The BASEL Criteria for Responsible Soy Production: Local interpretation for use in Brazil

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Prepared by ProForest for Coop Switzerland in cooperation with WWF Switzerland

1. Legal Compliance

	Criteria	Indicator / Verifier	Means of verification
1.1 Compliance with relevant legislation	1.1.1 The grower should be aware of all applicable laws and conventions, and have a mechanism for ensuring that they are implemented	Presence of information as regards the relevant federal, state and municipal legislation (environmental, labour, and tax-related laws); Presence of a basic checklist of the laws requiring compliance, or, a mechanism for identification of such laws. General Guidance: Relevant legislation includes, but is not limited to, laws governing land tenure and land-use rights, labour laws, laws governing agricultural practices (e.g., pesticide use), environmental laws (e.g., regarding wildlife and pollution). It also includes any relevant international laws or conventions such as the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD). The system adopted to understand and implement the law should be appropriate to the production scale of the organisation. It is generally expected that large-scale producers have documented information on legal requirements, while focus for small-scale producers will be their appropriate knowledge of the main legal requirements, which they can access through their association, or through a technical-assistance agency (as EMATER, for example). Some cooperatives and/or rural labor unions prepare and distribute booklets to their members (for example:	Interviews and verification of documents.

		"How to put the house in order", published by the Rural Union of Rolândia).	
	1.1.2 There is compliance with all relevant laws and codes of practice.	Documented evidence of legal compliance, which can include: licenses, authorizations, vouchers of payments and of registrations, adjustment of conduct and others); Presence of a qualified technician responsible for the agricultural project with Annotation of Technical Responsibility - ART); in the case of small-scale producers, the technical responsibility of an extension agent (for example, from EMATER) can be considered for the purpose of legal compliance. Evidence of legal compliance in the field. Existence of an implemented plan to support possible legal disputes, in accordance with the responsible bodies; however, for the Criteria 4.2.1, 4.3.1 and 4.4.1 (forced labour, child labour, labour rights, issues regarding land ownership) there should be <u>full compliance</u>, and no pending issues will be accepted. <u>General Guidance</u>: The implementation of all legal requirements is an essential requisite t for all of the producers, independent of their location or production scale. There should also be compliance with any voluntary codes to which the organisation is signatory.	Verify procedures and practices implemented in the field Verify licenses, legal documents, certificates provided by relevant legal bodies stating that there are no outstanding debts or infractions, etc. Interview workers and other stakeholders as regards legal compliance.

2. Technical Management

	Criteria	Indicator / Verifier	Means of verification
2.1. Maintaining soil and water quality	2.1.1 1 Soil suitability for soy cultivation should be established to ensure the long-term suitability of land for soy cultivation and the results should be used to plan field operations.	Use of a Classification System based on Soil Suitability for Use (as defined by the Brazilian Society of Soil Science; categories I and II are suitable for soy cultivation).	Verify through technical interviews and review of documentation, how the planning of the areas to be cultivated is done and the information/database used. Verify in the field if soil suitability is being respected; When available, verify GIS maps and regional soil database.
	2.1.2 Long-term soil fertility should be maintained through appropriate cultural practices.	Evidence that soil fertility is being monitored through chemical analyses of the soil (at least every 2 years); Good management practices for soybean cultivation in Brazil being adopted (as defined in " Soy Production Technologies", product of the Soy-related Research Meeting of the Centre and South regions of Brazil / EMBRAPA[1]). Preferential use of fertilizers that are only slightly, soluble Records of applications of all fertilizers	Review the findings/results of chemical analyses carried out; Verify records of purchase/use of fertilizers and inoculants. Verify whether the recommended practices as regards the maintenance of soil fertility are being

