

The Roundtable on Sustainable Biofuels

Ensuring that biofuels deliver on their promise of sustainability



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COMPETE Workshop – Bioenergy for Sustainable Development in Africa

Brussels – 24-25 November 2009

Sébastien Haye - EPFL

What biofuels are expected to deliver ...



Courtesy of SNV Vietnam

**Local Development
&
Land restoration**



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Climate Change Mitigation

Energy Security



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What biofuels might also cause ...

Increased deforestation and loss of ecosystems



Increased GHG emissions



Increased conflicts over land and resources



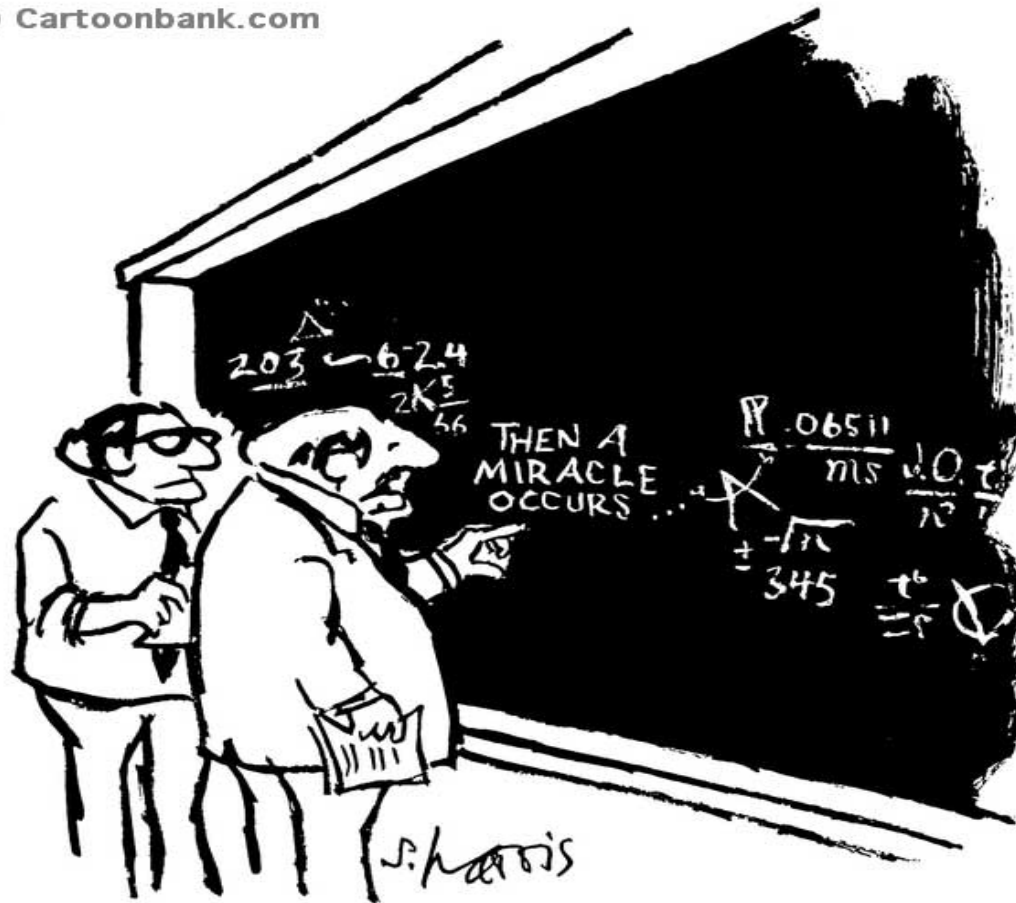
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So what should be done?

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"I think you should be more explicit here in step two."



The Roundtable on Sustainable Biofuels

The RSB is an international multi-stakeholder initiative developing a sustainability certification program for biofuels production. The RSB standard is ...

