

MINUTES OF MEETING

Independent Smallholder – No Deforestation Task Force (IS-NDTF) – 13th Meeting

Date: 16th November 2022

Start time: 4:00 PM (GMT +8)

Conference call via Zoom Meeting

ATTENDEES:

Name	Initial	Organisation	Representative Category
1. Rob Nicholls	RN	PT. Musim Mas	P&T (co-chair)
2. Olivia Schultz	OS	HCVN	Technical Expert
3. Angga Prathama Putra	APP	WWF	ENGO
4. Dani Rahadian Hidayat	DH	FORTASBI	Smallholder (Indonesia)
5. Akmal Razali	AR	RSPO Secretariat	
6. Liyana Zulkipli	LZ	RSPO Secretariat	
7. Kertijah Ibrahim	KI	RSPO Secretariat	
8. Ariel Toh	AT	RSPO Secretariat	
9. Edem Asimadu	EA	RSPO Secretariat	
10. Petchrung Sukpong	PS	RSPO Secretariat	

ABSENT WITH APOLOGIES:

Name	Initial	Organisation	Representative Category
1. Paula Den Hartog	PH	Rainforest Alliance	SNGO - Substantive (Co-Chair)
2. Chrissy Durkin	CD	Rainforest Connection	ENGO
3. Lesly Vera Gonzales	LV	Solidaridad Network	SNGO- Alternate
4. Burhanuddin Ismail	BI	Bunge Lodgers Croklaan	P&T
5. Lee Kuah Chun	LKC	P&G	SHSC, Co-Chair (CGM)
6. Marike Leegwater	ML	Solidaridad Network	SHSC, Co-Chair (SNGO)
7. Guntur Cahyo Prabowo	GCP	RSPO Secretariat	
8. Bella Sosa	BS	RSPO Secretariat	

AGENDA


Time	Item no	
4:00 – 4:10 pm	1.0	Introductions
4:10 – 4:20 pm	1.1	Adoption of Minutes of Meeting – IS-NDTF Meeting
4:20 – 4:40 pm	2.0	Update on Workplan
4:40 – 4:50 pm	3.0	Progress of Development
4:50 – 5:20 pm	3.1	Flowchart for Forest Protection Approach (Decision Required)
5: 20 – 5:30 pm	4.0	AOB
5:30 pm		Meeting adjourned

Updates on Action Points:

No	Action Point	Status
1	The members agreed to amend the decision flowchart of Smallholder Forest Protection Approach .	Confirmed in current meeting

