



The SAFE FOODS Risk Analysis Model and its Development

safe

FOODS



Public Concern

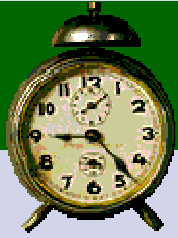


Public Concern

**Low public trust in how food crises were
handled**

**Low trust in the regulatory system in
Europe**





European Commission Wakes Up!

■ EU White Paper on Food Safety

Strategic priorities:

- Establishment of the European Food Safety Authority (EFSA) in 2002
- “Farm to Fork” approach in EU legislation
- Defining responsibilities for food safety

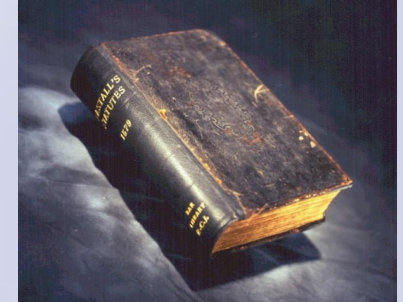
■ General Food Law (Regulation 178/2002)

■ Rapid Alert System for Food and Feed (RASFF)

■ Precautionary Principle

■ Traceability

■ Transparency



Traditional approach to Risk Analysis



Risk
Assessment

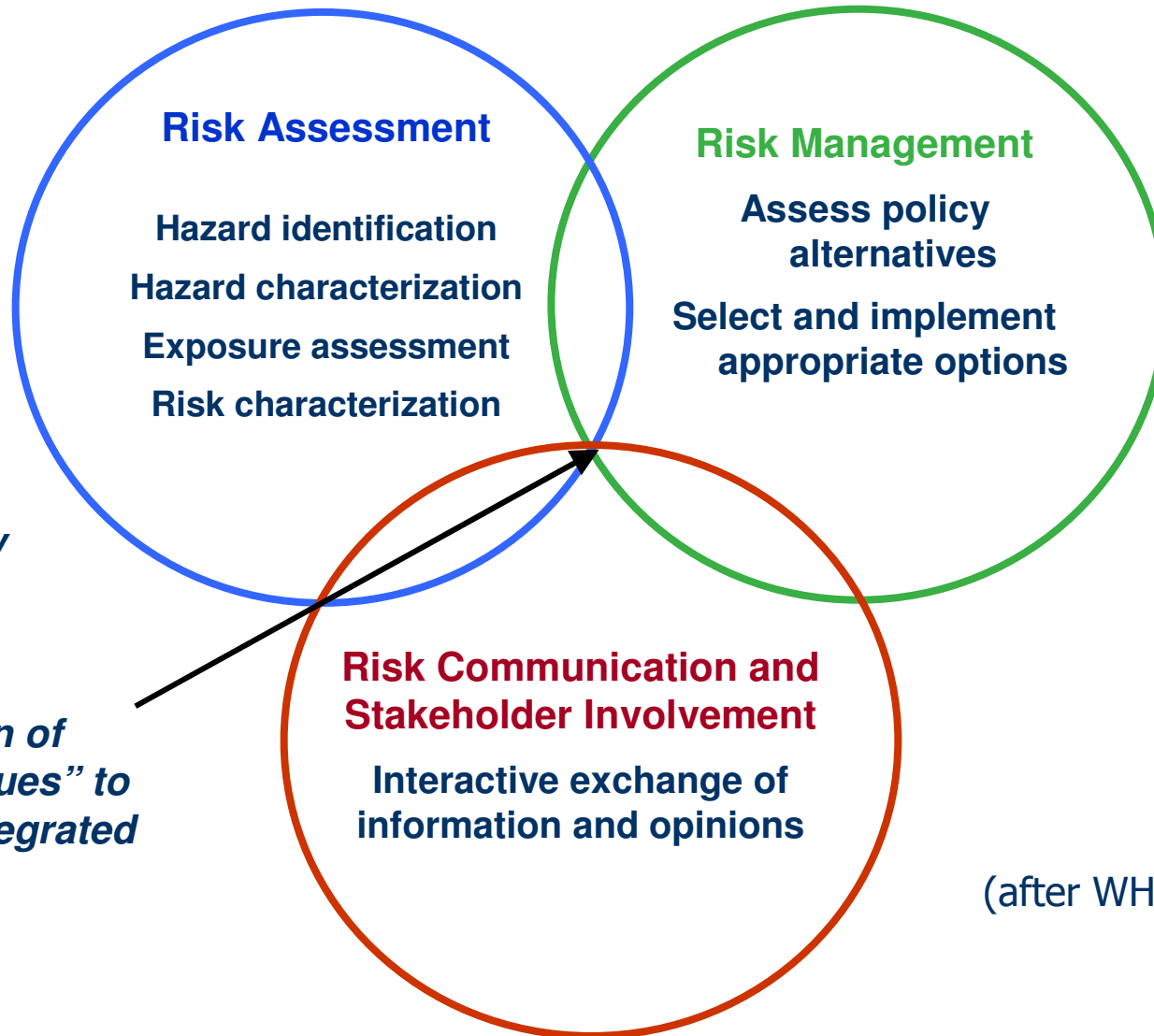


Risk
Management



Risk
Communication

Risk Analysis Framework



Increased transparency

= increased credibility?

Incorporation of societal "values" to create an integrated framework

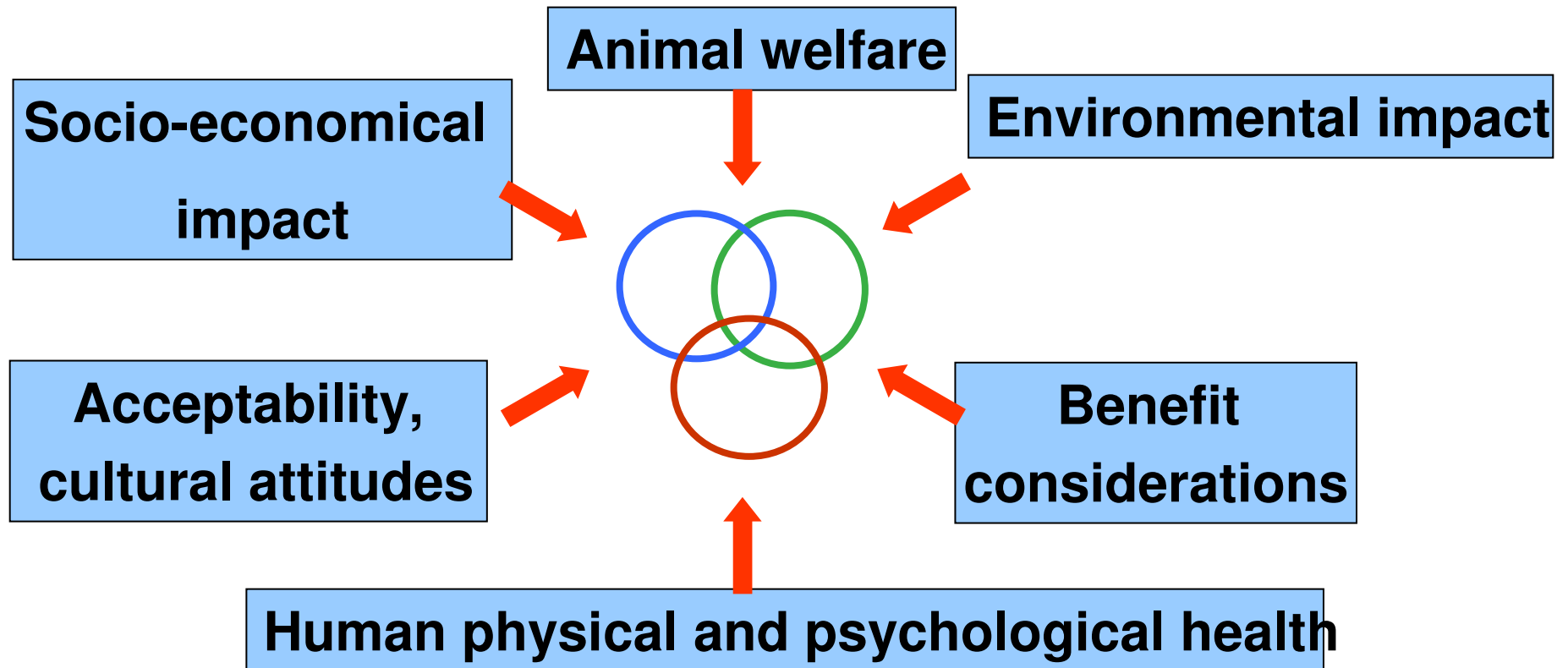
(after WHO, 1998)

Risk Analysis Process Further Developed

- Update the Risk Assessment Process, not too slow and not too fast
- Improve interplay between risk assessors and risk managers: consequences of conclusions, options, responsibilities
- Risk communication throughout the process: what, when and by whom?
- Role and involvement of stakeholders in the various steps of the risk analysis process
- Role of monitoring and surveillance: driven by science, public concerns or ethical considerations?



