

MINUTES OF MEETING OF RSPO

27th RSPO BHCVWG MEETING

Minutes for RSPO BHCVWG

Date: 6th February 2015

Start Time: 8.30 am

Venue: AKMANI Hotel, Jakarta, Indonesia

Attendance

Members and Alternates

Anders Lindhe (HCVRN, AL)**

Anne Rosenbarger (WRI, AR)

Audrey Lee Mei Fong (OLAM, ALMF)

Cahyo Nugroho (FFI, CN)

Darmawan Liswanto (FFI, DL)

Elizabeth Clarke (ZSL, EC)

Gan Lian Tiong (MM, GLT)

Ginny Ng Siew Ling (WILMAR, GN)

Glen Reynolds (SEARRP, GR)

Harjinder Kler (Hutan, HK)

Jennifer Lucey (SEARRP, JL)

John Payne (BORA, JP)

Lee Swee Yin (SIME, LSY)

Marcus Colchester (FPP, MC)

Michael Brady (IFC, MB)

Olivier Tichit (SIPEF, OT)

Peter Heng (GAR, PH)*

Richard Kan (GAR, RK)

Sophie Persey (REA, SP)

Tang Men Kon (SIME, TMK)

Michal Zrust (Daemeter, MZ)**

*Only attended from 1430 onwards.

**Only attended up to 1500.

RSPO Advisors

-

Secretariat Staff

Oi Soo Chin (OSC)

Dillon Sarim (DS)

Absent with apologies

Adam Harrison (WWF Int, AH)

Cecep Saepulloh (Remark Asia, CS)

Dwi Muhtaman (Remark Asia, DwM)

Henry Barlow (Independent, HB)

Lanash Thanda (SEPA, LT)

Melissa Yeoh (WWF MY, MY)

NorAzam Abd Hameed (FGV, NaH)

Simon Siburat (WILMAR, SiS)

Holly Barclay (Monash University, HoB)

Agenda

1. Welcoming remarks/opening meeting
2. Update on status of projects and budget
3. Simplified HCV toolkit for smallholders
4. HCV Assessor Licensing Scheme
5. BHCVWG workplan
6. Riparian Management Guidelines
7. Update on INA HCV TF
8. HCV concerns – Letters from NGOs
9. HCV toolkit for palm oil sector
10. AOB and closing meeting

Item	Description	Point Person
<p>1.0</p> <p>1.1</p> <p>1.1.1</p> <p>1.2</p> <p>1.2.1</p> <p>1.2.2</p> <p>1.3</p>	<p><i>Opening Meeting and Welcoming Remarks</i></p> <p><u>Opening meeting</u> OT opened the meeting by welcoming members of the BHCVWG.</p> <p><u>Review of previous meeting notes</u> Members went through the previous meeting notes.</p> <p>Recommendations: 1. AR suggested meeting notes be circulated to BHCVWG members for comments</p> <p>Action point: 1. To circulate meeting notes to BHCVWG members and gather comments in one week 2. To upload meeting notes on to the RSPO website</p>	<p></p> <p></p> <p></p> <p></p> <p></p> <p>OSC</p> <p>OSC</p>
<p>2.0</p> <p>2.0.1</p> <p>2.1</p>	<p><i>Update on Status of Projects and Budget</i></p> <p>OSC updated members on status of projects and budgets. AL informed members that HCVRN still needs translation support for all HCV ALS materials. He also mentioned that HCVRN will require funding to continue develop and improve the HCV ALS and HCVRN Secretariat will be sending proposal to RSPO.</p> <p>Decision made: 1. Members agreed to channel unspent budget to support HCVRN.</p>	<p></p> <p></p> <p></p>
<p>3.0</p> <p>3.0.1</p> <p>3.0.2</p>	<p><i>Simplified HCV Toolkit for Smallholders</i></p> <p>AL presented the unified approach of simplified HCV toolkit for smallholders. AL requested members endorse the field test of the unified approach. He explained that the unified approach has been field tested in Honduras, Ghana and Colombia and will soon be expanded to other countries. See Annex 2 for presentation slide.</p> <p>MC asked AL whether the field test was conducted with smallholders which are all situated in one block or scattered all over. AL replied that he would need to get back to MC on the question.</p>	<p></p> <p></p> <p></p>

