World Resources Institute (WRI)

Particulars

About Your Organisation

Name of your organization
orld Resources Institute (WRI)
What is/are the primary activity(ies) or product(s) of your organization?
☐ Oil Palm Growers
☐ Palm Oil Processors and/or Traders
☐ Consumer Goods Manufacturers
☐ Retailers
☐ Banks and Investors
☐ Social or Development Organisations (Non Governmental Organisations)
Environmental or Nature Conservation Organisations (Non Governmental Organisations)
☐ Affiliate Members
☐ Supply Chain Associate
Membership number
0020-12-000-00
Membership category
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i Membership sector
vironmental or Nature Conservation Organisations (Non Governmental Organisations)

Environmental and Conservation NGOs

Operational Profile

1.1 What are the main activities of your organization?

WRI is a global research organization that spans more than 50 countries, with offices in the United States, China, India, Brazil, Indonesia and more. Our more than 700 experts and staff work closely with leaders to turn big ideas into action to sustain our natural resources—the foundation of economic opportunity and human well-being. Our work focuses on six critical issues at the intersection of environment and development: climate, energy, food, forests, water, and cities and transport.

We measure our success through real change on the ground. Our approach involves three essential steps: Count It, Change It, and Scale It.

Count It

We start with data. We conduct independent research and draw on the latest technology to develop new insights and recommendations. Our rigorous analysis identifies risks, unveils opportunities, and informs smart strategies. We focus our efforts on influential and emerging economies where the future of sustainability will be determined.

Change It

We use our research to influence government policies, business strategies, and civil society action. We test projects with communities, companies, and government agencies to build a strong evidence base. Then, we work with partners to deliver change on the ground that alleviates poverty and strengthens society. We hold ourselves accountable to ensure our outcomes will be bold and enduring.

Scale It

We don't think small. Once tested, we work with partners to adopt and expand our efforts regionally and globally. We engage with decision-makers to carry out our ideas and elevate our impact. We measure success through government and business actions that improve people's lives and sustain a healthy environment.

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

Not directly. Some products containing palm oil are sold in our office vending machines and may be used in catering for events, etc

- 1.3 Activities 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.
- (1) Supporting the RSPO and its individual members to identify deforestation-related risks in supply chains, track trends in deforestation over time, and to monitor deforestation and fires in near-real time through Global Forest Watch. This includes the development of new datasets such as the Universal Mill List, analyses such as the PALM Risk tool, and new platforms such as Global Forest Watch Pro. WRI partners directly with the RSPO Secretariat and numerous RSPO members to utilize on how to best utilize these tools to drive impact in the palm oil sector.
- (2) Improving transparency and quality of spatial data related to palm oil supply chains and forests.
- (3) Supporting RSPO spatial analysis initiatives, such as "Eyes on the Haze" and the recent launch of GeoRSPO platform (powered by Global Forest Watch), and HCV/NPP monitoring.
- (3) Promoting the effectiveness of the RSPO standard by participating in the RSPO Board of Governors, BHCV WG, Compensation Panel, S&C SC, Assurance TF, and P&C Review TF, as well as the HCVRN Management Committee.
- (4) Promoting improved land use planning and data alignment in Indonesia through the One Map initiative and other government engagement.
- (5) Building capacity of smallholders in pilot areas of Indonesia for sustainability and RSPO certification through the Land Use Accountability initiative.
- 1.4 What percentage of your organizations overall activities focus on palm oil?

5%

1.5 Did members of your staff participate in RSPO working groups/taskforces 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?

Global Forest Watch has received generous support (including both past and current funders) from USAID, Norwegian Ministry of Climate and Environment, UKAid, Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation, Cargill, GEF, Generation Foundation, Inter-American Development Bank, IDB Invest, MacArthur, Foundation, IIC, Wilburforce Foundation, Bobolink Foundation, Eurasia Foundation, IFC, Johnson&Johnson, Mondelez, Morgan Family Fund, Netherlands Development Finance Company (FMO), NewPage, Rainforest Alliance, Tetra Tech, The Tilia Fund, UNEP, Walmart Foundation, World Bank.

Time-Bound Plan

2.1 Date started or expected to start participating in RSPO working groups/taskforces

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.

