



**Asia-Pacific  
Economic Cooperation**

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## **Integrated Food Safety Information Network System**

Submitted by: Korea



**Workshop on Improved Food Inspection  
Capacity Building Based on Risk Analysis  
Seoul, Korea  
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# **Integrated Food Safety Information Network System**

**May 2014**

**Integrated Foods Safety Information Network Bureau**

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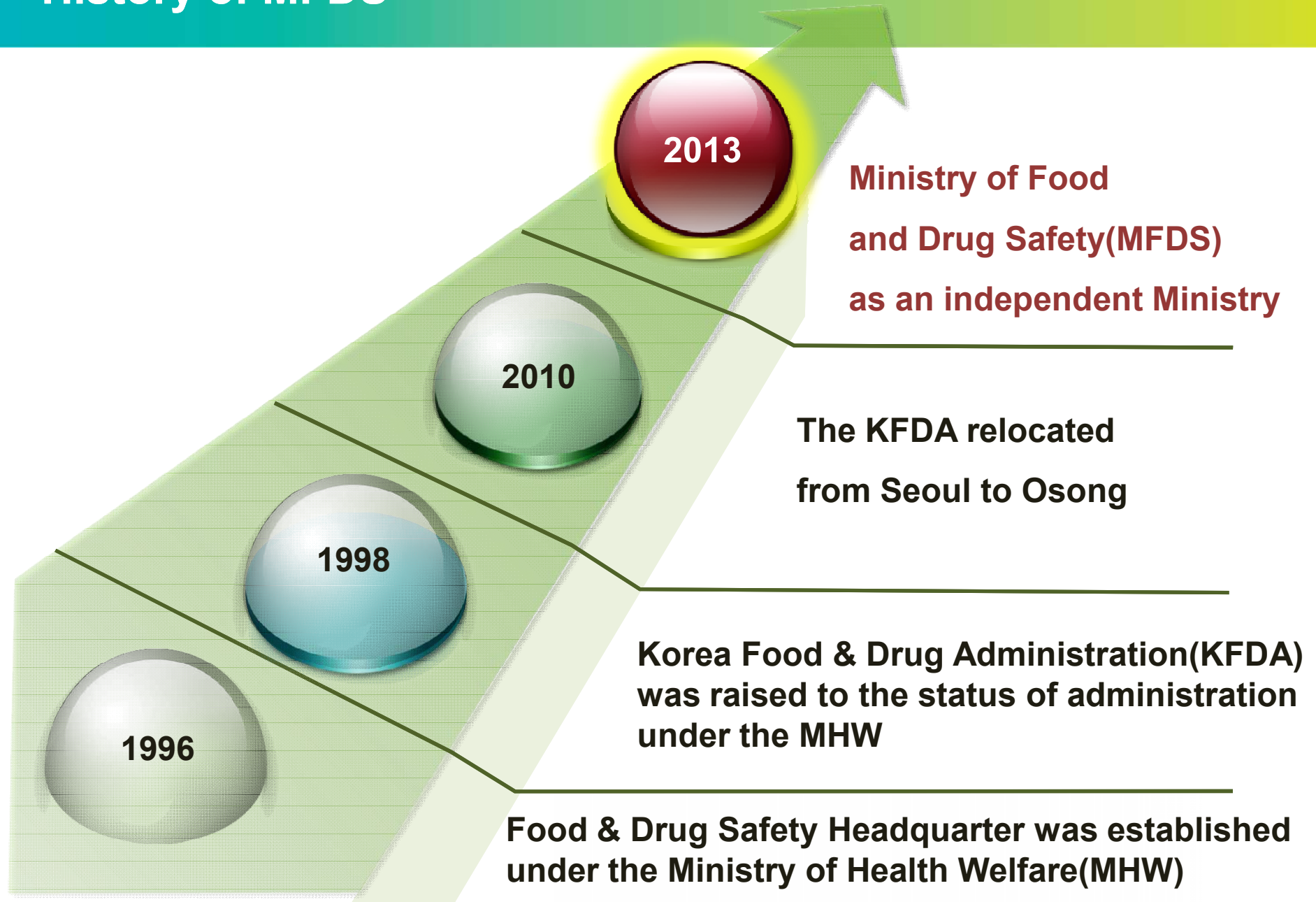
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# Introduction to MFDS



# History of MFDS



# Importance of the newly established MFDS

## Safety First

- Ministry of Food and Drug Safety(MFDS) as an administrative control tower of safety management for food and drug
- Gov't apply all available resources for **eradicating adulterated foods**



"I will certainly root out the **four major social ills**, which are sexual violence, school violence, home-wrecking crimes and **adulterated foods**" (Dec, 2012)