Item	Description	Point Person
<p>3.0.3</p> <p>3.0.4</p> <p>3.1</p> <p>3.2</p> <p>3.3</p>	<p>AL informed members that companies would like to support smallholders to participate in the field testing of the unified approach but will only do so if the RSPO agreed that they didn't have to redo the assessment and accepted the findings regardless of the outcome. He added that assurance was needed by the company in order to participate.</p> <p>AR summarised AL's request of endorsing the field testing of the unified approach and confirmed that the endorsement requested was not for the specific methodology of the unified approach.</p> <p>Decision made:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Endorsement from BCHVWG to move forward with the field testing. <p>Recommendations:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. EC, MZ, MC, AL, and DL agreed to help in improving the toolkit. <p>Action point:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To update the SHWG on the endorsement of the field test and any other concerns brought up by the BHCV WG. 	<p>OSC</p>
<p>4.0</p> <p>4.0.1</p>	<p><i>HCV Assessor Licensing Scheme</i></p> <p>AL updated members on the progress of HCV ALS (Annex 3). A total of 49 provisional licensed have been issued to assessors from Southeast Asia, Africa and Latin America. The HCVRN will next work on registering Discipline Specialist and capacity building in Latin America.</p>	
<p>5.0</p> <p>5.0.1</p> <p>5.0.2</p>	<p><i>BHCV Working Plan</i></p> <p>MZ presented the BHCVWG work plan to members (Annex 4). MZ requested members to sign-off on the proposed work plan a week after the meeting. The endorsed workplan will be uploaded on the RSPO website.</p> <p>MZ and AL volunteered to finalise the proposed BCHVWG Workplan for voting purposes. A poll by members will decide which projects are considered priority. The TOR for top priority projects will then be published on the RSPO website to call for proposals. Any further questions arising from the poll can be resolved over skype.</p>	

Item	Description	Point Person
5.1	<p>Action points: AL and MZ to finalise the proposed BHCVWG Workplan for members to vote. Secretariat will develop poll for members to vote for on which projects are priority.</p>	AL & MZ OSC
<p>6.0</p> <p>6.0.1</p> <p>6.1</p> <p>6.2</p>	<p><i>Riparian Management Guidelines</i></p> <p>OSC presented the additional work proposal submitted by HoB to members (Annex 5).</p> <p>Decision made:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Executive summary should be limited to five pages. HoB's involvement for proposal number four is not necessary. MZ suggested to keep ZSL (EC) informed of proposal number four. <p>Action point:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> To request from HoB their daily consultancy rate in order to approve the proposal. 	OSC
<p>7.0</p> <p>7.0.1</p> <p>7.0.2</p> <p>7.0.3</p> <p>6.3</p>	<p><i>Update on INA HCV TF</i></p> <p>RK presented update on the INA HCV TF. He informed members that several side meetings were conducted over the past few months.</p> <p>Result of the meetings are as presented below:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Final Legal Review draft to be shared with Indonesian growers to get their feedback. To organise a workshop for Indonesian growers to present the legal review document for feedback. <p>Next step:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> The RSPO will ensure that the draft updated review in English will be updated in Bahasa. These updated versions will be shared with DSK and Bpk Carlo to prepare for the workshop. The document will also be presented to respective Indonesian government agencies. After the legal draft has been signed off, the INA HCV TF can be retired. <p>Action points:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> To circulate the relevant meeting minutes to the TF. 	OSC

Item	Description	Point Person
8.0	<i>HCV Concerns – Letters from NGOs</i>	
8.0.1	JP presented a letter sent by Aidenvironment (AE) .The letter highlighted concerns in the inadequacy of the HCV assessments as well as how the compensation procedure does not cater to complaints of HCV assessmentscarried out before land clearing activities.	
8.0.3	AL commented that the quality of HCV assessment will be significantly improved with the HCV ALS and quality panel in place. The WG recommended that the proposed ideas in the letter could be addressed through a review by HCVRN of the HCV manual and ensure the quality of HCV assessments is assured. AL added that New Planting Procedures (NPP) should define reporting requirements for HCV assessment. The WG felt that a constructive way forward and a top priority was to have a mechanism in place to revise HCV areas. The WG has also recommended that HCVRN explore credible ways to revise HCV assessment due to its dynamic nature.	
8.0.4	All points raised in the letter related to NPP will be taken into consideration during the NPP revision exercise. The WG recommended that maps submitted for NPP purposes should be final and dated for NPP reporting. Information such as date of assessment should also be available. The WG would like Secretariat to confirm whether and interim announcement can be done before the NPP revision is completed.	
8.0.5	Adequacy of HCV assessment could be addressed in different ways such as the new proposed mechanism for revising HCV areas, complaints and compensation channels on a case by case basis.	
8.0.6	AR suggested a sub-group of ENGO members to respond to the letter and ensure clear communication to all parties who signed the letter.	
8.1	Action points: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To provide interim announcement on HCV maps format submitted for NPP reporting. 2. MC to brief AL on WG’s recommendation to explore credible way to revise HCV areas. 3. AR and members of ENGO to communicate back to AE. 	<p>OSC</p> <p>MC</p> <p>AR & ENGOs</p>

Item	Description	Point Person
<p>9.0</p> <p>9.0.1</p> <p>9.0.2</p> <p>9.1</p>	<p><i>HCV Toolkit for Oil Palm Sector</i></p> <p>OSC informed members that the RSPO has planned to develop a generic HCV toolkit for oil palm sector. She proposed that it should be done together with HCVRN. She added that AL has suggested that the guidance document emphasise management and monitoring of HCV in oil palm plantations since common guidance on interpretation of HCV is already available.</p> <p>Members agreed that the RSPO should work with HCVRN to develop an HCV toolkit for oil palm sector focusing on management and monitoring of HCV areas.</p> <p>Decision made:</p> <p>1. The RSPO will develop the toolkit together with HCVRN.</p>	<p>HCVRN & RSPO</p>
<p>10.0</p> <p>10.0.1</p>	<p><i>AOB and Closing Meeting</i></p> <p>OT closed the BHCVWG meeting and thanked members for their participation. The next BHCVWG/CTF meeting will be on 5th, 6th and 7th of May 2015 in Kuala Lumpur.</p>	