- **generic** to all crops,
- **adaptable** to new information,
- **truly multi-stakeholder;**

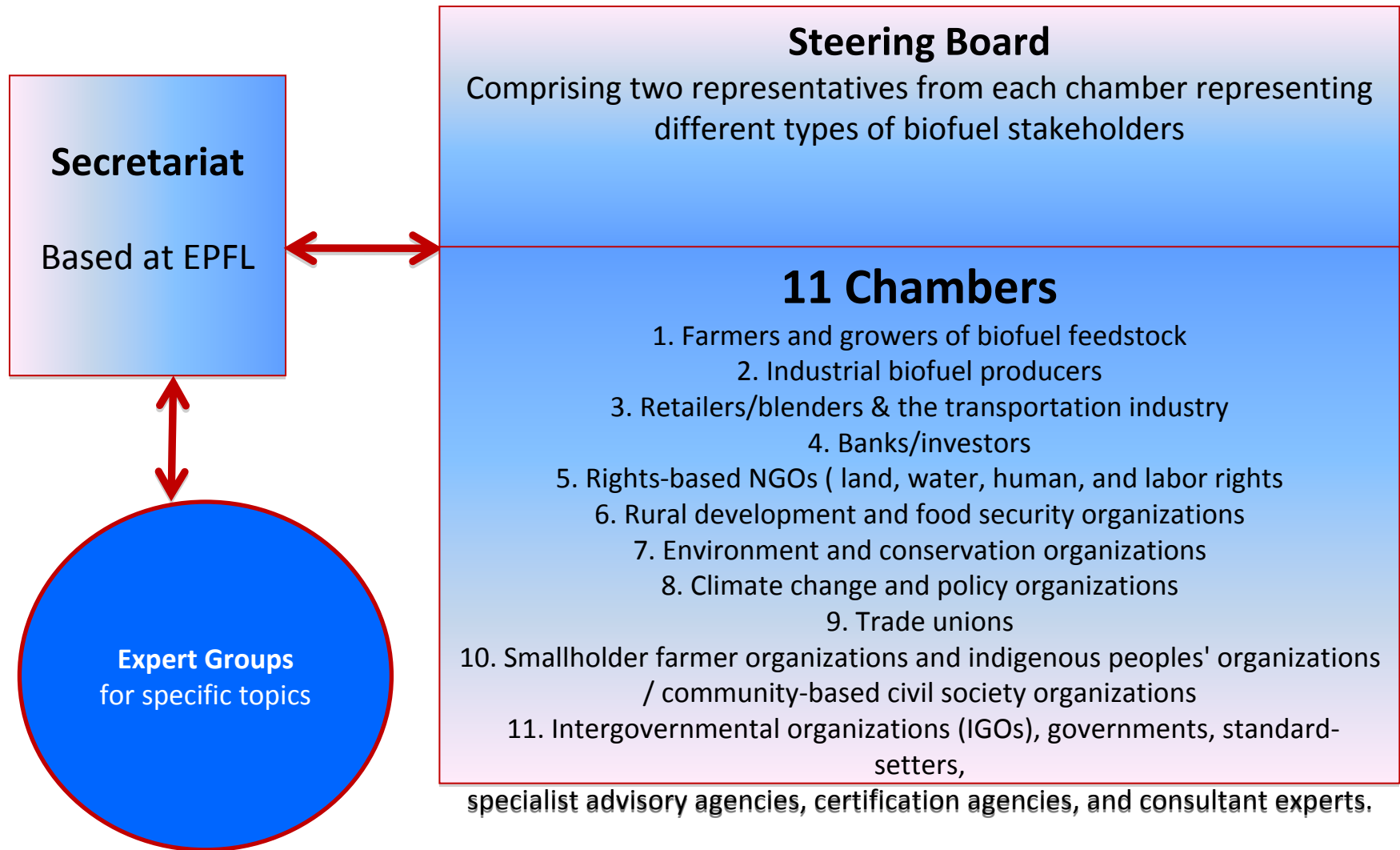
... and includes ...