		should be maintained. The producers should demonstrate they receive technical assistance (through a qualified professional, directly hired by the producer, or through their associations and cooperatives).	implemented in the field.
	2.1.3 Soil erosion and damage to soil structure should be minimized.	Practices to minimize soil erosion are adopted, not only for the soybean cultivated area but for the farm as a whole. Mechanical cultivation is used only where justifiable. Good management practices adopted for soy crops in Brazil (as defined in "Soy Production Technologies ", product of the Soy-related Research Meeting of the Centre and South regions of Brazil / EMBRAPA[1]).	Analyse history of the fields; Verify, in the field, if soil maintenance conservation practices are being adopted and if they are effective.
	2.1.4 The quality and quantity of natural water sources should be maintained.	The riparian forests and other areas of permanent protection are being maintained, as defined by the legislation. In the case of degraded areas of permanent preservation, there should be a detailed restoration plan, to be implemented within the period defined by the environmental body. Soil conservation practices are being implemented on the farm. Compliance with the water resources legislation [2]. Environmental accident prevention and contingency plans should be in place	Verify, in the field, the conservation status of areas of permanent preservation and that of water courses, reservoirs, springs, and others. Verify whether the person in charge understands the water resources legislation. Verify water use rights certification, when applicable. Verify restoration plans.

		(pesticide, waste, oil/fuel spillage, etc).	Verify measures to prevent contamination of water resources and contingency plans, when applicable.
	2.1.5 Water use for irrigation, where used, should be efficient and sustainable	Compliance with the water resource legislation [2.] Good management practices are implemented to optimise and ensure that water uses are efficient. Untreated effluents should not be used for irrigation. The negative impacts of water use on local water resources should be minimized.	Verify whether the person in charge understands the water resources legislation. Verify water use rightscertification, when applicable. Verify, in the field, the adoption of good management practices Verify results of water monitoring, when existing.
2.2 Chemical use and crop protection	2.2.1 Pest and Disease Integrated Management should be in place and the use of agrochemicals should be minimized.	Presence of justifiable technical recommendations when there are applications of pesticides; The current law regarding the use of pesticides[3] and the requirement of a qualified professional to prescribe the application (agronomic prescription) is being followed; Integrated Pest and Disease Management is adopted, and good management practices to control pests and diseases are followed (source: Embrapa[1] publication) Rotation of the active ingredients to avoid resistance to pesticides.	Verify documents and records; Interview person in charge and workers; Verify product application and integrated management practices, in the field.

	2.2.2 All chemical use should be properly managed and records of pesticide use maintained of all agrochemicals used in the farm.	Only products allowed in the country and officially registered for soybean cultivation are used; Existence of agronomic prescriptions for the products used on the farm; Internationally banned products are not used (WHO and other applicable lists are followed in countries of origin and in consuming countries). Compliance with the Pesticides Law and its regulations [3] Records of the products and of their applications, providing a history of pesticide use on the crop. Workers involved in any activity regarding pesticides (storage, handling, transport, application, disposal) should receive appropriate training. Programs implemented for the maintenance and regulation of spraying equipment; In the case of aerial applications, preventive measures are taken to avoid contamination of water bodies (springs, streams etc.), natural vegetation, human settlement areas, and other land uses. Analyses of pesticide residue in the product are carried out. The buyer should define the accepted standard (for example, WHO), and the sampling frequency. There should be counterproof so as to allow the producer to verify the results of the analyses carried out by the	Verify records (list of products used, purchasing records, supply inventory, prescriptions, records of applications, records/proof of container disposal, records of training, etc); Verify pesticide storage (whether in compliance with legislation and manufacturer's recommendations); Verify application of the products in the field (Equipment used, dosages, handling, workers' use of EPI) Interview person in charge and workers handling the application of pesticides and in the management of pest and disease control activities. Verify prevention and contingency plans.

