Who is IFIF?

The International Feed Industry Federation (IFIF) provides a unified voice and leadership to represent and promote the global animal feed industry in order to contribute to the sustainable supply of safe, nutritious and affordable food for a growing world population.

IFIF is made up of national and regional feed associations from Africa, Asia Pacific, Europe, North and South America and the Middle East, as well feed-related organizations and corporate members from around the globe. Overall, IFIF members represent over 80% of total compound animal feed production worldwide. IFIF is a non-profit organization founded on 1 December 1987.

IFIF believes that only by working together with all stakeholders in the feed & food chain, including governments, the private sector and non-governmental groups, can we meet the demands of 60% more food, including animal proteins like beef, poultry, fish and dairy products, for an estimated 10 billion people by 2050 and do so safely and sustainably.

What does IFIF do?

To support our industry on the road to the future, IFIF’s work with its Members and stakeholders is centred on three strategic pillars:

I. Sustainability
II. Regulatory & International Standards
III. Education & sharing of best practices

IFIF works with governmental, private sector, and non-governmental partners on a number of fronts to measure, benchmark, support and encourage the sustainable development of animal production.

IFIF helps to ensure high standards of health and welfare for animals and people, by collaborating with the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), the World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE), the Codex Alimentarius Commission and other international bodies to help set international regulatory standards for the whole feed chain and to support fair trade.

IFIF supports sharing of good practices, promotes science-based solutions for the feed industry and facilitates dialogue among key stakeholders on a variety of issues that affect the supply of safe and affordable animal proteins such as beef, poultry, fish and dairy products.

What is IFIF’s mission?

1. Represent the global feed industry with international governmental organizations and agencies, including the FAO, WTO, WHO, OIE and CODEX Alimentarius, on crucial global feed and food issues.

2. Promote science-based solutions and information sharing for the feed industry by facilitating global forums, such as the Global Feed & Food Congress (GFFC) and the International Feed Regulators Meeting (IFRM).

3. Promote a balanced regulatory framework to support a fair global playing field, facilitate market access and support the competitiveness of the feed and livestock industries.

4. Expand the global network of national and regional feed associations and promote the adoption of international standards and global equivalency.

5. Continue to support and encourage the sustainable development of animal production.
Meeting the sustainability challenge

IFIF is working with its members and partners on a number of fronts to measure, benchmark and improve the sustainability of the livestock production chain.

The Global Feed LCA Institute (GFLI)
The Global Feed LCA Institute (GFLI) supported by IFIF is working to develop a publicly available feed LCA database and LCA tool based on the internationally recognized methodology developed by the FAO-led Livestock Environmental Assessment and Performance Partnership (LEAP). IFIF is a LEAP Steering Group member and these efforts aim to improve how the environmental impacts of the livestock industry are measured and assessed, an important step to reduce the impact of livestock products on the environment.

IFIF/FEFANA Specialty Feed Ingredients Sustainability (SFIS) project
Together with the EU Association of Specialty Feed Ingredients and their Mixtures (FEFANA), IFIF undertook the SFIS project to measure and establish the positive role of specialty feed ingredients to reduce the environmental impact of livestock production.

FAO Global Agenda of Action in Support of Sustainable Livestock Development
IFIF, as a partner of the FAO Global Agenda, is working together with other stakeholders on ‘closing the efficiency gap’, in order to stimulate the application of existing (but not widely used) technologies, and to transfer and adapt resource-use efficient technologies.

What is the global feed industry?

Livestock raising and the consumption of animal products make a crucial contribution to the economic and nutritional wellbeing of millions of people around the world.

Animal feeds play a leading role in the global food industry, and feed is the largest and most important component to ensuring safe, abundant and affordable animal proteins. World compound feed production is estimated at one billion tonnes annually. Global commercial feed manufacturing generates an estimated annual turnover of over US $400 billion.

Commercial production or sale of manufactured feed products takes place in more than 130 countries and directly employs more than a quarter of a million skilled workers, technicians, managers and professionals.

The FAO estimates that demand for livestock products will continue to intensify over the decades to come and the world will have to produce around 60% more food by 2050. The feed industry continues to innovate and expand to meet the demands of a growing world population, urbanization and increased consumer purchasing power.
International Feed Regulators Meeting (IFRM)

In order to tackle the complex challenges in the feed sector, both the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and IFIF believe in the power of dialogue and collaboration among interested parties. Feed safety and security, animal health and welfare, and environmental, economic and social sustainability of feed and livestock production - these are all shared responsibilities that call for joint action.

One of the highlights of the long-standing IFIF and FAO cooperation, is the effort to facilitate a dialogue between the private and public sector on key issues affecting the feed and food chain. The International Feed Regulators Meeting (IFRM), organized by IFIF in cooperation with the FAO, is a unique forum for regulators and feed industry professionals from across the world to come together, informally exchange their thoughts and information and to explore concrete ways to address jointly common challenges.

Since the first IFRM in 2007, this annual event has become a regular, well-established appointment. Many professionals of the feed sector look forward to it as a source of information, an opportunity for networking and a start to many successful partnerships.

The IFRM is by invitation only for IFIF members and government feed regulators. Should you be interested in joining the IFRM please contact info@ifif.org.

IFIF Feed Safety Capacity Development

IFIF supports sharing of good practices, promotes science-based solutions for the feed industry and facilitates dialogue among key stakeholders.

For example, IFIF launched the Global Animal Nutrition Programme ‘Train the Trainer’ to develop and train the capacities of the compound feed production stakeholders in key developing regions using the FAO/IFIF Manual of Good Practices for the Feed Industry based on the Codex Alimentarius Code of Practice on Good Animal Feeding.

The aim of the programme is to raise capacities for feed safety by training key individuals who can then act as trainers on site within a country. This reflects IFIF’s mission to promote science-based solutions and information sharing for the feed industry, as well as stimulate the adoption of international standards and global equivalency.

Already in 2010, IFIF together with the UN FAO published the Feed Manual of Good Practices for the Feed Industry, in order to support the spreading of good manufacturing practice and higher feed safety standards around the globe.

The Feed Manual has been distributed to regulators and industry globally, and is available for download in Arabic, Chinese, English, French and Spanish language versions at www.ifif.org.

How is IFIF organized?

IFIF is registered as a non-profit organization in Luxembourg and was founded on December 1, 1987. Under its Articles of Association, held in Luxembourg, IFIF is managed by the Executive Director, and overseen by an elected Chairman and Board drawn from the membership. Board Members serve two-year terms and are elected at the IFIF Annual General Assembly.

IFIF is a member-driven organization, and experts from member companies and national associations actively participate in IFIF’s expert and technical committees. They cover the range of key issues for the feed industry, and the experts contribute to the development of global feed and food standards. Each committee is chaired by a member representative, and is coordinated by the Executive Director of IFIF.