

Sustainability Certification of Novel SAF Pathways

Online Webinar

2 October 2025

Agenda



| <i>Time</i> | <i>Topic</i> | <i>Speaker</i> |
|------------------|--|-------------------------------------|
| 14.00 - 14.10 pm | Welcome & Introduction | Esther Hegel (RSB) - ICARUS |
| 14.10 – 14.25 pm | Novel SAF Pathways in ICARUS | Berend Vreugdenhil (TNO) |
| 14.25 – 14.45 pm | Understanding SAF Certification: EU RED, CORSIA and Voluntary Schemes | George Deslandes (RSB) - ICARUS |
| 14.45 – 15.05 pm | From Innovation to Certification: Insights from the SusAlgaeFuel Project | Darren Carty & Agnes Thornton (SFS) |
| 15.05 – 15.10 pm | The ICARUS SAF Certification Guidance | Esther Hegel (RSB) - ICARUS |
| 15.10 – 15.25 pm | Open Discussion & Online Poll | |
| 15.25 – 15.30 pm | Closing Remarks and Next Steps | Esther Hegel (RSB) - ICARUS |

- This webinar is recorded for internal purposes.
- Recording & Slides will be shared on the ICARUS website after the webinar.



INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION FOR
SUSTAINABLE AVIATION BIOFUELS



Welcome & Introduction

Esther Hegel, RSB

ICARUS Project Partner



ICARUS at a glance



- **Duration & Framework:**

Runs from **October 1, 2023**, to **September 30, 2026**, under the EU's **Horizon Europe** RIA scheme (Grant Agreement No. 101122303).

- **Budget**

Total cost approximately **€3.16 million**, fully funded by the EU.

- **Consortium**

Featuring **20 partners** spanning Europe and Mission Innovation Countries (Canada, India, Brazil), with additional input via an External Executive Advisory Board from the USA.

Partners



Laboratório Colaborativo para as Biomembranas



INTERNATIONAL CROPS RESEARCH INSTITUTE FOR THE SEMI-ARID TROPICS

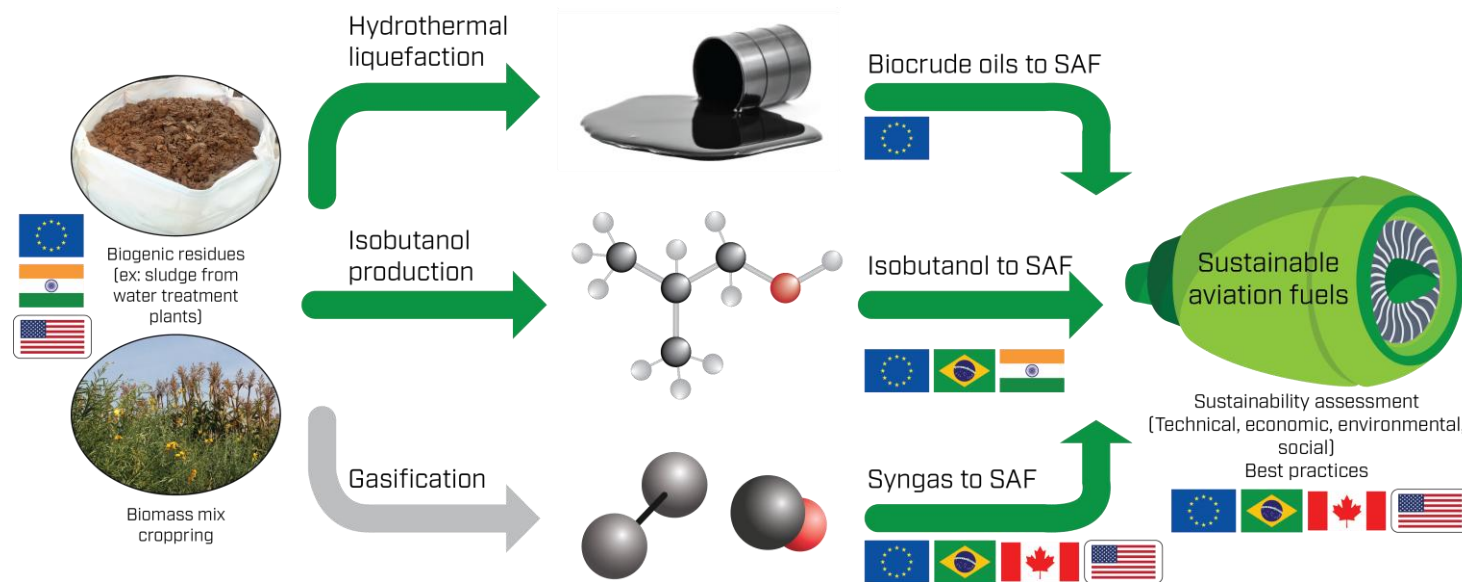


Associated Partners

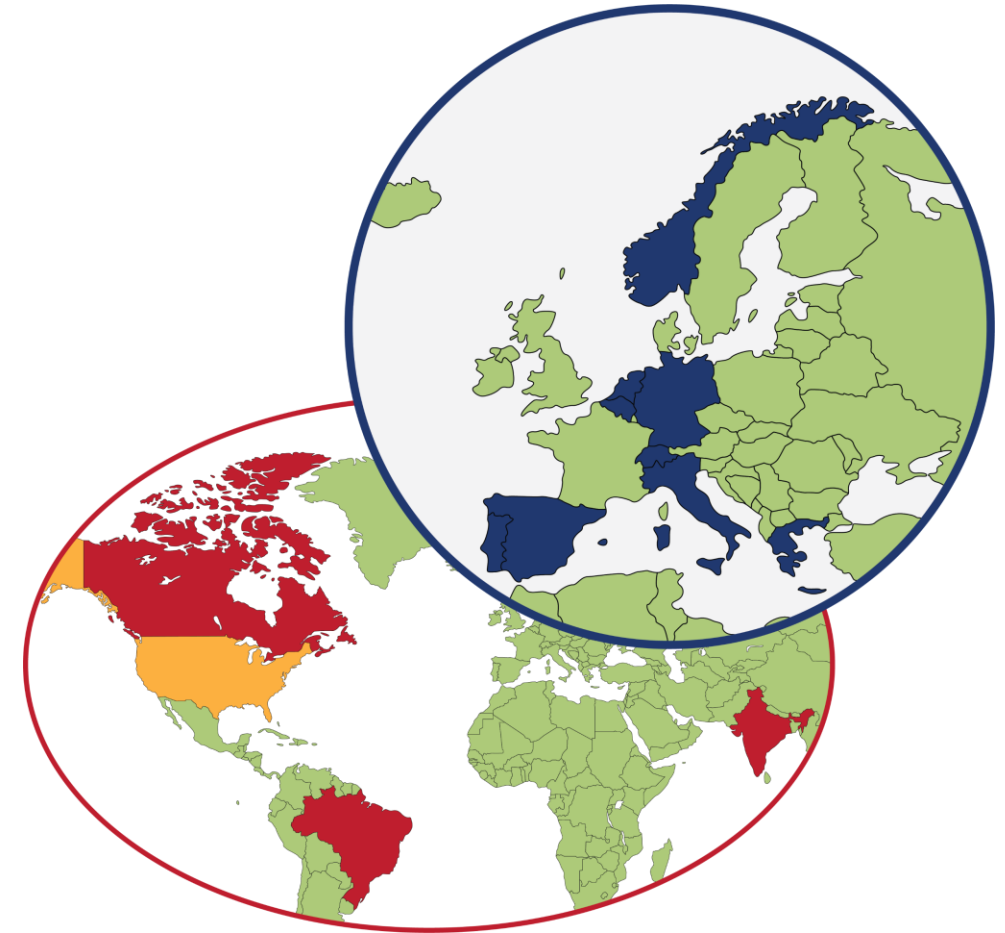
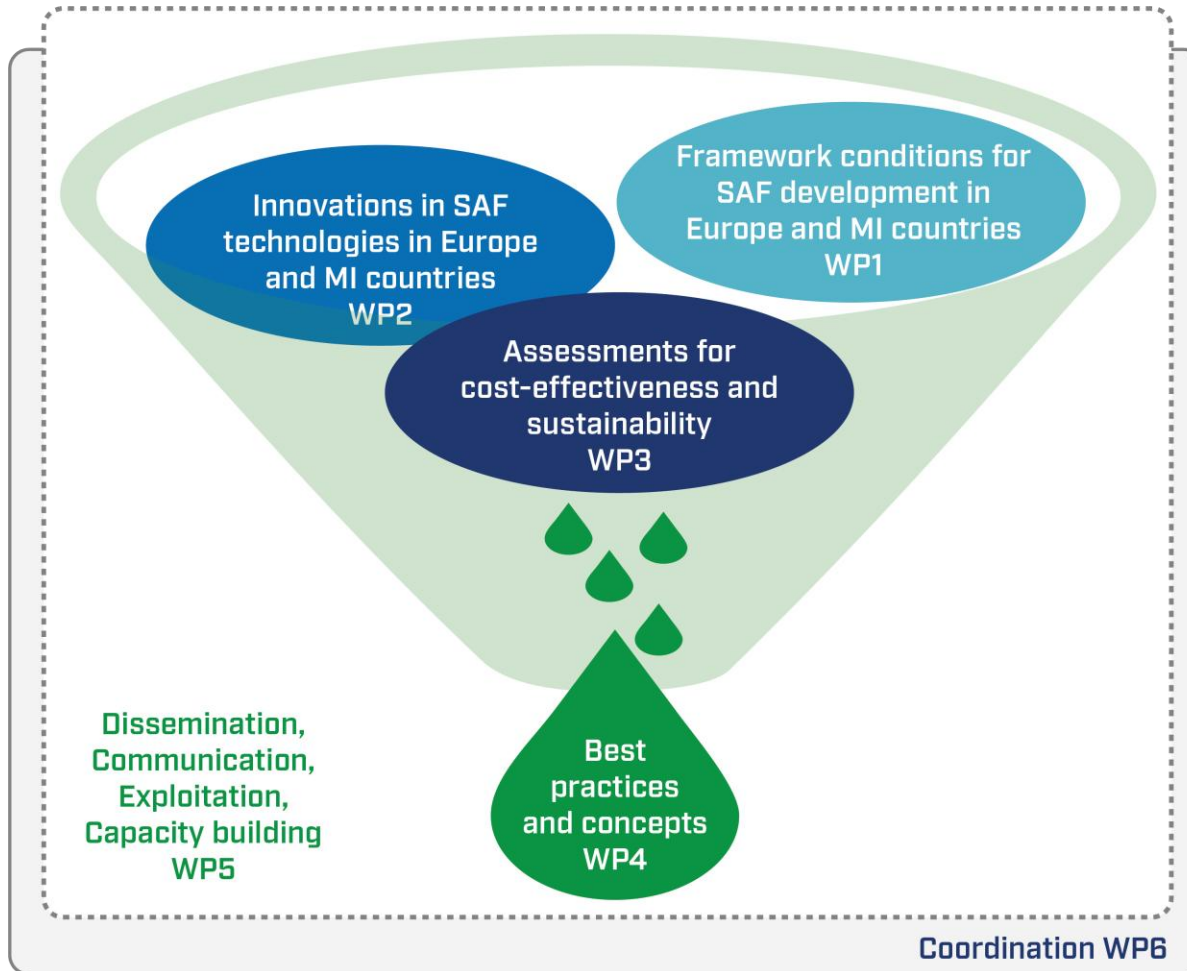


ICARUS at a glance

Aims to develop future best practices and concepts along the entire value chain for the three technological pathways selected in ICARUS for accelerating the scale-up of sustainable aviation biofuels production worldwide.



ICARUS at a glance



Spotlight: Novel SAF Pathways

The relevance of novel SAF pathways in mitigating aviation's climate impact

- SAF is recognised as a **cornerstone** for reducing aviation emissions and enabling carbon-neutral growth.
- To date, only eight SAF production pathways are **ASTM-approved** to be blended and used with kerosene.
- **Scaling challenge**: Current feedstocks and technologies alone cannot meet future demand cost-effectively.

→ Novel pathways are critical, as they have the potential to:

- Unlock **novel feedstocks**, including sustainable low-ILUC bio-feedstocks (e.g. lignocellulosic biomass, algae), wastes and residues, as well as captured CO₂ and renewable electricity.
- Enable new and more efficient **production routes**.
- Improve **cost-competitiveness** and scalability.
- Diversify feedstocks to strengthen **supply security**.
- **Enhance sustainability** across the full life cycle.

Why Sustainability Certification matters



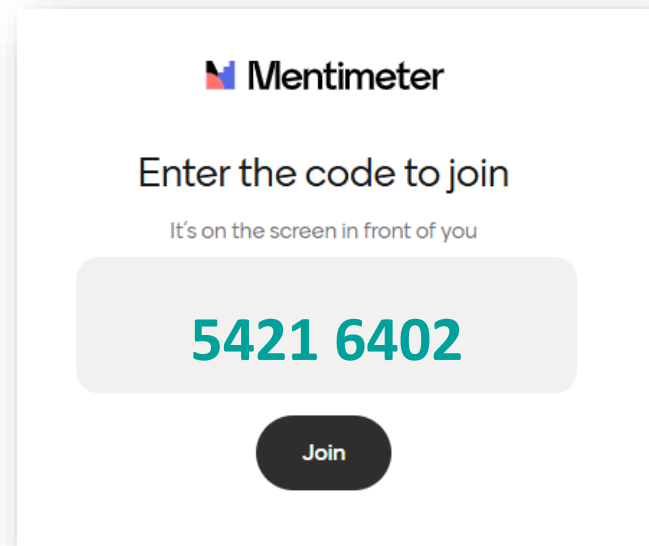
1. **ASTM certification ensures technical performance**, but **sustainability certification is needed** to guarantee environmental and social integrity.
2. **Certification is key for market access**, since only certified SAF can qualify under EU and global schemes, and only then deliver recognised climate benefits.
3. **Different regions apply different schemes (e.g., EU RED / CORSIA)**, creating a complex and sometimes fragmented certification landscape.
4. **Sustainability must be integrated early**: Project developers and researchers should consider certification requirements already during R&D to ensure later compliance.

