

Single Market Programme – interim evaluation

Fields marked with * are mandatory.

Introduction

The Single Market Programme (SMP), established by Regulation (EU) 2021/690 of 28 April 2021, is the EU funding programme under the multiannual financial framework for 2021-2027 that funds EU action to help the single market reach its full potential and ensure Europe's recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic.

With a EUR 4.24 billion budget for the period 2021-2027, it provides an integrated package to support and strengthen the governance of the single market.

The SMP builds on six predecessor programmes: (i) COSME; (ii) programmes on consumer protection; (iii) programmes on consumers and end-users in financial services; (iv) specific activities in the field of financial reporting and auditing standards; (v) measures that contribute to a high level of health for humans, animals and plants along the food chain and in related areas; and (vi) European statistics. It also integrates several former prerogative budget lines.

The SMP addresses six objectives, which form the “pillars” of the programme:

1. Make the internal market work better with measures including improved market surveillance, problem-solving support to citizens and business, and enhanced competition policy
2. Boost the competitiveness of businesses, in particular SMEs
3. Develop effective European standards and international financial and non-financial reporting and auditing standards
4. Give even higher protection to consumers
5. Maintain a high level of food safety
6. Produce and disseminate high-quality European statistics.

The programme brings many activities together under one coherent umbrella to exploit synergies, simplify and improve flexibility.

In accordance with Article 18 of Regulation (EU) 2021/690, the Commission shall perform an interim evaluation of the 2021-2027 programme by four years after the start of the implementation of the programme. The evaluation will assess the performance of the Programme, including aspects such as effectiveness, efficiency, coherence, relevance and Union added value.

The present consultation will inform the interim evaluation of the SMP.

About you

* 1 Language of my contribution

- ☐ Bulgarian
- ☐ Croatian
- ☐ Czech
- ☐ Danish
- ☐ Dutch
- ☒ English
- ☐ Estonian
- ☐ Finnish
- ☐ French
- ☐ German
- ☐ Greek
- ☐ Hungarian
- ☐ Irish
- ☐ Italian
- ☐ Latvian
- ☐ Lithuanian
- ☐ Maltese
- ☐ Polish
- ☐ Portuguese
- ☐ Romanian
- ☐ Slovak
- ☐ Slovenian
- ☐ Spanish
- ☐ Swedish

* 2 I am giving my contribution as

- ☐ Academic/research institution
- ☐ Business association
- ☐ Company/business
- ☐ Consumer organisation
- ☐ EU citizen
- ☐ Environmental organisation

- ☐ Non-EU citizen
- ☐ Non-governmental organisation (NGO)
- ☒ Public authority
- ☐ Trade union
- ☐ Other

* 3 First name

* 4 Surname

* 5 Email (this won't be published)

* 6 Scope

- ☒ International
- ☐ Local
- ☐ National
- ☐ Regional

* 9 Organisation name

255 character(s) maximum

Netherlands Ministry of Economic Affairs and Climate Policy

* 10 Organisation size

- ☐ Micro (1 to 9 employees)
- ☐ Small (10 to 49 employees)
- ☐ Medium (50 to 249 employees)
- ☒ Large (250 or more)

11 Transparency register number

Check if your organisation is on the transparency register. It's a voluntary database for organisations seeking to influence EU decision-making.

*12 Country of origin

Please add your country of origin, or that of your organisation.

This list does not represent the official position of the European institutions with regard to the legal status or policy of the entities mentioned. It is a harmonisation of often divergent lists and practices.