## Vision

Safe Food & Drugs · Healthy Nation · Wellbeing of Society

1

Ensuring Safety of the people  
to improve quality of life

2

Consumer-Driven safety  
management from Farm to  
Table

3

Realization of Safer and  
healthier lives of the people

4

Beyond safety, providing  
assurance to the people

Purpose

## Core Strategies

to eradicate  
adulterated  
foods

safety  
management  
from Farm  
to Table

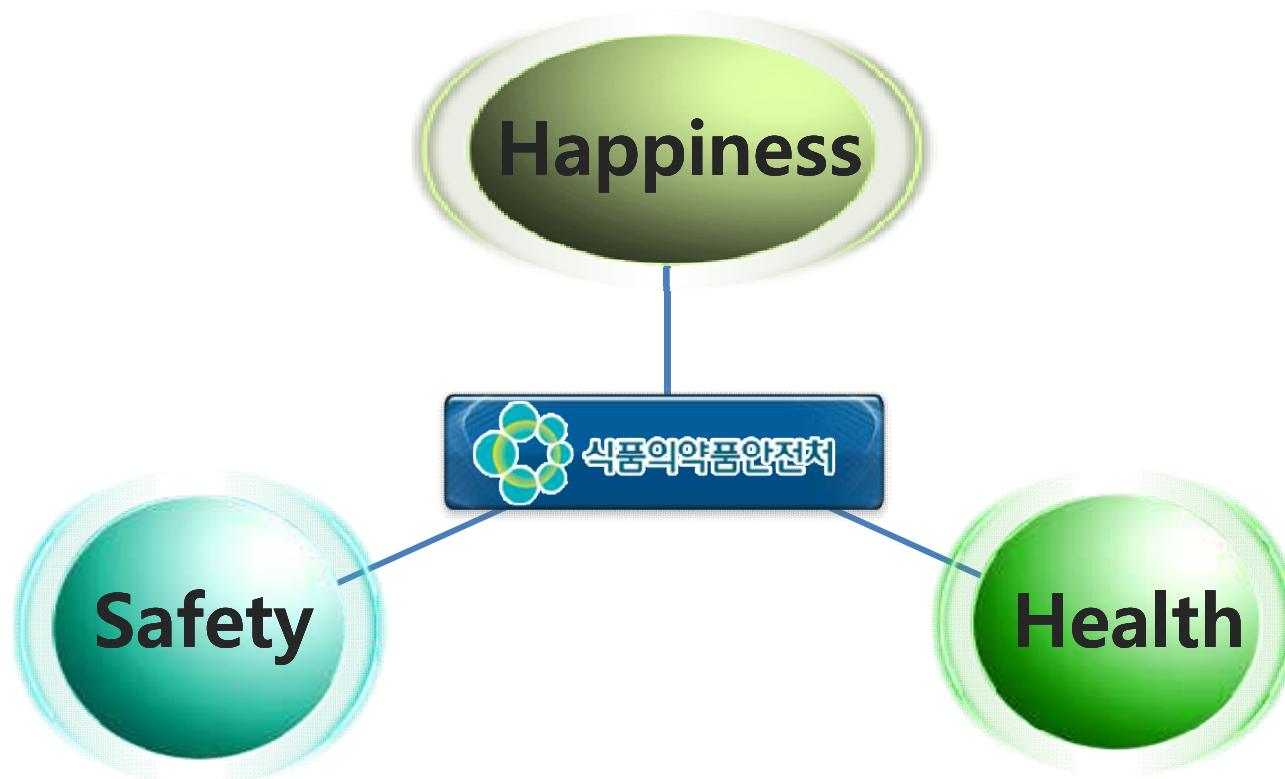
consumer  
participation &  
'Safety First'  
atmosphere

Virtuous cycle btw safety & proliferation

Correlation with public health policy

# A New Era of Hope Happiness for the People

**MFDS will build foundation for Korea to eradicate adulterated foods and become a globally recognized nation for food and drug safety.**

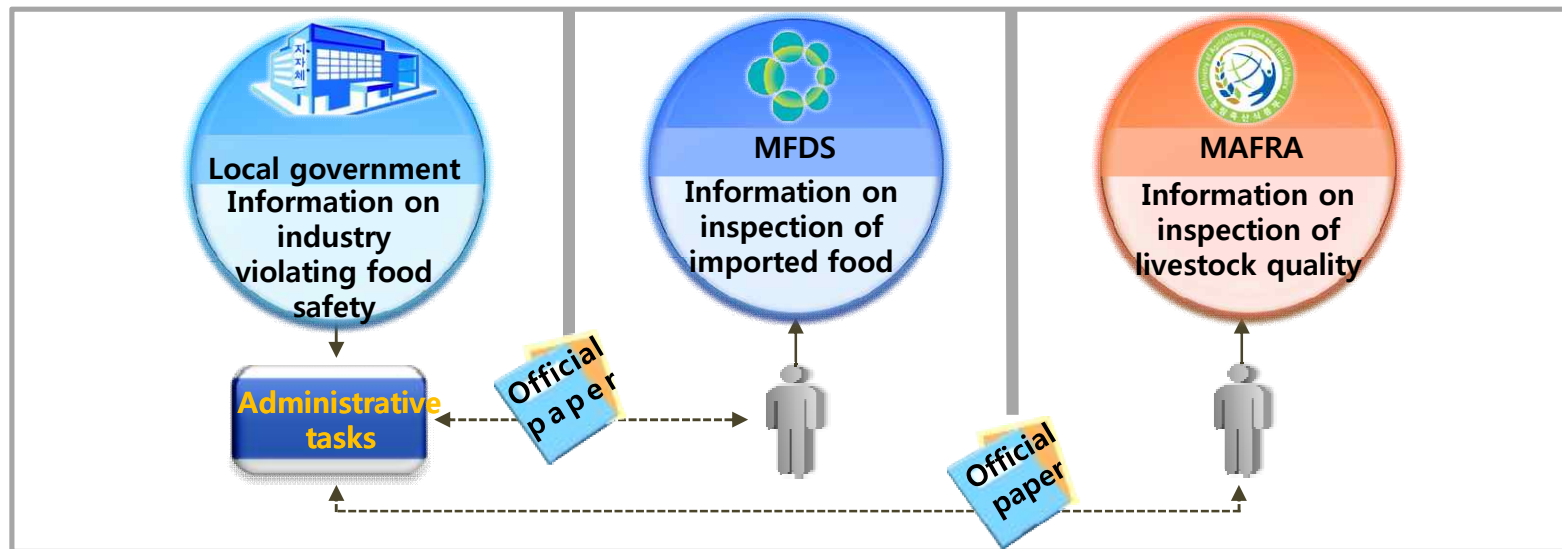


# Food Safety Information Network Status and Needs



# Separated food safety information system operated by many different government agencies

- The administrative process can be delayed because it takes more time to obtain information from other government agencies
- Administrative quality degrades due to duplicated processes when each agency deals with its own information

