Societal drivers affecting the European animal food chain:

- Increasing global demand for food of animal origin, including meat, fish, milk and eggs
- Pressure on available feed resources
- Demand for reduced environmental impact of animal production
- Demand for further reduction of the use of antimicrobials
- Further globalisation of trade in products of animal origin

The needs of the feed and livestock chain:

- Access to safe cost-effective feed and services
- Clear and transparent legislative framework
- Improved image (re animal welfare, quality and safety of animal products)
- Innovating approaches to mitigate the environmental impact of production systems
- Continuously improving working conditions
- Bringing innovative science fast to the marketplace

WHAT ARE WE DOING TO MEET THE EXPECTATIONS OF SOCIETY AND THE FOOD CHAIN?
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For all the challenges faced by the livestock sector, animal nutrition & technology offer solutions

- Preservation of gut health through nutrition and feed additives to reduce the need for antibiotics
- Contribution to the circular economy through appropriate feed formulation and use of feed additives that increase use of co-products from other industries and former foodstuffs in animal feed
- New solutions to developing precision feeding techniques to optimise livestock economic and environmental performance at farm level
- Cost-effective feed and services to support farmers’ revenues
- Adapting feeding strategies to improve animal wellbeing and quality of food and to mitigate environmental impacts through sustainable animal production systems

The feed industry invests in animal nutrition research (specialty feed ingredients, processing, sensors, IT tools) and develops innovative functional feeds.

By working proactively, the feed industry has a great potential to improve the sustainability of the EU livestock sector and resilience of the food chain by:

- Reducing the environmental footprint of livestock by improving feed use and feed conversion rates
- Responsible sourcing, production and use of feed ingredients

The feed industry is developing credible and robust data/benchmarking to foster continuous improvement: you can only manage what you can measure!

Efficient feed safety management requires communication and cooperation among all chain partners and authorities: the earlier in the chain a contamination is detected and contained, the less the risks and costs for the rest of the food chain.

Application of adequate risk management tools (substances, processes) to further reduce the risk of food chain contamination is of paramount importance in this regard.

The feed industry is engaged with other chain partners to optimise risk management along the feed chain and to develop effective early warning and feed safety management systems.

The feed industry can make its vision happen… but not alone. Public authorities must invest in animal nutrition research and streamline the legal framework. Partnership between authorities and all feed, livestock and food chain stakeholders to shape the livestock sector of the future will benefit society.
ANIMAL FEED INDUSTRY
A knowledge-driven, reliable partner of a competitive livestock sector

What the feed industry offers today

- Innovative nutritional management techniques and improved feed technology
- Proximity and services
- Adaptation to market changes
- Anticipation of market demand
- Smoothing of the fluctuating prices of feed ingredients
- Feeding management approaches
- Feed additives to supplement feeds with essential micro-ingredients for animal wellbeing and improved efficiency

How the feed industry can shape the future

- Establishing closer links to suppliers to optimise the safety, sustainability and nutritional value of feed ingredients
- Increasing the use of co-products from other industries and former foodstuffs
- Integrating animal production sustainability parameters in formulations
- Adapting techniques to check the integrity of deliveries
- Developing customised feeding strategies; taking into account the variability and availability of feed ingredients and animal living conditions on farms

FEED SAFETY MANAGEMENT
Sharing responsibility for feed safety along the chain

What the feed industry offers today

- Ability to handle ingredients safely and professionally, particularly those ones requiring specific care
- In-depth safety assessment of feed additives as a prerequisite for market authorisation
- Experience in developing robust feed safety management systems
- Expertise in manufacture and delivery of high quality, homogeneous and easy-to-use feeds

How the feed industry can shape the future

- Capacity building by driving the continued improvement of knowledge on feed safety risks and technology implementation in the feed sector
- Optimising risk management along the chain, thereby facilitating the detection of contamination at the earliest possible stage
- Cooperating with control authorities to create the most efficient and cost-effective control systems, by e.g. exchanging information between private and public stakeholders
- Self-regulation through the development of a feed chain that contributes to animal well-being, food safety and sustainability

ANIMAL NUTRITION
A multifunctional science delivering solutions to a responsible livestock sector

What the feed industry offers today

- Expertise to use co-products optimally
- Boost the performance of animals, their health and welfare
- Identify the optimal composition of feed ingredients, their interaction, anti-nutritional factors and the effect of micro-ingredients
- Implement solutions ensuring the quality and composition of food of animal origin

How the feed industry can shape the future

- Improving the nutritional profile for safe and high-quality animal products
- Reducing the need for antibiotics at farm level through advanced knowledge of the impact of feed processing and composition on gut health and use of specific micro-ingredients
- Adapting/developing new feeding strategies to meet animal wellbeing requirements
What the feed industry offers today

- Use of co-products from other processing industries, reducing the need for land-grown crops
- Ability to source feed with specific downstream requirements to accommodate market demand
- Reduction of the environmental impact of livestock farming through resource-efficient feed production
- Modern manufacturing techniques for the production of high quality feed additives

How the feed industry can shape the future

- Developing a harmonised environmental footprint methodology, based on Life Cycle Analysis, involving the whole chain
- Developing common metrics that can help to calculate a broader range of resource efficiency indicators
- Using feed ingredients more efficiently to reduce environmental footprints
- Securing the long-term supply of feed ingredients
- Facilitating the transition to a mainstream market of responsibly produced feed materials