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| <input type="radio"/> Albania | <input type="radio"/> Dominican Republic | <input type="radio"/> Lithuania | <input type="radio"/> Saint Vincent and the Grenadines |
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| <input type="radio"/> Bangladesh | <input type="radio"/> French Southern and Antarctic Lands | <input type="radio"/> Moldova | <input type="radio"/> South Georgia and the South Sandwich Islands |
| <input type="radio"/> Barbados | <input type="radio"/> Gabon | <input type="radio"/> Monaco | <input type="radio"/> South Korea |
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| <input type="radio"/> Bulgaria | <input type="radio"/> Heard Island and McDonald Islands | <input type="radio"/> Niue | <input type="radio"/> Togo |
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| <input type="radio"/> Burundi | <input type="radio"/> Hong Kong | <input type="radio"/> Northern Mariana Islands | <input type="radio"/> Tonga |
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| <input type="radio"/> Cuba | <input type="radio"/> Kyrgyzstan | <input type="radio"/> Russia | <input type="radio"/> Wallis and Futuna |
| <input type="radio"/> Curaçao | <input type="radio"/> Laos | <input type="radio"/> Rwanda | <input type="radio"/> Western Sahara |
| <input type="radio"/> Cyprus | <input type="radio"/> Latvia | <input type="radio"/> Saint Barthélemy | <input type="radio"/> Yemen |
| <input type="radio"/> Czechia | <input type="radio"/> Lebanon | <input type="radio"/> Saint Helena, Ascension and Tristan da Cunha | <input type="radio"/> Zambia |
| <input type="radio"/> Democratic Republic of the Congo | <input type="radio"/> Lesotho | <input type="radio"/> Saint Kitts and Nevis | <input type="radio"/> Zimbabwe |
| <input type="radio"/> Denmark | <input type="radio"/> Liberia | <input type="radio"/> Saint Lucia | |

The Commission will publish all contributions to this public consultation. You can choose whether you would prefer to have your details published or to remain anonymous when your contribution is published. **For the purpose of transparency, the type of respondent (for example, 'business association', 'consumer association', 'EU citizen') country of origin, organisation name and size, and its transparency register number, are always published. Your e-mail address will never be published.** Opt in to select the privacy option that best suits you. Privacy options default based on the type of respondent selected

* 14 Contribution publication privacy settings

The Commission will publish the responses to this public consultation. You can choose whether you would like your details to be made public or to remain anonymous.

☒ **Anonymous**

Only organisation details are published: The type of respondent that you responded to this consultation as, the name of the organisation on whose behalf you reply as well as its transparency number, its size, its country of origin and your contribution will be published as received. Your name will not be published. Please do not include any personal data in the contribution itself if you want to remain anonymous.

☐ **Public**

Organisation details and respondent details are published: The type of respondent that you responded to this consultation as, the name of the organisation on whose behalf you reply as well as its transparency number, its size, its country of origin and your contribution will be published. Your name will also be published.

☒ I agree with the [personal data protection provisions](#)

Knowledge of / involvement in the SMP

* 15 How familiar are you with the Single Market Programme?

- ☒ Very familiar
- ☐ Reasonably familiar
- ☐ Have heard of it but do not know any details
- ☐ Not at all

* 16 Are you or your organisation involved in the SMP either as a beneficiary and/or providers of support services co-funded by the SMP?

- ☐ Yes, as a beneficiary receiving funds from the SMP
- ☐ Yes, as a user of services co-funded by the SMP
- ☐ Yes, as a provider of a support service co-funded by the SMP
- ☒ Other
- ☐ No
- ☐ Don't know

17 If other, please specify:

Ministry of Economic Affairs and Climate Policy

* 18 Which parts of the SMP are you or your organisation involved in? Select all that apply.

- ☒ Pillar 1: A more effective single market
- ☒ Pillar 2: Support to SMEs
- ☒ Pillar 3: Effective European standards
- ☒ Pillar 4: Consumer protection
- ☒ Pillar 5: Food and feed
- ☒ Pillar 6: European statistics

Pillar 1: A more effective single market

The objectives of Pillar 1 are to:

- make the internal market work better including through:
 - improved market surveillance
 - problem solving support and advice to citizens and businesses
 - enhanced competition policy that contributes to a level playing field and empowers businesses
- implement and enforce current rules and develop them further in areas including:
 - company and contract law
 - anti-money laundering
 - the free movement of capital, goods and services
- ensure financial services meet the needs of consumers, civil society and end-users
- enhance the tools and expertise of the European Commission to effectively enforce competition rules in the digital economy
- strengthen cooperation with authorities in EU countries and enhance advocacy
- ensure better functioning of the single market on the ground by helping public buyers get better value for citizens' money

The SMP funds the following activities and tools:

- [Your Europe](#), which provides on-line information, administration and assistance services for citizens and companies
- [Internal Market Information System](#) for information exchange between authorities involved in the practical implementation of EU law
- [FIU.net](#), an IT system connecting financial intelligence units in EU countries to facilitate the cross-border fight against money laundering
- Actions to support the effective implementation and enforcement of competition policy
- Actions to support product market surveillance by national authorities.

