

# What's Next?

Exploiting the Results Beyond  
**COMFOCUS**

## Long-Term Sustainability of the Network

The institutional community established by COMFOCUS will persist as a self-sustaining entity. Regular collaborative projects, joint funding applications, and stakeholder engagement will ensure its growth and relevance.

## Driving Policy and Industry Innovation

Standardized research practices and shared resources will support evidence-based policies and foster innovation in the food industry, providing valuable insights into consumer behavior.

## Educational and Training Legacy

Training modules and standardized protocols developed under Key Exploitable Result 1 (KER 1) will remain accessible, nurturing the next generation of food consumer scientists and expanding the community's expertise.

## Scaling Beyond Europe

The framework and methodologies established by KER 1 serve as a model for global adoption, fostering international collaboration and standardization in food consumer science.



**COMFOCUS connects researchers, harmonizes methodologies, and fosters global collaboration to drive innovation in Food Consumer Science.**

Through cutting-edge tools, training, and partnerships, we're shaping a future of impactful, FAIR-aligned research.

# Advancing Food Consumer Science Across Europe

How can we transform Food Consumer Science into a **lasting, collaborative, and harmonized network?**

Learn more on



Institutional community of a **new way of working**



# Our Mission

Fragmented research limits our understanding of human eating behavior. By addressing this fragmentation and fostering collaboration, COMFOCUS bridges the gap, creating a **unified, data-rich community to drive healthier food choices and enable impactful public policies and strategies**, according to FAIR data (Findable, Accessible, Inter-operable & Re-usable) and RRI (Responsible Research & Innovation) principles.

## A Paradigm Shift in Food Consumer Science

COMFOCUS has revolutionized the landscape of Food Consumer Science by **establishing a collaborative, institutional community that promotes a new way of working**.

This Key Exploitable Result (KER 1) brings together researchers, institutions, and stakeholders to overcome fragmentation and create a unified, efficient ecosystem for the advancement of Food Consumer Science across Europe.

## Achievements in Institutional Infrastructure

The COMFOCUS initiative strengthened collaboration at the institutional level, bringing together leading organizations across Europe.

### What happens when institutions open their doors to share knowledge and resources?

#### Stronger Collaborations



COMFOCUS fostered partnerships among Europe's top Food Consumer Science (FCS) institutions, while time and resources were invested to make research facilities accessible to external researchers.

#### Empowerment of Early-Career Researchers



67 early-career researchers accessed world-class facilities and received coaching from experienced experts. All projects were conducted using harmonized protocols, ensuring high-quality, FAIR (Findable, Accessible, Inter-operable & Re-usable) data.

#### A Groundwork for the Future



The collaborative model created opportunities for future joint projects and networks and the harmonized practices were shared at conferences, seminars, and in publications, extending their reach across the FSC community.

## Achievements in Social Infrastructure

Beyond institutions, COMFOCUS built a vibrant social network of researchers who are shaping the future of Food Consumer Science.

### What can a global network of passionate researchers achieve together?

#### Peer Collaboration



Researchers collaborated to harmonize measures, prioritize protocols, and set best practices, fostering a dynamic community that reflects the COMFOCUS vision.

#### Equal Opportunities



Early-career researchers gained access to facilities and resources previously unavailable to them, empowering them to extend their research beyond traditional limits.

#### Education and Skill Development



67 Open Call projects provided practical learning experiences, where researchers developed new skills and built professional networks through the "master-journeyman" approach.

#### Stronger Community Bonds



Events like workshops and seminars helped connect researchers, with a final gathering planned to allow fellows to share achievements and strengthen their community ties.