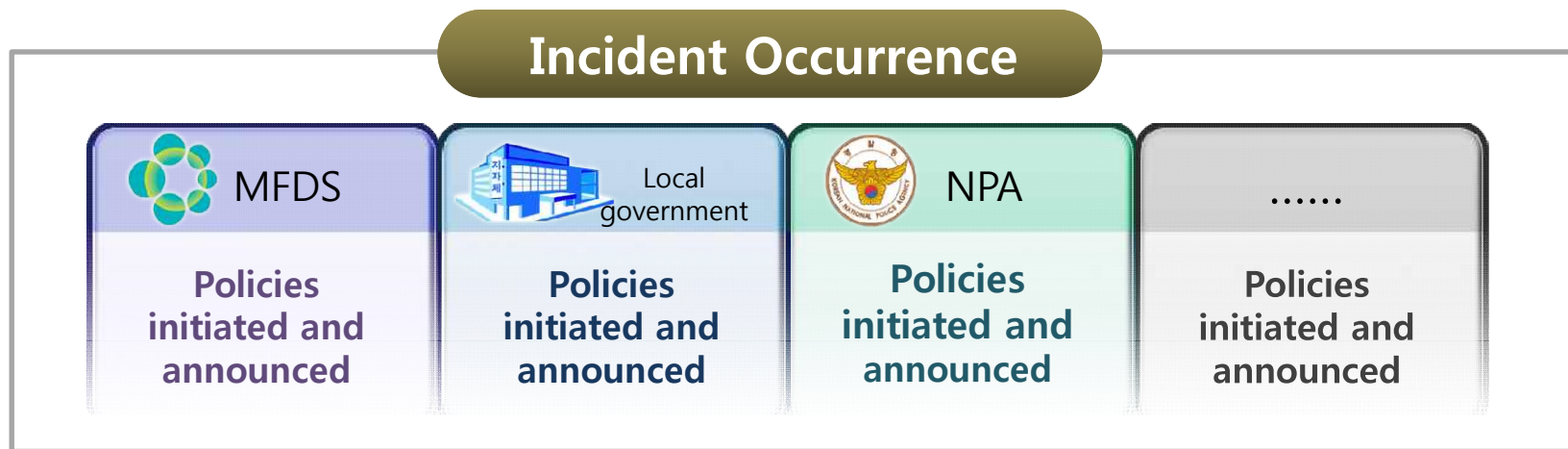


MFDS checks a food distributor and takes action  
→ local government's check the sanitary of the same distributor  
→ the distributor complains about overlapping crackdown, causing ineffective enforcement

For unified administrative processes, it is needed to establish integrated operation system for administrative information between the relevant agencies.

# Lack of appropriate system for information sharing on food policies

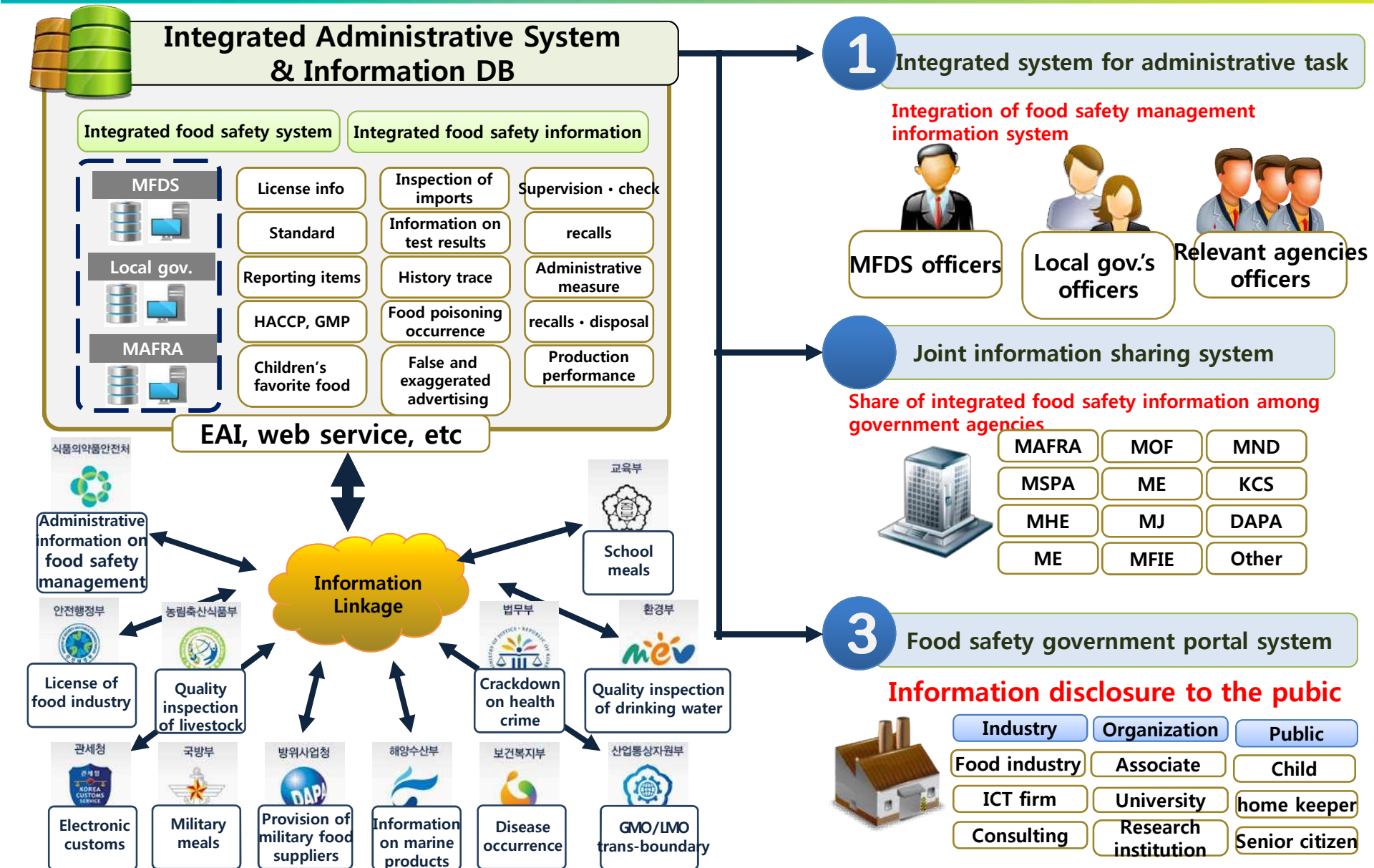
- Shortsighted policy due to lack of information sharing on policies between food safety authorities
- Inconsistent responses by each agency on food incidents causing public concerns



