

BACP

BIODIVERSITY AND AGRICULTURAL
COMMODITIES PROGRAM



News

Issue 2, June 2009

RTRS Principles and Criteria Unanimously Approved

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Did you know?

[MARS committed](#) to move to **100%
RSPO certified palm oil, originating
from sustainable sources by 2015.**

[WWF will assess](#) the world's major
users of palm oil over the next six
months and publish a [Palm Oil Buyer's
Scorecard](#).



In the General Assembly meeting held in Campinas, Sao Paulo in May 2009, the members of the Round Table for Responsible Soy (RTRS) unanimously approved the Principles and Criteria (P&C) for production of responsible soy. This groundbreaking document establishes the basis for developing

a global standard for production, trade, and processing of environmentally and socially responsible soy. In the next twelve months the P&C will be field-tested, and the results of those field trials will be used to establish a final certification standard. To read the approved P&C document and learn more about the formulation and approval process that led up to the ratification of the P&C, visit <http://www.responsiblesoy.org>

BACP Still Welcoming Grant Applications for Soy Projects

BACP continues to welcome applications for projects under RFA 2009-1/Soy. Guidelines for submitting proposals and application forms can be found at www.bacp.net. BACP will be accepting applications on a rolling basis through December 1, 2009.

BACP Awards Grant to Fauna and Flora International



London-based Fauna and Flora International is the third recipient of BACP funding under the first Request for Applications for projects under palm oil. The BACP co-financed project works with local stakeholders to identify high conservation value forests and degraded areas fit for oil palm cultivation in three critical districts of West Kalimantan and Papua Provinces in Indonesia. It further aims to provide capacity building for district government officials to incorporate the results of these landscape assessments into district spatial plans, and to facilitate the adoption of landscape scale HCVF assessment and management by Roundtable on Sustainable Palm Oil (RSPO) members and small holders. Learn more about Fauna and Flora International's BACP co-financed activities [here](#).

Commodity Roundtable Updates



As part of its efforts to promote a better understanding of biodiversity conservation within palm oil production landscapes, the RSPO hosted its Second Biodiversity Seminar "The Concept & The Looming Crisis" in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia and Jakarta, Indonesia in June 2009. The half day seminar, made possible in part by BACP, examined biodiversity conservation principles in relation to better management practices in agriculture. Copies of the presentations given at these seminars are available through RSPO [here](#).

To improve the capacity of certification bodies and palm oil environmental/sustainability managers the RSPO also hosted a three-day workshop in Jakarta, Indonesia from June 9 -11, 2009. Participants learned about the significance, and economic value of ecosystem services, and gained valuable information on biodiversity assessments.



Next RTRS Meeting: RTRS is hosting the [World Soybean Research Conference VIII](#) in Beijing, China. August 10-15, 2009. Find out more at their website: <http://www.responsiblesoy.org/>

About BACP

Agricultural expansion is the leading cause of habitat loss around the world and poses one of the gravest threats to global biodiversity. Tropical export commodities have dramatically increased production in the last fifty years, resulting in the destruction of much tropical habitat. The Biodiversity and Agricultural Commodities Program (BACP) seeks to reduce the threats posed by agriculture to biodiversity of global significance by transforming markets for target agricultural commodities.

To transform the commodity markets, BACP supports projects that generate greater supply, demand and financing of biodiversity-friendly products. Projects must meet specific criteria and address one of the four following components:

- 1) Removing policy barriers
- 2) Supporting better production
- 3) Increasing demand for biodiversity-friendly products
- 4) Encouraging financial services to support biodiversity-friendly practices

For more information, see the [BACP website](#)

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BACP is a multi-donor initiative with contributions from the Global Environment Facility (GEF), Japan, the International Finance Corporation (IFC), the Netherlands, Norway, Luxembourg, Italy and New Zealand

