DONAU SOJA
ANNUAL REPORT OF REGIONAL OFFICE IN UKRAINE
2019

Kyiv
2019 year
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STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP WITH AUSTRIAN DEVELOPMENT AGENCY

The Donau Soja Association activities are supported by Austrian Development Agency (ADA). Currently Donau Soja is implementing the Strategic Partnership Project «Building sustainable, inclusive and well-functioning value chains for non-GM soya and organic soya in Serbia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Moldova and Ukraine» funded by ADA over a period of 5 years (2017-2021).

By implementing this Strategic Partnership Project, the competitiveness of agricultural producers, processors (e.g. oil mills) and the food and feed industry will be enhanced and the access to domestic, regional and international markets will be improved. It is planned that by the end of the year 2021, 152,000 tons of soya will be certified by the four target countries.

The target group includes soya producers, collectors, processing plants (such as oil mills), feed producers and traders, and finally food producers (label users). In addition, input providers, public extension service providers, farmers’ associations, agriculture and research institutes, certification and control bodies, ministries of agriculture and food safety agencies will benefit from capacity building activities. The indirect target group comprises all participants along the value chain where agricultural workers as well as consumers – in the four countries but also in EU and other non-EU-countries – will benefit from the planned activities.

The following activities are being conducted in order to systematically develop the soya markets in the 4 countries:

- trainings for producers to share knowledge and best practices in soya cultivation and processing
- capacity development of extension services
- the introduction of the Donau Soja quality system and labelling scheme
- the promotion of organic cultivation, market development and trade facilitation
- improvements of the business environment to favor soya production, processing, trade and use
- promotion of European standards in agricultural production

A holistic value-chain approach combines increased production capacity with increasing value for the produce, supported by long-term capacity building and improved governance and connections to the global knowledge-based economy.

Against this background, and as a membership-based organisation, Donau Soja’s work to promote sustainable sourcing and use of protein in Europe is fundamentally linked to sustainable development, and this Agenda 2030. Donau Soja considers the development of soy as a catalyst for change in wider cropping systems and therefore relates to the Sustainable Development Goals beyond the direct impacts of soy production.
As President of Donau Soja I would like to congratulate our members, partners and staff in the Eastern European region lead by our office on Kyiv on all important achievements reached in 2019. Donau Soja places great importance on Ukraine and Eastern Europe as two thirds of Europe’s Soyabeans are produced there. We are committed to supporting the development of inclusive, well functioning and profitable value chains, the integration of field crop, processing, exporting and local use of soya and the increase sophistication in all parts of the chain. Ukraine and Eastern Europe are integrating more and more into Western European protein value chains. This places demands on higher quality, food safety and sustainability and Donau Soja is and will continue to work with all of you to upgrade production and processing to world class levels. Personally, the journey together with our friends from Ukraine and Eastern Europe has been exciting and strengthened my belief in our joint community of values and shared future together. I wish all our members, partners and staff a successful, happy and healthy 2020!

MATTHIAS KRON,
Chairman, Managing Director,
Donau Soja Association

Agriculture is among the greatest contributors to global warming and the environmental challenges posed by agriculture are enormous and will become even more critical with 9 billion by 2050 to feed with richer diets than today – we would need to double the amount of crops we produce today.

We are at a crucial moment facing unprecedented challenges to food security and the protection of our global environment at the same time. Therefore, it is of the essential importance to support together finding the way towards more sustainable agriculture, food and feed production, protein supply - producing more with less, producing smarter, transforming food system to more resource efficient, while continuously reducing its environmental impacts. Ukraine with ¼ of the world’s black soil resources and as one of the world leaders in agri production could play a major role supporting the change. Donau Soja stands for a sustainable, safe and European protein supply. Join us. Let’s be the change together.

MARIJA KALENTIC,
Executive Director,
Regional Director Central & Eastern Europe,
Donau Soja Association

We are all here with a reason and if mine could be to make a positive change – then it is already the victory

MARIJA KALENTIC
Executive Director,
Regional Director Central & Eastern Europe,
Donau Soja Association

MATTHIAS KRON
Chairman, Managing Director,
Donau Soja Association
Dear members, friends and partners of the Danube Soybean Association. First, I want to thank you for your fruitful year and your joint contribution to the development of value chains of non-GM soybeans grown in a sustainable way in Eastern Europe and Ukraine.