- **environmental criteria**
- **social criteria**



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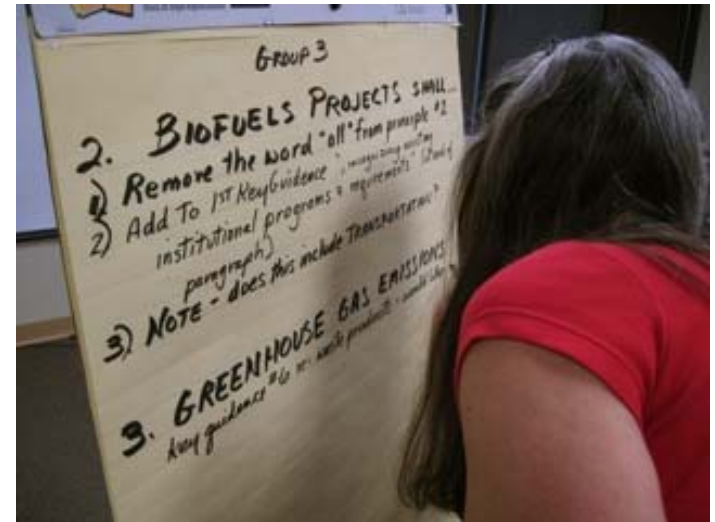
RSB Governance





