

## **Summary of the BioGrace workshop on June 29th, Utrecht**

On June 29th, the BioGrace workshop on harmonisation of GHG emission calculations for biofuels was organised in Utrecht, the Netherlands. Participants included policy makers from various EU member states, GHG experts, and sustainability scheme holders as well as the BioGrace partners. In the first part of the workshop, the importance of harmonising GHG calculations for biofuels in the EU was discussed. Since standard values to be used in GHG calculations are not included in the Renewable Energy Directive, GHG calculations performed for the same biofuel lead to different results, as a consequence of the use of different standard values. Moreover, economic operators are able to choose the most beneficial values and, in that way, enhance the GHG performance of their biofuels, without actually improving this performance. Therefore, a list of standard values is being developed by the BioGrace project.

The workshop participants agreed that this is a problem that needs to be solved and that an appropriate way to do this would be by making reference to a list of standard values in national legislation implementing the Renewable Energy Directive. The policy makers present at the workshop advocated this idea but stressed the necessity of gaining critical mass among EU member states. Because the different regulatory frameworks in the EU member states require a different input from the BioGrace project, different versions of the list of standard values will be compiled and distributed by BioGrace in the summer of 2010. Sustainability scheme holders can also play a role in harmonisation of GHG calculations, so the list of standard values will be disseminated to them as well.