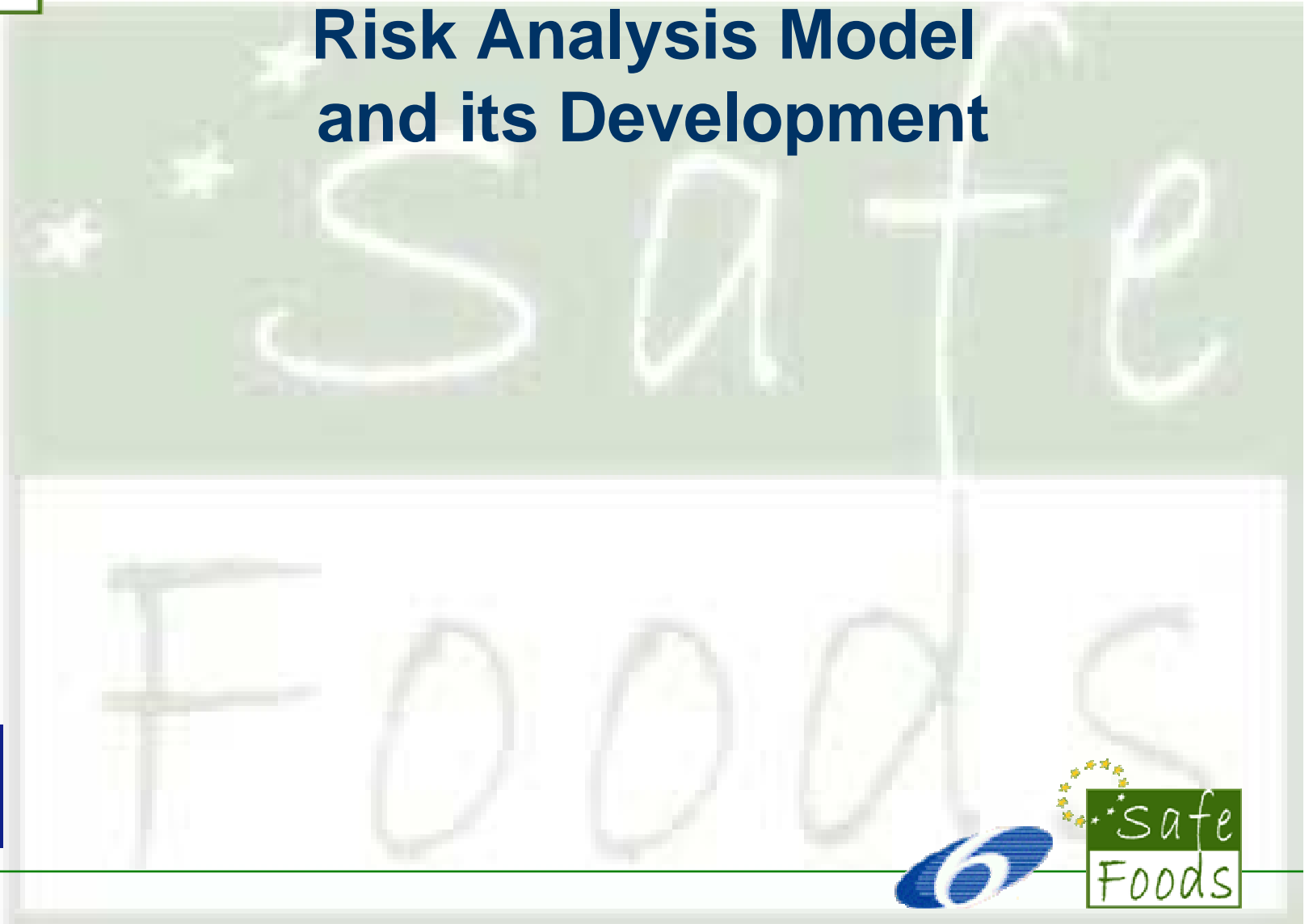




# The SAFE FOODS Risk Analysis Model and its Development



# 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

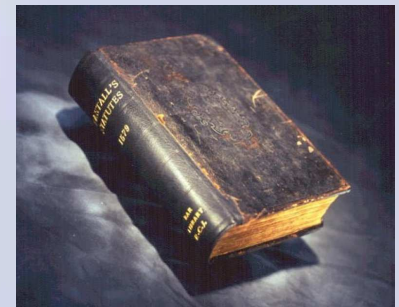
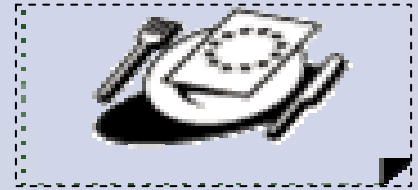
## ■ General Food Law (Regulation 178/2002)