→ Today's Webinar: Shaping ICARUS outcomes

- **Navigating certification is challenging** – today's session explores the complexity of sustainability certification for novel SAF pathways.
- **ICARUS is developing guidance** – a 2026 public deliverable will support researchers and developers in applying certification. **Your feedback today will help shape it!**

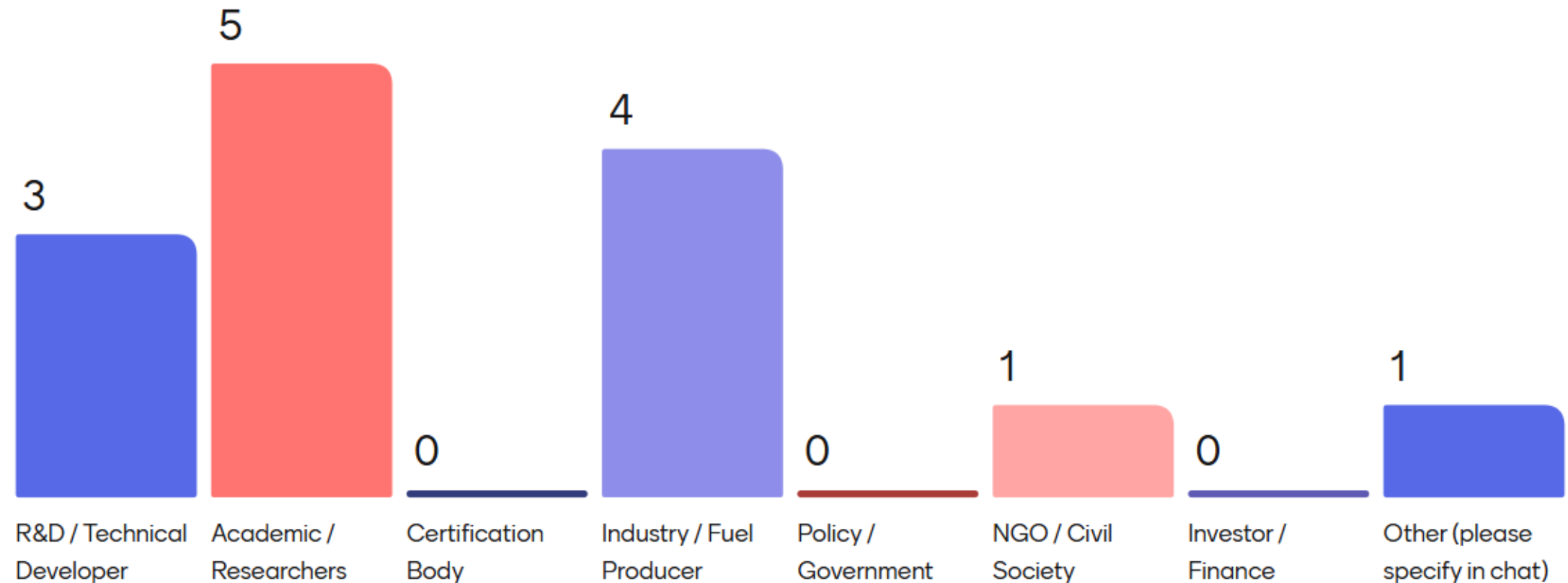
We want to hear from you!

1. Take your phone/computer
2. Scan the QR code OR go to www.menti.com & enter the code: 5421 6402



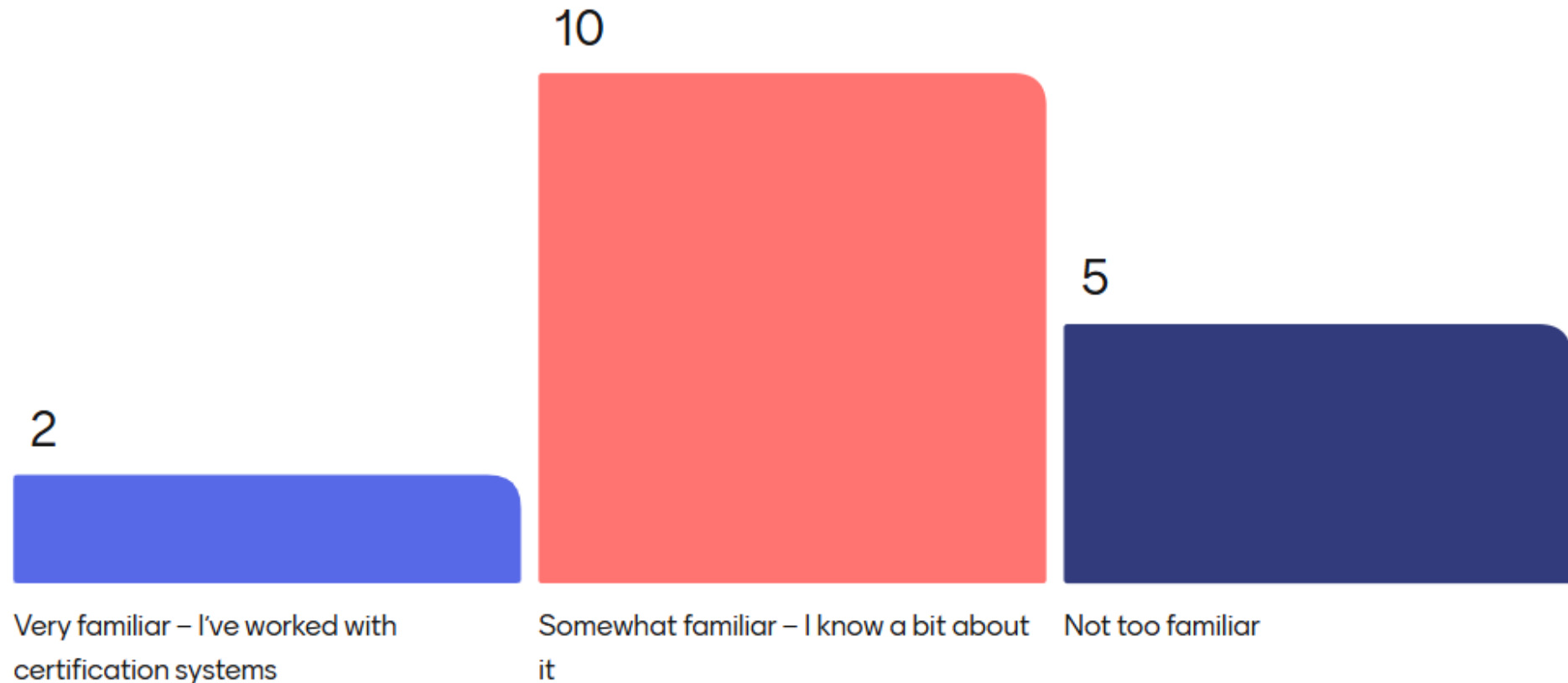
Multiple-choice question

What is your background or role in the SAF ecosystem?



Multiple-choice question

How familiar are you with SAF certification?





INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION FOR
SUSTAINABLE AVIATION BIOFUELS



Novel SAF Pathways in ICARUS

Berend Vreugdenhil, TNO
Specialist gasification



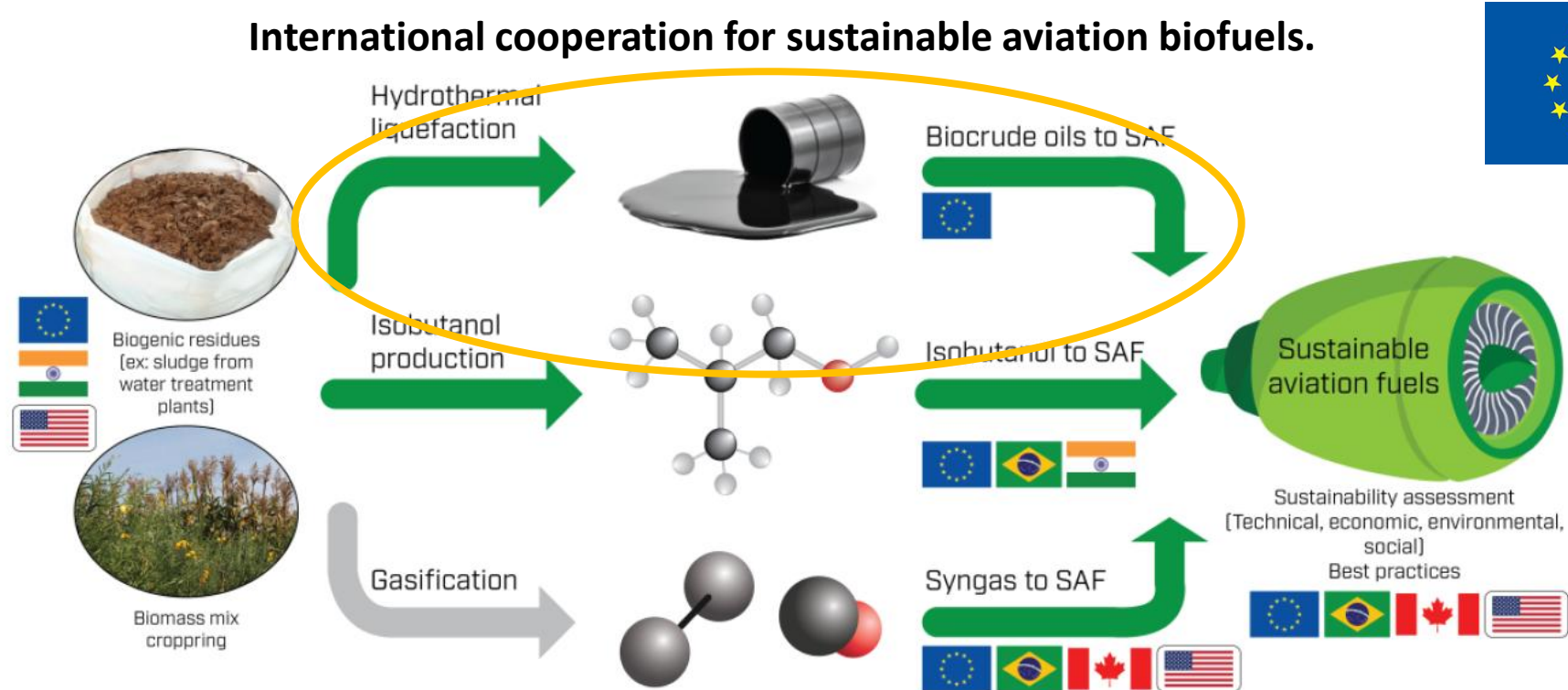
Sustainability Certification of Novel SAF pathways

Webinar

Date: 2nd October 2025

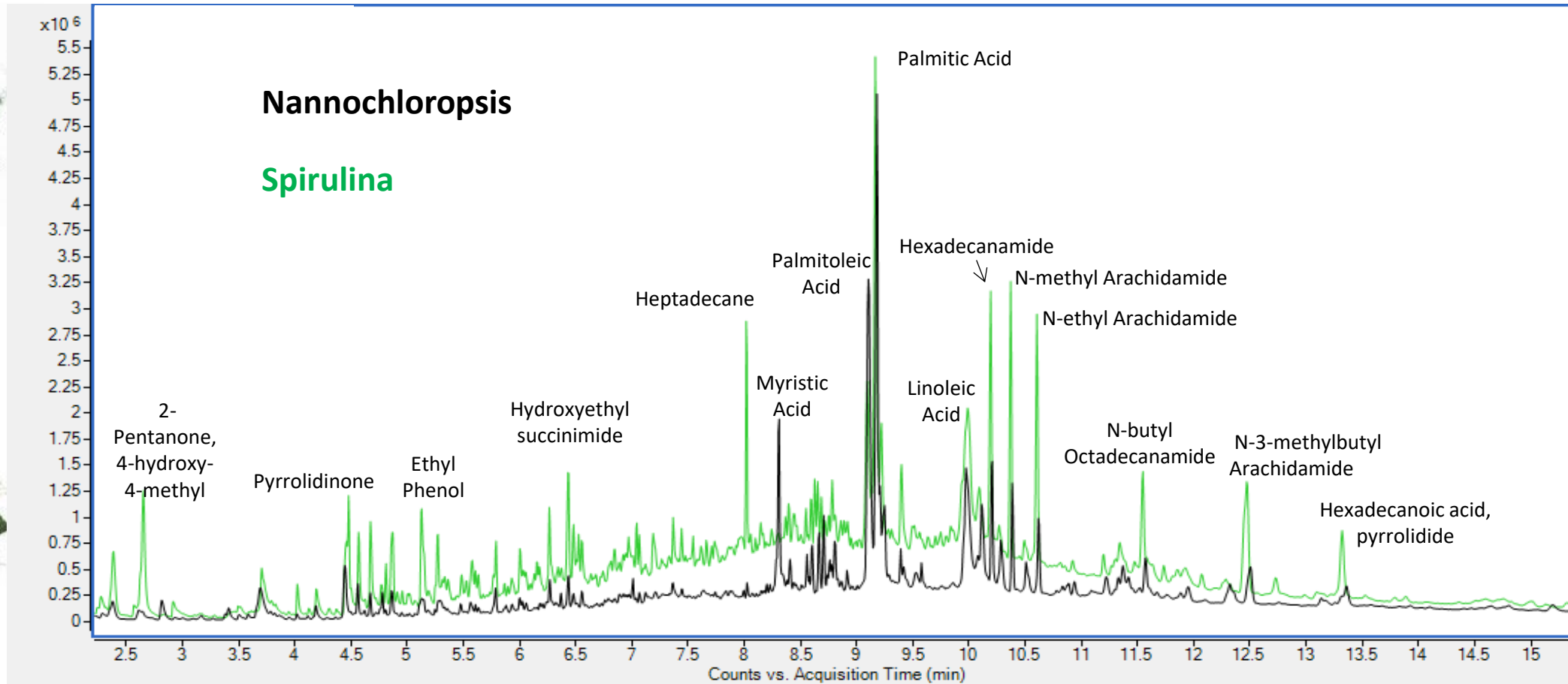
Berend Vreugdenhil

The ICARUS project

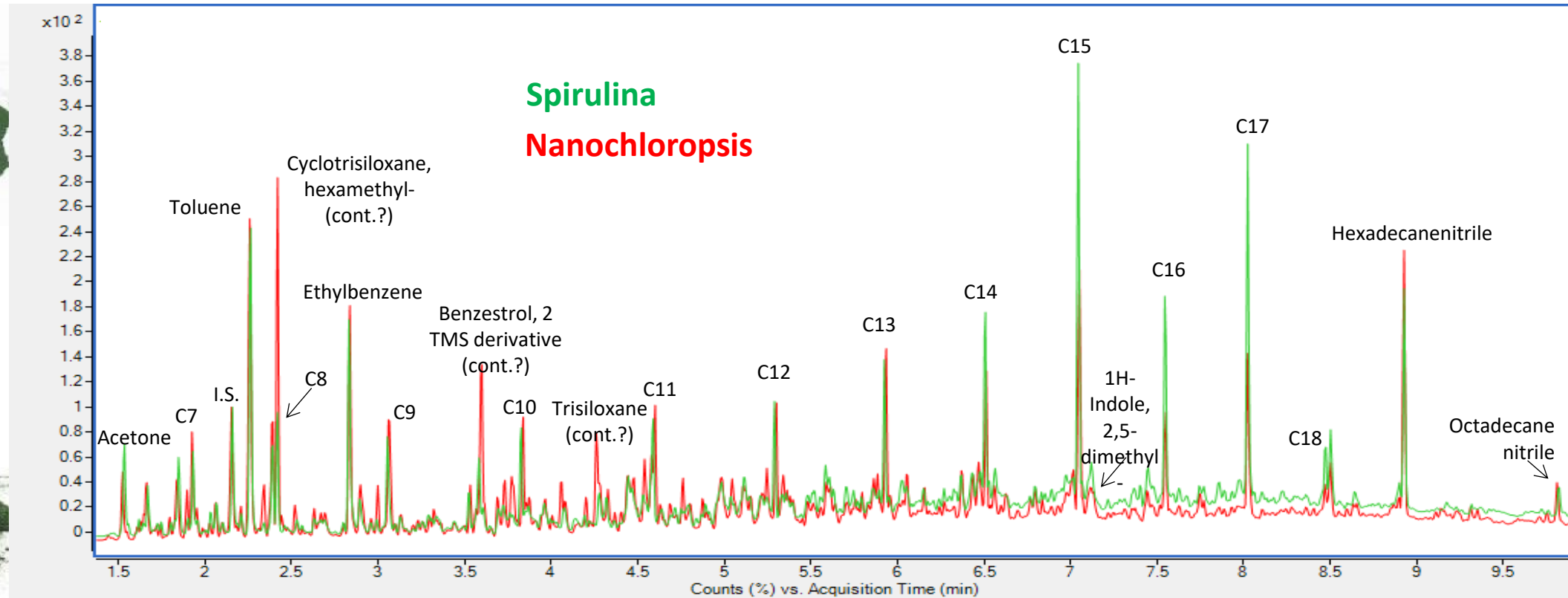


Aim: "Accelerate the deployment of three SAF production pathways by focusing on key technologies that currently limit their scalability."

