

Reducing food safety risks for third countries

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Food safety is receiving heightened attention worldwide as the important links between food and health are increasingly recognized. Improving food safety is an essential element of improving food security, which exists when populations have access to sufficient and healthy food. At the same time, as food and feed trade are expanding throughout the world, food safety has become a shared concern among both Member states of EU and third countries. Governments together with scientists in many countries have established new institutions, standards, and methods for regulating food safety criteria and have increased investments in hazard control. This article describes how third countries could be addressing food safety issues in order to improve both food safety and food trade, and discusses the risks, benefits and costs when good policies are implemented