



How the International brings results and increases value to all stakeholders across the dairy chain

Advancing Dairying Worldwide

The International Dairy Federation (IDF) is a non-profit private sector organization representing the interests of various stakeholders in dairying at the international level. It was founded in 1903. To date, IDF is represented in 53 countries and its membership, which accounts for about 82% of the world's total milk production, is growing.

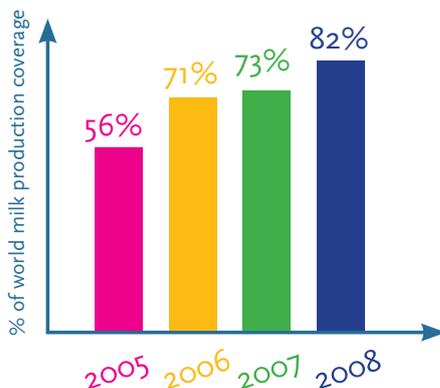
IDF is a science-based organization, which represents the dairy sector worldwide by providing the best global source of scientific expertise and knowledge in support of the development and promotion of quality milk and dairy products to deliver consumers with nutrition, health and well-being.

IDF aims to identify, elaborate and disseminate best practice at international level in order to guide the dairy sector and to harmonise members' work on a variety of issues including animal health and welfare, protection of the environment, nutrition, food safety and hygiene and food standards.

Supported by its network of experts, IDF builds dialogue throughout the entire dairy chain and is committed to constantly progress, innovate and look for ways to increase efficiency based on continuous improvements.

IDF focuses on adding value within the dairy sector. Among our most important achievements we have:

Enhanced our influence with growing membership covering 82% of worldwide dairy production



With a portfolio that covers areas from nutrition to marketing, IDF's network of experts reaches dairy producers in **53** countries worldwide. To date, already a total of **82%** of the milk production in the world can count with expert support on areas that range from nutrition to marketing.



Improved the international regulatory environment for dairy with 33 Codex Commodity standards

Clear, appropriate and well thought-out standards increase the market for dairy products by stimulating production and trade in dairy products. Over recent years, IDF has collaborated closely with international authorities to improve the 33 existing Codex commodity standards for milk and milk products, including 16 on cheese. The dairy sector is now the principal agri-food area in the Codex in terms of legal protection, trade and regulatory requirements worldwide. Other important Codex achievements where IDF played an important role are standards giving protection against imitation products and on hygienic practices, such as food safety, reused of process water and hurdle technology.

Published 131 joint ISO/IDF standards methods of analysis and sampling for milk and milk products

Successful and continuing cooperation between IDF and ISO has led to the publication of 124 joint ISO/IDF Standards on Methods of Analysis and Sampling for milk and milk products. These methods have become the norm and can be applied in any dairy laboratory in the world. The standardization of methods of analysis and sampling are of crucial importance to facilitate international trade and to protect the product and its consumers. Most new work proposals come from active experts both nominated from IDF and from ISO which offer an input for the dairy sector into the development of internationally accepted dairy standards and an access to an extensive global network of Dairy laboratories and experts.

Published a guide on “Good Dairy Farming Practices” with FAO

Farmers worldwide will find in this guide a user-friendly tool to enhance best practices at farm level and achieve quality-assured milk and dairy products. IDF gave important input to the series of guidelines on individual practices for farmers worldwide with schemes adapted to their social and economic environment.

Defended the nitrogen-protein conversion factor for milk proteins

In 2006, IDF succeeded in defending the well-established Nitrogen Protein Conversion Factor (NCF) for milk during a review by the CODEX standards for infant formulae. Using a comprehensive review of the scientific literature and technical arguments, IDF showed that it was inappropriate to employ an arbitrary factor for all protein sources. The potential business impact of the change would have been significant without delivering benefits to consumers.



🔹 Achieved recognition of widely accepted practices for protein adjustment

Protein adjustment practices in the dairy industry are currently implemented through three commodity standards related to preserved milk and milk powders and a General Standard for the Use of Dairy Terms for all other dairy products and for drinking milk. Despite being a generally accepted practice, protein adjustment remained out of the scope of the Codex Alimentarius Commission until 1999. Footed on scientific argumentation and demonstration brought up by IDF, this practice began to be officially implemented bringing significant economic benefits to the dairy sector worldwide.

🔹 Become acknowledged as a leading provider of authoritative scientific advice on animal health

Since 2003 IDF has cooperated with the World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE) in the exchange of information in the dairy sector and veterinary research together with other aspects of animal welfare and food safety. Through the appointment of OIE experts to the IDF Standing Committee on Animal Health and the IDF Project Group on Animal Welfare, OIE has been able to align its ongoing work with the work of IDF on a Guide to Animal Welfare in Dairy Production. As part of the cooperation, IDF has provided input an OIE/FAO Drafting Group on the Guide to Good Farming Practices and at meetings of the OIE Permanent Working Group on Animal Welfare.

🔹 Published a series of guides to minimise the risk of feed-associated contamination

The live microorganisms present in milk and milk products are praised for their beneficial effects. However, under certain conditions, such as certain feeding schemes, they may produce toxins harmful to human health or to livestock. Over the last two decades, IDF has published vast work related to the occurrence and control of mycotoxins in milk as a primary hazard arising from certain feeding schemes. These publications have contributed to the improvement of food safety and human health in the dairy sector by considerably minimising contamination cases of milk with mycotoxins.





Contributed to the promotion of the nutritional value and benefits of milk and milk products through a dynamic nutrition website and peer-reviewed publications

The dairy nutrition website launched in 2008 provides professionals and other web users with information on the benefits of milk and milks products for a healthy lifestyle. The web site addresses the wide public with facts sheets and questions-and-answers on questions of interest in our daily lives.

Defined a scientific method to assess the dairy life cycle with UNEP

Sustainable production is one of the key concerns of IDF. IDF has cooperated with the United Nations Environment Programme on the preparation of a guide that facilitates the evaluation of dairy production processes in the light of the dairy life cycle and sustainable development concepts. It describes a methodology of life cycle assessment (LCA) applied to the dairy chain and illustrates it with the results of LCA on packaging Systems, on dairy farming Systems and on milk products. It also presents the environmental impacts of energy consumption and the effect of the Kyoto Agreement on the dairy industry together with a series of case studies in different countries and reports on the discussion about LCA as a tool to promote sustainability in the dairy industry.

Grown to be the largest international platform for sustainable innovation and technical and scientific advice on dairy

Carrying out top scientific research, IDF is the international reference platform for dairy technology. Well-known and respected international events and specialised publications spread IDF's expertise among dairy producers worldwide and help achieve innovative solutions for a safe and diverse industry.



The International Dairy Federation

The scientific expertise for the dairy sector worldwide

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