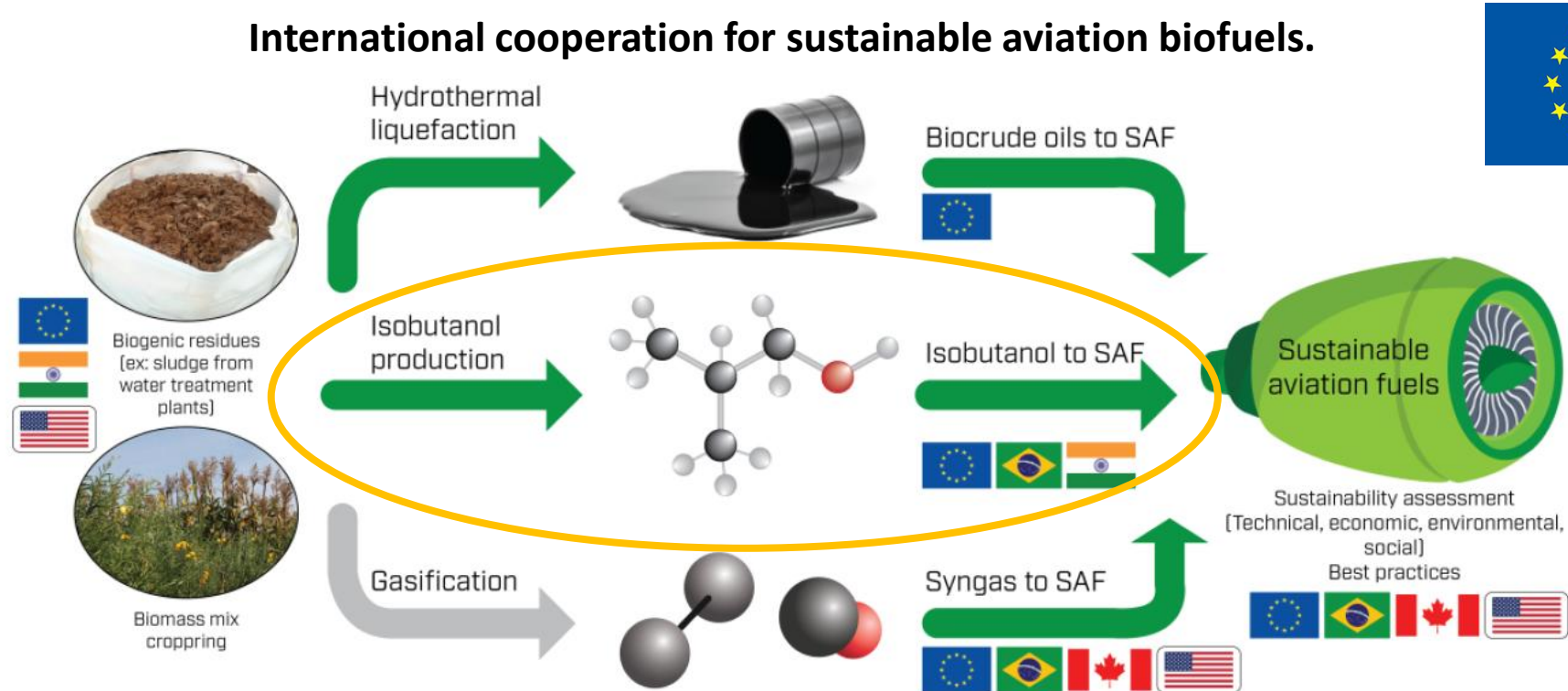
Bio-oil to SAF pathways – N as an issue



Bio-oil to SAF pathways – After HDO



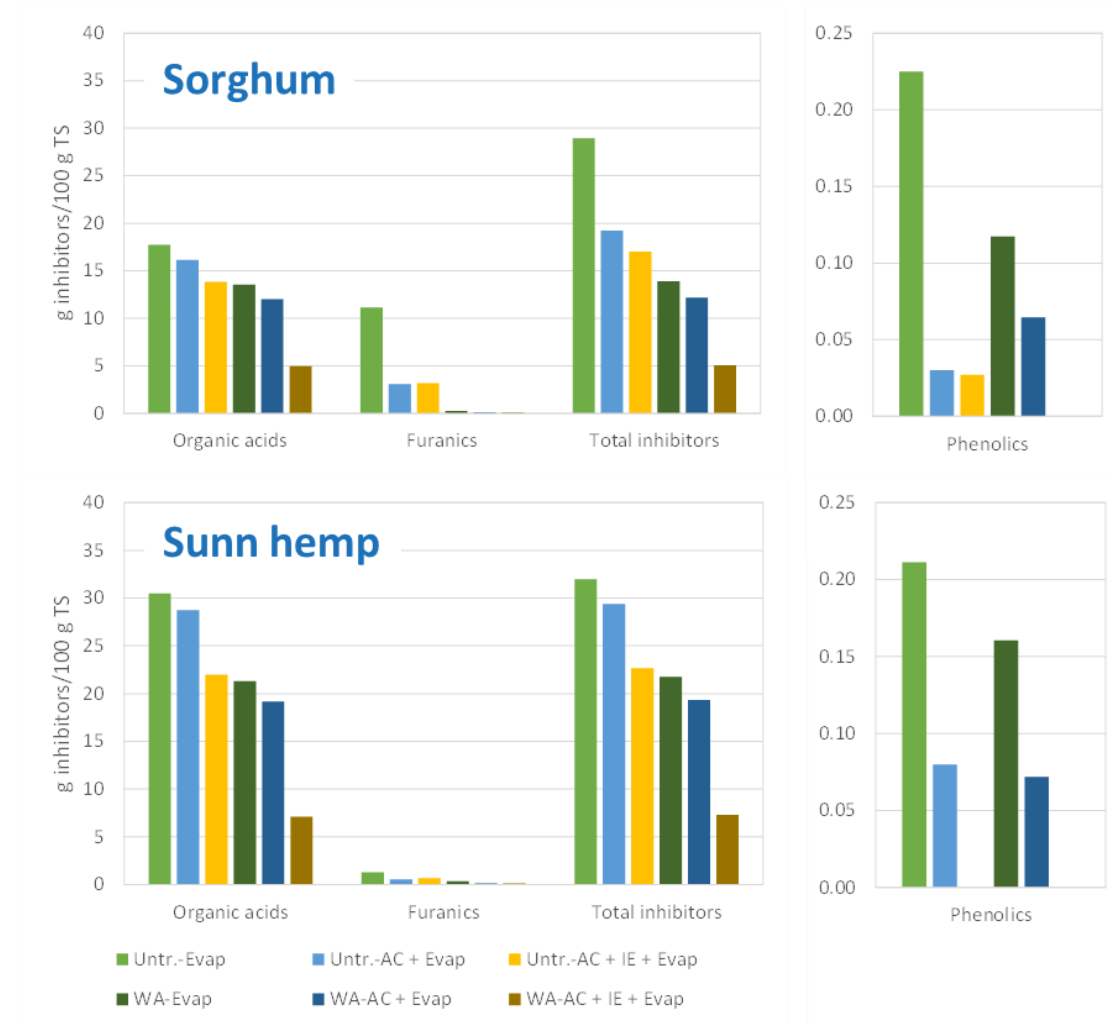
The ICARUS project



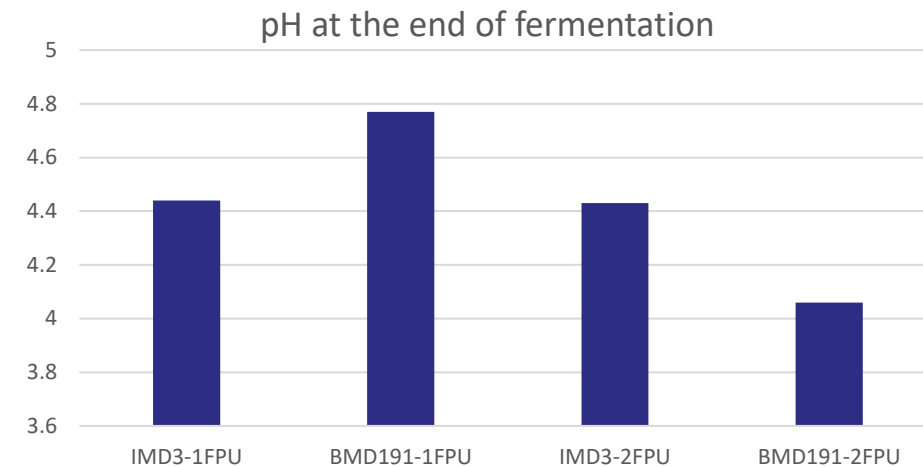
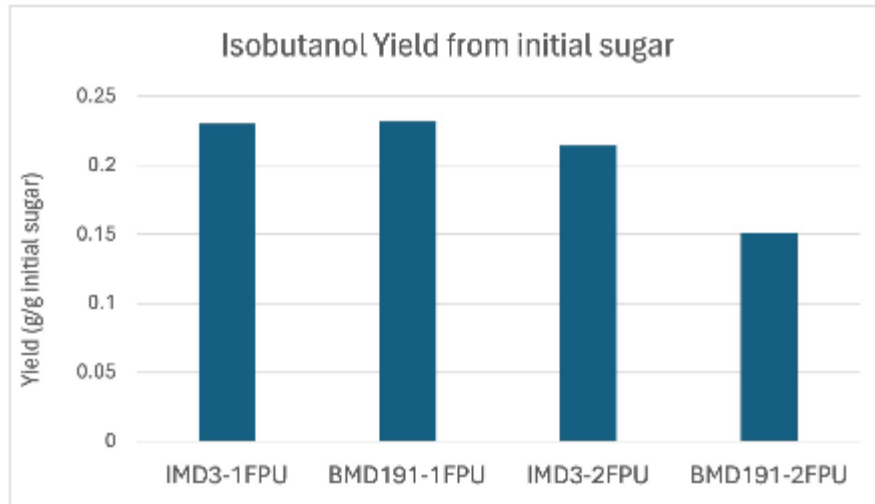
Aim: "Accelerate the deployment of three SAF production pathways by focusing on key technologies that currently limit their scalability."

Isobutanol to SAF pathway – reducing enzymes

- Isobutanol is produced from sugars.
- ICARUS focusses on converting both C5 and C6 sugars simultaneously to iso-butanol
- Strain development is focussing on utilizing both as well insitu production of enzymes
- First step is providing real sugars from 2nd generation feedstocks



