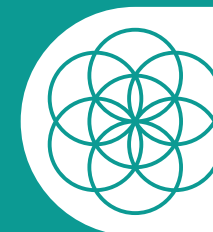


# THE YEAR OF IMPACT REVIEWING 2016



**RSB**

Roundtable on  
Sustainable Biomaterials

[www.rsb.org](http://www.rsb.org)



## THE YEAR OF IMPACT - REVIEWING 2016

2016 was an important year for the RSB. We recruited a new team of first-class professionals and set clear priorities to focus our work. A new set of advisory services was launched and very well received by key players across sectors, including aviation and biochemicals, and others looking to reduce their emissions using biomass.

For the first time the RSB has undertaken a detailed study of its impact. We have looked at the period from 2014 to 2016 which shows significant growth in the number of hectares and industrial sites certified by the RSB, resulting in extensive GHG savings as well as more efficient and sustainable practices by smallholder farmers.

The General Assembly in Hanoi was our first in Asia, and demonstrated a clear commitment from RSB members to support RSB implementation through certification, advisory services and engagement in public-private partnerships around the world to promote sustainable biofuel and biomass production and use. In southern Africa, the first biofuel flight literally took off as South African Airways flew from Johannesburg to Cape Town using biojet

fuel produced from RSB-certified oil made from Sunchem's nicotine-free tobacco plant, Solaris. To further develop biojet fuel production in Africa, WWF-SA and the RSB launched a three-year programme to identify and promote sustainable feedstocks that meet RSB principles. This work is made possible with the support of the Boeing Corporate Citizenship Programme.

The RSB is developing and guiding the standards that contribute to sustainability in biomass production and our membership base is integral to the work we do. We welcomed new members to our organisation and have set in place a revised membership offering as well as redefining the chambers.

As ever, the success of the RSB depends on the input and vision of the board of directors, Assembly of Delegates, members, partners and dedicated staff, and the support from various industry sectors.

Thank you to all for your valued support.

**Rolf Hogan**  
RSB Executive Director



## 2016 HIGHLIGHTS

### Smallholders in Brazil

For the first time, the RSB standard for the certification of smallholders was implemented in practice for a group of family farmers producing macaúba oil and another initiative in the sugar cane sector, the farmer cooperative Socicana: "Programa Cana Sustentavel". The RSB's work with smallholders is supported by the Boeing Corporate Citizenship Programme and the State Secretariat for Economic Affairs (SECO), Switzerland.

### International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO)

The RSB participated in several discussions, and through this engagement the understanding of sustainability principles and certification was strengthened.

### Oslo Airport

The SkyNRG partnership with Statoil Aviation will provide 2.5 million litres of biofuel annually to the airport under a unique agreement with the airport's operator, Avinor. SAS, KLM and the Lufthansa Group of carriers serving Oslo are the first to participate in the initiative, which is open to fuel made from RSB-certified feedstock.



### GoodFuels

The first marine biofuels company focused on the global commercial fleet, received RSB certification, enabling the company to actively sell and promote RSB-certified biofuels to the shipping industry. News of this was covered in Hellenic Shipping News, Ship and Bunker, Biodiesel Magazine, Biofuels Digest, and others.

### Solvay / Advanced Biochemical Thailand Co., Ltd. (ABT)

The bio-based chemical operator in Asia achieved RSB certification to produce Epicerol®, a bio-based building block for renewable chemicals and resins. News of this appeared in Bioplastics Magazine, Chemical Industry Today, World News, Adhesives Magazine, and others.

### US Interpretation of the RSB

At the launch meeting in Chicago, Illinois, co-hosted by United Airlines, we engaged key stakeholders and raised awareness of the RSB and how it can be implemented in the US context. Looking to the future, we envisage measurable impacts and stronger integration of the RSB with US initiatives on biomass.



## 2016 HIGHLIGHTS

### Waste and Residues

Discussions on the revision of the standard stimulated a lot of interest from industry and policymakers on a very important issue for sustainability, that will support global policy development.

### Franklin Baker Certification

This was the first RSB certification of production for the food industry. It has demonstrated that the RSB standard can be applied to food crops as well as biofuels and biomaterials. This shows great potential for the RSB in this sector for the large multi-nationals engaged in food as well as biofuel feedstock production.

