

Newsletter

February 2015

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New Members

Welcome to RSB's newest member!

Dansuk Industrial Co., Ltd.

(Associate Member)
South Korea
Chamber 2

See RSB's complete list of members [here](#).

Highlights

Accessing the German Biofuels Market Webinar

Join us for a [webinar on February 18th](#) to learn about recent changes in German legislation including:

- Methodology to calculate GHG-based quotas in the fuel blend
- Oversight of GHG calculations
- Upstream verification of waste materials
- Initial market reactions

[Register Now!](#)

Note: This webinar is for RSB members and certified operators only. If you are interested in becoming a member so you can participate in this webinar, please [let us know](#).

For more on the Germany changes, see the [RSB article in Biofuels International](#).

Revision of RSB Principles and Criteria

The Principles and Criteria (P&Cs) are up for public consultation for 60 days, in line with ISEAL's standard setting code. We expect the revised P&Cs to be approved by the Assembly of Delegates, following consultation of members, in late 2015.

Interested in participating and shaping Version 3.0 of the Principles and Criteria? [Visit our webpage for instructions on submitting your comments!](#)



RSB Standards Director

After eight years with RSB, our Standards Director, Sébastien Haye, will be moving on in March to work with E4Tech. We wish him the very best in his new role. Sébastien was with RSB since its very beginning and the organization would not be what it is today if it weren't for his tireless efforts and hard work. **Thank you to Sébastien!**

Standards

[2015 Secretariat Workplan](#) - As the new year begins, the Secretariat is updating the workplan for the year. See what we have in store for 2015!

[The RSB List of Documents](#)

outlining the standards, procedures and guidance documents that make up the RSB system has been updated.

Requirements for certification bodies (CBs) and auditors

are currently being revised. Several different documents related to the accreditation of CBs and auditors, as well as the audit process, are now merged in one unique procedure. Its structure and wording has been improved to better reflect the chronology of the accreditation and audit processes. The final draft will be submitted to members for consultation in the coming weeks before approval by the Board of Directors.

Key dates for ISEAL compliance in 2015

In order to demonstrate adherence to ISEAL best practice, RSB will undertake several evaluations and assessments in 2015.

- Impacts Code Independent Evaluation – February 2015
- Standard-Setting Self Assessment – July 2015
- Assurance Code Peer Review – August 2015
- Standard-Setting Independent Evaluation – December 2015

RSB in the News

United Airlines Commits to RSB Certification for Biojet Fuel

On 18 January, United Airlines' Mihir Thakkar, Director of Environmental Strategy and Sustainability was quoted in a [Runway Girl Network article](#), referring to a deal with AltAir.

*"For us, sustainability is not only the carbon, but all the aspects that affect the society and the environment. **The fuel is going to be fully certified by the RSB**, ensuring that we are not either displacing agricultural land to make it work or driving up food prices."*

Barbara Bramble Speaks at SBRC Press Conference

On 20 January, the Sustainable Bioenergy Research Consortium announced a contract with International Mechanical & Electrical Co. to construct the world's first bioenergy pilot project to use desert land - irrigated by seawater - to produce both bioenergy and food.

"The Masdar Institute research is truly game-changing for large-scale biofuel production. This project puts the UAE at the forefront of a global movement to create sustainable, alternative fuels that support - not compete with - food production and fresh water conservation," said RSB Chair, Barbara Bramble who attended the press conference during Abu Dhabi Sustainability Week.



Barbara Bramble at SBRC Press Conference

This announcement was covered by several websites including www.masdar.ac.ae and Inhabitat.com.

Praj Contract in Uganda

RSB certified operator Addax and RSB were [mentioned recently regarding the new Praj contract in Uganda](#) for production of fuel ethanol and premium grade extra neutral alcohol (beverage alcohol) with Kakira Sugars.

"Praj recently commissioned Africa's first RSB certified 80,000 cubic meters of fuel grade ethanol plant at Sierra Leone, Africa [Addax Bioenergy SL]. The RSB standards define the criteria for reduction of green-house gases in compliance with Renewable Fuels Directive, applicable to biofuels entering the EU market."

Smallholder Program

With the support of Boeing Corporate Citizenship Program and the Swiss government, the RSB's Smallholder Program has entered its third year with progress on certification in Brazil, South Africa and Sri Lanka.

- Sunchem's Solaris project in South Africa is preparing an audit in March. A stakeholder workshop and training session will take place in February.
- Preparation for RSB certification of macaúba palm in Brazil's Minas Gerais state continues. RSB and the Federal University of Minas Gerais (UFMG), will host a regional workshop on 27 February in Montes Claros to present initial results of a field assessment and plan next steps for group certification. Macaúba producers, local associations, UFMG students and professors involved with the project will participate. For more information, [contact Aurea Nardelli](#).
- [See our new smallholder webpages!](#) If you are an RSB member or certified operator we would like to profile your work. Please [send us photos, quotes](#) or other information for the new smallholder webpages.



Interview Being Conducted by UFMG Team in December Field Visit, Photo Credit: RSB

Upcoming Events

Below is a list of upcoming (and ongoing) events that RSB staff are speaking at, or attending. [Visit our events web page](#) for updates.

18 February - [RSB Webinar: Accessing the German Biofuels Market](#)

Join us for this policy update webinar on February 18th at 4:00pm Paris, CET / 10:00am New York, EST. *Please note that this webinar is for RSB members and certified POs only. If you are interested in becoming a member so you can participate in this webinar, [let us know](#).*

27 February - [RSB Smallholder Program Macauba Project Workshop \(Montes Claros, Brazil\)](#)

For additional information, please see details under the smallholder section above or contact [Aurea Nardelli](#).

2-4 March 2015 - [World Bio Markets Conference \(Amsterdam\)](#)

Join RSB's Executive Director, Rolf Hogan, and Board Chair, Barbara Bramble, at the World Bio Markets conference in Amsterdam.

11-13 March - [Advanced Biofuels Conference \(Washington DC, US\)](#)

Join Matt Rudolf, RSB's Business Development & Americas Director, at ABLC 2015. The event brings together the advanced biofuels community, and looks at key technologies.

RSB will host an exhibit table so please stop by and talk to Melanie Williams! This event is the 4th edition of the international conference on sustainable synthesis of plastics and elastomers including materials currently available in the marketplace.

13-15 April 2015 - [8th International Conference on Bio-based Materials \(Cologne, Germany\)](#)

Hear Melanie Williams speak on: "Ensuring bio-based chemicals are sustainable". RSB members and certified operators are eligible for a 10% discount on their registration fee (use code RSB10 in the allowance code during registration)!

14-15 April 2015 - [4th Annual Platts EU Biofuels Seminar \(Geneva, Switzerland\)](#)

Melanie Williams will speak on the panel "GHG changes and 2020; the challenges facing Europe's biofuels". The panel will look at how recent changes in policy impact Europe and scenarios post 2020.

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