



Joining forces

STORIES FROM A SUCCESSFUL COLLABORATION WITH THE FEED SECTOR





FAO and IFIF: an ongoing and mutually beneficial partnership

The International Feed Industry Federation (IFIF) and the Animal Production and Health Division (AGA) have an on-going and mutually beneficial partnership. IFIF represents a sector that plays a leading role in the global food industry with an estimated annual turnover of US\$85 billion worldwide. Its members account for some 85 percent of the global animal feed market and include regional federations in South America, Asia (including China), Europe, North America and Africa.

Although currently serving primarily a mature, slower growing market in developed countries, the global feed industry continues to expand, both in volume and value, in response to the demand arising from an increasing world population, urbanization and growing consumer purchasing power. Currently, there are an estimated 8 000 plants worldwide, with capacities greater than 25 000 tonnes per year, manufacturing animal feed along with facilities producing premixes and other high-value products. Together, these plants manufacture more than 635 million tonnes of animal feed annually.

Each year confidence and understanding between FAO and IFIF grows as the relationship develops and matures. Every year, new areas of common interest arise which lead to joint activities to help ensure a safe, sustainable and responsible feed sector. Areas of beneficial collaboration include the implementation of codes of practice - such as those of the *Codex Alimentarius*; improving the dialogue with the public sector; contributing to the development of private sector associations in less economically developed countries and ensuring that small and medium scale enterprises in those countries are included.

COLLABORATION WITH FAO: THE EXPERIENCE OF IFIF

As a global organisation, the International Feed Industry Federation (IFIF) believes it has a responsibility to assist developing countries, especially those where there are no national feed associations, to develop their animal feed sectors. In the late 1990s, IFIF received *Codex Alimentarius* NGO status which provided a first step to better understand how our industry is regulated by governments. At the same time, we began developing a close working relationship with FAO.

Participating in *Codex* and FAO meetings, IFIF has been able to follow-up on the development and harmonization of international codes, standards and practices that impact feed manufacturers worldwide. Specifically, IFIF has followed up the development of the *Codex* Code of Practice of Good Animal Feeding; participated in the *Codex* electronic working group on animal feeding; supported an FAO Expert Consultation on Protein Sources for the Animal Feed Industry; and has developed the joint, biannual Global Feed and Food Congress. It has also developed with FAO a Manual of Good Practices for the Feed Industry and most recently established a meeting point for feed associations and feed regulators at an annual International Feed Regulators Meeting. IFIF believes that through greater co-operation, especially with organizations such as FAO, and using sound scientific and technological advances it can make a difference in ensuring that food is safe, plentiful and affordable to all.

Roger D. Gilbert
Secretary General, IFIF

A VIEW FROM THE EUROPEAN FEED MANUFACTURERS' FEDERATION (FEFAC)

In 2009, FEFAC celebrates its 50th Anniversary and 10 years as an observer at the *Codex Alimentarius* Commission. In the wake of several food safety crises (bovine spongiform encephalopathy, dioxin contamination, etc.), *Codex* in 1999 set up its first Task Force on Animal Feed. FEFAC agreed to offer its industry expertise to support *Codex* and FAO in the area of food safety related animal feed standards. The adoption of the *Codex* "Code of practices on good animal feeding" in 2004 was a milestone for the feed industry as it demonstrated the importance of tackling the safety of food of animal origin at its source and recognized feed production as an integral part of the global food chain. FEFAC has found the IFIF/FAO International Feed Regulators meetings highly beneficial, as they provide the only global platform addressing feed safety challenges through an open dialogue between the feed regulators and the feed industry.

FEFAC members are extremely grateful to FAO which has initiated groundbreaking steps to develop a consistent framework for a global livestock policy. We are convinced that the focus on the contribution of livestock producers to food security and poverty reduction, while addressing environmental challenges, will ensure that ailing rural economies benefit from the increasing demand for animal proteins. Knowledge dissemination, technology transfer and training are key tools which our industry can provide to achieve agricultural sector development. FEFAC therefore looks forward to further its cooperation with FAO in this crucial area of development.