Annex 1








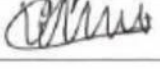
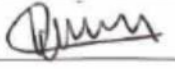
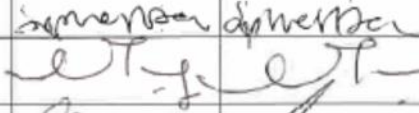
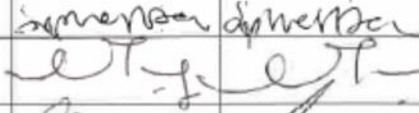


Roundtable on Sustainable Palm Oil

RSPO Secretariat Sdn. Bhd (Company No.: 787510-K)
 Unit A-37-1, Level 37, Tower A, Menara UOA Bangsar,
 No. 5 Jalan Bangsar Utama 1,
 59000 Kuala Lumpur Malaysia

14th/27th Meeting of RSPO CTF/BHCVWG
 5th and 6th February 2015
 AKMANI Hotel Jakarta, Indonesia

#	Name	Organisation	Signature (CTF – 5 th)	Signature (BHCV WG – 6 th)
1	Adam Harrison	WWF Int		
2	Anders Lindhe	HCV RN		
3	Anne Rosenbarger	WRI		
4	Audrey Lee	OLAM		
5	Cahyo Nugroho	Fauna and Flora International		
6	Cecep Saepulloh	Remark Asia		
7	Darmawan Liswanto	Fauna and Flora International		
8	Dwi Muhtaman	Remark Asia		
9	Elizabeth Clarke	ZSL		
10	Gan Lian Tiong	Musim Mas		
11	Ginny Ng Siew Ling	WILMAR		
12	Glen Reynolds	SEARRP		
13	Harjinder Kler	HUTAN		
14	Henry Barlow	Independent		
15	Jennifer Lucey	SEARRP		
16	John Payne	BORA		
17	Lanash Thanda	SEPA		
18	Lee Swee Yin	SIME		
19	Marcus Colchester	FPP		
20	Melissa Yeoh	WWF MY		
21	Michael Brady	IFC		

Roundtable on Sustainable Palm Oil

#	Name	Organisation	Signature (CTF - 5 th)	Signature (BHCV WG - 6 th)
22	Norazam Abd Hameed	FGV		
23	Olivier Tichit	SIPEF		
24	Peter Heng	GAR		from 1430 
25	Richard Kan	GAR		
26	Simon Siburat	WILMAR		
27	Sophie Persey	REA		
28	Tang Men Kon	SIME		
29	MICHAL ZRUST	DALMEIDA		
30				
31				
32				
33				
34				
35				



HCV RESOURCE NETWORK

Simplified HCV procedures for smallholders – a unified approach

RSPO BHCV WG
Jakarta, February 2015
Anders Lindhe

www.hsconline.org



The challenge

Develop alternative HCV smallholder procedures that are:

- Simple
- Cost-effective
- Robust



Background

- Conservation International / Smallholder WG: Draft methodology 2013
- HCVRN /SHARP Draft Precautionary Practises methodology 2014
- Unified approach – designed to combine 'the best' of both approaches
- Risk-based approach – applicable outside high risk areas
- Group manager have key roles – competence and capacity!



Overview (1)

A. Group manager preparations:

- Identify supply landscape
- Verify that the simplified approach is applicable
- Identify potentially present focal species

B. Smallholder outreach:

- (Inform about certification)
- Introduce the HCV concept
- Identify / validate values with the smallholders:
 - a) Basic ecosystem services and resources (HCV 4-6)
 - b) Focal species (HCV 1,3)



Overview (2)

C. Verification and monitoring:

Means:

- Smallholder self-assessment on tick off list
- Verification of compliance by group managers
- (in certification) third party CB audits.

Risk analysis:

- Context and tenure
- Pressure on wildlife
- Presence of natural ecosystems

D. Adaptive management

- Evaluate results and adjust procedures



Overview (3)

E. Expansion / new plantings (RSPO 7.3)

Mandatory prior site inspection by group manager:

- a) Old pasture, fields, plantations, degraded grassland or bush, heavily degraded forest *may be cleared without further assessment*;
- b) Structurally complex natural forest and natural (traditionally managed) savannah or grassland *may not be cleared unless verified to be non-HCV by an independent HCV assessor.*

➤ *SHARP: Guide to help group managers differentiate between degraded vegetation that may be cleared and more natural vegetation types that require prior, regular HCV assessment in line with HCVRN Common Guidance.*



Identify the 'supply landscape'

- Identify and describe the situation in terms of:
 - current smallholder suppliers
 - smallholders that may become future suppliers
- Profile smallholders' capacity, organisation, previous relations to the mill/company etc.



