

# IMPLEMENTATION OF THE NET-MAP ANALYSIS TOOL TO UNRAVEL THE SCIENCE-POLICY-SOCIETY COLLABORATION SYSTEM IN MYCOTOXIN RISK ANALYSIS

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## INTRODUCTION

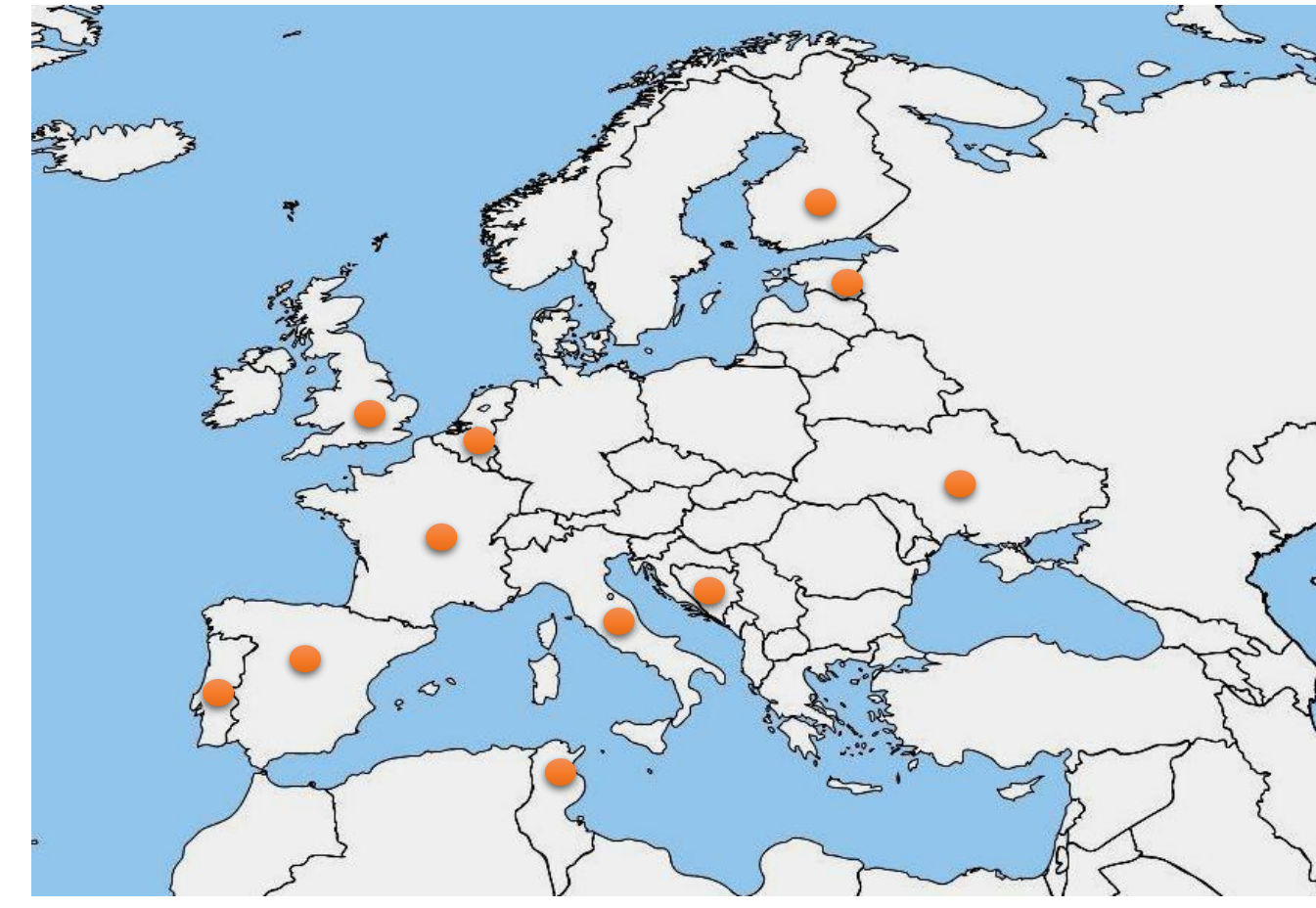
The Risk Analysis principle is the basis of the EU legal framework.

This framework is undergoing significant changes under the **amended General Food law**: Regulation 2019/1381 on the transparency and sustainability of the EU risk assessment in the food chain.



Need for legitimate platform to establish a **dialogue** between **risk assessment** and **risk management** by developing tools for evaluating procedures and enforcement practices and analysis of **Science-Policy-Society (SPS) collaboration systems**.

