

**RSB – ROUNDTABLE ON SUSTAINABLE BIOMATERIALS**

## **RSB STANDARD FOR JAPAN FIT**

Version 1.0

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## A. Introduction

This standard specifies requirements for operators producing, procuring and importing biomass into Japan under *Japan's Feed in Tariff (FIT) system*.

FIT sets out a system of incentives for the production of renewable electricity in Japan which includes subsidies for the procurement of biomass which includes vegetable oils as well as various agricultural and industrial residues and end-of-life products.

Japan's Ministry for Economy, Trade and Industry (METI) has published specific requirements for the certification of biomass under the FIT system was finalised in April 2020. The RSB Japan FIT standard incorporates these requirements so that products certified under this standard will be eligible under Japan's FIT system.

METI's requirements for residues and end-of-life products include verification against sustainability Principles and Criteria (P&Cs) for all Points of Origin as well as the use of Identify Preserved, or Segregation models for chain of custody. METI has not yet put in place requirements for Greenhouse Gas (GHG) reduction.

For the certification of vegetable oils, the requirements of the RSB Global Standard will apply unchanged except for the limitation on the chain of custody models required by Japan (Identify Preserved, or Segregation).

For residues and end-of-life products the RSB Global Standard currently allows for a simplified certification process which includes a sample verification of Points of Origin against a reduced set of requirements as described in RSB's Advanced Fuels Standard [RSB-STD-01-010]. Under RSB Japan FIT, certification will require verification against RSB's full set of P&Cs as per Industrial Operators or Agricultural Operators in the RSB Global Standard.

For Greenhouse Gas calculations, the RSB Japan FIT Standard requires the calculation of GHG emissions along the supply chain so that each batch of RSB Japan certified material has a GHG intensity associated with it. However, as the scope of the RSB Japan FIT Standard currently does not cover the generation of electricity but only biomass production and trade, RSB does not require a specific GHG reduction for the certified biomass. Should Japan's regulations require the certification of electricity production, RSB will define a baseline and include targets based on the requirements set by METI as well as the RSB Principles & Criteria.

### Main changes from the previous version

n.a.

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## C. Aim of this standard

This standard aims to define requirements for operators along the biomass supply chain to deliver biomass for power production considered as eligible under Japan's FIT legislation.

## D. Scope of this Standard

This standard is globally applicable for operators producing, processing and trading biomass, including vegetable oils, residues and end-of-life products destined for use for power generation in Japan.

## E. Status and effective date

This version 1.0 of the standard shall be effective from 30 April 2020.

Whenever any contradiction or inconsistency exists between this version and previous versions of this standard, the latest version shall prevail.

## F. Note on the use of this standard

All aspects of this standard are considered to be normative, including the intent scope, standard effective date, references, terms and definitions, tables and annexes, unless otherwise stated.

Users implementing this standard shall ensure that the intent of this standard is met. To ensure that the intent of this standard is met, users shall implement all of the requirements specified in this standard, and any and all additional measures necessary to achieve the intent of this standard.

In the event of any inconsistency between this RSB Standard and the RSB Principles and Criteria [RSB-STD-01-001], or other RSB Standards, the RSB Japan FIT Standard shall prevail.

## G. References

Please see RSB List of Documents and References [RSB-DOC-10-001] for the full list of RSB Standards and references.

## H. Terms, definitions and acronyms

For the purposes of this standard, the terms and definitions given in the RSB Glossary of Terms [RSB-STD-01-002] shall apply. The following terms are particularly important for this standard:

- *Participating Operator*: Legal entity or natural person that had entered into a formal agreement with the RSB Association (“Participating Operator Agreement”) and that is responsible for the implementation of the requirements of all applicable RSB Standards and Procedures in all organisations listed in the scope of certification.
- *Primary Biomass Producer*: Organisation that applies for certification for a specific activity that includes the production of crops or woody material, for example farm operators or plantation owners
- *Points of Origin*: The generator, such as companies, farms, forest areas, residences, industries and commercial facilities of end-of-life-products, production residues or other waste materials
- *First Collectors*: Operator that receives end-of-life-products, by-products or residues from points of origin
- *Industrial Operators*: Organisation that applies for certification for a specific activity that includes feedstock processing and/or the *production of intermediary products, fuels or advanced products*
- *Mechanical operator*: Subgroup of industrial operators only conducting mechanical or physical processing, i.e. mixing, assembling, sorting, moulding, cutting, plastics extrusion. For further mechanical processes to be added to the list, please consult with the RSB Secretariat
- *Trader*: Organisation that applies for certification for a specific activity that includes buying and selling of materials or products, including raw materials, intermediates and final products. Examples for traders are first collectors, blenders, wholesale and retail companies (also companies selling to end-consumers) as well as airlines or shipping companies selling transport services to their clients.