### Africa Business Forum

Another first for the RSB was the business forum held in Johannesburg, South Africa, where we established a footprint on the continent with the aim of developing sustainable biojet fuel supply chains with our partners there, the Boeing Company and South African Airways. Stakeholders included people from various sectors including industry leaders and organisations, government, companies and civil society who engaged to learn about, and give input into, the RSB's plans to scale up sustainable production in the region.

<http://rsb.org/2017/03/03/south-africa-business-forum-meeting-summary-published-0217/>

*Roundtable on Sustainable Biomaterials – Annual Review 2016*



### Revised Principles and Criteria Approved

The global members of the RSB approved Version 3.0 at the General Assembly of Delegates In Hanoi, Vietnam. The revisions are a result of consultation and engagement to offer clearer and easier-to-follow guidelines.

[http://rsb.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/03/RSB-STD-01-001\\_Principles\\_and\\_Criteria.pdf](http://rsb.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/03/RSB-STD-01-001_Principles_and_Criteria.pdf)

JetBlue is joining the RSB as renewable biofuels will become increasingly more important for aviation to continue to grow responsibly. Science has given us drop-in biofuels, which means there will be no change to our engines or systems –and no compromise to safety. There are no silver bullets when it comes to finding the right biofuel, so we are reaching out for partners; we are all in this together.

**Sophia Mendelsohn, Head of Sustainability, JetBlue**

## EVENTS

The RSB team was active at various stakeholder events to promote the standard and develop business relationships:

### **9th International Conference on Bio-based Materials, Cologne, Germany**

Focused on bio-based building blocks and polymers, biorefineries and industrial biotechnology and how policy and markets affect the bioeconomy.

### **Sustainable Purchasing Leadership Council Summit, Washington, DC**

This gathering of over 300 leaders in sustainable procurement offered scope to share best practices, build valuable relationships with thought leaders from around the world, and influence the future of sustainable purchasing.

### **BIO World Congress on Industrial Biotechnology, San Diego**

At this key global gathering of the biotech industry, the RSB engaged with business leaders.

### **5th Biobased World 2016: Chemicals and Plastics, Bangkok, Thailand**

A collaborative effort from the RSB and certified operator, Advanced Biochemical (Thailand) Co., Ltd. (ABT) that discussed Epicerol® applications, environmental benefits and clean tech production.

### **11th Annual Argus Biofuels and Feedstocks Conference, London, UK**

This conference provided a platform for decision-makers across the biofuels market that are seeking better feedstock from across the globe.

### **Bioenergy 2016, the annual conference of the US Department of Energy “Mobilizing the Bioeconomy Through Innovation” in Washington DC**

This is where leading US government agency leaders met with companies looking to the future of bioenergy and the bio-based economy.

### **The Civil Aviation Alternative Fuels Initiative (CAAFI), Biennial General Meeting, Washington DC**

Here the RSB presented on the progress made in certification of sustainable biojet fuels, and engaged with leaders in the aviation industry.

### **Advanced Bioeconomy Leadership Conference (ABLC) Feedstocks, Miami, Florida**

Here, at one of the premier conferences on advancements in biofuels development, we explained the key concepts of the RSB Standard regarding sustainable land use.

### **ISEAL Stakeholder Council, Washington DC**

Here the RSB continued to maintain a leadership role among the members of ISEAL, that are globally recognised for their credible sustainability standards.

# MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

Celebrating our new members of the RSB in 2016. We welcomed:

## New Full Members:

- 1 **Advanced Biochemical (Thailand) Co., Ltd**
- 2 **Eco1, Norway**
- 3 **JetBlue Airways Corp., USA**
- 4 **Ubrabio – Brazilian Biodiesel and Biojetfuel Union, Brazil**
- 5 **United Certification Systems LLC (UCS), Russia**
- 6 **UPM The Biofore Company, Finland**
- 7 **Velocys® , USA**



As membership increases the list is updated regularly on the new website:  
<http://rsb.org/membership/membership-list/>

## New Associate Members

- 1 **Biodex SA, Tunisia**
- 2 **GoodNRG, Netherlands**
- 3 **Green Social Bioethanol, Brazil**
- 4 **Socicana, Brazil**

At Agrisoma we are developing carinata as a crop solution for the global renewable fuels industry. Our work with RSB has been critical to documenting and certifying our supply chains to the highest standard of sustainability. RSB has fostered an incredible dialogue with the renewable fuels industry, from regulators through to customers, and we benefit from that interaction in having our crops certified by RSB.

