

## 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 trusted partner for change. Using research-based approaches, we work globally and in focus countries to meet people's essential needs; to protect and restore nature; and to stabilize the climate and build resilient communities. We aim to fundamentally transform the way the world produces and uses food and energy and designs its cities to create a better future for all.

Founded in 1982, WRI has nearly 1,900 staff around the world, with country offices in Brazil, China, Colombia, India, Indonesia, Mexico and the United States and regional offices in Africa and Europe.

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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?**

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. 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.

2.) We continued to contribute to the updating of 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. Additionally, Rainforest Alliance now hosts a website that allows users to access rolling, continuous updates to the dataset and has a submission portal for sending in new data and edits/corrections to the existing dataset.

During this reporting period, WRI also convened discussions around expanding the scope to create additional universal asset registries, with supporting systems and protocols - such as for smallholder boundary data, crusher facilities (underway, led by other UML partners), 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), Mondelez

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 with pilot activities underway in collaboration with the Siak and Pelalawan Landscape Programme (SPLP) for the district of Pelalawan, while activities in Aceh began to wrap up. During this reporting period, WRI also moved forward the publication of a statistical impact assessment on the landscape monitoring pilots - with preliminary results shared in 2023. We also continued to provide input into the Palm Oil Collaboration Group's PPBC working group monitoring and response guidance (still in development)

(4) WRI continued to lead the facilitation of the Forest Data Partnership (FDaP)— which initiated on October 2021. FDaP aims to halt and reverse forest loss from commodity production by collaboratively improving global monitoring and supply chain tracking and accelerating restoration. The Partnership will develop a consistent geospatial data ecosystem that will enable all actors—local, government, producers, traders, and financiers—to access consistent, open source, 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 in Southeast Asia. The five-year partnership is coordinated by the World Resources Institute (WRI) with support from USAID and the U.S. Department of State, and core partners FAO, NASA SERVIR, Google, and Unilever.

During this reporting period, we made publicly available a new oil palm crop probability map, kick started the "Data Standards Working Group" together with FAO AimForForests to develop practical guidance around data governance issues such as consent and data access and management, as well as Interoperability and Standardization. We also started mobilizing a baseline study for smallholder data asset registry development and legalization in priority districts in Indonesia. All of these efforts were discussed with many RSPO member organizations at a side event at the RSPO RT in Nov 2024.

(5) WRI Indonesia also has several initiatives underway supporting private sector actors in the palm sector on sustainability issues including and ongoing collaboration with GAPKI in South Sumatra and West Kalimantan on deforestation monitoring and GHG protocol training; an ongoing collaboration with Goodhope for deforestation monitoring and GHG implementation, and acceleration of EUDR readiness with stakeholders with both private sector and government

(7) Additionally, during this reporting period, WRI Indonesia also worked on smallholder objectives by supporting the Ministry of Agriculture and local government in Indonesia on smallholder registration ESTDB registration as well as conducting research regarding the readiness of the Indonesian palm sector to comply with the EUDR.

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, Compensation Task Force, and Standards and Certification Standing Committee.

(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?**

3.0%

**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?**

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 was supported by Bunge, Cargill, Golden Agri-Resources (GAR), Mondelēz International, Musim Mas, Nestlé, Pepsico, Sime Darby Plantation, Unilever and Wilmar.

The Forest Data Partnership was supported by USAID and the U.S. Department of State, with additional resourcing from GIZ SAFE program.

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.

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## 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

Global Forest Watch: [www.globalforestwatch.org](http://www.globalforestwatch.org). Available in 15 languages. Global Forest Watch Pro: <https://pro.globalforestwatch.org> Forest Data Partnership: <https://www.forestdatapartn>