



# SUSTAINABILITY CERTIFICATION BIOFUELS

## *-THE WHITE PAPER-*

This guide sets out the basics of our sustainability certification for the biofuels supply chain to simplify and facilitate the certification process.

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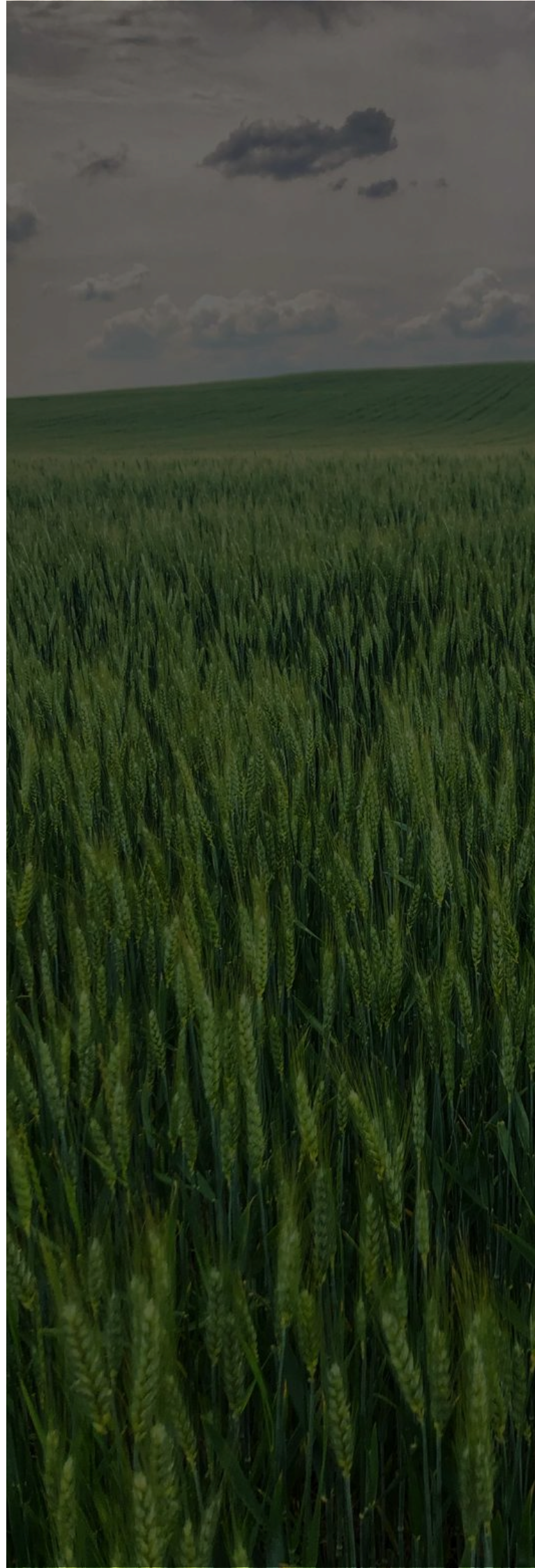
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# GLOSSARY

*This page lists all the definitions necessary for a good understanding of this document.*

## SELF-DECLARATION

The self-declaration is a document provided by the farmer/point of origin to the first gathering point. This document must be completed each year by each farmer/point of origin and is audited by the first gathering point. This document contains information regarding compliance with sustainability criteria and the type of GHG (greenhouse gas) methodology used.

## BIOFUEL

Liquid fuel from biomass used for energy purposes, produced mainly from vegetable oils.

## BIODIESEL

Made primarily from vegetable oils.

## BIOETHANOL

Made from sugar and grain crops.

## MASS BALANCE

The mass balance system aims to reduce the administrative burden of demonstrating compliance with sustainability and greenhouse gas emission reduction criteria by allowing the mixing of raw materials / fuels with different sustainability characteristics and allowing the sustainability characteristics to be flexibly reassigned to batches removed from such mixture. For more information, please refer to 2BS-PRO-02 §9.1.

## BIOMASS

In the field of energy production, biomass is the material of organic origin: plants (microalgae included), animal, bacterial or fungal (mushrooms), suitable for use as a source of energy.