**Mejda Lortie, Agrisoma**

# UPDATE ON MEMBERSHIP CHAMBER STRUCTURE

1

## Growers & Producers:

Biomass producers (e.g. farmers, plantation managers and other feedstock growers) and industrial biomaterial/bioenergy producers.

2

## End Users, Blenders & Investors:

Retailers/blenders, transportation industry, users of biomaterials and banks/investors.

3

## Social:

Rights-based NGOs (including land, water, human, and labour rights) and trade unions, rural development, food security, smallholder farmers, indigenous people, and community-based civil society

4

## Environmental:

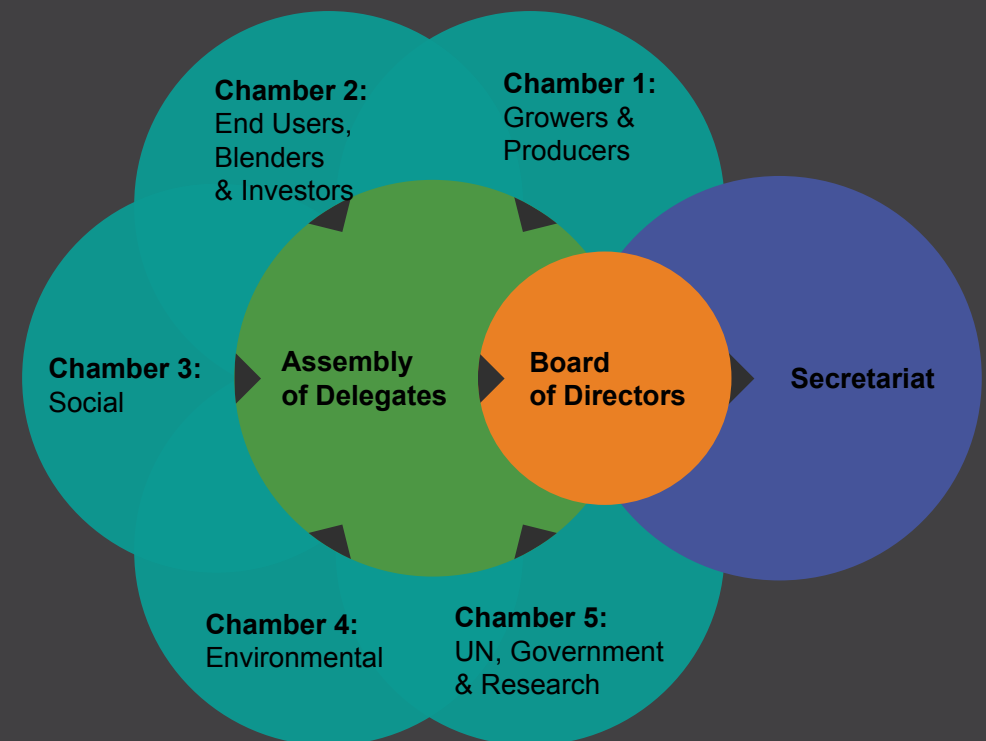
Environment or conservation organisations and climate change or policy organisations.

5

## UN, Government & Research:

Intergovernmental organisations (IGOs), governments, research/academic institutions, standard-setters, specialist advisory agencies, certification agencies, and consultant organisations, as well as any other applicants for membership who do not fulfil the characteristics of any other Chamber.

To maintain the balance between civil society and business interests and enable more rapid decision making amongst our members, the membership chamber structure was streamlined to five chambers as follows:



## “SUCCESS OF THE SMALLHOLDER”

With support from the Boeing Corporate Citizenship Programme and the State Secretariat for Economic Affairs (SECO), Switzerland, the RSB has developed a programme to support smallholders in several regions of the world.

The RSB Programme for Smallholders aims to improve the living conditions of small farmers, promote sustainable practices based on the RSB standard, and to link certified products to market.

