

Particulars

About Your Organisation

1.1 Name of your organisation

Sumatran Orangutan Society (SOS)

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

6-0013-09-000-00

1.4 Membership category

Environmental or Nature Conservation Organisations (Non Governmental Organisations)

1.5 Membership sector

Ordinary

NGOs

1. Operational Profile

1.1 What are the main activities of your organisation?

SOS works to protect orangutans, their forests and their future. We support frontline conservation programmes and campaign on issues threatening the survival of orangutans in the wild. Our projects include rainforest restoration and developing community conservation initiatives which empower forest-adjacent communities to become guardians of northern Sumatra's precious rainforest ecosystems.

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?

SOS has worked with partners in Sumatra, Indonesia, to provide training for plantation workers and agricultural communities on best management practices for dealing with human-wildlife conflict, enabling farmers to protect their crops without harming wildlife. We have supported the evacuation of orangutans at risk in plantation areas. Ensuring that standards are upheld on the ground is a crucial role for NGO members of RSPO. We have also actively promoted our position that supporting the drive towards sustainability in the palm oil industry is more constructive than removing palm oil from products and supply chains. We have done this through our website and social media, through speaking engagements on panels, and through conversations with corporates. We have also partnered with Chester Zoo on their successful Sustainable Palm Oil City campaign, this year embarking upon an ongoing initiative to turn Oxford into a Sustainable Palm Oil City.

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

10%

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

No

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?

Public donations and grants from donor agencies.

2. TimeBound Plan

2.1 Which year did your organisation start or expects to start participating in RSPO working groups and/or taskforces?

2009

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)

We will be continuing the Sustainable Palm Oil City campaign in Oxford, and will continue to engage with the private sector and public.

4. Shared Responsibility

The Board of Governors of the Roundtable on Sustainable Palm Oil (RSPO) approved new Shared Responsibility rules on 31 October 2019, requiring all members to share sustainability requirements and obligations. Reporting of Shared Responsibility indicators will be done through several channels, including ACOP. As the implementation of Shared Responsibility reporting is still on-going and in development, the Shared Responsibility section in ACOP is not yet final and may change in future ACOP cycles. For more information on Shared Responsibility, please go to <https://rspo.org/news-and-events/news/what-are-the-new-shared-responsibility-rules> or email the ACOP team at acop@rspo.org

Labour & Labour Rights

4.1 Does your company have a publicly-available policy covering Labour & Labour Rights?

No

Ethical Conduct & Human Rights

4.2 Does your company have a publicly-available Policy covering Ethical Conduct & Human Rights?

No

Occupational Health & Safety

4.3 Does your company have a publicly-available Policy covering Occupational Health & Safety?

No

Climate Change & Greenhouse Gas (GHG)

4.4 Does your company have a publicly-available policy covering Climate Change & Greenhouse Gas (GHG)?

No

Complaints & Grievances

4.5 Does your company have a Complaints & Grievances Mechanism?

Yes

4.5.1 Is your Complaints & Grievances mechanism in line with the RSPO's grievance mechanism? For details of the RSPO's grievance mechanism, please go to <https://askrspo.force.com/Complaint/s/>

Yes

Smallholders

4.6 Does your company support oil palm independent smallholder groups?

No

4.6.3 Do you have any future plans to support oil palm Independent Smallholders?

Yes

5. Challenges

5.1 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

Engagement with public debate and discourse.

5.2 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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5.3 If your organisation has any other publicly-available reports or information regarding its palm oil-related policies and activities, please provide the links here

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