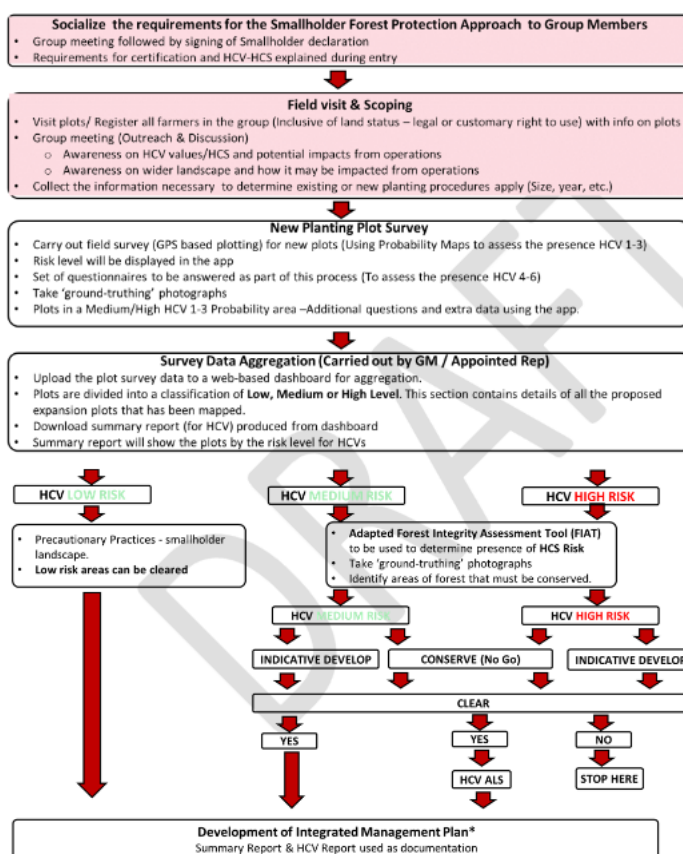
DISCUSSION

No.	Description	Action Points (PIC)
1.0	Introduction	
	<p>The co-chair welcomed all attending members, technical experts and invited guests. Prior to the meeting, AR allowed each participant to introduce his/herself as well as check if the participants met the quorum.</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 – 12 th IS-NDTF Meeting	
	<p>RSPO Secretariat presented the 13th IS-NDTF meeting agenda over the screen before going through the 12th IS-NDTF Minutes of Meeting. No further comments or feedback was added to the 12th IS-NDTF Minutes of Meeting. The 12th IS-NDTF Minutes of Meeting was adopted.</p> <p>The key points of the last IS-NDTF meeting were highlighted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The members agreed to change the terminology to Smallholder Forest Protection Approach. • The development of the FPA methodology was heavily discussed. 	The Secretariat to upload all adopted minutes of meetings onto the RSPO website.
2.0	Update on Workplan	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A work plan overview for IS-NDTF drafted by RSPO Secretariat was presented by AR: 	

	 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● A member raised a question on confirmed field trial locations. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The RSPO Secretariat responded by saying that there will be 4 regions listed for the field trials which are Southeast Asia (Indonesia), Latin America (specific country TBD), Africa (specific country TBD) and Papua New Guinea. Further identification of field trial groups will be finalised soon. ○ It is also confirmed that the plantation owner in Indonesia agreed to have the field trial at his plantation. ● A member raised the question on whether it is possible for group managers to join the internal training with regional managers. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ RSPO Secretariat responded that the internal training will be focusing on the complete knowledge transfer on the methodology from the consultant to the regional managers in preparation for the field trials that are to be carried out in a later period. A separate session with the group managers and smallholders will be conducted before the field trials are carried out in the respective regions. ● The full work plan table will be circulated 	
3.0	Progress of Development	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The task force was briefed on the need for both physical and visual internal training scheduled to be conducted in November 2022, near the RT period. This would serve as a session where knowledge transfer from the consultant to the regional managers can be done in preparation for the regional field trials that will be conducted soon. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Objectives: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ To prepare regional managers with the understanding of Smallholder Forest Protection Approach and its processes ▪ To enable regional managers to recognise and report potential on-ground issues or gaps in the Forest Protect Approach for post-field-testing analysis, which will guide the 	

	<p style="text-align: center;">IS-NDTF in revising the Forest Protection Approach.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Participants: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Regional managers and other related RSPO staff ▪ The progress of the FPA is currently in the first phase. <p><u>Phase 1 - Conceptualisation and preparation</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discussion on the Flowchart of the Simplified HCV Approach (for New Plantings) • Incorporating FIAT into Forest Protection Approach (applicability to risk areas) • Training session to Regional Managers or Group Managers. <p><u>Phase 2 -Field Trial</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Engage with Oil Palm companies or smallholders to conduct field trials on their plantation. <p><u>Phase 3 –Final Endorsement</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assess the practicability and relevance of the Forest Protection Approach (working draft) in the field prior to formal acceptance and endorsement by the RSPO. • A member raised a question about regional adaptation and the need for further calibration before the field trials are conducted. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o RSPO Secretariat responded that the methodology developed by the consultant has already been calibrated and the internal training is going to be conducted to give regional managers an overview of the nuances in vegetation types that they might encounter when conducting field trials in their own regions. o RSPO Secretariat suggested to the members to include Nev Kemp from Ekologika (the consultant involved in developing the methodology) in the next IS-NDTF meeting to give an overview of the HCV/HCS Assessment development. In which, the members welcomed his presence in the next meeting. • A concern was raised on the possibility of recording the training sessions for future reference. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o The RSPO Secretariat will take this into consideration and will further discuss with the consultant (if needed). 	
3.1	Flowchart for Forest Protection Approach (Decision Required)	

