

# How to become an IDF expert and contribute with your knowledge and work to the global dairy sector?

## 1 What is IDF and its contribution to global dairy?

International Dairy Federation (IDF) is the leading source of scientific and technical expertise for all stakeholders of the dairy chain. Since 1903, IDF's network of dairy experts has provided science-based knowledge on how to help nourish the world with safe, nutritious and sustainable dairy products.

With over 1,200 highly qualified dairy experts from its approximately 40 member countries around the world, IDF represents nearly 75% of global milk production and provides a permanent source of authoritative information relevant to the dairy sector. With your input, we will be even more experts and contribute with more expertise

## Helping deliver a sustainable and successful future for the global dairy sector

- **IDF'S Purpose:** To connect and empower the global dairy sector to nourish the world with safe, nutritious, and sustainable dairy.
- **IDF's vision:** Supporting the efforts of the global dairy sector to provide safe, nutritious, sustainable and accessible dairy products to the world's population while being a source of economic and social vitality in agricultural communities and the dairy sector.
- **IDF's mission:** Strengthen the global dairy sector by collecting, extending, managing and sharing science-based dairy expertise and insight for policy development and standard setting at national and international level.
- **IDF's values:** Knowledgeable, Collaborative, Excellent, Longstanding Integrity, Engaged



Our priorities are to:

- Show how milk and dairy foods are delivering on the UN Sustainable Development Goals and help dairy farmers, processors and other members of the global dairy chain to engage in sustainable practices
- Ensure dairy is recognised as an essential component in sustainable food systems and healthy diets
- Contribute to vital standard setting and scientific advice to Intergovernmental organisations
- Remain a global forum for knowledge and experience sharing

### IDF pillars

#### Standards

IDF contributes to the development of science based globally harmonized standards, guidelines, codes of practice and related methodologies across all working areas, to continually improve regulatory environments for the dairy sector.

#### Nutrition & Health

IDF pro-actively supports science-based nutrition policies to ensure that dairy is an integral part of the diet for all age groups and contributes to closing the nutritional gap.

#### Sustainability

IDF pro-actively supports a vibrant dairy sector committed to continuously improve its ability to provide safe and nutritious milk and dairy products from healthy animals to close the nutritional gap whilst preserving natural resources and ensuring decent livelihoods across the whole dairy value chain.

#### Safety & Quality

IDF engages in safeguarding the integrity and transparency of the dairy supply chain to ensure the safety and quality of milk and dairy products.



### 2 How can experts contribute to IDF?

IDF is the strength of its network of 1,200 dairy experts around the world working collaboratively to deliver our work. Our uniqueness is the participation of all actors of the value chain from farmers, processors, cooperatives, academics, researchers, dairy boards and organisations, government and policy makers.

Experts are expected to participate actively in the work items contributing to IDF programme of work within one or more of its 17 Standing Committees and Task Forces, according to their expertise, in alignment with their respective National Committees.

National Committee Secretaries nominate experts to the Standing Committees and Task Forces by sending a request with a CV/resume to the IDF Head Office. So if you are interested in becoming one of IDF's experts, get in contact with your country's national committee.

### 3 How would you benefit as an expert?

As an IDF expert, you will have the opportunity to make a difference in the global dairy sector. You will have the chance to impact the way the sector is progressing. You will also be part of a global network and get game-changing opportunities and add value to the IDF mission and programme of work.

At the same time, you will be able to learn and increase your professional profile and development, grow in your career and also become a mentor for others. IDF is a platform where you can provide solutions to a gap or a problem within the dairy sector. You will also have more opportunities to publish and be cited, to be invited as a speaker in summits, conferences and seminars, and be interviewed and consulted by the media. As chair and deputy chair, you will coordinate groups and influence on what work the group engages in.

IDF value for experts

- One-of-a-kind networking opportunities
- Make a difference
- Access to an unrivalled source of scientific and technical knowledge
- Coverage and understanding of dairy-related issues
- Participation in relevant working groups
- Analysis of key issues of interest for the dairy sector
- Contribution to the setting of international standards
- Key contacts
- Opportunities to bring a solution to a problem or a challenge
- Lead work or working groups
- Peer [recognition](#)

How much time would be expected from experts? Invested time will differ depending on how much experts commit to their tasks. However, it is worth mentioning that satisfaction of contributing to the development of the global dairy sector will be proportional to the time invested.

If you are interested to contribute to IDF work as an expert, please contact the [IDF National Committee in your country](#).

*"Joining IDF as an expert is an unparalleled opportunity for those who want to follow a career in the global dairy sector. I started my journey as an IDF expert in 2006, when I joined the IDF US National Committee as an expert and started to attend the first meetings. Then I participated as an IDF expert in the Codex meetings and soon attended my first IDF World Dairy Summit back in 2009. The next step was to chair the Animal Health and Welfare Committee. Fifteen years after, I am chairing the Science and Programme Coordination Committee, which oversees all IDF's scientific work. It's been an extraordinary experience which I recommend to anyone who wants to leave its mark and impact the dairy sector at a global level",*

**Jamie Jonker, Science and Programme Coordination Committee Chair.**

If you decide to become an IDF member, we will provide you with full guidance and support, including and IDF expert guidelines with all the information you require to perform your duty.

# Join us!