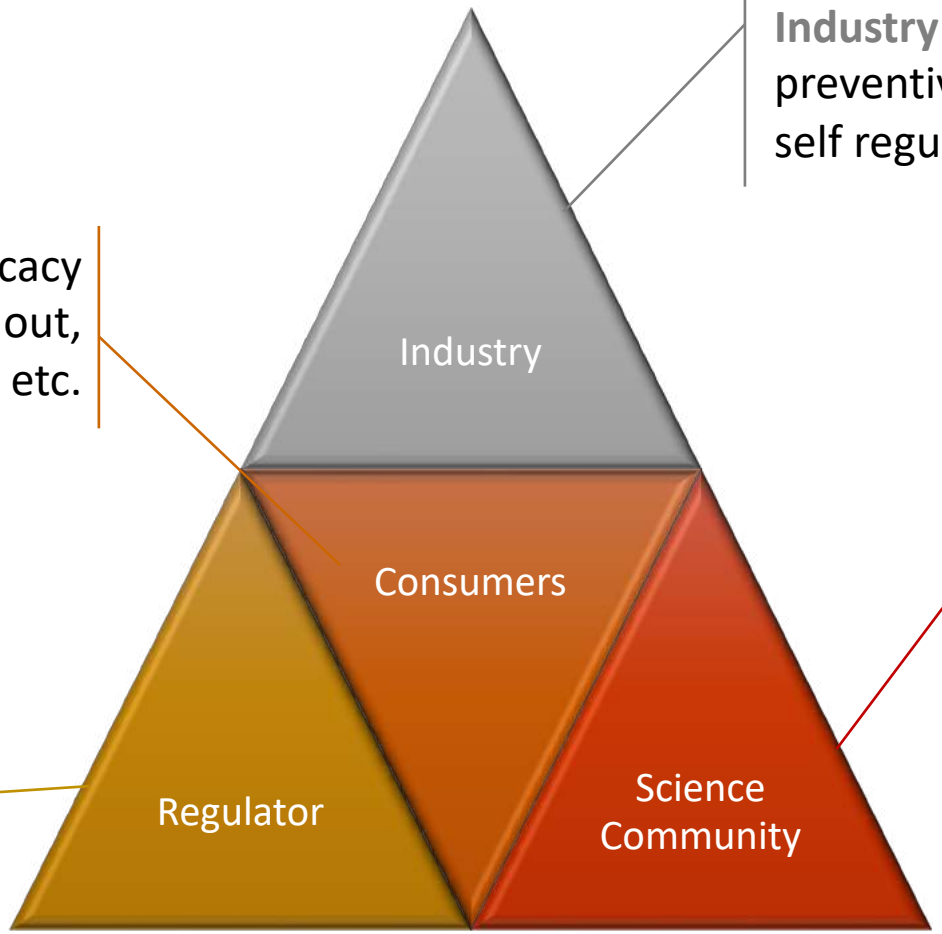
Important Tools Relied Upon by Competent Authorities

Clear Organization Chart	• Roles and responsibilities
Clear Governance Structure	• Who decides what? • Process to review and vet decisions
Clear Procedures	• Internally • For regulated parties: Recall protocols; Possible third party actors to deliver mandate
Scientific Structure / Support	• Including (relationship with) laboratory infrastructure

Collaboration

Industry Practices: Enhancing preventive measures / updates to self regulatory - co-regulatory tools

Consumer Groups: Advocacy efforts, reaching out, education campaigns, etc.



Science community: Support to evidence-based decisions

Regulator's Role: Development of requirements (rules, regulations, laws) and their enforcement

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thank you
danke
謝謝
ngiyabonga
teşekkür ederim
gracias
merci
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dziękuję
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