



## FEDIOL's medium-term vision:

- **ADVANCING SOLUTIONS**
- **FOR A SUSTAINABLE TRANSITION**
- **IN OILSEEDS' PROCESSING**



## Improving Food Security and Resilience

### **Build on Industry Knowledge**

The sustainable transition of our societies needs to be based on an EU vision where the industry in general, the vegetable oil industry and other agri-food partners are seen as part of the solution rather than as an obstacle. The EU strategy should build on industries' competences and innovation potential to enhance resilience, boost autonomy in critical sectors. At the same time, it should consider EU competitiveness and mitigate the cost increases due to energy, labour, carbon prices and to regulatory compliance.

### **Recognise Role of Non-Food Outlet in EU Protein Strategy**

The EU protein strategy should focus on profitable EU production, that includes oilseeds. It should integrate non-food outlets for vegetable oils, including biofuels and bio-chemicals, as a key element of the bioeconomy while providing an important buffer as back-up for the food outlet in case of crisis or production shortfall.

### **Strengthen Trade Partnerships for Diversified Sourcing**

Trade policy should build long-lasting and resilient relationships of the EU with like-minded countries and aimed at diversifying sources of supply.

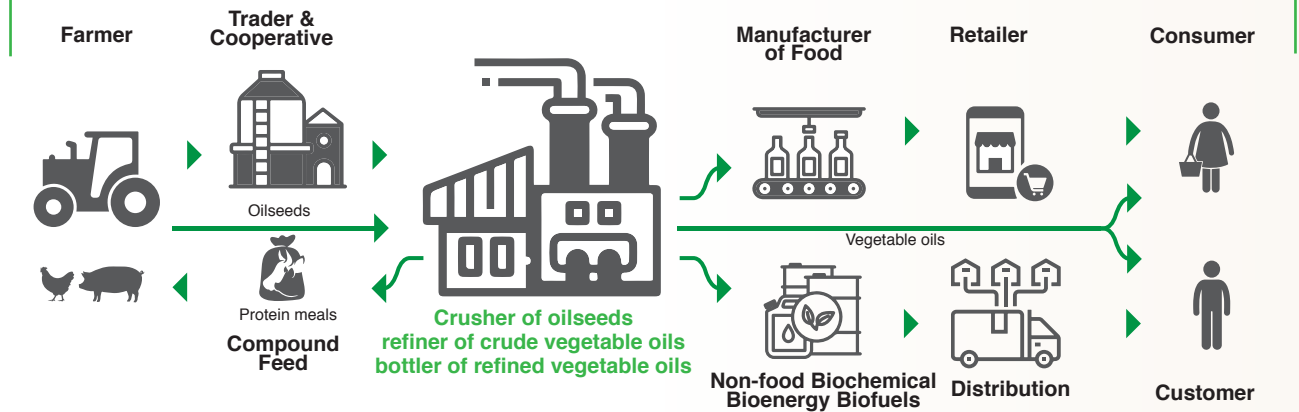
### **Explanatory notes**

*The increased complexity of the EU regulatory framework affects the competitiveness of companies as well as the availability and affordability of food in the EU.*

*Oilseeds processing produces vegetable oils, protein meals and other co-products which are supplied to manufacturers in the food, feed, non-food and energy markets. The oil supplied to bio-energy, biofuel and bio-chemical industry strengthen the bioeconomy. It also reduces the EU oilseeds protein deficit and ensures a stronger resilience of the food outlet in case of crisis. Without the biofuel and bio-chemical outlets, EU production of oilseeds would drop and further increase dependency on protein imports.*

*The diversity of markets is critically important for maintaining production of oilseeds in the farms' crop rotation. Weakening either the oil or the meal outlet would have lasting consequences for EU farmers' interest in continuing to produce oilseeds. It would seriously undermine farm economics. While FEDIOL uses EU-grown oilseeds, it also relies on access to non-EU oilseeds to supply protein to feed and on imports of vegetable oils to complement the portfolio of available vegetable oils.*

## THE OILSEEDS, VEGETABLE OIL AND PROTEIN MEAL SUPPLY CHAINS



## Enhancing the three dimensions of sustainability in the food system

### Set General Sustainability Objectives

The EU framework legislation for sustainability in the food system should set general objectives which are to be implemented by Food Business Operators according to their own position and progress in the sustainability journey. Safety and quality have to remain essential criteria.

### Design Meaningful Nutrition Labelling

EU legislation should support consumers in their product choice for a healthy diet, with meaningful front-of-pack nutrition labelling provisions. They must also be in line with WHO and/or national nutrition recommendations and EU health and nutrition claims. In light of the upcoming revision of the Food Information to Consumers Regulation, an EU single-harmonised system should meet the above conditions.