A city announced cadmium was detected in octopuses exceeding the safe limit  
→ fishermen and dealers faced economic losses because of the reduction in consumption  
→ MFDS announced risk assessment indicating that they were safe  
→ there were aggravated public concerns (2010)

**It is needed to establish a system for facilitating and enhancing information sharing among government agencies**

## Integrated food safety information network system

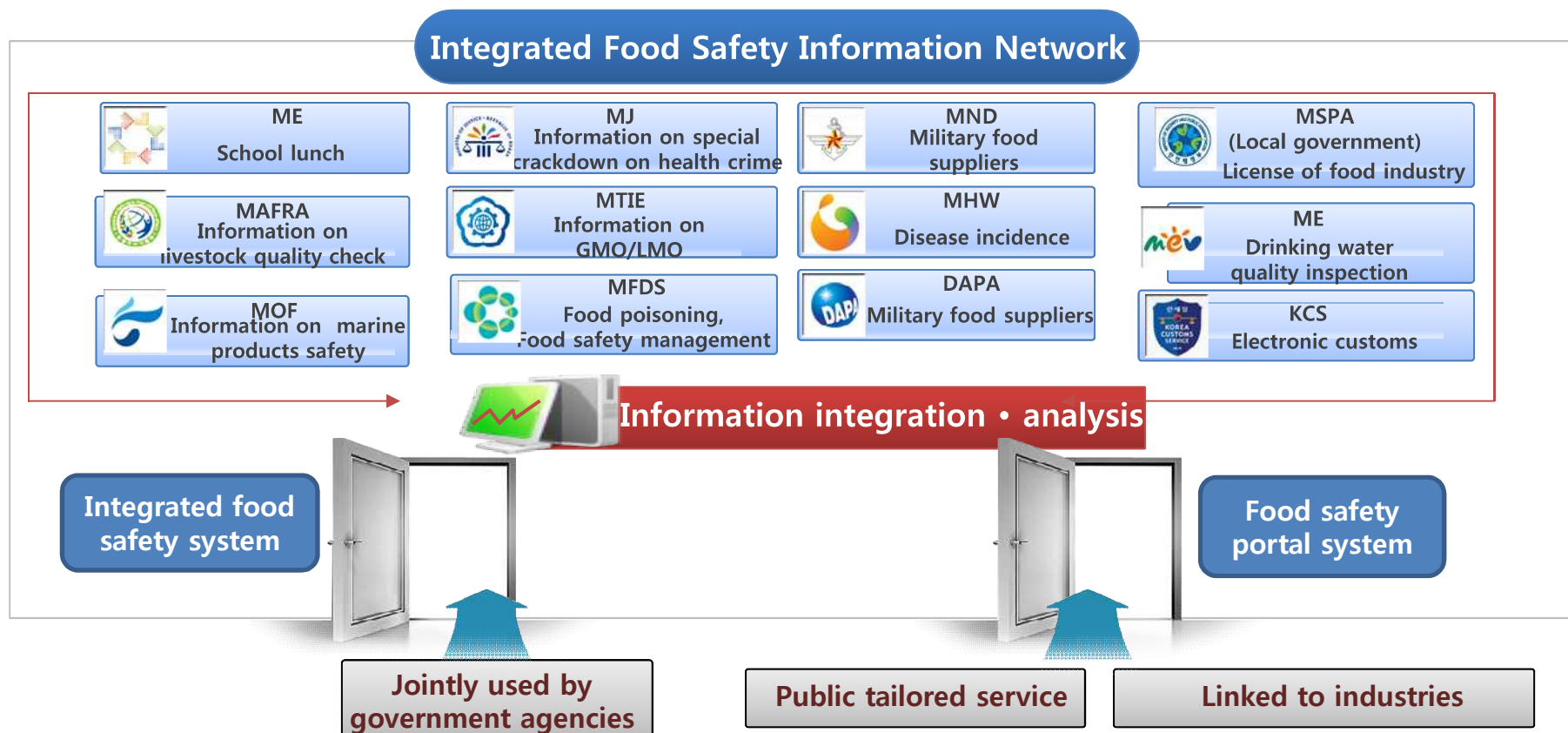


# Action Plan



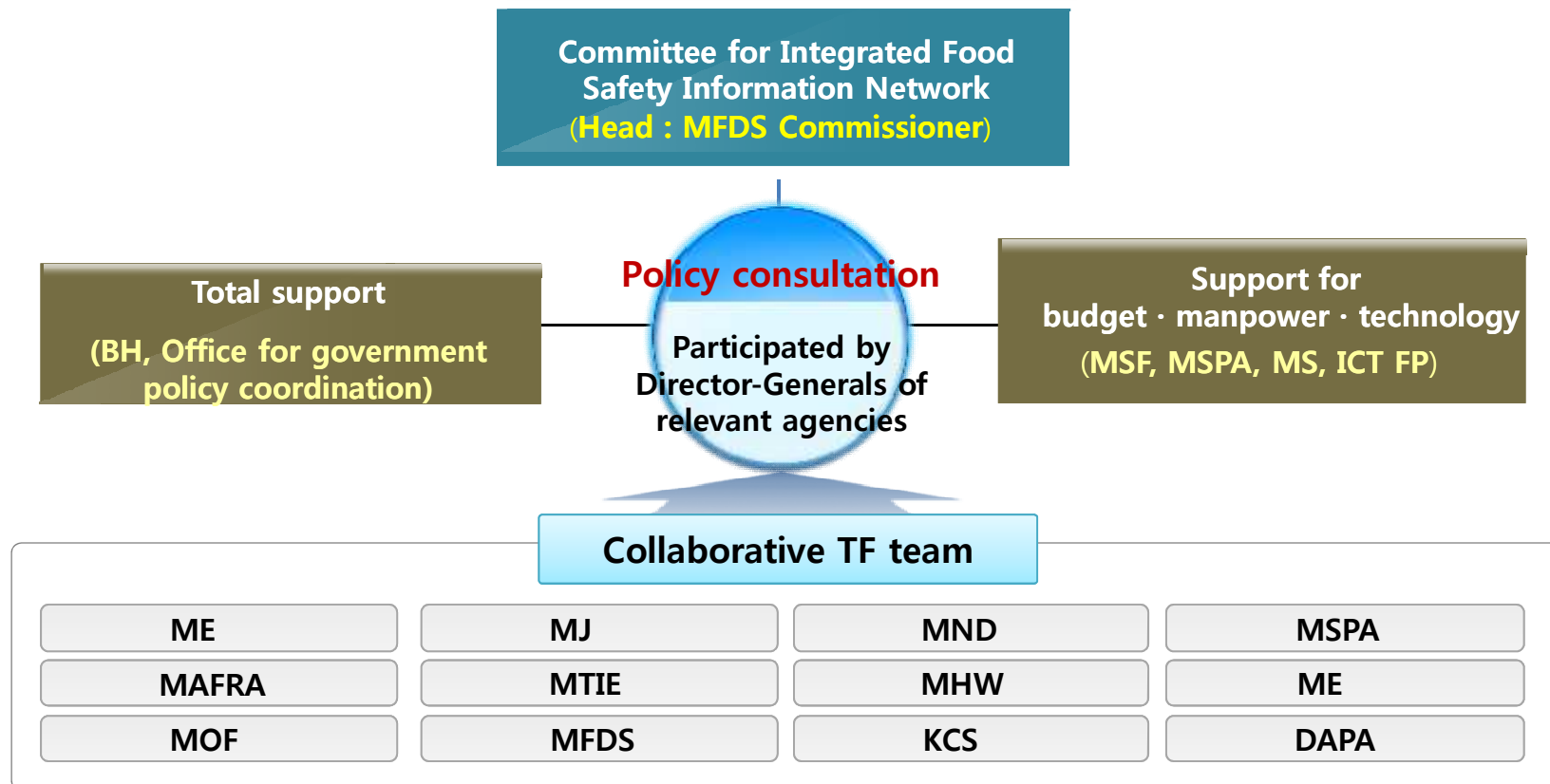
# Establishment of integrated food safety information

- Integrating food safety administration and policy information among 12 government agencies
- Establishing integrated food safety administrative system (for government agencies) and food safety portal system (for the public)
- Eliminating institutional barriers by improving the law and guidelines of relevant authorities  
Serving as a leading agency in the Framework Act on Food Safety, obtaining each agency's improvements  
→ Implementing improvements in the relevant agency



