

Particulars

About Your Organisation

1.1 Member Name

World Resources Institute (WRI)

1.2 Membership Number

6-0020-12-000-00

1.3 Membership Sector

Environmental or Nature Conservation Organisations (Non Governmental Organisations)

1.4 Membership Category

Ordinary

1.5 Country

United States

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?

WRI is a global nonprofit organization that works with leaders in government, business and civil society to research, design, and carry out practical solutions that simultaneously improve people's lives and ensure nature can thrive.

Our Challenges

We focus on 7 urgent challenges: Food, Forests, Water, Ocean, Cities, Energy and Climate.

Our Centers

These are complemented by 4 cross-cutting centers: Business, Economics, Equity, and Finance.

Our Staff

We have over 1,700 staff in 12 international offices, who work with partners in over 50 countries to put the planet on a more sustainable pathway.

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?

1) WRI supports the RSPO and its individual members to identify deforestation-related risks in supply chains, to track trends in deforestation over time, and to monitor deforestation and fires in near-real time through Global Forest Watch (GFW). WRI partners directly with the RSPO Secretariat and RSPO members to utilize on how to best utilize GFW tools, data, and analyses to drive impact in the palm oil sector.

The GFW Pro platform has been specifically developed with supply chain actors as the target audience, with numerous RSPO members currently as active users of the platform. Freely available to all, it unites users within complex commodity supply chains around a common approach to quantify and manage progress towards meeting deforestation commitments, adhere to commitments, and demonstrate regulatory compliance.

During this reporting period, we began the development of several new advanced functionalities, datasets, and analysis features that are targeted for launch in 2023 and 2024.

(2) We continued to update the Universal Mill List - further aligning the industry around a comprehensive, common dataset. The UML is the combined effort of eleven major organizations working on supply chain transparency, as well data contributions and input from dozens of companies across the palm oil supply chain. The UML is publicly available and will be accessible across a number of platforms including GFW and GFW Pro, RSPO PalmTrace, the Papua Atlas and the Borneo Atlas, Starling, as well as trase.earth.

During this reporting period, Rainforest Alliance, one of the UML co-authors, also created a new dedicated website for the dataset. The website allows users to access rolling, continuous updates to the dataset (as opposed to every six months) and has a submission portal for sending in new data and edits/corrections to the existing dataset.

Additionally, efforts are currently underway, (led by other UML partners), on the development of Universal Lists for palm kernel crusher facilities and refineries.

(3) WRI continued to facilitate collective action strategies for monitoring, verifying and addressing deforestation alerts. In 2021, Radar for Detecting Deforestation (RADD) alerts were first launched Global Forest Watch, a new system used to detect forest disturbances rain or shine using satellite-based radar data. The alerts now cover 44 countries, are updated in near real time, and are publicly available. The initial development of the RADD alert system was supported by ten of the world's largest palm oil producers and buyers (all RSPO members) including Bunge, Cargill, Golden Agri-Resources (GAR), Mondelēz International, Musim Mas, Nestlé, PepsiCo, Sime Darby Plantation, Unilever and Wilmar. Facilitated by the World Resources Institute, the project was a collaboration between Wageningen University and Research, which developed the detection method, and Satelligence which first scaled the system in Indonesia and Malaysia and provided additional prioritization of the alerts in order to identify the most important areas for on-the-ground follow up.

We then partnered with this same group of companies to pilot collaborative approaches to verifying and responding to the alerts in several priority districts in Indonesia, working together with local government and civil society organizations. Our initial pilot jurisdiction was Siak district in the province of Riau. This was shortly followed by Aceh Timur district – where efforts were coordinated by IDH and with additional support of Unilever and PepsiCo.

During this reporting period, the landscape monitoring work continued to expand – building off replicable lessons and approaches from the early pilots – with new pilot activities underway in collaboration with the Siak Pelalawan Landscape Programme (SPLP) for the district of Pelalawan in Riau as well as additional activities with IDH, supported by PepsiCo and Unilever in Aceh Timur and Singkil districts in Aceh. In Pelalawan, engagement and training local government is underway to establish a verification and response protocol and mobilize field verification teams. In Aceh Timur and Singkil districts, the new efforts are still focused on delivery of desktop deforestation alerts – with hopes to mobilize verification and response protocols in the future, dependent on additional resourcing. Additionally, we began research and data collection for a comprehensive monitoring and evaluation study, expected for publication in late 2023.