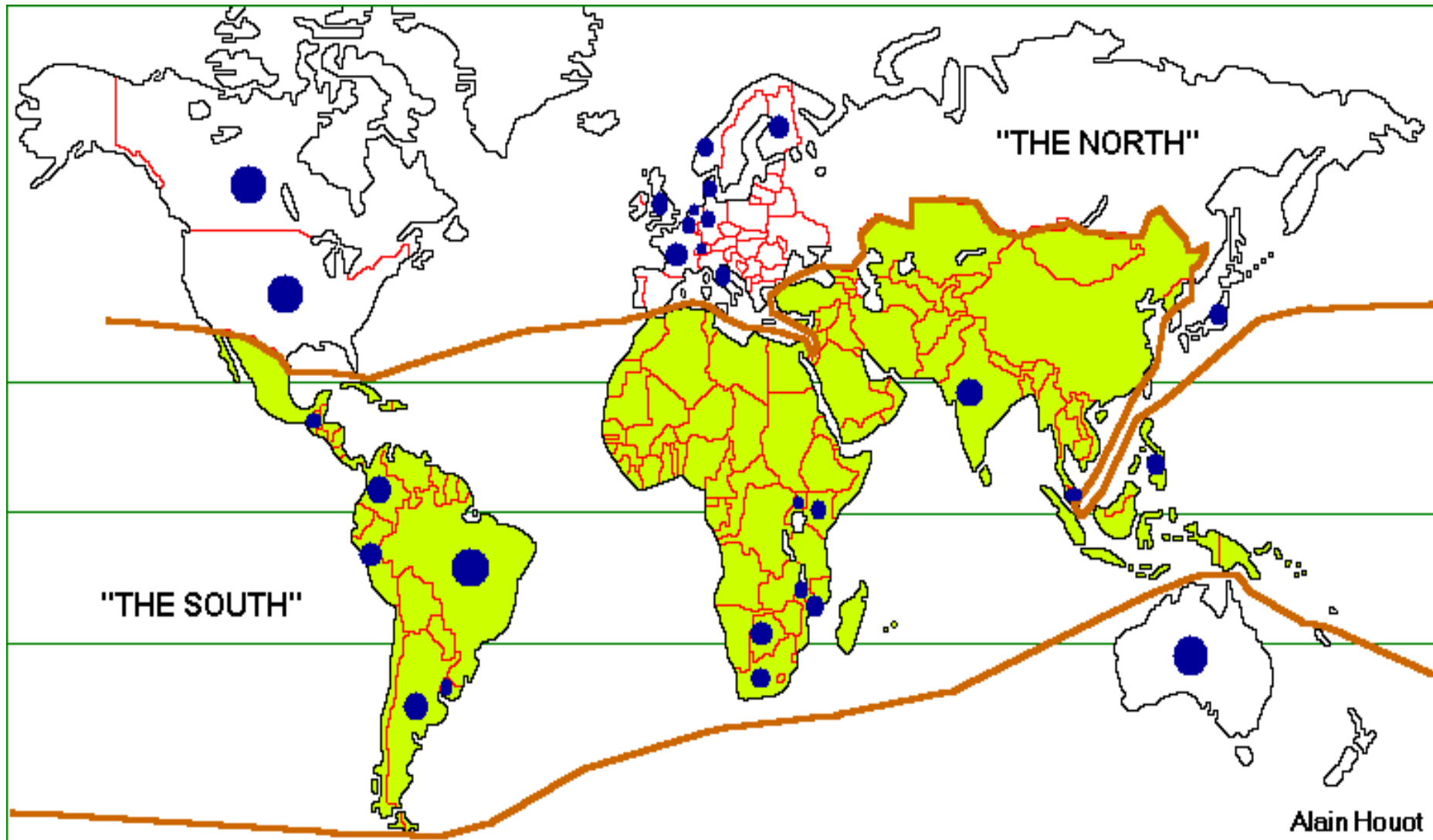
Multi-Stakeholder Approach

- **Working group tele-conferences to develop Version Zero** (published August 2008).
- **15 in-person stakeholder meetings held between Sept 2008 and March 2009 throughout the world to discuss Version Zero:**
Brazil (3), Mali, Mozambique, Belgium, Kenya, Dominican Republic, United States (4), Colombia, Argentina, Malaysia
- **Nearly 900 participants discussed Version Zero.** Reports from all meetings and all comments received are available on our website.



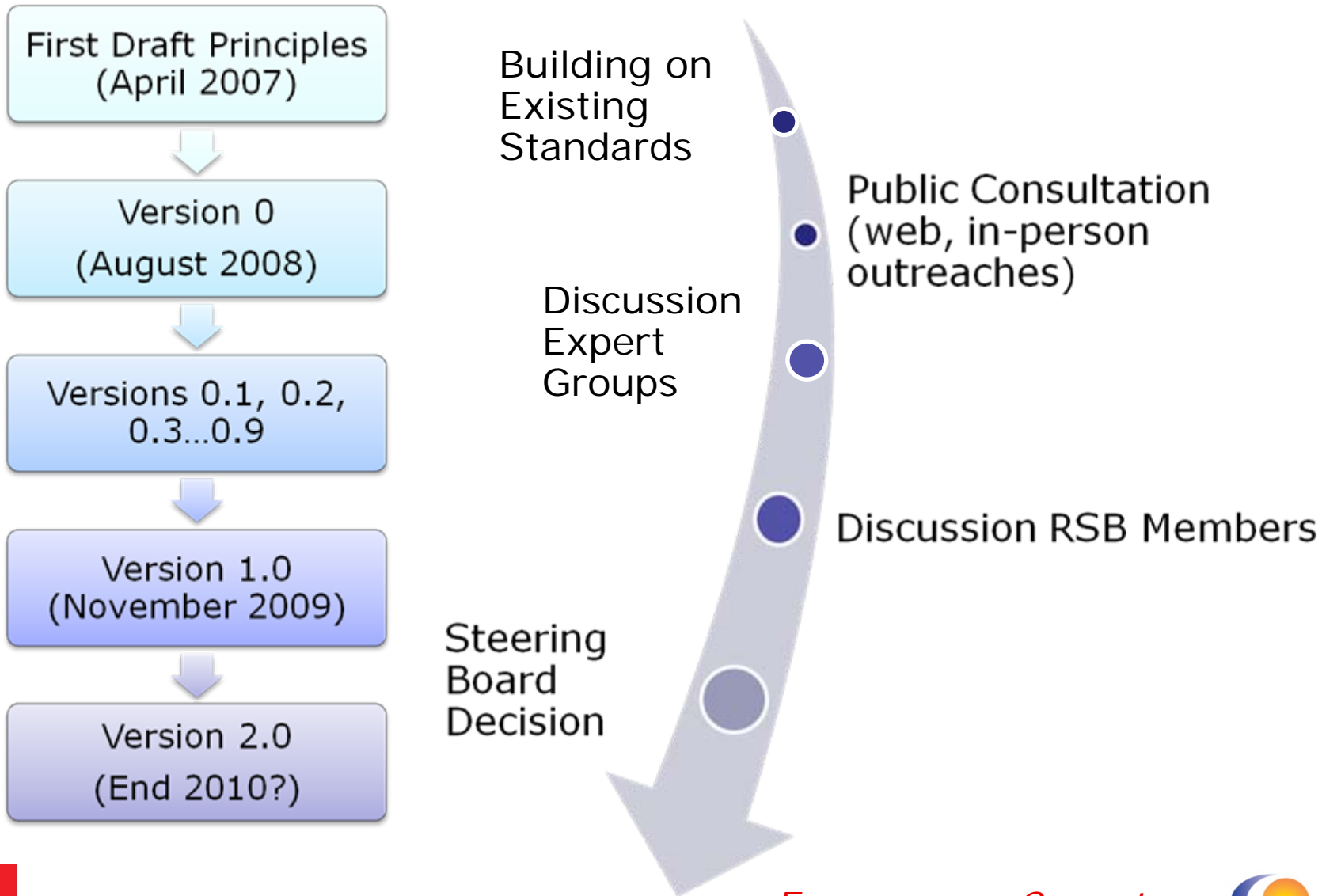
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A global discussion: RSB members



