

The essentials

THE FRENCH AGENCY FOR FOOD, ENVIRONMENTAL
AND OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH & SAFETY



ANSES: a brief description

Whether we are eating, working or simply breathing, everyday life constantly exposes us to health risks. Climate and technological changes and our societal choices have also led to the emergence of new threats to humans and the environment, both in France and abroad.

Since 2010, ANSES has been providing the scientific benchmarks needed to protect against health risks related to food, the environment and the workplace, as well as against risks affecting the health of animals and plants.

1 400
employees

More than 800
independent experts mobilised

9
laboratories throughout France

A scientific expert appraisal agency, ANSES monitors and assesses these health risks while also conducting research into them.

It contributes to advancing scientific knowledge to support public decision-makers, including during health crises.

ANSES is accountable to the French Ministries of Health, the Environment, Agriculture, Labour and Consumer Affairs. Serving the public interest, it works daily to mobilise science to make the world safer and healthier for all.

Over 250
opinions and reports
published each year

750
scientific publications, of which
400 are category A or A+ every year

More than 100
national, European and
international reference mandates

The principles guiding our work

A comprehensive approach to risks

Because safeguarding the health of some means safeguarding it for all, ANSES's activities have always been at the interface between human, animal and plant health.

The vast scope of its work has enabled the Agency to adopt a comprehensive view of health threats to living organisms and ecosystems. It has developed an interdisciplinary approach to assessing the risks of today and anticipating those of tomorrow.

Scientific excellence

Every day, ANSES mobilises scientific experts recognised in their fields, implements reference scientific methods and takes all the available scientific knowledge into account. This ongoing commitment enables it to provide benchmark scientific expertise.

The Agency has established multiple partnerships with various scientific assessment and research players in France, Europe and the rest of the world. ANSES relies on its Scientific Board to guarantee the quality of its expert appraisals.

Transparency and independence

ANSES takes great care to ensure that all its activities comply with principles of ethics and scientific integrity. Ever since it was created, the Agency has had a robust ethical framework which it continues to strengthen and it regularly consults its Committee for Ethical Standards and Prevention of Conflicts of Interest.

To assess health risks, it relies on multidisciplinary expert groups and transparent, collegial working methods that guarantee the independence and impartiality of the expert appraisal work on which its opinions are based. It publishes all of its expert appraisal work.

Openness and dialogue

Health issues are a source of both interest and concern for society. Voluntary associations, trade unions, businesses, elected officials and government ministries are all represented on ANSES's Board of Administrators and discuss its strategic orientations.

To foster informed debate that can benefit public action, the Agency systematically publishes its opinions and reports and accounts for scientific uncertainties. ANSES has also created dialogue committees on nanomaterials, radiofrequencies and plant protection products. These provide it with forums to address the questions of stakeholders and explain its expert appraisals and the methods used.

Investigate

➤ **Advancing scientific knowledge on the hazards and risks to which humans, animals, plants and the environment are exposed, and improving surveillance.**

To identify hazards, how they spread, and how they impact living organisms, ANSES carries out research activities in three key areas in particular: animal health & welfare, plant health and food safety. It also ensures the funding of projects, most notably within the framework of the National Research Programme for Environmental and Occupational Health (PNR EST), for which it is also coordinator.

ANSES's laboratories develop ever more efficient analytical methods and detection tools to identify pathogens and chemical contaminants, whether in natural environments or in production sectors.

They hold over 100 "reference" mandates, ensure the quality of methods and analysis techniques and help

public authorities to monitor, prevent and manage health crises in France, Europe and worldwide.

ANSES takes part in various health monitoring and alert systems in connection with other health agencies, State services, and European and international authorities and networks. Among other things, it participates in epidemiological surveillance platforms for animal and plant health and food-chain safety.

It also coordinates five national vigilance schemes: toxicovigilance with the French network of poison control centres, nutrivigilance for food supplements, phytopharmacovigilance, veterinary pharmacovigilance and the National Network for Monitoring and Prevention of Occupational Diseases (RNV3P).

