

SAFE AND SUSTAINABLE FEED PRODUCTION

Tailored Course under the DFC Scholarship Programme



Learning Programme Dates

Online: August 2026 (estimated 6-8 hours)

On-site in Denmark: 17 August – 4 September, 2026

Course Location

Bygholm Agricultural College

Introduction – Background of the Learning Programme

Feed production and livestock feeding present substantial challenges across all DVFA Strategic Sector Cooperation (SSC) projects. These issues directly impact the productivity, sustainability, and economic viability of livestock farming. Common obstacles include limited access to high-quality feed ingredients, their high costs, and inadequate infrastructure for feed processing,

storage, and transportation—leading to spoilage and contamination. Additionally, a heavy reliance on natural pastures leaves feed supply vulnerable to seasonal variations and climate change. Many farmers lack the necessary knowledge and resources to formulate balanced rations, often depending on nutritionally poor crop residues and low-quality forages.

Authorities in SSC partner countries play a pivotal role in overcoming these challenges. Their efforts are essential in shaping supportive policies, offering financial incentives, and investing in infrastructure such as feed processing facilities, storage systems, and transportation networks. Governments can help reduce the cost burden on smallholder farmers through subsidies and price regulation, improving access to quality feed. Furthermore, they are critical in advancing research into climate-resilient, locally available feed alternatives and in promoting extension services to improve knowledge on feed safety and formulation.

By encouraging private sector investments and establishing feed quality and safety standards, authorities can help ensure animals receive proper nutrition, safeguard animal health, and enhance the safety and export potential of animal products. In this way, public health is also protected.

Livestock production in SSC partner countries faces serious challenges:

- High costs and limited availability of quality feed ingredients
- Inadequate infrastructure for processing, storage, and transport
- Lacking, inadequate or hard to implement rules and regulations
- Spoilage and contamination due to poor handling and management practices
- Vulnerability to climate change from reliance on natural pastures
- Lack of knowledge and tools for balanced feed formulation
- Lack of functional collaboration between government, academia, applied research institutions and farmers

These factors reduce productivity, threaten animal health, and limit economic returns for farmers.

The aim of offering a course in safe and sustainable feed production is therefore to provide foundational knowledge that supports the effective adoption of best practices—with inspiration from the Danish agricultural development —among SSC partner authorities. The training is designed to inspire reflection and enable participants to apply their learning within the context of their own countries. Ultimately, the course seeks to strengthen animal feed-related activities in SSC projects and enhance their overall impact.

KEY COURSE TOPICS

Feed Safety

- Feed inspection and sampling
- Feed hygiene and own-check systems
- HACCP principles in feed safety
- Use of animal by-products and former foodstuffs as feed
- Feed transport and biosecurity during disease outbreaks

Sustainability and Climate in Livestock Feeding (Focus on pigs and cattle)

- Feed optimization to improve productivity (e.g., milk yield)
- Methane-reducing feed additives for ruminants
- Nutritional needs based on animal genetics and breeds
- Feeding strategies for extensive or low-input systems

- Introduction to Life Cycle Assessment LCA models for climate monitoring

Sustainable Feed Production

- Minimizing post-harvest losses
- Environmentally friendly feed production practices
- Use of local feed ingredients and alternative protein sources
- Role of plant breeding, crop health, and integrated resource use

Public–Private–Academic Collaboration

- Introduction to Denmark's triple helix model
(*collaboration between government, industry, and academia*)
- Examples of joint innovation in feed technology
- How regulatory frameworks support industry-wide adoption
- Lessons on building trust and cooperation across sectors

Target group

The course will target 25 participants. Participants must be related to the Danish Strategic Sector Cooperation (either directly or indirectly). The course is intended for government officials engaged in feed-related work and connected to the Danish Strategic Sector Cooperation (SSC) either directly or indirectly, particularly in projects where feed is a key component. The target group is diverse, encompassing individuals at both technical and policy levels—ranging from senior professionals to entry-level staff—and operating at national, municipal, district, or other administrative levels. Participants should hold at least a bachelor's degree in a relevant field and possess a good command of English.

By involving officials from both the technical and decision-making spheres, the course aims to foster systemic change—both from the bottom up and top down. These individuals are expected to act as change agents within their respective institutions, contributing to the advancement of sustainable and safe feed practices in their countries.

