

Particulars

About Your Organisation

1.1 Member Name

WWF International

1.2 Membership Number

6-0011-08-000-00

1.3 Membership Sector

Environmental or Nature Conservation Organisations (Non Governmental Organisations)

1.4 Membership Category

Ordinary

1.5 Country

Switzerland

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?

For more than half a century, WWF has been working to protect the world's species and natural places, pushing for a more sustainable world. By working with local communities, governments, businesses, and other NGOs, we are defining new ways of working that will make a difference at a scale that matters to help redefine humanity's relationship with the planet. We have a presence in over 100 countries across the world, and our efforts have evolved from localised efforts in favour of a single species and individual habitats to an ambitious strategy to preserve biodiversity and achieve sustainable development across the planet. Our mission is to stop the degradation of the planet's natural environment and to build a future in which people live in harmony with nature, by:

1. Conserving the world's biological diversity;
 2. Ensuring that the use of renewable natural resources is sustainable; and
 3. Promoting the reduction of pollution and wasteful consumption.
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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?

WWF works in close collaboration with businesses, governments of producing and consuming countries, financial institutions, banks and investors, NGOs, consumers and multi-stakeholder initiatives to:

1. Promote sustainable palm oil in major markets and raise consumer awareness of the need to use sustainably produced and sourced palm oil. We work to advance supply chain transparency, traceability and decision support tools. One way we do this is through the Palm Oil Buyers Scorecard.
2. Encourage demand for sustainable palm oil among buyers and traders, both through direct engagement and a number of alliances. We promote the purchasing of sustainable palm oil and adoption of other downstream “buyer” actions.
3. Integrate environmental, social and governance (ESG) considerations into mainstream finance and create a resilient financial system through engagement with the financial institutions, banks and investors, promoting the sustainable palm oil agenda through platforms like the Sustainable Banking Assessment (SUSBA) tool and the Asia Sustainable Finance Initiative (ASFI).
4. Ensure that palm oil is produced responsibly. Working collaboratively with governments, producers and other stakeholders in production landscapes through the shared responsibility principle, WWF works on building the capacity of smallholders, engaging in sustainable land use planning processes, jurisdictional approach and implementing on-the-ground conservation and restoration projects.

In addition, WWF continues to play an active role in the RSPO Board of Governors as well as the standing committees, working groups and task forces. WWF International is strongly committed to the RSPO as a vehicle to help transform the market for palm oil to one that is environmentally and socially sustainable. WWF is a founding member of the RSPO and we continue to work towards mainstreaming sustainable palm oil production, trade and consumption around the world.

During the reporting period, WWF has been active within several working groups and task forces and, working on developing the resolutions for the RSPO RT 2023, supporting efforts to strengthen the RSPO overall governance and assurance systems and contributing to its credibility. WWF’s Asia Sustainable Palm Oil Links (ASPOL) programme was honoured with the “Shared Responsibility Award” at RSPO RT 2023 as a recognition for WWF’s unwavering commitment to driving positive change in the palm oil industry and promoting responsible production and consumption policies. ASPOL aims to halt palm oil-driven deforestation in major Asian countries, including Indonesia, Malaysia, Singapore, China, and India. We collaborate with governments for national and regional policy improvements, promote jurisdictional certification, and assist small growers in achieving RSPO Certification. Our efforts include training nearly 4,000 smallholders in sustainable agricultural practices. We have also assisted 100 of them in obtaining RSPO Certification, showcasing a tangible positive impact on the ground and fostering a more sustainable approach to palm oil production. Seeing improvements in the sustainability policies and practices of 56 out of the 245 companies we have engaged with is a significant achievement for us – this indicates a positive response from the corporate sector toward adopting more sustainable practices in the palm oil industry. Additionally, we’ve successfully reached over 27 million consumers through various campaigns, shaping awareness and preferences for sustainable palm oil. Finally, the inclusion of financial institutions in the project is a strategic move, recognising their influential role in creating a more sustainable financial ecosystem that can better serve the palm oil industry.

WWF continually urges all companies in the palm oil value chain to be actively involved in producing, trading, procuring or investing in certified sustainable palm oil. WWF communicates publicly that companies should actively engage in a number of strategies to mitigate the impacts of irresponsible palm oil practices, including supporting the RSPO. Subsequently, WWF asks companies not to boycott palm oil, but rather to be part of the solution and drive change on the ground by supporting palm oil producers and smallholders to utilise responsible production practices.

WWF has worked to drive more transparency and consistency in RSPO reporting as highlighted in the study here : https://wwf.panda.org/wwf_news/?6545966/Business-Case-for-Certified-Sustainable-Palm-Oil. WWF encourages producers to pursue certification and buyers to develop ambitious time-bound targets for CSPO uptake and regularly report progress towards these targets. WWF works across the palm oil supply chain to promote sustainable palm oil to producers, traders, buyers, investors, financiers, consumers and other NGOs.

