

Particulars

About Your Organisation

1.1 Member Name

FEDIOL - EU Vegetable Oil and Proteinmeal Industry

1.2 Membership Number

8-0008-04-000-00

1.3 Membership Sector

Organisations

1.4 Membership Category

Affiliate

1.5 Country

Belgium

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?

FEDIOL represents the interests of the EU crushers and vegetable oil refiners towards European Institutions. Industries affiliated to FEDIOL (about 180 plants operating in 16 EU Member States and in the UK) are crushing oilseeds and refining crude vegetable oils, both locally grown and/or imported.

FEDIOL addresses issues of common interest to its member companies and does it generally in a horizontally manner, covering food and feed safety, food regulatory issues, environment and sustainability, agricultural policy and trade.

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

FEDIOL has held discussions within its working groups on topics, policy initiatives and on legislation, relevant for the palm oil sector and for the use of sustainable palm oil in Europe, mostly in the environmental field, but also in food regulatory matters.

The regulatory process regarding the EU regulation on deforestation-free supply chains has attracted particular attention and required our intervention ahead of debates in the European Parliament and in the Council to highlight the particular situation in the palm oil supply chain and to recommend specific provisions, in particular to overcome the challenges related to the number of smallholders in the sector and to clarify the role of certification systems such as RSPO.

FEDIOL held numerous discussions and coordination meetings with other stakeholders focussing on overcoming problems that will arise across its supply chains to implement the EU deforestation-free regulation.

FEDIOL continued carrying out an annual monitoring of certified sustainable palm and palm kernel oil based on member companies' reporting.

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 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?

FEDIOL is exclusively funded through membership contributions. Activities are decided on a yearly basis by the FEDIOL General Assembly. They are mostly horizontal, which means that even if action can be focused when needed on rapeseed, soybeans, sunflower seed oil or palm oil (for example), there is no isolated budget to cover these specific actions; the common funds serve all identified priorities, they are policy driven and not commodity specific.

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)

The focus will be on how to implement the EU deforestation regulation with a view to prepare our industries, prepare key actors in the supply chain, underline the changes that have to be made in producer countries to allow implementation (legal, practical, logistical). The draft regulation to enter into force, most likely in January 2025, will require companies to carry out mandatory due diligence, with traceability to plot of production through geolocation and will set a prohibition to market products associated with deforestation. Meeting these provisions by the set deadline will be highly challenging for the vast majority of smallholders, particularly if there is no preparation and if major adjustments are not made in producer countries. It has the potential to affect also RSPO certified actors.

FEDIOL will continue undertaking the monitoring of sustainable palm oil that is used by its member companies.

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.fediol.eu/data/Oil%20Monitoring%202021%20DRAFT%20final.pdf>
https://www.fediol.eu/data/ESPOAG%20joint%20statement%2018%20May%202022_final.pdf
https://www.fediol.eu/data/165183520721ENV387%20Position%20on%20deforestation%20free%20supply%20chains%20FINAL%20updated_.pdf