

## THE DEVELOPMENT OF PLANT PROTEINS IN THE EUROPEAN UNION **OPPORTUNITIES AND CHALLENGES**

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#### **Panel "Supply Chains and Market Segments"**

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# Highlights of the workshop on

## "Supply Chains and Market Segments" Most feed markets are spot/commodities markets:

- Short-term price/quantity adjustment
- "Anonymous nutrient" in formulation = no specific identity for species
- By-products development rise

#### Most food markets and some specific quality markets in feed (soya GM-free, healthy or environmental-friendly products...) are based on more highly coordinated supply chains:

- Most often with crop contracts & premium price
- Highly coordination is chosen when it reduces the transaction costs
- Crop contracts favour more long-term group commitment in regions

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EXTRUSEL

Other examples during WS...



Specific markets generate a stronger "leverage effect" on crop subsidies, because commodities markets do not generate long-term investment for plant proteins cultivation in our territories. While highly coordinated supply chains favour stronger long-term investments, which in turn, leads to collective progress.





#### Second nutrition transition has started

- Global market protein ingredients +€ 31 billion 2018 (+15% CAGR through 2025) with € 11 billion on plant proteins for food
- Strong growth of alternative proteins especially in Europe compared with North America. Low diversity: on 2,2 million tons plant-based protein ingredients 56% soy, 43% wheat ... but less than 1% for pea, rice, potatoes, rape seed faba bean, lupin, sunflower, (Improve data) Decrease of meat consumption in Western Europe: **flexitarian model** is growing
- (especially France, UK, Germany...)
- **Organic market is pioneer**: many products innovations launched Healthy food awareness rise: products innovations by supermarkets **Increasing market for seniors** (30% Europeans 65+ in 2050)
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#### <u>A nutrition transition based on two main types of food models</u>

Whole-grains based foods: a stronger identity to species and regions, both tradition and modern gastronomy, recipes with cultural mixing...



- Scientific knowledge of the nutritional properties is growing
- New processes like fermentation... Strong constraints on flavours
- No strict opposition regarding "meat/animal-sources": both Simili/Alternatives & Mix products

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**Ingredients-based foods**: identity by the functional properties, all types of foodstuffs, no identity by the species or regions

**Strong increase of production costs**  $\rightarrow$  requiring economies of scale

Fractionation, extrusion concentrates, isolates 40-80% proteins





- Market segmentation is increasing as there are more diversified consumer profiles and even more variability in their habits.

  - to preserve various alternatives (both processes and species) and avoid future lock-in in a *dominant design*



**Challenge**:



#### **Opportunities identified**

- as the demand for **feed** & food is increasing
- European countries are oriented towards more sustainable & healthy diets through various initiatives... Ex: Green Protein Alliance
- Protein is not the only driver of pulses development, the challenges also are on:
  - double business models in ingredients markets (starch/protein, oil/protein...)
  - **fibres** intake needs for consumers
- Low-process and high-process technologies are both interesting
- Europe presents various agricultural regions to valorise various protein crops, and to keep and develop "authentic" various foods ("identity foods")
- Animal-/Plant-based protein equilibria consumption is not the only debate: how to develop food identities on legumes ?

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#### Currently, the strongest increase among protein crops cultivation is the **European GM-free soya**,

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### Way forward

#### Protein plant subsidies both food & feed, should run with other policies

- Support for highly coordinated supply chains, as incubators of long-term progress to catch up the competitiveness gap of minor crops compared to major crops
- Public recommendation on protein consumption: could we achieve an European convergence around a new equilibria 50/50 or 60/40 plant/animal-based proteins in 2050?
- Shift in diets & re-conception of livestock systems in Europe are two sides of the same coin to reconnect crop and livestock (circular models), new equilibria in livestock areas in Europe...
- **Consumer education** (on nutrition, environmental impacts...) & **labelling strategies**



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#### Thank you for your attention

#### **HEALTHY AGRIFOOD SYSTEMS** Nutrition transition should go hand-in-hand with agroecological transition

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