Alexander DÖRING
Secretary General, FEFAC

GOING REGIONAL: FAO SUPPORT TO THE DEVELOPMENT OF REGIONAL ASSOCIATIONS

Sindirações, the Brazilian Feed Industry Association, joined the International Feed Industry Federation (IFIF) six years ago. It was convinced of the importance of a global feed union, where feed producers would speak with "one voice" for the feed industry and to establish a common agenda to promote the food safety and security. During this period, Sindirações has developed an open and fruitful cooperation among feed industry representatives worldwide (Brazil, Europe, China, USA, South Africa, etc.) as well as FAO which resulted in many valuable accomplishments.

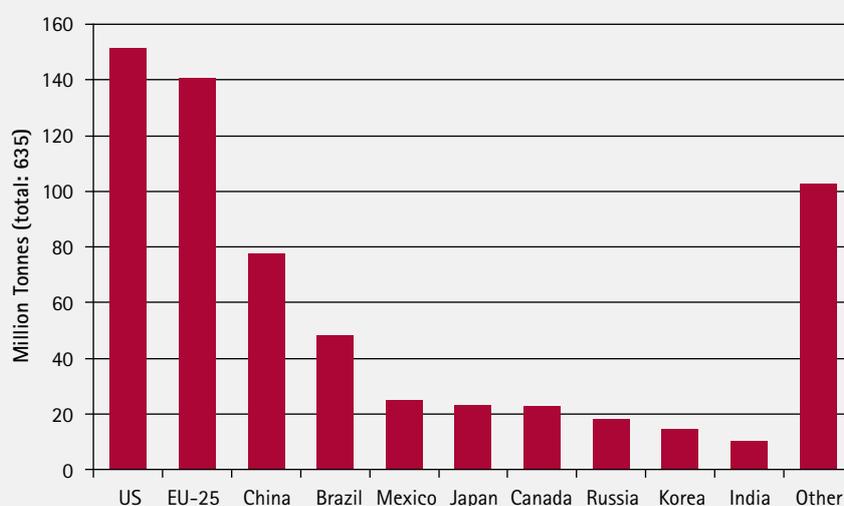
However, despite our active participation in IFIF, the need for a Latin American and Caribbean feed industry association was strongly felt. We needed a unified voice from the region! When the Mexican Feed Producers Association joined IFIF it made the task easier. After many trips and long meetings we finally succeeded - FeedLatina was born in 2008 with Brazil, Mexico, Argentina and Cuba as its founding members.

Today, FeedLatina has started building up its agenda, where FAO's support is fundamental. The job is tremendous, we are more than 30 countries producing an estimated 130 million tons of feed annually and yet many feed producers are not even associated within an organization.

I am sure that in Latin America and the Caribbean we share the following priorities to: increase food security and safety; harmonize legislation and regulations; and stimulate trade of agricultural products. To achieve these goals, FAO support, with its human resources, political influence and financial stimulus, is a must.

Mario Sergio Cutait
President FeedLatina

WORLD ANIMAL FEED



Source: Feed International, World Feed Panorama Survey, 2007

A personal recount from past IFIF president

The collaboration between IFIF and FAO has evolved with both partners supporting each other's complementary mandates. Initially it was a shared objective to make the *Codex Code of Practice on Good Animal Feeding* work at the industry level that brought IFIF and FAO together. To accomplish this, we both realized that the different assets, expertise, raw materials and cultural diversities of the different regions of the world had to be harnessed. Our first collaborative effort to bridge these regional differences and establish a uniform standard for safe and efficient animal feed production would be a manual. The *Manual of Good Practice for the Feed Industry* would be written by IFIF from the private sector's perspective of how to implement the *Codex Code* and then submitted to FAO for review, approval and distribution internationally. To introduce and implement the guidelines, particularly in the developing countries, IFIF believed the most effective approach was for FAO and IFIF to work together on a coordinated programme. Of course, I am pleased to say our partnership grew the more we worked together. To date we have held two successful Global Congresses together, several training meetings (Egypt, Kenya, South Africa, etc.) and we jointly hold the International Feed Regulators meetings. In closing it is my view that a more active and transparent relationship with FAO has served our Federation well. Looking back all those years of travelling to Rome to discuss the issues of the day, have lunch or dinner and then get back on a plane and fly home, while informative and helpful, pales in comparison to the vibrant relationship we share today. I would recommend to any private sector organization to approach FAO in the same way. If you do, the world and humanity will benefit.

Fred Stephens
Past President IFIF

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT

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