



# 2024 GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GFORSS MEMBERS

Report on Accomplishments

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# Outline

## Summary of Accomplishments

*Knowledge generation and capacity development*

*Knowledge dissemination*

*Network Development*

*Development of Strategic Partnerships*

*Membership and Organization Management*



## A. Codex Outreach Program



□ Aiming to enhance Codex capacities in the Near East, Asia and the South West Pacific regions.

□ Implemented by GFORSS in collaboration with LandoLakes Venture 37, the Risk Analysis and Regulatory Excellence Platform of Laval University (PARERA) and partnerships with regional coordinators / standardization organizations (where possible)

- Arab Codex Initiative @ <https://gforss.org/networks/arabcodex/>
- Asia Codex Initiative @ <https://gforss.org/networks/asiacodex/>
- SWP Codex Initiative @ <https://gforss.org/networks/swpcodex/>



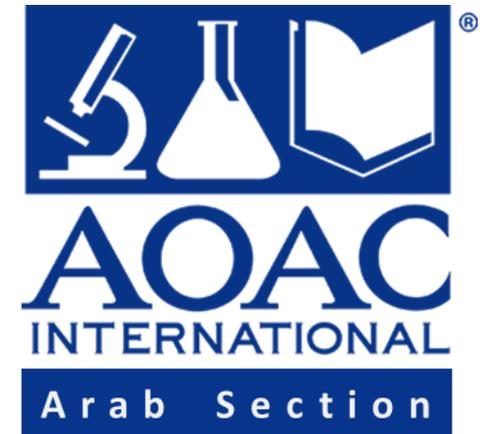
## B. Food Laboratory Training Activities

- ❑ Impetus was funding provided by the United States Department of Agriculture (US DA) and the United States Agency for International Development (US AID).
- ❑ Initial training on methods to analyze contaminants using chromatography based techniques, including LC-MS/MS for chemicals in food. Over 160 participants from African countries, selected by their respective competent authorities, took part in on-line and practical training.
- ❑ The training also benefited from the support of the Waters Corporation and R-Biopharm



## C. Structuring Food Laboratory Networks and Communities in Targeted Regions

- ❑ Development of relevant regional sections of AOAC INTERNATIONAL.
- ❑ AOAC INTERNATIONAL is the leader of standardization of laboratory science used for regulatory purposes.
- ❑ Such efforts have been carried out in the Arab and South West Pacific regions.
- ❑ Arab Section of AOAC INTERNATIONAL web interface:
  - <https://gforss.org/networks/arabaoac/>



## D. Development Food Laboratory Science Foundations

GFoRSS continues to invest in knowledge dissemination and practical implementation of specific projects supporting the foundation of risk assessment, such as the development of guidance on the collection and management of occurrence data and food consumption information.



## E. Development of a Centre for Food Laboratory Science

The establishment of a centre for food laboratory science in collaboration with the Jordan Armed Forces Military Laboratories to support the creation of a centre of Excellence in food laboratory science for training, capacity development, application development and generation of food occurrence data.



القيادة العامة للقوات المسلحة الأردنية  
JORDAN ARMED FORCES



## F. African Food Regulatory Authorities Forum (AFRAF)

- ❑ A forum gathering representatives of African food competent authorities, at the heads of Authority Level, created by the African Union Commission, in partnership with the National Food Safety Authority of Egypt (NFSA), various food regulatory competent authorities in Africa and International Partners held its inaugural meeting, gathering 200+ participants from 38 African countries, 6 UN organizations and 8 non-African nations.
- ❑ AFRAF aims to facilitate information exchange and shape an agenda of collaborative initiatives to support food regulatory harmonization across the African continent.
- ❑ A website was developed which can be referenced for additional details: <https://afraforum.org/>.



## G. E-Learning Activities

❑ GFORSS, in collaboration with partners, invested in the development of an e-learning platform that has contributed to the design and delivery of several training programs in food regulatory science.

- <https://learning.gforss.org/>



## H. Webinars

❑ Periodically organized on various food regulatory science themes of spanning from food contract material, food fraud or food consumption data collection.

❑ A YouTube channel was launched, hosting a series of programs on food regulatory knowledge dissemination under the title GFORSS TV.

- <https://www.youtube.com/c/GlobalFoodRegulatoryScienceSociety>

## I. Annual Meetings on Food Regulatory Science

- ❑ In 2021 and 2022, via hybrid mode.
- ❑ Other meetings will be planned using this technology, enabling the broadest collaboration and meeting participation.



## J. Memorandums of Understanding (MoUs)

- To support the development and implementation of joint programs and contribute more effectively to joint initiatives.
- MoUs were signed with:
  - The Ministry of Health of Republic of Lebanon.
  - The Ministry of Agriculture and National Institute of Food Safety of Suriname.
  - The Military Laboratories of the Jordan Armed Forces.
  - The Arab Industrial Development, Standardization and Mining Organization (AIDSMO).
- Other agreements are in discussion with several organizations from the Arab and African regions.



## K. GFoRSS Members and Partners (<https://gforss.org/team/>)

- ❑ GFoRSS continues to grow its membership and intends to develop additional resources to attract more members and partners.
- ❑ The membership has grown to over 200 members, across 45 countries, spanning all continents – the aim being to continually diversify contributions of the organisation.



## L. GFoRSS Organizational Management

☐ All meetings of the GFoRSS management structures (Board, Executive Committee) are made available publicly and can be consulted online:

- <https://gforss.org/governance/>



## M. GFoRSS Procedures and Protocols

☐ Procedures and protocols continue to be developed to strengthen management practices and to equip it with solid foundations enabling effective management of its programs

- <https://gforss.org/governance/>



# A Collective Effort



