



## RSB Newsletter

### In This Issue

[Newly Certified Operators](#)

[Call for Public Comments](#)

[RSB Activities and Updates](#)

[RSB in the News](#)

[Upcoming Events](#)

### Quick Links

[RSB website](#)

[Membership](#)

[Certification](#)

[List of Certified Operators](#)

[Twitter](#)

[LinkedIn](#)

[Facebook](#)

### Newly Certified Operators

Congratulations to these newly RSB certified operators!

First Quarter - 25 March 2014

### RSB Activities and Updates

#### Swiss Support for Three-Year RSB Programme

On 13 March, Switzerland's State Secretariat for Economic Affairs (SECO) approved a grant to RSB for an ambitious three-year programme to promote global sustainable production of biomaterials. The programme includes streamlining and developing the RSB standard, generating demand for RSB certification, and facilitating market access for smallholders.

"In our view, RSB is the most credible standard for biofuels and biomaterials and we are supporting their work in order to help ensure that it is picked up by industry and governments alike so that the market can be put on a truly sustainable footing", says Martin Peter, Programme Manager from SECO.

#### Updates on RSB Certification

**Overview:** "Recent applications to RSB support the growing need for a credible sustainability certification in markets other than liquid fuels. Just in the past month RSB had two companies submit applications for certification who are developing non-fuel oils (biolubricants and bio-based hydraulic fluids). We also received an application from a company developing a biomass product for use in electrical power stations. Needless to say, we are very excited that our friends at Amyris Biotechnologies are in the process of certifying their cutting edge farnesene plant in Brotas, Brazil. Farnesene is an intermediate chemical, which can be



**Biofuel Weiss, Inc.** in  
Canada (biodiesel  
producer)

**GreenWood Tree Farm  
Fund, LP** in USA  
(biomass producer)

For a complete list of  
RSB certified operators,  
[click here.](#)

### Call for Public Comments

Are you getting the email  
notices for "calls for  
public comments" on  
entities that have applied  
for RSB certification?

Sign up to receive these  
notices on our [website  
home page.](#)

transformed into a broad range of downstream chemicals and fuels." - Matthew Rudolf, Business Development & Americas Director.

**Brazil:** "RSB continues its engagement with the Brazilian Biojet Fuel Platform, participating in the Sustainability Working Group. The main objective is to work closely with the aviation sector in Brazil, advising on the construction of sustainable value chains. Stay tuned!" - Aurea Nardelli, Regional Director for South America.

**Europe:** "The WBM conference in March was a great success for RSB. Many connections were made while also catching up with 'old friends' of the RSB. Interest in RSB is clearly building in this region." - Melanie Williams, Regional Director for Europe, Middle East and Asia.

Check out our list of newly RSB certified operators and stay tuned for more to come! [See our complete list of RSB certified operators here.](#)

---

### RSB Launches Simplified Certification Process For Bonsucro Certified Entities

RSB recently completed a study revealing that Bonsucro certified sugarcane could be considered compliant with most of the RSB's 12 Principles and Criteria, with the exception of the Principles on Rural and Social Development and Food Security. This means that Bonsucro certified operators will now be able to access RSB certification through a simplified audit process to demonstrate compliance, therefore saving costs and time. [Read more...](#)

---

### Smallholder Program Picks Up Speed!

RSB's smallholder initiative is stimulating interest across a range of sectors from farmers to development banks and companies interested in sourcing smallholder material. The Southern Africa project was launched on 5 March and on the same day a side meeting at World Bio Markets (see below) brought together partners from industry, NGOs, development banks and the UN's Sustainable Energy for All initiative. Supported by Boeing and SECO, the RSB program seeks to improve the livelihoods of small farmers in developing countries by linking them to markets and promoting sustainable practices. Workshops in Kuala Lumpur and Mexico in late 2013 identified barriers to smallholder certification and reviewed a draft RSB standard adapted for smallholders. If you are interested please contact [Rolf Hogan.](#)