Since sustainable development is an important part of the foundation of the Association, we focus in this Annual Report on the UN Sustainable Development Goals until 2030 and show how the Association’s activities directly contribute to the achievement of these goals.

One of the important trends in European countries, when the classic quality characteristics of soy and its products are supplemented by the need for the production itself to meet the criteria of sustainability and neutral or positive environmental impact.

In 2015, the UN Summit adopted 17 Global Sustainable Development Goals for the period up to 2030, aimed at bringing the World to the path of sustainable development. Their effective achievement, in particular, requires a comprehensive system of rethinking value-added chains in production and consumption.

A special role in this process is played by the owner organizations and developers of sustainable agricultural production standards, which, together with independent certification bodies, provide the market with signals regarding the characteristics of agri-food products in the conditions of uneven and asymmetric distribution of information between market participants.

In recent years, the popularity and importance of sustainable soybean production standards has been growing, among which Donau Soja and Europe Soya standards are prominent.

Eastern European countries have huge export potential for the agricultural sector and opportunities in the EU market. The EU need for imports of non-GM soybeans is 33 million tons, with a total consumption of 40 million tons in soybeans equivalent. The Association’s projects are aimed at increasing the export opportunities of soybean producers in Eastern Europe and enhancing their competitiveness in the international conditions.

Sustainable Development Goals, as well as the goals of the Association, can be achieved only by joining forces in daily routine work. That is why we invite you to support our initiatives and undertakings. Let’s change the world for the better together!

There is no Planet «B». Our planet depends on us. The daily small steps of each of us form a great future. For me, DS is the ability to take my daily steps.

We do not inherit the earth from our anchestors: we borrow it from our children.

SUSANNE FROMWALD
Executive Director
Donau Soja Association

OKSANA PROSOLENKO
Regional Director Eastern Europe
Donau Soja Association

We see that following the development of the East European agro-industrial complex, there is a desire of farmers to follow global trends in sustainable production, which is confirmed by the significant volumes of soybeans certified according to the standards of the Association.

Eastern Europe leads by a wide margin in the structure of pan-European soybean production. Therefore, the region’s ability to become a key partner in the supply of sustainable non-GM soybeans and its processed products is obvious.

We help our members and partners in Eastern Europe, actively promoting them in the market through joint projects and a strong brand of the Association, thereby significantly strengthening the image of the East European region in the EU countries.

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SUSANNE FROMWALD,
Executive Director
Donau Soja Association

OKSANA PROSOLENKO
Regional Director Eastern Europe
Donau Soja Association
The Donau Soja Association is an international, non-profit organisation which promotes sustainable non-GM soya bean production in Europe. The Association was founded in 2012 and has more than 280 members from 25 European countries.

The headquarters is in Vienna (Austria). The Donau Soja also has regional offices in Serbia, Ukraine and Moldova. The Association has been operating in Ukraine since 2015, and in 2018 the regional office in Kyiv was officially registered.

Donau Soja supports sustainable soya bean cultivation in Europe by implementing the Donau Soja and Europe Soya quality standards.

European governments have signed the Donau Soja Declaration between 2013 and 2015. They recognise the need for added value in the Danube region, and the need to strengthen an independent European supply of protein. In July 2017 the Europe Soya Declaration, which aims to boost soya bean cultivation in Europe, bringing it even closer to reaching the UN Sustainable Development Goals, was signed by 14 EU agriculture ministers.

The Ukrainian Government has also signed the Donau Soja Declaration.

**DONAU SOJA ASSOCIATION HAS ALL-ROUND POLITICAL SUPPORT**

European governments have signed the Donau Soja Declaration between 2013 and 2015. They recognise the need for added value in the Danube region, and the need to strengthen an independent European supply of protein. In July 2017 the Europe Soya Declaration, which aims to boost soya bean cultivation in Europe, bringing it even closer to reaching the UN Sustainable Development Goals, was signed by 14 EU agriculture ministers.

The Ukrainian Government has also signed the Donau Soja Declaration.

**VISION**

A Sustainable, Safe and European Protein Supply

**MISSION**

Donau Soja supports its partners and members in progressing change to address social, environmental and economic challenges in soya production and consumption. This will increase efficiency, fairness and sustainability in European food and feed protein value chains.
FROM THEORY TO PRACTICE: WORK IN THE AREA OF SOYA CULTIVATION

Because the soybean is a nitrogen-fixing legume crop, its introduction into cropping systems results in a general improvement in the soil-crop system. As the world’s most important protein crop, soy is a global driver and enabler of the agricultural systems and therefore the achievement of the defined Sustainable Development Goals.

