

Item 15

Ann. b

EAAP

STRATEGIC PLAN 2025- 2028

MISSION

To facilitate research, dialogue and dissemination of animal science findings amongst scientific communities, agri-food industries, civil society and groups with interests in livestock production science. Create networks between the different players in animal production systems, providing platforms for exchange. To facilitate participation of young scientists in the international network. To be the bridge between industry and science.

VISION

1. To be the European leading player for linking animal science societies, and to support associations at a country level
2. To be the leading dissemination platform of scientific results for European animal science researchers. To be the organizers of major events related to animal science in Europe and to disseminate at large, through media, info about animal science
3. To represent European animal science worldwide and to facilitate cooperation of European animal scientists with researchers of other areas
4. To be the most important network for animal science, and its interaction with agri-food and livestock industry, civil society and policy representatives
5. To be the platform in Europe where young scientists interact with the entire animal science community
6. Support the formation of scientific consortia oriented towards sustainability, efficiency and the integration of animal production that respond to environmental and social needs
7. To actively participate in committees and working groups offering independent advice to policy makers and to industry representatives on animal production systems
8. To provide scientifically validated information on animal science and to offer guarantees of scientific parameters about livestock industry

SWOT ANALYSIS

Strengths

- Recognised role in Europe as the leading Animal Science organisation
- Large participation at annual meetings
- Ability to mobilise animal scientists participation at workshops, conferences, publications and related activities
- Expertise and commitment of volunteer scientists, industry representatives and staff
- Outputs in journals and social media
- Efficient staff
- Preferred partnership with worldwide Animal Science Societies, mainly with American Societies
- Specific services for young scientists
- Large and vivid platform of Animal Science activities in Europe
- Collaboration with international Agriculture Organizations
- Independent and mediating role between the various players in animal production system
- Partnership with industries acting in livestock production
- Increasing consolidation of EAAP in other fields relevant to animal science and husbandry (e.g. poultry and aquaculture)
- Strategies at international level, such as one health (or even one welfare), to which large scientific organizations such as EAAP can contribute a lot

Weaknesses

- Low annual budget
- Ability to respond quickly to unexpected events and crises, such as pandemic situation, animal health issues, war and conflicts affecting the normal activities of the organization
- Economic difficulties and inconsistent payments of some country members in terms membership fees
- In members not directly involved in activities/roles related to the federation, lack of feeling of affiliation to EAAP and still poor involvement of industry scientists, technicians and extension service personnel
- Given the activities and size of EAAP, small team of professionals directly employed by EAAP and dependencies of voluntary support who will likely diminished
- Low visibility outside animal science community
- The fast turnover of people with functions in the EAAP due to the time-limited mandates

- Knowledge of the EAAP structure and functioning in too few people
- The lack of written protocols and standard documents to guide the new people in the complex EAAP household
- As animal scientists, we tend to communicate well with ourselves, but not with external voices.
- Lack of connectedness among specialized Animal Science disciplines

Opportunities

- The growing demand for animal products, simultaneous demand for improved sustainability, animal welfare and environmentally-friendly type of production, and the necessity to deal with climate changes and pandemics creates a much stronger need for innovation and evidence-based policy-making
- Increase European sharing of disruptive technologies for animal science
- Increase importance of networking also with modern tools and connection between science and industry and policy makers
- Animal science requires international dissemination and cooperation
- Necessity to respond to public perceptions of animal production, particularly for welfare and environmental challenges
- New disciplines to engage with society concerns about animal farming
- Maybe EAAP could be more active in facilitating exchange of young people between institutes for short term stays.
- Enlarge, with the inclusion of industry representatives, the group of potential volunteers active in EAAP
- Diminishing problems of language differences
- Necessity to invest EAAP visibility and tailor the external communication for a non-scientific audience
- To invest therefore in a communications firm to develop communication packages after every major meeting, and target specific audiences such as policy-maker EAAP should expand the services outside the continent through our services

Threats

- Reduction of funds for research/dissemination in science especially in animal science because the growing criticism for animal science
- Complexity in measuring and evaluating the effective impact of dissemination offered by EAAP and in general of research in animal production systems
- Divergent opinions on animal production issues and severe trade-offs to faced
- Competition from other scientific associations for participation in meetings and workshops and publication in their journals
- Competition of private companies and special interest groups to deal with dissemination of international research projects
- Dependence of EAAP on the employees of the federation
- Difficulties to find time for researchers for voluntary actions like active roles within EAAP due to the strict time management of projects and obligations of time writing

- The development in protein fermentation processes as a replacer of animal proteins might/will disrupt the animal production sector. This will/might have consequences for EAAP