

BIOMETHANE, RED III AND SUSTAINABILITY CERTIFICATION. BUREAU VERITAS EXPERIENCE



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SUSTAINABILITY IN BV

Sustainable production

ISO 14001
ISO 50001
ISO 46001



Climate Change

MRV
ISO 14064
Carbon Footprint



Sustainable supply chains

ISCC
RedCert
2BSvs
KZRINiG
EUDR



Corporate Social Responsibility

SMETA
ASR
CSRD



CERTIFICATION OBLIGATION

It is in the interests of the Union to encourage the development of **voluntary international or national schemes** that set standards for the production of sustainable biofuels, bioliquids and biomass fuels and that certify that the production of biofuels, bioliquids and biomass fuels meets those standards.

To facilitate the functioning of the internal market, evidence regarding the sustainability and greenhouse gas emissions criteria for biofuels, bioliquids and biomass fuels that have been obtained in accordance with a scheme that has been recognised by the Commission should be accepted in all Member States.

Member States should contribute towards **ensuring the correct implementation of the certification principles of voluntary schemes by supervising the operation of certification bodies** that are accredited by the national accreditation body and by informing the voluntary schemes about relevant observations.

RED II/III SUSTAINABILITY CRITERIA

Article 29: Sustainability and greenhouse gas emissions saving criteria for biofuels, bioliquids and biomass fuels

- Paragraph (1): Scope and exemptions for biofuels, bioliquids and biomass fuels
- Paragraph (2) – (5): “land-based” criteria for the production of agricultural biomass
- Paragraph (6) + (7): “land-based” criteria for the production of forest biomass
- Paragraph (10): GHG mitigation requirements
- Paragraph (11): Energy efficiency requirements for electricity producers

Article 30: Verification of compliance with the sustainability and greenhouse gas emissions saving criteria

- Paragraph (1): Member States shall require economic operators to show that the sustainability and greenhouse gas emissions saving criteria laid down in Article 29(2) to (7) and (10) have been fulfilled. For those purposes, they shall require economic operators to **use a mass balance system**

Article 31: Calculation of the greenhouse gas impact of biofuels, bioliquids and biomass fuels

- Paragraph (1): Greenhouse gas emissions saving from the use of biofuel, bioliquids and biomass fuels shall be calculated with the use of default values (if possible) or actual calculations

ANNEX VI: Rules for calculating the greenhouse gas impact of biomass fuels and their fossil fuel comparators

DELEGATED AND IMPLEMENTIC ACTS: Operational guidance Sustainability criteria forest biomass, low iLUC risk certification, RCF and RFNBO

RED III SUSTAINABILITY CRITERIA

Voluntary schemes recognized by European Commission [DIRECTIVE \(EU\) 2023/2413 OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL \(EU\) 2023/2413](#).

- 2BSvs
- AACs
- Better Biomass
- Bonsucro EU
- ISCC EU (транспортне біопаливо)
- CertifHy
- KZR INiG (транспортне біопаливо, біомаса для обігріву та охолодження)
- PEFC
- REDcert (транспортне біопаливо)
- Red Tractor
- RSB EU RED (транспортне біопаливо, біомаса для обігріву та охолодження)
- RTRS EU RED
- SQC
- SBP
- TASCC
- UFAS
- SURE (біомаса для обігріву та охолодження)
- SSAP-RED



[Voluntary schemes](#)

Voluntary schemes

While the schemes are run privately, the Commission can recognise them as compliant with the rules included in the Renewable Energy Directive.

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Voluntary schemes under the Renewable Energy Directive

Recognition criteria

Approved voluntary schemes and national certification schemes

Documents

Related links

Voluntary schemes and national certification schemes of EU countries help to ensure that biofuels, bioliquids and biomass fuels as well as renewable hydrogen and its derivatives (renewable fuels of non-biological origin or RFNBOs), and recycled carbon fuels (RCF) are sustainably produced by verifying that they comply with the [EU sustainability criteria](#), as well as the relevant methodologies for RFNBOs and RCF.

