

Particulars

About Your Organisation

1.1 Name of your organisation

Agricultural Industries Confederation Limited

1.2 What is/are the primary activity(ies) or product(s) of your organisation?

- Palm Oil Grower
- Processor and/or Trader
- Consumer Goods Manufacturer
- Retailer
- Bank and/or Investor
- Social and/or Development NGO
- Environmental and/or Conservation NGO
- Affiliate

1.3 Membership number

8-0209-18-000-00

1.4 Membership category

Associations

1.5 Membership sector

Affiliate

Affiliates

1. Operational Profile

1.1 What are the main activities of your organisation?

AIC is a trade body based in the UK that represents the agri-supply industry in the area of political lobbying, technical information, trade assurance, conference and events.

1.2 What activities has your organisation undertaken to promote sustainable palm oil, the RSPO and/or RSPO members in the reporting period?

Launched a system to purchase RSPO Credits on behalf of AIC members to promote the use of sustainable palm oil in the animal feed sector. The system is called APOCS - AIC Services Palm Oil Credit Scheme, and was launched in August 2019.

1.3 What percentage of your organisation's overall activities focus on palm oil?

2.0%

1.4 Did members of your organisation participate in RSPO working groups and/or taskforces in the reporting period?

Yes

1.5 Does your organisation have any past or on-going 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?

AIC membership fees fund information provision and the operation of the member RSPO Credit purchase scheme, AIC Palm Oil Credit Scheme (APOCS). Further funding comes directly from the APOC Scheme.

2. Actions for Next Reporting Period

2.1 Please outline activities that your organisation will take in the coming year to promote the production or consumption of certified sustainable palm oil (CSPO)

AIC will continue to promote its APOCS RSPO Credit purchase scheme to members of AIC feed sector and encourage its use among members to build the use of CSPO within animal feed supply chains. Develop the knowledge and awareness of sustainable palm oil within the animal feed sector via website updates and information sent to AIC members as well as to non-members, trade assurance participants and stakeholders.

3. Challenges

3.1 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

One challenge is around the lack of focus on palm oil, which makes up a very small proportion of the products used by the industry (estimated at around 0.33%). This is exacerbated by the fact that many feed manufacturers purchase a blended oil which reduces the visibility of the palm oil itself. Most palm oil is used in fat blends for ruminants along with PFAD and mixed soft acids. A further challenge is the cost implications for a business to move to CSPO from uncertified and this can be difficult to justify in a market where margins are tight. AIC continues to raise awareness of the option of CSPO and in particular the PalmTrace RSPO Certificates scheme.

3.2 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?

- Engagement with business partners or consumers on the use of CSPO
- Engagement with government agencies
- 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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3.3 If your organisation has any other publicly-available reports or information regarding its palm oil-related policies and activities, please provide the links here

APOCS website link: <https://www.agindustries.org.uk/sectors/animal-feed/feed-and-the-environment/aic-services-palm-oil-credit-scheme-apocs/>