Alain Houot

The Decision Process

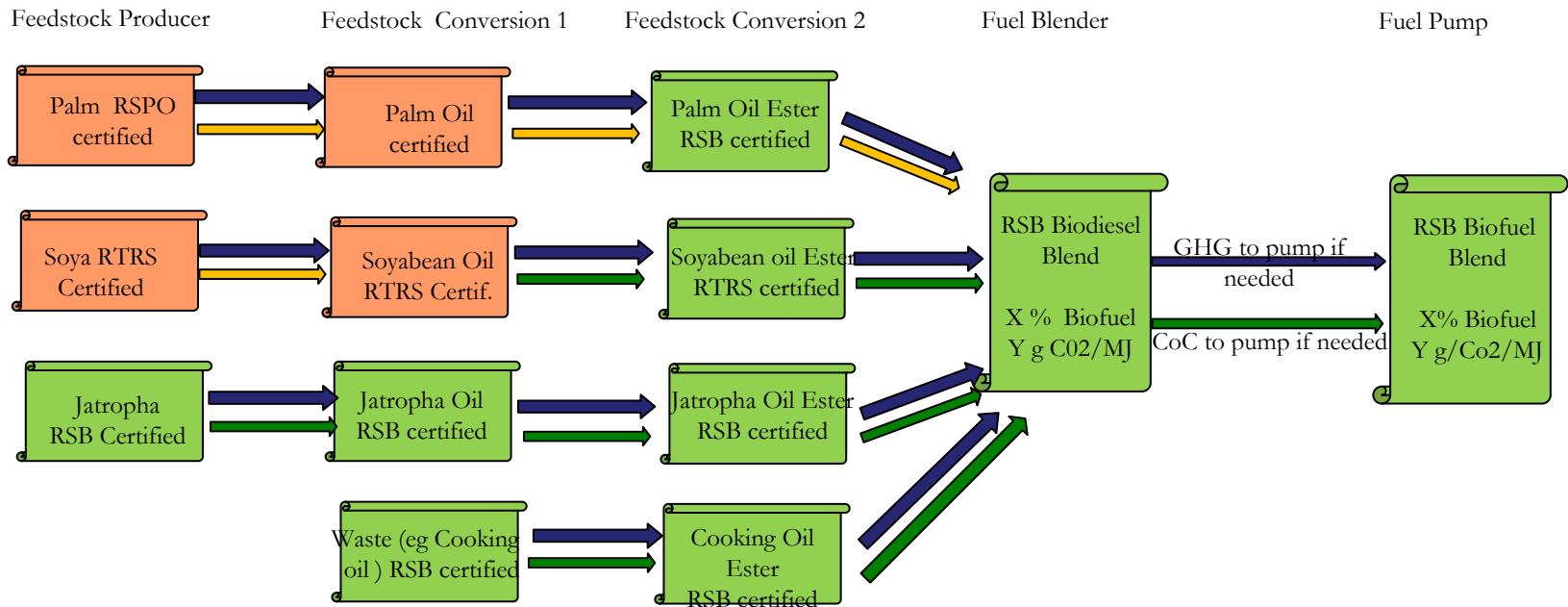
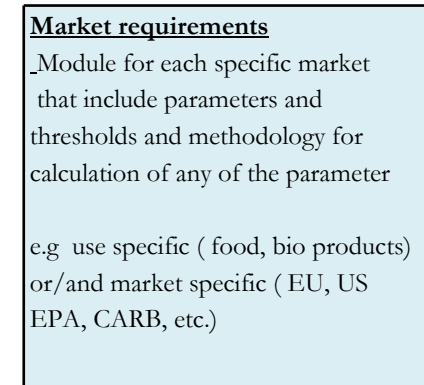
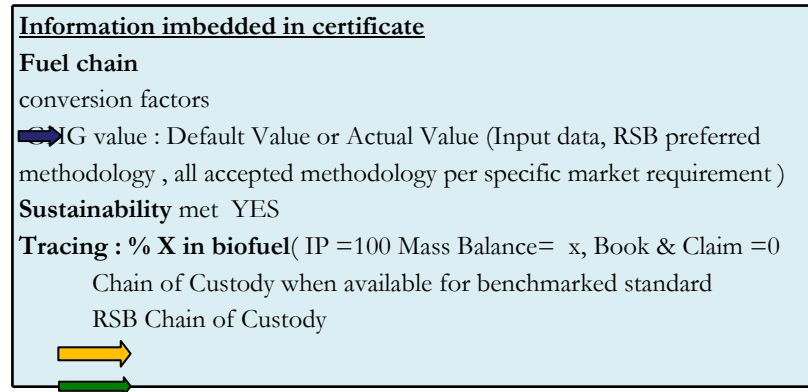
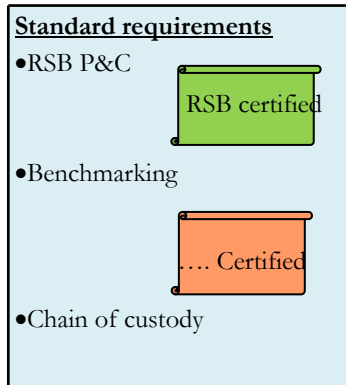




