ISCC PLUS certification for low ILUC-risk feedstocks

EUBCE, Bologna, Italy

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Prepared by: ISCC Team

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ISCC is a well-established and credible certification standard

160+ Trainings for Auditors and System Users performed

54 certification bodies

980+ ISCC trained auditors

7 Voluntary add-ons to address specific customer requirements

Stakeholder dialogue:

230+ ISCC Association members

45,000+ certificates

8,100+ system users

ISCC International Sustainability & Carbon Certification

Discussion platform with 4 Regional and 6 Technical Committees

System users in 130+ countries

Integrity Program: 4 independent auditors

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The ISCC Association is a multi-stakeholder initiative comprised of currently 230+ members and continues to grow

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ISCC is operating three different schemes, covering different markets. ISCC PLUS is focussing on voluntary markets

ISCC EU

- Applicable for **sustainable fuels used in the European Union**
- **Recognised by the European Commission** to demonstrate compliance with the EU's sustainability criteria for biofuels set out in the RED

ISCC PLUS

- Application for **voluntary** and certain **regulated markets**
  - Energy and biofuels outside the European Union (e.g. Japan, Australia)
  - Industrial applications
  - Food and feed markets

ISCC CORSIA

- Applicable for **Sustainable Aviation Fuels under ICAO CORSIA**
- To **demonstrate compliance** with the sustainability and GHG criteria for CORSIA eligible fuels

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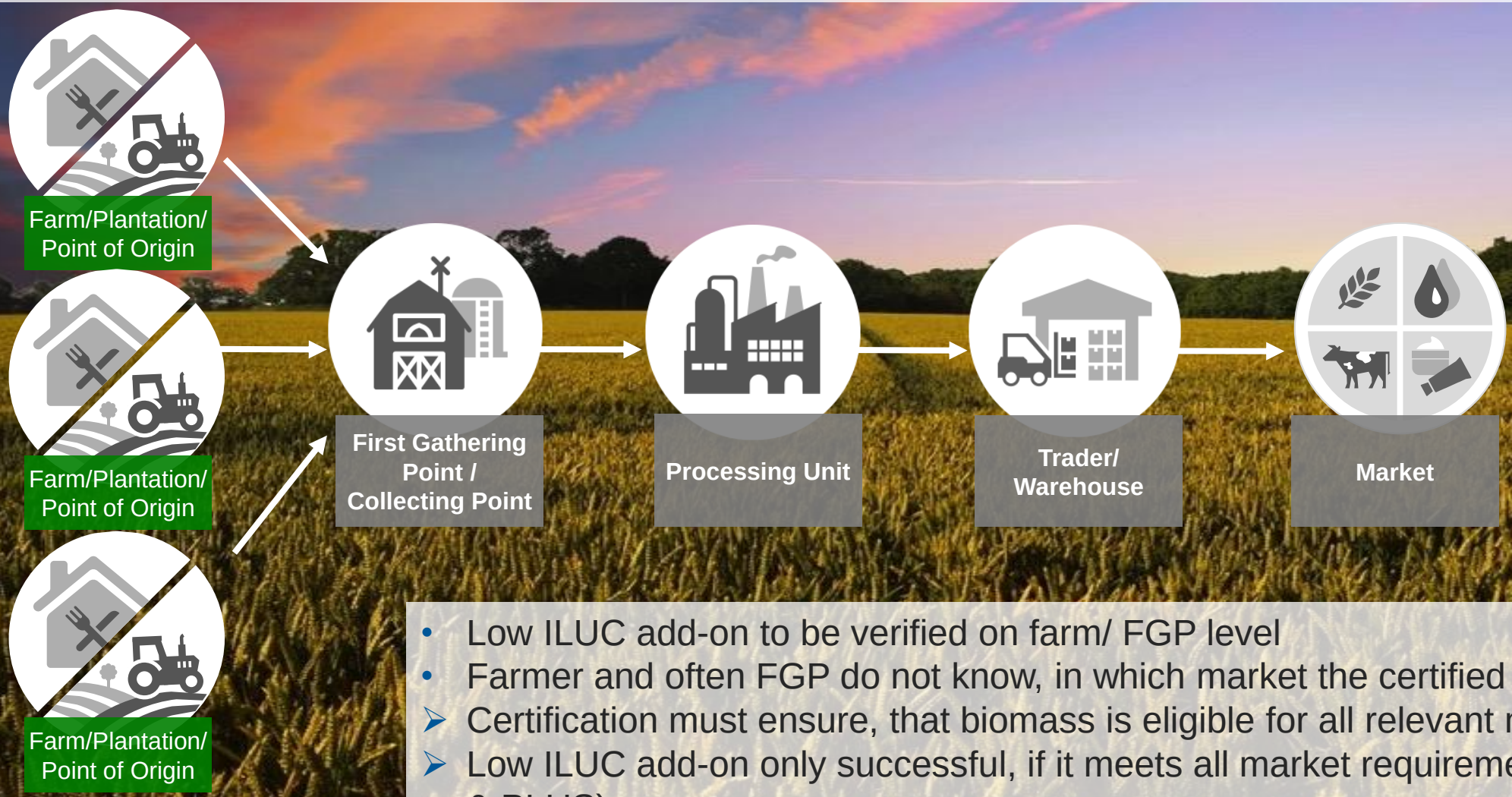
Farmer do not know, in which market their products end up. Therefore, it is crucial to ensure that the low ILUC add-on is eligible for all markets