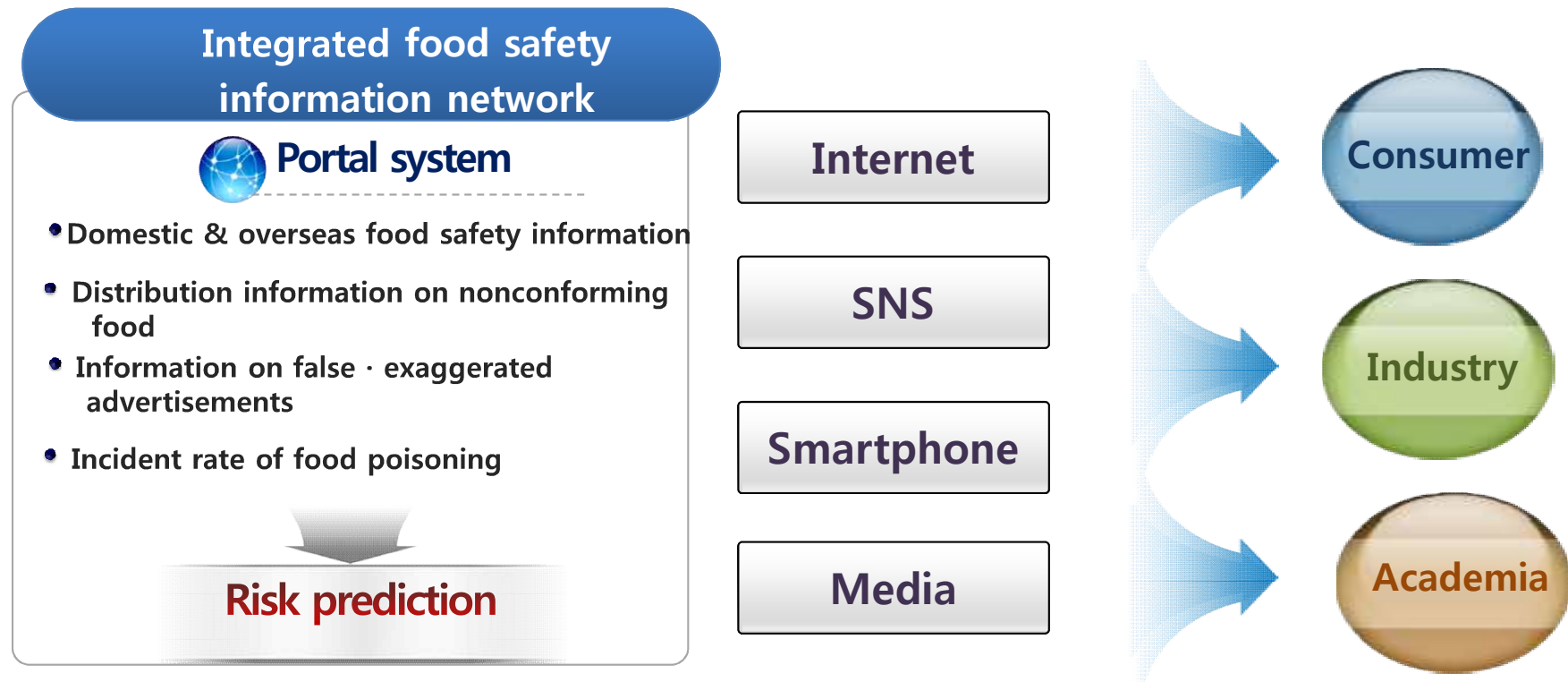
# Government-wide joint development through cooperation

- Organize & operate 「Committee for Integrated Food Safety Information Network」 (June 2013~)
  - \* Deciding effective policy, resolving differences among agencies, and supporting for collaborative TF team
- Organize & operate 「Collaborative TF team」 directly participated by employees from relevant agencies (July 2013~)
  - \* Overcoming limitations of integrated project among many government agencies and producing results in early stage



