

# HELP US STOP DEFORESTATION AND HUNGER DUE TO AGROFUELS

**“The grain required to fill a 25-gallon SUV gas tank with ethanol will feed one person for a year.” – Lester Brown, Earth Policy Institute.**

Since April this year, the Renewable Transport Fuel Obligation (RTFO) forces all UK drivers to buy petrol and diesel which is blended with biofuels. Worldwide vast areas of rainforests, other ecosystems and farmlands are being turned into biofuel (agrofuel) monocultures. This is a disaster for people, for the climate and for biodiversity, essential for stabilising the climate and for maintaining life.

### WHAT'S WRONG WITH AGROFUELS?

(Agrofuels = biofuels grown as large-scale monocultures)

**Agrofuels accelerate climate change** by vastly increasing green house gas emissions.

### Agrofuels cause destruction of rainforests

This is the quickest way to make climate change worse.

**Agrofuels cause species extinction** as natural habitats are being converted to arable land.

**Agrofuels steal land from food production** causing food price rises and more hunger in the poorest countries.



Forests burned in Indonesia to clear land to produce palm oil.



**“Agrofuels are a crime against humanity”**

Jean Ziegler (UN Special Rapporteur on the Right to Food)

### Agrofuels cause human rights abuses and refugees

The UN has warned that 60 million people are likely to become “biofuel refugees” (people forced off their land) to make way for huge areas of biofuel crops.

### Agrofuels are destroying wildlife even in Europe

Across Europe “set-aside” land regulations are being repealed for agrofuels, further threatening vulnerable farmland birds, butterflies and pollinator (bee) species.



### WHAT NEEDS TO BE DONE?

We need an immediate moratorium on agrofuels from large-scale monocultures. This includes scrapping the Renewable Transport Fuel Obligation in the UK, and biofuel targets and incentives in the EU. Agrofuel monocultures cannot be sustainable. We need to dramatically reduce our fuel use and also invest in true renewable energy such as wind and solar. Stopping agrofuel monocultures means taking on one of the biggest corporate alliances and a government still committed to supporting them. Only a strong and diverse grassroots campaign can achieve this.

### Please help to make a difference...

- + Sign up to regular email action alerts and campaigns: Email [info@biofuelwatch.org.uk](mailto:info@biofuelwatch.org.uk) or sign up via the website.
- + Contact Biofuelwatch if you would like to get involved in the campaign – we are all volunteers and welcome any help people can give!
- + Get together with friends and organise a local protest/action against an agrofuel company, or organise a local meeting or film evening. Contact us for information and resources.
- + Visit your MP or MEP and tell him or her that we need an agrofuel moratorium now.