## ■ Rapid Alert System for Food and Feed (RASFF)

## ■ Precautionary Principle

## ■ Traceability

## ■ Transparency



# Traditional approach to Risk Analysis



Risk  
Assessment

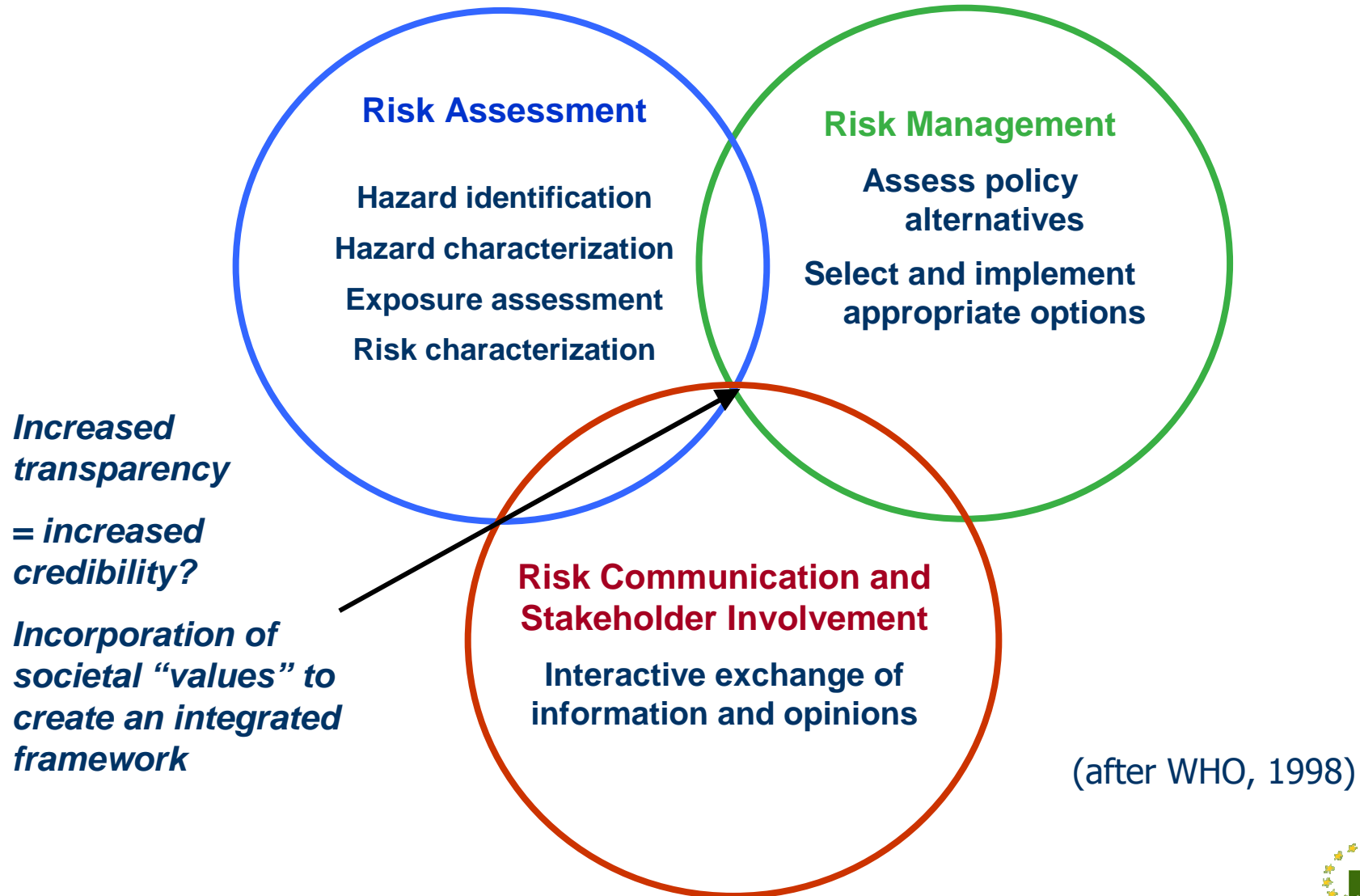


