

Particulars

About Your Organisation

1.1 Name of your organisation

WWF International

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

6-0011-08-000-00

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?

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 localized 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 3) promoting the reduction of pollution and wasteful consumption.

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 continues to play an active role in a number of RSPO working groups. WWF International is strongly committed to the RSPO as a vehicle to help transform the market for palm oil to one that is responsible. WWF is a founding member of the RSPO and currently sits on the RSPO Board of Governors. During the reporting period, WWF has been active within several working groups and task forces, supporting efforts to strengthen the RSPO systems and contribute to its credibility. 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 utilize responsible production practices. In order to ensure that no companies take shelter under the RSPO without real action, WWF has worked to drive more transparency and consistency in RSPO reporting. WWF encourages producers to pursue certification and buyers to develop ambitious time-bound targets for CSPO uptake and regularly report progress towards these targets. Beyond its participation in RSPO, 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 lobbies 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 2019: WWF Singapore represented and continues to represent SASPO (Support Asia for Sustainable Palm Oil) as its Secretariat, driving the alliance's strategy and membership development. SASPO's members are united in their belief that increasing the market demand for certified sustainable palm oil is necessary to increase its production. WWF China supported and continues to support the China Sustainable Palm Oil Alliance (CSPOA), a multi-stakeholder group that is gaining momentum as a platform to promote environmental and social standards for palm oil trade and production, as an important first step for Asia-wide efforts to promote sustainable palm oil. WWF India along with the other founding members have been actively involved in the outreach and promotion of the India Sustainable Palm Oil Coalition (I-SPOC), through corporate engagement and participation in key industry events. Currently, there are 20 members in the coalition and the second members meeting was held in November 2019. WWF-India conducted a study to assess the environmental impacts of oil palm expansion in the North-East geographical region, particularly in Mizoram and Arunachal Pradesh. Subsequently, a policy brief with sustainable development recommendations was developed for domestic oil palm production in India. In Central America, WWF continued to assist the Honduran palm oil sector to adopt the RSPO standard. In 2019, the work focused on assisting companies in developing compensation and remediation concept notes and action plans. Moreover, in collaboration with smallholder groups, WWF developed a field-school program to promote the RSPO principles and criteria and the implementation of best management practices. In Africa, WWF has continued its regional facilitation role for the TFA 2020 Africa Palm Oil Initiative. This includes developing national principles and action plans aimed at deforestation free palm production. The RSPO standard is mentioned as a priority action in most of the national action plans created under the program. WWF Gabon advocated the Gabon government to endorse RSPO P&C as the national standard for sustainable development of the palm oil sector. In Cameroon, WWF also supported producers with obtaining RSPO certification. WWF continues to support the National Interpretation processes in several countries including in Gabon, Cameroon, and India, among others. WWF also worked with the financial sector to align their best practices with RSPO principles. WWF provided analysis and recommendations to banks and investors to support their efforts to implement sustainable lending and investment best practices. WWF also provided one-on-one training and support to banks and investors to build their capacity on sustainable finance, including understanding palm oil sustainability issues and benefits of using RSPO certification for risk management and as an indicator of industry best practice.

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

1%

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 2019's Annual Report, WWF International's Income is of CHF 201 million; attributed by WWF National Organisations (48%), Public Sector (30%), Trusts & Foundations (10%), Royalties (6%), Individuals (3%), Corporations (2%), Legacies & Other (1%).

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)