DEMO-TRIALS

Recognizing the need for appropriate knowledge in non-GMO soya cultivation, Donau Soja has been establishing trial plots and demonstrating best practices in the non-GMO soybean production during the field days in six European countries.

Selection of the right variety is a very important task and needs to be taken seriously since it directly influences yields and the profitability of production. The maximum genetic potential of a specific variety is genetically defined and can only be achieved if all agrotechnical measures have been implemented faultlessly and if the weather conditions are ideal.

Donau Soja and Astarta-Kyiv established an experiment on non-GMO soya cultivation within the ASTARTA EDUCATION PROGRAMS with the support of the Austrian Embassy in Ukraine and the Austrian Agrarian Cluster, together with CASE IH, КЕТ Ukraine and the project “Agrarian Receipts in Ukraine” organized a one-day training program in 2 regions of Ukraine.

• December 10, 2019 Sumy National Agrarian University
• December 11, 2019 Poltava State Agrarian Academy

Close cooperation between science, business and education is an integral part of the dynamic development of the Ukrainian agricultural sector.

The participants were not only heads and agronomists of agricultural production companies, as well as students and research and teaching staff of universities, on the basis of which educational programs were held.

THE BEST YOUNG AGRONOMIST 2019. SOYA

The All-Ukrainian contest “The Best Young Agronomist” has been organized by Agroexpert magazine since 2013. Its purpose is to identify active youth who have chosen agronomy as their profession. In particular, in addition to young agronomists who have already begun to work in the specialty as participants in the competition, under the terms of the competition for the second year in a row there may be students of agronomic specialties of graduation courses. The initiative of the strategic partnership with ADA involves promotion of sustainable soybean production and providing support for small and medium-sized farmers. In this regard, Agroexpert together with Donau Soja supported by Ukrainian Food Valley are announcing a special nomination “The Best Young Agronomist 2019. Soya”.

According to the results of the participants’ answers to the questions on soybean cultivation technology, that will be integrated into the general section of the contest, the winner will be awarded a special prize - Certificate for 2-day specialized agribusiness training from Ukrainian Food Valley.
GENDER DIMENSION

Gender equality is not only the main human right but the necessarily basis for peace, prosperity and sustainable development achievement. Provision of equal access to agrarian education, participation in decision making and carrier opportunities for women and girls will support the sustainable economy achievement that would bring the significant impact for society in general.

MOTIVATIONAL MEETING

Oksana Prosolenko, Regional Director of Donau Soja in Ukraine, participated in the Conference "Women in Agrarian Business" held in Vinnytsia, and shared her own experience and success stories of her career in agribusiness, motivated with her own example women who were eager to start their own business in agro as well as to continue working in agrarian sector.

About 30 women - students, scientists and entrepreneurs, took part in the event. The event was organized by IHUB Vinnytsia and supported by Estonian Development Cooperation, Estonian Embassy in Kyiv, and within the framework of the Women's Business Support Program and technologies.

MEETING WITH JOURNALISTS

On March 11, 2019, Donau Soja Association invited representatives of agrarian journalism in Ukraine, to celebrate the World Women’s Day and discuss the recent situation on the soybean market in Ukraine. The experts shared the information about international projects and upcoming events in Donau Soja.

“THE BEST YOUNG AGRONOMIST 2019. LADY”

Donau Soja Association has initiated the special nomination in the competition “The Best Young Agronomist 2019”. Together with the AgroExpert magazine Association has awarded the woman which scored the most points and won the nomination “The Best Young Agronomist 2019. Lady”. The idea of such award was in the motivation of the girls-agronomists to participate in the competition and to increase their confidence in success.

This is the example to another girls that the agronomy is not only men’s occupation but women as well.

THE BUSINESS LUNCH OF SUCCESSFUL WOMEN OF UKRAINIAN AGRIBUSINESS

The Business Lunch of Successful Women of Ukrainian Agribusiness with the winner of the special award of the contest “The Best Young Agronomist 2019. Lady” – Elena Bondar was held On November 29. The leaders of Ukrainian agribusiness shared their inspiring experience and support for further rapid professional development in the agro-sphere.

