

MINUTES OF MEETING

Independent Smallholder – No Deforestation Task Force (IS-NDTF) – 12 th Meeting

Date: 8th February 2022

Start time: 7:30 PM (GMT +8)

Conference call via Zoom Meeting

ATTENDEES:

Name	Initial	Organisation	Representative Category
1. Paula Den Hartog	PH	Rainforest Alliance	SNGO - Substantive (Co-Chair)
2. Rob Nicholls	RN	PT. Musim Mas	P&T
3. Olivia Schultz	OS	HCVN	Technical Expert
4. Angga Prathama Putra	APP	WWF	ENGO
5. Lesly Vera Gonzales	LV	Solidaridad Network	SNGO- Substantive
6. Burhanuddin Ismail	BI	Bunge Loders Croklaan	P&T
7. Dani Rahadian Hidayat	DH	FORTASBI	Smallholder (Indonesia)
8. Dean Esmā	DE		
9. Krishna Jeyabalan	KJ	RSPO Secretariat	
10. Amir Afham	AA	RSPO Secretariat	
11. Edem Asimadu	EA	RSPO Secretariat	
12. Tamanjung Victor Yuh	TV	RSPO Secretariat	

ABSENT WITH APOLOGIES:

Name	Initial	Organisation	Representative Category
1. Darren Brown	DB	HCSA	Technical Expert
2. Chrissy Durkin	CD	Rainforest Connection	ENGO
3. J. Cyrus Saygbe	CS	Solidaridad Network	Smallholder (Africa)
4. Lee Kuah Chun	LKC	P&G	SHSC, Co-Chair (CGM)
5. Marike Leegwater	ML	Solaridad Network	SHSC, Co-Chair (SNGO)
6. Diego Perrend	DP	RSPO Secretariat	
7. Neill Judd	NJ	RSPO Secretariat	
8. Nizar Wicak Sono	NW	RSPO Secretariat	

AGENDA

Time	Item no	
7:30 – 7:40 pm	1.0	Introductions
7:40 – 7:50 pm	1.1	Adoption of Minutes of Meeting – IS-NDTF Meeting
7:50 – 8:05 pm	2.0	Update on Workplan
8:05– 8:15 pm	3.0	Progress of Development
8:15– 8:35 pm	3.1	Additional Components for the RSPO Simplified Combined HCV-HCS Approach for ISH
8:35– 8:45 pm	3.2	Way forward: Change in Terminology of Combined Tool (Decision Required)

8:45 – 9:00 pm	4.0	AOB
9.00 pm		Meeting adjourned

Updates on Action Points:

No	Action Point	Status
1	The members agreed to change the terminology to Smallholder Forest Protection Approach.	Confirmed in current meeting

DISCUSSION

No.	Description	Action Points (PIC)
1.0	Introduction	
	<p>The co-chair (PH) welcomed all attending members, technical experts and invited guests.</p> <p>Recording of the meeting will be shared with members of the task force who are absent.</p>	
1.1	Adoption of Minutes of Meeting – 10 th IS-NDTF Meeting	
	<p>The agenda was presented.</p> <p>No further comments or feedback was added to the 10th IS-NDTF Minutes of Meeting. The 10th IS-NDTF Minutes of Meeting was adopted.</p>	
2.0	Update on Workplan	
	<p><u>January 2022 – February 2022</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Adapted FIA tool (Additional Components for identification of YRF) is completed. Expected to finish by the end of February 2022 so that the working drafts can be used for field trials. •Finalizing of the combined aspect of the development (i.e., To finalize the combined approach by inserting the Additional Components into the Simplified HCV Approach). <p><u>February 2022</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Identifying more ISH Groups and Facilitators in all regions for the field testing •Identifying locations for the field testing. As of February 2022, field testing will take place in Latin America, Africa, South East Asia (Indonesia or Malaysia) and Papua New Guinea regions. Independent Smallholders in High Forest Cover Countries are having challenges to 	

