CHAMPIONING FEED AND FOOD SAFETY ACROSS AFRICA, ASIA AND LATIN AMERICA

The safe trade gap

For producers and the feed industry in developing countries and emerging economies, meeting rising safety and quality standards for export and domestic markets is a big challenge. Applying the Codex code of practice on good animal feeding is key to increase food safety and boost trade in feed products and products of animal origin. However, exporting and importing countries need a more level playing field. Everyone along the production and distribution chain, from feed mill managers to inspection officers, needs access to information on Good Manufacturing Practices and feed safety standards. Legislation and regulations need updating, and policy-makers and industry need the tools to make this happen, which in turn will promote regional and international trade.

Partnership approach

The International Feed Industry Federation (IFIF) and FAO joined forces to champion the safe production and supply of animal feed globally, bringing together the feed industry, livestock producers and government agencies, particularly across Africa and Latin America. A new “Feed Manual of Good Practices for the Feed Industry” was developed, setting out practical guidelines for producers and industry to help meet the Codex code of practice and support higher feed and food safety standards in developing economies. IFIF and FAO have also run targeted workshops and hands-on training for feed officers, producers and feed industries in 15 countries worldwide.

Results

- IFIF and FAO used the Manual in capacity development projects and workshops across Africa, Asia and Latin America, helping regulators and industry to increase the safety of feed and food.
- Set up of the Latin American Feed Industry Association (FeedLatina) and the Southern African Feed Manufacturers’ Association. Both help to harmonize legislation and regulations within their regions, boosting trade and creating self-regulating regional industries.
- Catalyzed the creation of the FAO-led Feed Safety Multi-Stakeholder Partnership to support capacity development and the Global Feed Safety Platform to share information and knowledge worldwide.

Sustaining impact

Thanks to the project’s support, feed and food safety continue to improve worldwide:

- Feed regulators and industry in developing countries and emerging economies continue to use the Manual as a reference for updating and comparing legislation and regulations. Across Africa, Asia and Latin America, governments and companies have made changes to meet the Codex code of practice on good animal feeding. The Manual was the third most downloaded publication from the FAO website until 2016.
- The Manual is being used to train government officers and industry, and raise awareness among policy-makers and producers. It is also being used as a teaching tool in universities, receiving positive feedback from students.