See:

- https://commission.europa.eu/funding-tenders/find-funding/eu-funding-programmes/single-market-programme/overview/more-effective-single-market_en
- https://eisma.ec.europa.eu/programmes/single-market-programme/internal-market_en

* 19 To what extent are the objectives and activities of Pillar 1 relevant to the needs of the internal market?

- ☒ Great extent
- ☐ Reasonable extent
- ☐ Slight extent
- ☐ Not at all
- ☐ Don't know

* 20 During 2021-2023, have you used the [Your Europe platform](#), which provides online information, procedures and assistance services for citizens and companies?

- ☒ Yes: I have used Your Europe
- ☐ No: I have not used Your Europe

* 21 How useful have you found the Your Europe platform during 2021-2023?

- ☒ Very useful
- ☐ Reasonably useful
- ☐ Slightly useful
- ☐ Not useful at all
- ☐ Don't know

22 Would you like to comment on the usefulness and digital functionality of the Your Europe platform?

Given the importance of the Your Europe for the SDG 2.0 and for a good provision of information for the Single Market in general it would be useful to use the SMP as well to raise the visibility of Your Europe Platform.

Pillar 2: Support to small and medium-sized businesses (SMEs)

Pillar 2 of the Single Market Programme provides various forms of support to businesses, in particular SMEs. The aim is to boost their competitiveness and sustainability, including in the tourism sector.

In particular, the SMP:

- facilitates access to markets
- promotes entrepreneurship and the acquisition of entrepreneurial skills
- promotes the modernisation of industry and addresses global and societal challenges
- promotes the resilience, sustainability and digitalisation of businesses.

Tools include:

- The Enterprise Europe Network that provides an integrated package of advice to SMEs on how to innovate and grow internationally
- The SME envoy network promotes SME-friendly regulation and policy-making at EU and national level
- Erasmus for Young Entrepreneurs, providing cross-border exchanges and overseas stays between new or aspiring entrepreneurs and experienced entrepreneurs in other Participating Countries.
- Joint cluster initiatives - a new generation of actions involving industrial clusters - groups of specialised enterprises, often SMEs, and other related supporting actors in a location that cooperate closely
- Other actions covering this objective of the SMP and implementing the EU SME strategy

See:

- https://commission.europa.eu/funding-tenders/find-funding/eu-funding-programmes/single-market-programme/overview/support-businesses_en
- https://eisma.ec.europa.eu/programmes/single-market-programme/support-smes_en#featured-programmes--initiatives

* 23 To what extent is EU support for SMEs of interest to you or your organisation?

- ☒ Great extent
- ☐ Reasonable extent
- ☐ Slight extent
- ☐ Not at all
- ☐ Don't know

* 24 To what extent are the objectives and activities of Pillar 2 relevant to the needs of SMEs?

- ☒ Great extent
- ☐ Reasonable extent
- ☐ Slight extent
- ☐ Not at all
- ☐ Don't know

- * 25 Are you familiar with the [Enterprise Europe Network](#) which provides an integrated package of advice to SMEs on how to innovate and grow internationally?
- ☐ Yes, as a user of its services
 - ☐ Yes, as a (funded) implementing organisation
 - ☒ Yes, in a governance or advisory role
 - ☐ Yes, other role
 - ☐ Yes, I know it but I have no active role
 - ☐ Not familiar
- * 26 During 2021-2023, how effective and efficient has the Enterprise Europe Network been in advising SMEs on how to innovate and grow internationally?
- ☐ Very effective
 - ☐ Reasonably effective
 - ☐ Slightly effective
 - ☐ Not effective at all
 - ☒ Don't know
- * 27 Are you familiar with [Erasmus for Young Entrepreneurs](#) (a cross-border exchange programme which gives new or aspiring entrepreneurs the chance to learn from experienced entrepreneurs running small businesses in other participating countries)?
- ☐ Yes, as a participant (new/host entrepreneur)
 - ☐ Yes, as an implementing organisation
 - ☐ Yes, in a governance or advisory role
 - ☒ Yes, other role
 - ☐ Yes, I know it but no active role
 - ☐ Not familiar
- * 28 During 2021-2023, to what extent do you agree that Erasmus for Young Entrepreneurs has helped supporting new or aspiring entrepreneurs?
- ☐ Strongly agree
 - ☐ Agree
 - ☐ Disagree
 - ☐ Strongly disagree
 - ☒ Don't know

* 29 Are you familiar with Euroclusters ([Joint Cluster Initiatives](#)), cross-sectoral, strategic initiatives of industry clusters to implement industrial policy: green and digital transition and resilience building?