	<p>get certified. Field testing might provide group data that can help move that challenge. A question was raised as to whether the field trial will be conducted in Malaysia or Indonesia for the SEA region. It is more likely to be conducted in Indonesia as there are smallholder groups in Indonesia that are based in new plantations.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Start of Field Trials in the second half of the year 2022. <p><u>February 2022 – April 2022</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Additional calibration for the purpose of fine tuning the approach upon completion of Field Trials. <p><u>May 2022 – July 2022</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Public Consultation for the Simplified Combined HCV-HCS Approach •Finalization of the approach for use by ISH 	
3.0	Progress of Development	
	<p><u>Phase 1 - Draft tool</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Review existing FIAT and develop new checklists •The result of the first phase will be a draft simple and practical methodology with defined indicators within the FIAT for ISH to apply working on their own (or with research or extension workers) <p><u>Phase 2 -Field Application</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Engage with Oil Palm companies or smallholders that have conducted technical HCS assessments using the HCSA toolkit in their plantations ● Ecogika went down to the smallholder group that was supported by Musim Mas <p><u>Phase 3 –Final Calibration</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Suitable thresholds needed to differentiate scrub, YRF and other agroforestry vegetation types and submit the final FIAT checklist and methodology describing the process and interpretation. <p><u>Progress Update</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Final Version of the adapted FIA tool is available (Attached as part of the meeting pack) • Currently being reviewed by the secretariat. • Steps are being taken to incorporate the Adapted FIA tool (Additional Components for identification of YRF) into the Combined Approach. • The field calibration for the FIA Tool indicated/ included: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A total of 61 HCS plots were recorded and used as a basis of calibrating. • In addition to the FIAT type methodology proposed, a basal area estimation methodology was tried. Basal Area is directly correlated to volume and carbon stock and commonly used by foresters when conducting inventories of timber stock of forests. 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scores from the draft tool were then plotted against the carbon stock values to calculate the correlation between the coefficient and r value. • A regression analysis was then performed on different elements of the score matrix to define which questions had the greatest impact on the correlation between draft tool score and the measured carbon stock. Questions that had little or no impact shown by the regression analysis as well as thresholds of numbers of trees per class in questions were manipulated iteratively to find the greatest fit. 	
3.1	Additional Components for the RSPO Simplified Combined HCV-HCS Approach for ISH	
	<p><u>Methodology:</u></p> <p>On-site data processing:</p> <p>Identify and map patches using iSH app</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Walk in a patch (>20m) and stop at a sample point. 2. Conduct visual 360 degrees sweep counting trees per size class. 3. Record tree count per size class in Sample Data form (form A) 4. Continue to the next sample point. Repeat steps 2 and 3. 5. Complete minimal number samples per patch size in grid pattern. <p>Off-site data processing:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Compile Sample Data form for each patch 2. Answer question on Form B for each sample points 3. Tally positive answers for each sample point 4. Calculate average score for patch 5. Use average score, size of patch and HCV probability area to make decision <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Training may be required to demonstrate to the smallholder group on how to estimate diameters. Diameter breast height should be equipped to conduct measurement on the size class trees. • There might be confusion about using this app and HCV app if both are carried out simultaneously. Guidance is encouraged to ensure there is no mix up using these two approaches while collecting data. • A few aspects of the tool should be redefined to provide a clear understanding of how the score is calculated. Some of the ISH Standards can be discussed with Ecologika to refine the tools. 	
3.2	Way forward: Change in Terminology of Combined Tool (Decision Required)	
	<u>Proposed Next Step & Implication (SHSC Decision during 13th SHSC Meeting):</u>	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To proceed with Field Trials of the approach in the first quarter of 2022 in four locations. • The field trials of the approach will provide data and evidence on the feasibility of the approach for practical use towards ensuring no deforestation by ISH Groups. <p><u>Change in Terminology (Decision by IS-NDTF)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HCSA has indicated <i>“It is important to note that RSPO IS-NDTF cannot refer or claim to be developing a simplified HCS Approach for independent smallholders without the endorsement of HCSA (i.e., through an approved HCSA trial and/or ToR/MoU).”</i> • The members look forward to changing the terminology so that it does not take too much time before getting endorsed by the BoG. • As a result of the mentioned item above by HCSA, the RSPO Secretariat is currently considering an alternative terminology for the approach. The two alternatives are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Smallholder Deforestation Prevention Tool/ Approach • Smallholder Forest Protection Tool/ Approach • A change in terminology will result in indicators within the standard that will require attention. • The final naming of the approach will be decided by the IS-NDTF as the official task force overseeing the development of the approach. • A question was raised regarding the current procedure, the underdevelopment of quality assurance for medium risk outcome. Currently, the procedure has developed additional 5 or 6 probability maps to move the issue forward. • The criteria for field trial plots are encouraged to be chosen from smallholder new plantations. 	
4.0	AOB	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nomination for co-chair and smallholder representative LatAm is being discussed and welcomed for any suggestion. • The next IS-NDTF meeting will not be held as per the usual bi-weekly schedule. Further updates will be provided via email. 	
	Meeting adjourned	