

PTIN Food Safety Incident Management Workshop

Big Sky, Montana, USA
14-15 May 2011

Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC)
Food Safety Cooperation Forum (FSCF)
Partnership Training Institute Network (PTIN)



Asia-Pacific
Economic Cooperation



FSCF Food Safety
Cooperation Forum
PTIN Partnership Training
Institute Network



FOOD STANDARDS
Australia New Zealand
Te Mana Kounga Kai - Ahitereiria me Aotearoa



INFOSAN

**International Food Safety
Authorities Network**

**FSCF PTIN Food Safety Incident
Management Workshop, APEC**

15 May, 2011

Big Sky, Montana

Dr. Andrea Ellis



**World Health
Organization**



**Food and Agriculture
Organization of
the United Nations**

Background

- The rapid globalization of food production and trade has increased the potential for international incidents involving contaminated food
- Dealing with these events requires rapid exchange of food safety information at both the national and international level
- By sharing experiences between countries food safety issues can be managed more effectively and efficiently
- It is therefore important to have a mechanism in place to facilitate collaboration between countries

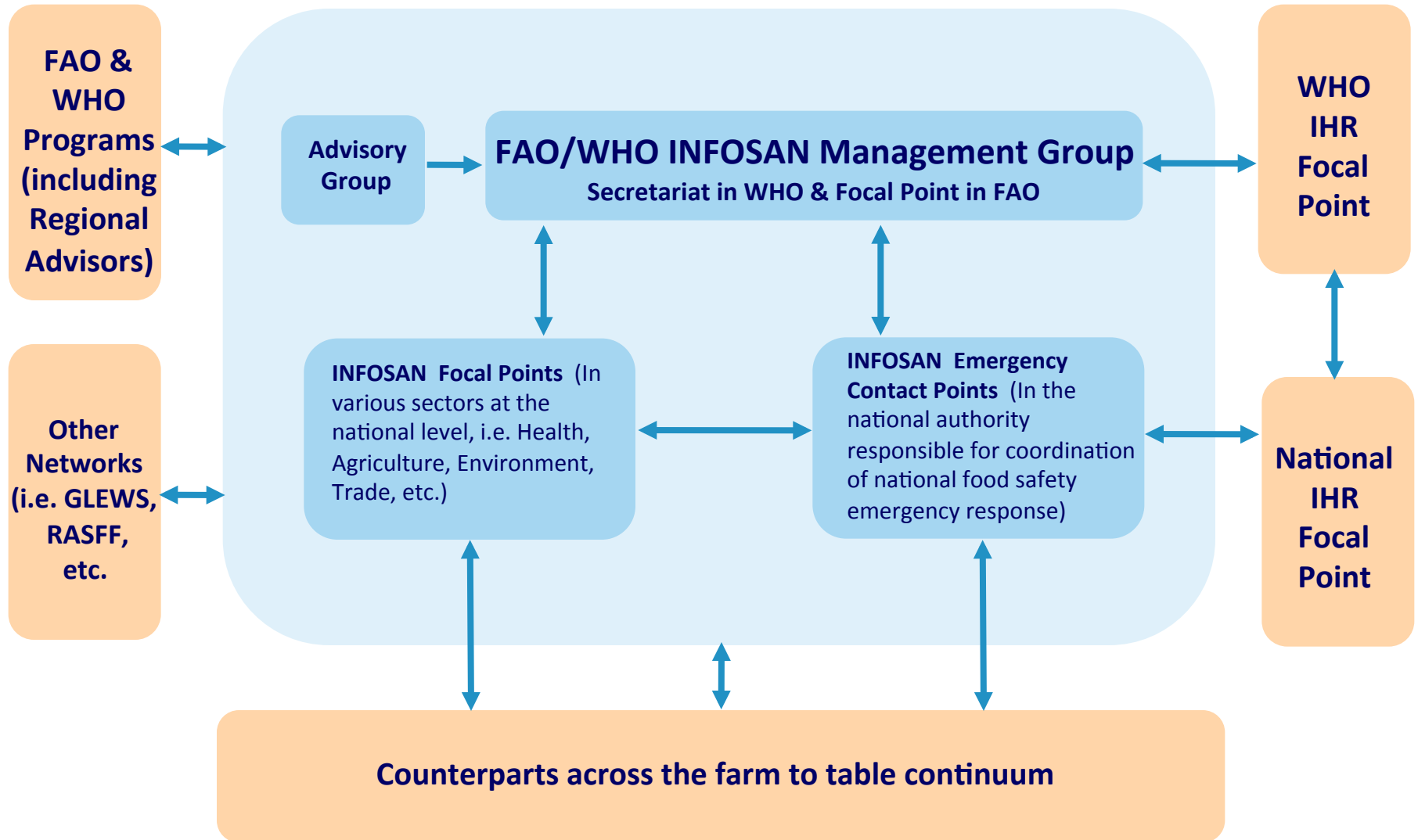
To provide such a mechanism, INFOSAN was launched in 2004 and has been growing ever since



