



*WRO was represented at the National Congress of Argentina in February.*

## Exciting Years in the Rendering Industry

Undoubtedly, our sector is being recognized for the benefit it delivers to society in its daily activity: to give sustainability to the animal protein chain, whether that animal is fish, poultry, pigs, cattle, goats, sheep or any other species that is a source of meat for mankind.

The reuse of animal slaughter by-products is an ancient practice; however, our industry began to take shape as we know it only at the end of the 19th century, notably in the U.S. and Europe.

As Frank A. Burnham well pointed out in his 1975 book, for decades we were an “invisible industry.” In many countries, our sector has even been perceived as a possible source of recontamination of the production chain, something like “a necessary evil,” when on the contrary, we have always been the main agent controlling the transmission of zoonoses. The high temperature of our processing daily eliminates pathogens in our raw material.

But that’s not all. The rendering sector has always performed an essential public service, being as important to the sustainability of a developed society as, for example, the municipal garbage collection service.

We are taking big steps towards this global recognition.

Several countries have finally established public policies that favor our industry through recognition of the environmental value of our products. And this does not only involve animal fats for the production of biodiesel, renewable diesel and sustainable aviation fuel (SAF). It also involves animal meals for the production of animal feed with greater local sustainability, and even use as biofertilizer.

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During 2022, the World Renderers Organization attended several meetings with diverse national associations and private global organizations, such as pet food, animal feed, renewable fuels and even edible fat associations. All of these groups are valuing the use of raw materials that have a small carbon footprint, reduce the demand for land and avoid waste, as well as return nutrients and energy to other human activities.

Though the concept is new, what best defines the activity of the rendering sector is a current buzzword — the circular bioeconomy. Our sector is the link in the chain that allows bio-circularity in animal production.

And without a doubt, WRO’s participation in two working groups will be the effective proof of what the rendering sector has always accomplished. These working groups are part of the Livestock Environmental Assessment and Performance partnership from the Food and Agriculture Organization and International Feed Industry Federation.

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## LEAP

WRO will continue to participate in LEAP 4. We had our nomination approved and will have our first expert as part of the LEAP Technical Advisory Group who will generate the “Circular Bioeconomy Approaches Guideline.” For the first time, we will have objective definitions and calculation tools validated by FAO. This will serve as a basis for higher bodies, such as the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, a United Nations body, and other world authorities to establish their public policies for the reduction of greenhouse gases.

## IFIF

WRO is participating in the IFIF Expert Working Group on Circular Economy, which is designing a manual aimed at feed manufacturers, authorities and the general public. Support will be given to the use of ingredients considered “circular” in animal nutrition — and clearly animal meals and fats will be addressed in this manual.

With the creation of these two manuals, which will have a global scope, the demand that we experience today for our products will be better grounded and technically recognized. The WRO will remain active in all these groups and others that are eventually formed at a global level, always aiming at the best for the industries in our sector.

## National Congress of Argentina

The Chamber of Livestock By-Products of the Bolsa de Valores de Argentina, with 101 years since its foundation, is the oldest organization in the WRO. In February, it held its annual national congress, with 175 attendees from other countries including Brazil, Uruguay, Mexico, Chile, Colombia, Paraguay, the U.S., Italy and Denmark.

The event was a success, with lectures addressing the most diverse subjects relevant to the rendering sector. Attendees learned about national subjects, such as Argentine livestock production, economics and technology, as well as global topics like sustainability, bioeconomy, nutrition and health.

Highlighted speakers included Eduardo Dubinski, engineer from the Argentinian Association of Fats and Oils, who addressed the myths concerning the use of animal fats in the human diet. Joaquin Degadillo from the National Association of Renderers of Mexico presented the Mexican meals and fat markets.

Dr. Ángela Gentili from the National Service for Agro-Food Security gave a lecture on the agrosanitary system in Argentina, in particular on the regulation of the rendering sector in her country. And Dr. Martin Minassian from the World Organization for Animal Health Regional Office for the Americas showed how WOAHP works and how private actors like WRO assist WOAHP in developing its Terrestrial Animal Health Code. I also had the opportunity to represent WRO at this event, and my message addressed the activities carried out by the organization throughout last year, along with the work of WOAHP, FAO/LEAP, IFIF and the Global Alliance of Pet Food Associations. **R**



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