Isobutanol yield

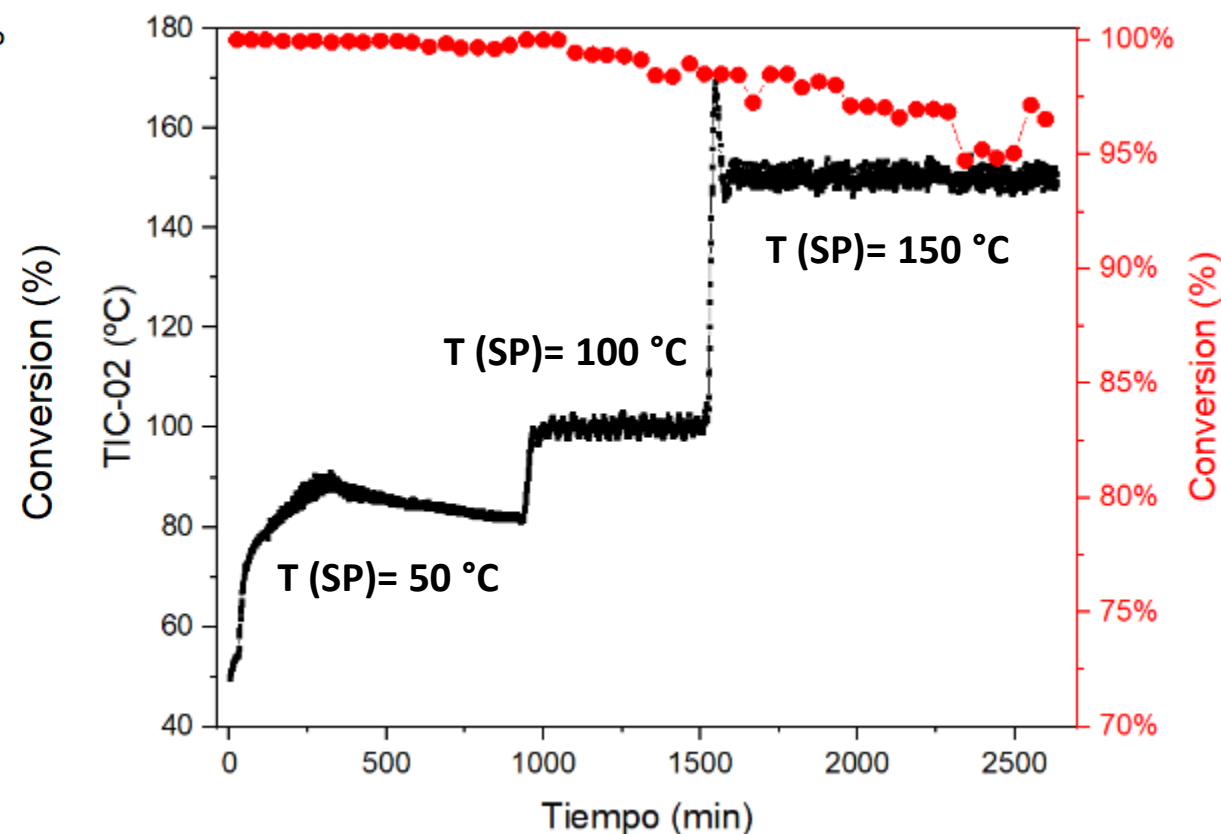
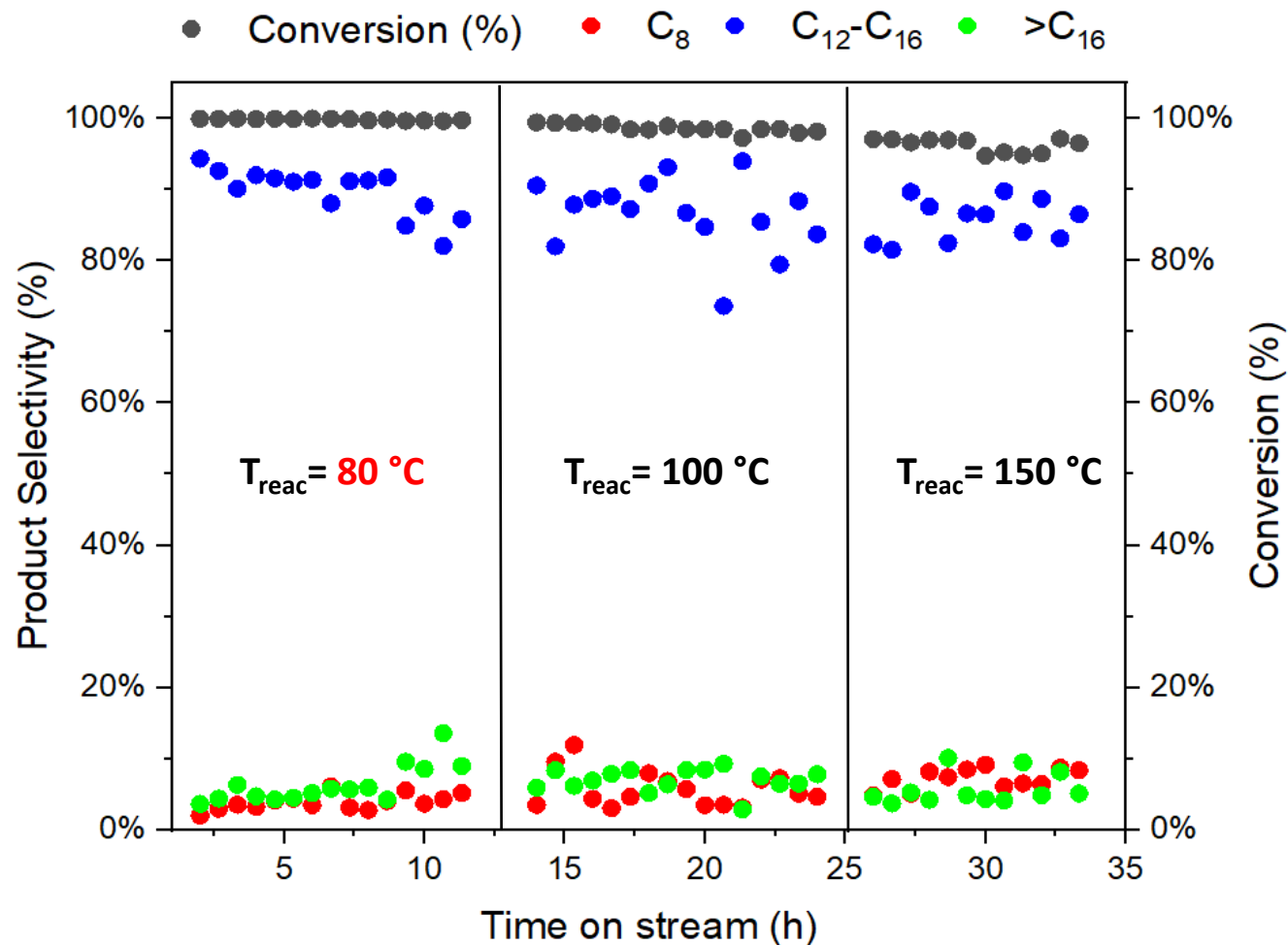


- Similar yield of isobutanol by IMD3 and BMD191 in 1FPU condition, despite a lower final pH in IMD3
- Higher yield of isobutanol by IMD3 in 2FPU condition –
 - Possible positive effect of enzyme secretion by IMD3
 - Also associated to lower pH by BMD191 at the end of the fermentation

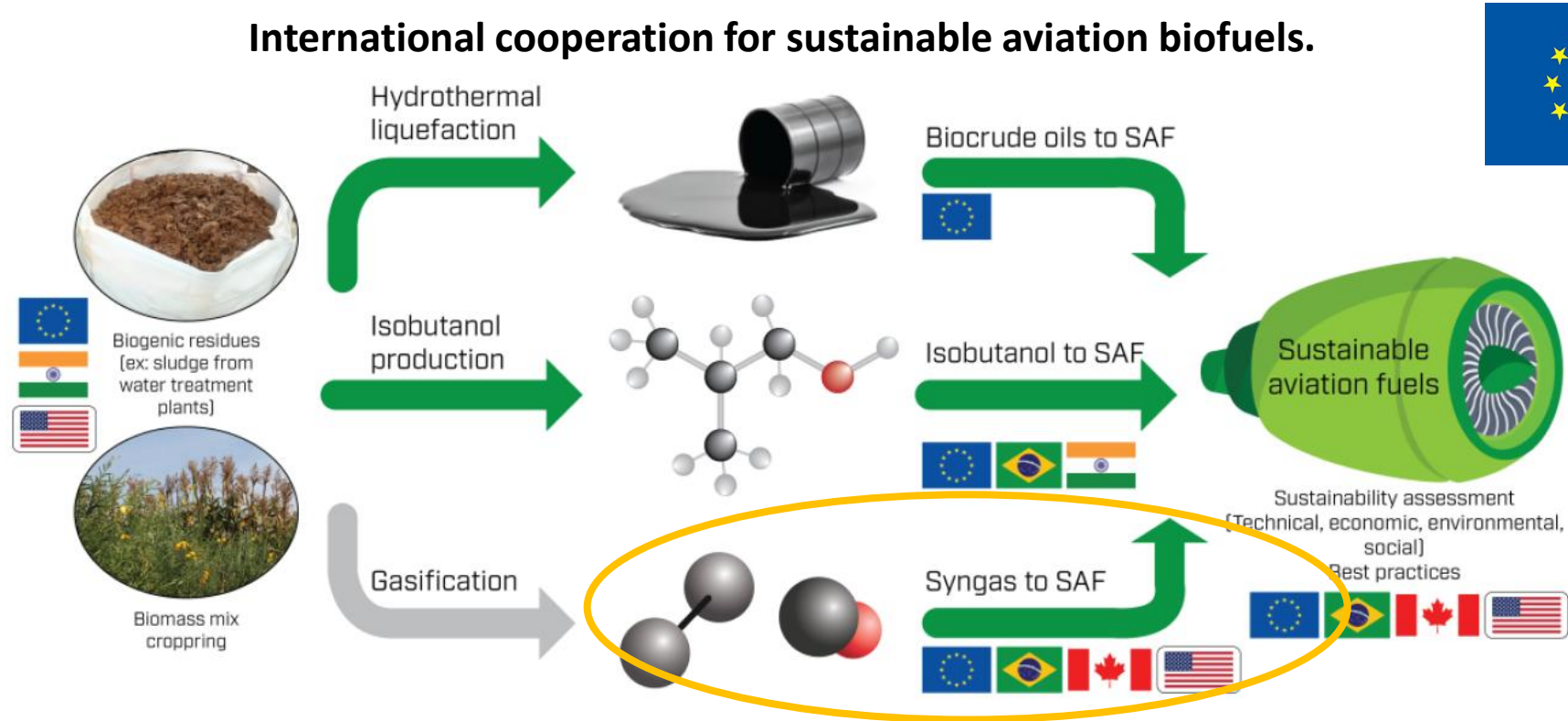
Catalytic tests:

0,50 g of cat., WHSV= $7,0 \text{ g}_{\text{isob}} \cdot \text{h}^{-1} \text{g}_{\text{cat}}^{-1}$ $P_{\text{isob}} = 5,7 \text{ bar}$
 Pretreatment: 350 °C 1 h with N_2

Sample (from commercial NH_4^+ -ZSM-5 ($\text{SiO}_2/\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3 = 23$): Previously calcined at 550 °C, 5 °C/min, isotherm 4 h) → **H-ZSM-5_23**
 dissolved in silica



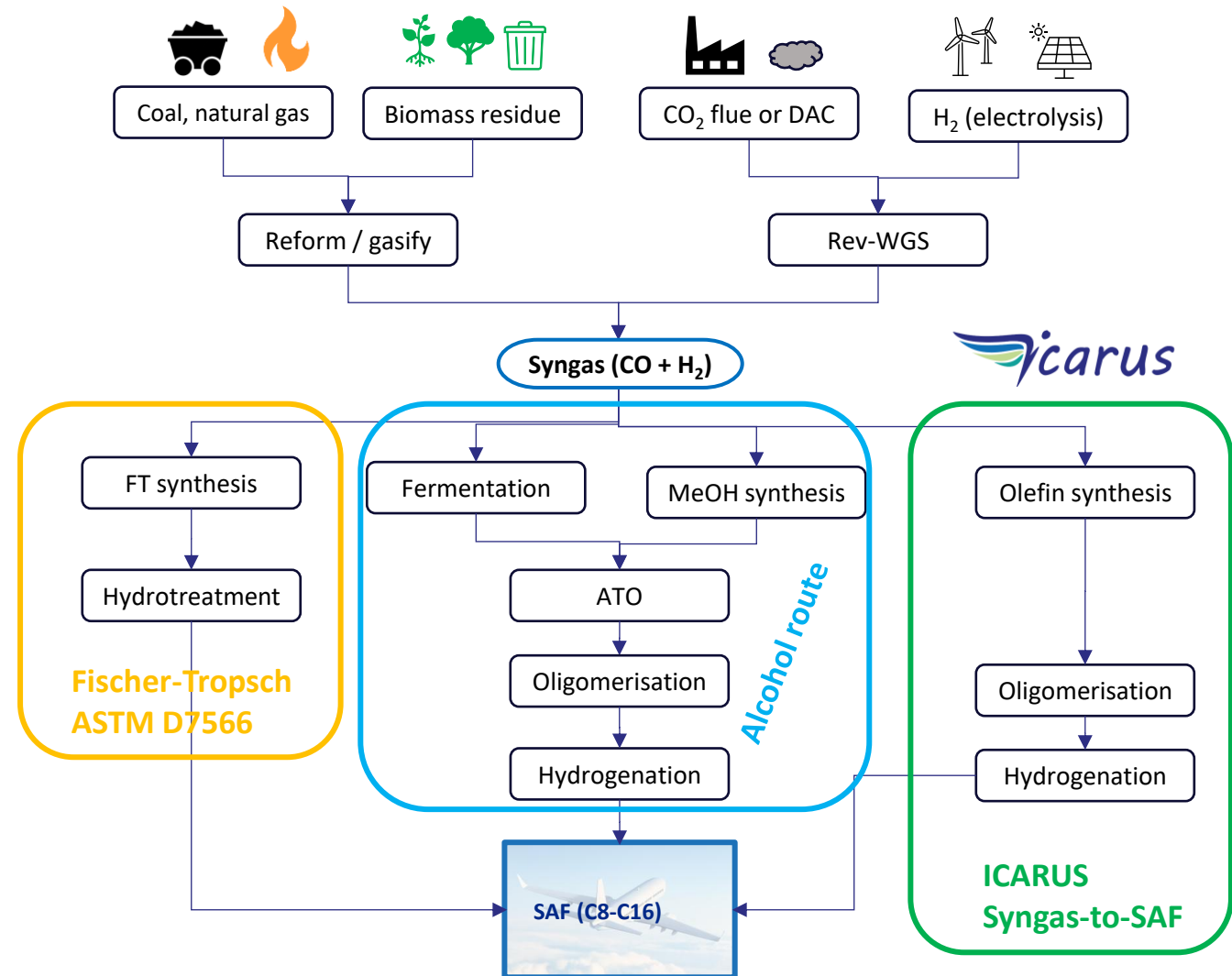
The ICARUS project



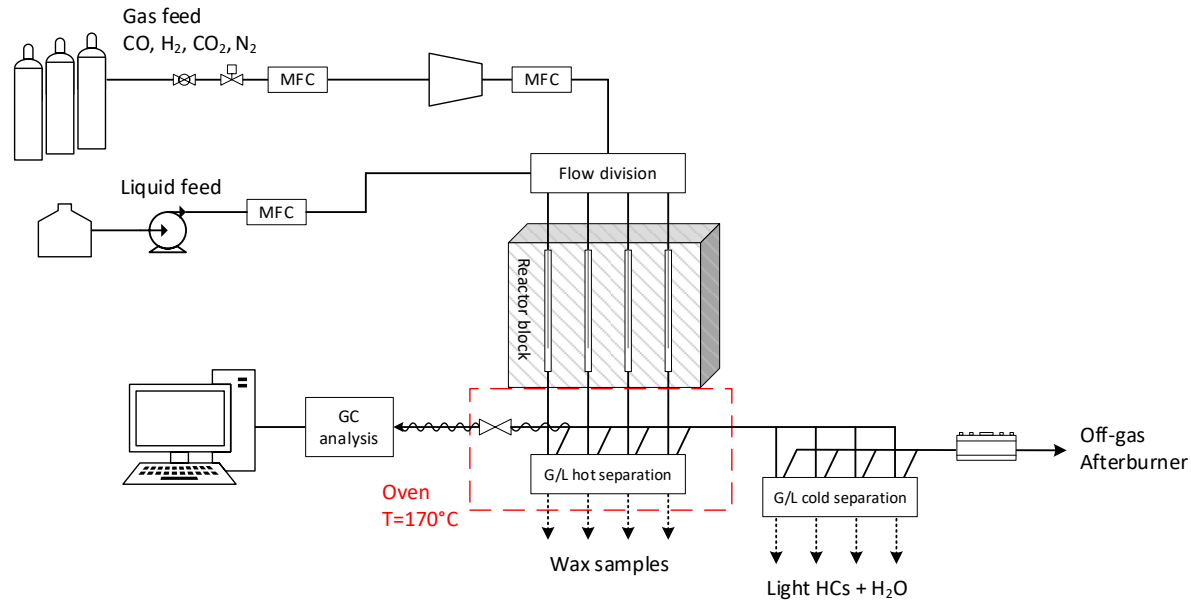
Aim: "Accelerate the deployment of three SAF production pathways by focusing on key technologies that currently limit their scalability."