		buyer. Evidence of preventive and contingency plans (also see 2.1.4) for pesticide use. Those plans should include the assessment of risks of contamination of the soybean crop, originating from applications in neighbouring farms, which can affect the results of the analyses of residue in the the production. Compliance with the indicator 4.3.2 (Worker health and safety) should be achieved.	
2.3 Planting material	2.3.1 Genetically modified organisms –GMOs, must not be used	Certificates of origin and affidavits for all seed purchased should be maintained. When the producers use their own seed (from one harvest to the next), there should be a record of the origin of original seed. The Seed Law[4] should be followed. The levels of harvest residue, regarding the GMOs, should not exceed the levels established by the buyers, and should comply with the limits established by the European Union. The sampling methods should be appropriate and comply with the levels defined by the buyer (for example, the ribbon test is qualitative and it demonstrates the presence of GMOs within 0,1%). The auditing protocols and methodology used should be defined by the accredited certifier; in cases of uncertainty other	Verify GMO analyses and test results, when requested by the buyer; Verify whether the methodology used in tests was suitable for the objective; Verify certificates of seed purchase and origin; Verify practices adopted by producer to avoid contamination.

		more specific tests should be carried out; The Normative Act no. 21, 10 April 2003, which defines Standards for the Certification of Soy-grain, without the presence of GMO strains, through Immunochromatographic Kits[5] (Ministry of the Agriculture, Livestock and Provisioning) should befollowed. When the machinery (including the planters, harvesters, transporters, etc.), are shared with other producers that can be using GMO strains, all machinery should be thoroughly clean before being used again. It is not expected that individual small-scale producers should be responsible for carrying out DNA tests on their harvest; however, those that store, transport or trade soybeans should be able to do so. In the case of small-scale producers associations or co-operatives, those organizations should be responsible for the analyses.	
	2.3.2 Seeds should be of a high quality and from a known source.	Evidence that the seeds are acquired from reputable sources, and that records/certificates of the seed quality, variety, purity, name, batch number and supplier are kept.	Verify seed-related records and certificates. Verify whether the amount of seed aquired is compatible with the area planted.
2.4 Harvest and post harvest management	2.4.1 Crop yield should be maximised through efficient harvesting.	Good Agricultural Practices[1] in place (including at an appropriate time and using appropriate equipment).	Verify activity plan and its implementation in the field. Verify evaluation of

			losses and measures taken to reduce their occurrence.
	2.4.2. Post-harvest land management should be adequate to maintain soil fertility and prevent erosion	Good Agricultural Practices[1] in place (including: maintenance of residues as soil protection, planting of cover crop or rotation crop).	Verify the activity plan and its implementation in the field.
	2.4.3. Post-harvest crop management should be adequate to maintain high quality product	Good Agricultural Practices[1] in place Market requirements regarding the quality should be met through appropriate product storage and treatment. The use of any post-harvest pesticides* should be in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions and with indicator 2.2.2. above. Suppliers and/or medium and large-scale producers must provide evidence, through residue tests, that levels of chemical residue are within limits acceptable to the country of destination. When producers and suppliers dry stored soybeans using wood or charcoal they should demonstrate that those did not originate from areas being deforested. *post-harvest pesticides are little used for soybeans in Brazil.	Verify the activity plan and its implementation in the field; Verify other issues raised in indicators 2.2.2. (above)

3. Environmental Management

	Criteria	Indicator / /Verifier	Means of verification
3.1 Conversion of natural ecosystems	3.1.1 Primary vegetation and High Conservation Value Areas[1] should not be converted to agricultural land.	Evidence that crops are not found in areas of primary vegetation or in High Conservation Value Areas (HCVA) cleared after 31 July 2004, irrespective of any changes in land ownership or farm management that have taken place after this date. New farms are established in previously degraded areas and/or abandoned grazing land. * The definitions of High Conservation Value Areas should consider: the survey by the Conservation and Sustainable-Use of the Brazilian Biological Diversity Project – Pro Bio [6] (important areas for biodiversity conservation); criteria for the definition of HCVA (ProForest); available data and maps for some regions and states, regarding HCVA, and other HCVA criteria (information on traditional communities – FUNAI and the Ministry of Culture; information gathered with local communities).	Verify satellite images before and after 31July 2004, documents describing land-use, and descriptions of local ecosystems, when available; Interview neighbours, workers, and other local stakeholders. Observe characteristics of the surroundings of the farm.
	3.1.2 The farm should not be planted on land that has been deforested after 1994 unless commensurate conservation offset measures have been undertaken by the grower	In addition to compliance with 3.1.1 above, where conversion of natural ecosystems is permitted by law, and when all or part of the farm is on land cleared of natural vegetation since 1994, the	Verify documents, when existing, which can prove prior use of the land (ownership transfer, rental contracts, property

