

# Sustainability of the FACET output

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## FACET now

- The FACET tool offers a way forward for risk assessment of additives, flavours and migrants from foodstuff packaging.
- The FACET project has funded the creation of a software tool and associated databases.
- However, once completed the project ceases and the contractual agreements established between the project partners provide only an outline framework for maintaining the tool (databases and software).
- In order for this tool and the underlying approach to dietary exposure assessment to be adopted by the European Commission and other stakeholders, the software has to continue to be useful and usable beyond the end of the FACET project.



## FACET now

- The software tool and data will continue to be made available on completion of the project.
- The JRC will be involved in this role upon completion of the project.
- For the following 6 months after the release of the final version of the software any faults in the functioning of the software delivered at the end of the project will be fixed free of charge by CREMe FOC.
- If any development work is required to the software in future for required changes, updates or bugs FABES, FERA, INCDTIM and CREMe will be available to implement those changes. Funding will be sought.



## What brings life after FACET?

- **A double strategy**
  - Acceptability
  - Sustainability
- **Short term: 2013**
  - Web site
  - Download – guides – worked examples
  - Trainings to stakeholders
  - Monitor usage - feedback
- **Mid-term and longer**
  - Stakeholder group; future potential expansion



# A one stop portal on the web

- Web address: [http://ihcp.jrc.ec.europa.eu/our\\_activities/food-cons-prod/chemicals\\_in\\_food](http://ihcp.jrc.ec.europa.eu/our_activities/food-cons-prod/chemicals_in_food)

## Chemicals in Food

by [JRC-IHCP-webteam](#) — last modified Oct 23, 2012 01:09 PM  
— filed under: [safety](#), [health](#), [food and drinks](#)

The Institute for Health and Consumer Protection (IHCP) closely collaborates with research institutes, universities and international organisations worldwide with the aim of estimating exposure to chemicals in food.



Chemical substances are used in many stages of food production and distribution and play an important role.

Food additives are used, for example, to prolong shelf life and make food more attractive through flavourings and colour. Other chemicals are used to fight diseases in farm animals and crops.

Furthermore, to keep food hygienic and attractive it needs to be kept in containers or protected by packaging materials that are made of chemical substances such as plastics.

There are a whole range of issues which the regulator has to be vigilant about: additives, flavouring, contaminants, pesticide residues, food contact materials, hormones in meat not to mention fraudulent practices.

While there are clear benefits to the use of chemicals in food production and distribution, these have to be balanced against the potential health risks due to the side effects and residues of these chemicals.

## The FACET Project



A recent example of international collaboration involving IHCP scientists is the **FACET (Flavourings, Additives and Food Contact materials Exposure Task)** project. Funded under the EU 7th Framework Programme for R&D, this project run from 2008 until 2012, with the aim of estimating exposure to chemicals in food across Europe.

Its consortium consisted of 20 collaborative partners across the EU, from industrial, academic and public body research centres. Results of its activities (trainings, workshops, tools) will continue to be delivered in 2012 and 2013.



The main outcome of this project is the creation of an **IT food chemical exposure surveillance system** sustainable beyond the life of the project, covering representative regions of the EU and meeting, to the highest possible standard, the needs of the EU regulatory authorities in terms of protection of consumer health. This system is now hosted by the IHCP.

In this web section you'll find more information about:

- [The FACET Project](#)
- [The FACET Exposure Tool \(future download and manuals\)](#)
- [Events related to the FACET tool](#)
- [Contact](#)



Photo: Steak with onion rings. Copyright Corbis.

# The web site

- **The FACET Project**
- **The FACET Exposure Tool, its download and manuals**
- **Events related to the FACET tool**
  - The contents of this conference
  - Trainings
  - Information and dissemination materials, including reports and peer reviewed references



# The FACET tool page

## The FACET Exposure Tool

by [Vittorio Reina](#) — last modified Oct 23, 2012 01:12 PM

**The FACET software tool is aimed at assessing dietary exposure to food chemicals in populations of consumers in Europe**

The software contains databases of chemical concentrations for flavourings and additives, chemical occurrence data, industry data on retail packaging composition, and food consumption diaries.

These databases are combined in probabilistic dietary exposure models that estimate exposure in different populations of consumers in the EU.

Following download and installation of the tool (a desktop software), the assessments can be run on the user's computer.

### Download

The latest version of the FACET Exposure Tools will be downloadable **end 2012**.

The relevant user manual, technical guidance, project final concise reports and worked examples will be available on this site ([section "documents and manuals"](#)).



- [The FACET Project](#)
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Photo: Woman in supermarket. Copyright Corbis.

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## FACET to come.....the tool

- **A software to download (upon sign up)**
- **A user downloadable manual,**
- **A downloadable technical guidance**
- **Worked examples: these examples will help you understand the format and type of report and data you are able to get from the standard use of the software.**
  - Worked example for flavourings ( in progress)
  - Worked example for additives ( in progress)
  - Worked example for food contact materials ( in progress)





## JOINT RESEARCH CENTRE

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### Flavourings, Additives and food Contact materials Exposure Task

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The mission of the JRC is to provide customer-driven scientific and technical support for the conception, development, implementation and monitoring of EU policies. As a service of the European Commission, the JRC functions as a reference centre of science and technology for the Union. Close to the policy-making process, it serves the common interest of the Member States, while being independent of special interests, whether private or national.



