



foodregsci



THE IMPORTANCE OF RISK ANALYSIS AND APPLICATION IN FOOD REGULATORY DECISIONS

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Food Safety Management and Role of Regulators:

Importance of Food Safety Standards / Decisions

Anchoring Food Safety Decision-making in Risk Analysis

Considerations to Achieve a Well-Functioning Food Regulatory / Standard Setting System



Food Safety Management is a Collaborative Endeavour

Food safety management requires a collaborative approach :

□ Industry

- Farmers, food manufacturers, food distributors, food service establishments and retailers



□ Consumers



□ Government(s)/Regulators

Role of the Regulator

- ❑ Oversight on Managing the Interaction between Food Producers and Consumers
- ❑ Delegated Authority from Consumers as to Protect them (from Health Concerns and Fraud)
- ❑ Empowered to Make Decisions on behalf of the Public (Consumers)
- ❑ Is the Centre of Attention in Case of Deficiencies in Food Safety
 - e.g., **Food Safety Incidents**



What Does a Regulator Do ?

- ❑ Competent Authority Making Decisions on Protection and Fairness in Food Production
- ❑ Primary Risk Manager
- ❑ Decisions Made are not always in the



Robustness of the Decision-Making Process

☐ Trust in its Integrity

☐ Predictability

T r a n s p a r e n c y
S t r u c t u r e



Risk Analysis Provides Structure to Food Regulatory Decisions ⁷

- ❑ Risk Analysis is the logical framework that underlies decision-making concerning all kinds of risks (not only for food safety and nutrition)
- ❑ Applicability to Food Safety and Nutrition Decision-Making Developed through the FAO/WHO Food Standards Program and particularly the Codex Alimentarius Commission (Codex)



Definition of Food Risk Analysis

An Iterative and highly interactive process that should be followed by food decision-makers to address food safety and nutrition issues, using robust evidence, including scientific information and regular exchange with all parties and stakeholders involved

Comprises 3 components:

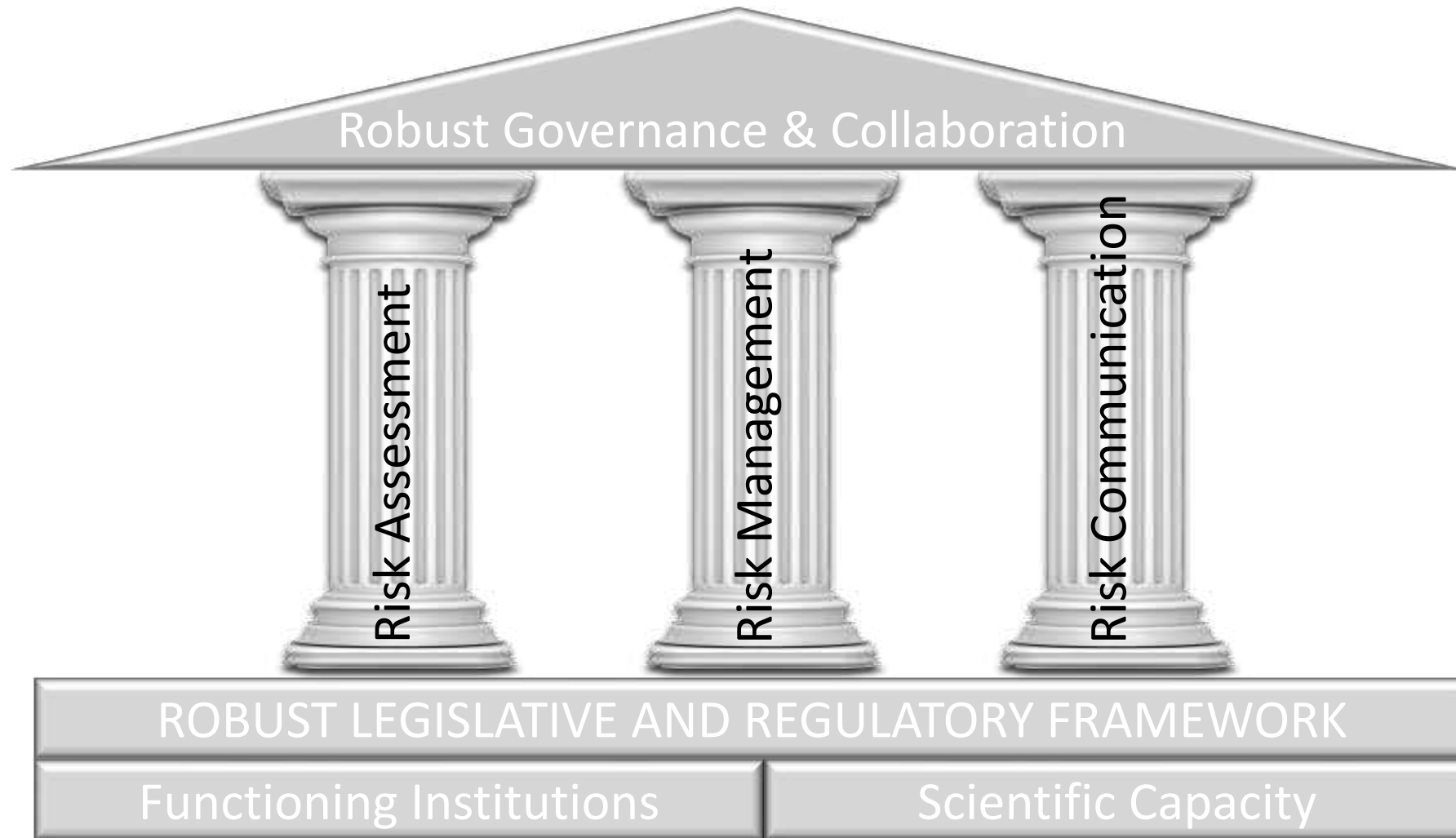
- Risk Assessment**
- Risk Management**
- Risk Communication**



