With IDF’s 2014 work programme well underway, the year ahead looks set to be productive and interesting.

The international dairy market is changing from supply-driven to demand-driven. Instead of asking ourselves what to do with the milk produced, we are looking how to produce more in a sustainable way to meet the demands of a growing world population. Coordinating efforts across the entire food sector is key to achieving a sustainable solution to this century’s global food challenges.

Recognizing this need, IDF represents the dairy sector in multi-sector initiatives such as the Livestock Environmental Assessment and Performance (LEAP) Partnership where FAO member countries, producer and processor organizations engaged in the livestock supply chain and NGOs pool their resources and technical expertise to achieve a common goal. This ‘common vision’ philosophy is also the driving force behind the Global Dairy Agenda for Action’s new programme, the Dairy Sustainability Framework – an exciting and innovative prospect for the dairy sector.

Standard setting may seem to be a very different field to sustainability, but the spirit of cooperation is also essential here to ensure food safety, food quality and fairness in international trade. IDF has been at the forefront of raising international standards for dairy quality since its inception, and has consolidated this mission by establishing a longstanding and successful partnership with ISO. IDF and ISO recently published a major revision to the Kjeldahl protein measurement method, extending its scope to include a wide range of milk and dairy products. The Kjeldahl method plays a pivotal role in, for example, calculating fair milk payments for dairy farmers, controlling manufacturing processes and in checking regulatory compliance.

I look forward to continuing to strengthen IDF’s many working relationships, and to seeing what the power of collaboration can achieve in 2014.

Dr Nico van Belzen
IDF Director General
LEAP STEERING COMMITTEE

The Steering Committee (SC) of the Livestock Environmental Assessment Performance (LEAP) Partnership held a meeting on 30 January 2014 in Rome (IT). The SC discussed the main comments made on the draft sector-specific LCA guidelines, including those made by IDF. The guidelines will support decisions on all levels (farms, regional, global) but data requirements will be different. The Small Ruminants and Poultry guidelines only concern greenhouse gasses (GHG), the Feed guidelines will mention water in the introduction but restrict the guidance to GHG. The draft guidelines should be ready for public consultation on 6th March at the LEAP Annual Meeting in Rome. The consultation will run until June, and the final guidelines would be published in September.

The SC approved the Terms of Reference of the Technical Advisory Groups Large Ruminants and Biodiversity. IDF’s expert nominations to these groups were accepted.

The relationship between the Global Agenda for Sustainable Livestock and LEAP was clarified. GASL is a multi-stakeholder partnership committed to sustainable livestock sector development. Its purpose is to catalyze and guide continuous improvement practices towards more efficient, safe, and responsible use of natural resources. GASL recognizes and supports a number of initiatives that serve these goals and that adhere to its rules of engagement. While maintaining their independence, these initiatives and projects are considered to be part of GASL. LEAP will be one of these initiatives, developing and delivering metrics and methods that can be used in the context of the Agenda to measure environmental performance and effectiveness of interventions aiming at improving environmental sustainability. In this respect, LEAP will particularly contribute to the work carried out in the context of the focus areas: Closing the efficiency gap, Restoring value to grassland and Waste to worth.

DAIRY SUSTAINABILITY FRAMEWORK

Has your organization joined the Dairy Sustainability Framework?

The Dairy Sustainability Framework is the Global Dairy Agenda for Action (GDAA) programme for aligning and connecting sustainability initiatives to demonstrate leadership and progress globally.

The Dairy Sustainability Framework (DSF) Secretariat is leading efforts to assist organizations in understanding how their individual sustainability solutions fit into the DSF framework.

Recognizing the diversity within the dairy sector, three categories of membership have been created: Full Implementing Members, Affiliate Members and Supporters. Membership is open and growing daily with a positive global response. With a membership category for every organization, do not hesitate to join us today!
Protein Measurement Standard Expanded for Greater Consumer Protection and Harmonized Trade

IDF and ISO have joined forces to expand the scope of an international standard used worldwide in the dairy industry to measure protein content of cow’s milk. The method, *ISO 8968-1 | IDF 20-1 – Milk and milk products – Determination of nitrogen content – Part 1: Kjeldahl principle and crude protein calculation*, now encompasses milk from other species as well as internationally traded dairy products covered by Codex standards. The revised Standard reconfirms the crucial role of the Kjeldahl method in trade harmonization and enhances consumer protection safeguards.

The Kjeldahl method plays a pivotal role in national and international trade, for example in calculating fair milk payments for dairy farmers, controlling manufacturing processes and in checking regulatory compliance.

“This standard is about the determination of one of the major components in milk and many milk products, in fact the component that accounts for over 50% of the market value of milk,” Dr. Harrie van den Bijgaart, Chair of the ISO Technical Committee on Milk and Milk Products explained.