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### Flavourings, Additives and food Contact materials Exposure Task

The **FACET Exposure Tool** aims to assess dietary exposure to food chemicals (Flavourings, Additives and Food Contact materials) in populations of consumers in Europe.

Dear **Your name (name.name@youremail)**  
you can download the following:

**SOFTWARE**  
> [FACET Exposure Tool \(version 2.0\)](#) (zip, 500Mb)

**MANUALS**  
> [FACET Exposure Tool User Manual](#) (pdf, 3Mb)  
> [FACET Exposure Tool Technical Documentation](#) (pdf, 1Mb)

**EXAMPLES**  
> [Example 1](#) (pdf, xxkB)  
> [Example 2](#) (pdf, xxkB)

**LINKS**  
> [University College Dublin \(UCD\)](#)  
> [ExpoFacts](#)

[Send feedback](#) | [Logout](#)



## FACET web: the presentations of this conference

### Events

by [Vittorio Reina](#) — last modified Oct 23, 2012 01:12 PM

- [The FACET Project](#)
- [The FACET Exposure Tool \(future download and manuals\)](#)
- [Events related to the FACET tool](#)
- [Contact](#)

### Final FACET Conference - October 26<sup>th</sup>, Brussels

#### Upon invitation only

- Download the  flyer (including the conference programme)

#### Programme

08:30-09:00 **Registration and coffee**

09:00-09:15 **Welcome and Background**  
M. Gibney, UCD, IE

09:15-10:15 **The construction of supporting databases on food consumption**  
A. Hearty, UCD, IE

10:15-10:45 Coffee break / posters

10:45-12:00 **Food additive exposure assessment**  
J-L. Volatier, ANSES, FR  
K. Vin, ANSES, FR  
C. McNamara, Crème Global, IE



## FACET to come... dedicated training

- **JRC to coordinate the organisation of training “train the trainers” for interested public stakeholders, e.g.**
  - EFSA staff
  - EFSA panels
  - National (risk) Exposure assessment bodies – outreach to FDA
  - Member State competent Authorities, National Reference Laboratories
- **The FIG (Facet Industry Group) to coordinate trainers’ sessions for the industry value chain /professional organisations (can also be done in collaboration with JRC but not an obligation)**
- **Website: tackling aspect of dissemination, marketing, accessibility and information, events**
  - JRC lead in organizing and maintaining the website, to monitor usage and to announce revisions, updates, and training sessions.
- **Time frame: 2013**

→ **Acceptability**



## FACET to come... monitoring

- Monitoring of downloads
- Collection and monitoring of feedback /questions
- Coordination with the project partners for the fixes
- Development of further Q&A where needed
- Creation of a user community
- Creation of an information platform to share experiences
- Newsletter twice yearly
  
- Information network for fixes and updates via mail
- Compilation of feedback/usage and survey poll end of 2013

→ Acceptability



## FACET added value to other tools

- Transferring the FACET software programme from CRÈMe partner into the JRC
  
- Consumption data from FACET will allow updates for the JRC run legacy project “expofacts”

→ Knowledge transfer



## FACET future....a stakeholder committee

- **SIDESC: a Sustainability Implementation Development Exposure Steering Committee**
- **Objective**
  - To maintain a viable exposure assessment tool for flavourings, additives and migrants from packaging of foodstuffs.
  - To maintain a viable migration model for migrants from packaging for foodstuffs.
  - To ensure that the tool is easily accessible to stakeholders
  - To ensure that guidance documents are available to stakeholders
  - To provide case studies to illustrate the tool (the validation exercises)
  - To ensure that repairs, debugging, updates are undertaken in order to reflect any significant changes in the market place.
  - To inform stakeholders regarding the above
  - To monitor the usage and ensure interest from the stakeholders
  - To provide training to stakeholders



→ Sustainability

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## SIDESC... who and what?

- **Chair – Mike Knowles**
- **Secretary- Catherine Simoneau**
- **Membership: leaders of the three main work-streams , additives , flavours and packaging , CRÈME , JRC , EFSA, SANCO , FIG , FDE + specialised experts**
- **FIG and FDE to coordinate with the downstream of industry value chain (additives, flavourings, packaging, food)**
- **Meetings – 1-2 / year ; manage finances , confidential data , training programmes etc ;**
- **Specialist sub-committees to address specific issues , eg. De-bugging software, webpages on JRC server and managed by JRC, new requirements for additives , flavours , packaging , extension in scope to other chemicals in foods**



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## SIDESC... how?

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- **Development – stage two of the programme after training and familiarisation with the FACET tool**

- Requests for updates or improvements will be considered by the committee and if a majority are in agreement, the appropriate organisation will be requested to undertake the update.
- If that organisation does not want to do the upgrade then the user committee will identify and appoint another competent organisation to undertake the task(s).
- Funding: Funding will be sought from industry (FDE, flavourings, additives, FIG), the EU Commission, JRC and EFSA.- Future plans also include a proposal to the EU programme COST for larger stakeholders venues and initiatives



→ Sustainability



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**Keep in touch for more...**

*thank you for your attention!*

All the partners of the FACET project