Two certification processes in Brazil applying the RSB Standard for Smallholder Groups, and one a mixed-group certification supported by the Boeing programme, enabled 88 small farmers and their families to be integrated into the RSB standard in their production and management practices.

RSB certification provides numerous benefits to any manufacturing organisation. The strength of RSB for Franklin Baker is that not only does it recognise sustainability and ethical practices, but also covers areas of global concern such as labour rights, rural development, conservation and the environment.

**Jerry Lorenzo, President and CEO, Franklin Baker**





## CERTIFICATION NEWS

The RSB M&E System measured certified operators, operational sites included in the scope of certification and countries of operation. Since the last outcome report, the RSB saw growth in all categories:

*New countries represented in the RSB system are:  
Tunisia, Sri Lanka and the Philippines.*

Outcome Report	Operators	Sites	Farms	Countries
October 2014	17	23	166	14
December 2016	20	49	472	17

The numbers show that the number of operational sites grew significantly while there was only a slow growth in total operators certified. This is due to the unique characteristics of the RSB standard, which allows operators to define the scope of certification according to their own management structure.

Operators can include sites and other companies in their scope of certification if the overall implementation of the RSB standard is ensured by their management system. This aspect of the standard allows operators to handle the certification process more efficiently. The data collected shows that the option to expand the scope of certification is well used by certified operators.

By the end of 2016 we welcomed the following certified participating operators, including feedstock producers and industrial facilities.

- 1 Agrisoma Biosciences
- 2 Assobari (Associação de Fornecedores de Cana de Bariri)
- 3 Biodex SA
- 4 Franklin Baker Company of the Philippines
- 5 Phillips 66 Limited
- 6 Socicana (Associação de Fornecedores de Cana de Guariba)
- 7 UBCM (Unidade de Beneficiamento de Coco Macaúba)

# POLICY AND STANDARDS

## A dynamic year for development

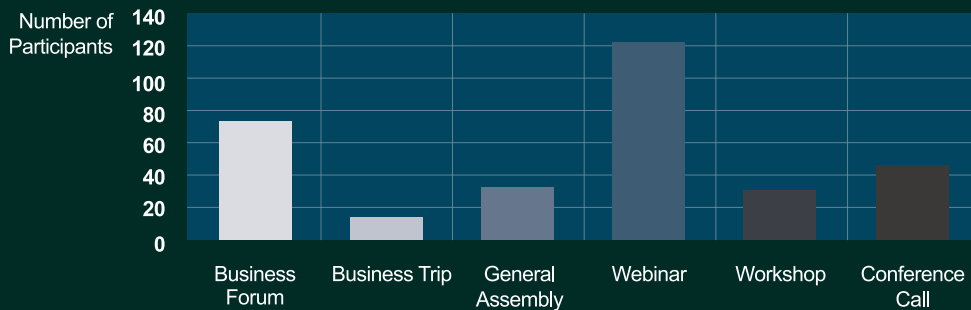
Advisory Services have been put into effect with several interested companies to help operators understand the RSB standard in more detail, train staff members, conduct gap analyses and give practical advice on implementation.

The Monitoring and Evaluation Report shows that the RSB engaged with **323 stakeholders** either through in-person meetings, webinars or conference calls.

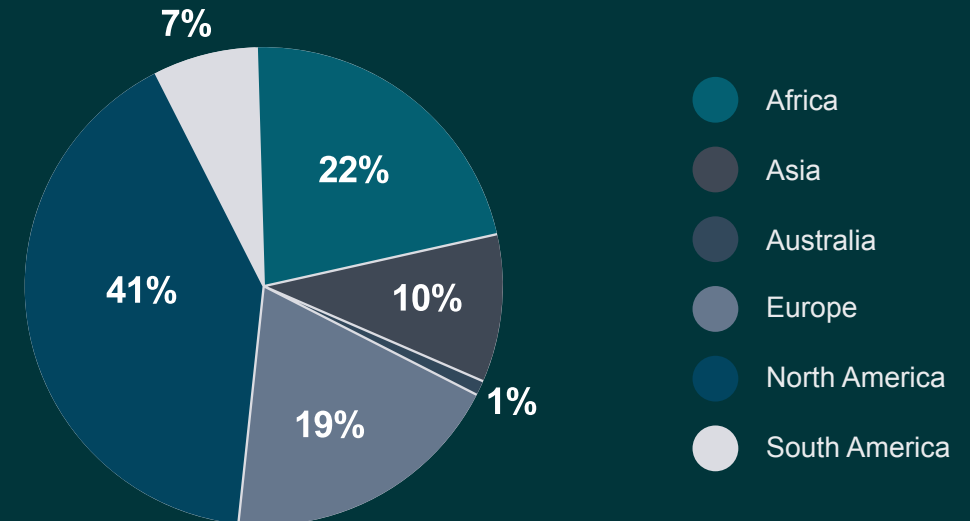
“ We looked around and found the strictest standard, provided by the RSB. RSB certification is a useful element in showing that the fuel meets ethical as well as environmental standards. ”