## PoS - PROOF OF SUSTAINABILITY

The proof of sustainability is a declaration issued by an economic operator on the basis of a certificate that accompanies each batch of biofuel produced. This document provides essential information on the sustainability and greenhouse gas emission reduction criteria.

## SD - SUSTAINABILITY DECLARATION

A sustainability declaration accompanies each batch of raw material and/or intermediate product. This document makes it possible to identify all activities related to Greenhouse Gases throughout the chain. On the sustainability declaration, you will also find the ESCA ceiling to be applied depending on the scenario in which the farmer is located.

## CO-PROCESSING

Co-processing generally refers to an oil refining unit that processes biomass feedstocks together with fossil feedstocks and transforms them into final fuels. However, this methodology can also be applied to other cases of facilities processing bioliquids and fossil oil or in facilities co-processing wastes of biological and non-biological origin.

# 1 CERTIFICATION FUNDAMENTALS



# RED III

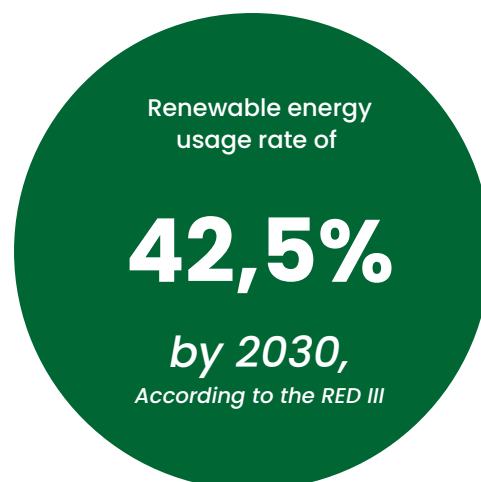
Our sustainability certification is based on the RED directive.  
Find out about the regulatory framework on this page.

## WHAT IS RED?

The Renewable Energy Directive (RED) aims to promote energy produced from renewable sources and thus facilitate the reduction of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions in European countries.

The RED also defines what is a sustainable and eligible raw material and a sustainable product.

In 2023, the Revised Renewable Energy Directive EU/2018/2001 (**RED III**) was published, with revised targets for renewable energy use. ➡



## THE PILLARS OF THE CERTIFICATION

### AXIS 1: SUSTAINABILITY OF LAND AND RAW MATERIALS

➡ Incoming raw materials must come from sustainable plots. They cannot come from land with high biodiversity potential (**heaths and subnatural forests have been added to this list under RED III**) or deforested land, for example.

➡ Waste and residues must respect the principles of the circular economy and meet the definition of waste established in the Directive.

### AXIS 2: GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSION

➡ With the aim of reducing greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, the marketed product (biofuel or biogas) must be more virtuous than its fossil reference.

## THE RED APPLICATION

The implementation of this directive is done through national schemes or voluntary schemes, such as 2BS.

These different reference systems aim to facilitate the implementation of the objectives of the directive by providing an additional framework for the certification of renewable energies and to guarantee their environmental sustainability.



# THE CERTIFICATION

## WHAT IS ITS PURPOSE?

*2BS has created a certification scheme that meets the RED III Directive.  
Discover below the 2BSvs certification's objectives*



### ENSURING THE PRODUCTION OF RENEWABLE ENERGY

Our role as a Voluntary Scheme recognised by the European Commission is to ensure that energy production is carried out in a virtuous and environmentally friendly manner.

Being able to track the traceability of the entire chain of biofuels, bioliquids and biogas is therefore essential.



### JUSTIFYING THE ALLOCATION OF STATE AID

The European Commission, through the RED, also seeks to ensure that the financial aid granted by Member States operates responsibly and is allocated to environmentally friendly sites.

Thus, our sustainability certification also meets this need.



### DECODING REGULATORY GUIDELINES

2BSvs is a Voluntary Scheme based in France. In partnership with experts in the biofuel sector, we have adapted our specifications to agricultural practices.

It not only meets regulatory requirements, but also the reality on the ground.