[1] See Annex 4 for a definition of High Conservation Value Areas

		producers must demonstrate that they have actively and sufficiently compensated for the loss of natural ecosystems through such measures as: Restoration activities on the farm to enhance biodiversity Procuring and protecting areas (at least 20%* of the total area cleared for soybean cultivation) of natural vegetation locally; Partnerships with the states and federal government for the implementation and regulation of protected areas (in the same Biome). This applies irrespective of any changes in land ownership or farm management that have taken place after this date. The use of land for large-scale soy production (large farms) should not lead to increased pressure to clear native vegetation to provide land for other uses (e.g., where expansion of industrial soybean farming results in smallholders having to move into more marginal areas which are then cleared for subsistence farming activities or cattle ranching). *The applied percentage should be verified by the viability study, taking into consideration that the Brazilian Forestry Code has already defined a maximum percentage of rural land use, which varies from 20 to 80% of the total area of the farm, depending on the Biome where it is placed.	description for ITR - Rural Property Tax - purposes, etc). Interview people from the local community. Verify implemented plans for natural ecosystem damage compensation.

3.2 Assessing and managing environmental impacts	3.2.1 An assessment of environmental impacts should be undertaken.	Evidence that the owner undertook/undertakes an assessment of environmental impacts using appropriate methodology for the production scale, local context and legal requirements, when applicable. The assessment of environmental impacts (and social, see 4.1.1.) covers the entire farm and not just the soybean-cultivated area. It should include impacts on soil, water, air, biodiversity and human environment. Specific production-related installations and infrastructure should also be included in the assessment of impacts. In the case of small-scale producers (associations or co-operatives), the impacts should be assessed collectively.	Verify compliance with legal requirements (EIA/RIMA, environmental licensing, environmental determinants, etc), when applicable. Verify methodology used and results of environmental impact assessment.
	3.2.2. The results of the assessment should be incorporated into operating procedures.	Evidence that the results of the assessment were reviewed and applied when planning the activities; Presence of defined and implemented procedures (documented or not) for the activities, to minimize negative impacts and maximize the positive ones; Presence of an action plan for the adoption of changes/measures recommended by the assessment of environmental impacts, when applicable Presence of an appropriate programme to monitor environmental impacts, so as to ensure that those impacts are maintained within acceptable limits, and that	Verify documents, procedures, records, action plans; Interview workers that handle activities with high potential impact, and verify instructions they follow to carry out such activities; Verify, in the field, whether environmental measures are being implemented as planned.

		mitigating/maximising measures are being effectively implemented. General Guidance: Individual small-scale producers would not be expected to have a documented plan; however, they should be able to demonstrate that their activities are designed to minimise the negative impacts identified. In the case of co-operatives or associations verifiers designed for large-scale producers should be applied.	
	3.2.3 The use of fire for land clearance should be avoided wherever possible.	Use of fire is not allowed.	Verify evidence in the field. Interview neighbours and workers.
3.3 On-farm Conservation	3.3.1 An understanding of the plant and animal species and habitats that exist inside and around the farm should be established	Information for large farms should include: Presence of protected areas in the locality of the farm; Details of any legally protected, red-list, rare, endangered or endemic species, in and around the farm, including population and habitat requirements; * Identification of the range of habitats and ecosystems within the farm; An understanding of important local conservation issues. * in many regions there are no available nor accessible data for the producers, either small or large ones).	Verify technical reports of biodiversity and population surveys;