What is INFOSAN and its Purpose?

- A voluntary network of food safety authorities from around the world managed jointly by WHO and FAO
- Aims to prevent international spread of contaminated food and foodborne disease and strengthen food safety systems globally, by:
 - promoting the rapid exchange of information during food safety events
 - sharing information on important food safety issues of global interest
 - promoting partnership and collaboration between countries
 - helping countries strengthen their capacity to manage food safety risks

INFOSAN Structure and Links to Key Partners



Focal Point Roles and Responsibilities

- Disseminates INFOSAN notes, FAO/WHO guidelines, and other important food safety information from INFOSAN within their agency, as appropriate
- Provides comments to INFOSAN on information products disseminated to the Network
- Engages in sharing information with the INFOSAN Secretariat and other members on food safety issues that may be relevant at the international level and beneficial to all members, such as but not limited to: risk assessments on emerging hazards, lessons learnt, identified good practices, etc.
- Collaborates with INFOSAN Emergency Contact point on emergency events involving their respective agency

Emergency Contact Point Roles and Responsibilities

- Reports urgent food safety events of potential international significance to the INFOSAN Secretariat
- Collaborates with their IHR National Focal Point on food safety events that fall under the IHR
- Assists the INFOSAN Secretariat in the verification and assessment of events by providing all necessary information, and reviews INFOSAN Alert messages pertaining to an event in their country
- Requests international assistance through the INFOSAN Secretariat to respond to a food safety incident or emergency, as necessary
- Takes action on INFOSAN Alerts and disseminates information accordingly
- Carries out functions outlined for Focal Points within their Agency

Emergency Activities

- INFOSAN identifies, verifies and shares information on food safety-related events which involve contaminated foods in international commerce, and foodborne illness outbreaks, not limited to one country
- INFOSAN Secretariat provides technical assistance to national governments in managing food safety and food production-related events or emergencies
- INFOSAN secretariat coordinated information exchange between countries and will facilitate technical assistance in the field, if requested

