

Email not displaying correctly? View it in your browser.



ÉCOLE POLYTECHNIQUE  
FÉDÉRALE DE LAUSANNE

CEN - ENERGY CENTER

ROUNDTABLE ON SUSTAINABLE BIOFUELS

## RSB Bulletin

4 February 2010

*Dear RSB members:*

*Happy New Year – and welcome to the latest RSB Bulletin.*

*2011 promises to be the key year for the Roundtable on Sustainable Biofuels. This is the year when our planning and collaboration with you all will truly bear fruit, with the launch of our official certification program.*

*We look forward to sharing this exciting and important phase with you. Please read on for details on the latest work of the RSB Steering Board, Chambers and Secretariat.*

*Best regards,*

*Alwin*

---

### Table of Contents

- [“Sustainability Standards Transparency Initiative”](#)
- [Towards full membership of the ISEAL Alliance](#)
- [RSB Tool Beta Testing Coming Soon](#)
- [Developing a Certification Management System \(CMS\)](#)
- [RSB Handbooks](#)
- [Moving Toward the Launch of “RSB Services”](#)
- [HECO to source RSB compliant Biodiesel!](#)
- [Where can I meet the RSB Team?](#)

### **“Sustainability Standards Transparency Initiative”**

We are busy working to transform our “benchmarking” effort into a broader “sustainability standards transparency initiative,” which will produce not merely a comparison of sustainability certification initiatives, but will result in a deeper understanding of the different approaches that are being pursued. The ultimate outcome of this initiative is to make certification more efficient, effective and targeted to the needs for all actors involved. In connection with this effort, we will be conducting field tests of the standards comparison tools under development. A recent field test in Colombia was carried out successfully. We look forward to working with project partners, including, RSPO, GIZ (formerly GTZ), RTRS

and Rainforest Alliance/SAN on this important project. We have also sought input on this transparency initiative from the Forest Stewardship Council, which has a long track record of sustainability certification activities, and we are also working to raise funds to expand this activity.

### **Towards full membership of the ISEAL Alliance**

In January, the RSB submitted its application to become Full Member of [ISEAL](#). Currently, the RSB is an Associate Member of ISEAL. The application, which involves full compliance with the ISEAL Standard-Setting Code, will be evaluated by ISEAL staff and Board of Directors, with expected admission in the first half of 2011.

### **RSB Tool Beta Testing Coming Soon**

The RSB Tool will be launched for beta testing within the coming weeks. Central to the RSB Tool is the GHG calculation methodology, for which a peer review process is currently underway. Once the beta test version of the Tool is out, it will be tested by a number of operators, who will be able to enter data pertaining to their operations and thus calculate their GHG emissions. This tool will not only serve as a GHG calculator, but also as an entry point to the RSB system and it will allow operators, or any interested party, to perform a self-evaluation according to RSB Principles & Criteria and a self-risk assessment. The tool will be freely available online.

### **Developing a Certification Management System (CMS)**

The RSB plans to use a software system that will facilitate and support implementation of the RSB certification system. The CMS will be used by RSB participating operators and by certification bodies to manage all aspects of certification. The CMS will be designed in such a way that a tracing and tracking system as well as a trading system can be built in at a later stage.

### **RSB Handbooks**

In order to guide operators throughout the entire process of project planning and implementation or compliance of existing projects, in line with the RSB Principles & Criteria, handbooks for users of the RSB System are currently being developed. The first volume of the handbook is dedicated to feedstock producers and will take participating operators through the different steps towards compliance with the RSB Principles & Criteria as well as the certification process. The RSB Handbook aims to be an accessible, non-technical and user-friendly guide into the RSB system. It should be released within a few weeks, so keep looking at [our website!](#)

### **Moving Toward the Launch of “RSB Services”**

Mr. Peter Ryus, who has been serving as a consultant, has now formally joined the RSB Secretariat, and will be involved in leading plans for the launch of RSB Services, the new entity that will work directly with operators on certification. Peter is preparing a detailed business plan and outreach efforts to take place in the next few months. Fundraising for the launch of RSB Services is underway, along with an application for formal accreditation by ISEAL. We will keep you informed of further plans for the formal “roll out” of the RSB Standards and RSB Services, and we look forward to your help in getting the word out to your colleagues when the materials will be available soon.

### **HECO to source RSB compliant Biodiesel!**

The Hawaiian Electric Company (HECO) issued a request for proposal to annually supply 3 to 7 million gallons of biodiesel that complies with the Environmental Policy For The Hawaiian Electric Company's Procurement Of Biofuel From Palm Oil And Locally Grown Feedstocks

(prepared by HECO and NRDC, dated August 2007) and the Roundtable on Sustainable Biofuels (RSB) Principles and Criteria.

## Where can I meet the RSB Team?

- [SWAFEA European Study synthesis conference](#): *Toulouse, France (9-10 February, 2011)*
- **Free Seminar on Views on Food and Fuel**: *Phoenix, Arizona, USA (9 February, 2011, 8:45 am) at the Phoenix Convention Center*. Experts on agriculture and indirect land use change will present their views on the symbiotic relationships between food production and renewable fuels. This side event of the [Advance Biodiesel Conference and Expo](#) is organized by the National Biodiesel Board, a member of RSB Chamber 2.
- [ISEAL Workshop, Scaling Up the Impacts of the Sustainability Standards Movement](#): *Bern, Switzerland (14-15 February, 2011)*
- [2011 Sustainable Biodiesel Summit](#): *Pittsboro, North Carolina, USA (5 March, 2011)*
- [World Biofuels Market 2011](#): *Rotterdam, the Netherlands (22-24 March, 2011)*. RSB is a partner of WBM 2011 and encourages you to attend this major event. Please check the following link to nominate projects for the [Sustainable Biofuels Award!](#)

If you would like to unsubscribe from this list please follow the link below.

[Unsubscribe](#) sebastien.haye@epfl.ch from this list | [Forward to a friend](#) | [Update your profile](#)

**Our mailing address is:**  
Roundtable on Sustainable Biofuels  
EPFL-Energy Center  
Station 5  
Lausanne, VD 1015

[Add us to your address book](#)

Copyright (C) 2011 Roundtable on Sustainable Biofuels All rights reserved.