A Broader Framework for Risk Analysis



Workpackage 6: Integrated Risk Analysis Model

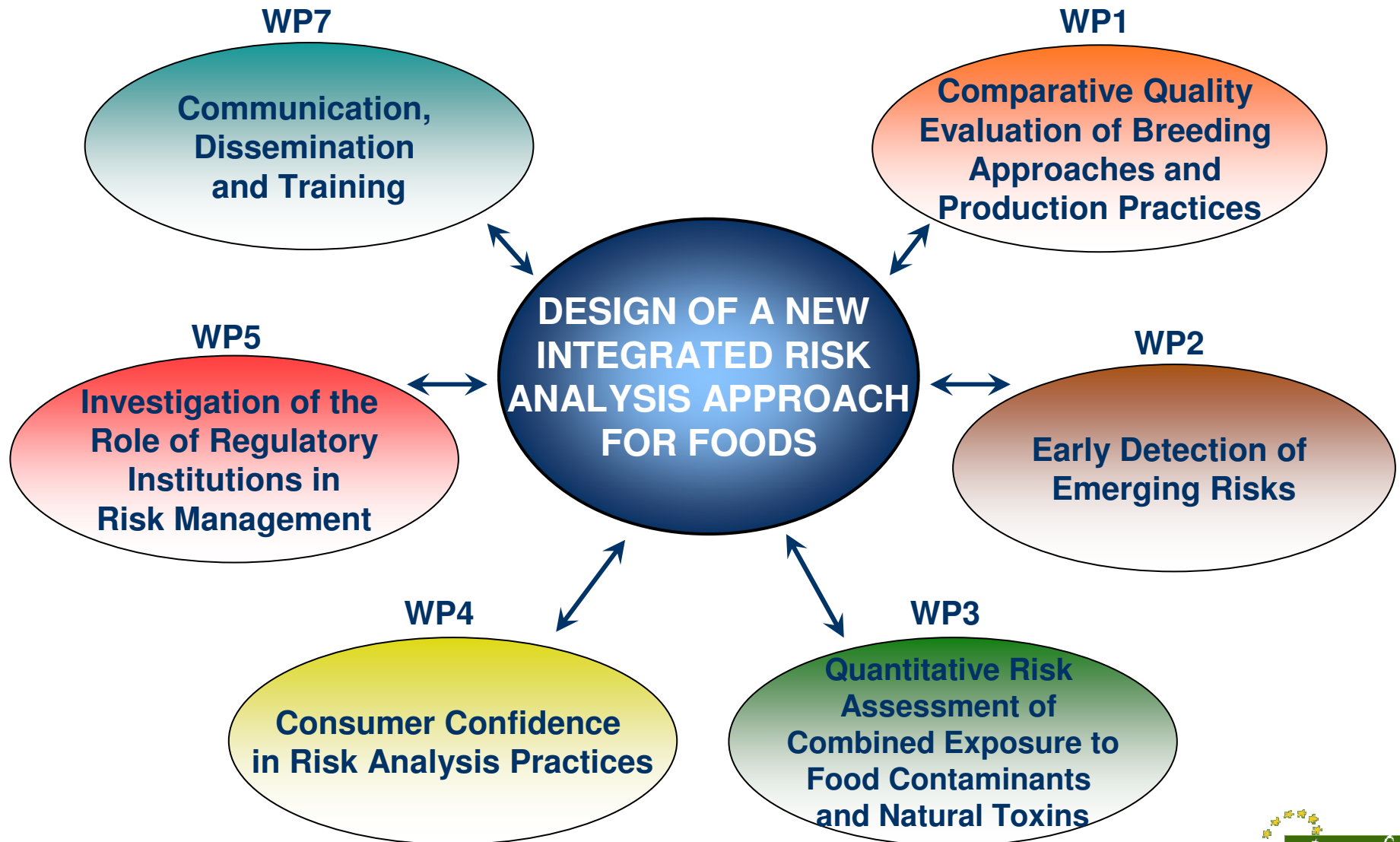


Towards a new risk analysis