



**Food Safety Agency  
of the Republic of Azerbaijan  
(AQTA)**

# Creation of AQTA



The Food Safety Agency of the Republic of Azerbaijan is a central executive body established by the decree of the President of the Azerbaijan Republic dated February 10, 2017, exercising state control (supervision) over food safety throughout the food chain, as well as regulating import, export and transit operations of food products and cargo, under veterinary and phytosanitary control

## Short term goals

1. Ensuring transparency
2. Increasing the efficiency and effectiveness of government control over food safety
3. Strengthening control over safety of imported products
4. Raising public awareness in the field of food safety
5. Optimization and modernization of laboratories, etc.

## Long term goals

1. Ensuring public health, as well as animal health and plant protection
2. Increasing the export potential of agri-food products
3. Increasing productivity and competitiveness in the agricultural sector
4. Increasing competitiveness among producers at all stages of the food chain
5. Expansion of international cooperation, etc.

# Areas of AQTA activities



## Food safety

- Implementation of food safety regulations
- Conducting food safety inspections
- Carrying out activities in connection with the removal from circulation of food products that were the cause of dangerous and mass poisoning (disease)
- Implementation of measures in connection with the elimination of identified violations of the law and (or) application of restrictive measures in the field of food safety
- Issuance of food safety certificates for exported food products
- Registration of business entities



## Animal health

- Implementation of regulations on veterinary control
- Implementation of measures to protect the country's territory from infectious diseases that can be transmitted from other countries
- Protecting the population from diseases common in humans and animals
- Carrying out veterinary control over animals, animal products and raw materials
- Issuance of a veterinary certificate for exported products
- Registration of veterinary drugs



## plant health

- Implementation of regulations on phytosanitary control
- Study of the phytosanitary condition in the country and implementation of measures to protect plants
- Carrying out control over the penetration of pests (subject to quarantine) into the territory of the country
- Registration of pesticides, biological agents and agrochemicals and ensuring state control over production, storage, sale and use thereof
- Issuance of a phytosanitary certificate for exported products

# AQTA activities



# Principles of AQTA activities



# Food safety reforms

**Legal  
framework**  
(National legislation –  
key legal acts)

**Infrastructure**  
(including 13 regional  
branches)

**Azerbaijan  
Institute of  
Food Safety**  
(17 laboratories,  
including the  
National Reference  
Laboratory)

# Legal framework



1

Constitution of the Azerbaijan Republic;

2

Laws of the Republic of Azerbaijan on food safety (Law on Veterinary Control; law on phytosanitary control etc.);

3

Decree of the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan dated February 10, 2017;

4

Decree of the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan dated December 6, 2016;

5

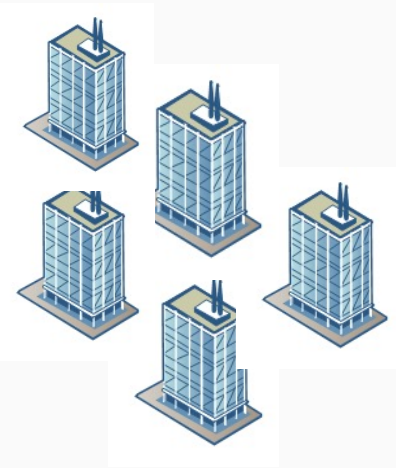
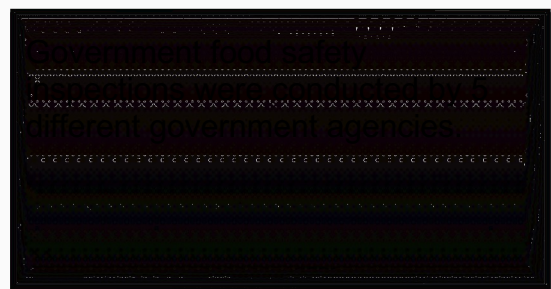
Decisions of the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Azerbaijan;

6

Status of the Food Safety Agency of the Republic of Azerbaijan

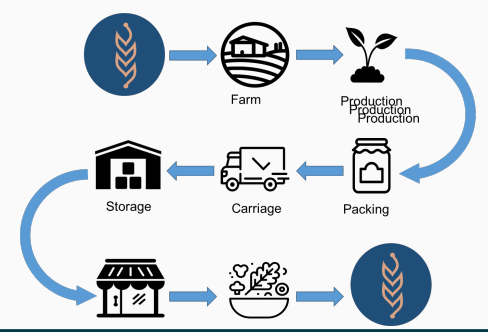
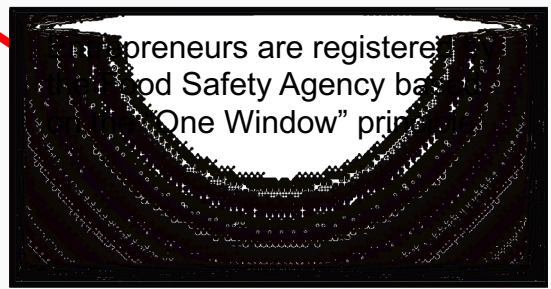
# Impact of reforms

