

Council on Sustainable Biomass Production

At a glance

This document provides an overview of the Council on Sustainable Biomass Production (CSBP).

CSBP is one of several standard systems referenced in Standards Map, <u>Standards Map</u>, the interactive web-based tool on private standards developed by the T4SD program of ITC.

What is CSBP

CSBP is a multi-stakeholder organization established in 2007 to develop comprehensive voluntary, science-based sustainability standards for the production of biomass and its conversion into biopower/biofuel. CSBP is a non-profit organization composed of representatives from academics, conservation organizations, government agencies, and private sector companies including growers of biomass feedstock and producers of bioenergy. This diverse group aims to generate a broad consensus on scientifically-based guidelines for sustainability to set the emerging biomass industry on a course of continuous improvement with full support from business, government, community organizations, and social and environmental interests.

The CSBP program evaluates the full lifecycle of biomass products which include best industry practices, greenhouse gas accounting, environmental impacts, and corporate social responsibility. Organizations that successfully achieve certification agree to annual third-party audits by CSBP-accredited auditors. The Draft Provisional Standard for Sustainable Production of Agricultural Biomass focuses specifically on the feedstock side of the full biomass production cycle. The full standard document will contain provisions regarding both responsibilities of growers and energy producers and will be released in June 2012.

CSBP initiative is funded through contributions from all members and federal agency grants from agencies such as the Natural Resource Conservation Service, US Department of Agriculture and Department of Energy. Staffing, facilitation and management of the CSBP to develop the provisional standard was provided by the Meridian institute and Heissenbuttel Natural Resource Consulting. The CSBP will become an independent not for profit organization in 2011

What products are covered by CSBP

The complete CSBP standards will cover the entire biomass process from biomass production (growth) to bioenergy production. Biomass production is limited to non-food sources including crop residues, dedicated fuel crops, and short rotation woody crops. Bioenergy production includes the conversion of biomass feedstock to bioenergy including biodiesel, bioethanol, and bioelectricity.

What are the key features of CSBP

- The main categories addressed by the CSBP standards are:
 - Climate change,
 - Biological diversity,
 - Water quality and quantity management,
 - Soil quality,
 - Socio-economic well-being,
 - Integrated resources management planning.
- Focuses on the full lifecycle impact analysis of bioenergy and biofuels.
- CSBP standards are aligned with other International Standards – the American Tree Farm System (ATFS), the Forest Stewardship Council (FSC), the Sustainable Forestry Initiative (SFI), and the Roundtable on Sustainable Biofuels (RSB).

CSBP: facts and figures

- In June 2011 CSBP's Board Chairman announced that CSBP is becoming an independent organization.
- The Draft Provisional Standard for Sustainable Production of Agricultural Biomass is being field tested and will start being implemented from 2012.
- The CSBP program is managed by a 15-member multi-stakeholder board comprised of three representatives each from the producer, environmental, consumer, socio-economic, and at-large categories

Support

 CSBP provides information to interested parties by publishing standards document, articles, reports and other documents in the resources section of the website (http://www.csbp.org/?q=node/2).

CSBP Contact Details

CSBP

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CSBP is currently operational in the following country and region.

Detailed maps highlighting countries where certification / verification is possible and countries where certified products / services are sold can be generated on ITC's Standards Map website.

1 country



NORTH AMERICA USA.

How to become certified

- Step 1: Participation in the CSBP is open to any individual grower, organization, company, academic institution, or agency involved in the production and conversion of biomass into bioenergy (biofuels or biopower). Interested parties should contact John Heissenbuttel.
- Step 2: When the final CSBP Standard is released, detailed enrollment procedures will be added for the certification program.