approach for foods, integrating

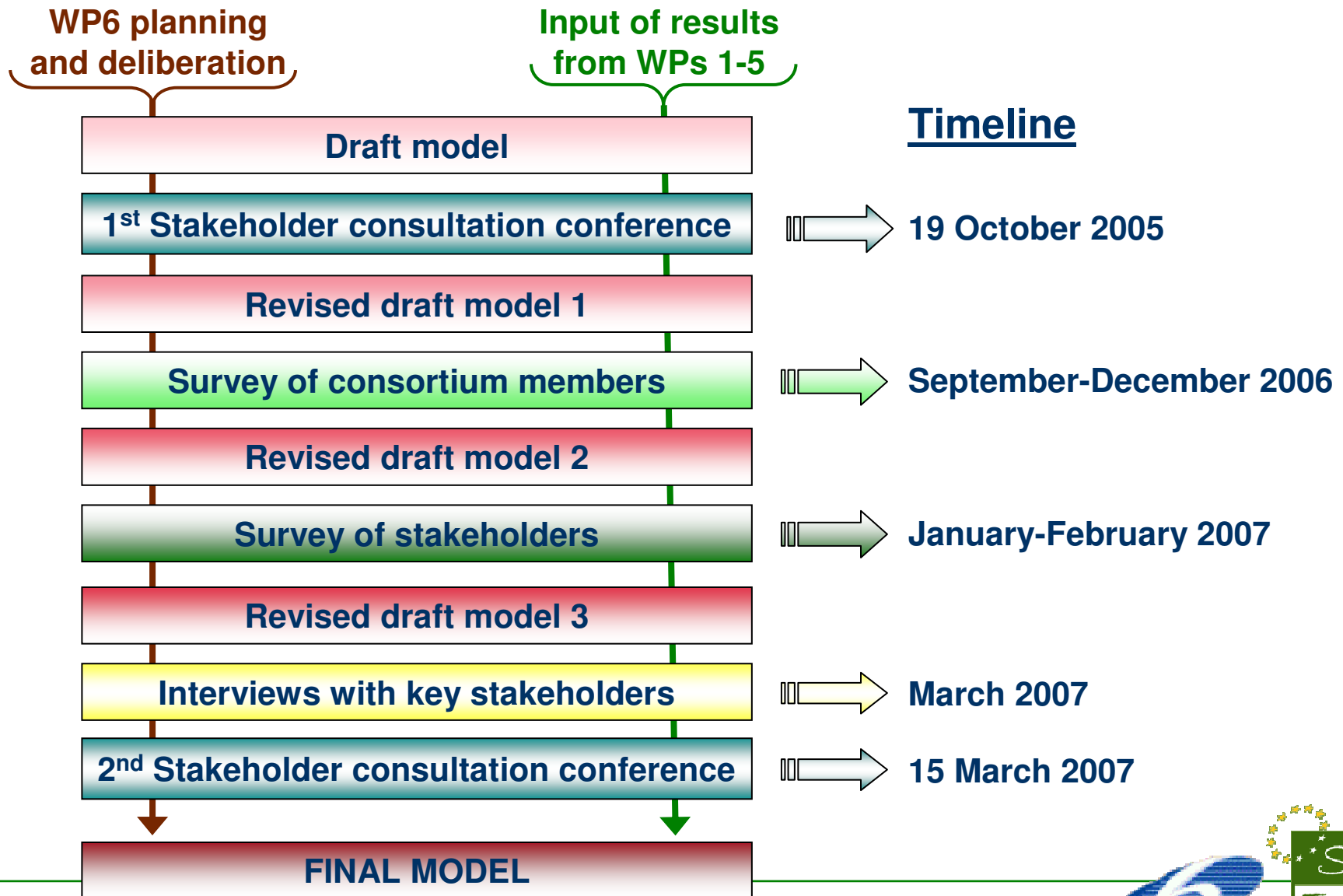
- **Scientific principles**
- **Societal aspects**
- **Effective public participation**