**Sjors Geraedts, GoodFuels Marine**

## RSB STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT 2017



## STAKEHOLDERS PER REGION



# POLICY AND STANDARDS

A dynamic year for development

## **The RSB nominated as Technical Advisor to UN ICAO's Alternative Fuels Task Force**

The RSB was nominated by WWF to act as technical advisor to the International Coalition for Sustainable Aviation (ICSA), a coalition of major NGOs active in the Alternative Fuels Task Force (AFTF) of the UN International Civil Aviation Organisation (ICAO).

## **RSB EU RED re-recognised by the European Commission**

The RSB was amongst the first schemes that implemented the strengthened requirements of the EU Commission for voluntary certification systems. To receive public support or count towards mandatory national renewable energy targets, biofuels and bioliquids used in the EU must comply with the EU's sustainability criteria.

## **The RSB working on regional indicators for US and South Africa**

The undertaking includes jurisdiction comparisons to pre-define audit checklists and engage with regional stakeholders to work with tools and initiatives that are already effective in the region. This contextual approach will make the standard easier to implement and garner better support.

## **Auditing procedure for agricultural residues**

The aim of this initiative is to ensure that soil health is maintained when using straw and other residues for advanced biofuel production.

## **Fairtrade and RSB**

Results of the RSB-Fairtrade Benchmark in smallholder contexts in Fiji and Malawi were measured with the aim of being able to offer dual label certifications and help operators (already certified under another standard) into the RSB system. Other benchmarks conducted in 2016 include Roundtable on Sustainable Palm Oil (RSPO) and Sustainable Agriculture Initiative Platform (SAI).

## **Launch of the Technical Working Group on End-of-life Products, By-products and Residues**

The aim of this group is to discuss and find solutions to the questions:

- a) How to include non-biogenic feedstocks into the RSB system
- b) How to define the eligibility of waste and residues
- c) How to account for indirect effects in the system

## **Integrated Pest Management Coalition with ISEAL members**

The RSB and seven other ISEAL members united to sign an historic agreement that confirms efforts to work together towards the improvement of knowledge and sustainable use of pesticides. Through certification, the RSB has been contributing to the reduction of pesticide use and the elimination of the most hazardous pesticides.

# MARKETING AND COMMUNICATIONS

Communicating a revitalised vision. The strategic work undertaken (as part of an organisational effectiveness grant from the Packard Foundation), gave clear indications as to the future positioning of RSB.

This has enabled a refreshed vision for business-to-business relationships and will open a host of new opportunities in the business-to-consumer dialogue.

