

# EU CODE OF CONDUCT ON RESPONSIBLE FOOD BUSINESS AND MARKETING PRACTICES

*A common aspirational path  
towards achieving sustainable food systems*

## - Annual Report – Check list for EU associations -

When signing the code, one of the commitments of EU associations is to provide “*on an annual basis, a report of their activities in support of this Code, which will be published on an open dedicated website*”.

In order to help EU associations to provide their annual report of activities, this document aims at providing a check list to guide associations.

- **General information**

Name in full + acronym	Federation Européenne des Fabricants des Aliments Composés / FEFAC
Contact person with contact details	Anton van den Brink
N° in the transparency register*	77105321408-83
Date of signature of the Code	9 July 2021
Step of the food chain represented (ex: primary production, production, processing, trade, retail, ...)	Animal feed production for food producing animals
Who do you represent? (e.g. number of members, companies, SMEs)	FEFAC represents 22 national Associations in 22 EU Member States as well as Associations in the UK, Switzerland, Turkey, and Norway with associate member status. The European compound feed industry employs over 100,000 persons on app. 3,500 production sites often in rural areas, which offer few employment opportunities.

\* if available

**European Associations** pledge to:

- *endorse the aspirational objectives set out in this Code (where applicable)*

✓ YES

- *promote and disseminate this Code with(in) their constituency/ies;*

On 13 September 2023 FEFAC released its 3<sup>rd</sup> Feed Sustainability Charter Progress Report. For the first time, FEFAC included a dedicated page providing an overview of how the FEFAC Feed Sustainability Charter 2030 Ambitions are linked with other overarching goals and objectives, such as the EU Code of Conduct. The 2023 Progress Report is a special edition, emulating an earlier FEFAC publication from June 2023 on Sustainable Animal Feeding Techniques, listing practical case studies how to facilitate the implementation of the ambitions of the FEFAC Feed Sustainability Charter at Livestock & Aquaculture Farm level .

- *encourage their members to align their sustainability actions and/or business practices to the aspirational objectives and targets of the Code and invite them, on a voluntary basis, to adhere to this Code, as appropriate;*

FEFAC seeks to highlight the direct connection between the two initiatives for its membership, who are also invited to co-sign the EU Code of Conduct. FEFAC is aware that key leading EU compound feed manufacturers have adopted comprehensive sustainability targets at company, level however there still seem to be barriers to co-signing the Code, mainly due to its B2C orientation. FEFAC would therefore recommend to draw more attention on the importance of B2B commitments within the Code's framework, as many of the "low hanging fruits" which are required to assist with the transition towards more sustainable food systems can be "reaped" at the "pre-farm" gate level.

- *explore the possibility of developing sector-specific tools and resources in support of this Code;*

On 31 July 2023, FEFAC released an updated version of its Soy Sourcing Guidelines, which now includes requirements on 'conversion-free soy' as an essential criterion for responsible soy schemes/programmes, supporting the Code's aspirational objective 7: Sustainable sourcing in food supply chains. The first benchmarking results of schemes, facilitated by the International Trade Centre, were delivered in early 2024. Fully respective of the EUDR baseline requirements, the FEFAC Soy Sourcing Guidelines cover a broader spectrum of key sustainability criteria. A key step to accelerate market uptake of SSG compliant soy products for feed use would be the recognition from downstream chain partners as part of their own sectoral sustainable sourcing strategies.

For several years already FEFAC is involved in harmonizing environmental footprinting metrics including Feed LCA database projects. The [PEFCR Feed for Food-Producing Animals](#) and the [GFLI Database](#) are two sector-specific tools that can be placed under aspirational objective 3: A climate neutral food chain in Europe by 2050. In the past year, FEFAC has worked on the review of the PEFCR Feed (first adopted in 2018 at European Commission level), of which an updated version is expected to become available in the 2<sup>nd</sup> half of 2024, thereby also renewing its validity. Jointly with Copa-Cogeca and FEFANA, FEFAC has worked on the development of harmonized EU Guidance for Green Feed Labelling, which is expected to be endorsed by Member States

(SCOPAFF Animal Nutrition) by the 2<sup>nd</sup> half of 2024. In light of the EU Green Claims Directive, which is a mandatory framework for B2C communication, the Green Feed Labelling Guidance initiative voluntarily facilitates the communication on environmental performance towards European livestock farmers in a B2B environment.

The GFLI Database has further developed and expanded at global level now containing more than 1800 feed LCA datapoints for all major feed ingredients trade at EU and global level. Its membership has increased significantly in the past year, setting the scene for increasing the creation of additional high-quality Feed LCA datasets.

- *continue to engage in dialogue with other food chain/systems actors and EU and international policy-makers to forge (new) relationships, exchange good practices and discuss challenges encountered, learn from each other (studies, projects) and create better mutual understanding, and identify opportunities for collaboration and potential partnership.*

The development of the EU Green Feed Labelling Guidance has triggered intense collaboration with Copa-Cogeca and FEFANA, where all associations ensure that the result delivers into fully operational and verifiable solutions for all constituencies.

In 2023 FEFAC assisted EFFPA, the European Former Foodstuffs Processors Association, in the organization of a physical event, a webinar and two meetings of the Action & Implementation Sub-Group of the EU Food Waste Platform. In combination, this saw participation and interaction from i.a. DG SANTE, DG AGRI, JRC, the Spanish EU Council Presidency, AIBI, Eurocommerce, Wageningen University, Feedback Global, LOOOP and Zonvarken. A common theme raised throughout the activities was the unlevel playing field between the animal feed and biomethane production sectors as regards the use of residual biomass flows that are safe for feed use. Linked to this important topic, FEFAC coordinated with all Eu value chain partners, as well as DGAGRI, DGENERGY and JRC assistance, a joint Biomass Factsheet expert Liaison Group to increase transparency on the harmonized terminologies as well as availability and use of biomass flows by different food and non-food sectors, including the bioenergy sector.