- ☐ Yes, as a participant
- ☐ Yes, as a (funded) implementing organisation
- ☐ Yes, in a governance or advisory role
- ☐ Yes, other role
- ☒ Yes, I know it but no active role
- ☐ Not familiar

* 30 During 2021-2023 to what extent do you agree that the Euroclusters Initiative has helped supporting SMEs to be more innovative, resilient, digital and sustainable?

- ☐ Strongly agree
- ☐ Agree
- ☐ Disagree
- ☐ Strongly disagree
- ☒ Don't know

31 Would you like to comment on the effectiveness and efficiency and the relevance of support provided by the SMP for SMEs?

-

Pillar 3: Effective European standards

Pillar 3 of the SMP supports European standards that ensure that products and services meet an agreed level of quality and safety.

The SMP provides financial support to:

- European standardisation organisations:
 - European Committee for Standardization (CEN)
 - European Committee for Electrotechnical Standardization (Cenelec)
 - European Telecommunications Standards Institute (ETSI)
 - European stakeholder organisations representing small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs)
- Societal stakeholders in standardisation activities
- Organisations developing auditing and financial and non-financial reporting standards

See:

- https://commission.europa.eu/funding-tenders/find-funding/eu-funding-programmes/single-market-programme/overview/supporting-development-standards-and-reporting_en
- https://eisma.ec.europa.eu/programmes/single-market-programme/standardisation_en

* 32 To what extent are European standards of interest to your or your organisation?

- ☒ Great extent
- ☐ Reasonable extent
- ☐ Slight extent
- ☐ Not at all
- ☐ Don't know

* 33 To what extent are the objectives and activities of Pillar 3 relevant to the needs for effective European standards in the internal market?

- ☒ Great extent
- ☐ Reasonable extent
- ☐ Slight extent
- ☐ Not at all
- ☐ Don't know

34 To what extent do you agree that the work of these European standardisation organisations has contributed to the development of European Standards that are relevant to the needs of the internal market?

	Strongly agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't know
* European Committee for Standardisation (CEN)	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* European Committee for Electrotechnical Standardisation (Cenelec)	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* Telecommunications Standards Institute (ETSI)	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

35 To what extent do you agree that the work of these European stakeholder organisations representing SMEs and other stakeholder interests has contributed to a stronger participation of stakeholders in the standardisation process, and in the development of standards relevant to the needs and priorities of the internal market?

	Strongly agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't know

* Small Business Standards (SBS) representing SMEs	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* European consumer voice in standardisation (ANEC), representing consumers	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* Environmental Coalition on Standards (ECOS), representing environmental interests	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* European Trade Union Confederation (ETUC), representing workers' interests	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

36 To what extent do you agree that the work of these organisations has been instrumental in the development of standards aligned with needs and interests of EU stakeholders?

	Strongly agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't know
* International Financial Reporting Standards Foundation (IFRS Foundation)	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* European Financial Reporting Advisory Group (EFRAG)	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* Public Interest Oversight Board (PIOB)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>

37 Would you like to further comment on the effectiveness, efficiency or relevance of support provided by the SMP for European standards?

No

Pillar 4: Consumer protection

Pillar 4 of the SMP promotes the interests of European consumers and end-users, including in financial services. The programme aims to:

- make sure that products on the market are safe
- empower, educate and assist consumers to make sustainable and informed choices
- ensure that all consumers have access to redress mechanisms
- protect vulnerable consumers in order to enhance fairness and transparency in the internal market
- support competent enforcement authorities and consumer organisations.

Tools

- European online dispute resolution platform (ODR) that helps consumers who shop online
- Alternative dispute resolution (ADR) that helps consumers solve disputes out of court

- A consumer protection cooperation network to tackle illegal EU-wide practices (e.g. misleading advertising campaigns)
- Safety Gate: the EU rapid alert system for dangerous non-food products
- European consumer centres providing assistance to consumers to help them exercise their rights and obtain access to redress mechanisms
- Grants to two European organisations representing the views of users of financial services and small investors

See:

- https://commission.europa.eu/funding-tenders/find-funding/eu-funding-programmes/single-market-programme/overview/consumer-protection_en
- https://eisma.ec.europa.eu/programmes/single-market-programme/consumers_en

* 38 To what extent is EU support for consumer protection of interest to you or your organisation?

