

EuropaBio signs up to the EU Code of Conduct for Responsible Food Business and Marketing Practices

EuropaBio, the European Association for Bioindustries, promotes an innovative and dynamic European biotechnology industry. EuropaBio and its members are committed to the socially responsible use of biotechnology to improve quality of life; to prevent, diagnose, treat, and cure diseases; to improve the quality and quantity of food and feedstuffs and to move towards a bio-based and zero-waste economy. EuropaBio represents corporate and associate members, plus national biotechnology associations and bioregions.

EuropaBio is active in the industrial biotechnology sector. Industrial biotechnology is a Key Enabling Technology (KET) and a central pillar of innovation in Europe. It provides living microorganisms and fermentation products that are used in sectors such as food and feed, agriculture, detergents, paper and pulp, textiles, fuels, bioenergy, and specialty chemicals.

In the food and feed sector, industrial biotechnology can harness the power of microbes to develop bio-based solutions that use resources more efficiently, improving arable and livestock yields, while reducing the emissions from farming, and capturing the potential for using food waste and adding value to side streams and by-products. Industrial biotechnology can also help improve human health and nutrition, including through a better understanding of the human microbiome, the delivery of probiotics, prebiotics, and micronutrients.

It is in this context that EuropaBio signs up to the EU Code of Conduct for Responsible Food Business and Marketing Practices. By signing the Code of Conduct, EuropaBio commits to the obligations listed in the Code and pledges to:

- endorse the aspirational objectives set out in this Code (where applicable)
- promote and disseminate this Code with(in) its constituencies
- 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
- explore the possibility of developing sector-specific tools and resources in support of this Code
- provide, on an annual basis, a report of their activities in support of this Code, which will be published on an open dedicated website
- continue to engage in dialogue with other food chain/systems actors and EU and international policy-makers to forge 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.

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