# THE CERTIFICATION 2BSvs

*This page lists all the practical information concerning 2BSvs certification.*

## HOW TO GET CERTIFIED AS “SUSTAINABLE”?

All you need to do is contact us. Once you have signed a contract with the Voluntary Scheme and a recognised Certification Body, you can schedule the initial audit of the site.

Please, note: the preparation of the certification process can take up to 6 months, considering the time to collect the documentation and the production data from the site. However, once certified, the 2BS certification is valid for 5 years, provided that audits are carried out every year.

## 2BS SUSTAINABILITY CERTIFICATION

The 2BS Association has developed the 2BSvs certification, based on the RED III Directive. This certification is applicable to all organizations in the production and distribution chain of biofuels and bioliquids worldwide that want to sell their products within the European Union.

The 2BS certification is valid in all European countries. 2BS offers sustainability certification and works with certification bodies referenced and trained by our team to carry out accreditation audits. [Discover the list of our referenced certification bodies.](#)

## RECOGNIZED BY THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION

The 2BSvs specifications complies with the Renewable Energy Directive (RED III). Our sustainability certification is recognized by the European Commission and allows the marketing of products under the "sustainable" designation.

The 2BS certificate is equivalent and enforceable against all Voluntary Schemes recognised by the European Commission.

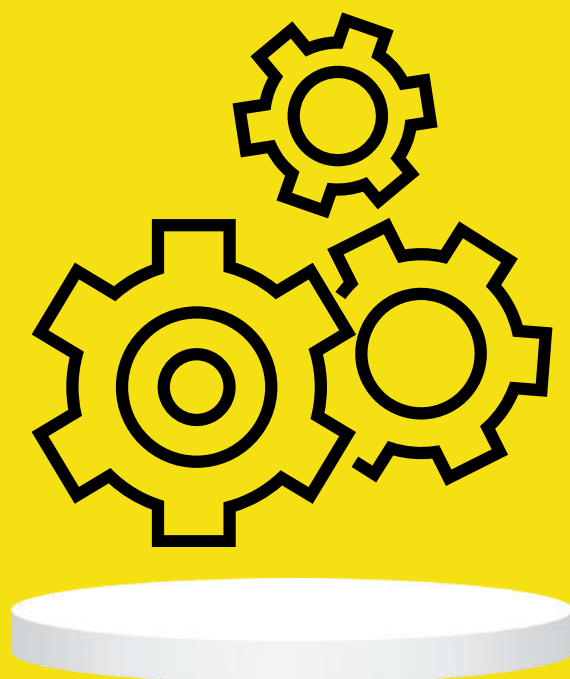
## CERTIFICATION SCOPE

The 2BS sustainability certification system covers:

- from biomass production and input collection to transformation into intermediate product, and/or
- the production of biofuels, bioliquids and fuels from biomass, and/or
- fuels produced by co-processing (refer to our procedure 2BS-PRO-06).