Before

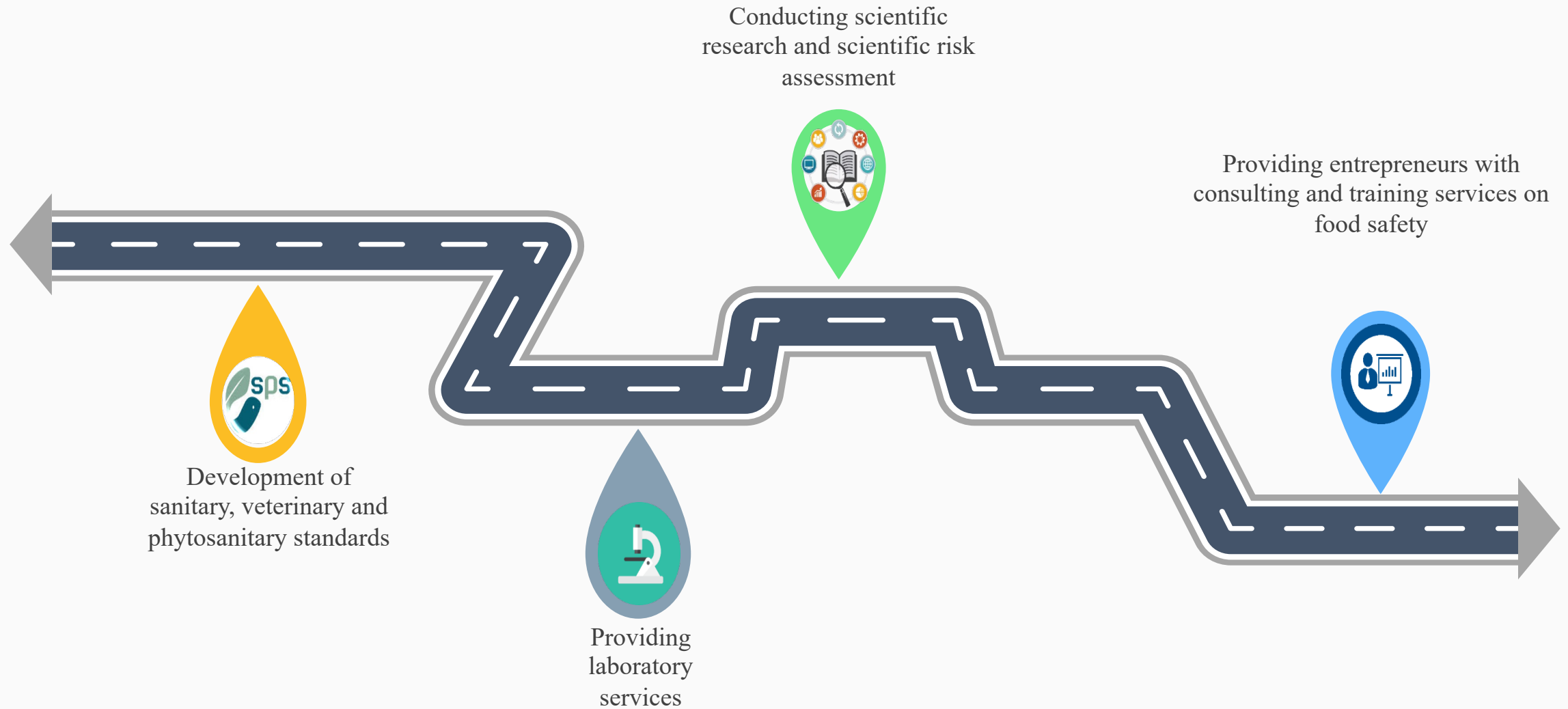


Reforms

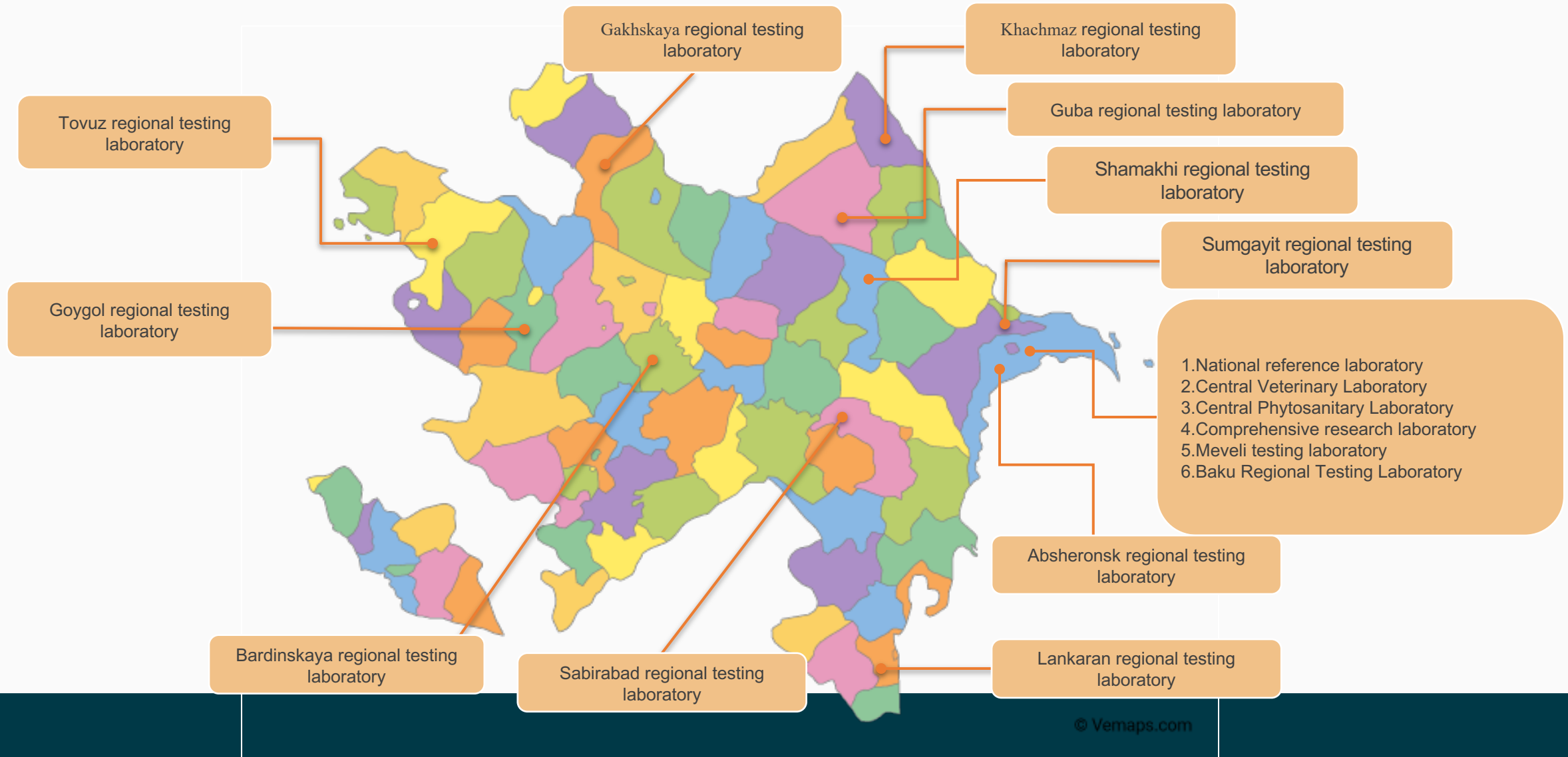
Currently







# Laboratories





### 1. World Organization for Animal Health

National Focal Point, Head of Animal Health Department/Chief Veterinary Inspector - Galib Abdulaliev

- Harmonization of national standards with OIE standards
- Cooperation to better guarantee the safety of food products of animal origin



### 2. Codex Alimentarius Commission

National Focal Point – Head of the Department of International Relations and Protocol of the AQTA  
Fouad Mardiev, [alimentarius@afsa.gov.az](mailto:alimentarius@afsa.gov.az)

- Development of definitions and requirements for food products
- Harmonization of national standards with the Codex standards to facilitate international trade and protect consumer health

### 3. International Plant Protection Convention

- Harmonization of national standards with IPPC standards to ensure safe trade in plants and plant products
- Implementation of International Phytosanitary Standards measures (IPSM)



### 4. European Plant Protection Convention

- Collaboration on plant health in the European-Mediterranean region
- Exchange of information between member countries on plant pests



### 5. International Food Safety Authorities Network (INFOSAN)

National Focal Point – Head of the Department of International Relations and Protocol of AQTA, Fouad Mardiev

- Support food safety risk management by ensuring rapid exchange of information during food safety emergencies to combat the cross-border spread of contaminated food.



# Donor organizations we cooperate with





**AQTA**

**Food Safety Agency  
of the Republic of Azerbaijan**

**Healthy food for the healthy future!**