

Particulars

About Your Organisation

1.1 Name of your organization

The Zoological Society of London

1.2 What is/are the primary activity(ies) or product(s) of your organization?

- Grower
 - Processor and/or Trader
 - Consumer Goods Manufacturer
 - Retailer and/or Wholesaler
 - Bank and/or Investor
 - Social and/or Development NGO
 - Environmental and/or Conservation NGO
 - Supply Chain Associate
 - Affiliate
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1.3 Membership number

6-0009-11-000-00

1.4 Membership category

Environmental or Nature Conservation Organisations (Non Governmental Organisations)

1.5 Membership sector

Ordinary

Environmental and/or Conservation NGO

1. Operational Profile

1.1 What are the main activities of your organisation?

ZSL (Zoological Society of London) is an international conservation charity working to create a world where wildlife thrives. From investigating the health threats facing animals to helping people and wildlife live alongside each other, ZSL is committed to bringing wildlife back from the brink of extinction. Our work is realised through our ground-breaking science, our field conservation around the world and engaging millions of people through our two zoos, ZSL London Zoo and ZSL Whipsnade Zoo.

1.2 Does your organisation use and/or sell any palm oil?

Yes

1.3 What activities has your organisation undertaken to publicise programmes to support RSPO, RSPO certification, uptake of RSPO-certified sustainable palm oil and oil palm products and/or good standing RSPO members during the year?

Palm Oil Position Statement: ZSL operates a Palm Oil Position Statement across our sites and offices at ZSL London Zoo and Whipsnade Zoo in the UK. We recognise that unsustainable palm oil production has serious negative environmental and social impacts. However, we also recognise that the palm oil industry plays an important role in employment and economic development for many countries, and palm oil is currently the most efficient vegetable oil crop in terms of yield per hectare. Due to these factors, we believe that transforming the market to a sustainable supply of palm oil that supports both people and wildlife is the most practical solution. As such, where ZSL procures products containing palm oil, it is committed to sourcing only certified sustainable palm oil (CSPO) where available, as a minimum defined by the Roundtable on Sustainable Palm Oil (RSPO) Principles & Criteria. The full Palm Oil Position Statement is available here: <https://www.spott.org/about/zsl-palm-oil-position-statement/>

SPOTT: SPOTT is an online platform supporting sustainable commodity production and trade (<http://www.spott.org>). SPOTT annually assesses commodity producers and traders on the public disclosure of their policies, operations and commitments related to environmental, social and governance (ESG) issues. SPOTT can help investors, buyers, and other key influencers engage with the industry in a constructive manner. Stakeholders can use SPOTT assessments to inform engagement and management of ESG risks in support of legal and sustainable commodity production and trade. ZSL published assessments of 70 palm oil producers and traders (<https://www.spott.org/palm-oil>) and 50 timber and pulp producers (<https://www.spott.org/timber-pulp>) in 2018. The average score of palm oil companies in November 2018 was 47.9% - a significant improvement compared to 2014 when average scores were less than 30%. Forty-nine RSPO members scored an average of 60% in 2018, while 21 non-RSPO members averaged 20%.

KELOLA Sendang: Since 2015, ZSL has been working in Indonesia with the Government of South Sumatra on a landscape management project, KELOLA Sendang. This public-private-people partnership aims to address the challenges of deforestation, peatland degradation, wildfires and their associated climate impacts within the context of green growth and biodiversity conservation. The project supports the government, private sector, including palm oil companies, and local communities, to pilot a sustainable management partnership model across the 1.6 million hectare Sembilang-Dangku landscape in South Sumatra, an important habitat for Sumatran tigers and other wildlife. As part of KELOLA Sendang, we are supporting the implementation of best management practices (BMP) within the public and private sectors (including working with RSPO member palm oil companies), working towards sustainable production, while also enabling small-holders and community members in 21 priority villages to gain access to local resources.