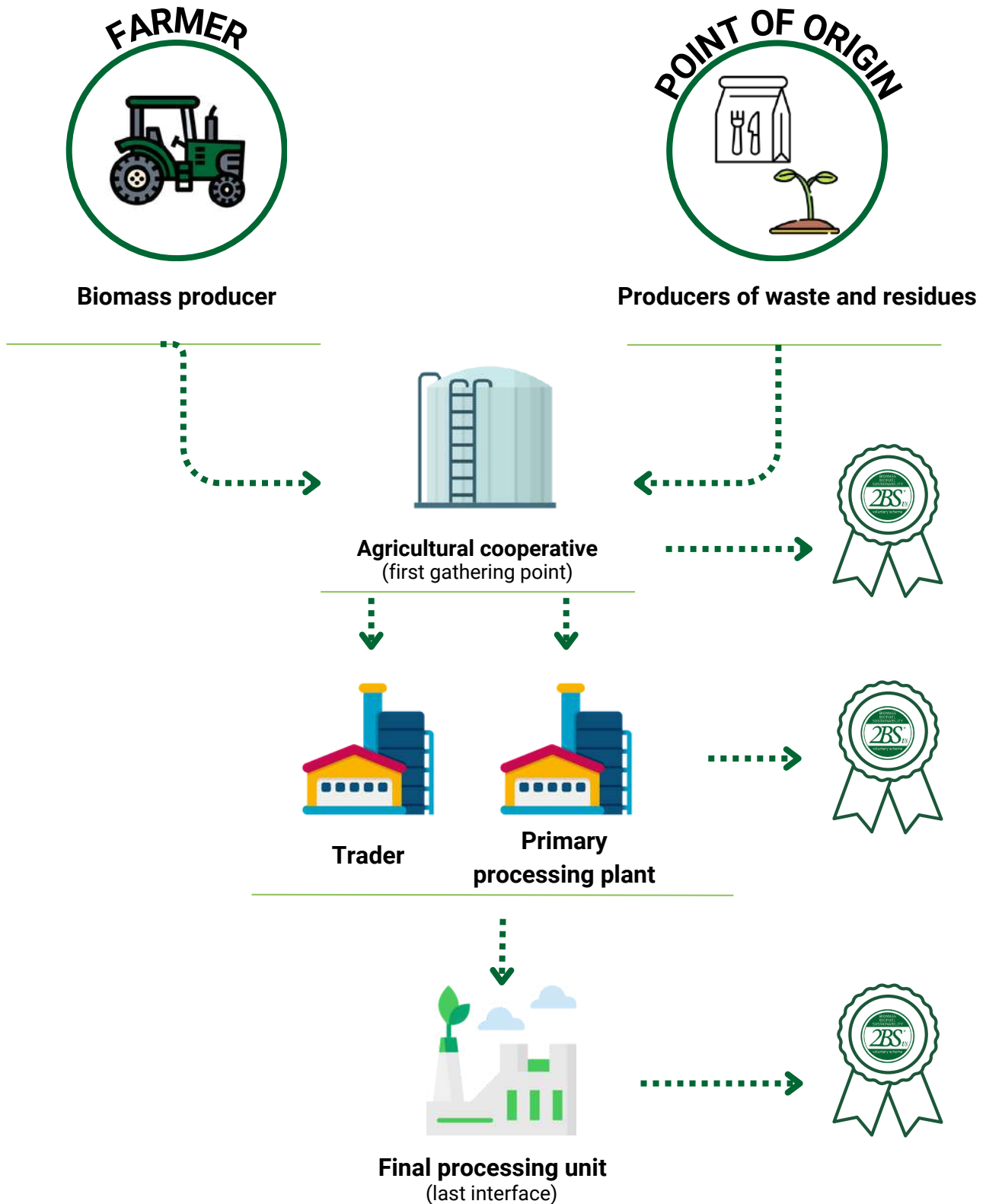


# 2 TECHNICAL DETAILS



# THE DIAGRAM OF THE CERTIFICATION

*This diagram illustrates the biofuel production chain and the sites requiring certification. The 2BS logos below indicate the actors that must be certified.*



# MASS BALANCE AND CALCULATION OF GHG EMISSIONS

*Before getting into the details of the certification process, it is important to understand two technical pillars of 2BSvs. Discover them (or rediscover them) on this page!*

## MASS BALANCE

### WHAT IS THIS?



A mass balance system allows batches of feedstocks or fuels with different sustainability and GHG emission savings characteristics, as well as varying energy contents, to be mixed by adjusting the batch sizes based on their energy content.

Mass balance requires information on sustainability characteristics, GHG emission savings, and batch sizes. The system expects that the sum of batches extracted from the mix will have the same sustainability characteristics and quantities as the sum of batches inputted, maintaining this balance over a certain period of time.

**Thus, the mass balances for sourcing and processing must comply:** the mass balance system must include information on sustainability, greenhouse gas emissions and the quantities of sustainable and non-sustainable raw materials.

## THE CALCULATION OF GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS



### HOW DOES IT WORK?

Calculation of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions is mandatory for the RED II certification. The reduction in GHG emissions from biofuel compared to its fossil reference must reach the required threshold depending on its use and the date of commissioning of the unit, according to the RED III (see PRO-03, page 6).

There are three methods to calculate your GHG: the RED III default values, the NUTS2 values (values by region and by crop), or the actual values.