- ☒ Great extent
- ☐ Reasonable extent
- ☐ Slight extent
- ☐ Not at all
- ☐ Don't know

39 To what extent are the objectives and activities of Pillar 4 relevant to the needs of consumers?

	Great extent	Reasonable extent	Slight extent	Not at all	Don't know
* Make sure that products on the market are safe	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* Empower, educate and assist consumers to make sustainable and informed choices	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
* Ensure that all consumers have access to redress mechanisms	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* Protect vulnerable consumers in order to enhance fairness and transparency in the internal market	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
* Support competent enforcement authorities and consumer organisations	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

40 How effective is the EU support for the following?

	Very effective	Reasonably effective	Slightly effective	Not effective at all	Don't know

* Alternative Dispute Resolution bodies	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* National consumer enforcement authorities (Consumer Protection Cooperation Network)	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* Safety Gate: the EU rapid alert system for dangerous non-food products	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* European Consumer Centres	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* The European Consumer Organisation (BEUC)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
* Organisations protecting the interest of users of financial services and small investors	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>

41 Would you like to comment on the effectiveness, efficiency or relevance of support provided by the SMP for consumer protection?

No

Pillar 5: Food and feed

Pillar 5 of the SMP aims to ensure a high level of health for humans, animals and plants throughout the food chain.

Actions under Pillar 5 have the following objectives:

- prevent, control and eradicate animal diseases and plant pests, including by means of emergency measures
- support the improvement of animal welfare, the fight against antimicrobial resistance (AMR)
- develop sustainable food production and consumption
- stimulate the exchange of best practices between stakeholders.

Relevant activities and tools include:

- Veterinary and phytosanitary emergency measures and programmes, including programmes for the control of pests in the outermost regions and other related activities
- Animal welfare improvement activities
- Coordinated control programmes and organisation of information and data collection
- Sustainable food production and consumption support, prevention of food waste and fraud and information and awareness raising initiatives
- Support for EU Reference Laboratories (EURL) and Centres (EURC) and accreditation of national laboratories
- Training of staff for official controls (BTSF)
- Development of databases and information management systems such as Rapid Alert System for Food and Feed ([RASFF](#)), TRACES, ADIS, EUROPHYT and involvement of experts

See:

- https://commission.europa.eu/funding-tenders/find-funding/eu-funding-programmes/single-market-programme/overview/food-safety_en
- https://hadea.ec.europa.eu/programmes/single-market-programme-food_en

* 42 To what extent is EU support for food safety of interest to you or your organisation?

- ☒ Great extent
- ☐ Reasonable extent
- ☐ Slight extent
- ☐ Not at all
- ☐ Don't know

* 43 To what extent are the objectives and activities of Pillar 5 relevant to the need to ensure high food safety standards in the internal market?

- ☒ Great extent
- ☐ Reasonable extent
- ☐ Slight extent
- ☐ Not at all
- ☐ Don't know

44 To what extent have the activities in these thematic areas been implemented effectively in 2021-2023?

	Great extent	Reasonable extent	Slight extent	Not at all	Don't know
* Veterinary and phytosanitary emergency measures and programmes, including the implementation of phytosanitary programmes for the control of pests in the outermost regions and other related activities	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* Animal welfare improvement activities	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* Coordinated control programmes and organisation of information and data collection	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* Sustainable food production and consumption support, prevention of food waste and fraud and information and awareness raising initiatives	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
*					

Support for EU Reference Laboratories (EURL) and Centres (EURC) and accreditation of national laboratories	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* Training of staff for official controls (BTSF)	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* Development of databases and information management systems and involvement of experts	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

* 45 How effective is the [Rapid Alert System for Food and Feed](#) (RASFF) in ensuring the flow of information between its members 24 hours a day to enable swift reaction when risks to public health are detected in the food chain?

- ☐ Very effective
- ☒ Reasonably effective
- ☐ Slightly effective
- ☐ Not effective at all
- ☐ Don't know

* 46 How effective are IT systems in animal health, plant health, food and feed domains (e.g. RASFF, TRACES, EUROPHYT) in ensuring adequate management of information?