Is it OK to use the approach?

1. Supply landscape part of or near Intact Forest Landscape?

<http://www.intactforests.org/data.ifl.html>

2. Supply landscape with or near area(s) > 1000 ha of structurally complex forest outside of protected area?

<http://www.globalforestwatch.org/>

Yes to any of these questions: Simplified approach not applicable! Regular HCV assessment necessary!

➤ *Suggestion for RSPO: develop mechanisms for supporting/subsidising regular HCV assessments for groups of independent smallholders in high risk landscapes.*

➤ *SHARP: Develop guidance on how to assess question 2.*



Identify potentially present focal species

- Identify subset of possibly present Rare, Threatened and Endangered species from IUCN red-lists and lists of nationally protected species.
- Identify the most likely threats to these species, and potential measures to minimise or mitigate these threats.

➢ *Suggestion for RSPO: Develop and make available national / regional lists of focal species, with pictures, potential threats and suggested mitigation measures for key oil palm growing regions.*



1. Introduce HCVs:

- Rare and vulnerable animals (and/or plants) and their habitats (HCV1,3);
- Clean water, maintaining top soil and protection against landslides (HCV4);
- Food and other resources from forests and other natural ecosystems (HCV5); and
- Sites and resources of cultural or religious significance (HCV6).



2. Discuss values and precautionary practises (1)

Basic ecosystem services and resources (HCV 4-6):

- ✓ River water important for drinking/washing/fishing?
- ✓ Un-drained wetlands or peat areas?
- ✓ Steep slope(s)?
- ✓ Resources from natural ecosystems important for farmers' livelihoods?
- ✓ Sites or resources of cultural or spiritual importance?

Precautionary practises (HCV 4-6):

- No use of pesticides or fertilisers near (<20m?) rivers and ponds
- No dumping of waste or sewage into rivers or ponds.
- Maintain vegetation (no bare soil) close to rivers and ponds.
- No draining of natural wetlands or peat areas.
- No clearing of steep slopes.
- Respect others' traditional use / access rights.



2. Discuss values and precautionary practises (2)

Potentially present focal species (HCV 1 and 3):

- ✓ Which pre-identified focal species are present?
- ✓ How rare/common are they? When and where were they last seen?
- ✓ Are there other species that should be on the list?
- ✓ Why protect them?
- ✓ What are the main threats? How minimise or mitigate these threats?

Precautionary practises(HCV 1 and 3):

- No hunting, killing or collecting of focal species.
- No trapping or poisoning that may affect focal species.
- No blocking of access or mobility of wild animals (beyond cattle fencing).
- Adopt agreed human-wildlife conflict resolution measures
- No clearing for new plantings without prior agreement of group manager.
- Others...?



3. Agree on applicable Precautionary Practises

- Revisit and consolidate list of relevant PPs. Summarise and ensure that smallholder suppliers know what to do, and why.

➤ *SHARP: Develop guidance for Group managers on how to conduct meetings/workshops with smallholder suppliers*



Means of verification and validation

- Evaluate compliance with precautionary practises through a combination of:
 - a) smallholder self-assessment on tick off list;
 - b) surveillance by group managers to a sample of farms, frequency based on risk factors;
 - c) (in certification) third party CB audits.

➤ *SHARP: Develop guidance for group managers on how to survey smallholders' compliance with agreed precautionary practises.*



Risk assessment

1. Context:
 - ✓ Significant numbers of potential suppliers do not participate?
 - ✓ Options for smallholders to sell to other (non-certified) buyers?
 - ✓ Significant areas with unclear tenure suitable for expansion?
2. Pressure on wildlife:
 - ✓ Bush-meat significant part of the diet?
 - ✓ Focal species may cause human-wildlife conflicts?
 - ✓ Focal species of high black market value?
3. Natural ecosystems:
 - ✓ Landscape forest cover > 10 %?
 - ✓ Area(s) of natural forest > 100 ha?
 - ✓ Area(s) of native grassland, savannah or wetland / peat > 100 ha?
 - ✓ Near Protected Area?



Risk responses

- 1) Increase the frequency of surveillance;
 - 2) Document and monitor the supply from each smallholder
 - 3) (where relevant): adapt additional monitoring
 - 4) (where relevant): monitor changes in the supply landscape through Landscape Integrity Assessment (using e.g. Google earth)
- *SHARP: Develop guidance for group managers on how to survey smallholders' compliance with agreed precautionary practises.*
- *SHARP: Develop guidance for group managers on how to design surveillance and monitoring programmes related to bush meat and illegal hunting.*
- *Suggestion for RSPO: Support the development of and landscape-level risk maps for key oil palm regions (Daemeter)*



