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FEDIOL releases its monitoring of responsible soy sourcing for 2022

Brussels, 14 November 2023 – In 2022, 35% of the soybeans sourced and processed by FEDIOL member companies was verified or certified responsible. The amount of the derived soy products, that companies were able to sell as responsible in Europe, increased by 2 percentage points, from the 7% of 2021 to 9%. Despite this slight increase, the 26% points gap continues to substantiate the difficulty for FEDIOL companies to sell, as verified or certified responsible, the full amount of soybeans they purchase with a sustainability premium.

The exercise measured the volumes of soybeans bought and the derived products sold that were compliant with the 2021 upgraded FEFAC Soy Sourcing Guidelines (SSGs).

FEDIOL companies purchased 13,862,000 tons of soybeans, a slight decrease with respect to the 2020 and 2021 figures.

In the second part of the monitoring, FEDIOL also assessed the geographical sourcing of soybeans from its member companies and the collection of their aggregated volumes of soybeans processed in the EU. Soybeans can be sourced from areas where the risk of deforestation is higher or rather lower.

In 2022, **FEDIOL companies sourced 96% of the soybeans they processed from regions with a low risk of deforestation**, an increase of 17 percentage points over 2021, while only 4% from high-risk regions.

The monitoring does not provide an indication about volumes that will be able to comply with the EU Deforestation Regulation when entering into application at the end of 2024.

The FEDIOL 2022 monitoring can be found <u>here</u>.

FEDIOL represents the interests of the **European vegetable oil and protein meal industry**. With over 180 facilities in Europe, the sector provides over 20.000 direct employments. Our members process approximately 55 million tonnes of basic products a year for the food and non-food markets. Oilseed crushing produces vegetable oils and protein meals as co-products. While vegetable oils are used for food and technical uses (pharmaceuticals, paints, detergents, biodiesel, etc.), protein meals are used to meet the increasing global demand for meat and protein. For further information, please contact Nathalie Lecocq, FEDIOL Director General, <u>fediol@fediol.eu</u>