As such, the schemes check that

- production of feedstock used for the production of biofuels, bioliquids and biomass fuels does not take place on land with high biodiversity and that land with a high amount of carbon has not been converted for such feedstock production
- electricity used for the production of renewable hydrogen is of renewable origin
- production of renewable fuels and gases leads to sufficient greenhouse gas emissions savings

Voluntary schemes under the Renewable Energy Directive

The EU sustainability criteria cover the production of fuels and energy from agricultural as well as forest biomass and organic waste. Detailed rules describing the certification process are enshrined in the Implementing Regulation on sustainability certification. The sustainability framework for bioenergy has been complemented by rules ensuring the sustainability of renewable hydrogen and its derivatives. The European Commission adopted delegated acts including criteria for the sourcing of renewable electricity that is used for the production of RFNBOs as well as a methodology for determining emission savings of RFNBOs and RCF.

Interested voluntary schemes may apply for recognition by the Commission under the sustainability framework. The Commission will assess the applications by applying the following [assessment protocol](#). In case schemes are interested to certify also RFNBOs and RCF an [additional template](#) will be used.

RED III DIRECTIVE (EU) 2023/2413

- Approved by EC in **October 2023**
- The directive raises the overall renewable energy target from 32% to at least 42.5% by 2030
- **Buildings:** 49% renewable energy by 2030
 - **Industry is included for the 1st time:** 1,6% annual growth for the usage of renewable energy, as well as 42% renewable hydrogen in total hydrogen consumption by industry up to 2030 and 60% up to 2035
 - **Transport:** a minimum of 14,5% of energy consumption in the transport sector must come from renewable sources by 2030 or 29% share of renewable energy consumption, including 5,5% for advanced biofuels and RFNBO, minimum 1% for RFNBO.
 - **Strengthen sustainability criteria** (installations producing electricity, heating and cooling with a total rated thermal input equal to or exceeding 7,5 MW – **solid biomass fuels**, above 200 m³ methane equivalent/h measured at standard conditions of temperature and pressure, namely 0 °C and 1 bar atmospheric pressure).
- Target for EU – annual production of sustainable biomethane **35 bln m³ up to 2020**
- **Cascading** use of biomass. That principle aims to achieve the resource efficiency of biomass use by prioritising, wherever possible, the material use of biomass over its energy use
- Member States shall promote **voluntary labelling schemes** for industrial products that are claimed to be produced with renewable energy and renewable fuels of non-biological origin. Such voluntary labelling schemes shall indicate the percentage of renewable energy used or renewable fuels of non-biological origin used in the raw material acquisition and pre-processing, manufacturing and distribution stage calculated per defined methodology
- **Voluntary or national schemes** have been recognised by the Commission through an implementing act as giving evidence or providing accurate data regarding compliance with sustainability and greenhouse gas emissions saving criteria
- New **GHG reduction targets** for electricity, heating and cooling
- The **Union database** to be set up by the Commission aims at enabling the tracing of liquid and **gaseous renewable fuels and recycled carbon fuels**. The scope of the database should be extended from transport to all other end-use sectors in which such fuels are consumed.



