



SAFE IS TAKING PART IN  
LIFE PROGRAMME



TTIP NEGOTIATIONS:  
MEETING IN BRUSSELS



VOTE ON NOVEL FOODS



INFORMATION ABOUT  
EU PROJECTS AND EVENTS

**SAFE** Safe Food  
Advocacy Europe  
Striving for Safer Food for European Consumers

# NEWSLETTER

## Dear Members,

SAFE is glad to announce its participation to the call of LIFE NGO Framework. In this Newsletter you find a detailed explanation of the SAFE proposal for the participation to the LIFE programme, new vote on Novel Foods and the minutes of a TTIP negotiations meeting held in Brussels.

And last but not least, the SAFE staff wishes you a fantastic Holiday period. The SAFE

office will be closed until August 23rd and the next SAFE FLASH and newsletter will be sent in September.

Enjoy reading. We are looking forward to receiving your feedback.

Yours,

*Floriana Cimmarusti*  
Secretary General of SAFE

## SAFE is taking part in LIFE PROGRAMME

SAFE is currently applying to a call for proposals from the European Commission DG Environment called "LIFE". The two-year project (2015-2017) aims at helping associations like SAFE to raise their democratic voice at the European level. Next October/November 2015 SAFE will receive an official answer from the Executive Agency concerning our project proposal. SAFE will keep all members informed about the outcome.



### WHAT IS LIFE?

European Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) play a crucial role in raising the

consumer's voice with the EU Institutions in Brussels. The European Commission is awarding several NGOs working on **environmental and climate concerns**, under the LIFE Regulation (2014-2020). The awarded NGOs will be provided a sum of **9 million of Euros to share among them**. With these funds NGOs will be able to play a bigger role in the democratic dialogue with the European institutions on Environment and climate change policy-making. So far the selected associations were active in many sectors related to the Environment and food sector.

**Every application is evaluated and ranked** by the EASME (Executive Agency for Small and Medium-sized Enterprise), external experts, DG Environment and DG Climate Action experts in these fields, following a list of criteria based on the capacity of each association to make the policy-making process evolve of the 2020 Environment Action Programme. Other criteria are the association's own ability to grow, develop itself and improve its knowledge. When the SAFE grant is awarded it functions as a biannual framework partnership agreement (FPA) which is a 2 year contract between the Commission and the associations is. The associations have to present their work programme and its evolution.

## 1) WHY SAFE IS PARTICIPATING

**Lobbying:** The industrial lobby initiates a lot of regulations on food at the European level. SAFE would like to create a debate that would be more balanced and **more democratic**.

**Information & training:** SAFE aims at **raising awareness** of consumers and **creating a training programme** for food professionals (mainly farmers) -detailed later in this article.

**Giving a voice to reputable scientists:** SAFE would like to implement a European scientific cooperation, gathering scientists in

order to organise seminars. These working groups will be able to produce reports and publications based on their research. Citizens would be better informed via these publications. Finally European decision-makers would have scientific data to base their decisions.

**SAFE is a unique player at European level:** it is the only non-profit organization to focus its activities to protect consumers in the food sector. The association wants to place health, environment, safety and sustainability at the core of the debate on food. Its independence from industry is also a strong point to create a balanced dialogue. SAFE's new approach on food consumption and production can improve the legislative framework in the European Union.

SAFE's objectives in the LIFE Programme can be divided in three parts:

### 1. General objectives:

- Enhance consumers and decision-makers' knowledge by creating a common European culture of sustainable, clean and good food;
- Enhance the food sector standards: sustainability of the production depending on the resources: use of natural and eco-friendly ingredients. Avoiding waste;
- Enhance the consumers' voice for a better democracy. Especially vegans and vegetarians that remain under-represented.

### 2. Objectives related to the Environment:

- Support a better implementation of the current strategies and legislations (such as the 7th Environment Action Plan or the European Directive on waste);
- Enhance the knowledge of policy-makers on current food issues in the European Union;
- Reduce the environmental impact of food production and consumption by the end of 2017.