

## PLANET



## LAND & MARINE RESOURCE USE

Land and marine resource use generally considers the impacts and protections of the natural environment and natural resources, including plant, animal and marine life.

Land use is the human use of land, which represents the economic and cultural activities that are practiced at a given and certain place. In agriculture, land use considerations are generally aimed at actions for the production efficiency of agricultural land. These considerations are closely related to crop yields, which are important for economically sustainable systems. Land use change, defined as human activities that transform the natural landscape, is also relevant to supporting biodiversity and providing ecosystem services for future generations.

Marine resources refer to the living marine resources and living marine species or organisms in the marine environment. Marine resources include those potentially or presently subject to misuse by people for food, feed, fertilizer or the production of other valuable products for use.

### Importance to the Animal Food Industry:

- The availability of arable land is limited, and competition for land between food, feed and other uses is increasing. Efficient land use for crops used in animal feed and pet food can help ensure that sufficient land remains available for human food production, contributing to global food security.
- The amount of land used for animal food production has direct implications for conversion to non-native habitat, biodiversity loss and deforestation. Efficient land use can mitigate these impacts.
- Land use is closely linked to GHG emissions. Land conversion can release significant amounts of carbon dioxide. Efficient land use is an important mitigation opportunity.
- Crops used for animal food that are produced with practices aimed at maintaining or improving soil health can ensure long-term viability of our production systems.
- As an ingredient in the animal food industry, fish and algae are important marine resources. Overfishing and unsustainable harvesting can deplete resources and lead to damaged or collapsed ecosystems.
- Maintaining biodiversity in marine systems supports healthy aquatic food chains and resources.
- Management of marine resources ensures the continued availability of raw materials for the animal food industry and supports the economic stability of these communities.

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- There is a growing demand for sustainably sourced products. Companies that use marine resources responsibly can appeal to this market segment, enhance their brand image and meet consumer expectations for sustainability.
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