Syngas-to-SAF overview

- Fischer-Tropsch **ASTM D7566** approved
 - Large scale, still fossil based, SAF as co-product
- **MeOH** route MtJ under ASTM approval
 - Exxon/UOP/Topsoe in lead
 - MeOH and MeOH-to-olefins established processes
 - Oligomerisation of C_2 - C_3 olefins challenging compared to higher olefins (still low TRL to SAF)
- Direct olefin synthesis intermediary system identified as promising
 - Direct olefins from syngas
 - Low C_2 - C_3 olefins for more facile oligomerisation

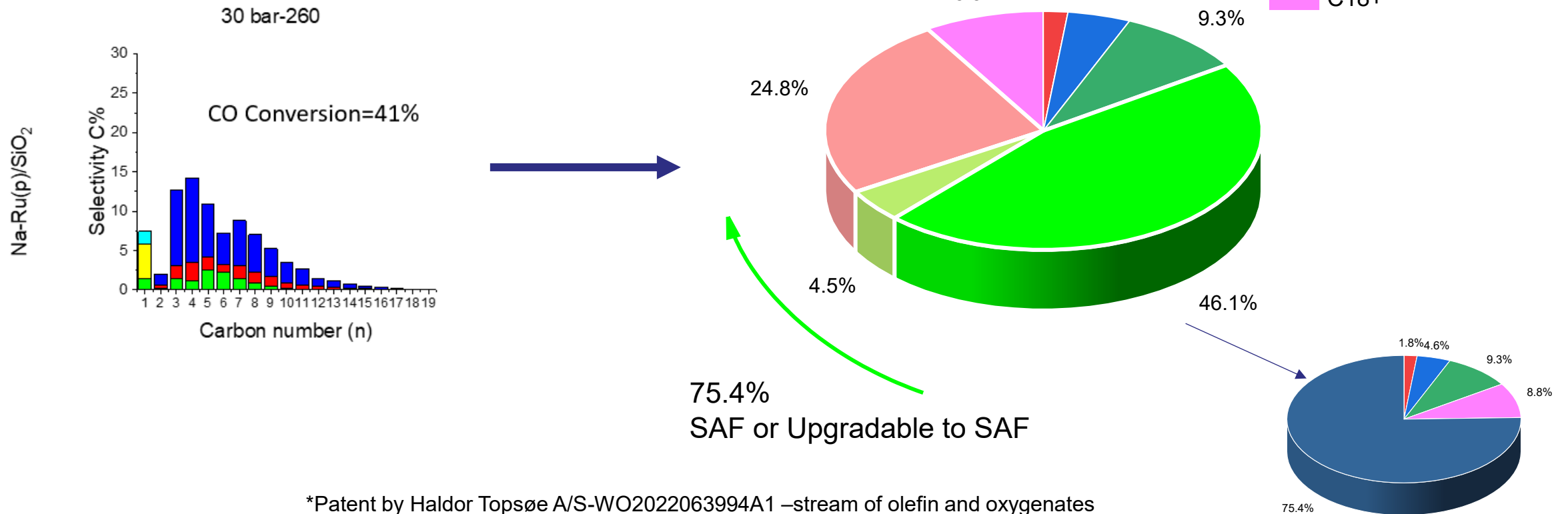


Reactor system



- 4 isothermal fixed bed (FT) reactors, ca. 1 g catalyst per reactor
- Up to 100 bar, 600 °C, 4-200 g/h gas feed, 10 g/h liquid feed (MeOH/water design)
- **Online GC hot gas analysis (syngas, C1-C6, incl. alcohols olefins)**
 - Collected liquid product offline GC-MS/FID, HPLC, other physicochemical

Product distribution

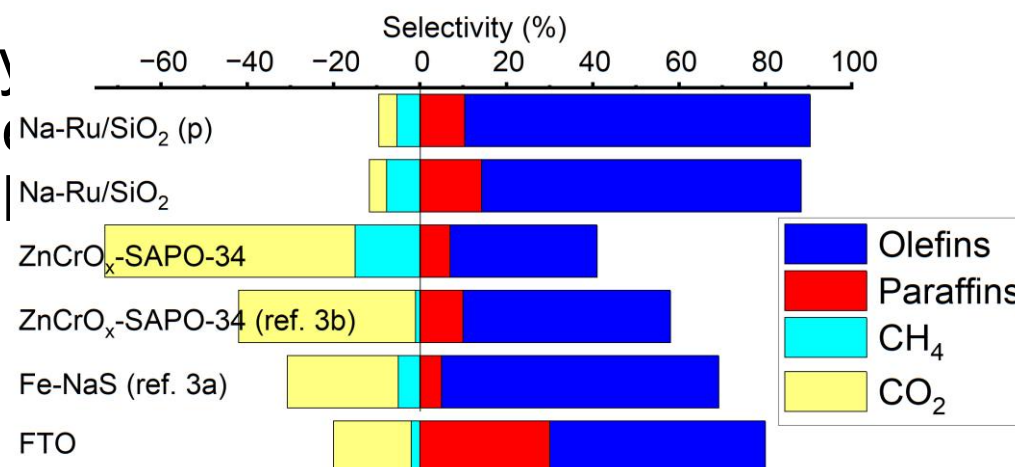


*Patent by Haldor Topsøe A/S-WO2022063994A1 –stream of olefin and oxygenates can be upgraded to jet fuel.

STO compared

- Selectivity comparison between the different syngas-to-olefin catalytic systems
- Na-Ru demonstrates high olefin selectivity at low WGS and C_1 formation

- Additionally SAF (oxygenated) though high



acid-catalysed oligom. to
minimal at low P
vity)

“To maximize SAF-range products, a feed composed of C_4 and C_5 olefins is most desirable, while controlled C_3 , C_6 , and C_7 olefin cofeeding and C_4/C_5 olefin feed ratio are required to finely tune the SAF product composition.”

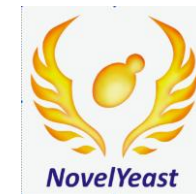
Innovations drive change

- Novel pathways SAF are not automatically cleared to be called SAF.
 - But Novel pathways are needed to achieve SAF mandates in the future
 - Certification is therefore important already at an early stage
-
- Good to keep in mind other outlets for your products, which allow a business case development on the road to SAF

Thank you



Partners



Associated Partners



ICARUS has received funding from the European Union's Horizon Europe research and innovation programme under grant agreement no. 101122303



Understanding SAF Certification: EU RED, CORSIA and Voluntary Schemes

George Deslandes, RSB
Certification lead



The world we are trying to create

RSB is a collaborative network that works together to *ACCELERATE* the transformation to a sustainable circular and bio-based economy

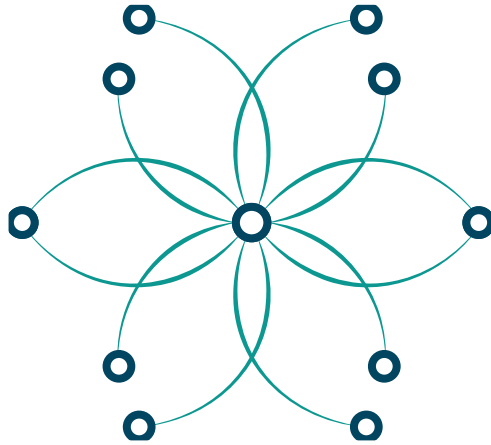


where climate change has been mitigated, ecosystems have been restored and livelihoods have been enhanced

Holistic approach to support creating a positive impact



Our mission



To advance the just and sustainable transition to a net-positive world, in collaboration with global partners from industry, civil society, policymakers and academia.

Our activities



Certification

Providing clarity on what good looks like



Programmes

Building capability to make change happen



Community

Enabling collaboration for greater impact

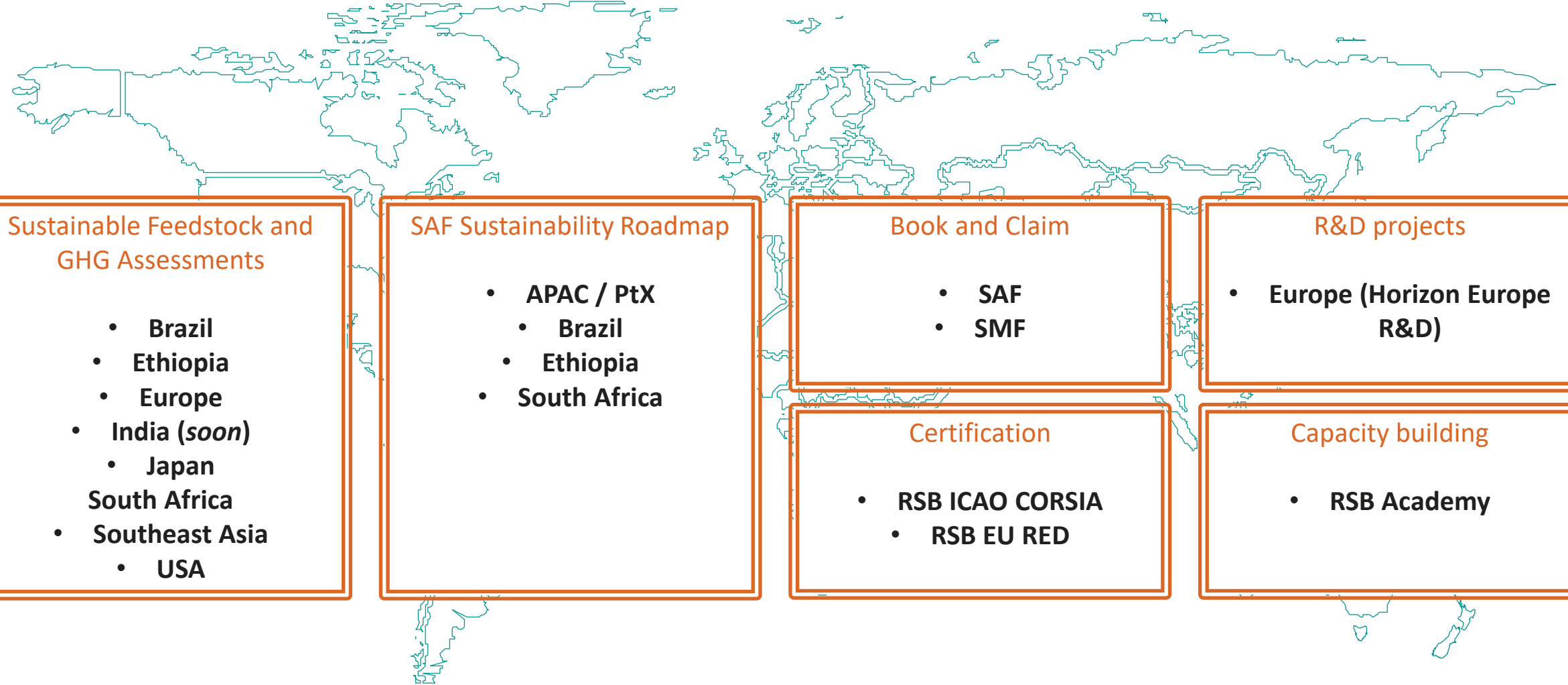




Our global membership is highly diverse
A wide range of organisations across supply chains, regions and industries







RSB: Supporting the transition to sustainable industries



SAF Certification



SAF Certification Schemes

| |  RSB Global Fuels & Advanced Products |  RSB EU RED |  RSB CORSIA |
|-----------------------------|--|---|---|
| Sustainability requirements | RSB Principles and Criteria  | | |
| Type of claim | Voluntary | Regulatory; linked to EU RED targets | Regulatory; linked to ICAO CORSIA targets |
| Scope | Fuels and materials produced from biocircular feedstock | Renewable fuels and energy produced with bio-based feedstock and RCF/RFNBOs | SAF from bio-based feedstock and waste gases |
| Renewable input allocation | Across all outputs, based on energy or economic value. Flexible attribution options. | Across all outputs, based on energy value (LHV). | Across all outputs, based on energy value (LHV). |
| GHG reduction threshold | Fuel: 50% (60% after 2015) Products: 10% | 60% (65% after 2021) RCF/RFNBO: 70% | 50% core LCA (10% LCA+ILUC) |
| Fossil baseline | Fuel: 90g CO ₂ e/MJ Products: fossil comparator | 94g CO ₂ e/MJ RCF/RFNBO: | 89g CO ₂ e/MJ |
| Book and claim allowed? | Yes | No | No |



Pillars of sustainability certification

Management system

- **Clear responsibilities of staff pertaining to all relevant RSB requirements** (e.g. record keeping, GHG calculation, forwarding of sustainability documents)
- **Yearly internal audit** conducted and results kept for check by auditor
- **Written commitment by Management** to comply with relevant rules

Sustainability

- **Meet the RSB 12 Principles and Criteria – Industrial and Agricultural sites**
- Meet social, legal & rights-based, environmental and management practices for sustainable production in a bio-based supply chain

GHG emissions calculation

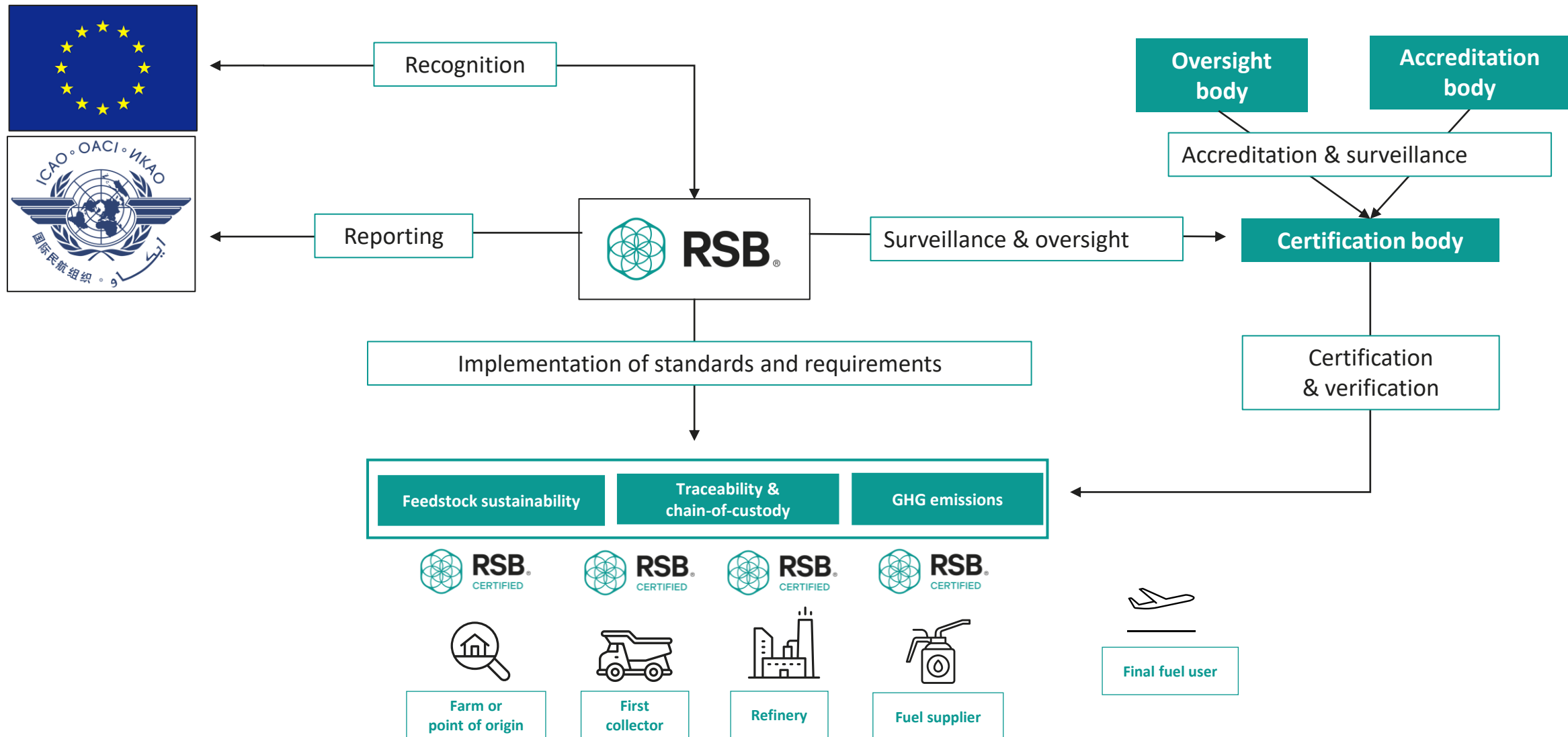
- **Availability, completeness and correctness of GHG calculation**
- Appropriate use of **emission factors**
- **Correct indication of GHG emission value on sustainability documents** (e.g., on Proof of Sustainability)

