

Particulars

Organisation Name	Sumatran Orangutan Society (SOS)
Corporate Website Address	http://www.orangutans-sos.org
Primary Activity or Product	Environmental NGO
Related Company(ies)	None
Country Operations	Indonesia, United Kingdom
Membership Number	6-0013-09-000-00
Membership Type	Ordinary Members
Membership Category	Environmental and Conservation NGOs
Primary Contacts	Helen Buckland Address: The Old Music Hall, 106-108 Cowley Road Oxford United Kingdom OX4 1JE
Person Reporting	Helen Buckland

Related Information

Other information on palm oil:

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Reporting Period	01 July 2012 - 30 June 2013
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Environmental and Conservation NGOs

Operational Profile

1. What are the main activities of your organisation?

Sumatran orangutans are critically endangered and without urgent action could be the first Great Ape species to become extinct. SOS is dedicated to turning this situation around. We do this by:

Raising awareness about the importance of protecting orangutans and their rainforest home.

Supporting grassroots projects which empower local people to become guardians of the rainforests

Restoring damaged orangutan habitat through tree planting programmes.

Campaigning on issues threatening the survival of orangutans in the wild.

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

No

3. Activities undertaken to promote sustainable palm oil, the RSPO and/or members in the reporting period

SOS has worked with partners in Sumatra, Indonesia to provide training for plantation workers and agricultural communities on best management practises for dealing with human wildlife conflict, enabling farmers to protect their crops without harming wildlife. We have evacuated orangutans at risk in plantation areas, including those owned and managed by RSPO members. We have submitted a robust complaint against an RSPO member, in an effort to support the increased integrity and credibility of the RSPO - this case however remains unresolved. Ensuring that standards are upheld on the ground is a crucial role for NGO members of the RSPO.

4. Did members of your staff participate in RSPO working groups/taskforces in the reporting period?

No

If yes, please explain how:

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5. Do you have any collaborations with the industry players/private sector to support them in the market transformation towards CSPO?

Yes

If yes, please explain how:

We led the Clear Labels, Not Forests campaign, which contributed to the passing of new legislation in the EU on labelling regulations. From the end of 2014, all packaged food products must list the specific vegetable oil/s used on the ingredients list. This will support the market transformation towards CSPO.

6. What percentage of your organization's overall activities focus on palm oil?

50

7. How is your work on palm oil funded?

Public donations and grant-giving bodies.

Time-Bound Plan

8. Date started or expect to start participating in RSPO working groups/taskforces

2015

9. Date expected to undertake and publicise programmes to support RSPO, RSPO certification and/or good standing RSPO members

2014

10. What are your interim milestones towards achieving your commitments to promote sustainable palm oil?

We intend to submit resolutions at each GA which, if passed, would increase the credibility of the RSPO.

11. Which countries that your institution operates in do the above commitments cover?

United Kingdom

Actions for Next Reporting Period

12. Outline actions that will be taken in the coming year to promote sustainable palm oil

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Reasons for Non-Disclosure of Information

13. If you have not disclosed any of the above information please indicate the reasons why

Other

- Other reason:

We have not outlined actions that will be taken in the coming year to promote sustainable palm oil as we are currently awaiting the outcome of a complaint case. Our ability to promote or endorse the RSPO will very much depend on the outcome of this case.

Application of Principles & Criteria for all members sectors

14. Do you have organisational policies that are in line with the RSPO P&C

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Energy and carbon footprints policy

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Ethical conduct policy

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Labour rights policy

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Stakeholder engagement policy

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14.1. If none of the above, please specify if/when you intend to develop one

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15. What steps will your organization take to realize ethical conduct in business-applicable regulations and industry practices?

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16. Has your company supported any community programmes, related to palm oil, on its own or through partnerships? How do you benchmark the impacts of these programmes?

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17. What best practice guidelines or information has your organization provided to facilitate production and consumption of sustainable palm oil? What languages are these guidelines available in?

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18. Has your organization partnered with any RSPO members in the implementation of or benchmarking against the Principles and Criteria?

No

Challenges

1. Significant economic, social or environmental obstacles

An RSPO member company was found to be actively clearing HCV, and despite the acknowledged presence of a population of orangutans on their land, continued clearance. The RSPO's complaints procedure has, to date, been inadequate to deal with this grave violation.

2. How would you qualify RSPO standards as compared to other parallel standards?

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Cost Effective:

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Robust:

No

Simpler to Comply to:

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3. How has your organization supported the vision of RSPO to transform markets?

Political lobbying, engagement with key stakeholders