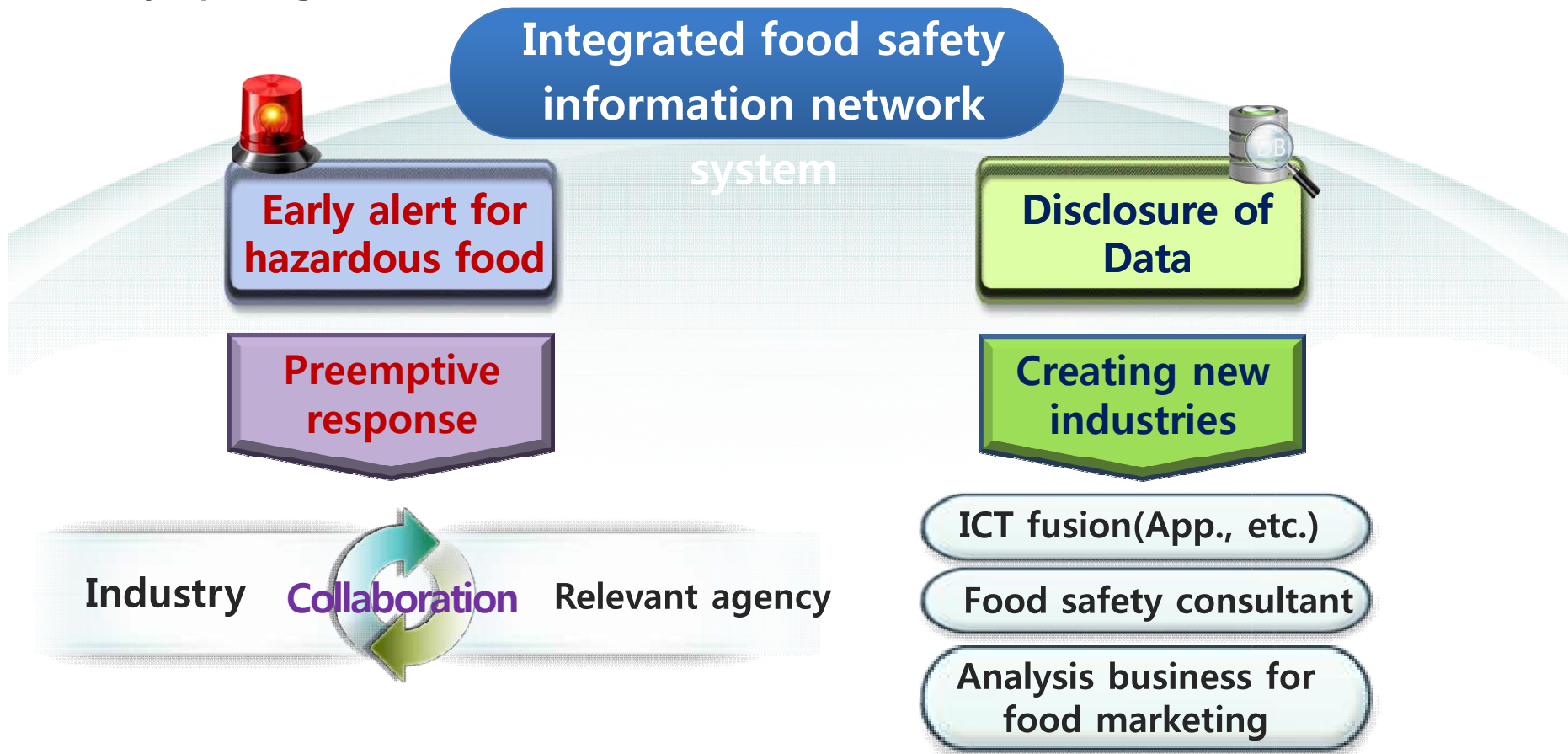
# Customer-tailored food safety service

- Providing one-stop service by establishing portal system
- Providing tailored service to target groups such as consumers, industries, and academia
- Food safety risk forecast through various communication tools (Internet, SNS, and the press, etc.)



# Establishment of food safety system under public-private collaboration

- Providing risk information on time and making preemptive response under private-public collaboration
- Establishing the foundation for creating a new field of industry by opening information



# The Way Forward



# Government can implement effective food policy

- **Effective food safety management without barriers among agencies**
  - Real-time management by generally collecting information necessary for administration
  - Comprehensive decision-making by analyzing statistic data and information on history
  - Improvement of administrative quality for food safety by jointly sharing information
- **Performance of systematic food policy by sharing food related information ranging from food processing to sales**

## Present

Recall and disposal of India's frozen shell contaminated with 5mg/kg cadmium in Taiwan  
[MFDS] become aware the issue and requested food traceability information to the Ministry of Oceans and Fisheries(MOF)  
[MOF] checked traceability information on imported food  
**[MFDS][MOF] each agency took action after confirming final information (taking 2~3 days)**

## Improvements

Recall and disposal of India's frozen shell contaminated with 5mg/kg cadmium in Taiwan  
[MFDS] become aware the issue and check real-time traceability information on imported food of MOF through the integrated information network  
[MOF] shares real-time risk information through the network  
**[MFDS][MOF] take rapid collaborative responses**

# Consumers can select safe food

- Help to choose safe food with hazardous food forecast
  - Notifying consumers of inspection results including hazardous foods and the list of businesses violating sanitary law
- Help to choose safe food providing objective and reliable information
  - Transforming from industry-centered information including advertisement to consumer-centered information
- Providing comprehensive information by linking and analyzing related information

## Present

### Checking food labels provided by manufacturers

Consumers purchase food based on label information, advertisement and experiences

- Sodium caseinate in instant coffee mix
- Highly caffeinated drinks

→ Both distrust and anxiety over food safety exist

## Improvements

### Checking comprehensive information provided by government

Consumers can purchase food based on comprehensive service, in which government provides information including safety status of each product and manufacturers, nutrition, distribution and past history

→ Enable consumers to select safe food

# Food industries can strengthen the competitiveness

- Establishing rapid and preemptive response system through cooperation between industry and government
  - Interact with each other by obtaining real-time data and take measures through early alert system for hazardous foods
  - Take preemptive action such as strengthened inspection of hazardous food and suspension of distribution
- Strengthening the competitiveness and developing project strategy by analyzing and making use of information

## Present

Collect a mass of information through government, internet, the press, and fields

- Lack of systematic management leads to the difficulty in using information
- Repeat shortsighted and temporary responses

\* Detecting unintentional hazardous substances such as benzopyrene in instant noodle powder and acrylamide in fried food