Stakeholder engagement: ZSL continued to work with a variety of stakeholders in the palm oil industry to support and promote sustainable palm oil. The financial sector is the primary audience for SPOTT and ZSL has held workshops to disseminate information and encourage financiers to be involved in sustainable production. ZSL also engaged with several palm oil companies to increase the uptake of best practices for palm oil production and sourcing, as well as to encourage improved transparency in corporate reporting. ZSL has continued to be part of the UK Roundtable on Sourcing Sustainable Palm Oil with the UK Government's Department for International Development (DFID) and has fed into stakeholder consultation exercises. ZSL also continued to engage in and lead discussions within the international zoo community on sustainable procurement of palm oil and outreach and education, involving organisations such as the World Association of Zoos and Aquariums (WAZA).

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

5%

1.5 Did members of your staff participate in RSPO working and/or taskforce groups in the reporting period?

Yes

1.6 Do you have any collaborations with the industry players/private sector to support them in the market transformation towards RSPO-certified sustainable palm oil and oil palm products?

Yes

1.7 How is your work on palm oil funded?

Our work on palm oil is funded through grants, charitable donations and some charitable core funds.

2. Time-Bound Plan**2.1 Date started or expected to start participating in RSPO working and/or taskforce groups.**

2011

2.2 Date expected to undertake and publicise programmes to support RSPO, RSPO certification, uptake of RSPO-certified sustainable palm oil and oil palm products and/or good standing RSPO members.

2011

3. Actions for Next Reporting Period**3.1 Outline activities that you will take in the coming year to promote sustainable palm oil along the supply chain.**

ZSL will continue to promote sustainable palm oil via SPOTT and our related outreach and engagement activities. This will include publishing assessments of 100 palm oil companies in November 2019, engagement with upstream companies to improve transparency and the strength of corporate palm oil commitments, and engagement with the finance sector and key buyers in the palm oil supply chain. ZSL will continue to work with the government in South Sumatra and with partners to implement the KELOLA Sendang project. ZSL will also continue with outreach activities within our two zoos, through our participation in the RSPO Board of Governors and several RSPO working groups (Biodiversity and High Conservation Value Working Group, No Deforestation Taskforce, and Smallholder Interim Group), and engagement with external initiatives including the Tropical Forest Alliance 2020 and European Palm Oil Alliance.

4. Application of Principles & Criteria for all members sectors**4.1 Regarding your organisation's operations and activities, do you have position statements and/or policies related to dealings in the palm oil industry that are in line with RSPO P&C? Select all relevant options.****4.1.A Water, land, energy and carbon footprints**

File: [sustainability-at-zsl.txt](#)

Link: --

4.1.B Land use rights

File: --

Link: --

4.1.C Ethical conduct and human rights

File: [sustainability-at-zsl.txt](#)

Link: [sustainability-at-zsl.txt](#)

4.1.D Labour rights

File: [sustainability-at-zsl.txt](#)

Link: [sustainability-at-zsl.txt](#)

4.1.E Stakeholder engagement

File: [sustainability-at-zsl.txt](#)

Link: [sustainability-at-zsl.txt](#)

4.1.F None of the above

File: --

4.2 What best practice guidelines or information has your organisation provided in the past year to facilitate production and consumption of RSPO-certified sustainable palm oil and oil palm products? What languages are these guidelines available in?

File: [best-practice-guidelines.txt](#)

5. Challenges

5.1 What significant economic, social or environmental obstacles have you encountered in the production, procurement, use and/or promotion of CSPO and what efforts did you make to mitigate or resolve them?

- 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
 - Others
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Other:

5.2 In addition to the actions already reported in this ACOP, how has your organisation supported the vision of RSPO to transform the market for sustainable palm oil in other ways? (e.g. Funding; Engagement with key stakeholders; Business to business education/outreach)

- Engagement with business partners or consumers on the use of CSPO
 - Engagement with government agencies
 - Promotion of CSPO outside of RSPO venues eg trade workshops industry associations
 - Promotion of physical CSPO
 - Providing funding or support for CSPO development efforts
 - Research & Development support
 - Stakeholder engagement
 - Others
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Other:

5.3 Please attach or add links to any other information from your organisation on your palm oil policies and activities (e.g.: sustainability reports, policies, other public information)

ZSL publishes its annual reports at <https://www.zsl.org/about-us/zsl-annual-reports>

The latest SPOTT annual report at <https://www.spott.org/news/2018-annual-report/>