The Asia Sustainable Palm Oil Links (ASPOL) programme, to be launched in early 2020, supports sustainable production, trade and consumption in five focal countries in Asia (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 implementation review of the Indonesian moratorium and ISPO certification standard. On the trade side we will undertake two major studies to understand destination markets for FFB grown in our priority landscapes as well as reviewing RSPO CSPO flows into China, India and Singapore. In addition, we plan to ramp up efforts on consumer engagement in China and India as well as engage at the policy level to strengthen sustainable sourcing policies for palm oil. With district governments we will assess new production frontiers in India as well as employ a new model for certified production within India. Following through on WWF's commitment to drive transparency in the palm oil sector, WWF will launch an update to its Palm Oil Buyers Scorecard in January 2020. The scorecard will assess some of the world's biggest brands and users of palm oil on their commitments and actions related to sustainable and deforestation- and conversion-free palm oil. WWF Singapore will continue its support for SASPO in the coming year. This includes providing funding support for its members to achieve RSPO group certification, commissioning market research to better understand consumer purchasing behaviour and attitudes towards palm oil in Singapore, and developing a consumer facing campaign to support sustainable palm oil. By 2025, WWF in India, China and Indonesia aim to support at least 80 companies in the palm oil sector to take concrete actions to increase their commitments to sustainable palm oil, including increasing their support for RSPO certified palm oil and supporting living landscapes in palm oil producing countries. WWF also aims to increase consumer and government awareness and uptake of sustainable palm oil in these markets. WWF India will continue to work towards increasing the uptake of certified sustainable palm oil in the domestic market by engaging with importers, refiners and consumer goods manufacturers. With support from WWF, the India Sustainable Palm Oil Coalition (I-SPOC) will focus on government policy, supply chain capacity building and end-users awareness through its working groups. WWF India will also commence RSPO domestic pilot implementation, and support the RSPO in establishing a domestic supply of CSPO by certifying existing palm oil plantations in Andhra Pradesh, according to the RSPO independent smallholder standard requirements. In Latin America, WWF will continue to work with smallholder oil palm associations to assist them in implementing best management practices aligned with the RSPO P&C. In Africa, WWF will continue to support the RSPO P&C 2018 National Interpretation process in both Gabon and Cameroon, and will continue to advocate for governments to endorse the standard as a national standard in various producer countries. We will also continue to provide support to producers in both Gabon and Cameroon to obtain RSPO certification, and will continue to engage with smallholders to support the uptake of best management practices. WWF will also continue to share analysis and recommendations to financial institutions, providing them with clarity on what constitutes science-based best practices in palm oil sustainability. These recommendations will draw on WWF's work on-the-ground with palm oil producers and traders and in critical landscapes, its role shaping multi-stakeholder standards such as the RSPO, and its transformative work with downstream companies on their soft commodity procurement policies and supply chains.

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?

Yes

4.1.1 Does the policy cover:

- No discrimination
- Wage and working conditions
- Freedom of association
- No child labour
- No harassment
- No forced or trafficked labour

4.1.2 Has your company previously uploaded or linked its Labour & Labour Rights policy in previous ACOP reporting cycles?

No

Ethical Conduct & Human Rights

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

Yes

4.2.1 Does the policy cover:

- Recruitment
- Contractors
- Sub-Contractors & Third-Party Contractors

4.2.2 Has your company previously uploaded or linked its Ethical Conduct & Human Rights policy in previous ACOP reporting cycles?

Yes

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

Yes

4.3.1 Has your company previously uploaded or linked its Occupational Health & Safety policy in previous ACOP reporting cycles?

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?**

Yes

4.7.1 Does this support cover:

- Fair and transparent dealings with Smallholders
- Improved Smallholder livelihoods

4.6.2 How is your company supporting them?

WWF implements smallholder support programs and land-use planning approaches in producing countries, ensuring that palm oil production is sustainable and benefits both people and nature. WWF helps to support the livelihoods of smallholders by providing them with technical support on sustainable palm oil production practices. For instance, as part of its Asia Sustainable Palm Oil Links (ASPOL) programme, WWF aims to support 1150 growers (smallholder and middle-size independents) in living landscapes to produce RSPO certified palm oil covering 120,000 hectares. More specifically, WWF will build on its work in Indonesia, Malaysia and India to create new models of group certification for both small-holder and middle-size independent growers which help reduce costs, through cost-sharing, and can bring in larger numbers of producers for certification. This engagement requires partnerships with certification bodies, auditors and others to train growers in best management practices, and to reach certification standards. It also requires use of traceability tools on the ground to assure 'clean' supply chains from plantations to mills, and on to refineries and the markets. Moreover, it requires appropriate financial support and incentive frameworks particularly for smallholders and small-medium growers. Subsequently, in the Palm Oil Buyers Scorecard to be released by WWF in January 2020, companies were assessed on their efforts to support smallholders in palm oil producing landscapes both directly and through the purchase of RSPO Independent Smallholder Credits. WWF aims to use the Palm Oil Buyers Scorecard to incentivize companies to create resilient and sustainable supply chains that are inclusive to smallholder farmers and to encourage companies to invest in supporting smallholders in palm oil producing landscapes.

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

See the text in this report to see how WWF is working to mitigate the above issues.

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

https://wwf.panda.org/our_work/food/sustainable_production/palm_oil/