Risk  
Management



Risk  
Communication

# Risk Analysis Framework

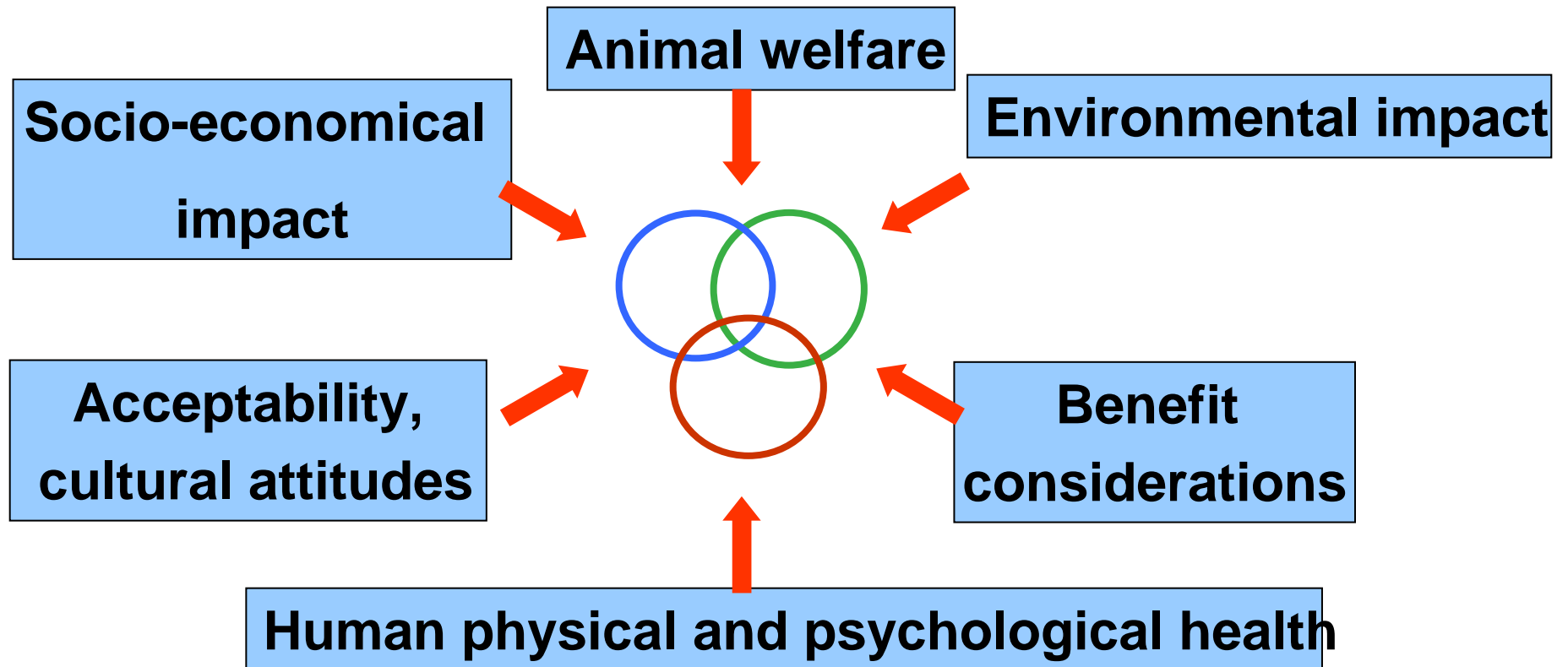


# Risk Analysis Process Further Developed

- 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