• Oksana Prosolenko – Regional Director Eastern Europe of Donau Soja Association,
• Inna Meteleva – Deputy Minister of Economic Development, Trade and Agriculture,
• Nataliya Gordiychuk – founder of Agritema LLC, head of Public Union Ukrainian Food Valley
• Katerina Rybachenko – CEO of Agro Region agroholding,
• Olga Sydorenko – director of AgroExpert (scientific-practical magazine),
• Iryna Korchagina – chef editor of AgroExpert (scientific-practical magazine) inspired for further development of professionalism.

FACEBOOK CAMPAIGN

Donau Soja Association organised Facebook Campaign on the topic of gender equality and equal opportunities in modern agricultural industry. Representatives of leading agro-industrial companies (both male and female) voiced their thoughts and mottos for sector development.
MARKET DEVELOPMENT: SUPPLYING AN INCREASING DEMAND

Sustainable consumption and production has focused on the «making more with less tools» increasing the economical activity’s profit for supporting the level of wellness and the decreasing the resource’s using in parallel, decreasing of degradation and pollution during the all life-cycle and increasing the quality of life as well. The system approach is required here and collaboration with all participants of value chain - from producers to consumers.

DEVELOPMENT OF TRADE RELATIONS BETWEEN UKRAINE AND EU

Nowadays, consumers from different countries tend to pay much attention to the quality characteristics of food they consume, technological processes of production and environmental footprint. Growing demand for sustainable produced products together with persistent request to full traceability and transparency of production process transforming hereditary supply chains into best reality to meet current conscious consumer needs.

A great mission of Donau Soja Organisation is to build a safe protein supply chain and provide the European consumers with the trustful, sustainable and non-GMO soybean products for food and feed.

Being № 1 producer and exporter of soybeans in Europe, № 8 in the world production and № 6 in the world export of soybeans, Ukraine plays an incredibly important strategic role in the European soybean market, however, often faces export obstacles. Donau Soja Organisation decided to conduct the First Buyers Mission to Ukraine in order to demonstrate great potential of soybean industry in Ukraine.

Buyers Mission (15-16.05.2019)

On May 15, 2019 nine international companies interested in Ukrainian non-GMO soybean production spent an intensive networking day together with the representatives from 15 leading companies of the soybean sector of Ukraine. On May 16, 2019 the participants visited terminals TIS and MV Cargo in Odesa region, modern non-GMO extraction plant AdamPolSoya in Khmelnytsk region and soybean fields of Agroprosperis Group in Sumy region.

Buyers Mission (30.09-03.10.2019)

The Association organized a visit by representatives of the largest French cooperative Solteam to Ukraine in order to establish long-term supplies of sustainable non-GM soybean meal in Ukraine. Solteam representatives visited the production facilities of the largest Ukrainian soybean processors - members of the Donau Soja Association - ATK and Astarta-Kyiv.

Soya has to undergo thermal processing to become suitable for animal and human nutrition. This treatment is conducted by soy crushing plants, oil presses or small-scale toasters, who thus serve as a bottleneck in the soy value chain. Donau Soja and Europe Soya certified processors are spread over all of Europe - from Switzerland to Russia. They differ widely in their processing technologies and processing capacities and offer a wide range of different soya products for the feed and food industry. Graph 1 below gives an overview of processors currently certified. The Donau Soja homepage displays an up-to-date list of Donau Soja or Europe Soya certified companies.

OUR CERTIFIED PARTNERS COMPANIES

Since the launching of the first version of the Donau Soja Standard and Guidelines in 2014, the number of certified partners has increased constantly. As of March 2019, a total of over 800 companies in 15 countries are certified according to the Donau Soja or Europe Soya Standard. This number does not include the thousands of soy cultivating farmers located mainly in the south-eastern parts of Europe. 220 certified agricultural collectors, traders, soya processors, compound feed producers and marketers represent crucial actors in the Donau Soja and Europe Soya supply chain. Still with a number of approximately 600, the largest share of certified companies is made up by animal keepers such as pig, poultry or laying hen farms in Austria, Switzerland, Germany and Serbia, using Donau Soja or Europe Soya certified soya for feeding.
CERTIFIED DONAU SOJA & EUROPE SOYA BEANS

One major prerequisite to implement new projects and certify products carrying the Donau Soja or Europe Soya label is a sufficient availability of Donau Soja and Europe Soya certified beans on the European market. Through intensive communication with stakeholders and direct support to soybean farmers, an all-time record of 650 000 tons of Donau Soja or Europe Soya beans have been available on the market in the 2019 harvest year.

