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20 SOY SCHEMES PASS THE INDEPENDENT BENCHMARKING PROCESS AGAINST FEFAC SOY SOURCING GUIDELINES 2021

Nearly all benchmarked schemes can provide 'conversion-free soy' to the feed industry

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FEFAC and ITC are very pleased to announce that five more schemes offering responsible soy products to the European feed market have successfully passed the independent benchmarking process against the [FEFAC Soy Sourcing Guidelines 2021](#). The newly added schemes are:

- FEMAS Responsible Sourcing of Agricultural & Natural Products
- ISCC EU & ISCC Plus
- Louis Dreyfus Company Program for Sustainable Agriculture
- Sodru Sustainable Soy Programme

This brings the total number to 20 responsible soy schemes which are compliant with the FEFAC Soy Sourcing Guidelines 2021, showing the strong commitment of supply chain partners to strengthen and support the European feed industry's efforts to foster the mainstream market transformation of the use of responsibly produced soy products.

19 out of 20 schemes also comply with the specific desired criterion on conversion-free soy, meaning they offer responsibly produced soy grown on land that didn't come at the expense of any (illegal or legal) conversion of natural eco-systems (i.e. including non-forest native vegetation in the Cerrado Biome) as from a specific cut-off date (December 2020 as the latest possibility). All schemes having successfully applied and passed the benchmarking process are displayed in the updated [FEFAC Soy Sourcing Guidelines Benchmarking Tool](#) on ITC Standards Map. The tool includes a filter system for schemes providing conversion-free soy, which allows users to select between the different supply chain models and two periods of cut-off dates.

FEFAC President Asbjørn Børsting: "In just over a year after the release of the FEFAC Soy

Sourcing Guidelines 2021, FEFAC and ITC have fully delivered on their joint ambition to provide increased market transparency of current providers of responsible and conversion-free soy. It is clear now that there is a mainstream market offer for responsibly produced & conversion-free soy with a cut-off date before December 2020, sufficient to cover the needs of the European feed industry. Our downstream value chain market partners should take advantage of these responsible and conversion-free soy programmes thus responding to growing market demand, while ensuring future compliance of imported soy with EU policy objectives for sustainable and deforestation-free supply chains in a credible and verifiable way”.

ITC Trade for Sustainable Development Programme Head Joseph Wozniak: “We are glad to have conducted a comprehensive benchmarking exercise for sustainable soy schemes putting into use ITC Standards Map database and the benchmarking tool. With the growing market need for sustainable soy, the results of the benchmarking bring more transparency and clarity on the number of schemes addressing the production of sustainable conversion-free soy.”

Notes to the editor:

1. FEFAC, the European Compound Feed Manufacturers' Federation, represents 23 national Associations in 23 EU Member States as well as Associations in Switzerland, Turkey, Serbia, Russia and Norway with observer/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.
2. ITC, the International Trade Centre, is a joint agency of the UN and the WTO aiming to foster inclusive and sustainable growth and development through trade and international business development. Trade for Sustainable Development Programme (T4SD) is one of the ITC programmes and is the facilitator of the FEFAC on-line benchmarking tool for responsible soy schemes.
3. Compliance with the FEFAC Soy Sourcing Guidelines 2021 means that the schemes meet the criteria for responsible soy production that are included in the FEFAC Guidelines, which were developed in an effort to set a transparent 'comparison level' for European compound feed manufacturers requested to source responsible soy (see also this [factsheet](#) about the Guidelines). FEFAC and ITC are not expecting more applications for benchmarking by more soy schemes at the present stage.
4. For more information see our web site (www.fefac.eu) or please contact Alexander Döring, Secretary General Tel. +32-2-285.00.50, Fax +32-2-230.57.22, e-mail: fefac@fefac.eu