Renewables Obligation: Recognised Voluntary Schemes

EC approved voluntary schemes

1.1. On 19th July 2011, the EC approved seven voluntary schemes. A summary of each is provided in the table below. For more detailed information, please refer to the EC Transparency Platform[1].

1.2. If the EC approve any further schemes, these will be announced via the EC Transparency Platform.

Scheme Name	Version Submission Date	Scheme Scope			Sustainability Compliance			
		Feedstock Scope	Geographical Scope	Chain of custody	GHG Criteria	Land Criteria	Mass Balance	Audit Quality
Abengoa RED Bioenergy Sustainability Assurance (RBSA) Scheme	Version as submitted to EC 08 April 2011	Multi-Feedstocks	All Geographical Regions	Whole supply chain	Actual or default	Yes	Yes	Yes
Biomass Biofuels voluntary scheme (2BSvs)	Version as submitted to EC on 11 May 2011	Multi-Feedstocks	All Geographical Regions	Whole supply chain	Default Only	Yes[2]	Yes	Yes
Bonsucro EU Certification Scheme	Version as submitted to EC on 11 March 2011	Sugar cane (for the production of bioethanol)	All Geographical Regions	Whole supply chain	Default Only	Yes[2]	Yes	Yes
Brazilian Bioethanol verification programme	Version as submitted to EC 31 January 2011	Sugarcane feedstock only (for the production of bioethanol)	Brazil	Whole supply chain	Default only	Yes	Yes	Yes
International Sustainability & Carbon Certification (ISCC) scheme	Version as submitted to EC 18 March 2011	Multi-Feedstocks	All Geographical Regions	Whole supply chain	Actual or default	Yes	Yes	Yes
Round Table on Responsible Soy Version 2.0 with EU RED Requirements	Version as submitted to EC on 11 May 2011	Soy	Feedstocks cultivated outside the European Union	Whole supply chain	Actual or default	Yes	Yes	Yes
Roundtable on	Version as	Multi-Feedstocks	All Geographical	Whole supply	Actual or default	Yes	Yes	Yes

[1] http://ec.europa.eu/energy/renewables/transparency_platform/transparency_platform_en.htm
[2] With the exception of Article 17(3)(c), which is currently not yet transposed into the ROO.

Sustainable Biofuels (RSB) EU RED certification system	submitted to EC 10 May 2011		Regions	chain				
Ensus Voluntary Scheme	Version as submitted to EC on 21 November 2011	Feed wheat (for the production of bioethanol)	Primarily UK feedstock, but to be applicable to feedstock from other EU Member States if they can provide wheat under an appropriate EC recognised voluntary scheme	From farm up to local Ensus 1 biofuel storage	Actual or default	Yes	Yes	Yes
Red Tractor Farm Assurance Combinable Crops & Sugar Beet Scheme (Red Tractor)	Version as submitted to EC 04 April 2012	Cereals, Oilseeds and Sugar Beet	United Kingdom	Farm to first gathering point only	No[3]	Yes	Yes	Yes
Scottish Quality Farm Assured Combinable Crops (SQC) scheme	Version as submitted to EC 27 March 2012	Winter wheat, Maize, Oil Seed Rape	North of Great Britain (covering an area from Burham, Northumberland and Cumbria in England, the whole of the Scottish mainland, the Western Isles, Orkney and Shetland)	Production of feedstock up to the first point of delivery	No[3]	Yes	Yes	Yes
REDcert	Version as submitted to EC 21 February 2012	Multi-Feedstocks	EU and selected countries	Whole supply chain	Actual or default	Yes	Yes	Yes
NTA 8080 Certification Scheme (NTA 8080)	Version as submitted to EC 16 March 2012	Multi-Feedstocks	All Geographical Regions	Whole supply chain	Actual or default	Yes[2]	Yes	Yes
Roundtable on Sustainable Palm Oil (RSPO-RED)	Version as submitted to EC 10 February 2012	Palm Oil	All Geographical Regions	Whole supply chain	Default only[4]	Yes	Yes	Yes

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[3] These schemes contain information on whether a RED-compliant land-use change has occurred, which needs to be taken into account in the GHG calculation. They also provide information on location which can be used to determine NUTS2 region & hence whether the default can be reported

[4] Use of actual greenhouse gas values to calculate greenhouse gas savings according to the EU-RED methodology option is currently on hold, until Assessment RSPO-RED EC approved calculation tool(s) are available.

UK recognised voluntary schemes

1.1. These schemes in the below table where assessed by the RTFO Administrator against the land criteria. These schemes are recognised by Ofgem as evidence of compliance with the RO land criteria.

1.2. Note that all schemes included in the below table pass the audit quality benchmark as developed by the RTFO Administrator.

1.3. More recent versions of Bonsucro, RSB and RTRS have been benchmarked by the EC and are included in the above table.

1.4. For more information on the schemes and to see why they do not meet certain aspects of the criteria please referring the benchmarking results published by the RTFO Administrator.

Scheme Name	Benchmarked Version	Land Criteria						
		Conservation of primary forest and other wooded land	Conservation of protected areas	Conservation of highly biodiverse grasslands[5]	Conservation of wetlands	Conservation of continuously forested areas	Conservation of "10% to 30%" forested areas	Conservation of peatlands
Bonsucro (foremerly Better Sugar Cane)	July 2010 (Production Standard) (including criteria 6)	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Forest Stewardship Council	2002	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	Yes	No
Genesis Quality Assurance	2008-09	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	No
Linking Environment and Farming Marque (LEAF)	October 2008 (Version 8)	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
RedTractor (formerly Assured Combinable Crops Standard)	July 2008	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	No
Roundtable on Sustainable Biofuels (RSB)	June 2010 (Standard for EU Market Access)	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Roundtable on Sustainable Palm (RSPO)	October 2007	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	No
Round Table on Responsible Soy (RTRS)	June 2009 (Draft - Field Testing Version)	No	No	Yes	No	No	No	No
Sustainable Agriculture Network/ Rainforest Alliance (SAN/RA)	April 2009 (including addendum)	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	No

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[5] This aspect of the criteria is yet to be transposed into the ROO.