---

### First Joint RSB-FSC Certification Stimulates Interest

The certification of Greenwood by both RSB and FSC has

stimulated interest from industry and NGOs on the potential for a "double gold-standard" certification for bioenergy from forests. The RSB already recognizes the FSC standard based on a benchmark study in 2013 and requires that forest residues used for bioenergy should come from FSC or equivalent certified forests. With their respective knowledge in forests and bioenergy RSB and FSC can provide a strong partnership in this field. [Read more about our cooperation with other standards](#) and [read FSC's recent newsletter article about this](#).

---

### **Measuring Our Impact**

"We are currently consulting with our constituencies and hope to have the RSB Theory of Change (ToC) and Impact Indicators approved during the first half of 2014. This is important because it describes how the RSB Standard and Certification System will bring about positive changes in biomass production and processing chains worldwide. Public consultation was held from January 28 through February 28 and the results will be posted on our website soon. In the meantime, please visit our [Monitoring & Evaluation page](#) for more information."

- Sebastien Haye, RSB Standards Director.

---

### **Help us Improve RSB's Standard and Certification**

RSB's standard and certification system belong to its members, who are regularly consulted on their development and improvement. In 2014, we are undertaking a revision of the standard and certification system. The revisions have already led to notable improvements in the readability, user-friendliness and cost-effectiveness of the certification process and will culminate with Version 3.0 of the sustainability principles and criteria in 2015.

If you would like to have your say, please become an RSB member and contribute to shaping the global thinking on sustainable biomass and biomaterials! [More information here](#).

## **RSB in the News**

### **Smallholder Program**

We also received media coverage for the Boeing-South African Airways-RSB project to expand opportunities for "smallhold" farmers in Southern Africa to grow crops that produce sustainable fuels. [Read more...](#)



### **World Bio Markets (WBM)**

RSB had a strong presence at WBM in Amsterdam from 4-6 March with Barbara Bramble (Board Chair); Rolf Hogan (Executive Director); and Melanie Williams (Regional Director) presenting RSB perspectives on bio jet fuel, sustainable feedstocks and ILUC respectively.

RSB staff and board members are often asked to speak and attend a wide variety of biomaterial and sustainability related events. [See other past events here...](#)

## 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 details on all these events. Hope to see you there!

### **12-13 May 2014 - Biopolymers Symposium (USA)**

Join RSB's Matthew Rudolf for his discussion of "How a Robust Certification Scheme Can Contribute to Your Success" at the annual Biopolymers Symposium in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, USA.

### **20-22 May 2014 - A Question of Trust: 2014 Global Sustainability Standards Conference**

The Global Sustainability Standards Conference (formerly the ISEAL Annual Conference) will bring together over 250 leaders from business, government, civil society and sustainability standards to discuss the many dimensions of trust in the sustainability standards movement. If you are an RSB certified operator, please contact [helena.kennedy@rsb.org](mailto:helena.kennedy@rsb.org) for details on ISEAL discounts.

### **17-18 June 2014 - World Bio Markets Asia (Malaysia)**

RSB's Board Vice-Chair, Khoo Hock Aun, will be speaking on the sustainability panel at the World Bio Markets Asia conference on 17-18 June 2014 in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.

## Roundtable on Sustainable Biomaterials (RSB)

International Environment House 2  
7-9 Chemin de Balxert  
CH-1219 | Chatelaine (Geneva) | Switzerland  
Tel: [+41 22 796 40 37](tel:+41227964037)  
Email: [info@rsb.org](mailto:info@rsb.org)  
[www.rsb.org](http://www.rsb.org)

### Stay Connected with RSB!



Copyright © 2014, Roundtable on Sustainable Biomaterials (RSB). All Rights Reserved.

Permission is granted to reprint the content of this newsletter, provided proper attribution to the RSB is made.