CERTIFIED PARTNERS IN UKRAINE, RUSSIAN FEDERATION AND THE REPUBLIC OF BELARUS

The Donau Soja Protein Partnership Agreement (DSPPA) supports small and medium-sized farms in disadvantaged regions, especially outside the EU (Serbia, Croatia, Moldova, Ukraine, Bosnia & Herzegovina), in their entry into sustainable and GMO-free soya production. In the long term, this will enable physical flows of goods to be established in Europe and certified sustainable soya from Europe to be made available for the European market. By participating in the partnership programme, local farmers receive training and advice. Furthermore, farmers and agricultural collectors are certified free of charge. This leads to the fact that also in the third countries (Non EU), where 2/3 of the European soya is produced, the significantly higher EU standards and the Donau Soja Organisation is coordinated by the Donau Soja Organisation. Donau Soja has an experienced multinational team, an established infrastructure, consulting expertise, an extensive network and a quality management system.

Within the framework of the protein partnership agreements, the partners contribute to the achievement of the overall goals of the Donau Soja Organisation:

- Realignment of cultivation systems in Europe and South America. While in Europe there is only little cultivation of legumes (<2%), South America has major problems due to unbalanced agriculture (soybean cultivation on around 40% to 80% of the agricultural land depending on the country).
- Environmental responsibility through reduced use of pesticides (exclusive use of substances permitted in the EU and prohibition of desiccants such as glyphosate or diquat) and no development of new agricultural land (this prevents for example deforestation).
- Rural development in SEE & CEE countries and improvement of conditions for mostly small and medium-sized soya producers
- Economic development through local soya production, collection and processing and regional integration through sustainable and GMO-free protein and soya supply; connection of SEE & CEE producers to western markets (buyers).
- Development of a transparent market for consumers

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<td>Austria</td>
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QUALITY STANDARDS AND LABELING OF DONAU SOJA ASSOCIATION

Donau Soja, Europe Soya, Non-GM Danube Region Standard are voluntary quality standards, that suggest inspections and certification of all value chain participants from field to fork, and allows to label final products. Thus Donau Soja labeling guarantees that product is of controlled origin and quality. According to Donau Soja and Europe Soya requirements, for cultivation, processing and compound feed production only non-gm soya varieties are used, cultivated in Danube or European region. Mentioned requirements are controlled by independent certification bodies and traceability system.

Companies after successful inspection and certification by independent approved certification bodies are able to use Donau Soja or Europe Soya logos.

**DONAU SOJA STANDARD** guarantees that certified soya:
- originating from Danube region;
- sustainable;
- Hard IP traceability;
- without dessication;
- against deforestation;
- non-gm.

**EUROPE SOYA STANDARD** guarantees that certified soya:
- originating from Europe;
- sustainable;
- Hard IP traceability;
- without dessication;
- against deforestation;
- non-gm.

- The regional standard for non-gm certification and labeling of products in South-Eastern Europe
- additional value to agri-food companies non-gm strategy;
- promotes regional trade and regional promotion of certified non-gm products;
- traceability on the market and information to consumers to choose non-gm products;
- compliance with Austrian and German non-gm standards;
- labeling «non-GM produced» guarantees that non-gm ingredients were not used during the whole production circle (neither in feed, no in the final product).

SUSTAINABILITY BENCHMARKING: DONAU SOJA AND EUROPE SOYA

Donau Soja and Europe Soya sustainable standards are recognised by the following associations:

- **VLOG** recognizes Donau Soja / Europe Soya certification as equivalent to VLOG standard certification
- **Swedish Soy Dialogue** accepts Donau Soja / Europe Soya as one of 4 sustainable soya sourcing standards
- **Greenpeace Austria** rated Donau Soja as "reliable and sustainable" product label
- **WWF Germany** recommends Donau Soja / Europe Soya as one out of 4 sustainable sourcing standards
- **IUCN** recommends Donau Soja / Europe Soya as one out of 6 sustainable sourcing standards
- **Swiss Soy Network** defines Donau Soja / Europe Soya as one out of 5 sustainable sourcing standards
- **FEFAC** Donau Soja / Europe Soya is accepted by FEFAC as one out of 18 sustainable sourcing standards
- **German Soy Dialogue** accepts Donau Soja / Europe Soya as one of 4 sustainable soya sourcing standards
- **Greenpeace Germany** rated Donau Soja as „reliable and sustainable“ product label
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- **German Soy Dialogue** accepts Donau Soja / Europe Soya as one of 4 sustainable soya sourcing standards