- Low ILUC add-on to be verified on farm/ FGP level
- Farmer and often FGP do not know, in which market the certified biomass ends up

➢ Certification must ensure, that biomass is eligible for all relevant markets

➢ Low ILUC add-on only successful, if it meets all market requirements (EU, CORSIA & PLUS)

All kinds of agricultural and forestry feedstocks can be certified under ISCC

Examples

- Soy

- Rapeseed/
- Canola

- Palm

- Sunflower

- Cereals

- Corn

- Sugarcane

- Sugarbeet

- Wood

- Cotton

- Shea Nuts

- Camelina

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Agricultural feedstocks must be cultivated in line with the six ISCC Principles for sustainable raw material production

Principle 1

Protection of land with high biodiversity value or high carbon stock

Principle 2

Environmentally responsible production to protect soil, water and air

Principle 3

Safe workers conditions

Principle 4

Compliance with human and labour rights and responsible community relations

Principle 5

Compliance with land rights, laws and international treaties

Principle 6

Good management practices and continuous improvement

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Two approaches can be applied to produce “additional”, low ILUC-risk biomass: Yield increase or cultivation on previously unused land

Yield improvement on existing land through improved practices (Additionality measures)*

Approach 1

Cultivation on unused, abandoned or severely degraded land

Approach 2

Sustainability certification under a recognized voluntary certification scheme (e.g. ISCC)

+

Low ILUC risk certification under a recognized voluntary certification scheme

* Additional feedstock can only be claimed as “low ILUC-risk” after the implementation of an additionality measure

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Cultivation of biomass on abandoned and severely degraded land is attractive, because the whole harvest can be claimed as low ILUC-risk

Land category	Dynamic Yield Baseline	Proof of Additionality	Additionality measure
 Unused Land	0	✓	✗
 Abandoned land	0	✗	✗
 Severely degraded land	0	✗	✗
 Cropland	Calculation of DYB	✓	✓

Different additionality measures can be applied to achieve yield increase for additional biomass

Additionality category	Additionality measure	Example
Replanting (for perennial crops)	Choice of crop varieties	Higher yield or short rotation variety, better adaptation to eco-physiological or climatic conditions.
Mechanisation	Machinery	Adoption of machinery that reduces/ complements existing workforce input to boost output or reduce losses. This could include sowing, precision farming, harvesting machinery or machinery to reduce post-harvest losses.
Multi-cropping	Sequential cropping	Introduction of second crop on same land in the same year.
	Agroforestry	Introduction of productive woody plants onto arable lands
	Intercropping	Introduction of a crop grown amidst the main crop or in-between ist planting rows, intended to be harvested or to be supportive to the harvest of the main crop
Management	Soil management	Mulching instead of plowing, low tillage; ridges; biochar application; crop residue integration
	Fertilisation	Optimisation of fertilisation regime, use of precision agriculture.
	Crop protection	Change in weed, pest and disease control, consistent with the principles of integrated pest management laid out in DIR 2009/128
	Pollination	Improved pollination practices.
	Landscape elements	Contour ploughing on steep slopes, terraces, buffer strips, field margins
	Genotype selection and improvement	Appropriate crop genotype selection and improvement
	Irrigation	Vegetated waterways and drainage, precision irrigation, rainwater harvesting with low-cost practices
	Other	Leaves room for innovation, combinations of measures and unforeseen developments.