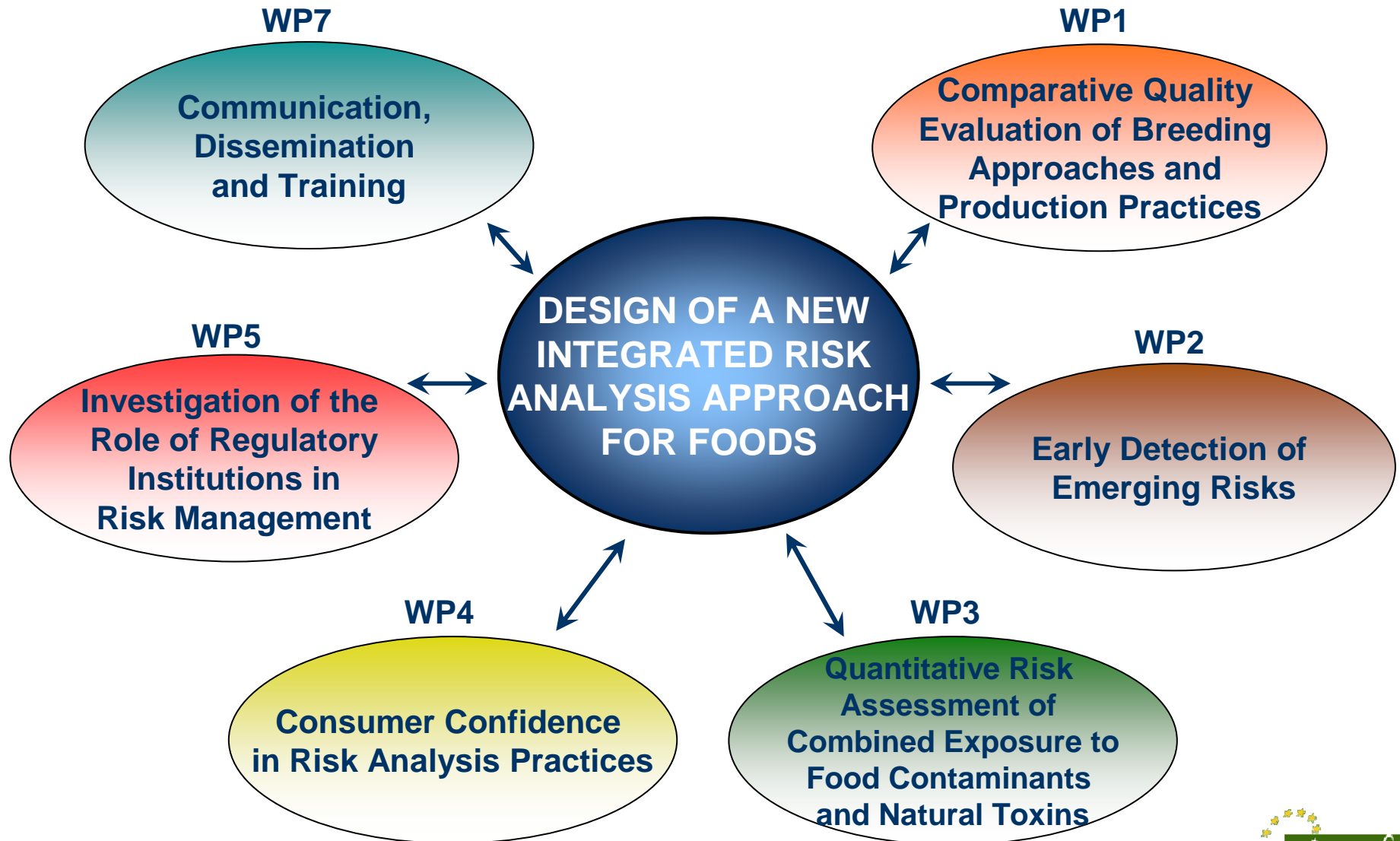


**Towards a new risk analysis approach for foods, integrating**

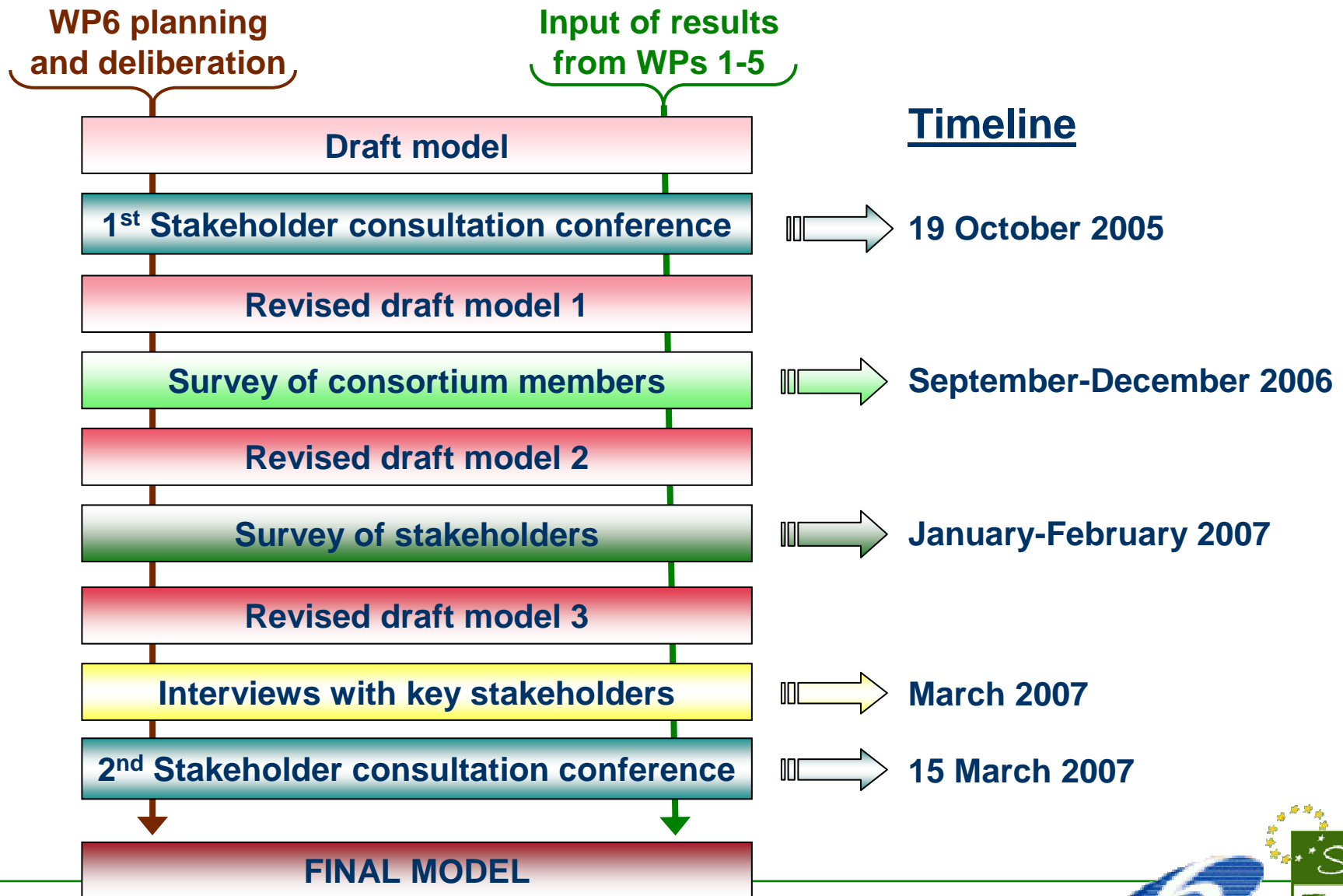
- **Scientific principles**
- **Societal aspects**
- **Effective public participation**