Forest Integrity Assessment Tool	
1. No, or almost no new human forest clearing	<input type="radio"/>
2. No, or almost no new human forest clearing	<input type="radio"/>
3. No, or almost no new unauthorized logging	<input type="radio"/>
4. No, or almost no new unauthorized logging	<input type="radio"/>
5. No, or almost no new settlements/basecamps	<input type="radio"/>
6. No, or almost no new settlements/basecamps	<input type="radio"/>
7. No, or almost no new motor vehicle roads or tracks	<input type="radio"/>
8. No, or almost no new motor vehicle roads or tracks	<input type="radio"/>
9. No, or almost no new clearing or ditching of forest or wetland	<input type="radio"/>
10. Most likely no, or almost no negative impact from new clearing or logging outside the unit	<input type="radio"/>
11. Most likely no, or almost no negative impact from new settlements outside the unit	<input type="radio"/>
12. Most likely no, or almost no negative impact from new roads or tracks outside the unit	<input type="radio"/>
13. Most likely no, or almost no negative impact from new infrastructure outside the unit	<input type="radio"/>
14. Most likely no, or almost no negative impact from other activities/change outside the unit	<input type="radio"/>
TOTAL SCORE	



STREAMS AND RIVERS	
1. At least some banks of streams or rivers covered by trees or bushes	<input type="radio"/>
2. Most banks of streams and rivers covered by trees or bushes	<input type="radio"/>
3. All, or almost all banks of streams and rivers covered by trees or bushes	<input type="radio"/>
4. At least some banks of streams or rivers covered by high/decid forest	<input type="radio"/>
5. Most banks of streams and rivers covered by high/decid forest	<input type="radio"/>
6. All, or almost all banks of streams and rivers covered by high/decid forest	<input type="radio"/>
STEEP SLOPES	
7. At least some steep slope (>1.3m) covered by trees/bushes	<input type="radio"/>
8. Most steep slope covered by trees/bushes	<input type="radio"/>
9. All, or almost all steep slope covered by trees/bushes	<input type="radio"/>
10. At least some steep slope covered by high/decid forest	<input type="radio"/>
11. Most steep slope covered by high/decid forest	<input type="radio"/>
12. All, or almost all steep slope covered by high/decid forest	<input type="radio"/>



IMPACTS	
13. No, or almost no new human forest clearing	<input type="radio"/>
14. No new human forest clearing	<input type="radio"/>
15. No, or almost no new unauthorized logging	<input type="radio"/>
16. No new unauthorized logging	<input type="radio"/>
17. No, or almost no new settlements/basecamps	<input type="radio"/>
18. No new settlements/basecamps	<input type="radio"/>
19. No, or almost no new motor vehicle roads or tracks	<input type="radio"/>
20. No new motor vehicle roads or tracks	<input type="radio"/>
21. No new clearing or ditching of forest or wetland	<input type="radio"/>
THREATS	
22. Most likely no, or almost no negative impact from new clearing or logging outside the unit	<input type="radio"/>
23. Most likely no, or almost no negative impact from new settlements outside the unit	<input type="radio"/>
24. Most likely no, or almost no negative impact from new roads or tracks outside the unit	<input type="radio"/>
25. Most likely no, or almost no negative impact from new infrastructure outside the unit	<input type="radio"/>
26. Most likely no, or almost no negative impact from other activities/change outside the unit	<input type="radio"/>
TOTAL SCORE	



Adaptive management

- Document results of surveillance and monitoring
- Evaluate results to detect non-compliance and negative impacts
- Take measures to address problems identified

> SHARP: Develop guidance on adaptive management for Group Managers.



New plantings - RSPO 7.3

- All clearing for new plantings require prior site assessment by the group manager:
 - a) Old pasture, fields, plantations, deforested and degraded grassland or bush, forest heavily degraded by logging and/or fire may be cleared without further assessment;
 - b) Structurally complex forest, natural / traditionally managed savannah or grassland may not be cleared unless verified to be non-HCV (or primary forest) by an independent HCV assessor.
 - (Wetlands and peat areas addressed by generic PP).
- *SHARP: Guide to help group managers differentiate between degraded vegetation that may be cleared and more natural vegetation types that require prior, regular HCV assessment in line with HCVRN Common Guidance.*



Next steps

- Wider field testing requires 'interim' RSPO endorsement
- Subgroup of BHCV WG to monitor?
- Interaction with Smallholder WG
- Opportunity for RSPO to support development of certain components
- SHARP to develop most necessary materials/guidelines



Suggested RSPO support - summary

- 1. Develop and make available national / regional lists of focal species, with pictures, potential threats and suggested mitigation measures for key oil palm growing regions.
- 2. Support the development of and landscape-level risk maps for key oil palm regions
- 3. Develop mechanisms for supporting/subsidising regular HCV assessments for groups of independent smallholders in high risk landscapes.



Thanks!

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www.hcvnetwork.org





HCV Assessor Licensing Scheme

Update – BHCV Working Group, RSPO
February 2015
Anders Lindhe
anders@hcvnetwork.org
www.hcvnetwork.org



What is the HCV Assessor Licensing Scheme?

A scheme to license lead HCV assessors to conduct high-quality HCV assessments in any region, for any commodity



Update – January 2015 (1)

- The ALS launched in **October 2014**
- **RSPO** now requires licensed assessors **New Planting Procedures (NPP)**
- RSPO sponsored **50% discount codes** to applicants that were previously registered as HCV assessors with RSPO, who applied before the 31st of December 2014. A total of 34 discounts were given.



