

# THE INTERNATIONAL PLATFORM OF INSECTS FOR FOOD AND FEED

**IPIFF Annual Congress**

***Heinrich Katz***

*IPIFF Board Member*

21<sup>th</sup> of November 2024

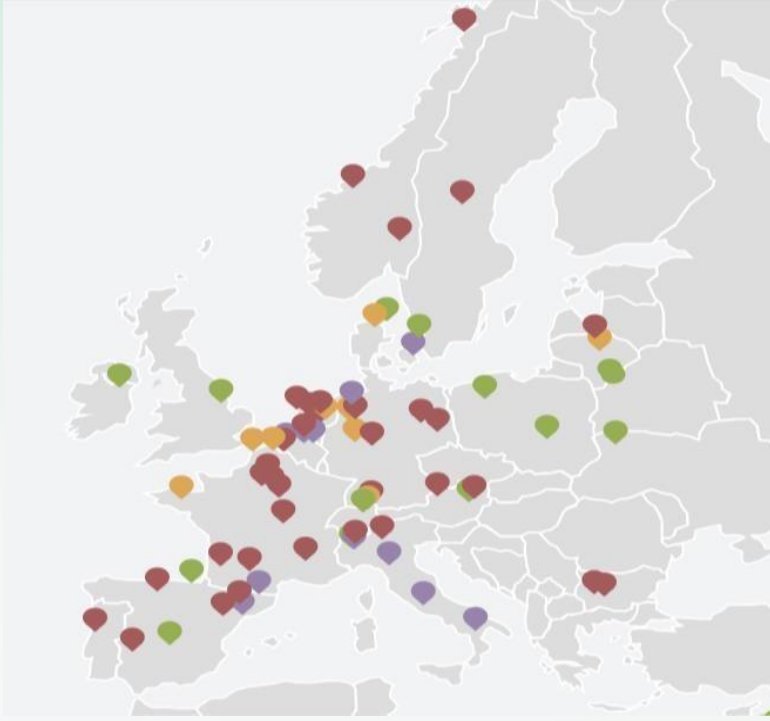
# IPIFF POLICY ROADMAP

• **Unleashing the potential of the EU insect sector**

## **Policy Priorities of the European insect sector:**

IPIFF's Recommendations for  
the EU Strategic Agenda  
2024-2029

# Introduction: IPIFF and the European insect sector



# Introduction: IPIFF missions and activities

## 75 Members

voice of insect producers

## Consolidating dialogue

with EU public authorities

## Advocating

for appropriate legislative frameworks

## Support

in the effective implementation of legislation

## Promotion and development

of shared standards and best practices

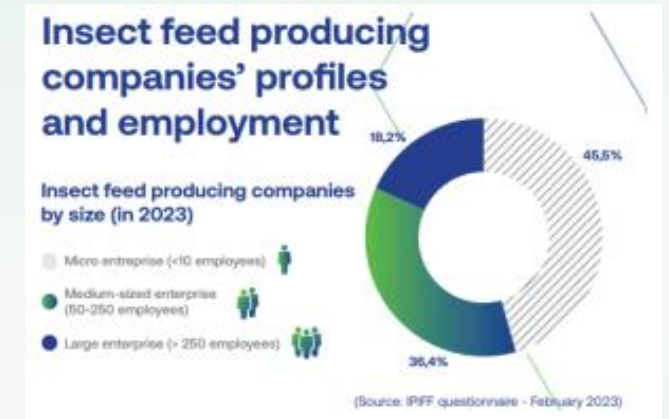
## Collaborative actions

with other umbrella associations



# Current state of development of the European insect sector

- More than **EUR 1,5 bln** investments until now: the sector is predominantly composed of **SMEs**.
- The sector has passed a **critical threshold** and has set its mark to **be commercially interesting**.
- **Production is scaling up** to meet the needs of food-feed-plants markets, while building up **know-how**.
- **Diversity** in **types** of farms, operational sizes and **production models** (e.g. 'full liners' vs. decentralized models)
- **Higher level of integration** with several other **production** systems (e.g. 'colocation' with agro-industries, partnerships with farmers)
- **3.500 jobs created until today** (incl. above 1,000 direct jobs) and expected to deliver up to **30,000 jobs by 2030**.