Japan Nuclear Crisis

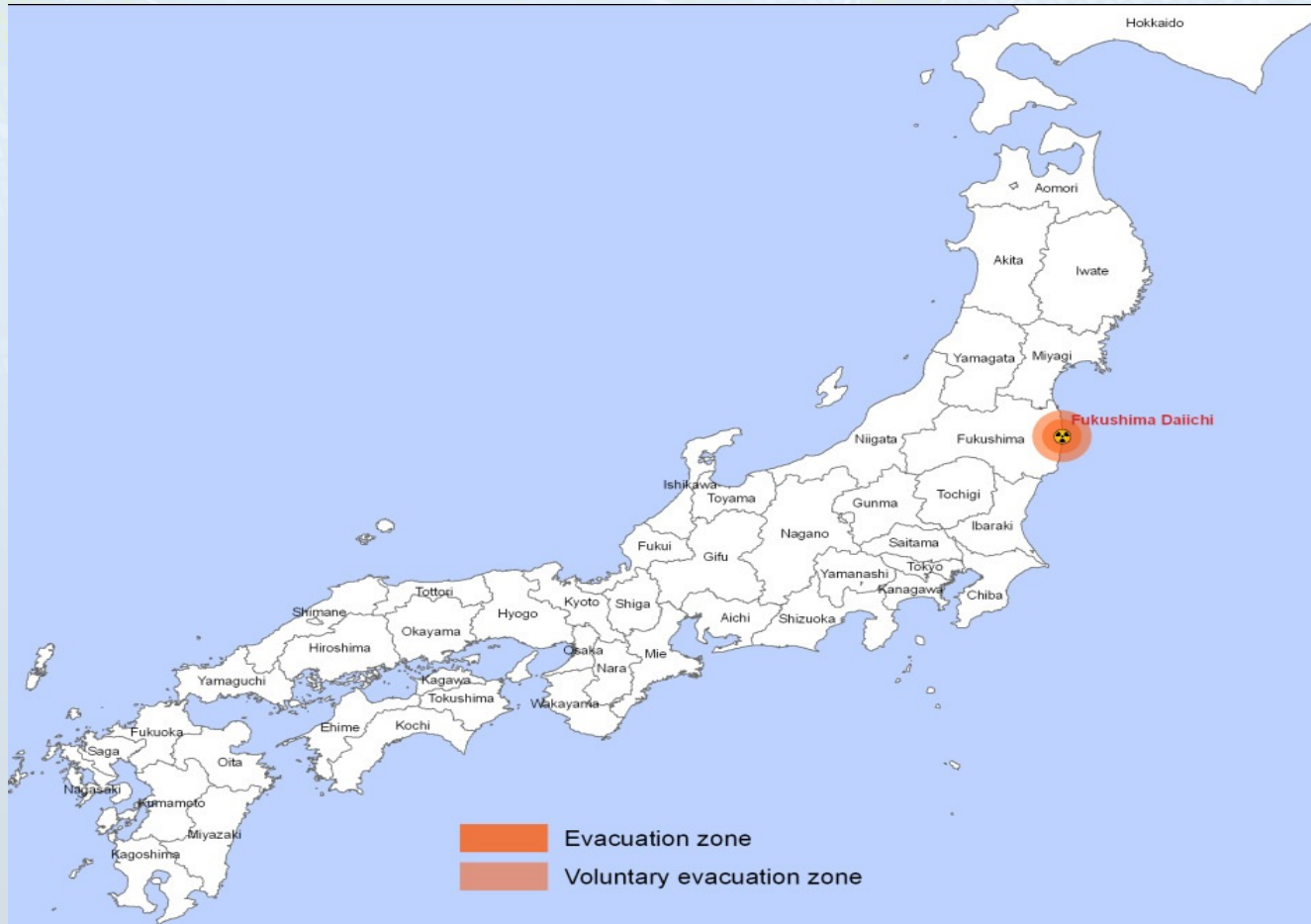
- INFOSAN's response to food contamination concerns



Background Information

- A 9.0 magnitude earthquake occurred 11 March 2011 in Japan. The quake triggered a tsunami that devastated the hitting the northeast coastal areas.
- Damage sustained at the Fukushima Daiichi nuclear power plant, has led to radioactive emissions.
- Japanese authorities have been monitoring radioactivity in foods from 17 prefectures and preventing the distribution and consumption of foods found to be above the established provisional regulation values.
- A number of Member States have implemented import controls on Japanese foods.

Location



食が危な

60% decline in fermented soybean production

25% of Japan's rice production is from 6 prefectures in east Japan

60% of spinach in central market in Tokyo is subject to radio nuclear regulation

41% of the national share of mackerel pike come affected areas

Production facilities in affected areas make up for 60% of national share of processed fish

15% of milk for 13 prefectures in east Japan come from Ibaraki and Fukushima

Egg prices increased by 40%

80% of the national wakame share comes from Sanriku region (affected by tsumani)

香り立つ味噌汁をすすり、サンマの塩焼きを箸でほくほく、ご飯を口に運ぶ。3月11日以降、ありふれた食卓の光景が脅かされている。飽食の時代に突きつけられた「食の危機」。ニッポンの食を次世代につなぐために、残された時間は少ない。

(表紙: 飯、小澤 潤也、撮影: 飯一朗、料理写真: 飯野 典明、酒田 博人、白登 江次、日野 志保)