**RELIABLE**

Donau Soja stands for strictly controlled regional and non-GM soya, with individual criteria going beyond this. There is still room for improvement in pesticide use and crop rotation. Greenpeace rates Donau Soja as trustworthy.
QUALITY MANAGEMENT

The quality management team at the headquarters in Vienna and Novi Sad, Kev and Chisinau is responsible for the quality assurance of the Donau Soja and Europe Soya standard. The team manages the approval processes of new certification bodies (CB), conducts annual trainings for CB’s inspectors, certifiers and project coordinators, provides translated documents for CB’s as well as certified partners, plans and conducts supervisory inspections at partners, supports companies during inspections, gives feedback to the auditors after witness audits and provides samples to laboratories.

Not forgetting the most challenging topics, in 2018 the QM team conducted comprehensive supervisory checks for processed and traded amounts within primary processors, traders and compound feed mills. Additionally, a new Donau Soja / Europe Soya checklist for storing, trading and processing companies has been developed, which has been put in place in 2019. Finally, the handling of non-conformities includes better implementation of processes, operational documents, increased monitoring of external inspections until as well as downgrading of product qualities.

How is the verification of the inspection quality done?

- Annual trainings for approved certification bodies
- On-site witness audits and feedback to the auditors
- Conduction of System audits at certification bodies
- Supervisory inspections conducted by external experts
- Internal supervisory checks on-site and in-house about soybean production, land-use change, harvest declaration, traded amounts, lot certification, salmonella monitoring and processing amounts
- Sending in samples for GMO, pesticide and isotope analysis
- Handling of non-conformities (sanction 3-4)

DONAU SOJA – UNDER THE MAGNIFYING GLASS

BENCHMARKING RESULTS

How does Donau Soja/ Europe Soya compare to other sustainable soya sourcing standards?

Donau Soja actively engages in benchmarking activities regarding the Donau Soja/Europe Soya standard, which result in positive recognition by relevant stakeholders:

- ITC Standards Map assesses approximately 70 soya standards that claim to be sustainable sourcing standards.
- FEFAC accepts Donau Soja/Europe Soya as one of 18 sustainable sourcing standards in 2016. Benchmarked against 59 sustainability criteria.
- IUCN in 2019 assessed all FEFAC-compliant standards and recommends Donau Soja/Europe Soya as one of six sustainable sourcing standards.
- Swiss Soy Network accepts Donau Soja/Europe Soya as one of five sustainable sourcing standards that are allowed to be imported in Switzerland as feed.
- WWF Germany recommends Donau Soja/Europe Soya in 2017 as one of three sustainable sourcing standards.
- Greenpeace in Austria in 2018 rates Donau Soja as “reliable and sustainable” product label.
- Aktion Agrar in Germany benchmarks Donau Soja/Europe Soya very positively in comparison to other soya sourcing standards.

15 Donau Soja approved certification bodies

- ABG – Austria Bio Garantie GmbH/ agroVet GmbH
- Aciter Inspection LLC
- Bioinspekt d.o.o.
- Bureau Veritas
- Cert-ID
- Control Union
- CSQA Certificazioni S.R.L.
- KWA Agri Food
- LACON GmbH Germany
- Organic Control System
- Organic Standard Ltd
- ProCert Zertifizierungsstelle
- QAL GmbH
- SGS
- SLK GesmbH

*certification bodies, acting in Ukraine
COOPERATION WITH GOVERNMENT AND INDUSTRY ASSOCIATIONS

The successful realization of sustainable development goals is unachievable without strong wide-covering partnership’s relations on international and countries levels that conclude government, business and society. In this context Association forms the efforts to form governmental and regional policy to stimulate the development of economy without the damage to environment.

AUSTRIAN AGRICULTURAL DAYS IN KYIV 2019

In the framework of the event there was organised the round table with Deputy Minister of Economic development, trade and agriculture Inna Meteleva and representatives of different companies. Donau Soja Association actively participated in discussion of economic cooperation between Austria and Ukraine, particularly discussing the issue of gm turnover proper regulation in Ukraine on example of soybeans.

PARTICIPATION IN POLICY FORMATION

The successful realization of sustainable development goals is unachievable without strong wide-covering partnership’s relations on international and countries levels that conclude government, business and society. In this context Association forms the efforts to form governmental and regional policy to stimulate the development of economy without the damage to environment.

The Donau Soja Association takes an active part in the development of the regulatory framework of Ukraine, and is aimed at creating favorable conditions for agribusiness, including organic production, expanding geography and spectrum of foreign trade operations and creating an effective system for regulating GMO turnover in Ukraine.