		General Guidance: For individual small-scale producers, a basic understanding of any important local conservation issues, species or habitats will be sufficient. In the case of co-operatives or associations verifiers designed for large-scale producers should be applied.	
	3.3.2 A plan to maintain and increase biodiversity in and around the farm should be developed and implemented	Evidence of a documented plan, that should: Ensure that any legal requirements relating to the protection of part of the property under natural vegetation or the protection of and management of species listed in national or local regulations are met. Ensure actions to avoid damage to and deterioration of habitats, including protection of riparian areas, steep slopes, fragments of natural vegetation, conservation set-aside/reserve areas and areas of high conservation value. Include measures to restore habitats, particularly riparianforests, corridors to link areas of natural vegetation, enlargement of existing areas of natural vegetation or areas that were originally planted but which are now recognised as unsuitable (e.g., steep slopes). Consider the conversion of unproductive sites (e.g. low lying wet areas, headland strips or areas of impoverished soil) to	Verify conservation plans. Interview those in charge of the plan and workers that will carry it out; Verify actions implemented in the field.

		conservation areas to encourage restoration of natural flora and fauna. Consider the need to control any illegal or inappropriate hunting, fishing or collecting activities General Guidance: for individual small-scale producers an informal plan should be suitable. In the case of co-operatives or associations, indicators designed for large-scale producers should be applied.	
3.4 Waste and pollution management	3.4.1 Waste and pollution should be minimised and properly managed.	All waste and sources of pollution must be identified; There must be a plan to minimize the generation of waste and pollution, and to promote reuse and recycling, whenever possible. All hazardous chemical products and surplus spray mix and their containers must be appropriately stored (when in use) and discarded, in accordance with the manufacture's instructions and in compliance with legal requirements. There must be a waste prevention and contingency plan (spillage, risk of contamination of the soil and water sources, etc).	Observe if there are waste or effluents originating from these activities, and where on the property they are discarded; Verify documented plans for waste management; Verify the destination of discarded hazardous or potentially pollutant waste. Interview neighbours and workers; Verify waste disposal in the field (storage, sorting centre, temporary storage, landfill, compost, etc).

4. Social Management

	Criteria	Indicator / /Verifier	Means of verification
4.1 Managing social impacts	4.1.1 An assessment of social impacts should be carried out and the results taken into account in management planning and operational procedures. *This criterion does not apply to individual small-scale producers. However, it applies to associations, groups of producers or co-operatives.*	There is evidence that the farm owner undertook/undertakes an assessment of the social impacts through methodology adapted to the production scale and to local context. The assessment includes the farm as a whole and not only the soybean crop. The assessment should include adequate consideration of the impacts on the customary or traditional rights of local communities and indigenous people, where these exist. Planning should incorporate the findings of the social impact assessment and these plans should be implemented in operational procedures.	Verify methodology used and results of social impact assessment; Verify documents, procedures, records and action plans to minimize negative social impacts and maximize positive ones.
	4.1.2 There should be an effective method for communication and consultation with local communities and other affected or interested parties. *This criterion does not apply to individual smallholders. However, it applies to associations, groups of producers or co-operatives.*	There should be: a documented consultation and communication strategy, a designated manager responsible for the communication, a list of stakeholders, records of all communication and records of actions taken in response to input from stakeholders. Communication and consultation mechanisms should be designed, or agreed with local communities and other affected or interested parties.	Verify communication records; Verify if adopted instruction language and means of communication are being effective; Interview organization's internal and external stakeholders.
	4.1.3. There should be a system for dealing with complaints and grievances, which is implemented and	Evidence of a system structured to try to resolve disputes in a timely and appropriate manner.	Verify the system and its effectiveness; Interview stakeholders.

	effective.	General Guidance: Large organisations and groups should document both the system they use and the details of any complaints or disputes including how they were resolved. Individual small-scale producers are not expected to have a documented system, but must be able to show that they respond constructively to any issue or complaint.	
4.2 Workers rights and working relationships	4.2.1 All workers should have acceptable pay and conditions	The organization and contracted service providers that have a direct influence on the production must be in compliance with the labour laws; The agreements with the labor unions must be observed. Pay must meet or exceed the national minimum wage or the minimum defined for the category. Workers must have access to information, regarding their rights and benefits. The Brazilian NRs[8] (Labour Regulation Standards) must be observed.	Verify documents and records related to personnel (workers' records, payment receipts, INSS and FGTS payment etc); Verify existence and compliance with union agreements (documents and interviews); Verify NRs compliance (in the field, through interviews and document review).
	4.2.2 Workers should have freedom of association and bargaining	The right of workers employed by the farm and by contracted service providers to form associations and bargain collectively with their employer should be respected, in accordance with Conventions 87 and 98 of the International Labour Organization.	Interview workers and union representatives.
	4.2.3 There should be equality of opportunity for all workers (employees of the farm and employees of service	The producer must ensure equality of opportunity and treatment for all workers (employees of the farm and employees of service contractors), regardless of race,	Verify worker documents and records; Interview workers.