The following acronyms are used:

FIT: Japan’s Feed-in Tariff legislation

GHG: Greenhouse Gases

METI: Japan’s Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry

P&C: Principles and Criteria

## J. Requirements

### 1. General Requirements

The following standards and procedures shall apply in addition to this standard:

1. 1. The full RSB Principles and Criteria [RSB-STD-01-001] shall apply to any Point of Origin, primary biomass producer and industrial operator along the supply chain.

*Please note:* The full RSB Principles and Criteria do not apply to traders or mechanical operators, i.e. operators only conducting mechanical or physical processing (e.g. mixing, assembling, sorting, moulding, cutting, etc.)

1. 2. The RSB Chain of Custody Procedure [RSB-PRO-20-001] shall apply to any operator along the biomass supply chain with legal ownership of RSB certified material.

1. 3. The RSB Procedure for Participating Operators [RSB-PRO-30-001] shall apply to any *Participating Operator (PO)* along the biomass supply chain.

*Please note:* POs are legal entities or natural persons that have entered into a formal agreement with the RSB Association (“Participating Operator Agreement”) and that are responsible for the implementation of the requirements of all applicable RSB Standards and Procedures in all organisations listed in the scope of certification.

1. 4. RSB Procedure for Communication & Claims [RSB-PRO-50-001] shall apply to any operator along the biomass supply chain.

1. 5. The RSB Procedure for Risk Management [RSB-PRO-60-001] shall apply to any PO along the biomass supply chain.

1. 6. The RSB Standard for Advanced Fuels [RSB-STD-01-010] shall apply to any operator along a biomass supply chain using wastes, residues or by-products.

### 2. Additional Criteria for Japan FIT Eligible biomass

2. 1. Requirement related to the Greenhouse Gas emissions of biomass

The biomass producer or trader shall calculate the GHG emissions along the supply chain related to the collection, transport and processing of biomass from the Point of Origin to the point of delivery. The calculation shall follow the methodology laid out in the RSB GHG calculation Methodology [RSB-STD-01-003-01]. Operators may either use the RSB GHG Calculation Tool or carry out an individual calculation based on the RSB methodology.

2. 2. Requirement related to Chain of Custody

2. 2. 1. The operator shall ensure that the Chain of Custody model used is recognised under the Japanese FIT system (currently, the models *Identify Preserved* and *Segregation* are recognised).

*Please note:* the RSB Chain of Custody Procedure [RSB-PRO-20-001] defines different chain of custody models, specifies requirements for those chain of custody models as well as the set of information that has to be forwarded to the next entity in the supply chain together with every batch of RSB certified material. Amongst other information items, operators must specify the chain of custody model used so that the information about the chain of custody model is tracked throughout the supply chain and verified by auditors in regular audits.

## Annex: Links to RSB Standards and Documents

RSB Principles and Criteria [RSB-STD-01-001]

[http://rsb.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/04/RSB-STD-01-001\\_Principles\\_and\\_Criteria-DIG-ITAL.pdf](http://rsb.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/04/RSB-STD-01-001_Principles_and_Criteria-DIG-ITAL.pdf)

Advanced Fuels Standard [RSB-STD-01-010]

[https://rsb.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/07/RSB-STD-01-010-RSB-Standard-for-advanced-fuels\\_2.2.pdf](https://rsb.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/07/RSB-STD-01-010-RSB-Standard-for-advanced-fuels_2.2.pdf)

Screening Tool [RSB-GUI-01-002-02]

[This is not currently available online except as part of the certification application process]

RSB-DOC-10-001 RSB List of documents

<https://rsb.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/01/RSB-DOC-10-001-RSB-List-of-documents-and-references.pdf>

RSB-STD-01-002 RSB Glossary of Terms

<https://rsb.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/07/RSB-STD-01-002-RSB-Glossary-of-Terms-v.1.1.pdf>

RSB Chain of Custody Procedure [RSB-PRO-20-001]

<https://rsb.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/02/RSB-STD-20-001-vers.3.1-RSB-Std-for-Traceability.pdf>

RSB Procedure for Participating Operators [RSB-PRO-30-001]

[https://rsb.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/02/RSB-STD-11-001-30-001-RSB-EU-RED-Standard-for-Participating-Operators\\_3.2.pdf](https://rsb.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/02/RSB-STD-11-001-30-001-RSB-EU-RED-Standard-for-Participating-Operators_3.2.pdf)

RSB Procedure for Risk Management [RSB-PRO-60-001]

<https://rsb.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/02/RSB-PRO-60-001-vers-3.2-Procedure-for-Risk-Management.pdf>

RSB GHG calculation Methodology [RSB-STD-01-003-01]

<https://rsb.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/08/RSB-STD-01-003-01-RSB-GHG-Calculation-Methodology-v2.3.pdf>

RSB Procedure for Certification Bodies and Auditors [RSB-PRO-70-001]

<https://rsb.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/04/RSB-PRO-70-001-vers-3.5-Requirements-CBs-and-Auditors.pdf>