Version 1.0 - RSB Standard

1 – Legality (national laws and relevant international treaties)
2 – Planning, monitoring, and continuous improvement (through transparent and consultative ESIA, economic viability)
3 – GHG significantly better over lifecycle than fossil fuel
4 – Human and Labor rights (protect workers' rights)
5 – Rural and Social Development (focus regions of poverty)
6 – Local Food Security (only direct impacts)
7 – Conservation (conserve and protect high conservation values)
Conserve and protect Soil (P 8), Water (P 9), Air (P 10)
11 – Management of Technology, Inputs and Waste – (esp. biotech) should be used responsibly and transparently,.
12 – Land Rights (respect land rights and land use rights)

Possible example RSB Biodiesel Certificates



RSB in Africa

- Organisation of **regional consultation outreaches** in **Bamako, Nairobi and Johannesburg** -> inclusion of specific regional issues in the RSB standards.
- Participation in 2 consortium under **EU Framework Programs 6 and 7**, both with regards to **sustainability of biofuels in Africa** and the relevancy of sustainability standards and regulation in that region.
- Consultation of **experts from Africa** on various topics: **Land rights, food security, invasive species**-> inputs for the RSB discussions and decisions.
- Pilot projects to be established in Africa in 2010.

Opportunities for Africa

- Growing concerns about sustainability issues: water depletion, food security, invasive species -> **Use of the RSB Standard to set national/regional regulation policies** (Domestic Production and Use).
- African stakeholders (or foreign companies operating in Africa) to seek **RSB certification to access EU or US markets.**
- **Adaptation of the RSB standard** for specific feedstock (e.g. jatropha) or regions.
- **Today, RSB members from Uganda, Kenya, Botswana, RSA, Tanzania and Malawi: More members from Africa are needed!**

Contact



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<http://www.rsb.org>