WP6 – Integrated Risk Analysis Model



WP6 – Developing a new Framework - Work in Progress

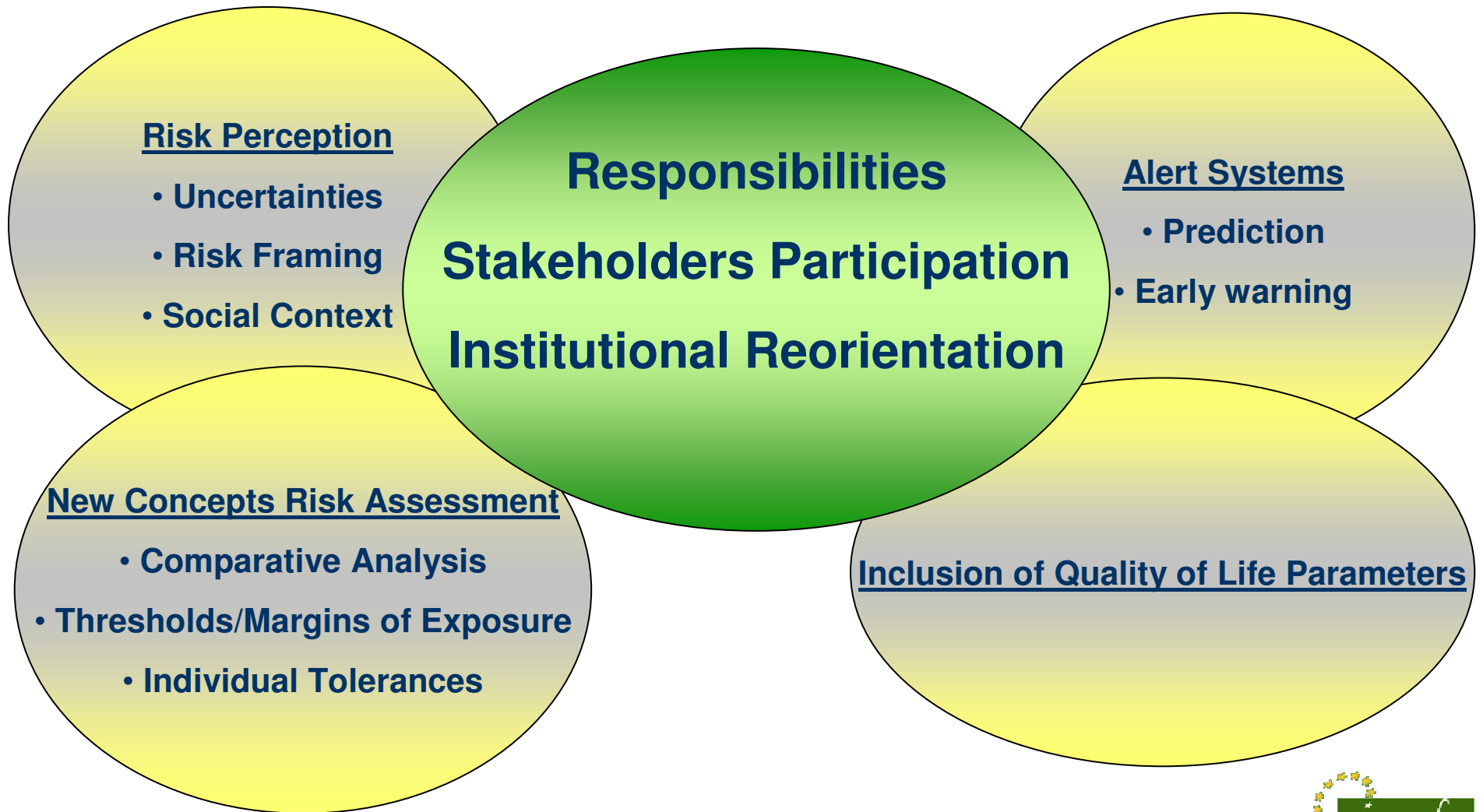


WP6 – Characteristics of the New Risk Analysis Model

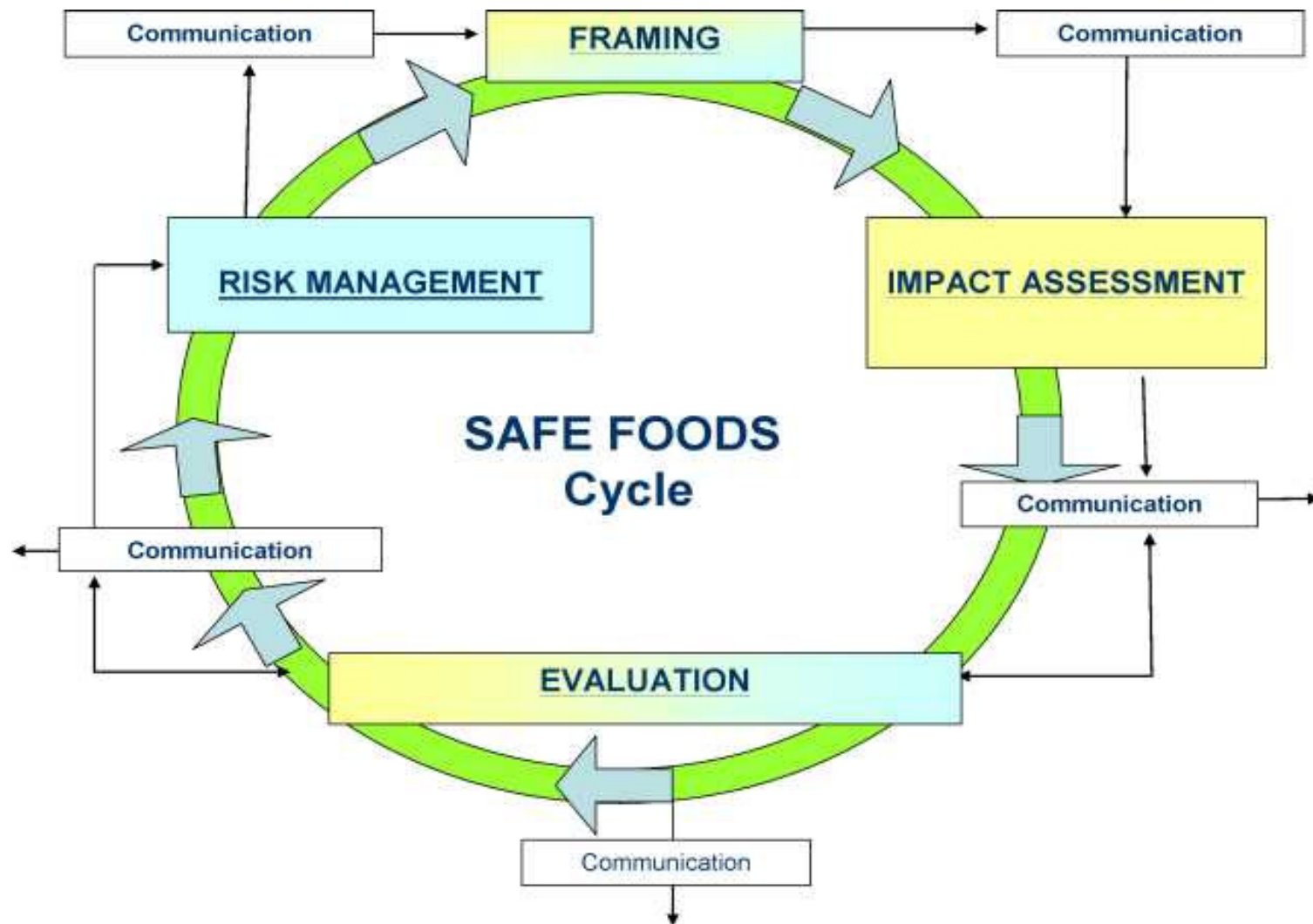
- Integration of assessment of human health aspects of foods with consumer preferences and values
- Active consumer and stakeholder participation in the various stages of the risk analysis process
- Improved functional and structural risk management procedures
- Improved risk communication with consumers throughout the risk analysis process
- Increased interaction between the different risk analysis stages
- Pan European applicability