# Main challenges ahead of the sector

Although insect-producing companies have created a lot of critical mass over the last few years, the sector is **far from having achieved its full potential**.

According to the IPIFF Treasurer **Heinrich Katz**, *'the European insect sector is at a crossroads (...) before, insect producers were challenged by legislative barriers that were inhibiting them from selling their products as food, feed for aquaculture, poultry, and pigs. This challenge is now in the past. However, several other challenges are laying in front of the sector, including on the legislative side'*  
(source: IPIFF brochure, November 2023)





# The European insect sector in the current EU political landscape

## EU political goals


- The European Union's agri-food policy goals are crucial for ensuring **food security and economic competitiveness** as well as the **transition to sustainable food systems** within the bloc

## Role of the EU insect sector

- The European insect sector can play a pivotal role in achieving these objectives, thanks to its **sustainability** and **circularity** credentials

## Milestones achieved by the EU insect sector

- Over the past several years, this sector has experienced steady growth, driven by significant EU market milestones, including the **authorisation of insect products as novel foods** as from 2021, **the approval of insect proteins as feed in aquaculture** in 2017, and **subsequent authorisations for pig and poultry markets in 2021**. These developments have provided businesses with the **regulatory certainty** needed to expand their market activities.



However, the sector also faces the traditional mutations and **challenges** associated with novel, capital-intensive industries

# The need to remove EU regulatory bottlenecks

Over the years, the organisation has actively **contributed to shaping EU regulatory standards for insect producers**, establishing a legislative framework that facilitates business operations.

Yet, we believe that this framework remains incomplete

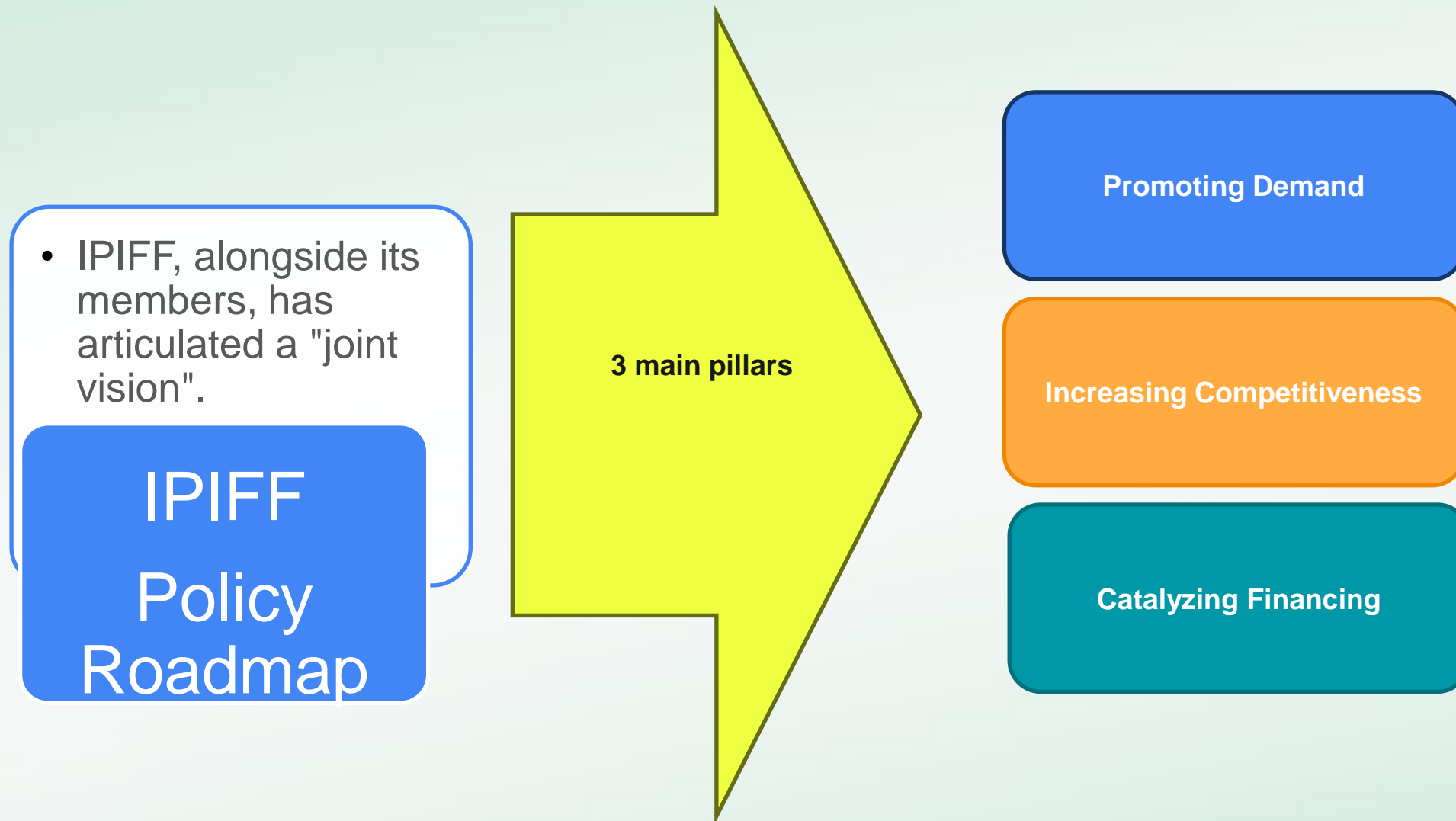
Despite a more challenging economic environment and ever-scarcer financial resources, European insect producers continue to grapple with regulatory restrictions that limit their ability to innovate and grow.