To simplify the calculation of your GHG emissions in actual values, we have developed an easy-to-use calculator, online on our website: [click here to access our up-to-date documents](#).

This calculator allows you to identify your GHGs resulting from the extraction or cultivation of raw materials (eec) as well as your emission reductions due to the accumulation of carbon in soils thanks to improved agricultural management (esca) according to the new methodology. To learn more about ESCA, [discover our ESCA guidelines](#).



Any “sustainable” biofuel or bioliquid must be accompanied by its Proof of Sustainability (PoS – Proof of Sustainability - see page 24), in which the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions must be indicated.

# 3

## PREPARE FOR YOUR CERTIFICATION

On the following pages, you will find two non-exhaustive lists of the documentation provided to help you obtain your 2BSvs - biofuel sustainability certification!

These lists include the key documents to consult prior to certification, based on each company's position in the biofuel production and distribution chain.



# DOCUMENTS FOR THE CERTIFICATION OF BIOFUELS

As the first gathering point (cooperative), please read the documentation available on this page.

1

## PROCEDURE 02 - PARAGRAPH 5

Procedure 02 - paragraph 5 is the first document to consult before getting certified. This procedure allows you to know the certification process as a whole as well as the audit frequencies and non-conformities.

2

## STANDARD 01: BIOMASS PRODUCTION

Standard 01 provides information on audit requirements for agricultural biomass production and waste and residues.

3

## CHECKLIST 01

The checklists are documents that reflect our audit standards, namely STD-01 and STD-02. These checklists offer you a concrete overview of the requirements to be verified and the evidence to be provided. They are available online in Excel format so that you can use them easily on a daily basis.

4

## PROCEDURE 02 - MASS BALANCE

This procedure allows you to learn about and understand everything related to the mass balance. The purpose of this procedure is to provide explanations and a method for implementing the mass balance.

5

## PROCEDURE 03 - GHG

This procedure allows you to know and understand everything related to Greenhouse Gases. The purpose of this procedure is to provide a method for calculating GHG emissions to economic operators who have chosen the 2BS voluntary scheme.

6

## PROCEDURE 04 - WASTE & RESIDUES

If you wish to market biofuel produced from waste and residues, please read procedure 04. This provides the audit principles that apply to biofuels produced from waste and residues.

# DOCUMENTS FOR THE CERTIFICATION OF BIOFUELS

As a trader, transformation site or last interface, please read the documentation available on this page.

1

## PROCEDURE 02 - PARAGRAPH 5

Procedure 02 - paragraph 5 is the first necessary document to consult before getting certified. This procedure allows you to know the certification process as a whole as well as the audit frequencies and non-conformities.

2

## STANDARD 02: PRODUCTION AND TRADING OF FUELS

STD 02 defines the audit requirements for the processing and the production of fuels, and for the trade of biomass, intermediate fuels and final fuels.

3

## CHECKLIST 02

The checklists are documents that reflect our audit standards, namely STD-01 and STD-02. These checklists offer you a concrete overview of the requirements to be verified and the evidence to be provided. They are available online in Excel format so that you can use them easily on a daily basis.

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# 4 BEFORE AND AFTER THE AUDIT



# HOW TO GET CERTIFIED?

*We propose six steps to get certified 2BSvs - biofuel and thus gain access to the sustainable market in Europe. Discover them on this page!*

1

I choose to apply for 2BSvs sustainability certification.

2

I sign a contract with a Certification Body referenced by 2BS.

3

I accept a contract with 2BS by completing this registration form <https://www.2bsvs.org/registration.html>

4

I organise the audit file with all the necessary documentation (see pages 13 and 14).

5

If necessary, I organize a white audit.

6

I am audited, I obtain my certificate after validation by the Certification Body and I pay my annual 2BS fee. To find out your fee according to your status, [click here](#).



The number mentioned on your certificate constitutes proof and allows the marketing of sustainable products, in accordance with the definition of RED III.

# AFTER THE AUDIT

You are now certified, but what are your commitments?

