



Activity Title and Number : Harmonisation of risk analysis, standards and management of food contact materials (FCM); A325-C3	Beneficiary: National Family Planning and Health Commission (NFPHC)
Location and Date: Belgium, Italy and Germany; 12-19 May, 2014	Stakeholders: Ministry of Agriculture (MOA), State Administration for Industry and Commerce (SAIC), State Food Drug Administration (SFDA) , Agro-food Industry, Academic institutions.

Brief Activity Report

Relevance and Impact

Since 2008 the EU Rapid Alert System for Food and Feed (RASFF) has received an average of 161 FCM-related notifications per year for products originating from China. This prompted the EU commission to work with its Chinese counterpart to identify the drivers of the high volume of notifications and decrease their incidence.

In May 2014, EUCTP II held a study assignment enabling officials responsible for food safety from the NFPHC to acquire first-hand experience of how to develop, implement and maintain both standards for FCM and effective monitoring and enforcement tools like the RASFF.

Activity Description

Six Chinese experts from CFSA and the Supervision Center of NFPHC travelled to Brussels, Belgium, Parma and Ispra, Italy and Frankfurt, Germany to participate in workshops and meetings organized by DG TRADE, DG SANCO, the European Food Safety Authority (EFSA), the Joint Research Centre of European Commission (JRC) and VERBAND DER CHEMISCHEN INDUSTRIE e.V. (VCI). These workshops created awareness and transferred first-hand knowledge related to the development and implementation of the EU regulatory framework on FCM.

Key elements during the study assignment were:

- Principle of risk assessment and its application in the area of FCM
- The role of European Food Safety Authority (EFSA) on the risk assessment of FCM
- The science and quality assurance of the information used to assess the risk of FCM
- The development of FCM legislation in the EU
- EU food safety control system (especially from FCM point of view) and its implementation (control plans, inspections, etc.)
- The EU regulations on FCM from the European Chemical Industry Council perspective



Participants during the Food Contact Materials Legislation Workshop in Brussels

Results and Dissemination

- ✓ Delegates from NFPHC acquired the knowledge to support China's efforts to improve FCM through the development of standards and enforcement mechanisms, which could enhance EU-China trade in food and feed products.
- ✓ Enhanced cooperation on food safety between relevant Chinese and EU institutions.