### Provide a Future-proof Framework for New Genomic Techniques

The EU needs a regulatory framework dedicated to new genomic techniques that is future proof as the technological landscape continues to quickly evolve. The framework should be conducive to adaptation of seed varieties to climate change. This will enhance sustainability in production and in consumption while keeping Europe's innovation at par with other players in third countries. Regulatory coherence at international level is also of the essence.

### Explanatory notes

Enhancing sustainability in the food system requires caring for environmental, social, and economic dimensions.

Vegetable oil is an essential nutrient. It is key in a balanced diet and will continue playing an important role for consumers in a sustainable food system.

## MAINTAINING HIGH FOOD AND FEED SAFETY STANDARDS

Although high food and feed safety in the EU appears as a given, climate change, technological advances and regulatory requirements are complex challenges. Their cumulative effects also have an impact on food and feed safety, which is an integral part of sustainability. A long-term EU vision in this area is required, integrating the following key principles:

- science-based risk assessment;
- evidence-based risk management through legal acts, instead of informal Member States' rules;
- EU harmonized approach to the enforcement of food and feed safety legislations;
- workable implementation allowing technology to be applied with accurate lead-in times.

*FEDIOL is engaged in supporting the transition through continuous improvement of its processes and activities. It provides information on the nutritional properties, the use and labelling of the different vegetable oils and supports member companies in their compliance with EU safety and quality objectives (codes of practices, guidelines, specifications and certification standards). FEDIOL developed LCA tools to assess the environmental performance of their products and to reduce their impact.*



## Stepping up GHG emission reductions in our Supply Chains

### **Enable Transition to Renewable Energy Sources**

Public authorities should strengthen the transition to renewable energy sources and support an acceleration of the defossilisation in the agri-food sectors, notably in rural areas.

### **Promote the Bioeconomy to Replace Fossil Sources**

The bioeconomy and its potential to replace fossil sources should be a priority for the EU and give rise to coordinated policies in several areas: research, innovation, regulatory framework, standards, funding.

### **Support Implementation of the EU Deforestation Regulation**

The implementation of the EU Deforestation Regulation needs public support from the EU to 3rd countries to help accelerate adjustments and build capacity through partnership, to avoid exclusion of less advanced players, who will also need practical guidance.

### **Include Mitigation in EU Climate Policy**

The EU climate policy roll-out should include mitigation options that level the playing field, tackling competitive disadvantages faced by EU industries on the EU and global market.

### **Explanatory notes**

*Companies in the crushing and refining sector have reduced CO<sub>2</sub> emissions since the first ETS (Emission Trading System) was deployed in the EU. Companies have invested in enhancing efficiency in processing. They have also replaced fossil fuels with renewables, including co-produced biomass flows. Finally, they have undertaken targeted efforts to reduce carbon emissions across the chain. These efforts must be sustained.*

*The process of crushing and refining requires heat. Defossilisation through electrification only poses serious challenges, notably in rural areas, where required infrastructures are not developing at the required pace. Defossilisation will also have to be accelerated in other parts of the chain, notably at farm level, but also in all transport modes used, essentially road, rail and maritime.*



## EU ASSOCIATION

Members (associations plus companies)  
in **16 EU member states**

## INDUSTRY

Representing **180 plants** and **20.000 direct jobs**,  
mainly in rural areas

## TURNOVER

The EU crushing and refining industry generated  
**38.6 billion € of turnover in 2022**

## CRUSHING

The processing of oilseeds provides two relevant  
co-products: vegetable oil and protein meal. In the  
case of rapeseed and sunflower, the share is 60% meal  
and 40% oil, while the share is respectively 80% and  
20% for soybeans. **FEDIOL members crushed 41.2  
mio. tonnes of oilseeds in 2022.**

It is the EU market for both the oil and the meal that  
drives economics of EU production of oilseeds.

## REFINING

Removes natural impurities from crude vegetable oils.  
Retains the most nutritional properties and delivers a  
stable oil with mild and neutral taste, fit for use in  
processed products. **FEDIOL members refined 18.4  
mio. tonnes of oils in 2022**, of which 6.7 mio. tonnes  
tropical oils.

## VEGETABLE OILS

Vegetable oils can be used for cold use, for warm  
applications, for **cooking**, frying, deep-frying,  
depending on their fatty acid composition which is  
typical to each botanical origin. They can also be  
further used as **ingredients in processed food or  
feed**. The non-food outlets, as **biofuels** or **renewable  
chemicals**, are equally important and sustain the EU  
produced proteins.

## PROTEIN MEALS

The meals from rapeseed, soy and sunflower are high  
in protein. They are mostly used for animal feed, while  
food uses are still limited. In 2022, **FEDIOL members  
produced 27 mio. tonnes of protein meals.**

# FEDIOL IS AN EU ASSOCIATION

providing expertise  
in food and feed  
regulatory matters,  
nutrition, agri-food  
processing, commodity  
markets, environmental  
law, sustainability,  
trade and supported by  
a Brussels-based team.



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