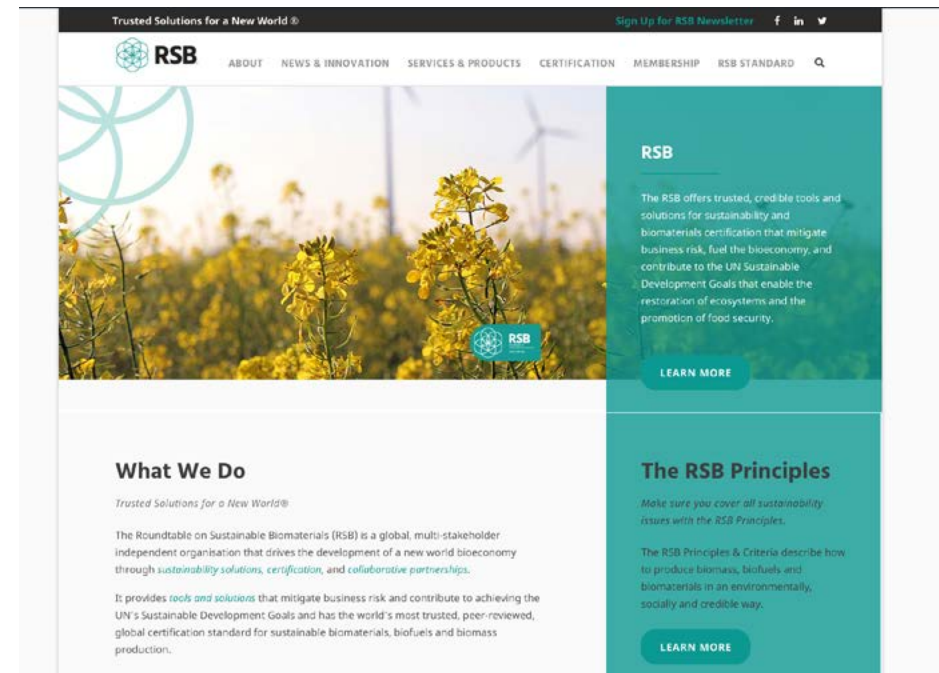
A new website is live at this link [www.rsb.org](http://www.rsb.org)

The new look of the RSB is in keeping with its position as a key driver in the bioeconomy informing policy, setting standards, and supporting social and environmental custodianship. There is a new logo, key message and collateral for all parts of the RSB.

The RSB is the world's most trusted peer reviewed certification standard and offers a range of advisory services that are positively influencing the bioeconomy and bringing to life: **Trusted Solutions for a New World®**



Join the conversation and network via our Twitter feed: [@rsb\\_org](https://twitter.com/rsb_org)



**RSB**  
Roundtable on  
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## BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY AND OUTREACH

The result of the positioning report laid the foundation for developing a new range of membership packages and positioning pathways to fine tune the key audiences and facilitate engagement with various sectors.

The focus was on developing strategic relationships and activities with global brands with the aim of growing acceptance, market share, visibility, recognition, and preference for the RSB to create real impact on the ground and in supply chains.

As the chosen sustainability partner for Below 50, a global campaign led by WBCSD (World Business Council for Sustainable Development) for creating a market for low carbon fuels, the RSB positions itself with leading and innovative companies, also promoting advisory services and certification.

A workshop on promoting sustainability in aviation was co-hosted by the RSB and WWF as part of the Assembly of Delegates meeting in Hanoi. The RSB is the chosen partner for the sector to provide sustainable and credible solutions for biofuels. The role of the RSB in other areas such as bioplastics was also highlighted.

Sponsorships from Advanced Biochemical (Thailand) Co., Ltd,

Boeing and Airbus enabled these events to take place, bolstering the networking amongst members of the RSB.

RSB's first ever North America Business Forum (hosted by United Airlines) brought together RSB members, leaders and stakeholders from industry associations, civil society organisations and companies to debate, discuss, network and share ideas of how to grow and promote sustainable biofuels, biochemicals and bioplastics. More than 40 North American participants joined this exciting event that follows JetBlue Airways becoming the first US airline to become an RSB member.

With the recent signing of the International Civil Aviation Organisation's multilateral agreement on reducing carbon emissions from aviation, the time is right for the aviation industry to embrace and deepen real sustainability in the value chain.

**James Reeler, Land And Climate Project Manager: Policy & Futures Unit, WWF-SA**

## LEADERSHIP UPDATE

### LIST OF DIRECTORS AT 31.12.2016

Chamber 1	Jill Kauffman Johnson and Sriram Srinivasan
Chamber 2	Maarten van Dijk
Chamber 3	Arturo Barrit
Chamber 4	Barbara Bramble
Chamber 5	Kevin Fingerman

Velocys® is supportive of RSB's efforts to promote truly sustainable and renewable biofuels. The renewable fuels market is a particular focus for Velocys®, and our relationship with RSB has helped Velocys® in our drive to develop replicable and scalable facilities to produce premium fuels that satisfy the highest technical and sustainability standards.

**Philipp Stratmann, Business Development Director, Velocys®**

We are extremely proud of this evaluation which is recognised by leading NGOs. RSB certification validates Epicerol® as the leading bio-based epichlorohydrin (ECH) for customers because of its outstanding environmental attributes.