Pathways of Radioactive Contamination to Agricultural Products

1. Air Contamination

- Surface contamination of plants and animals
- Inhalation by animals

2. Water Contamination

- Rainfall carries radioactive fallout to surface water
- Fishery products contaminated
- Plants and animals contaminated through water uptake

Radioactive fallout



Rainfall carries radioactive fallout to surface water



fallout onto soil

3. Soil Contamination

- Plant and feed uptake of contamination
- Animal ingestion of contaminated soil and plants



Figure 1. The pathways of radioactive contamination to food and agriculture

INFOSAN Actions

- **Close collaboration with INFOSAN Emergency Contact Point in Japan MHLW** (food monitoring data, actions undertaken)
- **Collaboration with Member States importing food from Japan** (imported food monitoring data, controls put in place)
- **Assistance to countries** (laboratory information, provision of technical input, development of a Technical Information Note)

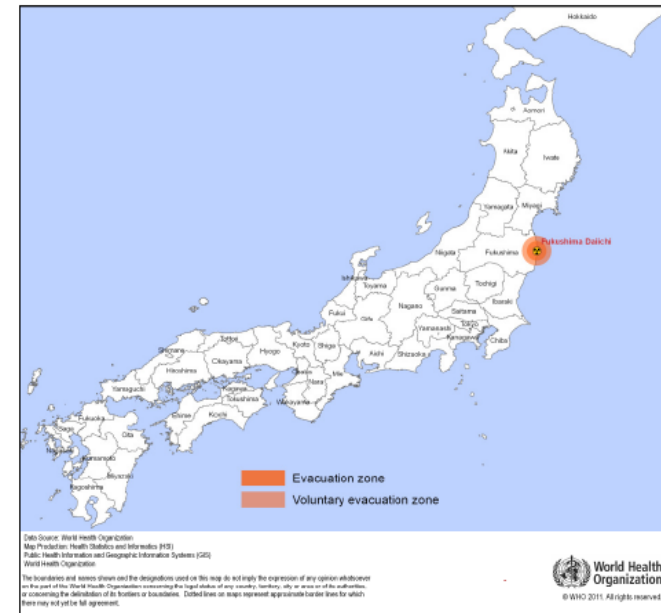
INFOSAN information exchange

- Daily updates from Japan
- Active updates from members on control measures
- Regular synthesis of data from Japan
- All information provided on secure website

Descriptive Analysis of Food Monitoring Results from Japan - 28 April 2011

On 16 March 2011, Japanese officials began sampling various food items to be tested for radionuclide contamination. Test results for the food items sampled as of 27 April 2011 have been shared by Japanese officials. Figure 1 below shows a map of Japan showing prefectures and indicating the site of the evacuation zone around the Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Plant.

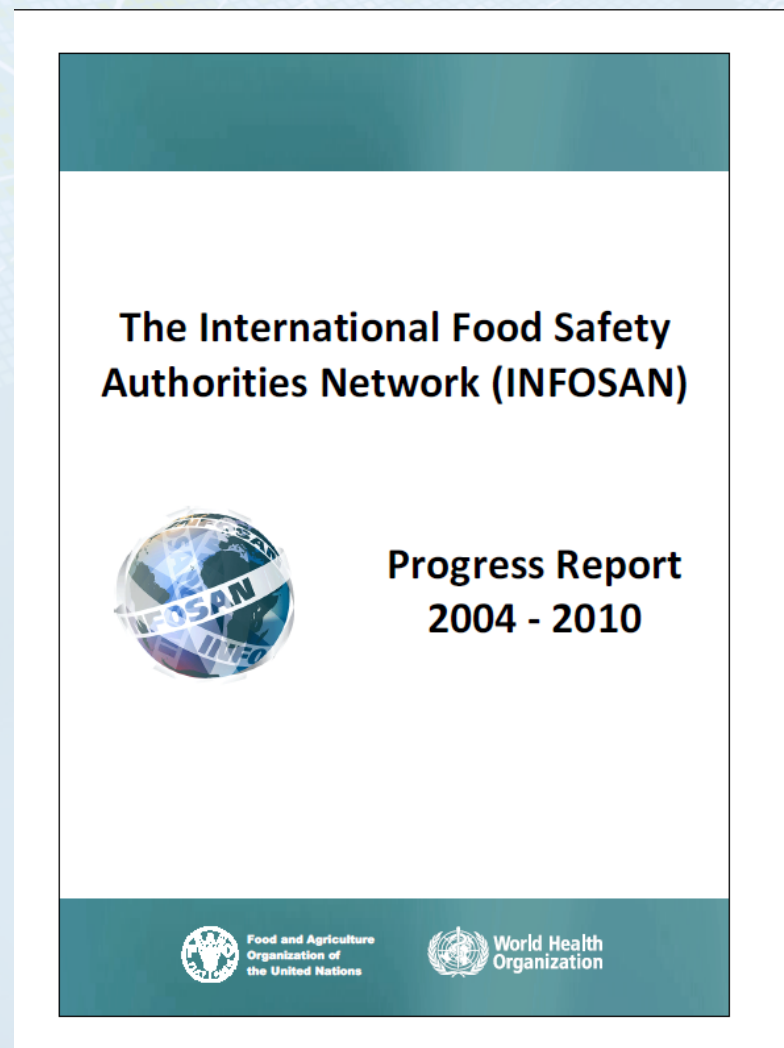
Figure 1 - Map of Japan indicating evacuation zone