Update – January 2015 (2)

- 7 organisations have registered as **HCV Assessor Training Course** providers.
- The **ALS Quality Manager** provides ongoing support to prospective applicants.
- **17 peer reviewers** have been approved and more are being recruited.
- We're working on making all ALS materials and website pages also available in **BrBahasa Indonesia and French**. Spanish and Portuguese versions are next in line.



Update – January 2015 (3)

Totals to date	Nov	Dec	Jan
Online accounts	52	96	125
Applications received	6	48	58
Rejected applicants (do not meet requirements)	0	1	6
Applications pending	0	16	3
Provisional licences	6	23	49
Full licences	0	0	0



Next Steps

- Translations!
- Registration service for discipline specialists/team members
- Starting February, monthly webinars held with the Quality Manager to answer questions and get feedback from users.
- Info / feedback sessions in Asia and Latin America
- Capacity building in Latin America

HCV RESOURCE NETWORK

Thank you!

Any questions should be addressed to:
secretariat@hcvnetwork.org

www.hcvnetwork.org

ANNEX 4

PROBLEM STATEMENT AND/OR OBJECTIVE	DESIRED OUTPUT	STATUS FEB 2015
<i><u>Theme 1: HCV Assessment, audit and management</u></i>		
1.1. Scientific data on the effectiveness of the HCV approach in conversion landscapes is lacking.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Synthesis of current knowledge gaps - HCV Assessment, Management and Monitoring guidelines developed from a long-term science-focused programme of study 	- SEnSOR project
1.2. Current HCV Assessment guidelines may not be appropriate in the context of smallholders.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Simplified assessment for non-affiliated smallholders. 	- Under development by HCVRN/SHARP. Draft for field testing endorsed by BHCV WG
1.3. HCV management plans may not be correctly linked to HCV assessments leading to losses of HCV over time.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A report using a sample of HCV assessments and management plans to review common issues leading to HCV loss in the context of the oil palm industry. 	- Contingent on an output from 1.6 A.
1.4. Improved guidance for the identification of social HCVs and other social values which take into account wider social concerns.	<p>Guidance documents:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Guidance for HCV National Interpretations on the inclusion of country-specific land tenure issues. - Guidelines for assessors on how to capture the dynamics of future change in social values (e.g. economic and social development) within HCV assessments in order to provide growers with recommendations for adaptive management 	- Seems like two good project candidates for tender

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	that emphasizes FPIC and community participation.	
1.5. HCV Assessments correctly capture ecosystem services and make adequate recommendations for their management.	- Guidelines and tools for assessors on the identification of ecosystem services (e.g. water catchment areas) and for the development of robust management recommendations for their protection.	- Riparian guidelines underway (Holly Barclay). Also, more generically, addressed by HCVRN Common Guidance on HCVs (part of Manual for Licensed Assessors)
1.6. Lack of information available to assessors on already identified HCV areas (within oil palm operations of RSPO members) to plan management at the landscape level	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A) Database of HCV areas within RSPO member palm oil operations held by the RSPO Secretariat and made available to HCV assessors during assessments. - B) Robust land-use planning tool. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A) Should be implemented under the auspice of the Secretariat rather as a for tender project - B) Seems not well enough defined to formulate as project. In reality this issue may (at least partly, and over time) be addressed by planned technical discussions on how to integrate HCV and HCS assessments
1.7. Provision of an information-sharing platform for oil palm stakeholders.	- ZSL to make information submission email available.	- ZSL Sustainable Palm Oil Platform (SPOP) already operational and free to use.

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1.8. Lack of information on HCV distribution in “frontier areas”.	- Mapping of high-risk and HCV areas in new frontiers.	- Risk mapping as being developed by WRI may partly address this.
1.9. Precautionary approach is unclear and inconsistently implemented.	- Workshop on innovative HCV assessment techniques unifying qualitative and quantitative approaches.	- We may want to let the ALS work for some time before we get back to this issue – the manual includes guidelines on the precautionary approach and once we see what works and not we can frame more precise questions. Maybe a workshop on ALS lessons learned in say 6 months’ time could be a first step?
1.10. Gaps within the HCV and HCS approaches.	- Analysis of overlaps and gaps between both HCV and HCS approaches with recommendations to harmonize/combine the approaches to avoid gaps.	- Greenpeace and Proforest to hold two technical workshops in 2015. There is also a link to the Sustainable Palm Oil Manifesto. Probably no immediate, independent role for the BHCV WG here

