

## Particulars

### About Your Organisation

#### 1.1 Member Name

Oxfam International

#### 1.2 Membership number

7-0001-04-000-00

#### 1.3 Membership sector

Social or Development Organisations (Non Governmental Organisations)

#### 1.4 Membership category

Ordinary

#### 1.5 Country

Netherlands

#### 2.0 Does your company or organisation produce, process, consume or sell any palm oil or any products containing derivatives of palm oil?

No

#### 2.2 Please select all the sectors that best describe the business activities of your company or organisation, including your primary RSPO membership sector. You may select multiple sectors and will be required to complete the ACOP form for the relevant sectors

- I finance or support companies or organisations that produce or manufacture palm oil, palm kernel oil or related products
- I support the sustainable development of the palm oil industry as a conservation and environmental NGO
- I support the sustainable development of the palm oil industry as a social and human development NGO
- I am an Affiliate member of the RSPO, indirectly involved in the palm oil industry

## NGOs

### 1. Operational Profile

#### 1.1 What are the main activities of your organisation?

Oxfam is an international confederation of 20 organizations networked together in more than 90 countries, as part of a global movement for change, to build a future free from the injustice of poverty. We work with others, including private sector, local civil society organisations and communities to ensure that poor people can improve their lives and livelihoods and have a say in decisions that affect them.

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#### 1.2 What activities has your organisation undertaken to publicise programmes to support the RSPO, RSPO certification, the uptake of RSPO-certified sustainable palm oil and oil palm products, or to support good standing RSPO members during the reporting period?

Oxfam has actively and critically fulfilled its role in the RSPO Board of Governors and emphasized increased focus on human rights risks in Central America and Africa and the importance of monitoring and impact measurement.

Oxfam provided the co-lead of the Human Rights working group and the sub-group on gender inclusion. It actively contributed to the commissioning (ToR, selection of consultants) of the development of gender guidance to the P&C 2018 and to the RISS 2019. The gender guidance was launched in April 2021. Under Oxfam's co-chairing a 3 year strategy was developed for the Human Rights Working Group with 4 focus areas (1. RSPO human rights framework, 2. Safe, decent work and labour conditions, 3. Gender equality, women's safety and Women's Economic Empowerment and 4. Respect, advancement of community land rights and remedy). Furthermore, developing new best practice outside of the RSPO context, Oxfam has designed additional guidance for company-community partnerships, in 4 elements: Freedom of choice, Accountability, Improvement of benefits notably productivity, Respect for rights (FAIR). Building further on the scoping study (2019), a second location was identified in N-Konawe, SE Sulawesi to pilot the FAIR company community partnership. Oxfam convened co-creation with local government agencies, 2 mills/palm oil plantations in the landscape, their buyers (all RSPO members) and 3 local CSOs. Moreover, Oxfam has been actively involved in the Netherlands agreement on Responsible Business Conduct with Dutch pension funds (one of which is RSPO member) and Netherlands government on addressing human rights and labor rights in the palm oil sector in Indonesia and Liberia related to plantations of large growers (RSPO members). Oxfam has joined a small group (Unilever, RSPO Secretariat and others) to undertake a diagnostic study on Gender Based Violence in the palm oil sector.

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**1.3 What percentage of your organisation's overall activities focus on palm oil?**

4.0%

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**1.4 Did members of your organisation participate in RSPO working groups and/or taskforces during the reporting period?**

Yes

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**1.5 Does your organisation have any collaborations with public or private sector palm oil industry players to support them in their efforts to increase the production or consumption of certified sustainable palm oil (CSPO)?**

Yes

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**1.6 How is your organisation's work on palm oil funded?**

1. Dutch grant 'Strategic Partnership' (till end 2020) and Power of Voices Partnership (2021 onwards)
  2. PepsiCo funds (FAIR company community partnership)
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**2. TimeBound Plan**

**2.1 Which year did your organisation start or expects to start participating in RSPO working groups and/or taskforces?**

2007

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**2.2 Which year did your organisation start or expects to start undertaking and publicising programmes to support the RSPO, RSPO certification, uptake of RSPO-certified sustainable palm oil and oil palm products and/or good standing RSPO member?**

2007

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### 3. Actions for Next Reporting Period

#### 3.1 Please outline activities that your organisation will take in the coming year to promote the production or consumption of certified sustainable palm oil (CSPO)

As Co-chair of the human rights working group (HRWG), Oxfam will provide guidance on the implementation of the 3 years strategy of the HRWG and also actively contribute in the implementation of activities identified under the goals on the human rights framework and gender inclusion. Oxfam will regularly participate in meetings of the Assurance Standing Committee providing relevant input on human rights. The implementation of the FAIR company community partnership pilot in SE Sulawesi will start in the second half of 2021. Oxfam will continue its work on a palm oil case as part of the Dutch Agreement on RBC with Dutch pension funds. The case is related to a large grower (RSPO member) with operations in Indonesia and Liberia. The case focusses on community land rights, gender inclusion, smallholder inclusion and labor rights. Oxfam will work on the submission of a complaint in an African country under the RSPO grievance mechanism.