	contractors).	colour, sex, religion, political opinion, nationality, social origin or other distinguishing characteristics.	
4.3 Welfare and security	4.3.1 Child labour and forced labour should not be used on the farm	It will not be accepted any other form of employment besides those in compliance with the Labour laws and the ECA-Children and Adolescent Statute[9] In the case of family-farms, minors may work on family-owned farms provided that they are not thereby prevented from attending school and they do not execute dangerous or arduous jobs. If the farm being evaluated has been cited by the Ministry of Labour, regarding child labour or forced labour irregularities, the soybean crop can not be considered suitable to comply with the Basel Criteria.	Interview and gather information with workers, neighbours, NGOs, unions, and official bodies in charge of controlling labour conditions. Verify labour liabilities.
	4.3.2 There should be a health and safety policy, which applies to all workers, both employees of the farm and of contracted providers, and is adequate, implemented and monitored.	The Brazilian Regulation Norms - NRs [8] regarding rural labour are being observed.	Verify in the field: conditions of lodging, dining-hall , shelter, toilet and bathing facilities, transportation, food and drinking water, use of individual and collective safety equipment, and others; Verify CIPA (Internal Commission of Accident Prevention) documents and records; Verify PPRA (Environmental Risks Prevention Programme)

			is in place and whether it is applicable, and PCMSO (Occupational Medical and Health Control Programme), if relevant. Verify accident records, and that of CATs (Occupational Accident Report).
	4.3.3 Workers and contractors should be adequately trained and competent.	There must be a training programme for all workers. Training must be given to all workers operating dangerous or complex equipment or substances Associations or co-operatives must offer a continuous training program to orient and build the capacity of producers on legal requirements, market trends, and management norms and tools that will be used by the members of the group. General Guidance: For small-scale producers training records will not be required but anyone working on the farm should be adequately trained for the job they are doing.	Verify if training programme is in place and its records; Interview farm managers and workers and observe the execution of their activities.
	4.3.4 Growers should deal fairly with local businesses and make efforts to contribute to the local economy wherever possible.	Producers should invest in local development by: • Maximising local employment, • Using local goods and services wherever possible, • Paying for goods and services promptly,	Review documents on material purchased and on services hired; Verify the origin of labor contracted on the farm; Interview local stakeholders (City Hall,

		• Supporting, as far as is practical, any projects that improve local infrastructure or facilities;	associations).
4.4 Land tenure	4.4.1 The right to use the land can be demonstrated and does not diminish the legal or customary rights of other users.	Land tenure documents for the crop area (proof of ownership, use rights, rental agreements, etc); When applicable, there can be other evidence of recognised use-rights and ownership; make use of criteria defined for this purpose by the "*Articulação Soja*" (2004) [10] When soy is grown on indigenous land or indigenous reserves, relevant legislation must be observed. In this case, the crops can not be cultivated by contracted service providers.	Verify documents; Interview neighbours and other stakeholders; Consult with INCRA

5. Continuous improvement

	Criteria	**Indicator / /Verifier**	**Means of verification**
5.1 Continuous improvement in achieving full compliance with the criteria	5.1.1 If there is not full compliance initially with the criteria, the grower should make a written commitment to comply within a defined time.	Evidence of commitment providing the pre-requisite indicators are considered (see previous definitions)	Verify written document signed by producer in which he/she commits to achieve compliance with the Basel Criteria.
	5.1.2 There should be a plan setting out how compliance will be achieved within the timeframe agreed.	Agreed time should be two years maximum (plus another year when exceptional conditions are in place and are properly justified)	Verify whether the plan and its components comply with the objectives and with agreed timeframe.
	5.1.3 Continuous improvement in line	There must be contracts with auditing	Verify auditing contracts,

	with the plan should be demonstrated through independent verification at least annually.	organisations; the evaluations must comply with the recommendations in Annex 1	records and reports.