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<p>1.11. Uncertainty of the functionality of the HCV concept, as used by the oil palm industry, in highly forested areas with specific focus on HCV 2.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Conceptual note on the issues (e.g. how do we interpret HCV2 in forest areas and in relation to land use change? Is it possible for the RSPO to undertake the desktop part of HCV assessments, working with governments, on behalf of members?) - Review of current national land use planning processes in the context of safeguarding HCV2. - Potential map provision or collection. - National or regional workshops on Land Use Planning and HCV. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - This issue seems to be more about policy and interpretations of HCV2 – to what extent is oil palm expansion compatible with maintaining HCV 2 in different contexts, and if some expansion can take place, what kind and under what circumstances? Probably not a good for tender project – also an issue that relates to the HCV – HCS interface.
<p><i>Theme 2: HCV in Africa</i></p>		
<p>2.1. Lack of capacity and knowledge around HCV and other environmental issues in Africa</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Gap analysis of issues surrounding HCVs in Africa - A strategy to increase the number and skill of HCV assessors in Africa. This could: utilise a collaboration with a practitioners network; implement a training exchange; and develop a context specific training programme. - Improved guidance for assessors focusing on contextualized issues. - Roadshow aimed at increasing capacity and awareness (HCVRN Provides a syllabus) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Proforest “Practitioners Network”, a regional platform for capacity building, includes a component focusing on HCV Assessor Training Courses, general HCV training courses, and real-life assessment field experiences. May need additional support - Assessor guidance may be needed but initially possibly even more important to translate existing materials (HCVRN Common Guidance etc) into French

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - National Interpretations of the HCV framework with careful consideration of social issues. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Roadshow with general HCV and HCV ALS info sessions could be piggybacked on West/Central Africa palm oil event to save resources - Potential for RSPO to reach out to FSC to discuss interpretations of HCVs in the Congo basin? - ?
2.2 Low awareness of non-RSPO members currently operating in African countries.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A mapping study of the scale and location of potential expansion areas in Africa. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Should include specific actors as far as possible to allow targeted information about RSPO
<u>Theme 3: Implementation of HCV and other management and monitoring</u>		
3.1 Analysis of HCV management options under numerous different scenarios.	<p>A guidance document for HCV management options bringing together case studies and examples with country-specific practices. This should include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Identification of land tenure options for community, company and government management of HCVs (including a focus on displacement) and the resources required. Assurance of compliance with C5.2 if community assumes management control. - Definition of the management model: how to define the context, allocate 	Can be framed as a set of related projects

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responsibilities, how and who should develop management plans, collaboration opportunities etc. What options are available for joint, singular etc. management models?

- Process for deciding management models (e.g. a flowchart)
- Management options and responsibilities in cases where degradation is taking place (especially pertinent in areas where HCV assessments had not been well conducted in the past).
- Coexistence of social and environmental HCV (and wider livelihoods) coexistence and management. This shall include:
 - o Review of current HCV management issues, gaps, successes and failings
 - o Community and company negotiation surrounding HCV set asides (FPIC for set asides)
 - o Conflict resolution (e.g. human-wildlife conflict)
 - o Management of human activities in set asides

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3.2 HCV Monitoring and adaptive management improved	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Analysis of how growers can manage complex data sets emerging from HCV and plantation monitoring. - Recommendations on how the adaptive management approach should be implemented. - Training of auditors to increase capacity for analyzing monitoring results. - Standardisation of monitoring indicators for RSPO reporting. - Development of habitat structure proxies for monitoring of biodiversity values. - Smallholder environmental monitoring systems developed - Social, cultural and economic value monitoring systems developed. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Can be framed as a set of related projects
<u>Theme 4: Plantation management</u>		
4.1 Uncertainty as to the missing knowledge and/or guidance still required by growers towards Best Management Practices	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Gap analysis of plantation management information requirements and current available and missing guidance. This should include analysis of ideal information delivery vehicles. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -

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4.2 Lack of guidance on remediation and management	Guidance development on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Fragile and marginal soils - Management of steep slopes - Riparian area management and monitoring guidelines (with auditor checklist for monitoring compliance. Including a study on causes of non-compliance) - Integrated Pest Management - Water management plans (with templates and guidelines for auditors) - Social remediation and other social issues - Identification of current knowledge and implementation of Best Management Practices (i.e. what do we already know that can be synthesized into guidance and replicated by others?) 	
4.3 Standard Operating Procedures not uniform or correctly implemented	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Development of a best-practice template for SOPs with guidance on successful implementation. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - We probably need to verify that growers are really interested in such an outcome and willing to engage and participate before we initiate such a project
4.4 Provision of an information-sharing platform for oil palm stakeholders.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Use existing platforms such as the ZSL Sustainable Palm Oil Platform (SPOP) and HCVRN. - Create a Knowledge Centre/College within the RSPO. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Use existing platforms. - Don't we need to define better the content and target groups(s) for knowledge Centre before inviting projects(?)