# WP6 – Integrated Risk Analysis Model



# WP6 – Developing a new Framework - Work in Progress

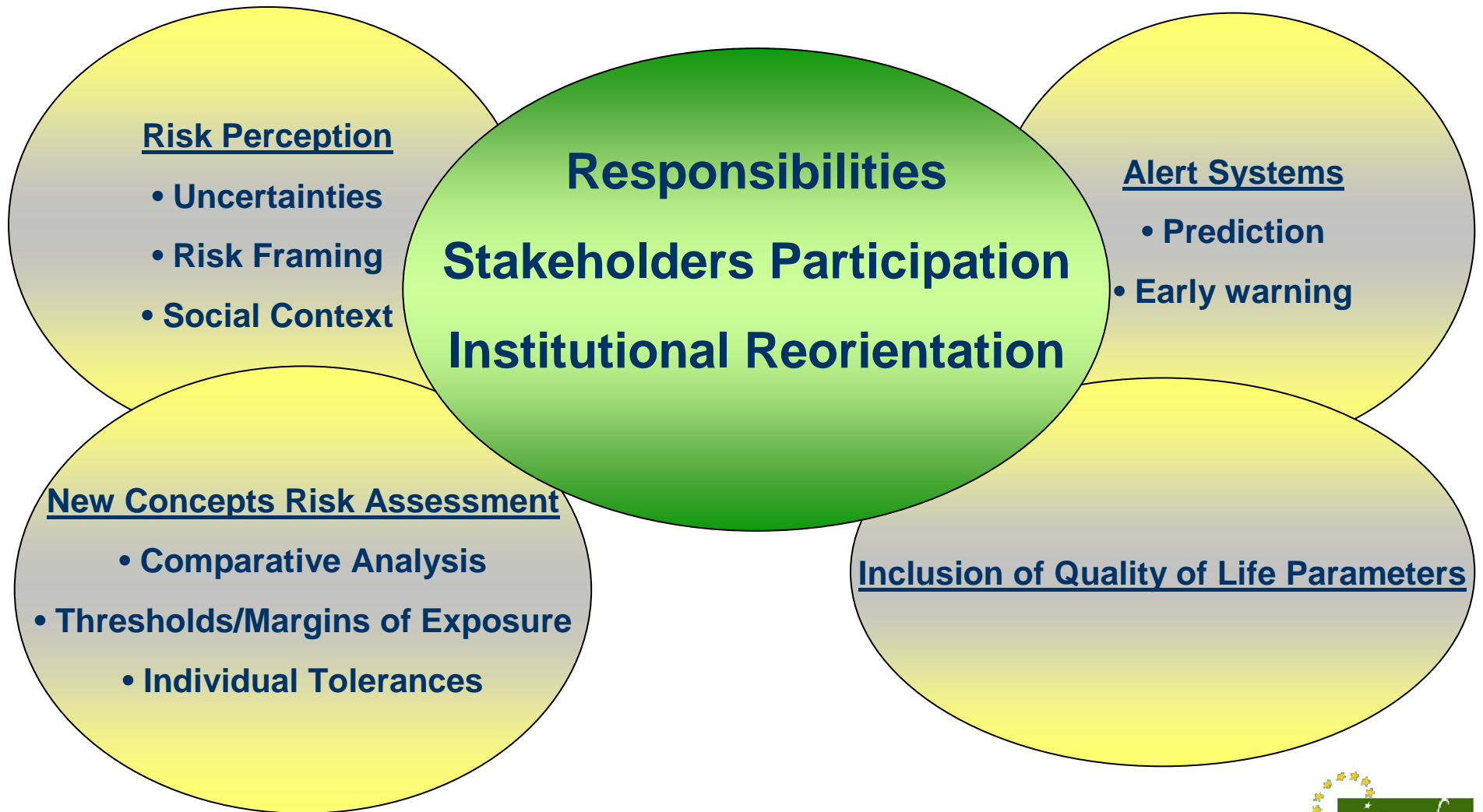


## WP6 – Characteristics of the New Risk Analysis Model

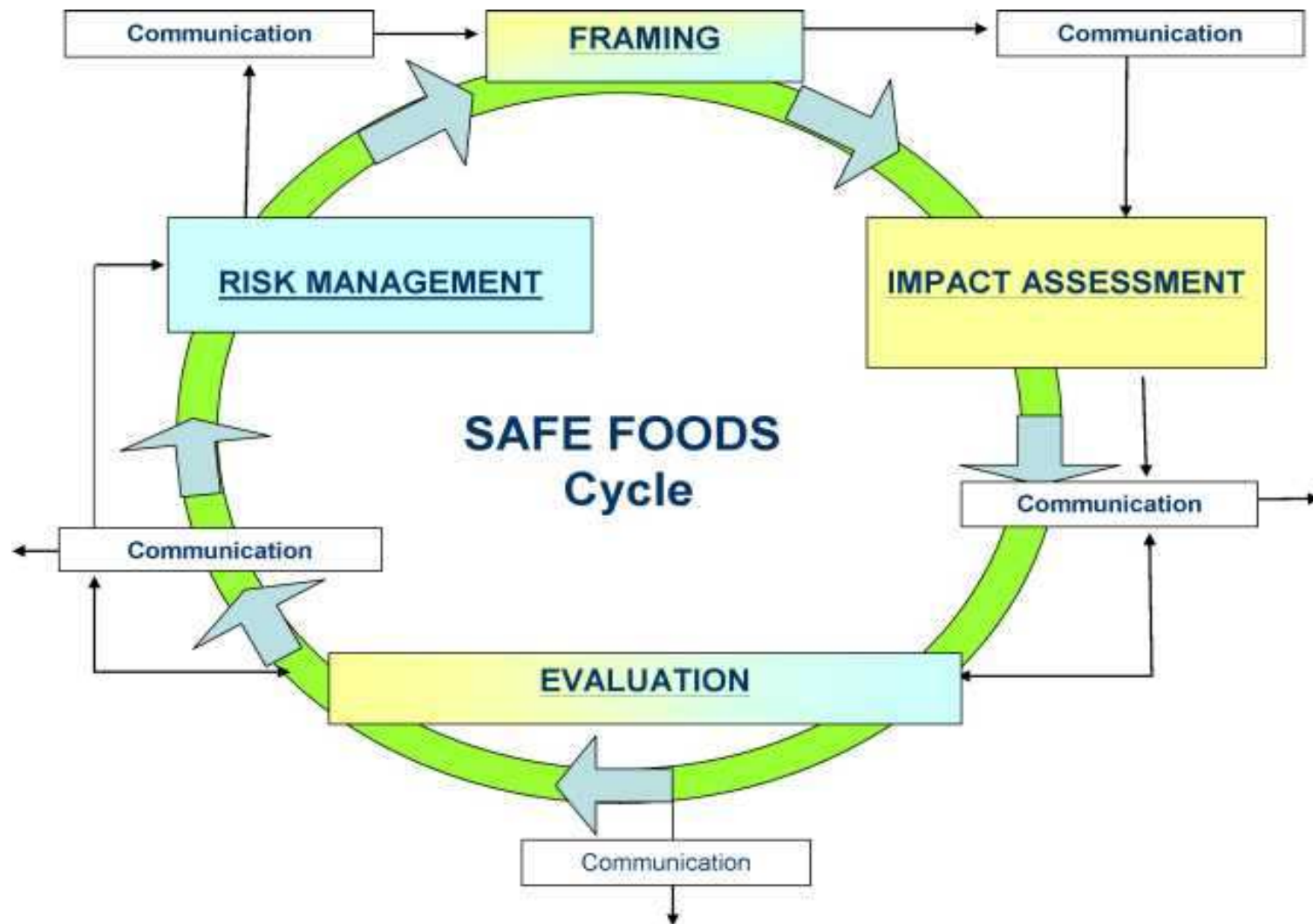
- Integration of assessment of human health aspects of foods with consumer preferences and values
- Active consumer and stakeholder participation in the various stages of the risk analysis process
- Improved functional and structural risk management procedures
- Improved risk communication with consumers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



