

African Union Food Safety Authority

Status Report – September 2015

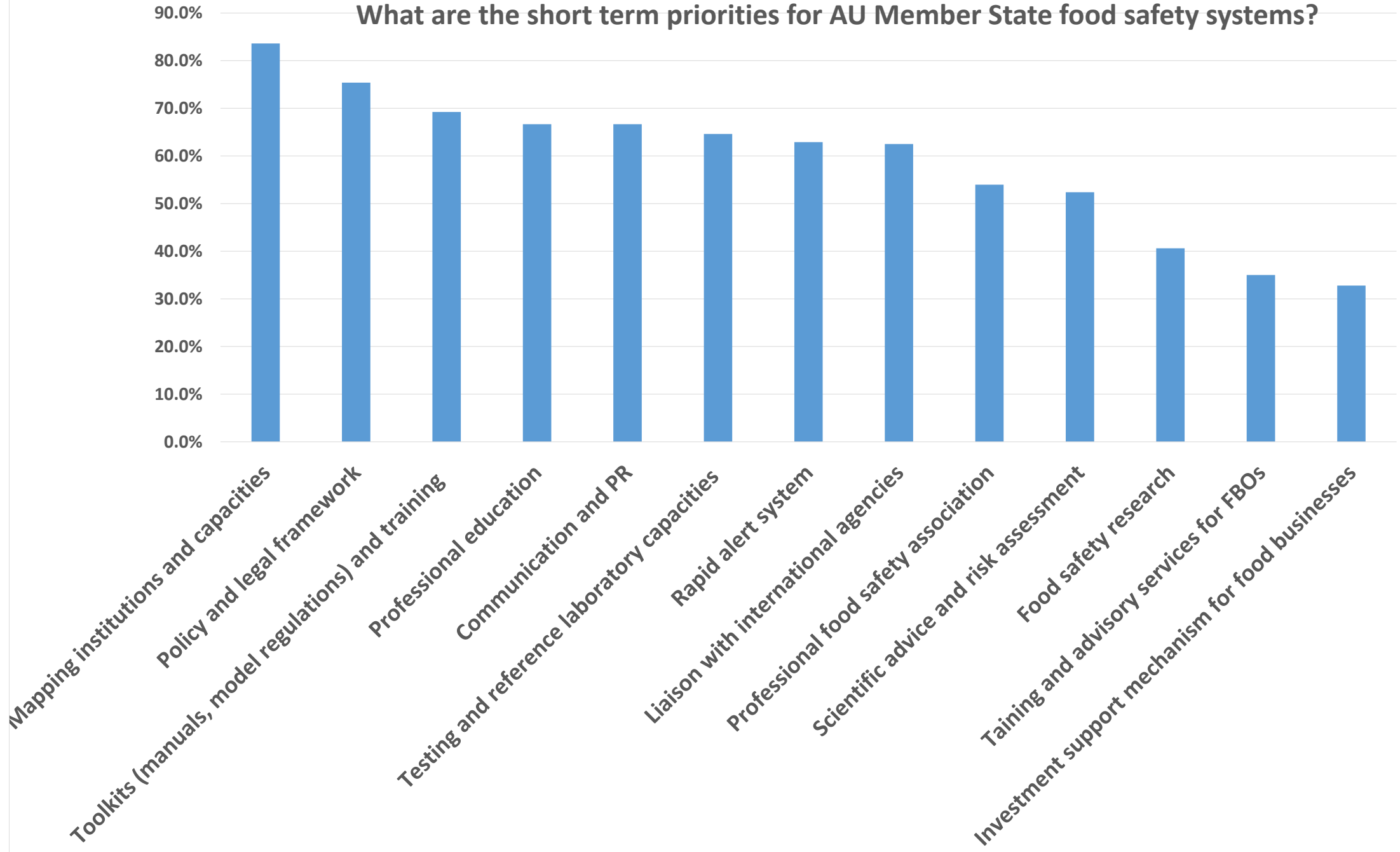
History

- AU-EU Summit December 2007: Partnership on Trade, Regional Integration and Infrastructure
- AU Heads of State Summit January 2011: Adoption of Food Safety Reference Framework and Requesting AU Commission to establish AU Food Safety Authority and RASFF system
- 1st Continental Workshop: Kigali, Rwanda October 2012
- 2nd Continental Workshop: Addis Ababa November 2013
- 3rd Continental Workshop: Ouagadougou June 2015

Priority Functions of the AU FSA

1. Mapping of food safety institutions and capacities
2. Strengthening food safety policy and legal framework
3. Liaison with international agencies and development partners
4. Toolkits (manuals, model regulations) and training for management of food safety controls
5. Developing a professional association and standards for food safety officers
6. Scientific advice and risk assessment
7. Identification and building capacity of product testing laboratories (including reference laboratories) and food safety related quality infrastructure services
8. Establishing a rapid alert system for food and feed/integration with INFOSAN
9. Strengthening professional education for food safety officers
10. Strengthened for food safety research
11. Communication and public relations
12. Developing food safety related technical training and advisory services for private sector agents/ business
13. Developing mechanisms for investment support for food businesses