WWF also promotes sustainable palm oil to producers, traders, buyers, investors, financiers, consumers and other NGOs. We engage with governments in both producing and consuming regions to introduce policies that support the sustainable production and use of palm oil. WWF employs a broad range of strategies to enable its success, including one-on-one engagement with companies, engagement with business platforms, promotion of better management practices and sustainable land use planning, collaboration with producer and buyer country governments, and development and promotion of investment screens.

Among others, WWF undertook the following activities in 2023:

1. During 2023, WWF successfully conducted bilateral meetings with several major Palm Oil processors and traders, where tailored gap analysis of their current sustainability practices were presented together with recommendations for improvement. Potential areas for future collaborations were also tabled.
2. In 2023, WWF kickstarted the Palm Oil Buyers Scorecard 2024 project, and 300 downstream companies were invited to participate in the Palm Oil Buyers Scorecard (POBS) 2024 survey, of which 128 responses were received.
3. Since early 2020, WWF has continued to deliver ASPOL programme, promoting sustainable production, trade and consumption in five focal countries in Asia (Indonesia, Malaysia, India, China and Singapore).
4. WWF published 4 studies in 2023 - first exploring the role of incentives to enhance sustainability in the palm oil industry by supporting smallholder adoption of No Deforestation, No Peat and No Exploitation (NDPE) practices and the second one focussed on analysing the role financial institutions play in the palm oil sector by identifying the linkage between the financial institutions and the key palm oil buyers and traders.. WWF also launched the Regenerative Palm Oil Framework to outline a possible framework for regenerative palm oil which aims to guide the development of sustainable financial products that encourage adopting leading practices that benefit people, biodiversity, and the environment. Lastly, WWF published a Discussion Paper to present a comprehensive analysis of palm bioenergy, drawing from scientific studies, expert opinions, and stakeholder perspectives.
5. All four videos of the Global Consumer Awareness Campaign were finalised, with English voiceover and subtitles available in seven Asian languages. 2 videos have been uploaded into WWF's YouTube channel and have garnered over 1000 views so far. Please visit our YouTube channel to watch educational videos designed to increase consumer awareness about sustainable palm oil. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=e-sLoy1uFZY>
6. In November 2023, WWF organised and facilitated the NGOs meeting in Jakarta at the onset of the RSPO RT 2023. This meeting saw participation from more than 80 attendees and over 30 different organisations.
7. In October 2023, WWF organised a closed-door traders meeting in Singapore which was attended by 17 representatives from trader companies who cumulatively account for 50% of global palm oil trade. Valuable industry insights were shared, particularly on the roadblocks encountered in their journey towards sustainable palm oil.
8. WWF organised and co-hosted the Asia Sustainable Palm Oil Conference (ASPOC) along with IDH and Proforest on 5th October 2023 in Singapore, which attracted over 100 participants from more than 35 companies and organisations. In this event, the organisers showcased landscape approaches and explored pathways to scale up these approaches and as well as the access to sustainable finance mechanisms for sector transformation.

In addition to these activities, WWF offices in key producing and consuming countries led national level engagement to support the uptake of RSPO CSPO. Key activities included:

- WWF Singapore

SASPO hosted its second annual member's meeting, where representatives from 7 member companies and colleagues from WWF Singapore and our global palm oil (GPO) team attended this networking event. During this event, SASPO's members took the opportunity to review and reflect on the SASPO activities and initiatives over the past year, and also discussed and aligned SASPO's focus and activities for the future.

- WWF Malaysia

WWF Malaysia signed an MOU with Sabah Town and Regional Planning Department (Malaysia) to review its Structural Plan 2033, with the goal of incorporating important wildlife habitat and connectivity areas into key legal statutory documents. The team also successfully completed Step 1 in the RSPO Jurisdictional Approach Piloting Framework, which will eventually lead to collective certification of all producers in Sabah.

- WWF Indonesia

WWF Indonesia facilitated the Indonesian government's engagement with key international partners including the UN Trade Hub, the Chinese government, the EU and other governments. KUD Harapan Jaya has successfully obtained RSPO certification for 283 smallholders with the support from WWF Indonesia.

- WWF India

WWF India hosted a panel discussion on "Aligning Sustainability to the Policy Landscape for Soft Commodities" at the Centre for Responsible Business's 10th Edition of the Annual Sustainability Conference. The team also successfully published an article titled 'Deforestation-free Supply Chains: A Promising Route to Achieve Climate Targets' in a digital media outlet/magazine called TerraGreen, highlighting that a transition towards responsible sourcing could facilitate the halting of deforestation in supply chains, further contributing to meeting global climate commitments.

