

Particulars

About Your Organisation

1.1 Name of your organisation

MVO

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

2-0137-09-000-00

1.4 Membership category

Palm Oil Processors and/or Traders

1.5 Membership sector

Ordinary

Affiliates

1. Operational Profile

1.1 What are the main activities of your organisation?

MVO represents 95% of companies in the Netherlands that are active in the production, processing and trade of vegetable and animal oils and fats. We represent the interests of the sector in contacts with the government, politics, social organizations, science and media. For our members we have a platform function and offer services. In addition, we act as the spokesperson of the sector.

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

We promote the sustainable production of raw materials. We promote biorefining and the use of renewable raw materials for the production of food, feed, materials and energy. We encourage a sustainable and energy-efficient way of working. We are committed to the transition to a circular economy. We have been supporting RSPO from the start. We do this in various ways, for example through means of the following: Dutch Alliance for Sustainable Palm Oil (DASPO) The DASPO (joint alliance involving MVO, VERNOF, FNLI, VBZ, IMACE-NL, Nevedi, AKSV, VAVI, CBL and IDH) is the successor of the Task Force on Sustainable Palm Oil. DASPO's ambition is to adhere to the goal of having 100% sustainable palm oil for the Dutch market. Over the coming years the emphasis will be on increasing physically certified sustainable palm oil and on improving the standards for sustainable palm oil. DASPO publishes an annual monitoring report. MVO is chairing the DASPO and provides the secretarial services. MVO is also the spokesperson for sustainable palm oil in the Netherlands. European Sustainable Palm Oil (ESPO) MVO and IDH, the sustainable trade initiative, are the initiators of the ESPO project. The objective is to realise 100% sustainable palm oil in Europe by 2020. ESPO provides support to, and aligns between national initiatives working on sustainable palm oil in Europe. Furthermore, there are a number of actions to broaden political and governmental support for this approach within and outside Europe (for example, by increasing the number of Amsterdam Declaration signatories) and to gain support among social and environmental organisations for sustainable palm oil. At the same time this sends an important signal to markets like China, India, Malaysia and Indonesia. European Palm Oil Alliance (EPOA) The image of palm oil in Europe is under severe pressure in the food industry, among retailers, politicians, the public and social organisations due to questions concerning sustainable production, as well as health aspects. EPOA is an initiative of European palm oil refiners and palm oil producers (Indonesia/Malaysia) and helps to create a balanced and objective debate about palm oil and promotes the production and use of sustainable palm oil in foods. EPOA closely works together with ESPOAG (European Sustainable Palm Oil Advocacy Group) in Brussels and various national palm oil initiatives to lobby the EC and EP. MVO is chair and secretary of EPOA.

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

35.0%

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?

MVO is a member organisation. Funding via members.

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)

MVO will continue the work within the Dutch Alliance on Sustainable Palm Oil. Furthermore it wil continue the work done within the EPOA framework and work together with organisations like IDH etc. This includes lobbying at National and international level.

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

The image of PO is not good. In the Netherlands we were/are also confronted with brands like the Flower Farm. This negative image hampers the uptake. This is something we need to change at national and international level. MVO, DASPO, EPOA are working on all levels with all stakeholders.

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

See above. This is actually at the heart of our (lobbying) activities. Also refer to the reports issued by DASPO and EPOA

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

MVO: <https://mvo.nl/sustainable-development> DASPO: <https://www.taskforceuurzamepalmolie.nl/> EPOA: <https://palmoilalliance.eu/> European Palm Oil monitoring: <https://palmoilalliance.eu/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/EPOA-facts-and-figures-2018-A5-digital-DEF.pdf>