

## **Eucolait's application of the EU code of conduct on responsible business and marketing practices**

### Activity report 2023/24

#### **Commitment**

Eucolait, the European Dairy Trade Association (transparency register number: 5159980776-55) signed the code of conduct on 6 October 2021. Eucolait represents exporters, importers and wholesalers of dairy products. More than 400 companies ranging from small trading businesses to large processing companies are members directly or through associations at Member State level.

As underlined in our signatory document, we endorse the aspirational objectives of the code and have pledged to promote and disseminate it within our membership.

#### **Eucolait sustainability activities in 2023/24**

Following on from our activities of 2022/23, we finalised the Eucolait sustainability manifesto. We maintained the focus on sustainability at our events by incorporating various speakers covering different aspects of sustainability in their messages to our members. Moreover, we continued our participation in the sustainability working group of CELCAA (the European Liaison Committee for Agricultural and Agri-Food Trade).

## **Eucolait sustainability manifesto published**

In July 2023, the final version of the [Eucolait sustainability manifesto](#) was published. This document contains the core sustainability messages of our organisation, particularly emphasising the contribution of the dairy trading community in creating a more sustainable food system, while fulfilling their core role of bridging supply and demand. The manifesto contains a non-exhaustive list of the measures and initiatives taken by our members to ensure robust and sustainable trade – actions clearly within the spirit of the code of conduct.

## **Eucolait events – keeping the sustainability conversation going**

Eucolait hosts three main events in the year – meetings in Brussels in January and September/October and a general assembly in a European destination once a year in May/June. In Autumn 2023, there was a speaker from ACT commodities covering the de-carbonisation of the dairy industry. Two representatives of the European Commission took to the stage in January 2024 to speak to our members on the food systems transformation under the Farm 2 Fork strategy as well as about the corporate sustainability reporting directive. Finally in Bordeaux in May 2024, the topic of fostering innovation to create more sustainable dairy solutions was covered.

## **CELCAA sustainability working group – work progressing**

Eucolait has been actively involved in the CELCAA sustainability working group since its inception in December 2022. Last year, the group finalised policy recommendations on how to achieve sustainable agri-food trade which were then presented at a CELCAA event bearing the same title on 15 November 2023. The working group is also feeding into the discussion on the drafting of the sectoral European Sustainability Reporting Standards (ESRS) by EFRAG.