

- Press Release -

The International Platform of Insects for Food and Feed

Brussels, 1st December 2021

The algae, yeast and insect sectors launch a new collaboration to support the upscaling of EU protein production

The EU umbrella organisations for the algae (EABA), yeast (COFALEC) and insect production sectors (<u>IPIFF</u>) join forces in supporting efforts to upscale EU protein production. Earlier today, representatives of the three sectors launched a joint roadmap that focuses on four main pillars, notably (a) unlocking regulatory opportunities, (b) facilitating access to green investment, (c) supporting R&D efforts and (d) developing joint promotion/communication activities.

Recognised under the 'Farm to Fork' strategy, such new sources of nutrition may play a considerable role in reducing 'the dependency on critical feed materials', while also contributing to the development of healthier, nutritious food products. Opening today's event, IPIFF's President Adriana Casillas highlighted that the potential of these innovative sectors to contribute to the 'Farm to Fork' objectives is unequalled.

'The scientific evidence from past years provides promising directions to raise awareness around the nutritional and environmental benefits of alternative proteins - and along with other sectors active in the production of such new proteins, we are committed to addressing possible challenges', mentioned IPIFF's second vice-President, **Antoine Hubert**.

Echoing the words of the IPIFF representative, the EABA President, **Vitor Verdelho Vieira** also underlined that 'such sectors have the potential to transform EU's food systems'. Yet, to maximise their contribution, a regulatory level-playing field is necessary. 'All three sectors have expressed their commitment to strengthen their partnership to further explore the nutritional and environmental benefits associated with these innovative solutions – especially in the context of EU funded research

programme', mentioned IPIFF's first vice-President, Aman Paul.

Presenting the joint roadmap, COFALEC's Secretary-General, **Diane Doré** expressed her recognition for the fruitful collaboration initiated by these sectors earlier in 2018. '*This event gives us the opportunity to reiterate our commitment for the EU Green Deal objectives – and pave the way for a longer-term commitment that will flourish thanks to the synergies/complementarity of our sectors*'.

<u>The European Algae Biomass Association (EABA)</u> acts as a catalyst for fostering synergies among scientists, industrialists and decision-makers in order to promote the development of research, technology and industrial capacities in the field of algae.

The Confederation of yeast producers (COFALEC) represents the EU yeast industry in Europe. With 33 factories scattered through the European Union, one million tons of yeast produce each year more than 30% of the production exported outside Europe, the yeast industry is an important player of the European food industry. Essential to producing many emblematic fermented food and drink products, the yeast sector is also a key solution provider for healthy food and feed as well as sustainable agricultural practices.

The International Platform of Insects for Food and Feed (IPIFF) is a non-profit organisation which represents the interests of the insect production sector towards EU policymakers, European stakeholders and citizens. Composed of <u>83 members</u>, most of which are European insect producing companies, IPIFF promotes the use of insects & insect derived products as a top tier source of nutrients for human consumption and animal feed'.

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Interested to know what 'insect farming' is about? Check our updated

'Frequently Asked Questions' on the IPIFF website!

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sector, follow us on our social media platforms!



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