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Partnership Sets Out Path to Certified Sustainable Coconut Oil in the Philippines

A program to develop a certified coconut oil supply chain to enhance sustainability and improve the livelihoods of 2,500 coconut growers in the Philippines has been launched.

It is a result of a partnership between the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH, BASF and Cargill. The partnership is co-financed by the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) through its program develoPPP.de.

The certified coconut oil supply chain program focuses on smallholder coconut growers in the southern Philippine island of Mindanao. It aims to raise farmers’ incomes by improving productivity and coconut oil quality.

It also will introduce the Sustainable Agricultural Network (SAN) standards as a basis for Rainforest Alliance Certification™ for coconut production.

On February 26, 2013, BASF released its full year results for 2012. This report documents the company’s economic, environmental and social performance and contains all significant facts and figures for the business year.

The 232-page BASF Report 2012 is addressed to financial and sustainability experts, shareholders and the interested public. BASF’s sustainability reporting has been oriented toward the Global Reporting Initiative (GRI) framework since 2003. For the BASF Report 2012, the GRI has once again confirmed that BASF’s reporting fulfills the internationally recognized and expanded GRI guideline 3.1 with the application level A+.

The online version of the report is available on the internet. Additional features allow you to compile your own tables, texts and diagrams, and enable quick selection according to topic. A direct link to the previous year’s report makes comparison easy.
BASF with positive results in goals for environment, health and safety

In 2012, BASF reduced its greenhouse gas emissions by 31.7% per metric ton of sales product and increased its energy efficiency by 19.3% compared with baseline 2002. The number of work-related accidents dropped in the same period by 48%. The progress in environment, health and safety are documented in the integrated report of BASF that can be found here.

BASF has set itself worldwide goals for the year 2020. The company aims to reduce its greenhouse gas emissions by 40% per metric ton of sales product and increase energy efficiency by 35% compared with baseline 2002 (excluding Oil & Gas). “These goals are very ambitious, because our chemical plants already work efficiently above average in an European comparison. Altogether we are well on track with climate protection,” said Dr. Ulrich von Deessen, President of BASF’s Competence Center Environment, Health and Safety and Climate Protection Officer.

A new study conducted by BASF and Dürr shows how car manufacturers can improve eco-efficiency of OEM coating

Integrated Processes without primer or with wet-on-wet application offer significant advantages for OEM coating for both business and the environment.

The coating process is one of the most energy-intensive process steps in industrial automotive manufacturing. Volatile organic compounds (VOCs), energy consumption and CO2 balance play a major role. “The study confirms the path we have consistently followed for some three decades as we have developed waterborne, solvent-reduced or solvent-free paint systems. For instance, as early as 25 years ago, we introduced the first waterborne paint for OEM coating. We’re pioneers and technological leaders in this area,” said Dr. Walter Jouck, head of technology management at BASF Coatings.
From materials to sustainable buildings

Architects are faced with many dilemmas when choosing the appropriate materials for their projects. For example, they increasingly want to know what kind of environmental impact a certain construction product will have and how it will contribute to the sustainability of a building. The implementation of European standards means that there are now accepted scientific methods for measuring sustainability, and BASF is an active supporter of these.

Construction and housing account for around 40% of the planet’s energy consumption and for around 30% of global CO2 emissions. BASF and others attending the international Green Building Summit in Istanbul most recently, consequently agreed that there is still a lot of work to do in order to achieve a greater degree of sustainability in the building sector.

“Fully developed assessment systems now exist in the EU”, says BASF employee David Baumgart, an Advocacy Expert for the European Construction Competence Center (ECCC), the team that coordinates BASF’s European industry activities in construction. David was one of the speakers at the Green Building Summit in Istanbul, where he talked about Green Building Ratings, a means of evaluating the sustainability of a building on the basis of defined criteria. He also explained the advantages of Environmental Product Declarations (EPDs), which determine the contribution made by a construction product to the overall sustainability of a building. BASF already provides EPDs for many of its product groups, obtained via associations and institutions such as the German Institute for Construction and Environment.
One company – One Code of Conduct

Starting March 21, all BASF employees around the world receive the new edition of BASF’s Code of Conduct together with a letter from both Kurt Bock, Chairman of the Board of Executive Directors, and Chief Compliance Officer Helmut Rödder.

The BASF Code of Conduct is binding for all employees of the BASF Group worldwide. It summarizes important laws and corporate guidelines that govern the behavior of all BASF employees in their dealings with business partners, office holders, other employees, and society.

The new edition of the brochure consolidates the compliance rules that have already been binding to date and will continue to be effective. The brochure presents them in a comprehensible manner in order to give employees a better overview of these rules. Some chapters (on human rights, labor and social standards, conflicts of interest, and data protection) have been added to the new Code of Conduct. The respective laws and corporate rules on these topics, nevertheless, have been binding before.

BASF representative elected to CSR Europe Board

On April 18, the General Assembly of CSR Europe elected Thorsten Pinkepank, Director of Corporate Sustainability Relations at BASF, onto its board. With around 70 multinational corporations and 37 national partner organizations, CSR Europe is the leading European business network for Corporate Social Responsibility.
Together with leading experts from the food industry, agriculture, academia and NGOs, BASF laid the foundation to bring forward solutions for sustainability assessment, an essential part of the agricultural business. Under the theme “Perspectives for Agriculture – Progress through Sustainability Assessment”, BASF hosted this international symposium on March 21 and 22 in Berlin.

“This symposium was designed to jointly increase transparency and clarity in the field of sustainability assessment. BASF’s guiding principle is “You can only manage what you have measured”,” says Markus Heldt, President of BASF’s Crop Protection division. “For the prosperity of agriculture, it is fundamental to manage and show progress in its sustainable development.”

Markus Heldt, President of BASF’s Crop Protection division at BASF’s Symposium on Sustainability Assessment in Agriculture

Contact
Do you have questions or comments?
We are looking forward to your suggestions.

BASF SE,
Corporate Sustainability Relations
Jacob-Nicolas Sprengel
E-Mail: sustainability@basf.com
Internet: www.basf.com/sustainability

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