- ☐ Very effective
- ☒ Reasonably effective
- ☐ Slightly effective
- ☐ Not effective at all
- ☐ Don't know

* 47 How effective are the [EU Reference Laboratories for Animal and Plant Health, Food and Feed and Reference Centres for Animal Welfare and Zootechnics](#) in contributing to public, animal and plant health, to food safety, to animal welfare and to the quality of animals, plants and goods produced and traded in the agri-food chain?

- ☐ Very effective
- ☒ Reasonably effective
- ☐ Slightly effective
- ☐ Not effective at all
- ☐ Don't know

48 To what extent has progress been achieved towards the following objectives of the Food Safety Pillar of the SMP during 2021-2023?

	Great extent	Reasonable extent	Slight extent	Not at all	Don't know
* Prevent, control and eradicate animal diseases and plant pests, including by means of emergency measures	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* Support the improvement of the welfare of animals	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* Fight against antimicrobial resistance	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* Develop sustainable food production and consumption	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* Stimulate the exchange of best practices between stakeholders in these fields	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

49 To what extent has the food safety pillar had a positive impact on the following SMP priorities during 2021-2023?

	Great extent	Reasonable extent	Slight extent	Not at all	Don't know
* Functioning of the internal market	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* Competitiveness of the food and feed industry and creation of jobs at the EU/global level	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* Trade between/within Member States	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* Trade between EU and non-EU Member States	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* Consumer protection and confidence	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

50 Would you like to comment on the effectiveness, efficiency or relevance of support provided by the SMP for food safety?

- a) The matter is that during the period 21-23, little improvement was achieved as standards were already high.
- b) No support is available for validation of tests and acquiring and maintaining the accreditation required for Official Laboratories and National Reference Laboratories Validation (and accreditation) of all tests for official controls remains a major challenge in plant health. Financial support could improve this.
- c) A support programme is fundamental for new initiatives such as the EURLs. However the large fluctuation in SMP financial means (by reasons out of control of the Commission) renders the impact of SMP limited.

Pillar 6: European statistics

Pillar 6 of the SMP supports the development, production and dissemination of high-quality European statistics by the [European Statistical System](#). It constitutes the equivalent of the European Statistical Programme for 2021-2027.

Tools

- Enhanced partnership between Eurostat, the EU Statistical Office, national statistical institutes and other national statistical authorities, as well as relevant external parties
- Development of new European statistics using multiple data sources, advanced data analytics methods, smart systems and digital technologies
- Funding to improve the comparability and quality of European statistics for monitoring the economic, social, environmental and territorial situation of the EU

See: https://commission.europa.eu/funding-tenders/find-funding/eu-funding-programmes/single-market-programme/overview/high-quality-european-statistics_en

* 51 Do you or your organisation use or produce European statistics?

- ☒ Yes
- ☐ No

52 To what extent have European statistics (produced between 2021-2023) displayed the following characteristics?

	Great extent	Reasonable extent	Slight extent	Not at all	Don't know
* accessibility	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* availability	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* accuracy	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* relevance	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* coherence and comparability	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* timeliness	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* impartiality	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* user-friendliness	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

53 Have you faced any challenges while producing or using European statistics?

Reduced response rates to statistical surveys relating to persons and households, based on data at individual level collected from samples.

* 54 Has there been any notable change in statistical quality during 2021-2023 compared with previous years?

- ☒ Notable improvement
- ☐ Notable decline
- ☐ No change
- ☐ Don't know

55 Would you like to comment on the change in quality?

Although our quality is already of a very high standard, Statistics Netherlands strives for continuous quality improvement.

56 To what extent has progress been achieved towards the objectives of the European Statistical Programme during 2021-2023?

	Great extent	Reasonable extent	Slight extent	Not at all	Don't know
* Development, production, dissemination and communication of high-quality European statistics in a timely, impartial and cost-efficient manner	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* Strengthen the European Statistical System	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* Enhance partnerships within the system and with all relevant external parties through the use of multiple data sources, advanced data analysis methods, intelligent systems and digital technologies, and by providing a breakdown by country and, where possible, by region	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
* Use multiple data sources, advanced data analytics methods, smart systems and digital technologies	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* Provide a national and, where possible, regional breakdown of statistics	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

* 57 How effective has the European Statistical Programme been in introducing innovations or measures in statistical processes to adapt to emerging technologies and digital transformation during 2021-23?