6. Traceability

	Criteria	Indicator / Verifier	Means of verification
6.1 Traceability of the product	6.1.1 All of the product about which statements of compliance with these criteria are made should be traceable to the farm where it has been grown.	This can be provided by: • Any certified chain of custody or 'Hard Identity Preserved' scheme that confirms that the product can be traced from the farm of origin through all stages of processing and transport, e.g., EUREPGAP, organic; or • Systems being in place which ensure that products can be traced from the farm of origin through all stages of processing and transportation, by means of documentation, identification and segregation of soy and soy products produced in compliance with the Basel Criteria. General guidance: for small-scale producers, a small-scale producer association or group, or a company that buys soybeans from individual small-scale producers may fulfil this.	Verify traceability system- related documents and records; Verify measures implemented in the locations and stages of processing to ensure identification of product origin (segregation, identification, records, etc.); Interview people in charge of, and workers handling the maintenance of the traceability process.

Sources

1. Good Management Practices for soybean production: http://www.cnpso.embrapa.br/producaosoja
2. Water Resources Policies and information on relevant legislation: http://www.mma.gov.br/port/srh/politica/legislacao
3. Pesticide Legislation – Act/7.802/89; Decree/98.816/90 – that regulates the Agrochemicals Legislation; Act/7974/00 – Disposal of Agrochemical Containers; Decree/4.074/02 – Regulation of Agrochemicals.
4. Act/10.711/03, published on 06/08/2003, enacting the Seed and Seedling National System (*SNSM -Sistema Nacional de Sementes e Mudas*), to ensure quality and identity of these materials throughout the country; Decree/5.153, 26/07/2004, that regulates the Seed and Seedling Act.
5. Normative Act/21, 10 April 2003, which approves the Standards of Certification for soybean grain produced without GMO strains, through Immunochromatographic Kits. Other GMO-related laws: State of Paraná/ Act/307/2003 (Amended Bill) that bans the cultivation, handling, import, industrialisation and commercialisation of GMOs in the state of Paraná; Provisional Measure no 13, of 25 March 2003 (*Medida provisória nº131, 25 de September 2003)* establishing the cultivation and commercialisation standards for the 2004 soybean crop, and other measures; Provisional Measure no 113of 27 March2003 *Medida Provisória nº 113, 27 March 2003*), establishing the commercialisation standards for the 2003 soybean crop, and other measures.
6. Information and maps of the study by Pro Bio: http://www.bdt.fat.org.br/workshop
7. Publications on High Conservation Value Areas: www.proforest.net
8. Information on the contents of the NRs: http://www.fundacentro.sc.gov.br/legislacao/nrs.php
9. Child and Adolescent Statute - Act/ 8.069, 13 July 1990. http://www.mj.gov.br/sedh/dca/eca.htm
10. Forum on Soybean Development and Criteria (*Fórum Articulação Soja e Critérios*) for the social responsibility of soy purchasing companies. http://www.cebrac.org.br/forumnovo/docs/CriteriosResponsSoja.pdf

Other comments and issues raised while interpreting the Basel Criteria:

1. Regional differences, between soybean production areas in the South and Centre-west of Brazil, should be taken into consideration.
2. The use of large-scale indicators should be taken into consideration for co-operatives, associations or small-scale producer groups. The environmental and social impact should be considered collectively.
3. Currently, the production volume needed to supply the COOP is small; therefore, makes segregation difficult to ensure traceability in silos, in soy- meal production units and on ships.
4. The lack of available information regarding biodiversity and endangered species in soybean production areas, can make compliance with criterion 3.3 difficult.
5. Indicator 3.1.2 is unrealistic. Enforcement of the environmental legislation and the guarantee of connectivity among legal reserves, areas of permanent protection, and fragments of neighbouring vegetation, should be enough to achieve compliance with environmental conservation requirements. The adoption of compensation measures could be considered an impediment to production.

