

PRESS RELEASE

5th Dairy Outlook Workshop 2026



MARCH 24TH – 25TH 2026, BRUSSELS, BELGIUM - DAIRY LEADERS DISCUSS MARKET OUTLOOK AND STRATEGIC RESPONSES TO GLOBAL UNCERTAINTY

The IFCN Dairy Research Network, in collaboration with Eucolait, hosted the Dairy Outlook Workshop 2026 in Brussels, bringing together more than 50 senior stakeholders from across the dairy sector.

The workshop focused on the European dairy market outlook in a rapidly changing global environment. Economic developments, geopolitical tensions, and shifting demand patterns were highlighted as key factors shaping both current market conditions and future industry trends.

Participants emphasized the growing complexity of the market. While demand remains stable and production fundamentals are solid, uncertainty around input costs, trade flows, and policy developments continue to influence decision-making along the value chain.

Structural changes within the sector were another key topic. Ongoing consolidation, evolving farm structures, and technological progress are increasingly shaping production systems and competitiveness in Europe.

Global market dynamics featured prominently in the discussions. Participants underlined the importance of international trade, key export markets, and the impact of geopolitical developments on supply chains and market access. Maintaining competitiveness in an interconnected global market remains a central challenge.

Interactive scenario sessions enabled participants to assess potential market developments, identify risks, and discuss strategic responses for farmers, processors, and traders under different conditions.

The workshop concluded with a clear message: in a volatile and uncertain environment, close collaboration, transparency, and continuous exchange across the dairy value chain are essential.

The IFCN Eucolait Dairy Outlook Workshop once again highlighted the importance of joint dialogue and coordinated action in preparing the global dairy sector for future challenges.

About Eucolait

Eucolait represents the European dairy trading community since 1959, providing market intelligence, policy analysis, and a platform for dialogue with institutions and stakeholders.

About IFCN

IFCN is a global dairy researcher and consultancy network based in Kiel, Germany. Founded in 2000, it connects over 100 researchers and supports more than 130 companies worldwide with data-driven insights and industry networking.

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