Traceability and chain of custody system

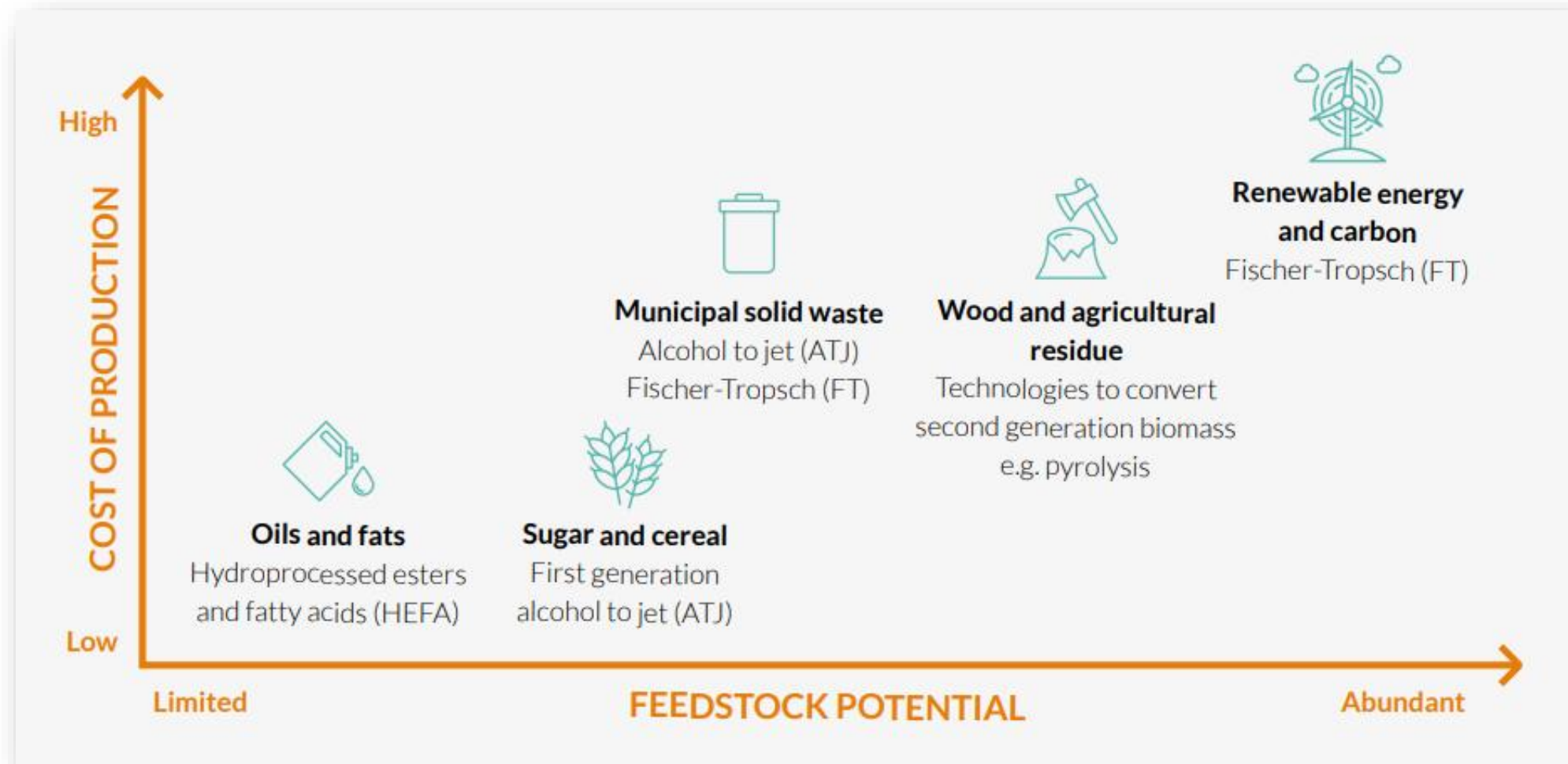
- **Record of documentation** (e.g. Proofs of Sustainability documents, delivery documents, contracts, weighbridge tickets, etc.)
- Fit-for-purpose **traceability and mass balance system**



SAF certification ecosystem



Main feedstock families



Source: BP (April 2023), "How all sustainable aviation fuel (SAF) feedstocks and production technologies can play a role in decarbonizing aviation"



What feedstock pathways are eligible under EU RED?

| Annex IX Part A | Annex IX Part B |
|---|---|
| Feedstocks that can be processed into biofuels, or biogas for transport, with “advanced technologies” | Feedstocks that can be processed into biofuels, or biogas for transport, with “mature technologies” |
| E.g. algae, biomass fractions of MSW, and other waste-based feedstocks not fit for food or feed. | E.g. UCO and animal fats |
| No cap | 1.7% cap (can be modified by Member States) |

| Category in Annex IX to Directive (EU) 2018/2001 | Feedstock sub-category/examples |
|--|---|
| Annex IX Part A d) | Drink waste |
| Annex IX Part A d) | Fruit/vegetable residues and waste (Only tails, leaves, stalks and husks) |
| Annex IX Part A d) | Bean shells, silverskin, and dust: cocoa, coffee |
| Annex IX Part A p) | Shells/husks and derivatives; soy hulls |
| Annex IX Part A d) | Residues and waste from production of hot beverages: spent coffee grounds, spent tea leaves |
| Annex IX Part A d) | Dairy waste scum |
| Annex IX Part A d) | Food waste oil: oil extracted from waste food from industry |
| Annex IX Part A d) | Non-edible cereal residues and waste from grain milling and processing: wheat, corn, barley, rice |
| Annex IX Part A d) | Olive oil extraction residues and waste: olive stones |
| Annex IX Part A p) | Agricultural harvesting residues |
| Annex IX Part A q) | Palm fronds, palm trunk |
| Annex IX Part A q) | Damaged trees |
| Annex IX Part A p) | Unused feed/fodder from ley |
| Annex IX Part B b) | Waste fish oil classified as categories 1 and 2 in accordance with Regulation (EC) No 1069/2009. |
| Annex IX Part A d) | Other slaughterhouse waste (Animal residues (non-fat) Cat.1) |
| Annex IX Part A d) | Industrial wastewater and derivatives |
| Annex IX Part A g) | Palm sludge oil (PSO) |
| Annex IX Part A d) | Industrial storage settlings |
| Annex IX Part A d) | Biogenic fraction of end-of-life tyres |
| Annex IX Part A q) | Recycled/waste wood |
| Annex IX Part A d) | Humins |
| Annex IX Part A d) | Spent bleaching earth |

Source: RSB EU RED Standard for Advanced Fuels– RSB-STD-11-001-01-010 Version 2.0

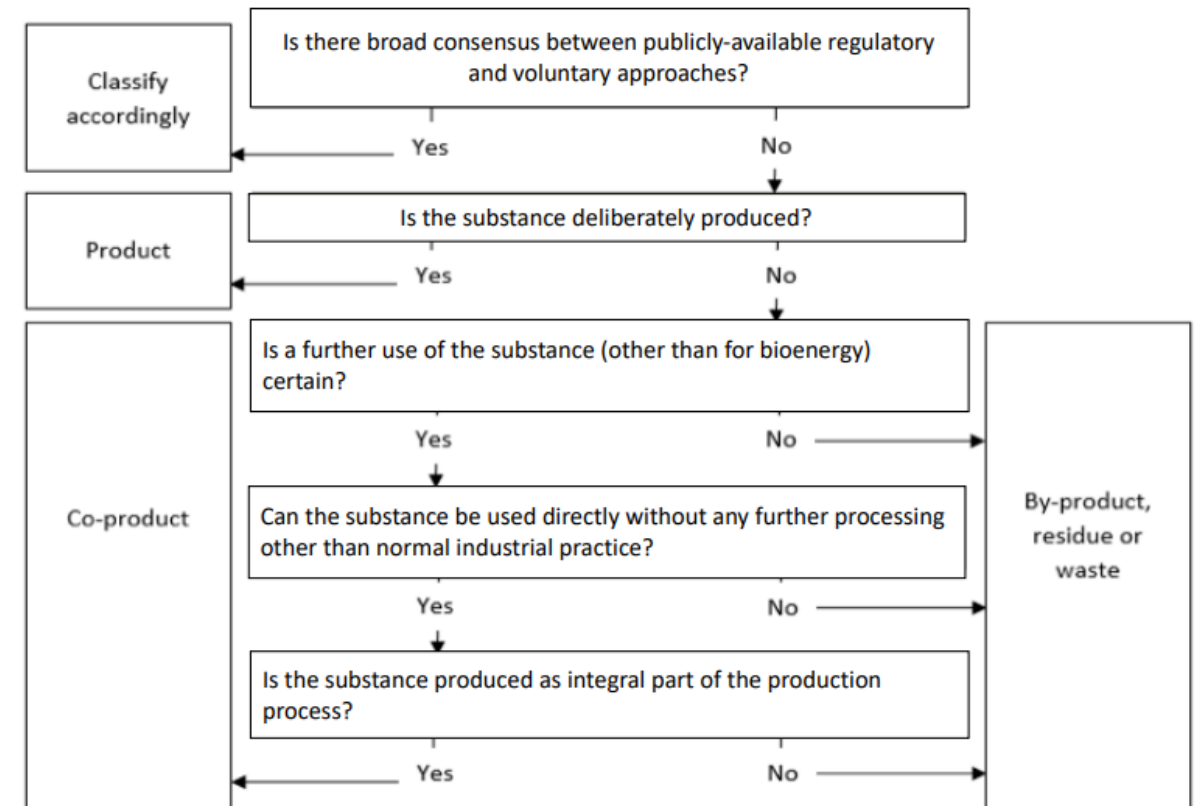


What feedstock pathways are eligible under CORSIA?

List of CORSIA-eligible waste & residues

| Residues | Wastes | By-products | Co-products |
|--|--|--|-------------|
| Agricultural residues: | Municipal solid waste (see details in Section 4.2.2) | Palm Fatty Acid Distillate | Molasses |
| Bagasse | Used cooking oil | Beef Tallow | |
| Cobs | Waste gases | Technical corn oil | |
| Stover | | Non-standard coconuts (see details in Section 4.2.3) | |
| Husks | | Poultry fat | |
| Manure | | Lard fat | |
| Nut shells | | Mixed Animals Fat | |
| Stalks | | | |
| Straw | | | |
| Forestry residues: | | | |
| Bark | | | |
| Branches | | | |
| Cutter shavings | | | |
| Leaves | | | |
| Needles | | | |
| Pre-commercial thinnings | | | |
| Slash | | | |
| Tree tops | | | |
| Processing residues: | | | |
| Crude glycerine | | | |
| Cobs | | | |
| Forestry processing residues | | | |
| Empty palm fruit bunches | | | |
| Palm oil mill effluent | | | |
| Sewage sludge | | | |
| Crude Tall Oil | | | |
| Tall oil pitch | | | |
| Wheat Starch Slurry (see details in Section 4.2.1) | | | |

CORSIA product classification decision tree



Source: CORSIA Methodology For Calculating Actual Life Cycle Emissions Values, Oct 24



Feedstock Classification - CORSIA

Primary and co-products



Main products of a production process. These products have significant economic value and elastic supply.

Must comply with the CORSIA Sustainability Criteria.

By-products



Secondary products with inelastic supply and economic value (e.g. tallow, corn oil).

Residues



Secondary materials with inelastic supply and little economic value (e.g. agricultural residues, like sugarcane bagasse).*

Waste

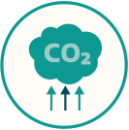







Materials with inelastic supply and no economic value. A substance that will be discarded or required to be discarded (e.g. UCO).*

* Must be *genuine* waste/residues, included in the ICAO CORSIA positive list.









