

Biodiversity Principles and Criterion DRAFT - For Discussion Purposes Only

Principles	RSB	CSBP	EU RED	RSPO	FSC	ISCC
Biofuel operations shall avoid negative impacts on biodiversity, ecosystems, and conservation values	X					
Biomass production shall contribute to the conservation or enhancement of biological diversity, in particular native plants and wildlife.		X				
Environmental responsibility and conservation of natural resources and biodiversity				X		
Biomass shall not be produced on land with high biodiversity value or high carbon stock and not from peat land (according to Article 17.3 of the Directive 2009/28/EC and the German BioSt-NachV). HCV areas shall be protected.						X
The information referred to in the first subparagraph shall include in particular information on compliance with the sustainability criteria set out in Article 17(2) to (5), appropriate and relevant information on measures taken for soil, water and air protection, the restoration of degraded land, the avoidance of excessive water consumption in areas where water is scarce and appropriate and relevant information concerning measures taken in order to take into account the issues referred to in the second subparagraph of Article 17(7). Note from Communication on practical implementation of the EU biofuels/bioliquids sustainability scheme: The criterion related to agricultural and environmental requirements and standards for EU farmers applies only to biofuels/bioliquids produced from raw materials originating in the EU. Unlike the other criteria, verification of compliance for this criterion is not addressed in the Directive. Member States can be expected to rely on their existing control systems for ensuring that farmers fulfill these requirements.			X			
Forest management shall conserve biological diversity and its associated values, water resources, soils, and unique and fragile ecosystems and landscapes, and, by so doing, maintain the ecological functions and the integrity of the forest.					X	
Biomass shall be produced in an environmentally responsible way. This includes the protection of soil, water and air and the application of Good Agricultural Practices						X

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Impact Assessment						
Participating Operators shall identify the conservation value(s) within the area of a potential or existing operation during the screening exercise of the RSB impact assessment process (Principle 2).	X					
To support effective management planning, program participant assesses vegetation cover types and wildlife habitats on enrolled acres and associated incidental areas and, where credible data are available, across the landscape		X				
Assessment of environmental impacts shall be completed—appropriate to the scale, intensity of forest management and the uniqueness of the affected resources—and adequately integrated into management systems					X	
Environmental and Social Management Plan						
In accordance with the results of the impact assessment process, Participating Operators shall implement practices through the Environmental and Social Management Plan that maintain ecosystem functions and services both inside and outside the operational site, which are directly affected by biofuel operations.	X					
No Grasslands with High Biodiversity						
Biomass is not produced on grassland with high biodiversity						X
No High Conservation Value Areas to be Used						
Conservation values of local, regional or global importance within the potential or existing area of operation shall be maintained or enhanced.	X					
The status of rare, threatened or endangered species and high conservation value habitats, if any, that exist in the plantation or that could be affected by plantation or mill management, shall be identified and their conservation taken into account in management plans and operations.				X		
Forest conversion to plantations or non-forest land uses shall not occur, except in circumstances where conversion does not occur on high conservation value areas					X	

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"No-go Areas" shall not be used after Jan 2009	RSB	CSBP	EU RED	RSPO	FSC	ISCC
Areas identified as 'no-go areas' shall not be used for biofuel operations after the 1st of January 2009, unless feedstock production or processing operations are legally authorised as part of the conservation management for the area concerned.	X					
Buffer Zones						
Biofuel operations shall protect, restore or create buffer zones	X					
Ecological Corridors						
Ecological corridors shall be protected, restored or created to minimize fragmentation of habitats	X					
Invasive Species						
Biofuel operations shall prevent invasive species from invading areas outside the operation site	X					
The use of exotic species shall be carefully controlled and actively monitored to avoid adverse ecological impacts.					X	
Rare, Threatened and Endangered Species						
Rare, threatened and endangered species and communities shall include species listed as endangered or threatened by the US Endangered Species Act; species and communities considered critically imperiled, imperiled, or vulnerable by NatureServe and Natural Heritage programs; and important wildlife species and habitats identified in regional, state, or national conservation plans (e.g., state wildlife action plans, conservation organization eco-regional conservation plans).		X				
The status of rare, threatened or endangered species and high conservation value habitats, if any, that exist in the plantation or that could be affected by plantation or mill management, shall be identified and their conservation taken into account in management plans and operations.				X		
Safeguards shall exist which protect rare, threatened and endangered species and their habitats (e.g., nesting and feeding areas). Conservation zones and protection areas shall be established, appropriate to the scale and intensity of forest management and the uniqueness of the affected resources. Inappropriate hunting, fishing, trapping and collecting shall be controlled.					X	