

## *Roundtable on Sustainable Biofuels*

Ensuring that biofuels deliver on their promise of sustainability

### *Concept*

A multi-stakeholder initiative to develop principles and criteria for sustainable biofuels production that are:

- **Simple, accessible** and implemented worldwide
- **Generic** to all crops
- **Adaptable** to new information
- **Efficient and cheap** to measure
- **In line with WTO rules** (use ISEAL code)



## *Governance*

- One **Steering Board** composed of international stakeholders
- One **secretariat** based at EPFL. Coordination of the RSB.
- Four **Working Groups** + expert panels to make recommendations to the Steering Board. 170 participants from international organisations, NGOs, private sector and academic institutions.
- **Global stakeholder** feedback at every step (blogs, meetings, wiki technology, pilot projects, regional outreaches)

## *The Steering Board*

- Steering Board members include WWF, BP, Shell, National Wildlife Fed, FSC, Petrobras, Mali Folkecenter, Univ. Cal Berkeley, TERI India, Toyota, UNEP
- **Chair:** Mr Claude Martin (former CEO of WWF)
- **Mission:** Via a thorough consultation of the working groups, final validation of principles, criteria and implementation plan.

## *First Round: Draft Principles*

- **National Law** (esp. re. land, labor, water rights)
- **GHG** - positive balance over lifecycle, including direct & indirect effects
- **Environmental** - conserve and protect high conservation values, soil, water, air; responsible use of biotechnologies
- **Social** - biofuels should benefit rural communities and workers; should not contribute to food insecurity



## *Timeline*



- Two rounds of comments on principles
- Working Groups recommend text for criteria to meet these principles (in progress)
- By end 2007, consensus on principles
- By June 2008, good draft of criteria, next steps defined (governance system, developing tools for implementation)



## *The Working Groups (1)*

- **Greenhouse gases efficiency:** Validation of a scientifically robust yet simple and practical method of measuring GHG balance on a Life Cycle perspective. About 80 members + 1 Expert Advisory Group
- **Environment:** Definition of principles and criteria that ensure biofuels to be a clean alternative (conservation, maintenance of soil, water and air sustainability, ensuring best practices in the use of technologies). More than 120 members + Expert groups on each topic to be covered



## *The Working Groups (2)*

- **Social:** Definition of principles and criteria ensuring that biofuel channels are in accordance with WTO rules and prove beneficial for local livelihood and national economies. 80 members + Expert groups
- **Implementation:** Validation/adjustment of the principles and criteria in line with field reality, based on experience with other systems. Recommend governance systems, implementation/verification tools. 80 members + Expert groups



## ***Contact***

### *Secretariat:*

Energy Center, EPFL

Charlotte.opal@epfl.ch

Sebastien.haye@epfl.ch

<http://EnergyCenter.epfl.ch/Biofuels>



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*Energy Center* 

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