Stakeholder Outreach Meeting

Swaziland, Thursday 30 July 2009

PROGRAM

David Willers, General Manager of BSI gave an overview of the development of the Standard.

General comments/questions and issues raised:

The current name of BSI is similar to the British Standards Institute (BSI)

How will the certification system work?

Will there be an independent agency to control certificates?

What other crops use the Book & Claim system?

What about organizations already using ISO 14000 etc?

How will the BSI ensure transparency between grower and miller and guarantee that the grower receives proceeds.

Peter Turner, Leader of the Agronomy Technical Working Group

Peter Turner reviewed the Standard with the participants and the following issues were brought forward for discussion.

2.3.4 Potable drinking water. This is not a problem for large companies, however in some remote areas there is no potable water even available for the community, this is an issue the Government needs to address.

Question is would it be fair to use this indicator for a small holder in this situation?

Agreed yes as it is possible to treat water or boil it.

2.3.2 Training in first aid – 1 person per team. The team definition should include reference to a max of 20 people.

4.1.2 Biodiversity conservation - agreed with the idea of farm biodiversity conservation leading to an increase in the value of the certificate – i.e. benefit to maintaining natural areas on a farm.

Better Sugarcane Initiative
A: One Hornsey Lane Gardens, Highgate, London, N65NX, United Kingdom
T: 0044 (0) 208 3480303 E: bsi.willers@btinternet.com W: www.bettersugarcane.org
BSI Company number 06798568

4.1. Ecosystem services – require more emphasis on water (An indicator is included in principle 5.)

3.1.2 Sugarcane yield – figure should be 90 (85 too low for irrigated)

Biomass increase 15 tons on 100 ton crop (15%)

4.1.2 Biodiversity – High Conservation Value – *doesn't the law cover this*?

Yes in some countries but need to spell requirements out to cover countries without adequate laws.

Use of EIA? The EIA would most likely result in a requirement for mitigation activities to allow the project to go ahead. Mitigation would depend on Country enforcement and if the country's system is not reliable this might be a problem.

The World Bank has set criteria for a number of environmental issues with detailed standards.

5.2.1 Water consumption. The overall opinion is that rainfall should somehow be included a model that has been developed at an international level probably exists.

PARTICIPANTS

Duma Zwane Ext and Crop Protection Officer Swaziland Sugar Association (SSA)

Leonard Ndlovu (Dr) Water Resources Manager Royal Swazi Sugar Corporation (RSSC)

Musa Dlamini (Dr) Head Crop Production and Research - SSA

Chris Shabangu Outgrower Development Manager – RSSC

Phil White Environment Officer - RSSC

Terence Rudd IMS Manager Distillery - RSSC

Mandla Tshawuka Agric Manager Services - RSSC

Jerry Ndlovu Agric Manager Production – RSSC

Sphepho Sithole Section Manager - Tambankulu Estates

Vusi Malubane IMS Manager – Swaziland Agricultural Development Enterprise (SWADE)

Mpendulo Nxumalo – Agriculture Officer -SWADE

Zenzo Siringwani Business Analyst – SWADE

John Mkhwanazi Agric Officer Technical – SWADE

Muzi Masina Cane Grower

Edward Nxumalo Cane Grower

Wedzerai Chiyoka Consultant (Social TWG member)

Company breakdown

Sugar company – 7

Sugar Association Advisory services -2

Small Scale Growers – 2

Agricultural Development Advisors (technical and Business) - 4