- A total of 2215 food samples (collected between 16 March 2011 and 27 April 2011) have been tested from 18 prefectures in Japan (Chiba, Ehime, Fukushima, Gifu, Gunma, Hyogo, Hokkaido, Ibaraki, Kanagawa, Kyoto, Miyagi, Nagano, Niigata, Saitama, Shizuoka, Tochigi, Tokyo, and Yamagata).
- Approximately 231 different kinds of foods have been tested within the following broad categories: milk; vegetables; meat; fishery products; eggs; and other.
- 212/2215 (9.6%) samples, representing six different categories of food, (Table 1), have tested positive for radionuclides at levels exceeding the action levels set by the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare (MHLW) in Japan for withdrawal from markets.

INFOSAN Progress Report 2004-2010

- First report the activities of the INFOSAN Network
- Reviews the structure and function of the Network and highlights key milestones
- Available on line http://www.who.int/foodsafety/publications/fs_management/infosan_progress_report/en/index.html



First Global Meeting – Dec 2010

Closed, technical meeting in Abu Dhabi, UAE
150 participants from 65 different countries



First Global Meeting – Dec 2010

Meeting outcomes:

- an improved sense of community among members
- practical recommendations to enhance communication and collaboration
- identification of opportunities to strengthen core capacity at country and regional level which promote participation in INFOSAN



The Way Forward

- **Continue fostering a true community of practice**
- **Enhance member engagement in the Network**
 - develop regionally based strategies for enhancing participation in INFOSAN
- **Improve national coordination**
 - identify capacity building and training needs and link with partners to meet them
- **Develop effective methods for exchanging ideas in a secure environment** (for both emergency and routine communication)
 - improve secure web-based communication platform
- **Seamlessly interact with other global networks and initiatives**
 - formalize agreements
- **Develop a resource mobilization plan to ensure sustainability**

INFOSAN

INTERNATIONAL FOOD SAFETY AUTHORITIES NETWORK



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Japan Nuclear Accident - 2011

Event Introduction

17 March 2011

Following the nuclear accident in Japan, many questions have been raised with respect to the potential impact on food safety. The INFOSAN Secretariat will continue to share new information about the event as it becomes available via the INFOSAN Secure Website. If you have general questions about this situation that may be of interest to other INFOSAN members, please pose them using the discussion forum. Otherwise, you can contact the INFOSAN Secretariat directly at infosan@who.int.

INFOSAN Alerts

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Alan Reilly

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INFOSAN European Regional Group



Welcome to the INFOSAN European Regional Group

Administrator: [Dr. Hilde Kruse](#)

About this Group:

The INFOSAN European Regional Group has been established to facilitate horizontal communication

Opportunities for collaboration with APEC FSCF Food Safety Incident Network

- Collaborate in build capacity for countries to better contribute to international food safety incident management
- Strengthen INFOSAN by ensuring all the right players are represented
- Use new INFOSAN secure site (under development) as a platform for exchange among APEC FSIN members



Thank you for your attention!