As a result, there is an urgent need for accelerated regulatory reforms.



# IPIFF Manifesto

## A vision for the future of the EU Insect Sector



# Pillar I: Increasing Competitiveness

- IPIFF advocates for reforms that would broaden the **range of authorised inputs and biomasses in insect diets** (former foodstuffs containing meat and fish), maximizing their bio-conversion potential and effectively addressing the issue of food waste at the European level

Feeding  
substrates

Frass

- We urge the EC to accelerate policy reforms to create viable markets for various insect products and by-products, **such as for food-producing animals or utilising insect frass as a fertilizer at EU level or through other effective applications** (e.g. biogas production or composting)

# Pillar II: Promoting Demand

shaping customers and consumers' preferences for sustainable and healthy food and feed options (such as insects)

Incentivising public and private investments in insect-producing companies operating in these sectors



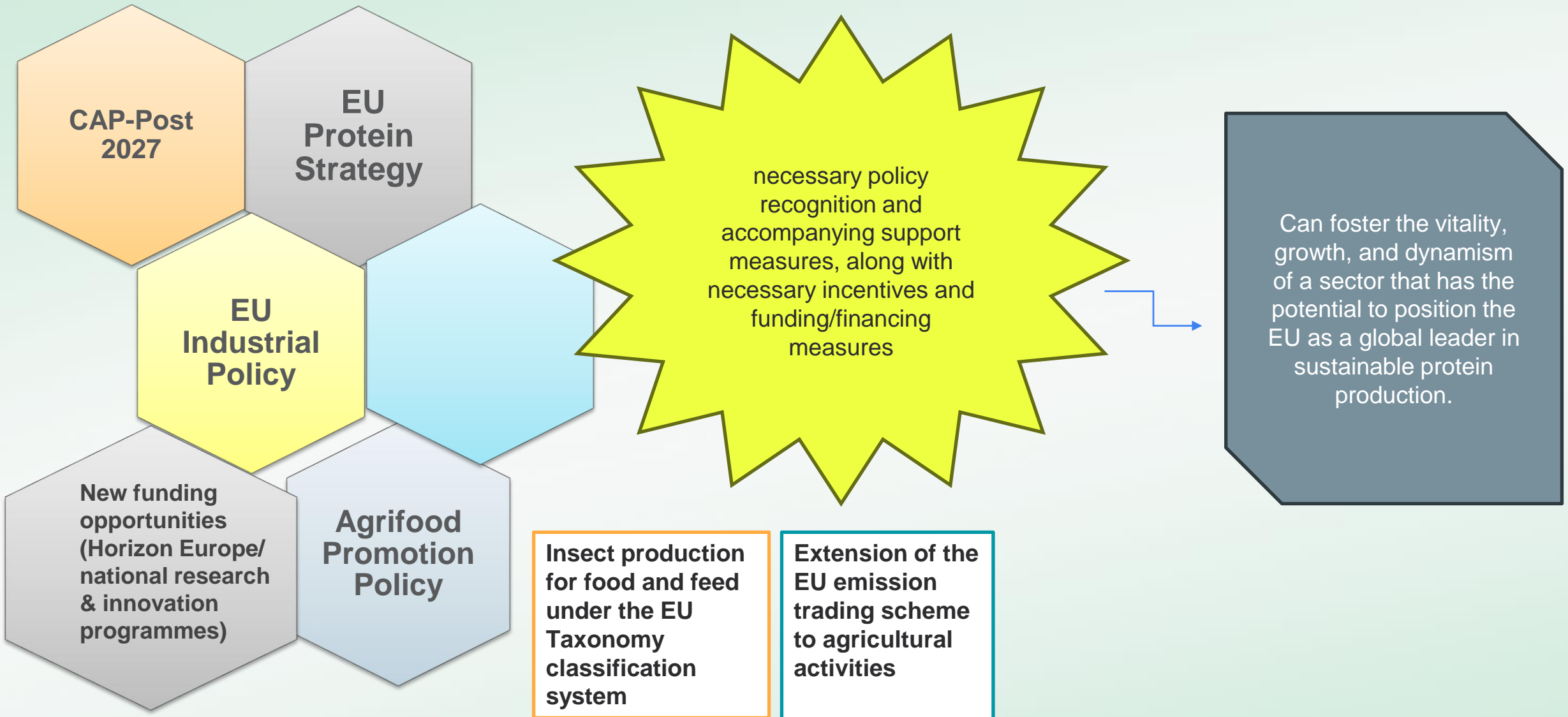
Guarantee market access to whole dried larvae for animal feed

Recognition of insect production activities under EU policy frameworks tailored for products adhering to highest sustainability standards (e.g. Organic legislation)

Stricter safety controls and checks on insect products (food and feed) imported from outside the EU

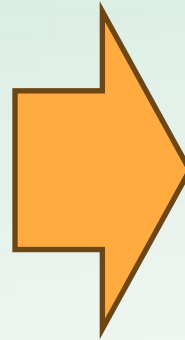
Compulsory labelling provisions allowing EU consumers to identify the origin of the produced animal in insect food products

# Pillar III: Catalysing Financing

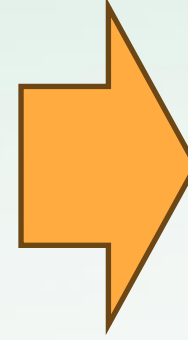


