

Particulars

About Your Organisation

1.1 Member Name

Forest Peoples Programme

1.2 Membership Number

7-0017-13-000-00

1.3 Membership Sector

Social or Development 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?

FPP is a human rights organisation that defends the rights of forest peoples. We have NGO Consultative Status at the UN (ECOSOC) and have field projects in some 22 countries around the tropics providing legal, technical and advocacy support to forest peoples whose rights are threatened by imposed policies and investments

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?

FPP is a member of IUCN, HCVRN, HCSA, TFA, TFD and, until recently when it was disbanded, POIG. In all these forums FPP promotes systems for the production of palm oil which respect internationally recognised human rights. We seek to identify companies' operations or national laws or policies which directly or indirectly threaten those rights and advise RSPO on how it can improve its standards and procedures to ensure that these rights are effectively respected, protected and (where violated) remedied in line with the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights.

FPP is a member of the BoG, ASC, BHCVWG, HRWG, NDJSG, and JAWG. In the past we have also participated in the INA NIWG meetings, Colombia NIWG, Ecuador NIWG, Liberia NIWG and Cameroon NIWG. We continue to advise the RSPO Outreach programme.

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?

Grants from trusts and foundations and bilateral aid agencies. FPP does not accept funding from the private sector.

2. TimeBound Plan

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

2007

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)

- 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

We expect to undertake the following actions. 1. Continued involvement in the RSPO Committees Working Groups and Task Forces as above. 2. Continued attendance at Board of Governors meetings. 3. Continued involvement in NI WG where relevant. 4. Attendance at RT and European RT 2025. 5. Continued promotion of Jurisdictional Approaches while ensuring they secure forest peoples' rights and livelihoods 6. Support and pursue complaints against RSPO members operating in violation of the P&C. 6. Development of materials that explain RSPO standards and procedures of relevance to communities.

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 organisation have organisational management documents publicly-available?

Yes

Ethical Conduct & Human Rights

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

Yes

1.2.1 Does the policy cover:

- Ethical conduct for contractors
- Ethical conduct for recruitment
- Respect of human rights, including for suppliers and sub-Contractors

Legal Compliance

1.3 Does your organisation comply with all applicable legal requirements?

Yes

1.4 Does your organisation 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 organisation 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 organisation support oil palm smallholders (groups)?**

Yes

1.7.1 Does your organisation report on the actions to support the inclusion of smallholders?

Yes

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

Yes

1.8.1 Does the policy cover:

- No discrimination and equal opportunities
- Pay and working conditions at least at legal or industry minimum standards and are sufficient to provide decent living wages (DLW)
- Freedom of association and Collective bargaining
- Protection of children, as well as the workforce of suppliers and third-party contractors
- Prevention of all forms of harassment, including sexual harassment
- No forced or trafficked labour

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

Yes

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

Yes

Waste Management**1.10b Does your organisation 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 organisation 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

We have sought to improve the quality assurance of RSPO as this remains the Achilles Heel of the RSPO. In our view (based on detailed field assessments), there remain serious problems with company adherence to the P&C, the quality of audits (especially social audits), the competence and independence of auditors, the implementation of HCV-HCS plans, and the operation of the complaints and grievance procedures. Consequently, human rights abuses continue to be associated with RSPO certified products. RSPO's Mass Balance system is also increasingly called into question and we believe it should be phased out and options investigated with urgency such as a transition to Book and Claim.

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

We provide technical and legal advice to RSPO members and communities on how to improve production so that it respects human rights and the rights of indigenous peoples and local communities. We push for improved local governance of palm oil through the Jurisdictional Approach (JA) and work hard to get the RSPO to invest more in JA and give the achievements greater prominence.

www.forestpeoples.org has a lot. Just go on the site and go to themes and click on RSPO or palm oil.

Recent documents include:

<https://www.forestpeoples.org/en/news/2023peruvian-indigenous-organisations-us-ambassador-ochosur-palm-oil>

<https://www.forestpeoples.org/en/report/2023/forest-politics-indonesia-deforestation-depossession>

<https://www.forestpeoples.org/en/blog/eu-impact-forest-peoples-rights>

<https://www.forestpeoples.org/en/report/first-resources-shadow-over-dayak-agabag>

For much more follow:

<https://www.forestpeoples.org/en/resources?>

[Publications%5B0%5D=language%3Aen&Publications%5B1%5D=work_theme_and_topics_publication%3A352&search_api_fulltext=oil+palm&sort_by=field_publication_date](https://www.forestpeoples.org/en/resources?Publications%5B0%5D=language%3Aen&Publications%5B1%5D=work_theme_and_topics_publication%3A352&search_api_fulltext=oil+palm&sort_by=field_publication_date)