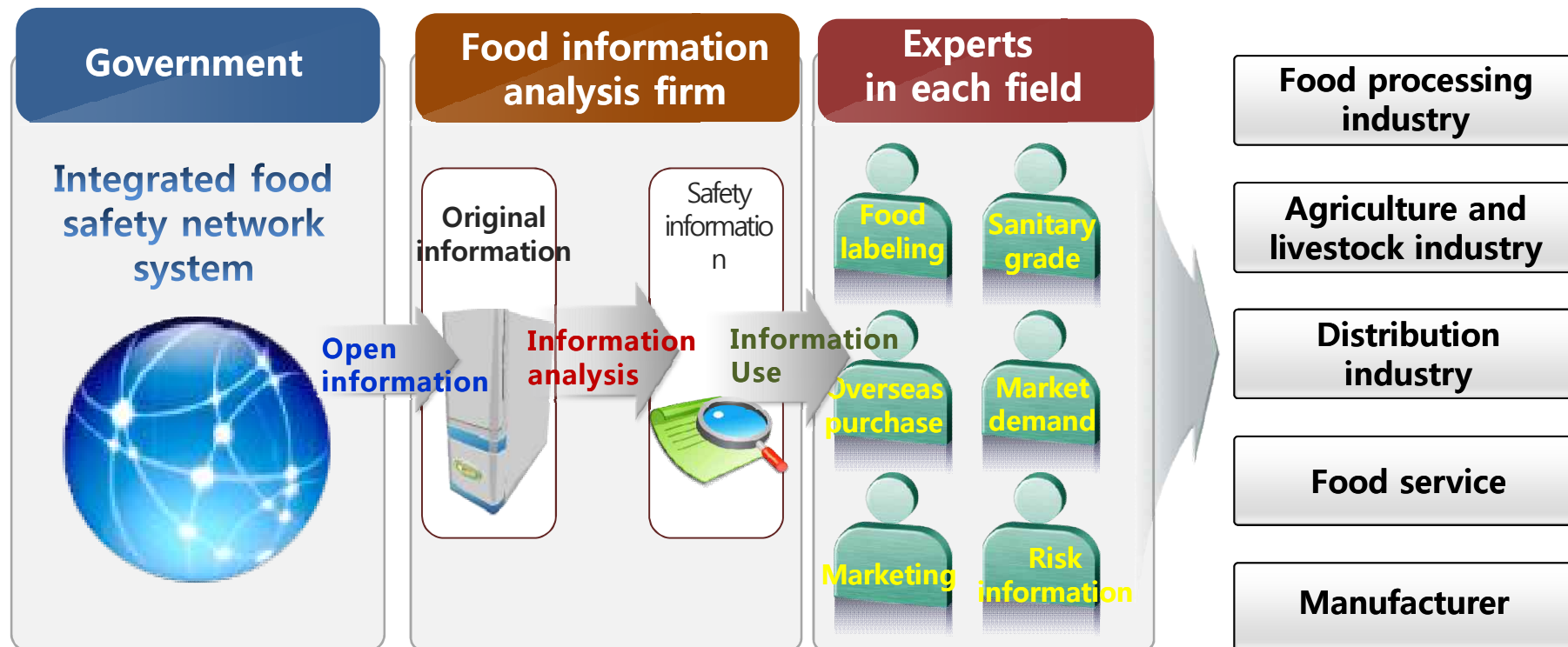
## Improvements

Use tailored information service which the government provides each industry

- Systematically manage & analyze data
- Take preemptive action including development of alternative materials
- Develop new strategies for overseas material purchase, cost-saving and exports

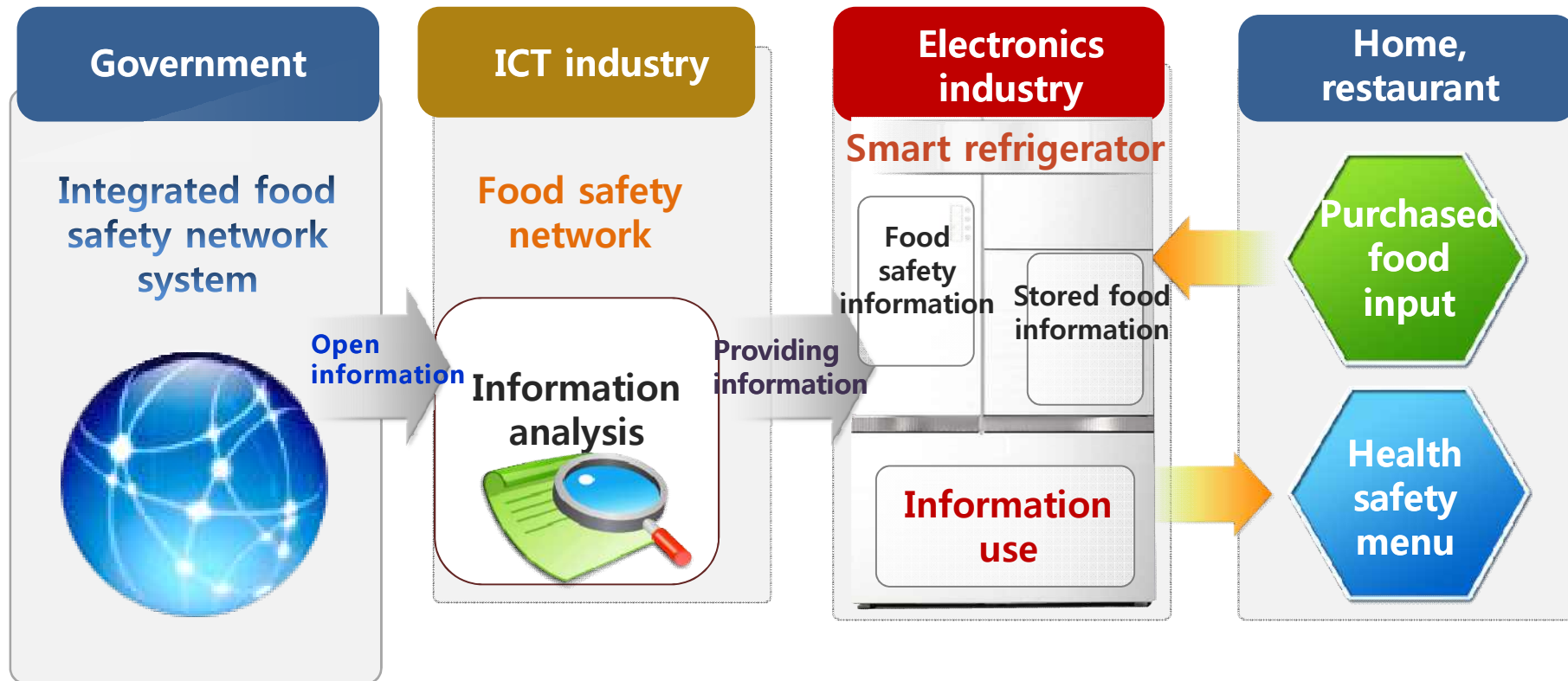
# Food industry creates new value

- Creating new jobs by using open information
  - Information analysts, food safety consultants, and food marketing experts who analyze and provide information



# Food industry creates new value

- Creating a new field of industry by using open information
  - Integrating with food, ICT, and electronics industry



[Safety storage] Automatically indicates safety and stored food information provided by ICT industry

[Health management] Support for purchasing food and managing health through nutrition information on stored food provided by ICT industry



**Thank you for  
your attention**