Food safety expert (n = 30) interviews revealed the **(re)occurrence of mycotoxins** as an important point of attention

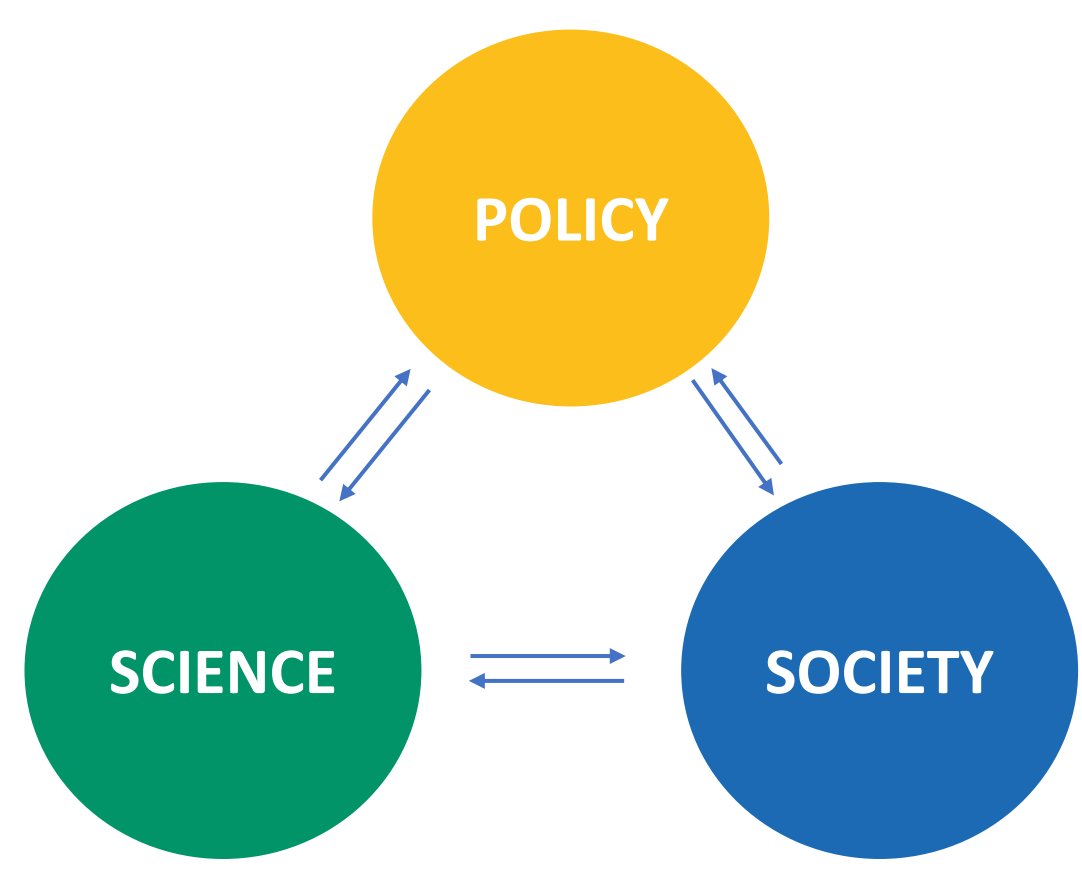


Several steps in mycotoxin risk analysis are incomplete, and this case was used to identify stakeholders involved in this risk analysis and how they interact by means of a **NET-MAP ANALYSIS**

## ANALYSIS OF THE SPS COLLABORATION SYSTEM

### Aims of Net-mapping

To analyze the science-policy-society collaboration system in a specific model case related to risk analysis



- **Visualizing** implicit knowledge and understanding **interplay** of networks, **power** relations and stakeholders' **goals**
- **Uncovering sources of conflicts** as well as **potentials for cooperation**
- Facilitating **knowledge exchange** and **learning processes**
- Developing **visions** and **strategies** to achieve **common goals**