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4.5 Not all members currently comply with Criterion 8.1 – Continuous improvement.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Review of current approaches by companies to comply with this Criterion. - A thought piece/review of emerging technologies which can be utilised by RSPO members to address social and environmental issues, for example: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Use of drones o Social media o Smart phones o On-line training - Develop a strategy for wider uptake of new technology. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Seems clear enough to frame a project - Probably needs more detailed framing to be maximum useful

Potential projects	Priority
1. Guidance for HCV National Interpretations on the inclusion of country-specific land tenure issues.	
2. Guidance for Assessors on how to capture the dynamics of future change in social values (e.g. economic and social development) within HCV assessments in order to provide growers with recommendations for adaptive management that emphasizes FPIC and community participation.	
3. Gap analysis of plantation management information requirements and current available and missing guidance, including what we already know that can be synthesized into guidance and replicated by others? Should include analysis of how to effectively disseminate information.	
<p>4. Guidance for Managers on Best Practises for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fragile and marginal soils • Management of steep slopes • Integrated Pest Management • Water management plans (with templates and guidelines for auditors) • Social remediation and other social issues. 	
<p>5. Guidance for Managers on community/company/government management, with case studies and country-specific practices, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identification of land tenure options for community, company and government management of HCVs (including a focus on displacement) and the resources required. Assurance of compliance with C5.2 if community assumes management control. • Definition of the management model: how to define the context, allocate responsibilities, develop management plans, collaboration, opportunities etc. What options are available for joint, singular etc. management models? • Process for deciding management models (e.g. a flowchart). 	
<p>6. Guidance for Managers on social and environmental HCV (and wider livelihoods) coexistence and management, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review of current HCV management issues, gaps, successes and failings • Community and company negotiation surrounding HCV set asides (FPIC for set asides) • Conflict resolution (e.g. human-wildlife conflict) • Management of human activities in set asides • Options and responsibilities in cases where degradation is taking place (especially pertinent in areas where HCV assessments were not been well conducted in the past). 	

Potential projects	Priority
7. Guidance for Managers on managing and resolving human-wildlife conflicts.	
8. Guidance for Managers on evaluating (complex) monitoring data and how to implement adaptive management.	
9. Guidance for Smallholders on environmental monitoring, including habitat structure proxies for monitoring of biodiversity values.	
10. Develop systems for Managers' monitoring of social, cultural and economic values.	
11. Develop a standardized set of monitoring indicators for RSPO reporting.	
12. Training of auditors to increase capacity for analysing monitoring results.	
13. Review: the scale and location of potential oil palm expansion in Africa.	
14. Review: How do companies comply with RSPO's criterion on continuous improvement.	

Activity for the Secretariat:

Develop database of HCV areas within RSPO member palm oil operations held by the RSPO Secretariat and made available to HCV assessors during assessments.

RSPO Manual on the Management of Riparian Reserves in Oil Palm Plantations: Extra tasks for completion of the project, as discussed during the BHCV WG meeting, September 2014

1. Checklist for auditors – 6 days

It shouldn't take very long to draft a checklist for auditors but to make this a useful exercise I would ideally like to speak to a couple of auditors, show them the draft guidance and checklist and edit the list based on their comments – this will take more time obviously – maybe 2 days to produce an initial checklist, 2 days to discuss this with 2-3 auditors (based in KL or over Skype if we want to broaden this to other countries as well?) then 2 days to edit the checklist and perhaps write some accompanying instructions?

At the BHCV WG meeting in September someone raised the idea of conducting training for auditors in how to check riparian reserve status/management practices properly. I'm not quite sure how this would work in practice – perhaps this is something to discuss with the HCV Network who (I think?) are in the process of renewing their auditor licences and maybe I could join onto one of those sessions?

In conclusion: I am happy to put together a checklist for auditors, get it tested by a couple of “end-users” and redraft based on their feedback (and feedback from members of the BHCV WG who are interested).

Expanding this to include a training session for auditors would probably be a useful exercise but we'd need to find a group of auditors who would be willing to take time to do this – does anyone have any ideas about how to arrange this?

2. Field guides – 2 days

Due to the length of the riparian manual several people have suggested that it would be useful to produce a couple of 2-4 page field guides to highlight the key information for estate managers and which can be referred to in the field without carrying a large report around.

The most realistic plan seems (to me) to produce two guides detailing best management practices for: 1. Establishing riparian reserves (size guidelines, measuring rivers, demarcating boundaries etc.); 2. Riparian restoration. An optional 3rd field guide could outline how to monitor riparian reserves (this would have to be very basic monitoring because the choice of what and how to monitor depends on local circumstances but perhaps we could highlight the relevant steps from ZSL's threat monitoring guidelines and show how to apply these to riparian reserves?).

My plan is to simply copy the key sections from the current manual (and possibly turn some of the writing into figures for easier reference).

3. Executive summary – 2 days?

I'm happy to produce a summary document based on the manual but would appreciate some guidance from working group members about approximately how long this should be. I'm aware that the current document is off-putting to some managers due to its length so what would be an appropriate summary document length – maybe 10-15 pages?

4. Webpage for uploading guidance documents and useful region-specific documents and case studies – 2 days (with support from RSPO web management team)

Depending on interest from the working group I think it would be useful to have a webpage (on the RSPO site or possibly elsewhere e.g. ZSL Sustainable Palm Oil site?) where all the riparian documents are available for download and also some of the region-specific documents (e.g. Malaysian NRE guidelines) which I've referred to in the manual.

I am happy to draft the key information that I think would need to go on this page but I would need someone else to help with the technical aspects.

Expected completion date: **13th March 2015** (may need longer for the auditor's checklist depending on who is available and willing to provide feedback on my initial draft).