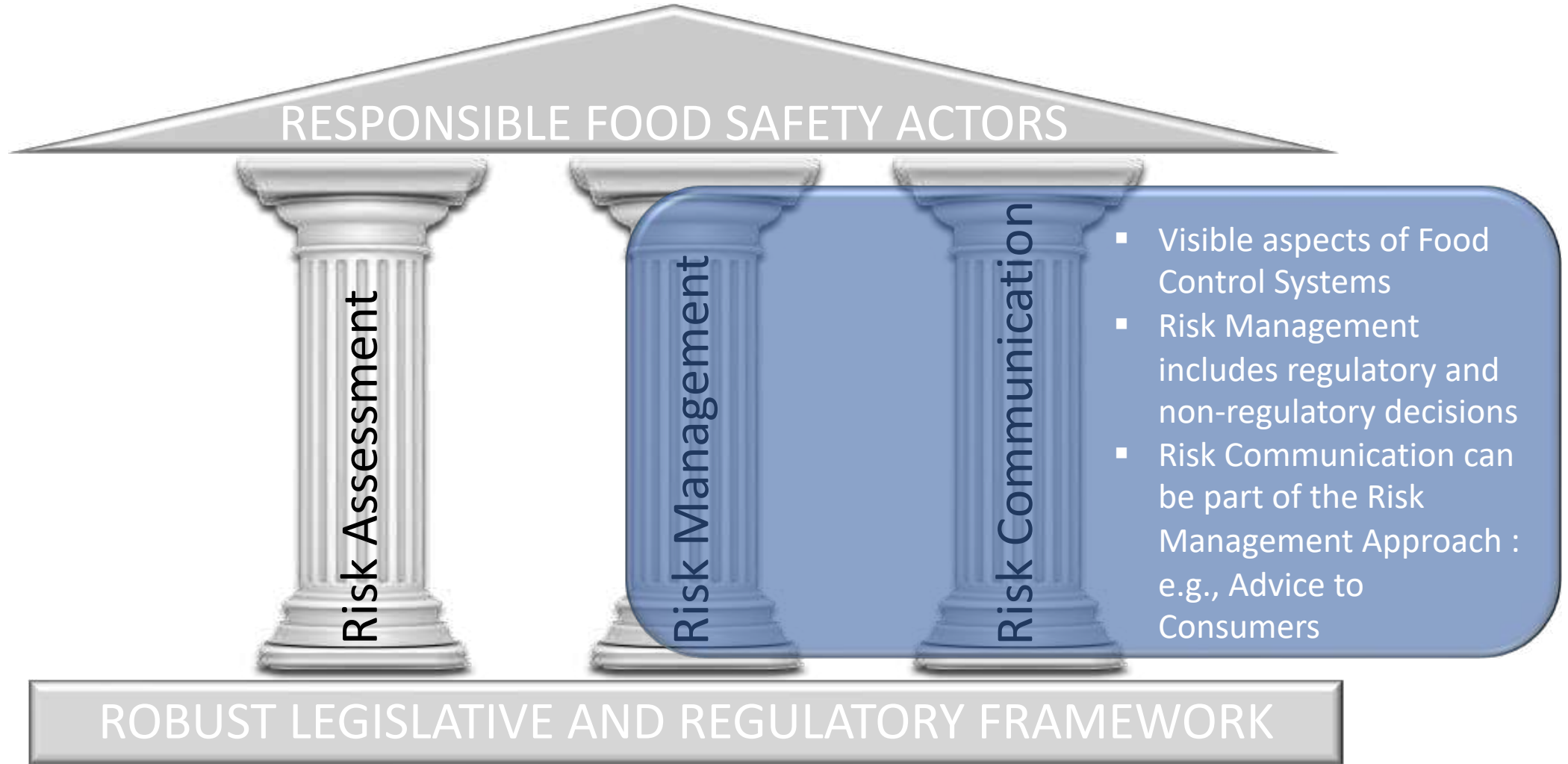
Robust Food Decisions



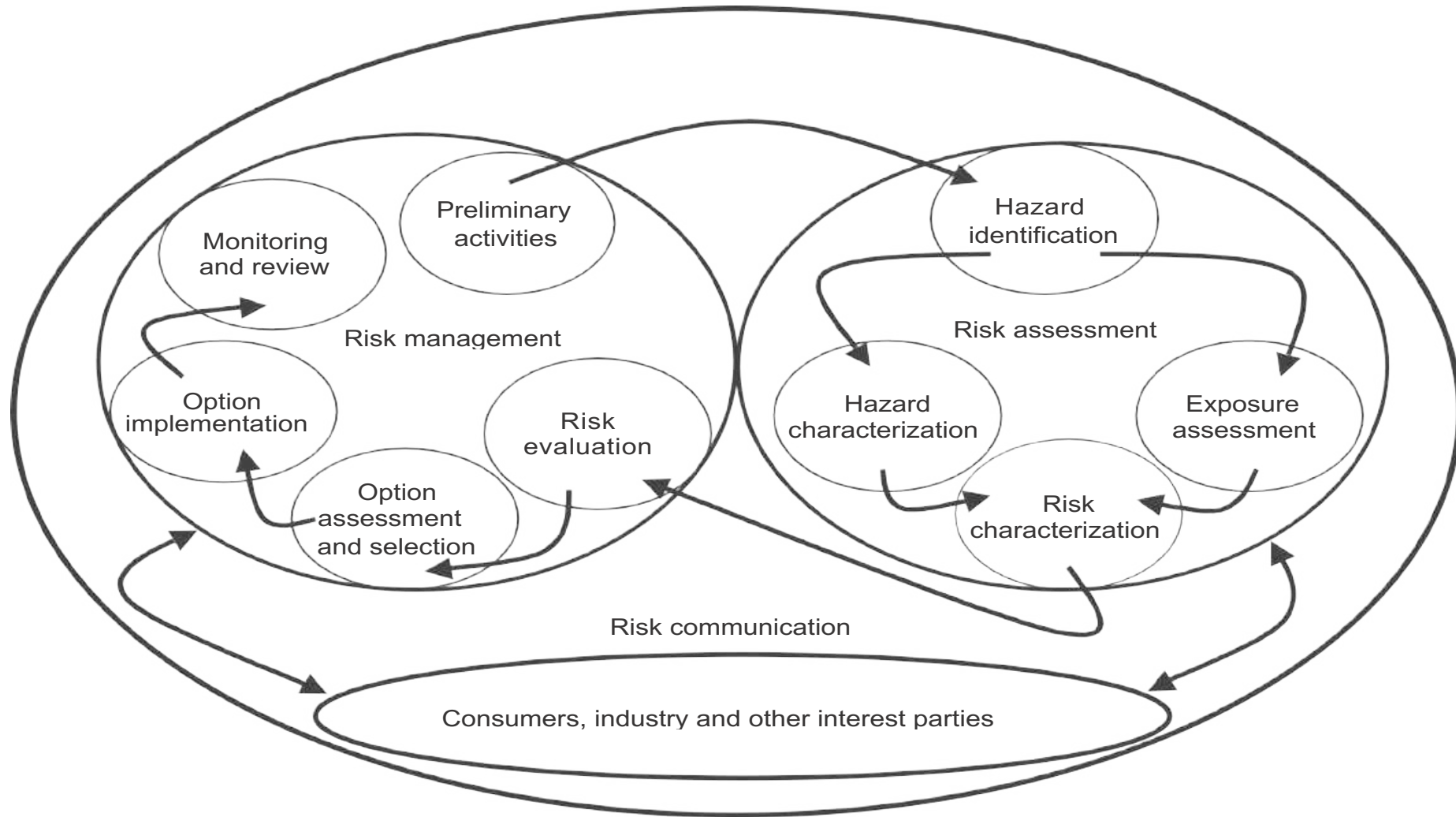
A Functioning Food Control System



Risk Analysis Pillars



Iterative, Non Linear Approach



What is The Other Major
Benefit From Following Risk
Analysis in Food Regulatory
Decisions ? ...

Article 5: Assessment of Risk and Determination of the Appropriate Level of Sanitary or Phytosanitary Protection

1. Members shall ensure that their **sanitary** or phytosanitary **measures** are based on an assessment, as appropriate to the circumstances, of the **risks to human**, animal or plant life or health, taking into account risk assessment techniques developed by the **relevant international organizations**.
2. In the assessment of risks, Members shall take into account **available scientific evidence**; relevant processes and production methods; relevant inspection, sampling and testing methods; prevalence of specific diseases or pests; existence of pest- or disease-free areas; relevant ecological and environmental conditions; and quarantine or other treatment.



Article 5: Assessment of Risk and Determination of the Appropriate Level of Sanitary or Phytosanitary Protection

4. Members should, when determining the appropriate level of sanitary or phytosanitary protection, **take into account the objective of minimizing negative trade effects.**
5. With the objective of achieving consistency in the application of the concept of appropriate level of sanitary or phytosanitary protection against risks to human life or health, or to animal and plant life or health, each Member **shall avoid arbitrary or unjustifiable distinctions in the levels it considers to be appropriate in different situations, (...)**



A Well Functioning Food Control System Requires:

Functioning Food Safety Institutions

- Minimum Scientific Foundation: Availability of Scientific Data and Other Evidence
- Robust Governance Structure between Competent Authorities / Within a Competent Authority

Participation of Key Stakeholders and Partners

Application of the Risk Analysis Framework in Decision Making (with all associated values: Transparency, Predictability, Inclusiveness, etc.)