- WWF China

WWF China continues to support the China Sustainable Palm Oil Alliance (CSPOA), a multi-stakeholder group that is gaining momentum as a platform to promote the agenda. In 2023, WWF China, together with Foreign Economy and Trade University, has completed three reports on promoting sustainable commodities trade in China's key regions, on leading companies' role of promoting global sustainable commodities supply chain and on innovative markets and policy tools to promote green supply chain.

- WWF South Korea

In June 2023, in collaboration with WWF-Malaysia, WWF South Korea invited Korean companies to conduct an on-site visit of palm oil plantations in Sabah, Malaysia. Several Major buyers from South Korea joined the trip to discuss sustainable palm oil industry, including the business status of local RSPO-certified farms, sustainable palm oil projects, and wildlife habitat preservation. The group visited Sabah Softwoods Bhd (SSB), a palm oil producer, and was educated on SSB's wildlife conservation program to preserve wildlife habitats for elephants and orangutans in palm oil farms. The group visited Sawit Kinabalu Sdn Bhd (SKSB), a government-linked palm oil company, to examine the process of cultivating, harvesting, processing, and procurement of palm fruits. This field trip has enhanced the awareness of sustainable palm oil of the Korean buyers and also the potential market share of RSPO-certified palm oil.

- WWF UK

WWF and Tesco's shared goal of halving the environmental impact of UK shopping baskets underpinned the development of the WWF Basket - a series of outcomes measures for food retailers to address seven major impact areas: climate, agriculture, marine sustainability, deforestation and conversion, diets, packaging and food waste. The latest report published in November 2023 showed that UK retailers continue to make good progress within palm oil supply chains, with an average of 76.3% of palm oil in retailer supply chains reported as being verified DCF. This reflects increasing demand from UK retailers for their suppliers to source RSPO-segregated palm oil for use in products.

- WWF Poland

Since 2019, WWF Poland has initiated and supported the Polish Coalition for Sustainable Palm Oil (PCSPO). The Polish Coalition for Sustainable Palm Oil (PCSPO) is an independent coalition of representatives of key industry companies, industry and non-governmental organisations, and certification bodies. The strategic goal of PCSPO is to achieve 100% sustainable certified palm oil in Poland by 2030. The 4th Annual Conference of the Polish Coalition for Sustainable Palm Oil was held on 26 June 2023.

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?

According to WWF's 2023 Annual Report, FY23 saw the WWF Network relatively stable at €1.08 billion in donated income, growing 3% from €1.05 billion in FY22. After adjusting for movement in the value of investments, total available income was €1.13 billion across WWF International, programme offices and national organisations. Main drivers of the growth in donated income were increased contributions from corporates (up 7%), the public sector (up 14%), and trusts and foundations (up 9%).

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

The Global Palm Oil team worked on the palm oil buyers scorecard 2024. The scorecard assessed companies on a range of sustainability criteria both within and beyond their palm oil supply chain, including their commitments to achieving 100% RSPO CSPO and progress against this commitment. At the backdrop of a changing policy environment and with the implementation of EUDR, the scorecard shedded light on efforts taken by the key industry players. This would enhance the network's engagement with stakeholders, enabling the network to give recommendations based on science-based research. In addition, the team is also working on the global consumer awareness campaign that entails production of educational videos to raise awareness among consumers about sustainable palm oil.

The Asia Sustainable Palm Oil Links (ASPOL) programme will continue to promote sustainable production, trade and consumption in Indonesia, Malaysia, India, China and Singapore. In production countries we plan to support jurisdictional approaches, sustainable land use planning, and group certification, as well as to support the transitions between MSPO & ISPO to RSPO. This year, we will also support group certification in India through group training.

WWF is an active member of the Global Sustainable Palm Oil Network Initiative, a platform gathering many local/regional alliances such as RSPO, POCG, ISPOC, CSPOA, ASD, SASPO, DASPO, UK Roundtable, etc.

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)?**

Yes

SR 15 - SR 20. Labour & Labour Rights**1.15 Does your organisation have a publicly-available policy covering Labour & Labour Rights?**

Yes

1.15.1 Does the policy cover:

- No discrimination and equal opportunities
- Pay and conditions of the workers.
- Freedom of association and Collective bargaining
- Protection of children and remediation for suppliers and third party contractors.
- Prevention of all forms of harassment, including sexual harassment
- No forced or trafficked labour

SR 21. Occupational Health & Safety

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

Yes _____

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?

Yes _____

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?

Yes _____

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

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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://wwf.panda.org/discover/our_focus/food_practice/sustainable_production/palm_oil/
https://wwf.panda.org/discover/our_focus/food_practice/sustainable_production/palm_oil/news_updates/