# WP6 – The Inclusive SAFE FOODS Risk Analysis Model



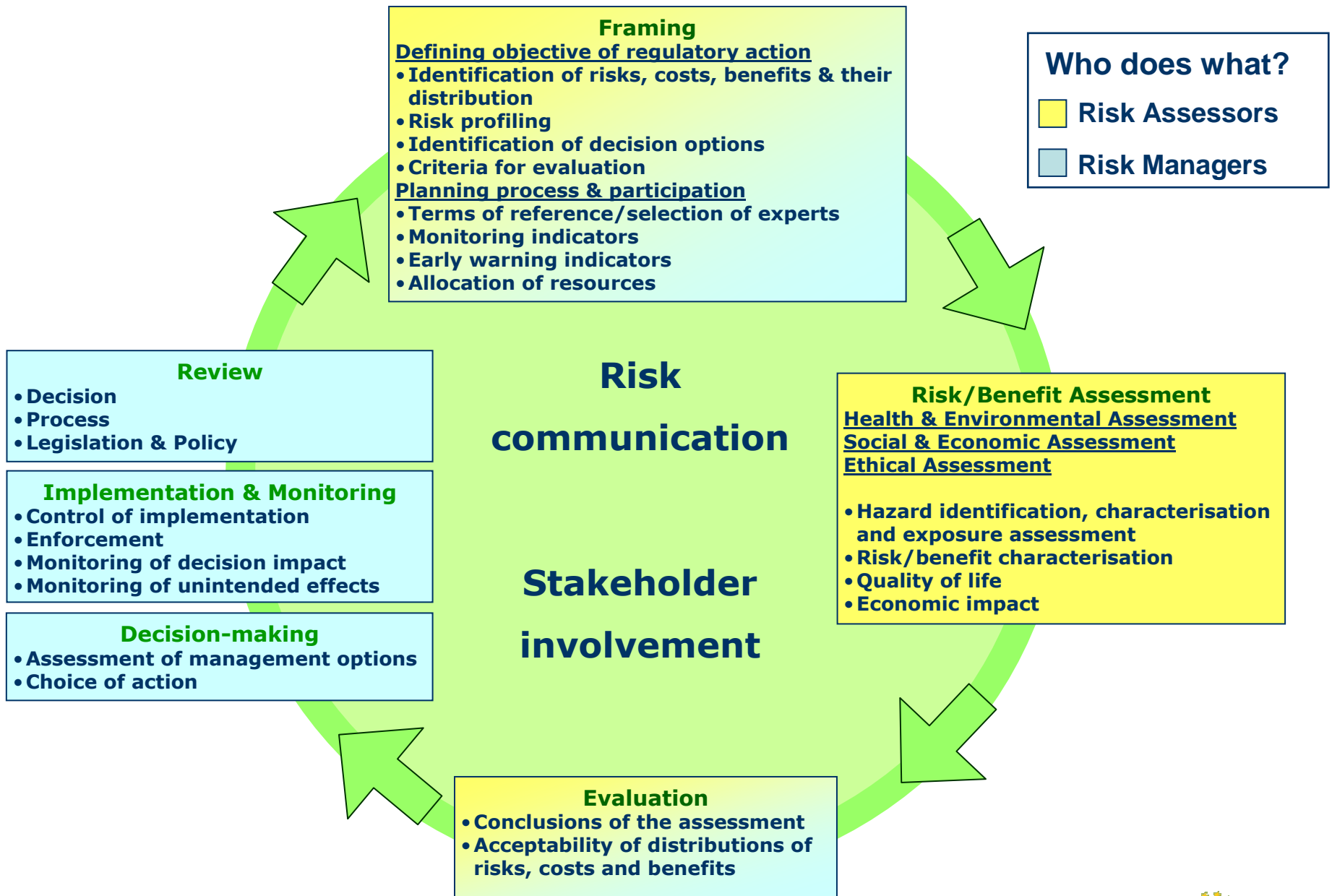
# WP6 – Early version of the SAFE FOODS Model