# Development of innovative instruments to incentivise the use of insect food and feed products

To secure the future of the EU insect sector and a more resilient agricultural and food system



we urge EU public authorities to draw inspiration



from previously developed support measures aimed at sectors deemed strategically important for the domestic economy, such as electric vehicles



to extend similar support to innovative alternative protein sources to achieve EU policy goals.

# Greater commitments from EU policymakers are needed...

## Incentives & Information

EU institutions should encourage European consumers and businesses to prioritise the use and consumption of EU-produced innovative protein sources such as insects and their derived products

## Positive contributions

Recognise the contribution to the growth of regional and rural economies, diversification and additional income opportunities for farmers and the creation of thousands of green jobs across Europe.

## Multifunctional advantages

We request the establishment of an ambitious set of policies and policy frameworks, supported by adequate financial measures

# Adapting our structure & governance looking into the future

## 3 KEY PILLARS

Promoting Demand

Increasing Competitiveness

Catalyzing Financing

## 2 POLICY WORKING GROUPS

Feed *(Working Group)*

New substrates *(Knowledge Platform)*

Public Financing *(Knowledge Platform)*

Food *(Working Group)*

Frass *(Knowledge Platform)*

## 3 KNOWLEDGE PLATFORMS

Each of these 3 topics will be addressed through the **Policy & Coordination Committee:**

- Animal welfare;
- Impacts (LCA...);
- Organic standards.



# CONTACT US

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