

Dr. Markus Lipp

GLOBAL FOOD SAFETY & REGULATORY SCIENCE LEADERSHIP

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A food safety and regulatory science leader with three decades of experience across all four pillars of the global food system — intergovernmental (UN / FAO), government research (European Commission), standards development (US Pharmacopeia, Codex, ISO, AOAC), and multinational industry (Unilever, Monsanto). Currently leads FAO's global food safety programme, directing the scientific advice that underpins Codex Alimentarius standards and strengthening national food control systems worldwide. Known for advancing science-based, consensus-driven governance — building durable alignment among sovereign regulators, expert bodies, and industry where interests diverge. A trusted scientific voice with 60+ peer-reviewed publications and ~3,600 citations, and an experienced spokesperson across print, radio, and television.

AREAS OF LEADERSHIP

Global food safety governance · Chemical & microbiological risk assessment · International standards (Codex / ISO / AOAC) · Regulatory harmonization · Multi-stakeholder consensus-building · Scientific team leadership · Public & media engagement · Food authenticity & fraud prevention

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)

Rome, Italy

Senior Food Safety & Quality Officer

2015 – Present

Lead the food safety programme within FAO's Food Systems and Food Safety Division, directing a multidisciplinary team of approximately 40 across scientific advice, capacity development, and emergency response.

- Direct FAO's delivery of independent chemical and microbiological risk assessments that underpin Codex Alimentarius standards, through the joint FAO/WHO scientific expert bodies (JECFA, JMPR, JEMRA).
- Set the forward agenda for global food safety science, including FAO's flagship work on food safety foresight (2025) and the responsible use of artificial intelligence in food safety management (2025).
- Strengthen national food control systems worldwide through scientific cooperation, capacity-building, and the INFOSAN international food safety emergency network.
- Serve as a principal FAO scientific spokesperson — UN information briefings, World Food Safety Day (2025, 2026), the International Heads of Food Agencies Forum, and global media.

U.S. Pharmacopeial Convention (USP)

Rockville, MD, USA

Senior Director, Food Standards

2008 – 2015

Led USP's global Food Program at the intersection of food quality and safety.

- Held full accountability for the Food Chemicals Codex — the leading international compendium of quality standards for food ingredients — growing its scientific content and a subscription base generating over US\$3M in annual revenue.
- Built and led the scientific team developing standards to counter economically motivated adulteration and food fraud, shaping industry practice in the wake of the melamine and protein-adulteration crises.
- Represented USP to regulators, industry, and media internationally, including Codex and standards-setting engagements across the United States, Europe, and Asia.

International Bottled Water Association · Drinking Water Research Foundation

Alexandria, VA, USA

Director, Science & Research

2006 – 2008

- Led scientific affairs and regulatory science; directed research and fundraising programmes and member outreach.
- Led scientific engagement to inform FDA regulation of bottled water.

Monsanto Company

St. Louis, MO, USA

Ag Regulatory Method of Analysis Manager

2001 – 2005

- Developed and implemented Monsanto's globally coordinated regulatory strategy for GMO detection methods across all crops, forging company-wide alignment of objectives and approaches.

Unilever Research

Vlaardingen, Netherlands

Programme Manager, Chemical Contaminants · Project Leader, GMOs in Food

2000 – 2001

- Resolved quality issues across raw materials and production processes; set business strategy for GMOs and chemical contaminants in food.

European Commission, Joint Research Centre

Ispra, Italy

Scientist – Food Safety & Quality

1994 – 2000

- Six years developing and validating analytical methods for food authenticity and safety – GMO detection, food fraud, and certified reference materials – for European regulatory use, with extensive peer-reviewed output.

Earlier: Scientific Consultant, VIP Consulting (GMO testing), 2005 · PhD & research, Kernforschungszentrum Karlsruhe, 1990–1993 · Clinical chemistry, St. Vincentius Hospitals, Karlsruhe, 1988–1990.

SELECTED GOVERNANCE & THOUGHT LEADERSHIP

- Architect of FAO scientific advice to Codex Alimentarius through the joint FAO/WHO expert bodies (JECFA, JMPR, JEMRA).
- Designated expert / member: Codex Alimentarius, ISO, CEN, AOAC International; elected offices in scientific associations (AACC, AEIC).
- Lead author / sponsor of FAO publications including *Food Safety Foresight* (2025) and FAO's work on AI for food safety (2025).
- Frequent keynote speaker and media commentator on food safety, food fraud, and the role of science in regulatory trust.

EDUCATION & LANGUAGES

Dr. rer. nat. (PhD), Analytical Chemistry

Technical University of Karlsruhe (KIT), Germany — 1993

Diplom-Chemiker (MSc equivalent)

Technical University of Karlsruhe, Germany — 1988

Postgraduate studies, Toxicology

University of Leipzig, Germany — 1996–1998

Languages

German (native) · English (fluent) · Italian (fluent) · Dutch · French · Spanish

SCHOLARLY RECORD

60+ peer-reviewed publications · **~3,600** citations (Google Scholar) · **70+** conference presentations · research spanning food authenticity, adulteration, GMO detection, and risk assessment. *Full publication list available as a separate addendum.*