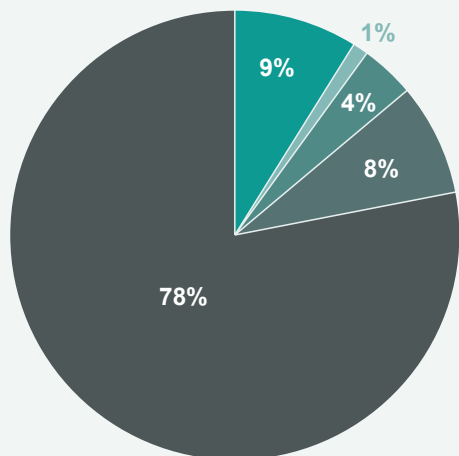
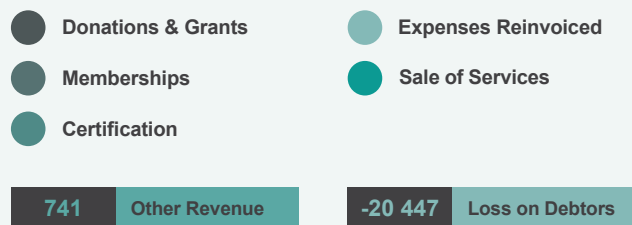
**Bruno Van Parys, Vice-President, Advanced Biochemical Thailand Co., Ltd. (ABT)**

# FINANCIALS

## Revenue

The total revenue in 2016 was

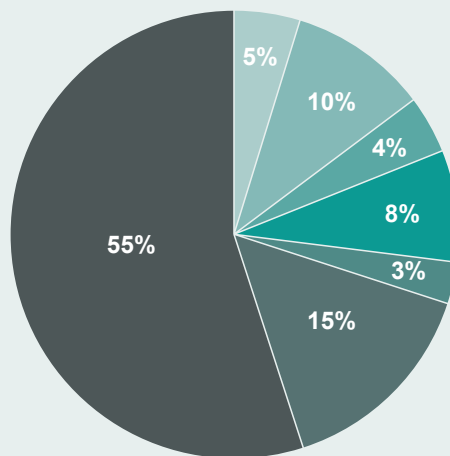
CHF 976,518<sup>1</sup>



## Expenditure

Total expenses in 2016 amounted to

CHF 1,050,302<sup>2</sup>



## Cash

At the end of 2016, total cash in the bank account was

CHF 948,201

<sup>1</sup>The biggest single share is represented by the **Swiss State Secretariat for Economic Affairs (SECO)** with the **Packard Foundation** and **Boeing Corporate Citizenship Programme** also contributing significantly to the RSB budget.

<sup>2</sup>The Audited Accounts show an operational loss of approximately CHF 74,000 for 2016. This result for 2016 was influenced by various 'one-off' items including the RSB re-branding exercise, foreign exchange fluctuations, and a review and assessment of the invoicing procedures.

# JOIN US IN DRIVING THE DEVELOPMENT OF A SUSTAINABLE BIOECONOMY



## THAT WILL OFFER:

### Trusted Solutions for a New World®

#### Advisory Services

The RSB offers a combination of tailored advice and training to help companies implement the systems necessary to achieve sustainability and potentially, certification, in a way that aligns with their existing business systems. The RSB can help to ensure that, when a company is implementing new procedures or commissioning a new process, all activities are compatible with the relevant RSB criteria and built in from the start.

#### Certification

The RSB's user-friendly certification scheme is the strongest and most trusted of its kind. It verifies that biomaterials, biofuels and biomass are socially responsible, environmentally sustainable and credibly sourced; thereby mitigating business, environmental and social risk.

#### Membership

RSB members are part of a worldwide movement of businesses, NGOs, academics, government and UN organisations that demonstrate their commitment to best practice for sustainable biomaterial, biofuels and biomass production. This independent organisation unites these global stakeholders and is the most trusted, peer-reviewed member body active in the bioeconomy that promotes bio products which enhance rural development, reduce greenhouse gas emissions and promote food security.



## CONTACT DETAILS

We value your enquiry. For the best response, please direct your query to the correct person, as per the list below

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