This, combined with the fact that international collaborative studies of the method had been conducted for liquid bovine whole milk only thus far, illustrated the need to validate the method for products other than bovine whole milk.

“IDF and ISO experts have now successfully modified and scientifically validated the method so that it applies to a wide range of dairy products. In addition to liquid bovine whole milk, the method can now be applied to bovine milk with reduced fat content, goat whole milk, sheep whole milk, cheese, dried milk and dried milk products including milk-based infant formulae, milk protein concentrate, whey protein concentrate, casein and caseinate,” Dr. Jaap Evers, Chair of the IDF Methods Standards Steering Group explained.

“The next step is to submit the revised Kjeldahl method for endorsement to Codex Alimentarius. One of the major benefits of international adoption of the revised method is that it will result in greater harmonization of protein analysis across the globe, thereby minimizing the risk of trade disputes resulting from differences in analytical test results”, continues Dr. Evers.

Dr. Harrie van den Bijgaart  
Chair of ISO/TC 34/SC 5, Milk and milk products

Dr. Jaap Evers  
Chair of the IDF Methods Standards Steering Group

Please Note...

*IDF Standard N° 165 : 1993 Butteroil - Determination of contents of antioxidants - Method by liquid chromatography*

As feedback from the IDF members indicates that this standard is no longer used, it has been cancelled.
**IDF EVENTS**

Two Dairy Science and Technology Events are coming to Melbourne, Australia...

**Second IDF Symposium on Microstructure of Dairy Products**

3-4 March 2014

The underlying structure of any material determines its functional properties. The microstructure of dairy products is the spatial arrangement and interaction of constituents and structural elements (such as proteins, carbohydrates and lipids) of at the nano-, meso- and micro-scale. For all dairy products including milk powder, cheese, yoghurt, microstructure governs the quality, in particular the texture, solubility, flow, viscoelasticity and fracture characteristics. All of these, as well as sensory and nutritional properties, This structure-function relationship affects properties including sensory, texture and nutrition all of which can also be influenced by composition, processing and environmental parameters.

**Fifth IDF Symposium on Science and Technology of Fermented Milk**

6-7 March 2014

The product category known internationally as ‘fermented milks’ includes many of the world’s most popular dairy foods. The formal Codex definition of fermented milk is based on the concept of a “product obtained by fermentation of milk ... by the action of suitable microorganisms and resulting in reduction of pH with or without coagulation.” This broadly includes such products as yoghurts, strained (concentrated) yoghurts and other concentrated products, drinking yoghurts, Scandinavian fermented milks, acidophilus milks, kefir, kumys and a variety of traditional and modern fermented dairy foods.

The Symposium embraces the underlying science, manufacture, product development challenges, texture, flavor, shelf-life, safety and health benefits of fermented dairy products.

**IDF/ISO Analytical Week 2014**

Each year, IDF and ISO organize the IDF/ISO Analytical Week, hosted by an IDF National Committee. During a week of business meetings, the members of Standing Committees and Project Groups network and drive forward the standardization of international IDF/ISO standards and other related items. This week includes an international symposium tackling topical subjects of interest in the field of methods of analysis and sampling, and comprises an exhibition of analytical providers.

Visit [www.icar2014.de](http://www.icar2014.de) for further details.
IDF World Dairy Summit 2014

The IDF World Dairy Summit provides an outstanding opportunity for networking and gaining knowledge in all aspects of the dairy chain.

The Israeli organizing committee is hard at work creating an attractive and innovative programme encapsulating the theme, “The Future Begins Here”. The programme promises to educate and challenge our thinking on the opportunities and issues faced by the dairy sector, both globally as well as in their specific environment.

7th IDF International Symposium on Sheep, Goat and other non-Cow Milk 2015

The event is addressed to scientists and other professionals involved in the sheeps’, goats’ and other non-cows’ dairy sectors including milk producers, dairy processing industry, trade associations, academia, research institutes, and governments. The Symposium will be a platform for exchange of knowledge and information among international experts in the field.

Visit www.idfsheepandgoat.org for further details
How to Subscribe and Unsubscribe from the IDF Newsbrief

If you would like to receive this Newsbrief, please send an email to communications@fil-idf.org with “subscribe” in the subject line.

We would appreciate additional contact information (job title, company/organisation, address, phone and fax numbers) in the body of the email, but this is not essential. Please note you may need to add our email address to your ‘safe list’ to avoid the newsletter going into bulk or junk email folders.

If you do not wish to receive the IDF Newsbrief in the future, please send an email to communications@fil-idf.org with “unsubscribe” in the subject line.