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HELPFUL LINKS



ISCC EU Voluntary Scheme



KZR INiG Voluntary Scheme



REDcert EU Voluntary Scheme



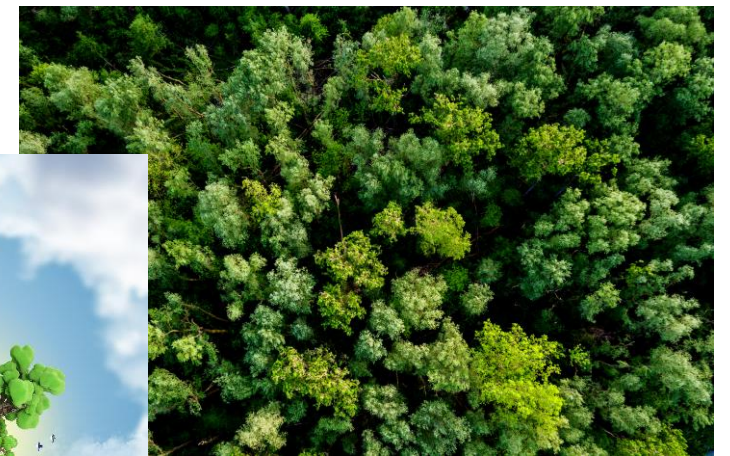
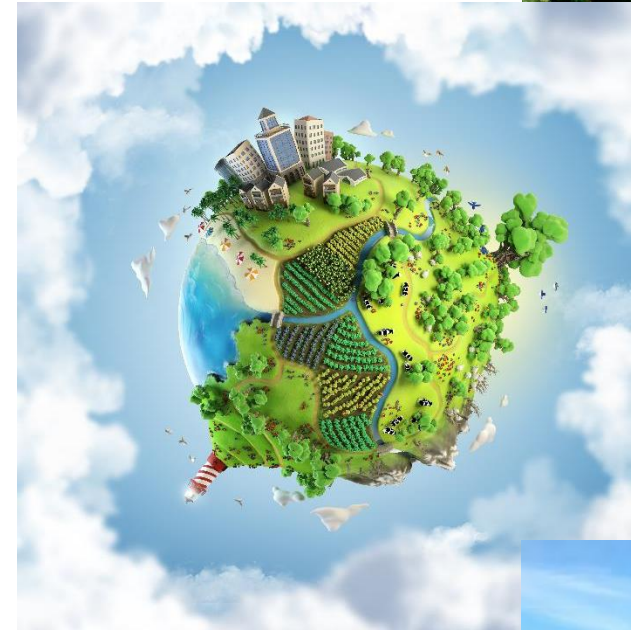
SURE Voluntary Scheme



2BSvs Voluntary Scheme



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OVERVIEW OF THE REGISTRATION AND CERTIFICATION PROCESS



- All CBs are provided on the [website](#)
- To define the cost of the certification you would have to fill in Application providing all necessary information
- After signing contract with CB you will have to get registered within the system

- Please get registered [here](#)
- You need to get registered and obtain Reg number BEFORE the audit
- During registration system user obtains login and password to the client section as well as checklists needed to be prepared for the audit

- Audit takes usually from 1 to 7 days (depending on the scopes)
- During audit CB checks voluntary scheme requirements implementation
- Audit is conducted per relevant checklist and per system documents requirements

- After audit system user has up to 40 calendar days to close NCRs if they were defined during the audit
- Certificate is issued within 60 days from the last audit date

- After certificate is issued by CB it gets published [here](#)

- With the certificate CB provides system with the documents package (reports, GHG calculations, relevant templates for UDB)

SUPPLY CHAIN ELEMENTS THAT NEED TO BE CERTIFIED

First gathering point (FGP) – economic operators that receive sustainable biomass or agricultural residues directly from farmers. Signs contract with farmers.

Collecting point for waste/residues – economic operators that collect waste/residues at the points of origin. Sign contracts with the points of origin.

Traders – economic operators that trade sustainable material/product.

Conversion units – economic operators that change physical/chemical properties of the materials. Example: oil mills, sugar plants, biodiesel plants, bioethanol plants, biogas or biomethane plants etc



SIMPLIFIED SUPPLY CHAIN STRUCTURE

AGRICULTURAL/FORESTRY FEEDSTOCKS AND AGRICULTURAL/FORESTRY CROP RESIDUES - CERTIFICATION STARTS WITH FIRST GATHERING POINT



Farms/ Plantation/Forests

Agricultural feedstocks /Crop residues
Forestry feedstocks / Forestry residues



First Gathering Points



Processing Unit



Trader/Storage

WASTE AND PROCESSING RESIDUES - CERTIFICATION STARTS WITH COLLECTING POINT



Points of Origin

Waste / Processing residue
Renewable non-bio feedstocks



Collecting Points



Processing Unit



Trader/Storage



CERTIFICATION EXAMPLES – FIRST GATHERING POINT

AGRICULTURAL AND FOREST BIOMASS AND RESIDUES - CERTIFICATION STARTS WITH FIRST GATHERING POINT



.....
Further elements of supply chain – processing and distribution

Farms/ Plantation/Forests

Agricultural feedstocks /Crop residues
Forestry feedstocks / Forestry residues

First Gathering Point / Central Office

- Audit once a year (in special cases more often)
- Only on-site audits
- Risk evaluation – 3 levels (Regular/Medium/High)
- Sampling approach for associated farms and warehouses