In the framework of the event there was organised the round table with Deputy Minister of Economic development, trade and agriculture Inna Meteleva and representatives of different companies. Donau Soja Association actively participated in discussion of economic cooperation between Austria and Ukraine, particularly discussing the issue of gm turnover proper regulation in Ukraine on example of soybeans.

JOINT EFFORTS

Donau Soja Association together with Law Company Arzinger (member of Association) organised closed event for leading agroproducers, processors and traders acting in Ukraine. Participants were able to ask actual questions to The Head of State Customs Service of Ukraine. Such events stimulating increase of export volumes from Ukraine.

INTERNATIONAL ASPECT

Amsterdam Declaration Partnership (ADP)

The Amsterdam Declaration Partnership (ADP) is one of the most important international multi-stakeholder supply chains initiatives, aimed towards deforestation-free sustainable commodities (especially soya, cocoa, palmoil and rubber). Based on the Amsterdam Declarations “Towards Eliminating Deforestation from Agricultural Commodity Chains with European Countries” & “The Amsterdam Declaration in Support of a Fully Sustainable Palm Oil Supply Chain by 2020”, which have been signed by seven countries (Denmark, France, Germany, Italy, Netherlands, Norway, United Kingdom) the ADP is organised as a cooperation of ministries of the signatory countries and private sector and producer country actors and their initiatives.

We support ADP and actively engage in the ADP soya working group since Q1 2019. Together with ADP we are organizing the Donau Soja Congress within the framework of the World Soybean Research Conference in the Novi Sad next year.

National Soya Initiatives

We are in exchange with national soya initiatives (e.g. Swedish Soy Dialogue). With the Donau Soja/ Europe Soya programs we support companies, who made commitments to source responsible soya.

The Swedish Soy Dialogue was initiated in 2012 as a cross-industry collaboration between Swedish feed companies, food companies, food retailers, association organisations and NGOs. The network’s purpose is to highlight the issues around soy production and to contribute to the development of responsible production of soy. Today almost 50 companies and organisations have signed and are implementing the Swedish Soy Dialogue Commitment. On 2nd of April, Donau Soja was invited to present the organisation, standards and Protein Partnerships to the members of the Swedish Soy Dialogue. Following a decision procedure of the members, the Swedish Soy Dialogue is going to accept Donau Soja/Europe Soya as responsible soya sourcing standard, which helps members to achieve the Swedish Soy Dialogue commitments.

Soya programs we support companies, who made commitments to source responsible soya.

Collaborative Soy Initiative (CSI)

The Collaborative Soy Initiative was set up in April 2019 to build up a neutral, credible, transparent and inclusive soy community (no legal structure; only a collaboration framework). 23 representatives, ranging from civil society, NGO, producers, roundtables & standards, private companies and sector federations, showed already an interest to participate actively in one or more of the working groups. The initiative will provide added value to on-going initiatives and not duplicate efforts nor fund new initiatives. As the mission is stating, the CSI will focus on communication (inform) and actions that foster synergies between stakeholders. All partners will benefit from these synergies in terms of outreach, cost reductions (shared resources/actions), transparency, joined lobby, etc.

The collaborative soy initiative convened by RTRS organised a joint webinar “Deforestation and conversion free soy: how to collaborate better to make it happen?”. DS/ES standards and Protein Partnerships were presented by IUCN NL as a solution for sustainable soya sourcing. SF on behalf of DS joint the CSI Steering Group in August 2019 and actively engages and participates in the initiative.

This is only perspective of standard/ benchmarking, so does surely not provide a full picture of the initiatives where DS participates on international/ European level. (E.g. in the context of research projects, Legumes Translated, Horizon 2020 etc.)
Little changes towards environmentally friendly living can add up to big results and Donau Soja can provide the right direction.

It is a great opportunity to be involved in sharing knowledge and principles of sustainable farming that Donau Soja sticks to across Europe.

Together with farmers transforming no-name soya quality into soya with high-quality face – Donau Soja Quality.

To improve surrounding world means sustainable working. Working on themselves. Honestly and sustainable.

ANASTASIIA PIVNIUK
Donau Soja Association

VOLODYMYR PUGACHOV
Donau Soja Association

ANASTASIIA RADIUK
Donau Soja Association

MARIA SAMARINA
Donau Soja Association
COMMUNICATION FOR CHANGE

Main statements that Donau Soja Association use in public communication, include transformation of current approaches to cultivation, distribution and consumption of protein, particularly soya and soya processed products.

