

Sustainable Agriculture Network Secretariat (SAN): Standards and Policies Workplan 2011

The SAN Secretariat's Standards and Policy Unit¹ is conducting the following activities during 2011:

1. Publishing of the following documents:

- Group Certification Standard (March 2011 version)
- Group Certification Policy (March 2011 version)
 - Both documents are based on the *"ISEAL Alliance Common Requirements for the Certification of Producer Groups"*
- Group Certification Guidance Document
- Farm Certification Policy
- Farm Certification Guidance Document
- Cattle Farm Certification Guidance Document

2. Training Activities: Regional Summits:

SAN summits are annual activities that gather regional technical leaders (sustainability advisors, lead auditors, audit process managers) to update them on new standards or policies, conduct interpretation exercises on SAN standard criteria or discuss technical challenges for audit and certification processes. The following events are organized per region:

- Latin America: February 2011, San José, Costa Rica
- Africa: March 2011, Nairobi, Kenya
- Asia: April 2011, Bali, Indonesia

3. Planning of the next standard review 2012-13

- Development of the concept, structure and workplan for the SAN Sustainable Agriculture Standard review
- Meetings with
 - SAN board of directors (March 2011)
 - SAN International Standards Committee (June 2011)
 - SAN Technical Operations Committee (May 2011)
- Survey with SAN stakeholders

¹ *The Standards & Policy Unit of the SAN Secretariat coordinates the development and review of SAN standards and related policies. Its role is to ensure the proper implementation of the policies and strategies defined by SAN.*

4. Development of Local Interpretation Guidelines²:

With support of the Rainforest Alliance Sustainable Landscape Program, activities related to local interpretation guideline development will be conducted in the following countries:

- Indonesia
 - Cocoa
 - Coffee
 - Tea
- India
 - Tea
 - Coffee
- Sri Lanka
 - Tea
- Kenya
 - Coffee
 - Tea
- Tanzania
 - Tea
 - Coffee
- Malawi
 - Tea
- Sierra Leone
 - Cocoa
- Nigeria
 - Cocoa
- Madagascar
 - Cocoa
- South Africa
 - Rooibos

² *How the Standard for Sustainable Agriculture with its criteria is interpreted and applied to particular situations is determined by Interpretation Guidelines. Two types of guidelines exist: 1.) Generic interpretation guidelines and 2.) Local Interpretation Guidelines. Generic Interpretation Guidelines provide guidance for farmers and group administrators how to implement the Sustainable Agriculture Standard on their farms. Interpretation Guidelines – generic and local - only contain indicators. They are not binding for certification processes, but they are important for implementing good agricultural practices on farms and provide more detailed guidance during audit processes. Local Interpretation Guidelines interpret the binding criteria of the standard for local conditions or a specific crop and are developed by a local Workgroup.*