WP6 – The Inclusive SAFE FOODS Risk Analysis Model



WP6 – Early version of the SAFE FOODS Model

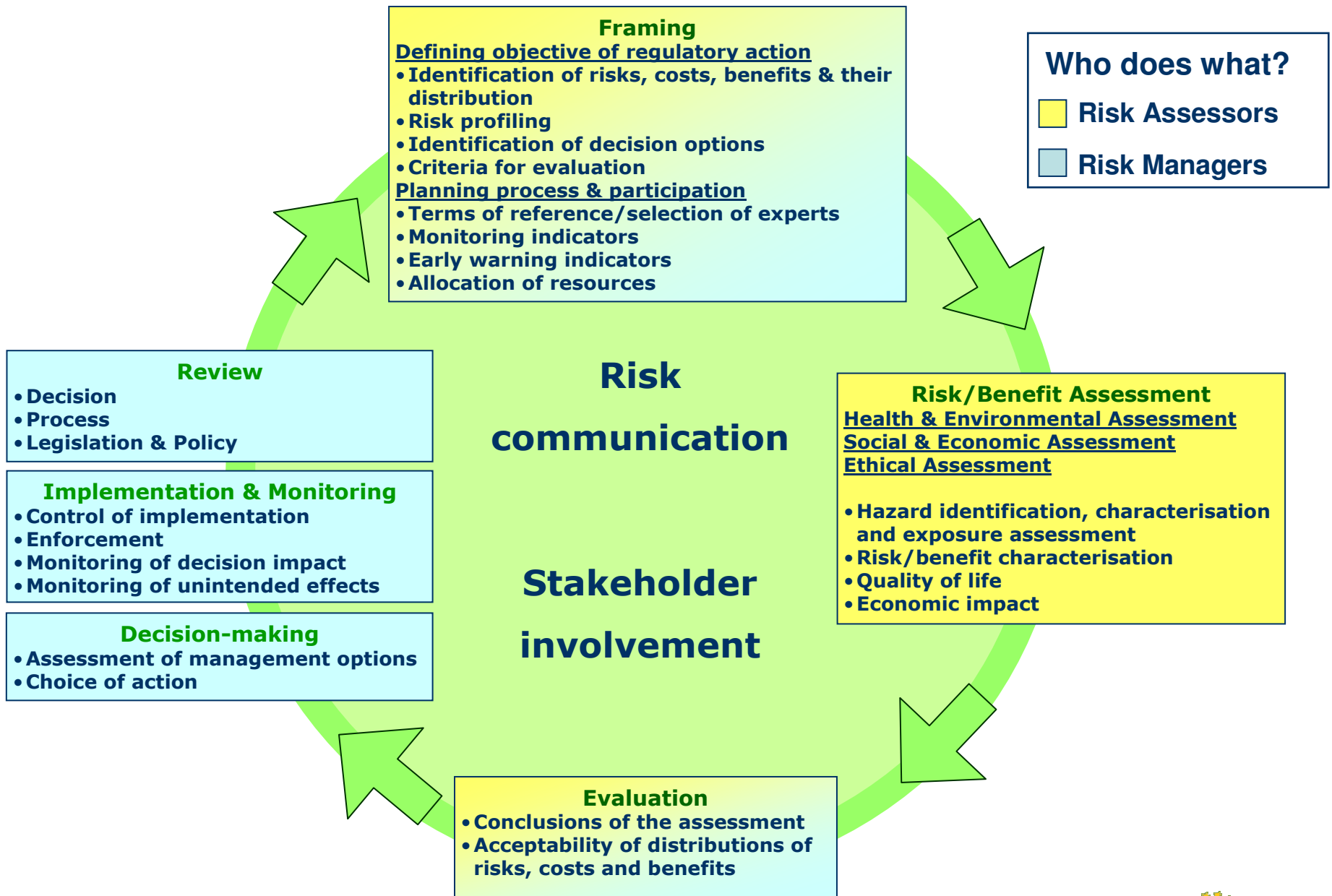


WP6 – Novel elements

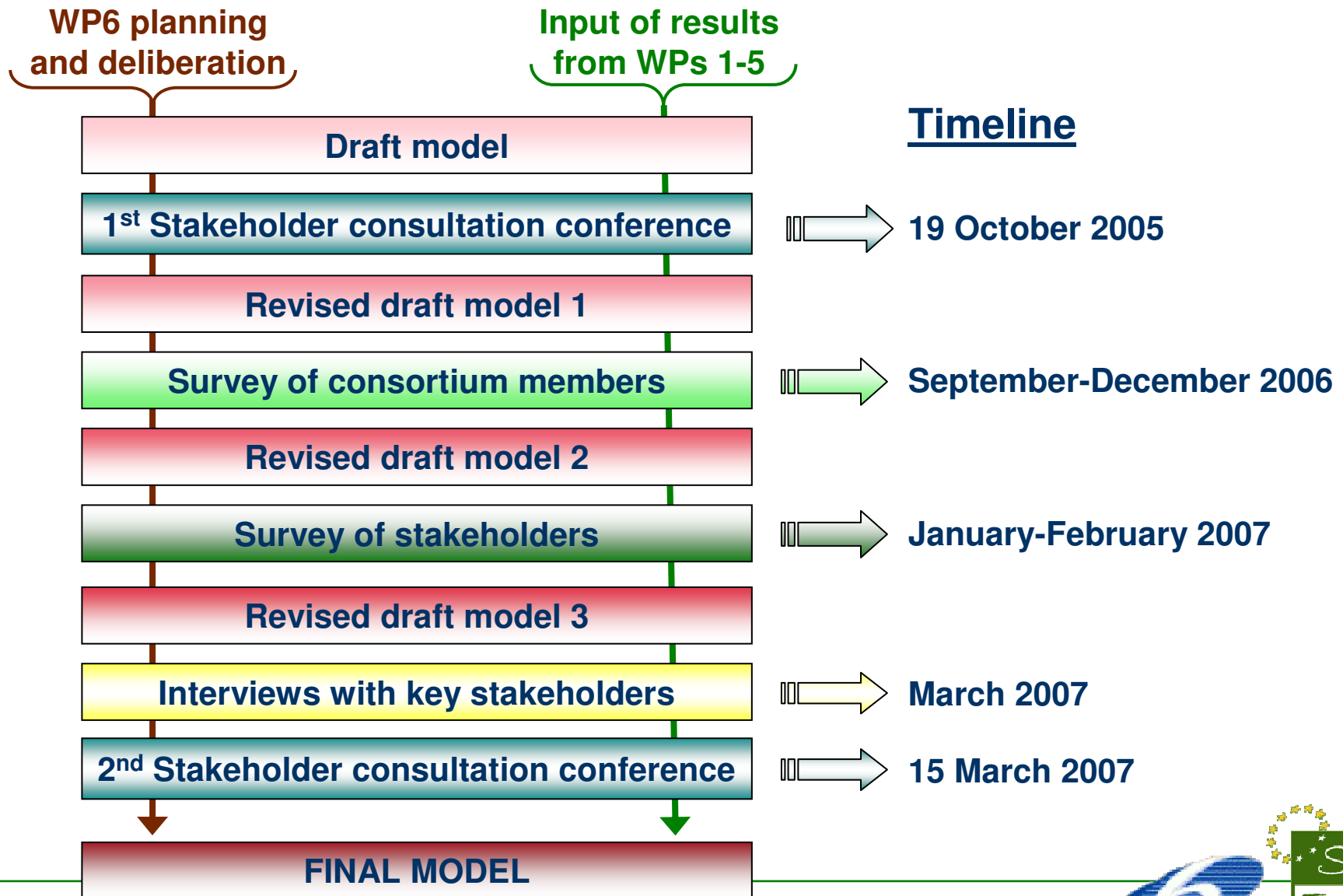


NEW!

- Identification and active involvement of stakeholders
- Evaluation of new methods for risk assessment of food safety issues (probabilistic risk assessment, genomics, profiling methods)
- Identification of Quality of Life parameters in the risk/benefit analysis of food and food production systems
- Inclusion of economical factors in the risk analysis process
- Criteria and strategies for risk-benefit analysis of novel foods and food production technologies



WP6 – Developing a new Framework - Work in Progress



WP6 – SAFE FOODS First Stakeholder Conference

- Collaboration with a wide range of professional stakeholders through a series of consultation events
- Optimisation of the SAFE FOODS risk analysis draft framework in a large stakeholder consultation event in Athens - Greece - on October 19th 2005:
 - Presenting of initial SAFE FOODS design of Risk Analysis Framework to fellow experts and key stakeholders
 - Goal: to gather comments, suggestions and general feedback for improvements of the proposed framework



WP4 – Delphi technique

- Structured process
- Iteration
- Anonymity
- Feedback



Rowe & Wright, 1999

WP4 – Delphi technique: definitions

“Method for structuring a group communication process so that the process is effective in allowing a group of individuals, as a whole, to deal with a complex problem”

Linstone & Turoff, 1975

Procedure to “obtain the most reliable consensus of opinion of a group of experts... by a series of intensive questionnaires interspersed with controlled opinion feedback”

Dalkey & Helmer, 1963



WP4 – Delphi analysis among professional stakeholders

- Feedback exercise to test the feasibility and acceptability of the Risk Analysis Framework
- Structured feedback process over several rounds
- 50-70 professional stakeholder participants (representative for potential end-users)
- Gathered information will provide feedback for further improvement of the SAFE FOODS model



WP6 – SAFE FOODS 2nd Stakeholder Conference

- Consultation of stakeholders on the revised document / model following recommendations from 1st conference through experts' consensus (Delphi survey) and a new conference
- Addressing of outstanding issues after Delphi survey on the proposed new model and optimization of the draft model during an event for stakeholder consultation in Brussels, Belgium, March 15th, 2007



Thanks!
Any questions?