PARTICIPATION AND SUPPORT OF MAIN INDUSTRY EVENTS

Expert presentations
- export market conditions;
- distribution of knowledges on sustainable agronomical practices;
- opportunities for ukrainian producers and processors on EU market;
- analitical information;
- current trends on world and european market;
- existing quality standards of soya;
- current initiatives facilitating support and development of sustainable production of soya and soya processed products;
- promotion of Donau Soja Association members.

DONAU SOJA ASSOCIATION – COMMUNICATION PLATFORM

Donau Soja distributes new knowledges for professional community and consumers via modern communication chanel, thus increasing their knowledge on importance of regional, sustainable and certified production.

DONAU SOJA ASSOCIATION
Annual report regional office in Ukraine
Kyiv, 2019

Donau Soja Association celebrated 7th birthday in 2019. Together with members and partners Association held motivational campaign over Europe. Aim of campaign was to support sustainable, safe and regional production. 53 representatives from 9 countries participated in campaign.

#wearedonausoja
#weareprotein
#weareeurope

Facebook | YouTube | Instagram | Linkedin

EVENTS

14 As Organiser or Co-organiser
850 participants
11 As the partner and speaker

FACEBOOK
86 posts in 2019
66 508 coverage
2 855 likes

MEDIA
6 printed
45 web
1 radio

THANK YOU FOR COMING

EVENTS OF ASSOCIATION IN UKRAINE

- The first Annual Meeting of Members and partners of Donau Soja Association in Ukraine, Kyiv (29.07.2019)
- Training for certification bodies, Kyiv (04.03.2019)
- Meeting with journalists, Kyiv (11.03.2019)
- The first Buyers Mission, Kyiv (15-16.05.2019)
- Workshop "Feed and Food Safaty: development of sustainable and responsible value chain in Ukraine" in cooperation with "GMP+ International", Kyiv (23.05.2019)
- AgroWorkshop "Agricultural Production Quality Control Optimisation" in cooperation with Enviroligix Inc, and Biolabtech Ltd, Odessa (01.08.2019)
- Soya Field Day 2019 in cooperation with "Astarta-Select", Vinnitsa region (12.09.2019)
- The second Buyers Mission, Kyiv (30.09-03.10.2019)
- Business lunch of successful ladies in Ukrainian agro-business with the winner of "The Best Young Agronomist 2019. Lady", Kyiv (29.11.2019)
- One day training for farmers, Sumy (10.12.2019)
- One day training for farmers, Poltava (11.12.2019)

DONAU SOJA INTERNATIONAL EVENTS

- General Assembly and Networking Event in Vienna, Austria (07.05.2019).
- Donau Soja Networking Symposium in Vienna, Austria (16.10.2019).
DEAR PARTNERS,

On behalf of the Donau Soja Association, we would like to express to you our highest respect and gratitude for the fruitful cooperation in 2019. We strongly hope that 2020 will be successful for our partnership as well. We look to the future with great optimism!

We have an honor to invite you to join the Donau Soja Association and the European business community that develop non-GM soya sector.

As an association, we are as strong as our members make us so. Our goals can only be achieved together with you. Therefore, we invite you to be an active member and let us know about your needs, and also support our efforts.

Your benefits as a member of Donau Soja:

- Regular updates about the international Donau Soja network and its activities via our newsletters and meetings
- Joint lobbying of national, regional and EU governments for improved conditions for soya growing, processing and usage
- Network exchange between Donau Soja members during our regular meetings and B2B events, and facilitation in establishing contacts between Donau Soja members with potential buyers and partners
- Information regarding potential partners and customers in Europe and beyond
- Representation through Donau Soja at various international events
- Participation in the International Donau Soja Congress, Donau Soja conferences, B2B meetings and other events
- Representation by Donau Soja representatives in media
- Involvement in decision making processes of Donau Soja related issues
- Access to market information, professional advice and statistics update on a regular basis and market report representing the current soya market
- Participation in research related to breeding and growing soybeans and involvement in the field days
- Consultation on implementing the Donau soja and Europe soya standards and related quality and food safety issues
- Use of the trademarks «Donau soja» and «Europe soya» in cases with a specific contract or under our general guidelines

Become a leader in the protein changeover!

Kind regards and looking forward to further cooperation,

Donau Soja Team