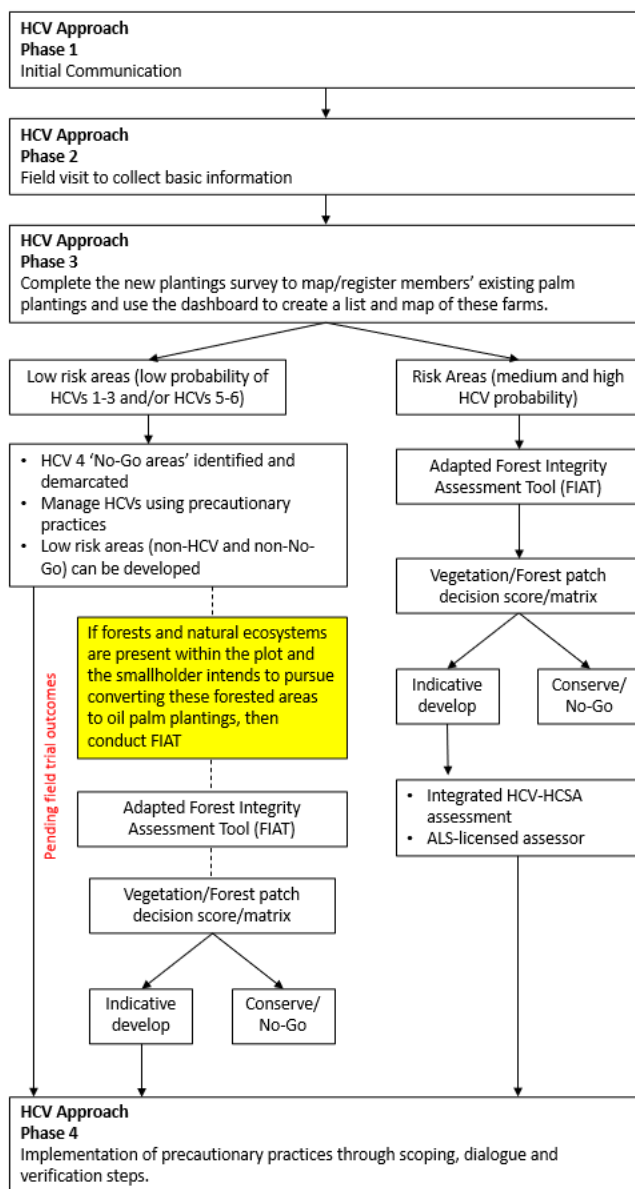
- For this discussion, this component of the RSPO Smallholder Forest Protection Approach (circulated in July 2022) was referenced:



The IS-NDTF has agreed to the changes made to the flowchart (FPA).

- The secretariat raised a concern over the risk of misinterpretation of the flowchart because based on the RSPO Simplified HCV Approach, both medium risk and high risk would require an ALS assessment for further development/planting to take place. This also brings up the question of the viability of FIAT in the whole process.
- A member suggested that the 'HCV risk assessment' term is used instead of 'HCV assessment'.
- A concern was raised by a member on the ALS assessment requirement for 'medium risk' results of the Simplified HCV Approach.
 - Based on the RSPO Simplified HCV Approach, only 'low risk' can proceed for development/planting without an ALS assessment.
- A concern on cost implication to the smallholders was raised by a member. Who would bear the cost, individual farmers or collectively via group certification?
 - The concern was noted. RSPO Secretariat reaffirmed the objective of the field trial is to oversee potential financial concerns of the smallholders.

- The RSPO Secretariat proposed an amendment to the flowchart:



- It was emphasised that the RSPO Smallholder Forest Protection Approach was developed with the intention of enabling smallholders to identify HCV and HCS forests within their operations and at the same time reduce the risk of deforestation.
- The IS-NDTF has agreed to the amendments made for the flowchart.
- A member supported the amendment decision to place the FIAT in the latter stage as it gives information/indications to smallholders on whether the area can be developed or not based on the risk factors that are tied to it.
- A member raised the concern on the specific assessors that are responsible to conduct the HCV-HCV assessment. Are there

	<p>enough local assessors to assist smallholders in remote locations? What would the cost implication look like for smallholders?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The RSPO Secretariat will provide the latest list of ALS-assessors to the task force. ○ The end-goal of this approach is to enable smallholders to identify HCV and HCS forests within their operations using the tools provided. The smallholders/group managers are responsible for conducting the said identification processes with the help and guidance from RSPO. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● A member raised questions on who is responsible in integrating HCV-HCS data from the Smallholder Forest Protection Approach and whether the FPIC component of the HCSA will be used for smallholders on top of the current RSPO requirements. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Group managers will be responsible to collect and document data related to this approach. ● A member raised a concern over the cost implication of the required assessments and the next steps that need to be considered for smallholders who insist on developing on indicated risk areas. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The RSPO Secretariat will take note of this matter and discuss it internally. ● A member commented on finding a middle ground between maintaining the credibility of the standards and considering the uptake and viability of its implications to smallholders. ● A member commented that this approach is essentially a risk-based procedure by first identifying forest types and eventually deciding on future development plans. However, matters revolving around the cost implicated to the indicated 'risk' areas and ways to move forward will need to be discussed separately. 	
4.0	AOB	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Ekologika representative(s) would be included in the next IS-NDTF meeting. ● Next meeting will be conducted after the field trials have been completed. ● New nominations for IS-NDTF <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Members have agreed to have Julián Peña from Solidaridad to be on board. 	<p>RSPO Secretariat to send updates for the next IS-NDTF Meeting and extending an invitation to the new member.</p>
	Meeting adjourned	