

Particulars

About Your Organisation

1.1 Member Name

Stichting Rainforest Alliance

1.2 Membership Number

7-0008-08-000-00

1.3 Membership Sector

Social or Development Organisations (Non Governmental Organisations)

1.4 Membership Category

Ordinary

1.5 Country

Netherlands

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?

Rainforest Alliance is an international NGO promoting sustainable production systems and supply chains in tropical forestry and agriculture. In January 2018, Rainforest Alliance and UTZ merged, with the goal of accelerating and scaling up progress to address the urgent challenges of climate change, social inequity, rural poverty, human rights violations, and loss of forests and biodiversity. The post-merger organization, named Rainforest Alliance, currently works at a technical level with farmers and forest communities in 30 countries, and operates its certification system in a further 30, supporting over 2.4 million farmers and 1.5 million farm workers to apply more sustainable farming methods and achieve a higher standard of living. Rainforest Alliance has been working in the palm sector for over 12 years. UTZ has worked on certification according to the Sustainable Agriculture Standard been providing RSPO with RSPO PalmTrace traceability system and Rainforest Alliance has worked in partnerships with smallholder farmers and civil society. As part of RA's largely donor-funded landscapes and communities work, as well as its work with companies and supply-chain partners, RA has partnered with smallholder farmer groups and forest communities in Indonesia, including those in the palm sector, for over 15 years. Today, RA's work in palm includes engaging with smallholders in Indonesia to improve their sustainability practices, supporting companies in setting sustainability commitments according to the Accountability Framework initiative, mapping company supply chains to mill level to increase the transparency in the sector, and enabling RSPO certification by operating the RSPO traceability system, PalmTrace (<https://www.rspo.org/palmtrace>).

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?

Rainforest Alliance provides RSPO PalmTrace which includes the functionalities of registering the trades of certified palm oil and palm oil products and the functionality for members to manage credit trade under the RSPO Book and Claim supply chain model. In 2022, we developed new features in the RSPO PalmTrace system including the possibility of updating an active license without suspension in the CB Area, a mechanism to prevent RSPO Credits sold to not exceed the actual FFB production and the inclusion of Arrival/ Destination Information in Shipping Announcement which will increase the visibility of the physical movement of Certified Palm Oil (CSPO/CSPKO) in the supply chain. In 2022, Rainforest Alliance conducted several RSPO PalmTrace trainings on different topics and more than 320 RSPO members were trained in these sessions. In addition to this, in 2022 the first big RSPO PalmTrace survey was launched in 5 languages where we asked almost 200 questions on different topics and we collected the responses from 1384 users. Along with these projects, in 2022 Rainforest Alliance created the Universal Mill List website which is publicly available and contains always the most updated version of the list.

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?

We receive part of the volume based fee for first buyer sales in PalmTrace from RSPO and have donor and corporate funded projects in palm.

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?

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

Rainforest Alliance aims to continue supporting RSPO in making sustainable palm oil the norm. Rainforest Alliance will continue to engage with RSPO and its stakeholders to improve the RSPO PalmTrace system to keep it up to date to ensure it meets their needs.

For 2023, RSPO PalmTrace will continue to be enhanced according to RSPO and user needs. We will among others conduct several Face to Face and online trainings and develop an online course for Independent Smallholders to increase the Knowledge of the RSPO PalmTrace system.

System improvements will be made according to needs and prioritization of RSPO, and will include among others, the trademark remote audit for labelling approval to be conducted in RSPO Palmtrace, continue improving the license process for Independent Smallholders with RISS milestones, translating the system into French or updating the Terms and Conditions for Book and Claim to promote a timely execution of RSPO credit transactions between RSPO credit buyers and sellers. In addition to this, in 2023 Rainforest Alliance's will continue to work at the landscape /jurisdictional level in Indonesia and engage with smallholders and mills to improve their sustainability practices. We will support companies in setting sustainability commitments according to the Accountability Framework initiative and map company supply chains to increase the transparency in the sector through the Palm Industry Platform.

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.

SR 1. Transparency

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

Yes

SR 2. Ethical Conduct

1.2 Does your organisation have a publicly-available policy covering Ethical Conduct, including for recruitment and contractors?

Yes

SR 3 and SR 4. 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?

Yes

SR 8. Information and outreach activities

1.8 Does your organisation implement transparent communication and outreach activities to promote sustainable palm oil?

Yes

SR 9. Human Rights

1.9 Does your organisation have a publicly-available Policy on respect for human rights, including for suppliers and sub-contractors?

Yes

SR 10. Complaints & Grievances

1.10 Does your organisation have a Grievance Mechanism that is accessible to all affected parties?

Yes _____

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

Yes _____

SR 13 and SR 14. Smallholders inclusion

1.13 Does your organisation support oil palm smallholders (groups)?

No _____

SR 15 - SR 20. Labour & Labour Rights

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

No _____

SR 21. Occupational Health & Safety

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

No

SR 22. Waste Management

1.22b Does your organisation have a statement of intent to reduce, recycle, reuse and disposal based on the hazardous characteristics?

No

SR 25. Climate Change and Greenhouse Gases (GHG)

1.25 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

SR 27. Sustainable Palm Oil Policy

1.27b Does your organisation have available a statement of support to RSPO's vision?

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

-

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

1. Engagement with companies, in which we highlight the use of RSPO Credits as a way to support sustainable production and specifically to support Independent Smallholders.
2. Support RSPO in their outreach, at events, in engagement with their stakeholders, when it comes to certification and Palmtrace.

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

-