

Particulars

About Your Organisation

1.1 Member Name

Sumatran Orangutan Society (SOS)

1.2 Membership Number

6-0013-09-000-00

1.3 Membership Sector

Environmental or Nature Conservation Organisations (Non Governmental Organisations)

1.4 Membership Category

Ordinary

1.5 Country

United Kingdom

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

NGOs

1. Operational Profile

1.1 What are the main activities of your organisation?

At SOS, we have spent 20 years building projects and partnerships to help wild orangutan thrive in resilient forests.

We have supported over 10,000 local people to plant 2 million trees, and protect millions more.

We are working with our frontline partners to support forest-edge communities to make a forest-friendly living, whilst helping to protect, connect and rewild the orangutans' forest home.

As well as supporting these effective grassroots conservation programmes in Sumatra, we're also active in working to break the link between international trade and deforestation.

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?

SOS has worked with partners in Sumatra, Indonesia, to provide training for plantation workers and rural communities on best management practices for dealing with human-wildlife conflict, enabling farmers to protect their crops without harming wildlife. We have supported the evacuation of orangutans at risk in plantation areas. Ensuring that standards are upheld on the ground is a crucial role for NGO members of RSPO. We have also actively promoted our position that supporting the drive towards sustainability in the palm oil industry is more constructive than removing palm oil from products and supply chains. We have done this through our website and social media, through speaking engagements on panels, and through conversations with corporates. We have also partnered with Chester Zoo on their successful Sustainable Palm Oil City campaign, with an ongoing initiative to turn Oxford into a Sustainable Palm Oil Community.

This year we have also worked closely with Ecotone/Whole Earth and Little Soap Company to promote messaging around sustainable palm oil.

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

5.0%

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

No

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?

Public donations and grants from donor agencies.

2. TimeBound Plan

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

2009

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?

2009

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)

- Training on sustainability topics, monitoring of implementation of sustainability topics
- Participation in RSPO Working Group or Task Forces;
- Support Independent Smallholders (ISH)
- Become a partner of the RSPO Smallholder Trainer Academy
- Provide technical support for Independent Smallholder Certification projects
- Involvement/direct investments in Jurisdictional/Landscape approach
- Promote and support Direct/collective investments in conservation and restoration initiatives
- Provide technical support support members with Remediation and Compensation (RaCP) process, direct/collective investments in conservation and restoration initiatives
- Allocating FTE to promote the production or consumption of certified sustainable oil palm products or
- Specific policies and action plans by the member to promote CSPO production or consumption in the upstream or downstream supply chain, including target dates or broader policies that include such efforts
- No activities planned
- Others

Other

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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 (SR) requirements will be done through ACOP and MyRSPO. As the process of verification of the reports is in development, the Shared Responsibility section in ACOP may change in future ACOP cycles. Evidence to show compliance to the SR requirements shall be uploaded via your membership profile in MyRSPO. Please login to your MyRSPO account and upload the relevant policies, plans and relevant reports there. If you do not have a policy or your policy does not cover all items, you will be required to provide a Declaration of Support for the relevant policy items in your MyRSPO profile. Additional information on the required policies and plans applicable to all sectors as well as the annual uptake targets for supply chain actors can be found on <https://rspo.org/members/shared-responsibility> or email the Shared Responsibility team at sharedresponsibility@rspo.org.

Information & Public Availability

1.1 Does your company have organisational management documents publicly-available?

No

Ethical Conduct & Human Rights

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

No

Legal Compliance

1.3 Does your company comply with all applicable legal requirements?

Yes

1.4 Does your company require its third party contractors to comply with legal requirements, i.e. including a clause on legal compliance in the contracts?

Yes

Complaints & Grievances

1.5 Does your company have a Grievance Mechanism that is accessible to all affected parties?

Yes

1.5.1 Is your Grievance mechanism in line with the principles of the RSPO's Complaints System?

Yes

Smallholders

1.7 Does your company support oil palm smallholders (groups)?

No

Labour & Labour Rights

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

No

Occupational Health & Safety

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

No

1.9.1 Does your company have a Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) for Occupational Health & Safety?

No

Waste Management

1.10b Does your company have a statement of intent to reduce, recycle, reuse and disposal based on the hazardous characteristics?

No

Climate Change & Greenhouse Gas (GHG)

1.13 Does your company have a publicly-available policy covering Climate Change & Greenhouse Gas (GHG) including identification and assessment of GHG emissions and implementation of a plan to reduce or minimise them?

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?

- 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

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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://www.orangutans-sos.org/take-action/learn/palm-oil/statement-in-support-of-sustainable-palm-oil/>