

Particulars

About Your Organisation

1.1 Member Name

FEDEPALMA - National Federation of Oil Palm Growers of Colombia

1.2 Membership Number

1-0010-04-000-00

1.3 Membership Sector

Oil Palm Growers

1.4 Membership Category

Ordinary

1.5 Country

Colombia

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 am a bank or financial institution that finances or supports companies or organisations that produce or manufacture palm oil, palm kernel oil or related products
- I am a conservation and environmental NGO supporting the sustainable development of the palm oil industry
- I am a social and human development NGO supporting the sustainable development of the palm oil industry
- I am an Affiliate member of the RSPO, indirectly involved in the palm oil industry

Affiliates

1. Operational Profile

1.1 What are the main activities of your organisation?

Fedepalma is an organization that represents oil palm growers and mills. It promotes the adoption of Good Agricultural and Manufacturing Practices, aiming for a more productive, competitive and sustainable palm oil sector in Colombia.

1.2 What activities has your organisation undertaken to promote sustainable palm oil, the RSPO and/or RSPO members in the reporting period?

Fedepalma was the Secretary of the National Interpretation Taskforce (NITF) from February 2019 to November 2020, when the Colombian NI was approved by the RSPO BoG. During that period, Fedepalma organized NITF meetings, prepared meeting minutes and draft NI documents, as well as NI reports and the final NI document for RSPO revision.

Fedepalma has been an Ordinary Member of the RSPO since 2004, and for the past 16 years it has been promoting the adoption of sustainable practices as well as RSPO certification among its members. During the reporting period, Fedepalma began implementing a project to identify sustainability gaps with more than 400 smallholders in the Northern Oil Palm Zone of the country. This project was financed by IDH and it might have a second phase, covering a larger number of smallholders in other Oil Palm regions in Colombia.

Fedepalma's Social Lead has been participating in the RSPO Human Rights Working Group and the discussion group on minimum wage.

Between December 2020 and December 2021, RSPO certified CPO in Colombia grew from 430.391 to 458.696 tons, a 6,6% increase. In that same period, RSPO certified companies in Colombia increased 6,1% (33 to 35).

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

100.0%

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

Yes

1.5 Does your organisation have any past or on-going 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?

In Colombia there is a 1.5% tax on the price of CPO produced. The funds collected with this tax, which every mill has to pay, are administered by Fedepalma. They fund Fedepalma and Cenipalma's (the Colombian Palm Oil Research Center) work.

2. Actions for Next Reporting Period

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

Fedepalma will continue to promote the adoption of sustainable practices and RSPO certification with its members, through its diverse communication channels, as well as through the work of its Planning and Sustainable Development Unit, as well as through Cenipalma's Extension Program. This program works together with palm oil mills to identify gaps in the adoption of sustainable practices, and to draft and implement plans to close those gaps.

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

There is still an awareness gap in the Colombian market regarding RSPO certification. The RSPO certification process is becoming more complicated with new requirements and procedures. Some take too long and response times from the RSPO Secretariat take too much (i.e. Remediation and Compensation procedure, and LUCA). Smallholder certification is still a big challenge in Colombia, where very few smallholders are certified.

In general, RSPO is still very centralized in Southeast Asia (SEA). Although the LATAM office has helped in raising concerns with the RSPO Secretariat and improving response times, most decisions are made in SEA based on the realities and context of this region.

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?

- Communication and/or engagement to transform the negative perception of palm oil
- Engagement with business partners or consumers on the use of CSPO
- Engagement with government agencies
- Engagement with peers and clients
- Promotion of CSPO through off product claims
- 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

Fedepalma engages with business partners, consumers, government agencies, and other stakeholders in diverse topics, one of them being the promotion of sustainable palm oil.

We provide information on the specific context and conditions of the Colombian palm oil sector that make us unique and differentiated, such as our high level of labor formality and good working conditions without exploitation, and our growth and development without significant deforestation or establishment on peatlands.

Together with Cenipalma, the Oil Palm Research Center of Colombia, we provide R&D support and Extension services in environmental and social issues.

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

Whysustainable palm oil from Colombia? <https://repositorio.fedepalma.org/handle/123456789/112123>

Colombian oil palm agro-industry: development with low impact on deforestation
<https://repositorio.fedepalma.org/handle/123456789/112122>

Colombian palm oil sector: Deforestation Free Development Potential
<https://repositorio.fedepalma.org/handle/123456789/112121>

The ABC of HCVs <https://repositorio.fedepalma.org/handle/123456789/129568>

Landscape Management Tools –LMTs: Biodiversityconservation strategyin oil palm crops
<https://repositorio.fedepalma.org/handle/123456789/109555>