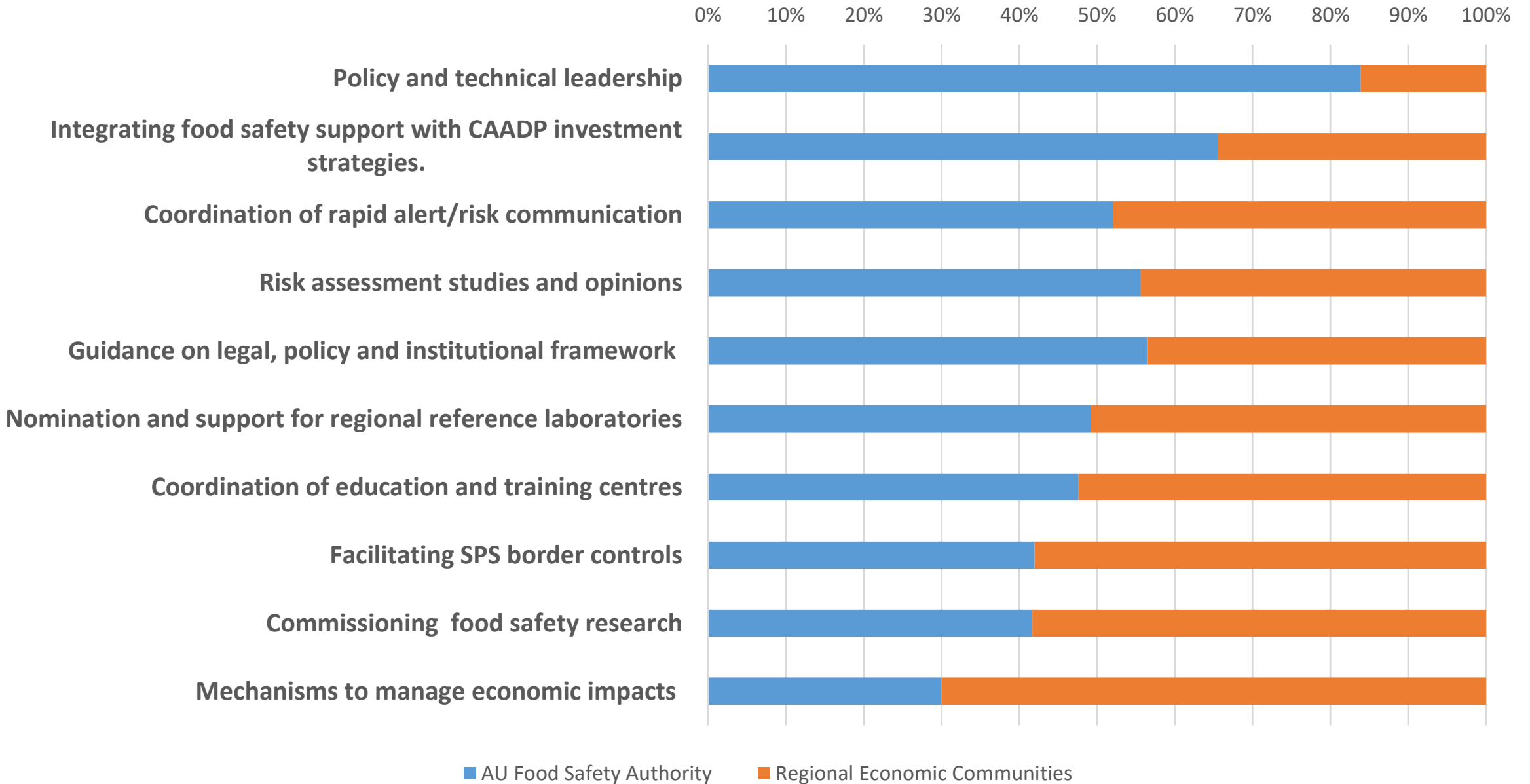
What are the short term priorities for AU Member State food safety systems?



Which regional level is best for different functions?

- African Union Commission
- Regional Economic Communities

Which level of regional organisation should perform different food safety functions?



Work in Progress

- AU FSA Task Force:
 - AU IBAR
 - European Union
 - UN Family (WHO/FAO/UNIDO)
 - WTO/STDF
- Next meeting Geneva: 14th October 2015 on the margins of the STDF working group
- EU Funded Project; Identification and Formulation of Joint Africa-EU Strategy Support to the AU, to improve market access/increase trade of agricultural products by reinforcing capacities in African countries in complying with Sanitary & Phytosanitary and quality standards
- 2020 Food Safety Strategy for Africa: Draft Implementation Plan for the Establishment of the African Union Food Safety Management Coordination Mechanism (including a Rapid Alert System for Food and Feed)