Learning goals

By the end of the course, the participants will be able to:

- Understand the core principles of feed safety and how to implement effective feed safety regulations
- Identify key challenges and solutions in livestock feeding, with a focus on sustainability and climate resilience
- Gain knowledge of sustainable feed production methods and strategies for addressing feed-related issues in their context
- Communicate effectively with farmers and industry stakeholders about safe and sustainable feed practices
- Implement and adapt new tools, methods, and technologies to develop feed production systems in their home countries
- Facilitate training, development, and innovation within their institutions and broader networks
- Build and strengthen advisory services and platforms for feed production support
- Apply coaching and supervisory tools to guide farmers, advisors, and regulatory authorities

- Promote public–private partnerships that support innovation and quality in feed production
- Engage with applied research and contribute to the adoption of evidence-based practices in feed safety and sustainability

Learning methodology

Before the learning programme starts, the participants will be asked to share their reasons for joining the learning programme and what they wish to work on in the learning programme. The participants' expectations will be shared in class on the first day, and we will translate the expectations into a self-defined work *challenge*, which the participants will work on during the learning programme.

During the learning programme, class-room sessions will be supplemented by cases, exercises, field trips and practitioner insights. Concretely, participants will gain practical insights through exposure visits at multiple levels of Denmark's food and feed system, including central and local DVFA institutions such as feed inspection units, livestock farms and feed business operators, business member organizations, accredited laboratories such as SEGES Feed Analysis Laboratories and SDU laboratories, as well as university and applied research institutions. The program will also include demonstrations of drone technology used in feed production and other relevant visits. Together, these experiences showcase real-world applications of safe and sustainable feed practices.

Participants' own knowledge and working experience will be brought into the learning programme in order to make the new knowledge and skills presented as direct applicable as possible. Peer learning will take place by identifying frameworks and opportunities for deployment of learnings in their national context. These learnings will be presented and discussed among the participants.

During the last programme week, the participants will develop a brief presentation of their draft Action Plan and make a presentation to their peers and obtain their feedback to it. This purpose of this programme activity is to provide participants with a broad insight on different prerequisites in different countries.

Following the learning programme in Denmark, the participants will be encouraged to discuss their action plans in their organisations and to implement them, if feasible. Online follow up sessions will be arranged to evaluate how well it has worked to pass on knowledge to the participants' own organizations and if they have managed to implement their Action Plans or parts of it.

Tentative Programme

The course is divided in three sections of which the first and last section will be online

1. Introductory meeting and initiation of the local knowledge acquisition over a three week period before arriving in Denmark,
2. A 3 week visit to Denmark to participate in-person in the Learning Programme
3. An online follow-up meeting after returning to your home country

Please note that changes may occur as the course is scheduled to commence August/September 2026.

WEEK 0 Online activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Online meeting: Follow-up on action plans: Results, challenges, experience, next step etc. Presenting final diary and all action plans. Introduction to the Human Rights Based Approach (self-paced online learning module)
WEEK 1: Course orientation and first insights into sustainability and global feed challenges. Excursion including Copenhagen	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Introduction to the course and the course objectives including formulation of learning goals Introduction and presentations of participants and Action Plans Excursion: Agro Food Park/SEGES Farm Visit / DLG Excursion and visit to the Food, Agriculture and Fisheries Agency (CPH)
WEEK 2: Lectures and Excursion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Introduction to Analysis Methods Work on own Action Plans (with supervision) Biomass and Power to-X Monitoring Wildlife in African – drone technology and prospects in feed production Lectures and Journal Club about Analytical Chemistry, Natural Product Chemistry and Food Safety Introduction to LCA Visit to SDU Odense – analytical chemistry, biomass Labm Drone Lab
WEEK 3: Feed processing and systems. Reflections on course learnings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> On-Farm Feed Processing Fermentation & Silage Excursion: TBD Digital Tools & Innovation in Feed Building Sustainable Feed Strategies Circular Feed Systems Alternative Protein Sources Work on own Action Plan + Class presentation of the participant's individual action plan Reflection on attainment of learning goals and discussions on the way forward – agreements on future cooperation and networking Course evaluation and diplomay ceremony
Online activities after arrival in home country	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Revisit and discuss the action plan app. 2 months after the course has been completed.

Place of Study and Learning Programme Responsible

SEGES Innovation at Byholm Agricultural College, Hattingvej 49, 8700 Horsens

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Main Facilitators:

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What is Danida Fellowship Centre?

Danida Fellowship Centre (DFC) manages and implements the DFC Scholarship Programme, which provides learning opportunities in support of capacity building in Danish-supported development programmes and projects worldwide. DFC is responsible for the educational, administrative and logistical aspects of the learning programmes in Denmark, regionally and online. For more information, please refer to <https://dfcentre.com/>

How to Apply?

Please note that it is not possible to apply directly to DFC for this programme. Applications must be submitted through our [online application system \(SMA\)](#). Following the submission of your application, it will be reviewed and endorsed, if found relevant, by a Sector Counsellor or the respective Danish Embassy; the final selection of candidates for the learning programme will be carried out by DFC in collaboration with the Programme Manager.