All of this knowledge and information contributes to our health risk assessment activities. ➤

➤ **Assessing risks to human, animal and plant health thanks to independent and robust scientific expertise.**

In response to questions asked by society, ANSES assesses health risks associated with food, the use of certain products and technologies, occupational activities, and more broadly pollution of environments such as air, water and soil.

Its assessments are based on scientific expert appraisal work undertaken by independent expert committees and based on the most recent global knowledge. The Agency also ensures that the human, economic and social sciences are incorporated into its expert appraisals.

To better assess complex risks, such as the effects of cumulative exposure, the Agency develops new methodologies with its scientific partners. Through observatories and large-scale studies, ANSES collects useful data for assessing risks associated with the practices of the French population and the composition of foods and everyday products.

ANSES also studies changes in products declared on the portals that it has created for nanomaterials and for smoking and vaping products.

In the area of regulated products - veterinary medicinal products, plant protection products and biocides in particular - ANSES assesses their efficacy as well as the risks they pose to human health, animal health and the environment, and it defines management measures in adequation with these risks. It is responsible in particular for issuing and withdrawing marketing authorisations in France.

The Agency is also a driving force when it comes to improving methods and proposing changes to national and European regulations. ➤

Evaluate

Protect

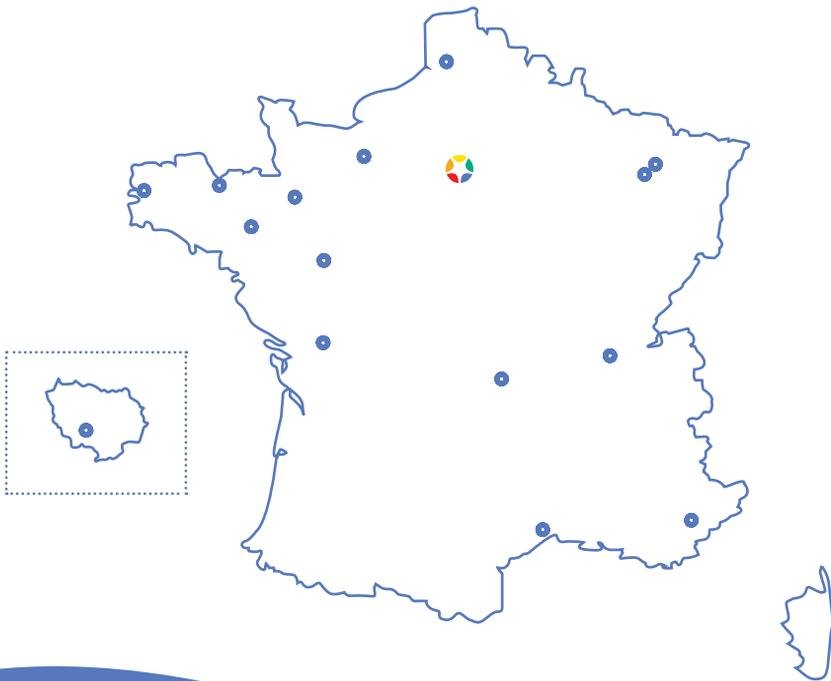
➤ **Building capacities for action to protect on a daily basis and anticipate the risks of tomorrow.**

Since 2010, ANSES has provided useful scientific data and recommendations that have served as input for numerous public debates and decisions. To meet societal expectations in the areas of health, biodiversity and ethics, it has helped put into place effective prevention and protection measures and provide access to reliable, independent, multidisciplinary information.

ANSES's understanding of known and emerging, immediate and long-term risks is expanding and improving every day. Tapping into all necessary methods, research and partnerships, it is working to anticipate and rapidly detect the slightest alert, especially in crisis situations; to issue recommendations, including when scientific uncertainties exist; and to reduce scientific uncertainties whenever possible.

Beyond our borders, ANSES is recognised as a leading partner of European agencies and international health organisations, and it strives to be a source of new ideas to make the global health and safety system ever more effective. ●

Close to **1 400** women and men spread out across **16** sites in France, are working every day to fulfil ANSES's missions.



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