Sustainability Themes: CORSIA and EU RED

| | | | |
|---------------------|--|-------------------------|---|
| GHG | CORSIA SAF = 10% reduction EU RED = 65% reduction | RSB Principle 3 |  |
| Carbon stock | CORSIA and EU RED SAF should not be made from biomass obtained from land with high carbon stock. | RSB Principle 7 |  |
| Water | Production of CORSIA SAF should maintain or enhance water quality and availability | RSB Principle 9 |  |
| Soil | Production of CORSIA SAFs should maintain or enhance soil health. | RSB Principle 8 |  |
| Air | Production of CORSIA SAF should minimise negative effects on air quality | RSB Principle 10 |  |
| Conservation | Production of CORSIA SAF should maintain biodiversity, conservation value & ecosystem services. | RSB Principle 7 |  |



CORSIA themes

| | | | |
|------------------------------|---|-------------------------|---|
| Waste & chemicals | Production of CORSIA SAF should promote responsible management of waste and the use of chemicals. | RSB Principle 11 |  |
| Human rights | Production of CORSIA SAF should respect human and labour rights. | RSB Principle 4 |  |
| Land-use rights | Production of CORSIA SAF should respect land rights and land use rights including indigenous and/or customary rights. | RSB Principle 12 |  |
| Water-use rights | Production of CORSIA SAF should respect prior formal or customary water use rights. | RSB Principle 9 |  |
| Local development | Production of CORSIA SAF should contribute to social and economic development. | RSB Principle 10 |  |
| Food security | Production of CORSIA SAF should promote food security in food insecure regions. | RSB Principle 6 |  |



Certification Journey





INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION FOR
SUSTAINABLE AVIATION BIOFUELS



From Innovation to Certification: Insights from the SusAlgaeFuel Project

Darren Carty, SFS Ireland

Agnes Thornton, SFS Ireland





SFS Ireland

Piloting a Pathway to Net-Zero

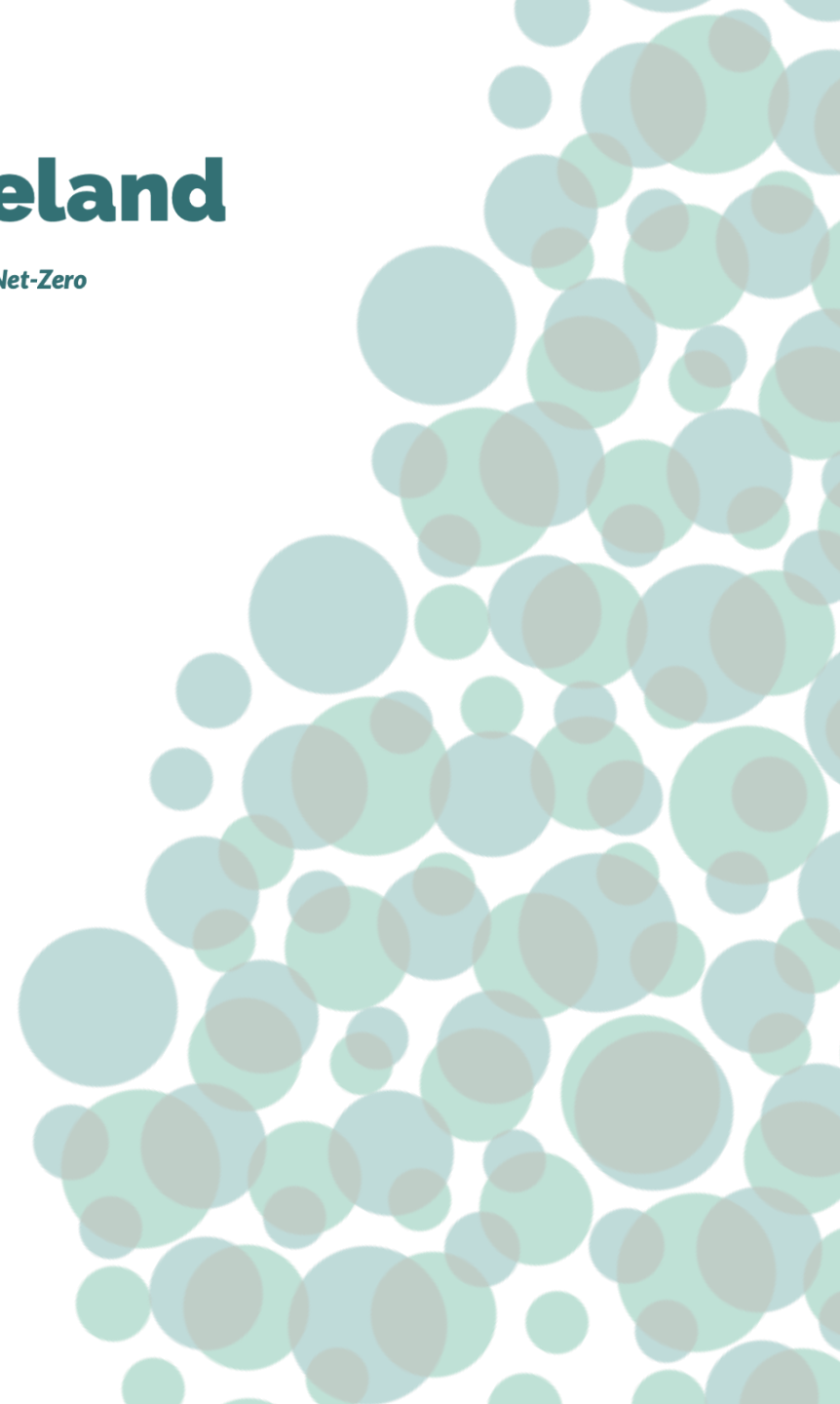
ICARUS Webinar Case Study Presentation

Darren Carty

Agnes Thornton

SFS Ireland

25.09.2025

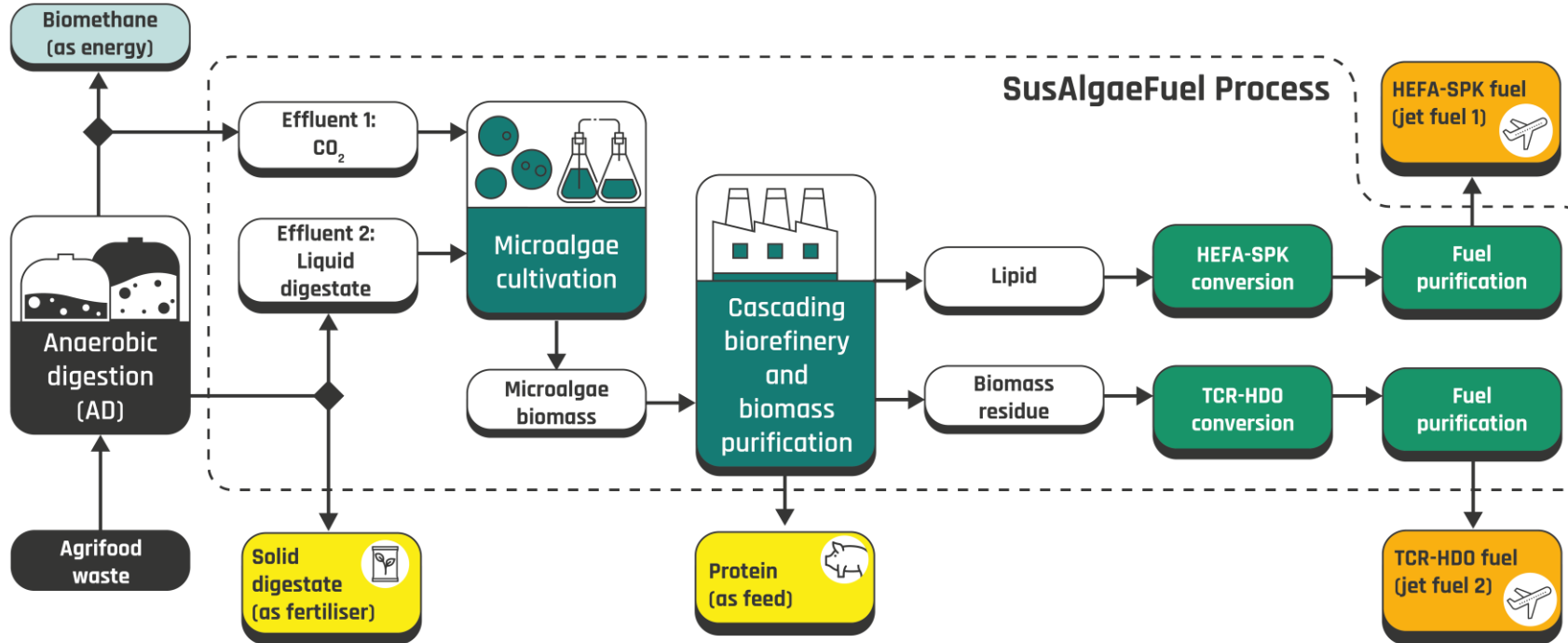




SusAlgaeFuel Project Summary

Objectives:

Developing Innovative and sustainable processes for producing microalgae-based sustainable aviation fuels (SAFs).

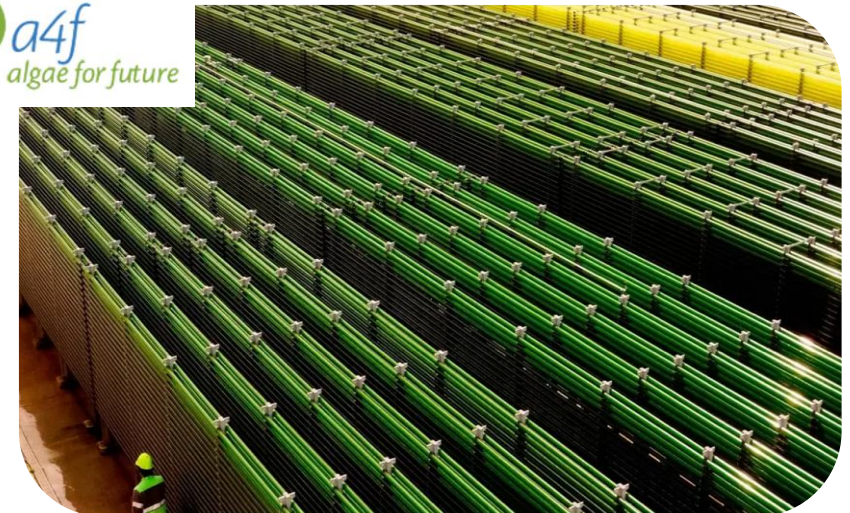


- ✓ Innovate across multiple stages of the microalgae value chain
- ✓ Cost-competitive and Sustainable SAF
- ✓ Create a synergistic relationship between anaerobic digestion by-products and microalgae cultivation

SusAlgaeFuel Project Summary

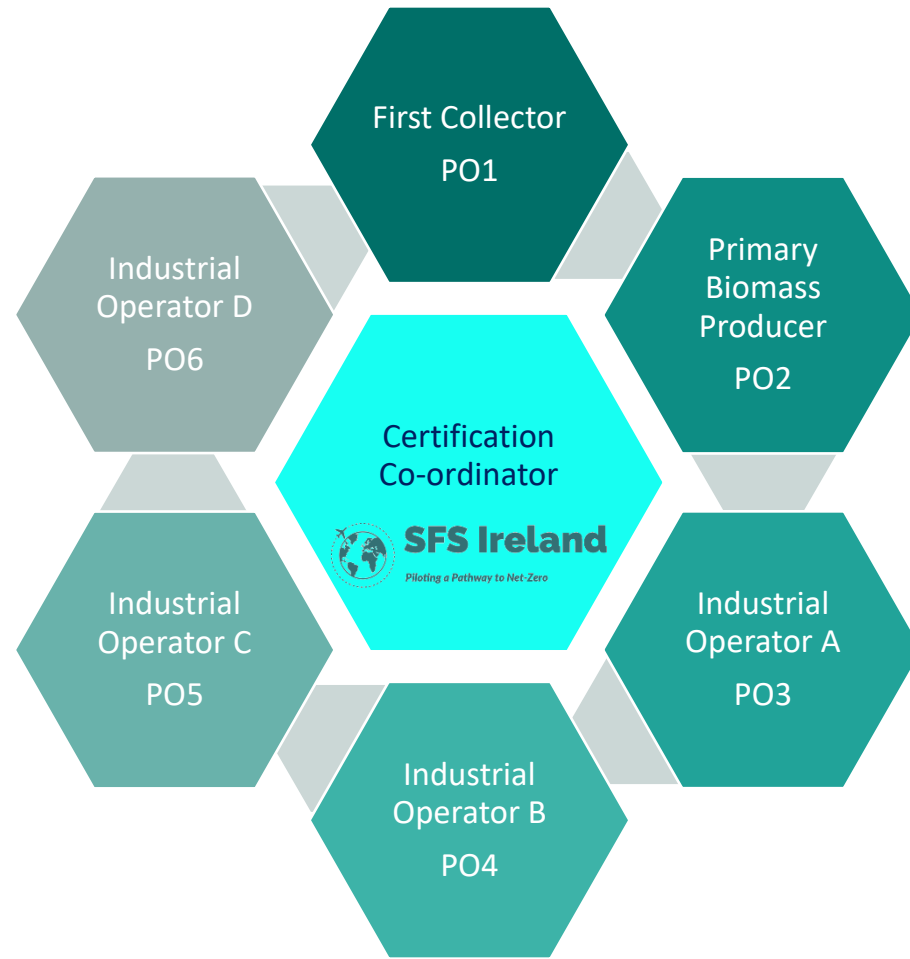
Objectives:

Developing Innovative and sustainable processes for producing microalgae-based sustainable aviation fuels (SAFs).





Our Role in the Project

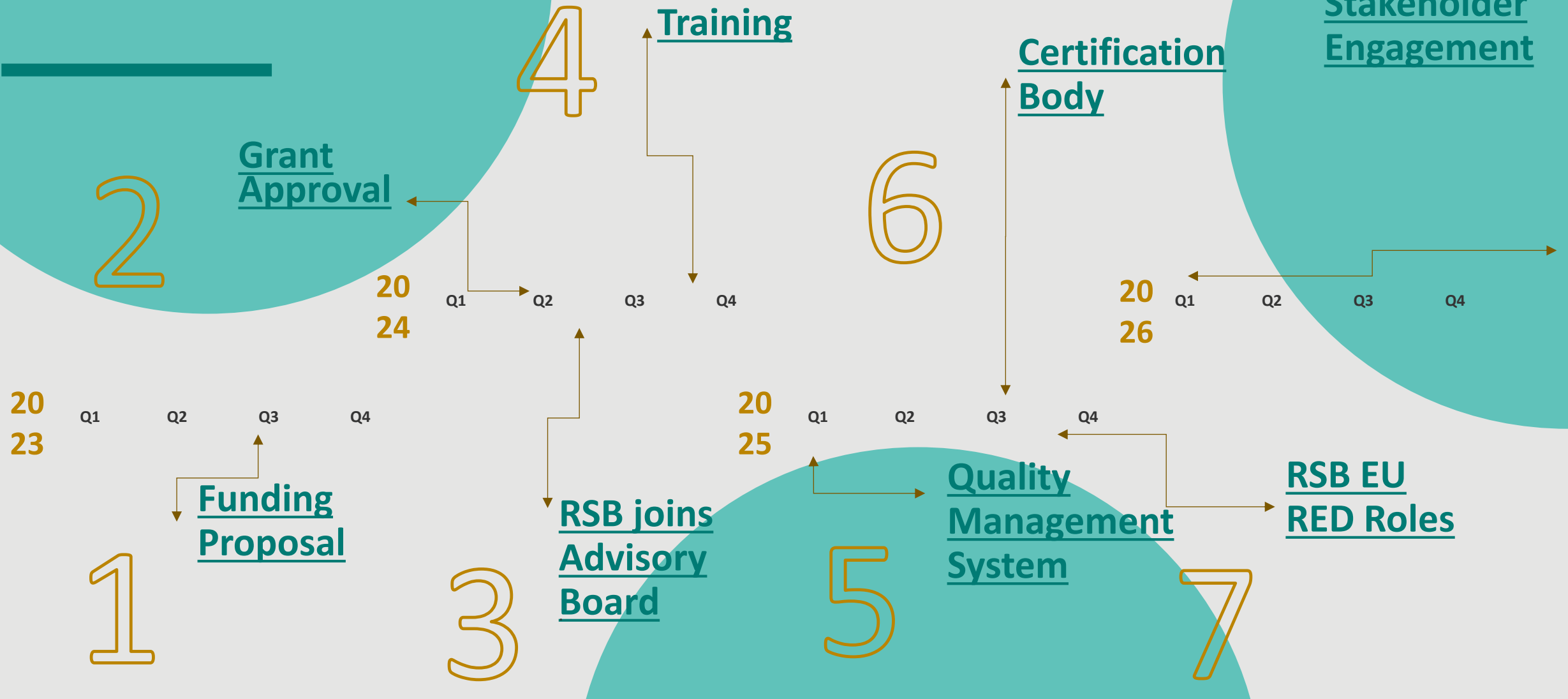


- S-LCA & S-LCA Optimisation
- Fuel Certification Assessment
- Stakeholder Management
- COMs & Industry Engagement

results
sustainability
commercial
certification
assess
co-ordination
scalability
chain
environmental
production
value
iterative
process
investigated
fuel
comprehensive
social