### Methodology of a Net-Map analysis

**Online workshop** in with experts involved in mycotoxin risk analysis **Italy and Czechia**

#### STARTING THE SESSION

Step 1- Identify stakeholders involved in risk analysis

Step 2- Identify stakeholders' goals in risk analysis

Step 3 - Characterize links between stakeholders in the system

Step 4 – Indicating stakeholders' influence

Step 5 – Identify constraints compromising risk analysis

#### CLOSING THE SESSION

## Results

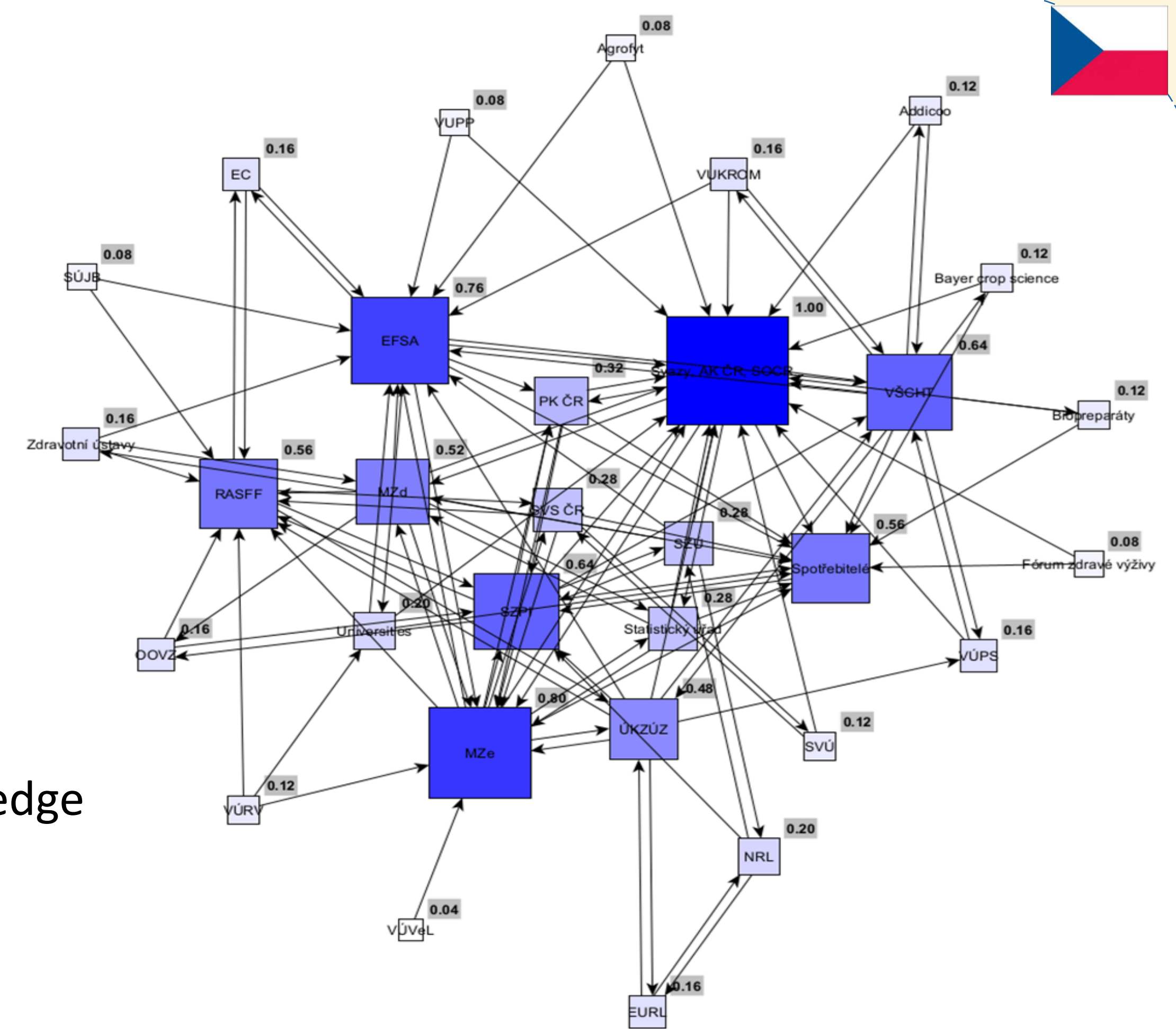
**Four types of linkages were assessed**

- Legally required information sharing
- Voluntary information sharing
- Public communication
- Requesting new data

**Influence of each stakeholder was determined**

**Identified constraints**

- Lack of resources, manpower, knowledge
- Lack of clear definitions
- Hindered flow in communication
- Complexity of bureaucracy



### Decentralized structure:

3 main stakeholders with strong position and many interactions (Directorate General, National Institute of Health, Experimental Zoophylactic Institutes) & decentralized nodes with relevant positioning and interlinks.

### Less decentralized and fewer links compared to Italy

Most links represented by data providers such as universities (e.g. VSCHT), food safety authority (SZPI)/state veterinary administration (SVS), or organizations dealing with handling of these data, and communicating towards the society, such as ministries (MZd and MZe).

## CONCLUSIONS

The complex Net-Maps visualize how the SPS collaboration system regarding mycotoxins risk analysis of the is set up in each country. The most prominent stakeholders who take up a central role were identified. Many linkages between stakeholders were revealed, going from information sharing (legally required or voluntary), data requesting or communicating to the public. Moreover, in every country, constraints related to these linkages could be identified. These constraints can be used to define needs for improvements in the current SPS collaboration system. While the initial results are already very interesting to discuss, further validation and verification of the obtained conclusions is needed.