$s = r \times \sqrt{n}$ (r – risk level, n - number of units)

ISCC/REDcert/SURE: result always rounded up to the whole number - For example, by this rule the value 23.5 gets rounded to 24 as well as 23.4 gets rounded to 2 (some exception for ISCC)

KZR INiG: result rounded half up to the whole number - For example, by this rule the value 23.5 gets rounded to 24 but 23.4 gets rounded to 23



CERTIFICATION EXAMPLES – COLLECTING POINT

WASTE AND PROCESSING RESIDUES - CERTIFICATION STARTS WITH COLLECTING POINT



Further elements of supply chain – processing and distribution

Points of Origin

Waste / Processing residue
Renewable non-bio feedstocks

Collecting Point / Central Office

- Audit once a year (Additional Surveillance Audits required after first certification)
- Only on-site audits
- Risk evaluation – 3 levels (Regular/Medium/High)
- Sampling approach for associated warehouses and points of origin for **wastes generating more than 5 t per month (ISCC, REDcert, SURE) or more than 1 ton per month (KZR INiG)**

$$s = r \times \sqrt{n} \text{ (r – risk level, n - number of units)}$$

ISCC/REDcert/SURE: result always rounded up to the whole number - For example, by this rule the value 23.5 gets rounded to 24 as well as 23.4 gets rounded to 24 (some exception for ISCC)

KZR INiG: result rounded half up to the whole number - For example, by this rule the value 23.5 gets rounded to 24 but 23.4 gets rounded to 23



CERTIFICATION EXAMPLES – PROCESSING UNITS

FURTHER ELEMENTS – PROCESSING UNITS



For all elements of the supply chain after the first gathering point or collecting point the certification requirements are the same regardless of the kind of raw material that enters the supply chain.

- Audit once a year (in special cases more often)
- Only on-site audits
- Risk evaluation – 3 levels (Regular/Medium/High)
- Sampling approach for associated warehouses

$$s = r \times \sqrt{n} \quad (r - \text{risk level, } n - \text{numer of units})$$

ISCC/REDcert/SURE: result always rounded up to the whole number - For example, by this rule the value 23.5 gets rounded to 24 as well as 23.4 gets rounded to 2 (some exception for ISCC)

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SYSTEM REQUIREMENTS FOR THE CERTIFIED SYSTEM USERS WITHIN SUPPLY CHAIN

- Availability of the **management system** (roles and responsibilities, relevant procedures, internal procedures, relevant permits etc)
- **Traceability** (list of suppliers/recipients of the sustainable material/product, relevant contracts, supporting document evidence (invoices, specifications, delivery notes, sustainability declarations, PoS files etc)
- The **mass balance** system is the chain of custody option under which the sustainability characteristics (e.g. type of raw material, country of origin of the raw material, GHG value etc.) remain assigned to batches of material in the bookkeeping while the physical mixing of material with different sustainability characteristics and the mixing of sustainable and non-sustainable material is allowed.
 - For biogas plants mass balance shall include at least:
 - input registration
 - amount put to the fermenter
 - output of the product
 - Calculation of the **green house gas emissions** for the sustainable material/product

- [ISCC EU 201 System Basics \(iscc-system.org\)](https://iscc-system.org)
- [ISCC EU 203 Traceability and Chain of Custody \(iscc-system.org\)](https://iscc-system.org)
- [ISCC EU 204 Risk Management \(iscc-system.org\)](https://iscc-system.org)
- [ISCC EU 205 Greenhouse Gas Emissions \(iscc-system.org\)](https://iscc-system.org)



BV EXPERIENCE REGARDING FIRST BIOGAS/BIOMETHANE CERTIFICATIONS. RECOMMENDATIONS

. Producers:

- Find and appoint relevant person responsible for sustainability requirements implementation
- Pass relevant training
- Find out all about feedstocks that can be included within the scope of certification
- Calculate model GHG emissions for the different feedstocks

. CBs/auditors:

- Follow European legislation updates, local legislation, system documents
- Get acquainted with UDB
- Be focused and responsible, at the end of the day all comes to the auditor's decision. You are responsible for that.

. All:

- Constant learning
- Follow the rules
- Lobby Ukrainian interests at the international arena
- Team work for the common goal



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