## Shared Responsibility

*The Board of Governors of the Roundtable on Sustainable Palm Oil approved new Shared Responsibility rules on 31 October 2019, requiring all members to share sustainability requirements and obligations. Reporting of Shared Responsibility indicators will be done through several channels, including ACOP. As the implementation of Shared Responsibility reporting is still on-going and in development, the Shared Responsibility section in ACOP is not yet final and may change in future ACOP cycles. For more information on Shared Responsibility, please go to <https://rspo.org/news-and-events/news/what-are-the-new-shared-responsibility-rules> or email the ACOP team at [acop@rspo.org](mailto:acop@rspo.org)*

### Labour & Labour Rights

**1.1 Does your company have a publicly-available policy covering Labour & Labour Rights?**

Yes

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**1.1.1 Does the policy cover:**

- No discrimination
- Wage and working conditions
- Freedom of association
- No child labour
- No harassment
- No forced or trafficked labour

### Ethical Conduct & Human Rights

**1.2 Does your company have a publicly-available Policy covering Ethical Conduct & Human Rights?**

Yes

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**1.2.1 Does the policy cover:**

- Recruitment
- Contractors
- Sub-Contractors & Third-Party Contractors

### Occupational Health & Safety

**1.4 Does your company have a publicly-available Policy covering Occupational Health & Safety?**

No

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**Climate Change & Greenhouse Gas (GHG)**

**1.5 Does your company have a publicly-available policy covering Climate Change & Greenhouse Gas (GHG)?**

No

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**Complaints & Grievances**

**1.6 Does your company have a Complaints & Grievances Mechanism?**

Yes

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**1.6.1 Is your Complaints & Grievance mechanism in line with the principles of the RSPO's grievance mechanism, which are the elements of fairness, transparency, and impartiality?**

Yes

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**Smallholders**

**1.7 Does your company support oil palm independent smallholder groups?**

Yes

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**1.7.1 Does this support cover:**

- Fair and transparent dealings with Smallholders
- Improved Smallholder livelihoods

**1.7.2 How is your company supporting them?**

Oxfam has developed and co-created the FAIR company community partnership which is an Alternative Business Model replacing the unsustainable and not responsible large scale plantation model with plantation workers and schemed smallholders. The FAIR partnership focusses on independent palm oil smallholders and works with them on organisational strengthening, strengthening of Good Agricultural Practices, gender inclusion, financial literacy and improved bargaining skills to negotiate better prices. With the partnership we try to achieve a living income and more generally improved livelihoods of the independent smallholders. Also land issues impacting independent smallholders are being dealt with. In addition to strengthening the independent smallholders Oxfam and local partners engage with the 2 mills/plantation companies in the landscape, with the buyers and investors, local and national government agencies. A local multi-stakeholder governance platform has already been established for the implementation of the pilot and for its monitoring.

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**Sustainable Palm Oil Policy**

**1.8 Does your company have a publicly-available Policy covering the implementation of RSPO Shared Responsibility principles?**

Yes

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**Waste Management**

**1.9 Does your company have a waste management plan?**

Yes

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**Water Management**

**1.10 Does your company have a water management plan?**

No

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**Energy Use**

**1.11 Does your company have an energy use plan covering fossil fuels and renewable energy?**

No

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**RSPO Services and Support**

**1.12 Does your company provide services and support to the RSPO, eg. participation in RSPO Working Groups and Task Forces**

Yes

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**Shared Responsibility Resourcing**

**1.13 Does your company have a plan to commit resources to ensure effective implementation of RSPO Shared Responsibility principles?**

Yes

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## Challenges and Support

### 1.1 What significant obstacles or challenges has your company encountered in the promotion of certified sustainable palm oil (CSPO)? What efforts has your company taken to address these obstacles or challenges?

- Awareness of RSPO in the market
- Difficulties in the certification process
- Certification of smallholders
- Competition with non-RSPO members
- High costs in achieving or adhering to certification
- Human rights issues
- Insufficient demand for RSPO-certified palm oil
- Low usage of palm oil
- Reputation of palm oil in the market
- Reputation of RSPO in the market
- Supply issues
- Traceability issues
- No challenges faced
- Others

#### Others

RSPO members keep on violating human rights and labor rights, increasingly in African and Central American countries. RSPO has not shown the necessary rigorousness nor close follow-up on those companies which often have not stuck to their time bound plan to get certified. RSPO has not systematically identified human rights risks in Africa and Latin America, while RSPO grower members operate in contexts characterized by systemic human rights violations. RSPO certification has not yet led to (convincing) evidenced based positive impact for local communities. Much more and structural efforts needs to be undertaken on monitoring the implementation of the RSPO standard and to measure emerging impact.

### 1.2 In addition to the actions already reported in this ACOP report, what other ways has your company supported the vision of the RSPO to transform markets to make sustainable palm oil the norm?

- Engagement with business partners or consumers on the use of CSPO
- Engagement with government agencies
- Promotion of CSPO outside of RSPO venues such as trade workshops or industry associations
- Promotion of physical CSPO
- Providing funding or support for CSPO development efforts
- Research & Development support
- Stakeholder engagement
- No actions taken
- Others

#### Others

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**1.3 If your company has any other publicly-available reports or information regarding its palm oil-related policies and activities, please provide the links here**

<https://policy-practice.oxfam.org/resources/an-assessment-of-overall-effectiveness-of-agricultural-multi-stakeholder-initia-621185/>.

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