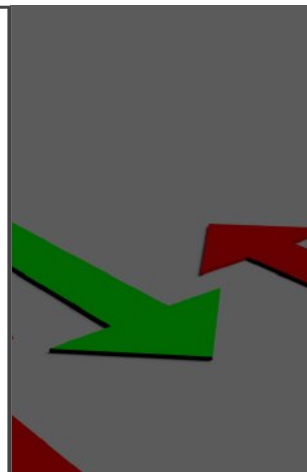
You must:

## ENSURE GOOD TRACEABILITY

Continuing to carry out quarterly or annual mass balances, depending on the entity's case, is fundamental to ensuring traceability within the supply chain.

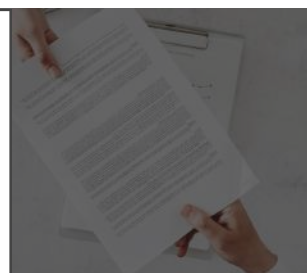
For biofuels used in the transport sector, there are:

- National databases (such as CarbuRe for France and Nabisy for Germany);
- A European database (the Union Database).



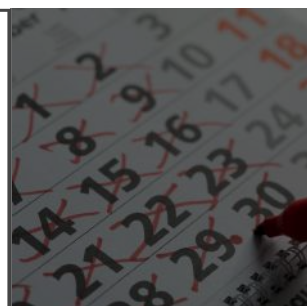
## DECLARE THE POS

From the mass balances, complete the PoS (Proof of Sustainability) or SD (sustainability declaration) which must accompany your products.



## SCHEDULE YOUR ANNUAL AUDITS

Every year, to be able to continue using your 2BSvs sustainability certification, you must organise an audit on the anniversary date of the first certificate (+/- two months).



## NON-CONFORMITY

If you fail to meet your obligations after the initial audit, you will be considered non-compliant.

A major or critical non-conformity during the surveillance audit may lead to the removal or withdrawal of the certificate (see page 18).



# NON-COMPLIANCE

2BSvs certification has different obligations. During an audit, in the event of non-compliance with the requirements imposed by the certification, three types of non-compliance may be noted: minor, major and critical. Each level of non-compliance requires special attention on your part and may potentially expose you to sanctions.

## CRITICAL NON-CONFORMITY

Intentional violation of the norms of a voluntary scheme

- Failure to comply with a mandatory requirement of the Directive (EU) 2018/2001
- Fraudulent issuance of proofs of sustainability or self-declarations
- Deliberate inaccuracy in the description of raw materials, falsification of GHG values or underlying data and deliberate production of waste or residues

## MAJOR NON-COMPLIANCE

Failure to comply with a mandatory requirement of the Directive (EU) 2018/2001

- Systematic problems with mass balance or GHG data
- Failure of an economic operator to declare its participation in other voluntary schemes during the certification process
- Lack of relevant information for auditors (such as access to data, traceability documents, mass balance, etc.)

## MINOR NON-COMPLIANCE

It has a limited impact, constitutes an isolated or temporary failure, is not systematic and does not lead to a fundamental failure if it is not corrected.

### INITIAL AUDIT

- Non-attribution of the certificate
- New request after 3 months

### INITIAL AUDIT

- Certification awarding

### INITIAL AUDIT

- Non-attribution of the certificate
- New request after 3 months

or

or

or

### ANNUAL AUDIT

- Immediate withdrawal of the certificate.
- Other schemes may refuse this operator for at least 2 years.
- Aggregated list of non-conformities published on the 2BS website.

### ANNUAL AUDIT

- No immediate impact.
- Corrective action to be taken before the next audit (otherwise it will become a major non-conformity)

### ANNUAL AUDIT

- Suspension of the certificate.
- Corrective action to be taken within 90 days (otherwise the certificate will be withdrawn).
- Closure of non-conformity after additional audit.
- Aggregated list of non-conformities published on the 2BS website.

# DOCUMENTS TO BE PROVIDED

## What documents should I send to my client?

Throughout your certification, different documents will be requested from you by different stakeholders.

Find on this page the documents to provide according to your customer in the supply chain.

