

Particulars

About Your Organisation

1.1 Member Name

Stichting Rainforest Alliance

1.2 Membership number

7-0008-08-000-00

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?

Rainforest Alliance is an international NGO promoting sustainable production systems and supply chains in tropical forestry and agriculture. In January 2018, Rainforest Alliance and UTZ merged, with the goal of accelerating and scaling up progress to address the urgent challenges of climate change, social inequity, rural poverty, human rights violations, and loss of forests and biodiversity. The post-merger organization, named Rainforest Alliance, currently works at a technical level with farmers and forest communities in 30 countries, and operates its certification system in a further 30, supporting over 2.4 million farmers and 1.5 million farm workers to apply more sustainable farming methods and achieve a higher standard of living. Rainforest Alliance has been working in the palm sector for over 12 years. UTZ has been providing RSPO with RSPO PalmTrace traceability system and Rainforest Alliance has worked on certification, according to the practices of the Sustainable Agriculture Standard and programmes and partnerships with smallholder farmers and civil society. As part of RA's largely donor-funded landscapes and communities work, as well as its work with companies and supply-chain partners, RA has partnered with smallholder farmer groups and forest communities in Indonesia, including those in the palm sector, for over 15 years. Today, RA's work in palm includes engaging with smallholders in Indonesia to improve their sustainability practices, supporting companies in setting sustainability commitments according to the Accountability Framework initiative, mapping company supply chains to mill level to increase the transparency in the sector, and enabling RSPO certification by operating the RSPO traceability system, PalmTrace (<https://www.rspo.org/palmtrace>).

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?

Rainforest Alliance provides RSPO PalmTrace which includes the functionalities of registering the trades certified palm oil and palm oil products and the functionality for members to manage credit trade under the RSPO Book and Claim supply chain model. In 2019 new features, among others, were translation of PalmTrace into Bahasa Indonesia, Thai and Spanish, simplification of the process for Independent Smallholders to sell RSPO Credits, automation of the licensing of Traders and Distributors, verified GPS coordinates for mills that can be verified by CBs when licensing them, functionality to export supplying mills from a users stock from the system, automatic additions of processing activities based on the supply chain model when CBs request a license, reducing errors and workload for CBs and RSPO, and transactions and trace can reverse by members themselves, to correct errors. Training to members and are provided on a continuous, as needed basis both online and face to face. In 2020 over 30 online and face to face trainings were provided. Multiple manuals and quick guides were updated and webinar recordings were made available.

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

10.0%

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

Yes

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

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

We receive part of the volume based fee for first buyer sales in PalmTrace from RSPO and have donor and corporate funded projects in palm.

2. TimeBound Plan

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

2011

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

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)

Rainforest Alliance aims to continue supporting RSPO in making sustainable palm oil the norm. Rainforest Alliance will continue to engage with RSPO and its stakeholders to improve the RSPO PalmTrace system to keep it up to date to ensure it meets their needs. For 2021, PalmTrace will continue to be enhanced according to RSPO and user needs. We will enhance the licensing process, making it easier for CBs to request a license and fill in the required data in a correct manner. We will also improve the reporting functionalities for RSPO, so they can more easily extract the relevant data from PalmTrace and get insight into the trends they need for their impact measures and decision making. Rainforest Alliance continues training users on various PalmTrace functionalities. Training to RSPO's members and CBs will continue to be provided as needed and requested both face to face and online. In 2021 Rainforest Alliance's work in palm will continue engaging with smallholders in Indonesia to improve their sustainability practices, supporting companies in setting sustainability commitments according to the Accountability Framework initiative, mapping company supply chains to mill level to increase the transparency in the sector through the Palm Industry Platform, and enabling RSPO certification by operating and enhancing the RSPO traceability system, PalmTrace. _____

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

Labour & Labour Rights

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

No

Ethical Conduct & Human Rights

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

Yes

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

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

No

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

Yes

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?

No

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

Yes

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?

Rainforest Alliance engages with smallholders in Indonesia to improve their livelihoods by capacity building, institutional strengthening, providing tools that increase their yields, support the adoption of good agricultural practises, and facilitating market linkages. This will result in enabling smallholders to further implement sustainability practices. Through RSPO PalmTrace, Rainforest Alliance facilitates the trade of RSPO Independent Smallholder RSPO Credits also under the new Independent Smallholder Standard. We support Independent Smallholders with trainings on the system and improve the usability.

Sustainable Palm Oil Policy

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

No

Waste Management

1.9 Does your company have a waste management plan?

No

Water Management

1.10 Does your company have a water management plan?

No

Energy Use

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

No

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

Shared Responsibility Resourcing

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

No

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

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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

Engagement with companies, in which we highlight the use of RSPO Credits as a way to support sustainable production and specifically to support Independent Smallholders. 2. Support RSPO in their outreach, at events, in engagement with their stakeholders, when it comes to certification and Palmtrace.

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://rspo.org/palmtrace> <https://palmtrace.rspo.org/web/rspo/welcome> <https://www.rainforest-alliance.org/articles/search-for-sustainable-palm-oil> <https://www.rainforest-alliance.org/business/responsible-sourcing/on-the-journey-to-sustainable-palm-oil/>