2009

Actions for Next Reporting Period

- 3.1 Outline actions that you will take in the coming year to promote sustainable palm oil along the supply chain
- 1. Launch the new Global Forest Watch Pro platform and generate uptake by RSPO members in order to support informed decision making and mitigate or eliminate reputational and operational risks for organizations working to eliminate deforestation from commodity supply chains. GFW Pro is designed to make the latest forest monitoring technology and analysis accessible to commodity and finance sector professionals. With this scalable and easy-to-use management system, a company, bank or any institution managing land-related assets can: plot the location of thousands of farms, production facilities or municipalities; save location data securely; access a dashboard of alerts to track environmental risks occurring in these areas, such as tree cover loss, fires and more; spot trends in risky areas; monitor progress over time.
- 2. Continue to develop and publish datasets, analytical tools, reports and other communications related to the palm oil sector including updated Universal Mill List, PALM Risk Tool 2.0, improved concession data.
- 3. Continue to support the RSPO Secretariat in spatial data management and geospatial analysis specifically on GeoRSPO portal, HCV/NPP mapping and monitoring, and GFW Pro (once launched)
- 4. Continue to build upon our partnership with the RSPO and actively participate as a member of the Board of Governors and in various working groups.
- 5. Continue in-country work in Indonesia related to more efficient land use planning, conflict resolution, and data consistency in Indonesia via One Map initiative including engagement with palm oil producers and smallholders.
- 6. Build on existing partnerships and establish new partnerships with RSPO member companies across the supply chain in order to promote robust commitments to sustainability and support implementation of these commitments.
- 7. Participate in other multistakeholder fora related to sustainability in the palm oil sector, such as the HCS Approach SG (observer), HCVRN Management Committee, IDH Traceability Working Group/Sustainable Landscapes Working Group, Tropical Forest Alliance, Accountability Framework, Friends of Smallholders.
- 8. Continue to drive increased transparency in the palm oil sector.

GHG Footprint

4.1 Are you currently reporting any GHG footprint?

Yes

Uploaded files:

No files were uploaded

Link to Website

http://www.wri.org/sustainability-wri/ghg-commitments-and-strategy

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4.2 Do you publicly report the GHG emissions of your operations?

Yes

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Application of Principles & Criteria for all members sectors

5.1 Do you have organizational policies that are in line with the RSPO P&C, such as:

Energy and carbon footprints

Related link:

http://www.wri.org/sustainability-wri/sustainability-wri-transparency-and-accountability

Related link:

http://www.wri.org/our-work/project/access-initiative-tai

Related link:

http://www.wri.org/sustainability-wri/sustainability-wri-transparency-and-accountability

☑Labour rights

Related link:

http://www.wri.org/about/wri-annual-reports-and-corporate-documents

Related link:

http://www.wri.org/corporations

☐ None of the above

5.2 What best practice guidelines or information has your organization 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?

Interactive Web Applications:

Global Forest Watch: www.globalforestwatch.org. Available in 15 languages.

Global Forest Watch Commodities; commodities.globalforestwatch.org

Global Forest Watch Fires: fires.globalforestwatch.org

Resources for Companies via WRI Business: Topics include Climate & Energy, Food, Forests, Multi-Impact Strategy (English, availability of other languages varies by product):

http://www.wri.org/business/resources-companies

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Link to Website

commodities.globalforestwatch.org

Challenges

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?

Four key obstacles to sustainability of palm oil sector (1) Technical: Eg Policy-makers lack the accurate data needed to develop and implement effective land use planning and monitoring. Palm oil buyers/retailers, investors, and traders still lack necessary data to achieve full supply chain traceability and to effectively assess the associated risks to sustainability commitments associated with their supply chains. (2) Legal: Eg: In many areas, physically degraded land is legally classified as "forest" and therefore unavailable for agricultural expansion, while forested land is legally classified as "non-forest" and therefore at risk of conversion. (3) Social: Oil palm plantation projects face high risk of social conflict due to land tenure issues. This is especially a problem on degraded lands which tend to have more claims than forested areas. Historically, poorly managed projects have resulted in highly unequal distribution of costs and benefits of expansion, leading to the marginalization of local communities. (4) Financial: Market access and demand for sustainable palm oil still remains a challenge, particularly in markets like China, India and Indonesia. By providing access to improved information and anlayses via Global Forest Watch and other platforms - we hope to build capacity of relevant stakeholders to address technical challenges, support positive policy reform to reduce legal challenges, improve transparency and land use planning to alleviate social challenges, and drive market transformation to tackle financial challenges.

2 In addition to the actions already reported in this ACOP how has your organization supported the vision of RSPO to transform markets in other ways? (e.g. Funding; Engagement with key stakeholders; Business to business education/outreach)

WRI's efforts related to palm oil focus on supporting companies in the implementation of their sustainability commitments and on improving the transparency of information related to forests and palm oil supply chains. We work to build the analytical capacity of companies and other stakeholders to identify risks, track progress, and identify ongoing issues related to deforestation in palm oil supply chains. This helps companies more effectively meet their commitments and helps external stakeholders hold them accountable. In turn, this provides increased credibility to the sustainability of the palm oil industry and to standards like the RSPO.

3 File -Please attach or add links to any other information from your organisation on your policies and actions on palm oil (EG: sustainability reports, policies, other public information)

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