- ☐ Very effective
- ☐ Reasonably effective
- ☒ Slightly effective
- ☐ Not effective at all
- ☐

Don't know

58 Would you like to comment on the effectiveness, efficiency or relevance of the European Statistical Programme during 2021-23?

No

Coherence and complementarity of the SMP overall

* 59 In your experience, to what extent is there coherence and complementarity between activities supported by the different pillars within the SMP (i.e. potential synergies, interaction, consistency and alignment, as well as a minimum of duplication or overlap)?

- ☐ Great extent
- ☒ Reasonable extent
- ☐ Slight extent
- ☐ Not at all
- ☐ Don't know

60 Please explain your response

The topics covered by the SMP are quite diverse, but that is not really a problem, as all topics are linked to the functioning of the Single Market.

* 61 Do you believe that having a single programme covering all priorities (pillars) of the internal market is preferable (compared with having different programmes for different priorities or pillars)?

- ☒ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ Don't know

62 To what extent does the SMP complement and reinforce:

	Great extent	Reasonable extent	Slight extent	Not at all	Don't know
* European Green Deal	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* A Europe fit for the digital age	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

63 Would you like to comment on the coherence and complementarity of the SMP with other EU programmes and policies or with any relevant national or regional programmes?

No

Relevance of the SMP to needs

64 To what extent do you believe there is a need for EU action to achieve the following objectives in the internal market?

	Great extent	Reasonable extent	Slight extent	Not at all	Don't know
* Remove discriminatory, unjustified or disproportionate obstacles to the free movement of goods and services in the internal market	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* Prevent unsafe or non-compliant products being made available on the internal market	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* Strengthen the competitiveness and sustainability of small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs)	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* Promote circular economy practices and circularity among SMEs	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* Promote entrepreneurship and the acquisition of entrepreneurial skills	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* Ensure a high level of product standardisation within the internal market	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* Ensure high quality of financial and non-financial reporting and auditing standards within the internal market	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* Ensure a high level of consumer protection in the internal market	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* Ensure a high level of protection for retail consumers of financial services in the internal market	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* Ensure a high level of health and safety related to humans, plants, animals, food and feed in the internal market	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* Produce and disseminate high quality European statistics	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

EU added value of the SMP

65 In your experience, to what extent do the activities funded under each Pillar of the SMP add value compared to what could be achieved at national level by Member States acting alone?

	To a great extent	To a reasonable extent	To a slight extent	Not at all	Don't know
* Pillar 1: A more effective single market	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* Pillar 2: Support to SMEs	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* Pillar 3: Effective European standards	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* Pillar 4: Consumer protection	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* Pillar 5: Food and feed	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* Pillar 6: European statistics	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

* 66 To what extent do you think having a programme like the SMP overall adds value compared to what could be achieved with national programmes/at national level alone?

- ☒ To a great extent
- ☐ To a reasonable extent
- ☐ To a slight extent
- ☐ Not at all

67 Would you like to comment on the EU added value of the SMP compared to what could be achieved at national level by Member States alone?

No

Future revision of the SMP

68 How could the design and implementation of the SMP be improved within the current period (2021-27)?

No specific suggestions, but it would in any case be most useful to keep the possibility of funding research on the Single Market (as useful input to the Annual Single Market and Competitiveness Report and e.g. by regular Eurobarometer surveys among entrepreneurs about barriers).

* 69 In the post-2027 period, should the SMP continue as an integrated programme covering all policy fields (internal market; SMEs; European standards; consumer protection; animal, plant, food and feed safety; European statistics)?

- ☒ Yes – continue as a single integrated programme covering all current policy fields
- ☐ Yes - and it should be extended to cover more policy fields
- ☐ No – offer support through a number of separate programmes
- ☐ No – there is no need to continue the SMP beyond 2027
- ☐ Don't know

72 How could the design and implementation of the SMP be improved within the next period (post-2027)?

No specific suggestions

73 Would you like to offer any other comments about the SMP?

No specific suggestions

Survey conclusion

As a follow-up to this survey, additional interviews will be undertaken relating to SMP. The interviews will be conducted in English and will last about 20 minutes.

74 Would you be willing to participate in further research to discuss your views in more detail? If so, please provide your email address. This enables us to contact you in order for you to receive further details relating to the research. This does not commit you to participation.

Not necessary

Thank you for your contribution

Contact

grow-smp-coordination@ec.europa.eu