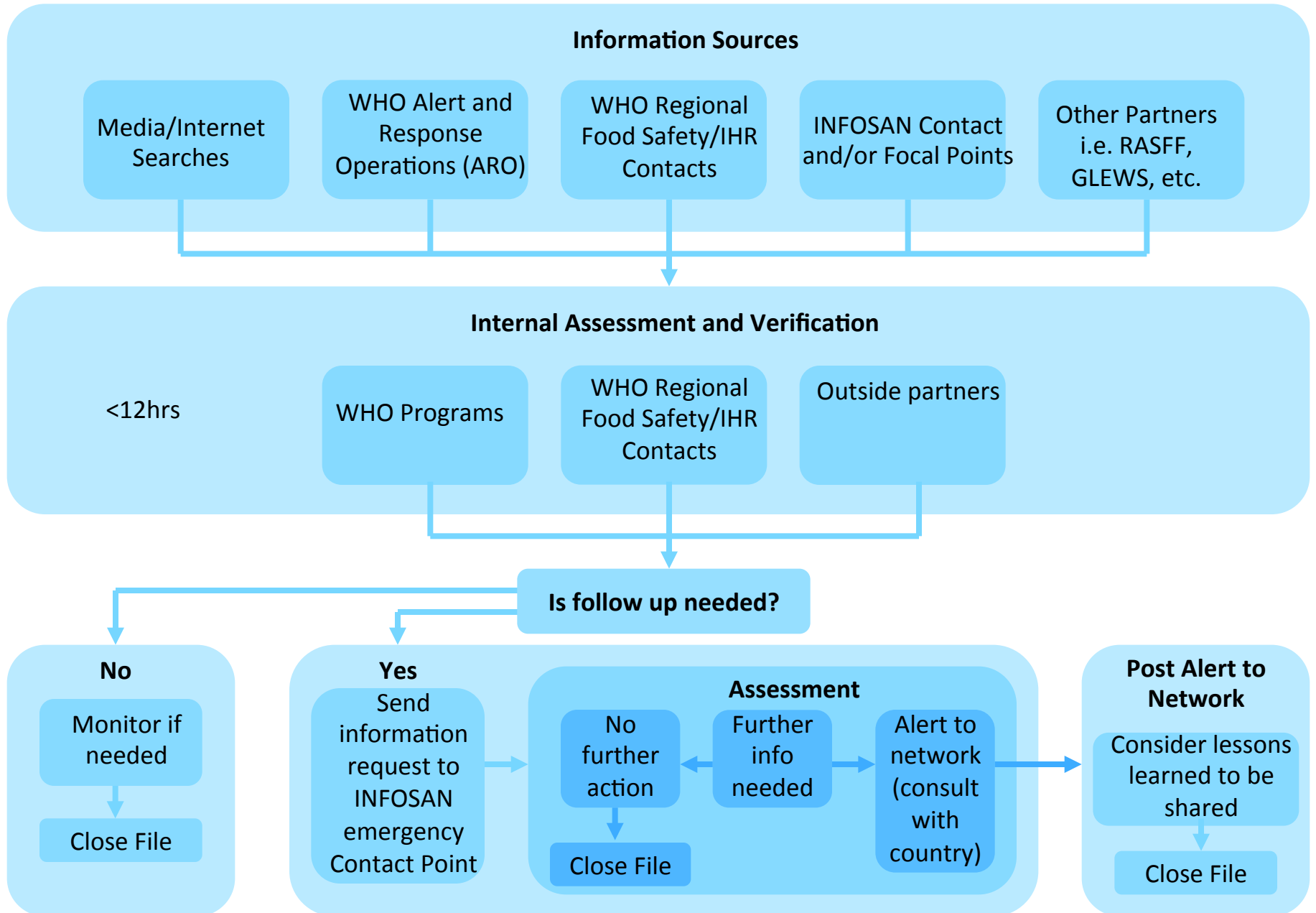


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Event Detection and Action



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