(4) WRI continued to lead the facilitation of the Forest Data Partnership – which initiated on October 2021. The initiative strengthens collaboration and application of data for global monitoring of commodity-driven deforestation and forest degradation and advancing restoration efforts across the globe. The Forest Data Partnership will develop a consistent geospatial data ecosystem that will enable all actors—local, government, producers, traders, and financiers—to access consistent, opensource, publicly available, and validated geospatial data related to forest-risk commodities and restoration. In doing so, the Partnership will facilitate credible and systematic monitoring, verification, and disclosure to drive progress in reducing deforestation and restoring degraded lands, with one of the key focal areas being palm area in Southeast Asia. This five-year partnership, coordinated by the World Resources Institute (WRI) with support from USAID and the U.S. Department of State, brings together leading organizations, governments, and private-sector partners to collectively address the challenge of improving land use data. The United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and WRI will lead the development of the data ecosystem by convening public- and private-sector stakeholders, providing governance and facilitation, and maintaining technical facilities for implementation. SERVIR, a joint initiative of NASA, USAID, and leading geospatial organizations, will build capacity to use geospatial data at national and regional levels through its network of hubs in Asia, Africa, and Latin America. Google will support the initiative as the key technology partner and platform provider. Unilever will serve as the private-sector lead for launching the ecosystem and coordinating private-sector involvement.

- (5) WRI Indonesia currently serves as the Accountability Framework Initiative Southeast Asia Secretariat and has collaborated with USAID Segar, LTKL, CDP, Rainforest Alliance Indonesia, and district governments to implement Klinik Implementasi Rantai Pasok Berkelanjutan or Implementation of Sustainable Supply Chain Clinic in 6 target districts, Aceh, Aceh Tamiang, Sintang, Sanggau, Musi Banyuasin, and Banyuasin. This Clinic aims to support producers at the district level and provide an assessment to inform key areas of their sustainable journey they need to improve on, while aligning with the district sustainable agenda. This multistakeholder capacity building approach will create dialogue and provide entry points through which to build further impact. Further technical assistance to address implementation gaps will be provided by connecting or matching the companies to services and offering of AFI Southeast Asia coalition members. WRI Indonesia also has been implementing a coordinated engagement strategy with private sectors to seek collaboration opportunity for capacity building activities. This includes providing trainings on the Accountability Framework as the best practice standard for implementation of sustainable commitments, using AFI modules we modified for small and medium enterprises in Indonesia, as well as trainings on the use of Global Forest Watch Pro as one of the tools for supply chain management and monitoring.
- (7) WRI Indonesia has also been working on several initiatives related to smallholders including: (a) Participating in the RSPO Smallholder Training Academy (b) Supporting the continuation of RSPO certification for 10,000 smallholders in Riau Province, in collaboration with Unilever and district governments (c) Engaging in smallholder intensification research in Rokan Hulu under the GYGA project, in collaboration with the University of Nebraska Lincoln (d) Supporting the district governments of Siak, Banyuasin and Musi Banyuasin in the ESTDB registration for smallholders
- (8) WRI continued to support the RSPO on geospatial analysis initiatives as such GeoRSPO platform (powered by Global Forest Watch)
- 9) WRI continued to engage in RSPO decision-making processes by participating in the RSPO Board of Governors as co-chair, Remuneration Committee, BHCV WG, Standards and Certification Standing Committee. (10)
- (10) WRI serves on the Steering Group of the Accountability Framework Initiative, the HCVN Management Committee, and the Tropical Forest Alliance Steering Group.
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1.3 What percentage of your organisation's overall activities focus on palm oil?

3%

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?

Global Forest Watch has received generous support (including both past and current funders) from USAID, Norwegian Ministry of Climate and Environment, UKAid, Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation, Cargill, GEF, Generation Foundation, Inter-American Development Bank, IDB Invest, MacArthur, Foundation, IIC, Wilburforce Foundation, Bobolink Foundation, Eurasia Foundation, IFC, Johnson&Johnson, Mondelez, Morgan Family Fund, Netherlands Development Finance Company (FMO), NewPage, Rainforest Alliance, Tetra Tech, The Tilia Fund, UNEP, Walmart Foundation, World Bank. The RADD project is supported by Bunge, Cargill, Golden Agri-Resources (GAR), Mondelēz International, Musim Mas, Nestlé, Pepsico, Sime Darby Plantation, Unilever and Wilmar. The Forest Data Partnership is supported by USAID and the U.S. Department of State. WRI Indonesia's related work has been supported by the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Unilever, RSPO RSSF, and University of Nebraska.

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?

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

Continuation of the comprehensive research, data and tool development, collaboration and capacity building activities outlined in the previous question for the current reporting period.

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?**

Yes

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?**

Yes

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

Demonstrating the additional and aligned role and value of RSPO certification with respect to evolving regulatory requirements for sustainability and other voluntary sustainability commitments/efforts.

Objectively and credibly measuring the impact of RSPO certification on sustainability outcomes (e.g. preventing deforestation in high risk areas).

Credibility issues related to certification processes

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

Global Forest Watch: www.globalforestwatch.org. Available in 15 languages.

Global Forest Watch Pro: <https://pro.globalforestwatch.org>

Forest Data Partnership: <https://www.forestdatapartnership.org/>
