

PRESS RELEASE

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One Health for humans, animals and ecosystems: ANSES and INRAE renew their partnership

On 3 March, Benoit Vallet, Director General of ANSES, and Philippe Mauguin, Chair and CEO of INRAE, signed a new partnership agreement for the next five years. The two partners are thus undertaking to extend their joint work to produce invaluable knowledge for the development of sustainable production systems and the preservation of ecosystems, in keeping with the “One Health” approach.

ANSES and INRAE have long been working together in the areas of animal health and welfare, plant health and protection, food and nutrition, ecotoxicology, and the quality of the natural environment. Renewed for five years, their partnership is being strengthened and aims in particular to develop holistic approaches to study health issues related to the One Health and exposome concepts.

Many joint projects under way

Over the 2018-2023 period, the partnership between the two organisations has grown and taken several forms:

- Jointly funded and supervised theses (two to six new projects each year)
- Shared research conducted as part of joint research units (UMRs) and ANSES contracted units with INRAE
- Participation of over 100 INRAE researchers in ANSES’s expert groups
- Collaborative work undertaken as part of major European research partnerships funded by the European Union, such as the European Joint Programme (EJP) on One Health and

the European Partnership for the Assessment of Risks from Chemicals (PARC), both coordinated by ANSES

- Joint mobilisation in national partnership mechanisms (national epidemiological surveillance platforms in the areas of animal health, plant health and food chain surveillance, National Reference Centre for animal welfare)
- Continued joint coordination of the French Food Observatory (OQALI).

Shared challenges and objectives for the next five years

Based on high-level research and expert appraisal work, the two organisations have defined a number of shared challenges and objectives for the 2023-2028 period:

- Producing knowledge on the impacts of biological and chemical contaminants on the environment and living organisms
- Characterising health hazards and their vectors to develop analytical and epidemiological surveillance methods in the areas of animal and plant health and food safety
- Studying ways to reduce the use of antibiotics in animal husbandry and plant protection products in agriculture, and exploring agro-ecological alternatives
- Working to take the ethical and operational dimensions of animal welfare into account
- Carrying out methodological work and multi-criteria impact studies focusing on socio-economic dimensions, production methods, consumption patterns, and health risk regulation measures
- More broadly, contributing to work and initiatives promoting systemic approaches and a holistic approach to health.

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The French Agency for Food, Environmental and Occupational Health & Safety (ANSES) provides public decision-makers with the scientific benchmarks needed to protect humans and the environment against health risks. It studies, assesses and monitors all the chemical, microbiological and physical risks to which humans, animals and plants are exposed, thereby helping the public authorities take the necessary measures, including in the event of a health crisis. A national agency working in the public interest, ANSES comes under the responsibility of the French Ministries of Health, the Environment, Agriculture, Labour and Consumer Affairs.

INRAE, the French National Research Institute for Agriculture, Food and the Environment, is a major player in research and innovation. It was created on 1 January 2020. A targeted research institute resulting from the merger between INRA and IRSTEA, INRAE brings together a community of nearly 12,000 people, with 272 research, support and experimental units located in 18 centres throughout France. The institute is one of the world's leading research organisations in agricultural, food, plant and animal sciences, as well as in ecology and the environment. It is the world's leading research organisation specialising in the "agriculture-food-environment" complex. INRAE's ambition is to be a key player in the transitions needed to address society's greatest global challenges. In the face of population growth, climate change, resource scarcity and biodiversity decline, the institute has a major role to play to build solutions and support the necessary acceleration of the agricultural, food and environmental transitions.