### LEGEND



Self-declaration



Sustainability declaration



2BS certifiable units



Proof of sustainability

## POINT(S) OF ORIGIN



## FIRST GATHERING POINT



## PROCESSING UNIT



## LAST INTERFACE



# 5 TOOLS AT YOUR DISPOSAL



# TOOLS AND SERVICES

*2BS certified customers have access to various services and tools. Discover them below!*

*In order to make our customers' daily lives easier, we have set up certain advantages and tools for you:*

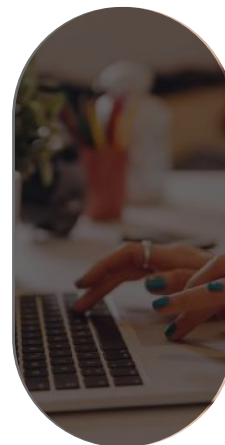
## TOOLS



### 2BS MAPPING TOOL

A platform for verifying the sustainability of plots.  
(available in France and soon in other European countries)

[Access the 2BS Mapping Tool guide \(in French\).](#)



### 2BS CALCULATOR

Tool made available to facilitate the calculation of GHG emissions (actual values) as well as the “eec” and “esca” factors.

[Access the 2BS calculator](#)

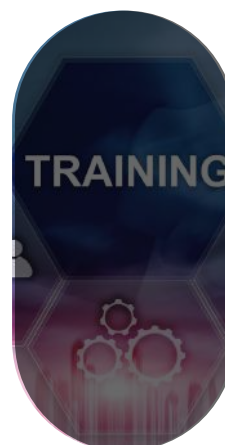
## SERVICES



### SAI EQUIVALENCE

Equivalence allowing access to the sustainable human food market.

[Access the SAI / FSA equivalence guide](#)



### TRAININGS

Training sessions to support you in your certification process.

More information to come!

## OUR ASSOCIATION

2BS supports producers and traders of fuels and biomass in their sustainability certification. Since 2010, 2BS has supported virtuous agricultural approaches and developed technical know-how in partnership with experts from the agricultural and industrial worlds. We offer specifications that are easy to implement, and we enable the obtention of the 2BS certification, recognized by the European Commission.

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## RECOGNIZED BY THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION

Our specifications comply with the Renewable Energy Directive (RED III), and our sustainability certifications are recognized by the European Commission.

## OUR DNA

Continuous evolution is in our DNA. That is why we work hand in hand with experts from the agricultural and industrial worlds to develop specifications that meet not only regulatory requirements but also the reality on the ground.

## CONTACT US



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# Appendix



## EXAMPLE OF A POS

### PROOF OF SUSTAINABILITY (POS)

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**This list represents the general information to be included in the POS, based on the French POS. Each Member State is free to define the additional regulations to be applied according to national directives.**

In France, the declaration of inputs, sustainability and reduction of greenhouse gas emissions contains at least the following information:

- Data to be transmitted throughout the supply chain
- name of the voluntary scheme or national system;
- durability proof number;
- sustainability and GHG emission reduction features, including:
  - declaration indicating whether the raw material or fuel meets the criteria set out in Article 29, paragraphs 2 to 7 of Directive (EU) 2018/2001,
  - data related to the calculation of GHG emissions using the method set out in Annexes V and VI of Directive (EU) 2018/2001 or Delegated Regulation (EU) 2019/807,
- description of when the installation was put into service (for fuels only);
- name of the raw material or name of the raw material from which the fuel is produced;
- number of authorization for waste or animal by-products (if applicable);
- fuel type (for fuels only);
- country of origin of the raw material;
- country of fuel production;
- statement whether the feedstock or fuel meets the criteria for biofuels with low indirect land-use change risk;
- information on whether aid was provided for the production of this lot and, if so, the type of aid scheme.
- Operations data
  - name and address of the supplier's company;
  - name and address of the purchaser's company;
  - date of loading (physical);
  - location of loading (physical) or entry point of the logistics facility or distribution infrastructure;
  - delivery location (physical) or exit point of the logistics facility or distribution infrastructure;
- volume: for fuels, the amount of energy must also be included. For the calculation of the amount of energy, the conversion factors set out in Annex III to Directive (EU) 2018/2001 must be used.
  - L 168/24 EN Official Journal of the European Union 27.6.2022



## SUSTAINABILITY CERTIFICATION

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