

# DSV Seminars

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DEGLI STUDI DI TRIESTE



DIPARTIMENTO DI  
SCIENZE DELLA VITA

*PhD Program in Environmental Life Sciences*

**Monday, 15 April 2019 10:30**

Seminar room, 1st floor, Q Building, Via Giorgieri n° 5, Trieste

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*Host: Aurelia Tubaro*

## **Risk assessment of genetically modified food and feed: the role of EFSA**

Modern technology makes it possible to alter genetic material to create novel traits in plants, animals, bacteria and fungi. This technology has so far primarily been used in crops to increase insect resistance and herbicide tolerance, and in micro-organisms to produce enzymes. Organisms that have had their genetic material altered this way are called genetically modified organisms (GMOs). Food and feed containing or consisting of GMOs or produced from GMOs are called genetically modified (GM) food and feed and a large part of EFSA's work in the area of GMOs relates to their safety assessment. EFSA evaluates the safety of GMO products before a market authorisation or renewal decision is taken by risk managers. This evaluation encompasses the assessment of the potential impact of GMOs on human health, animal health and the environment. EFSA applies the principles of GMO risk assessment considering several aspects. Molecular characterisation, comparative analysis, evaluation of potential toxicity and allergenicity on humans and animals and evaluation of potential environmental impact are the main focus of the integrated assessment. How this is performed will be presented to participants.