Replanting at the end of the crop lifetime is always necessary for a perennial crop. For replanting to count as an additionality measure, the economic operator must prove that their replanting goes beyond 'business as usual'.
Source: BIKE WP 5

Four pilots were conducted, testing the developed low ILUC-risk framework

United Kingdom

Project partner:

Lower Marsh Farm

Crop: Miscanthus

Low ILUC-risk approach: Improved management practices

Italy

Project partner:

Fattoria Della Piana/ Biogas Done Right

Crops: Corn, sorghum, wheat, grass, alpha alpha, olive

Low ILUC-risk approach: Cultivation on abandoned land

Uruguay

Project partner:

UPM

Crop: *Brassica*

Low ILUC-risk approach: sequential cropping

Kenya

Project partner: ENI

Crops: Cotton and castor oil

Low ILUC-risk approach: Cultivation on degraded and abandoned land; additional yield

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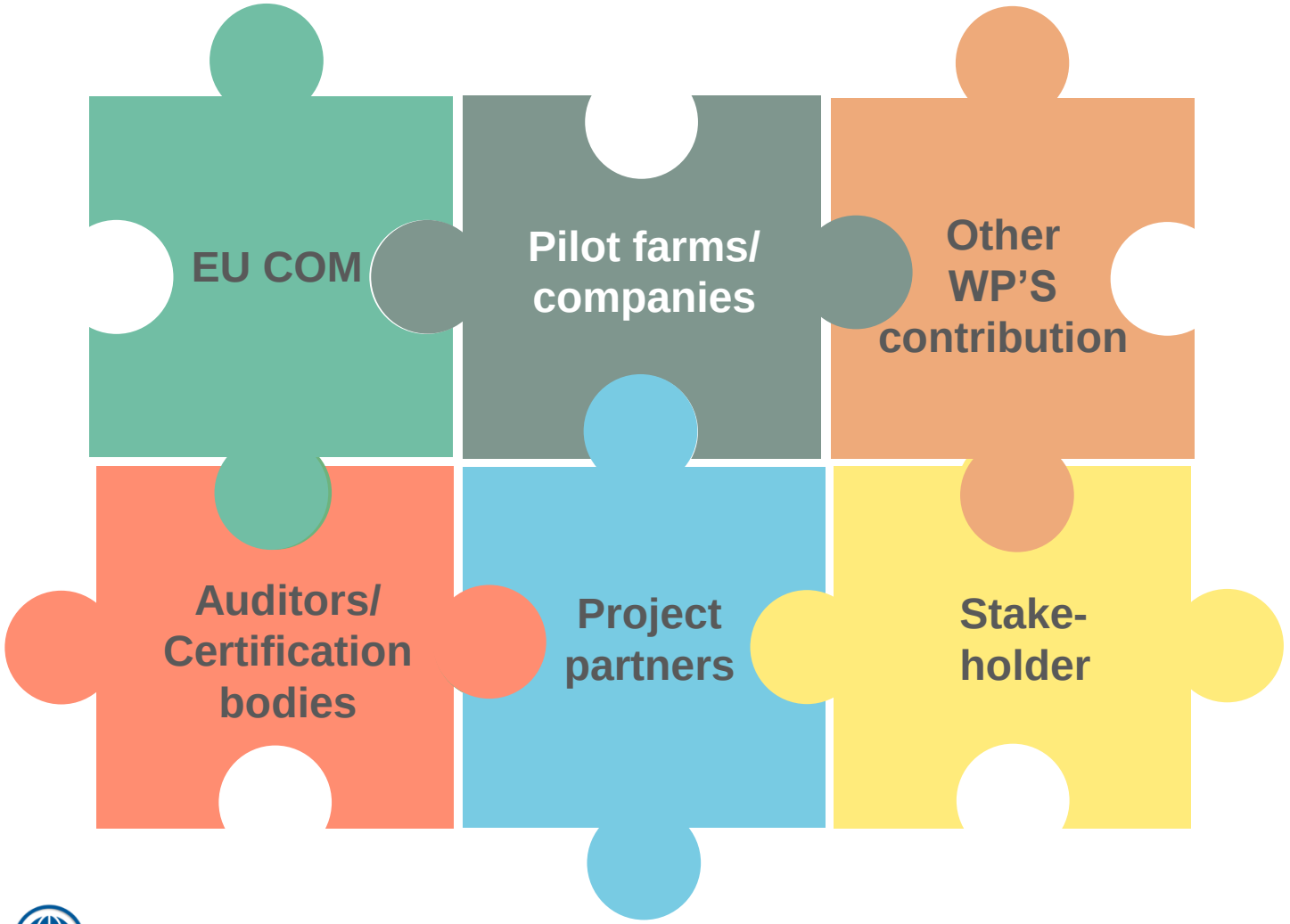
Farmers, auditors and pilot partners contributed to developing the certification approach for low ILUC-risk certification