## WP6 – Novel elements

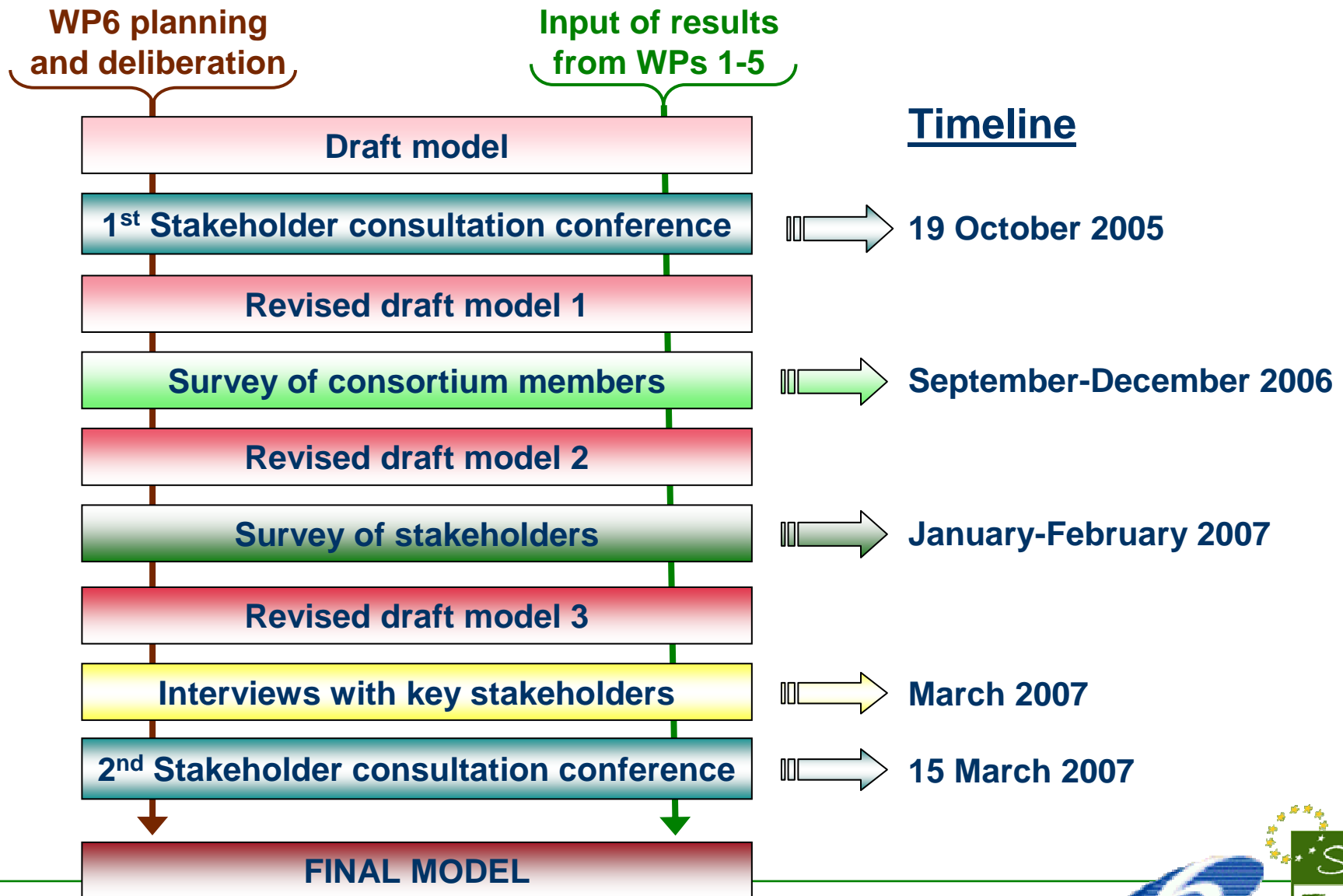


- Identification and active involvement of stakeholders
- Evaluation of new methods for risk assessment of food safety issues (probabilistic risk assessment, genomics, profiling methods)
- Identification of Quality of Life parameters in the risk/benefit analysis of food and food production systems
- 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 19<sup>th</sup> 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 2<sup>nd</sup> Stakeholder Conference

- Consultation of stakeholders on the revised document / model following recommendations from 1<sup>st</sup> 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 15<sup>th</sup>, 2007



**Thanks!**  
**Any questions?**