6. Contact with producers that adopt an integrated management process, from the production to the processing phase, should be prioritised. Various co-operatives have already implemented a traceability system (e.g., the Co-op of Campo Mourão, in Paraná).
7. Is there any definition by COOP as to why preference should be given to producers' co-operatives or small-scale producers, in detriment of an individual large-scale producer or company?
8. Does the COOP social responsibility and fair trade policy also include intermediary companies (or "traders")?

Participants on workshops held in Brasília (04/11/2004) and in Londrina (17/11/2004):

- Antonio Eduardo Pípolo (EMBRAPA/Soy-related Research National Centre) (*EMBRAPA/Centro Nacional de Pesquisa de Soja*)
- Antonio Garcia (EMBRAPA/Soy Research National Centre)
- Aurea Nardelli (Consultant and auditor to natural resources management).
- Henrique Chaves (National University of Brasília and ANA – Federal Agency of Water)
- Ilan Kruglianskas (WWF-Brasil)
- João Y. Shimada (Group Maggi – Environmental Coordinator)
- Juarez Tomé (EMBRAPA/Management)
- Laurenz Pinder (TNC - The Nature Conservancy)
- Luis Fernando Guedes Pinto (Imaflora)
- Marcos Antonio de Oliveira (DESER- Department of Rural Socio-economic Studies) (*DESER-Departamento de Estudos Sócio-econômicos Rurais*)
- Mauricio Galinkin (CEBRAC- Brazilian Foundation Centre of Reference and Cultural Support) (*CEBRAC – Fundação Centro Brasileiro de Referência e Apoio Cultural*)
- Milton Kaster (Embrapa/Centro Nacional de Pesquisa de Soja)
- Nilton Palma (COROL- Farming and Ranching Co-operative Ltd of Rolândia)
- Norman Neumaier (EMBRAPA/ Centro Nacional de Pesquisa de Soja)
- Ricardo Vilela (EMBRAPA/ Centro Nacional de Pesquisa de Soja)
- Washington Matsuo (Association of organic Producers of Londrina)

Stakeholders invited to attend the workshops, and/or, that have received the document for consultation (and that have not accepted or could not participate in the events):

- Farming and Ranching Co-operative Mourãoense Ltd – COAMO (President: José Aroldo Gallassini)
- EMATER Regional Office/Paraná, in Londrina (Regional Manager: Marli Candalafit Alcantara Parra Peres)
- FASE/Mato Grosso (Vicente Puhl)

- FETRAF - Federation of Family Farming Workers (*Federação de Trabalhadores na Agricultura Familiar*)(Agnes Vercauteren)
- Meridional Foundation - Londrina (President: Geraldo Rodrigues Fróes)
- Gebana Brasil (Sr. Colussi)
- GTA Nacional – Amazon Work Group (*Grupo de Trabalho Amazônico*)(José Geraldo)
- Agricultural Institute of Paraná (*Instituto Agrônomo do Paraná*)– IAPAR (Director - President: Onaur Ruano)
- Instituto Sócio-Ambiental (Adriana Ramos)
- Ministry of Agriculture, Ranching and Provisions – MAPA - Regional Office of the Ministry of Agriculture of Londrina (Regional Manager: Juarez José de Santana)
- State Secretariat of Agriculture and Provisios of Paraná – SEAB -Regional Office of Londrina (Gil Renato Alves Abelin)
- Union of Rural Workers of Londrina (President: Olimpio Cândido da Silva Neto)
- Union and Organization of Co-operatives of the State of Paraná – OCEPAR (President: João Paulo Koslovski)
- Rural Union of Londrina (President: Luis Fernando Kalinovski)
- State University of Londrina – UEL/ Centre of Agriculture Science (Cassio Egidio Cavenaghi Prete)