EU COM:
- Low ILUC risk *framework*

Auditors/ certification bodies:
- Feedback audit/ audit process

Pilot audit companies:
- Input farmers/ companies

Project – project partners:
- Feedback/ input project partners

Project – work packages:
- Input from other WPs

Stakeholder:
- ISCC Public consultation

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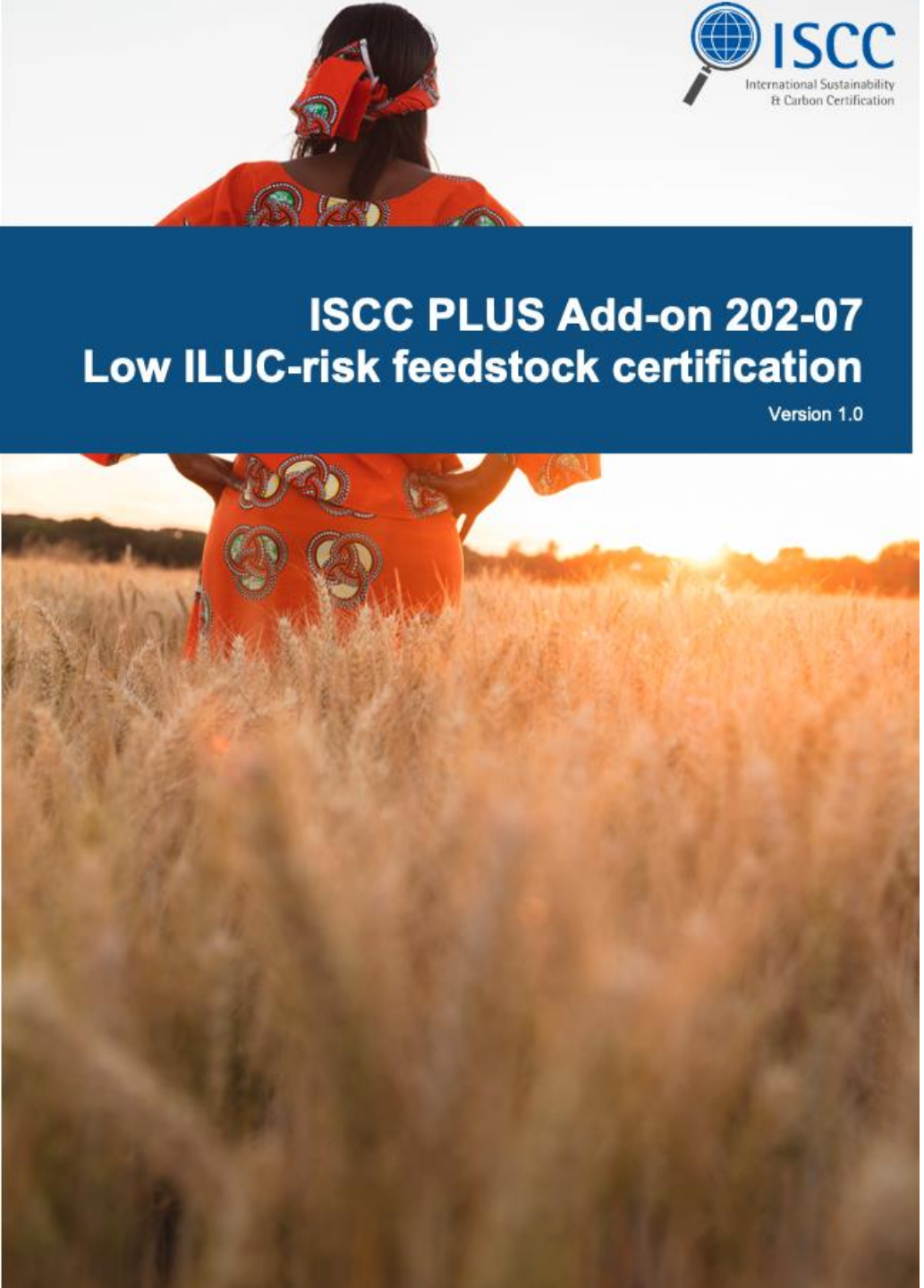

The ISCC PLUS system document was in public consultation

- Project findings included in draft ISCC PLUS system document
- Public consultation to receive feedback from ISCC stakeholders
- Feedback included in adjusted system document
- System document implemented in the ISCC PLUS standard

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Development of ISCC PLUS system document for low ILUC-risk certification

- The goal of the project was achieved:

  Development of an ISCC PLUS system document for low ILUC-risk certification

- Pilot audits testing the developed certification approach
- Including a large group of stakeholders (e.g. pilot partners, auditors, project partners, ISCC stakeholders)
- Combining different approaches/ requirements: e.g. EU COM, scientific papers, input from other WPs

Thank you!

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