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RSB Bulletin (November 2013)

The RSB Bulletin keeps you informed of the activities of the Roundtable on Sustainable Biomaterials, events and other important news.

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RSB ranks first among EU-recognised biofuel schemes (WWF/IUCN)!

Brussels 28 November. A new study by WWF international recognizes the RSB as the "best performing scheme" out of the 13 EU-recognized voluntary certification schemes that it analyzed. A similar report by IUCN Netherlands "Betting on best quality" looking at the implementation of EU schemes concluded that RSB "covers more sustainability criteria, with greater detail, and with more breath in terms of level of assurance" than any of the other Voluntary sustainability schemes. Both reports were launched today at the *WWF Workshop on EC approved biofuels schemes: Do they offer enough safeguards in practice?* Attended by governments, NGOs and the EC in Brussels.

[Read WWF News Release](#)
[Read WWF Full Report](#)
[Read IUCN NL Full Report](#)

Revised RSB Procedures for Grievances and Standard Development

Two new RSB procedures were approved by the Board of Directors on 8 November . The RSB is working to improve the clarity, simplicity and user-friendliness of the standard and certification system. RSB members and important stakeholders such as certified operators

and certification bodies are being regularly consulted as part of this work. The updated procedures are:

- Procedures for Development and Modification of RSB Standards ([RSB-PRO-15-001](#)), RSB Procedures ([RSB-PRO-25-001](#)) and RSB Guidance ([RSB-PRO-35-001](#)).
- RSB Grievance Procedure ([RSB-PRO-65-001](#))

On November 29, the RSB Assembly of Delegates is expected to approve the updated Standard for Participating Operators (RSB-STD-30-001) and a way forward regarding the revision of the RSB Standard on Risk Management (RSB-STD-60-001). The revision of the RSB Standard and Certification System will continue in 2014 with several rounds of member consultation and public consultation. We hope to release Version 3.0 of the RSB Principles and Criteria ([RSB-STD-01-001](#)) by the end of 2014.

Please check our [website](#) for more updates

Three New Certifications

The RSB is pleased to announce three new certified operators:

The Camelina Company España (Spain)

RSB's sustainability certification covers Camelina Company's office in Madrid, over 150 farmers in the regions of Castilla La Mancha and Aragón, mainly, the logistics centre, in Albacete and the grain crushing facility in Tarancon.

[Link to the Summary Audit Report](#)

Beijing Shougang Lanzatech New Energy Science & Technology Company (China)

Beijing Shougang LanzaTech New Energy Science & Technology Company, LanzaTech's joint venture with Shougang Jingtang Iron and Steel United Company and the Tang Ming Group, has earned the first-ever RSB certification for waste-gas to biofuel process. The certification applies to the joint venture's facility that converts waste steel mill gases to sustainable biofuels. The facility, which utilizes LanzaTech technology, is the first RSB-certified biofuel plant in China, and the first of its kind anywhere to receive this key certification for industrial carbon capture and utilization.

[Link to the Summary Audit Report](#)

Lanzatech's certification was recently hailed by Virgin Atlantic, its partner in setting up sustainable jet fuel supply chains in China. Virgin's President Sir Richard Branson declared: "RSB's certification is a crucial step to ensure this revolutionary new fuel will meet the highest possible environmental standards and will result in a radical reduction in our carbon footprint." LanzaTech estimates that its technology offers the potential to provide 19% of the world's current jet fuel demand.

[Read the Full Article](#)

Patterson Global Foods Biofuels Inc. (Canada)

PGF Biofuels Ltd. is growing and processing Ethiopian Mustard (*Brassica Carinata*) into vegetable oil. A subsidiary of Patterson GlobalFoods, PGF Biofuels Inc. signed last April a partnership with Agrisoma for the marketing and distribution of Carinata in North America

and Australia. According to Agrisoma's website, Carinata is seen as a very promising crop, well suited to production in semi-arid areas. It offers good resistance to biotic stressors, such as insects and disease, as well as abiotic stressors, such as heat and drought. It also has excellent harvestability, with good lodging and shatter resistance

[Link to the Summary Audit Report](#)

RSB Membership

We are pleased to announce that Ms. Erin Simon (WWF) and Ms. Doris Cellarius (Sierra Club) were respectively elected as Delegate and Chair of Chamber 6 (Environment/Conservation Organisations & Climate Change/Policy Organisations). Congratulations to them!

If you have not yet paid your annual membership fee, please proceed as soon as possible or you may lose your member status!

For any question regarding RSB Membership, please contact the [Secretariat!](#)

Upcoming Events and Important Dates

RSB Smallholder Workshops

RSB has organized two regional meetings to improving access to certification for smallholders as part of a program supported by the Boeing Global Corporate Citizen program, Norad and the National Wildlife Federation. The workshops aim to engage development agencies, governments and business in addressing the challenges to smallholder certification.

- Latin American Workshop on RSB Certification for Smallholders . November 26-27. Mexico DF.
- South-East Asian Workshop on RSB Certification for Smallholders. December 4-6, 2013. Kuala Lumpur. [Download the flyer](#)

Upcoming RSB Auditor Training Sessions

RSB training sessions run by AB Training are open to all auditors, consultants, biomaterial producers and users and others interested in obtaining a deeper understanding of the RSB standard and certification system. Visit the [AB Training website](#) or contact the RSB Secretariat for more information. Upcoming sessions include:

- Southern Africa, January 2014
- London area, February 2014

Other Events

- *UN Global Compact Meeting on Sustainable Agriculture Business Principles (2 December, 2013) – Geneva, Switzerland.* In July the United Nations Global Compact released a White Paper on voluntary Sustainable Agriculture Business Principles (SABPs). The SABPs aim to align the strategies of companies to deliver practical, effective and scalable solutions to meet the global challenges of post-2015 UN goals for sustainable agriculture. They will provide a framework for more effective partnerships between companies, governments and other stakeholders. The Geneva meeting in December will consider feedback from global consultations held since July

on the White Paper.

You are receiving this bulletin as representative of an RSB Member organisation. This bulletin aims to keep you informed about the important decisions and latest developments at the RSB. To unsubscribe, please contact the Secretariat.

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