RSB EU RED Roadmap for SusAlgaeFuel

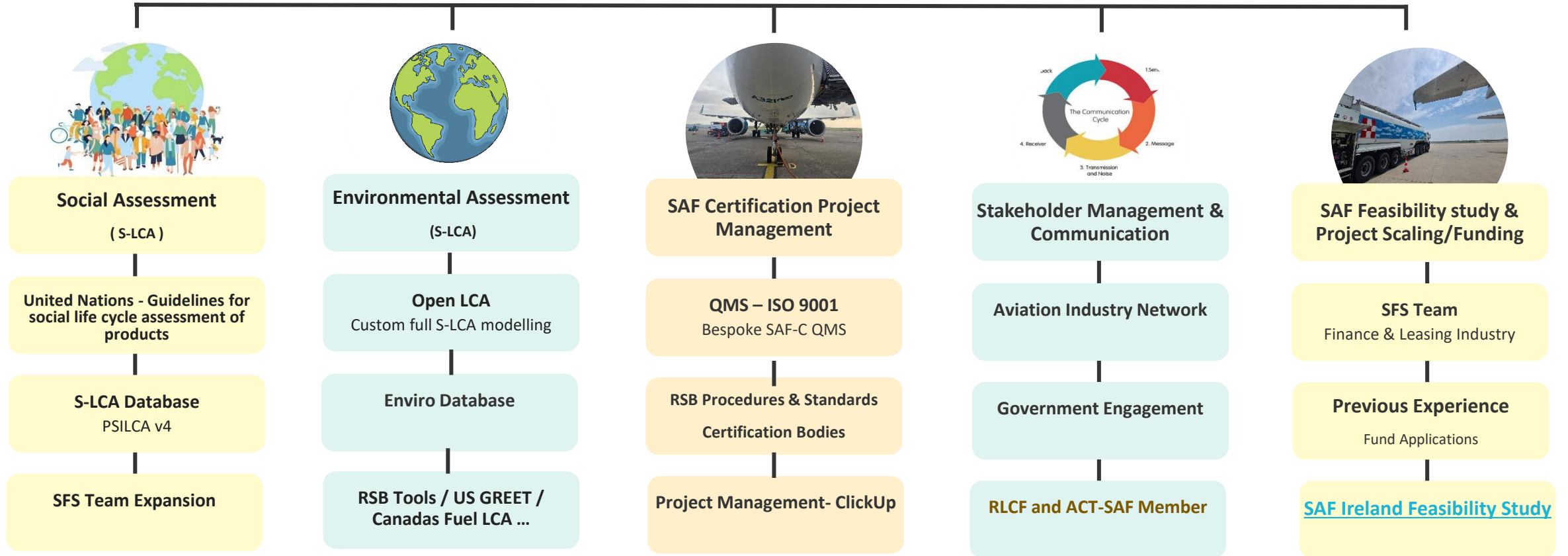


Our project Toolset



SFS Ireland

Piloting a Pathway to Net-Zero



Thank you

[Darren \(S-LCA\) Darren@sustainableflightsolutions.com](mailto:Darren@sustainableflightsolutions.com)

[Agnes \(STKH Management\) Agnes@sustainableflightsolutions.com](mailto:Agnes@sustainableflightsolutions.com)



SFS Ireland

Piloting a Pathway to Net-Zero





The ICARUS SAF Certification Guidance

Esther Hegel, RSB
ICARUS Project Partner



ICARUS DELIVERABLE

“Sustainability Certification Guidance for Novel SAF Pathways”



- **Goal:** Provide practical guidance to make sustainability certification transparent, usable, and integrated early in R&D for novel SAF pathways.
- **Audience:** Researchers, technology developers, and project partners working on new feedstocks and production routes.
- **Scope:** Explains certification basics, compares major schemes (CORSIA, EU RED, voluntary), and offers step-by-step guidance on criteria, LCA, chain-of-custody, and scheme-specific rules.

Scope of the guidance (tentative outline):

- **SAF certification basics:** ASTM vs. sustainability certification and why both are needed.
- **Certification schemes explained:** Overview of CORSIA, EU RED, and major voluntary schemes.
- **Practical guidance for R&D projects:** Feedstock eligibility, sustainability criteria, life-cycle assessment basics, chain-of-custody, and scheme selection.
- **Deep-dives into key schemes:** Specific requirements under CORSIA (feedstocks, GHG thresholds, auditing, use in offsetting) and under EU RED (Annex IX, land-use rules, GHG savings, access to incentives).



ICARUS Guidance Development Timeline

1. WEBINAR

September 2025

Main topics: Introduction to SAF certification, presentation of goal & scope of the ICARUS guidance, stakeholder feedback

2. WEBINAR

July 2026

Presentation & feedback of the final guidance document



GOAL & SCOPING

March – September 2025

Drafting of goal and scope of the guidance document including pathways, certifications and standards, the main target group and broader applicability of the guidance.

FROM DRAFT TO FINAL

September 2025 – July 2026

- Guidance development:
- Refinement of goal & scope
 - Exchange with external experts and related projects
 - Certification case studies

FINAL GUIDANCE

September 2026

The guidance for SAF certification will be finalised

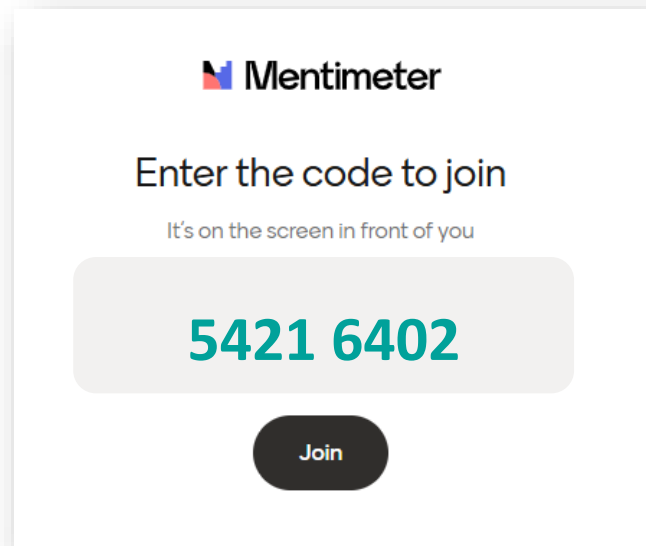




Open Discussion & Online Poll

We want to hear from you!

1. Take your phone/computer
2. Scan the QR code OR go to www.menti.com & enter the code: 5421 6402



Open-ended question

What is your biggest challenge or question about SAF certification?

Can this certification process be simplified?

Lack of understanding about certification requirements.

Scoping the work, costs, timelines. What resources are required specific to the project?

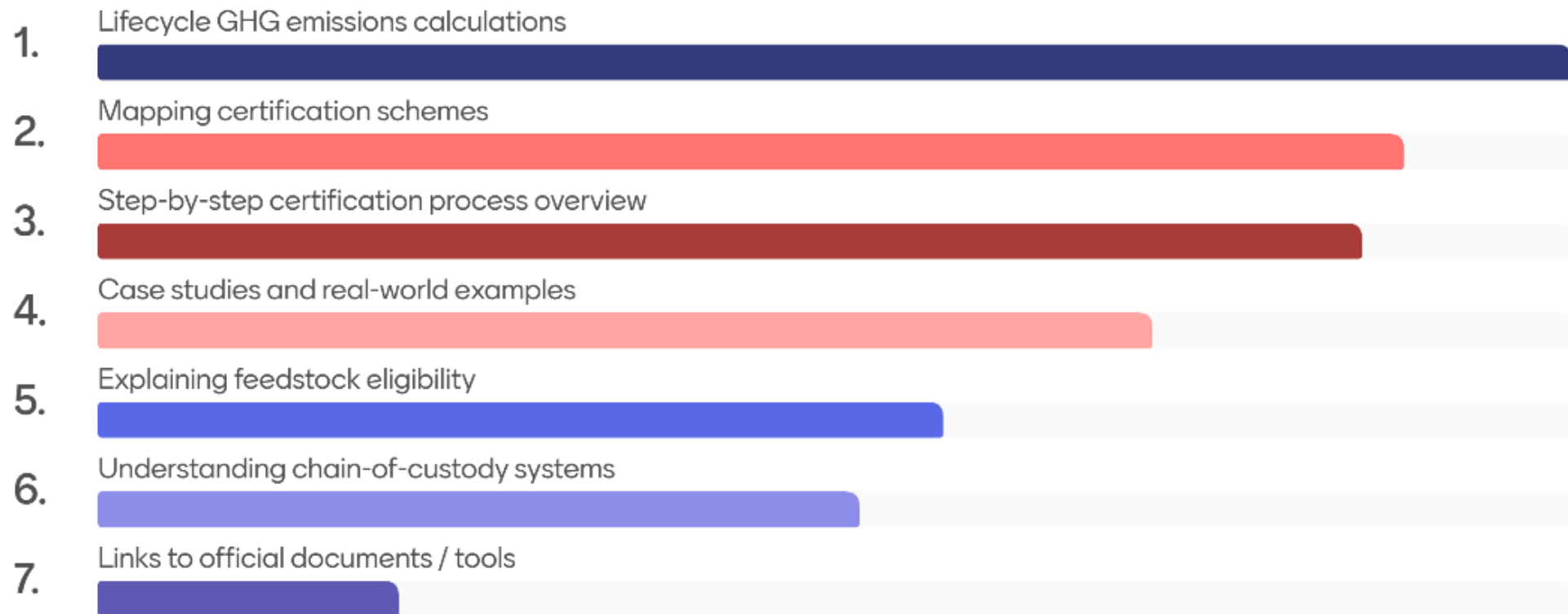
what type of verifiers or auditors is needed?

How transferable is data from a pilot scale-up to a full commercial scale operation

Lack of detailed understanding around the fuel certification steps and how these link to other voluntary and compliance standards like CORSIA and EU RED

Raking question

What should be the top priority in a certification guidance for new SAF pathways?



Open-ended question

Which specific novel feedstocks or pathways would you like us to include in the guidance?

Green methanol to SAF

Recycled Carbon Fuels

AtJ

BTG pyrolysis of saw dist with
upgrading to SAF

Mixed-alcohol to jet

Microalgae

Methanol-to-Jet

direct alcohol to olefins pathways

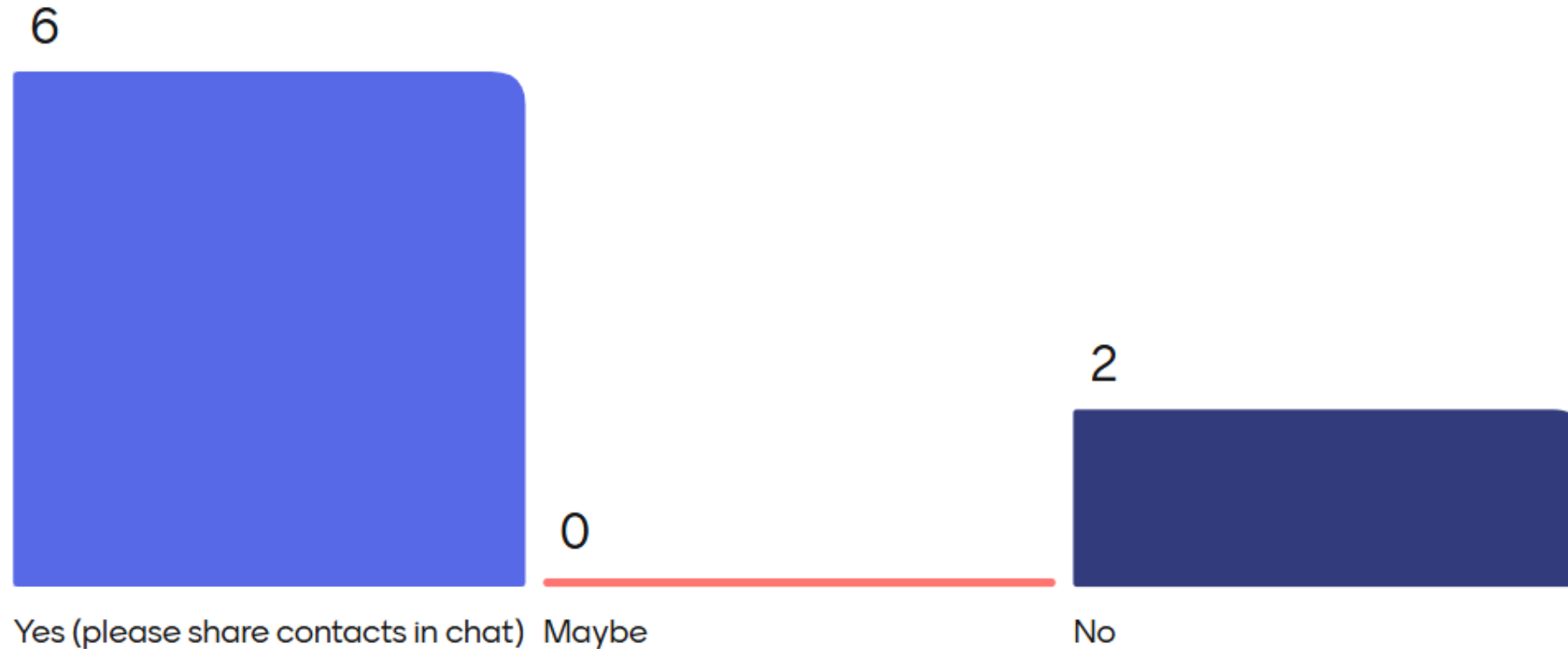
Cassava

Pyrolysis of waste tyres

rfnbo:%20FT%20with%20CO2%20from
%20waste%20incineration%20

Multiple-choice question

Would you be interested in reviewing or contributing to the SAF certification guidance later in the project?





INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION FOR
SUSTAINABLE AVIATION BIOFUELS



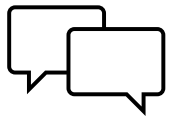
Closing Remarks and Next Steps

Esther Hegel, RSB
ICARUS Project Partner



Outlook & Closing

- You can access the slides & recordings via the ICARUS website soon!
→ <https://www.icarus-biojet.eu/>
- Development of **ICARUS Deliverable** on “Sustainability Certification Guidance for Novel SAF Pathways” in 2026 & **Webinar** on final study findings in Q3 2026



Stay in contact: esther.hegel@rsb.org

This project has received funding from the European Union’s Horizon Europe research and innovation programme under grant agreement No. 101122303.