

## Particulars

### About Your Organisation

**Organisation Name**

San Diego Zoo Global

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**Corporate Website Address**

<http://www.sandiegozooglobal.org>

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**Primary Activity or Product**

- Environmental NGO
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**Related Company(ies)**

No

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### Membership

| Membership Number | Membership Category | Membership Sector   |
|-------------------|---------------------|---|
| 6-0024-13-000-00  | Ordinary            | Environmental or Nature Conservation Organisations (Non Governmental Organisations) |

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**Environmental and Conservation NGOs****Operational Profile****1.1 What are the main activities of your organization ?**

San Diego Zoo Global (SDZG) is committed to saving species worldwide by uniting our expertise in animal care and conservation science with our dedication to inspiring passion for nature. We will lead the fight against extinction. San Diego Zoo Global is the largest zoological membership association in the world, with more than 250,000 member households and 130,000 child memberships representing more than a half-million people. Our San Diego Zoo Institute for Conservation Research is one of the largest zoo-based research centers in the world. Founded in 1975, it is dedicated to preserving and protecting rare and endangered wildlife and habitats. Staff develop, gather, and increase knowledge vital for the establishment of self-sustaining populations of wildlife.

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

Yes

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

Our activities are listed below, conducted to fulfill the noted objectives: 1. We continue employee awareness initiatives to further develop an internal understanding of the importance of increasing CSPO uptake in North America: a) RSPO member products are promoted to educate staff about sustainably-minded palm oil purchases b) SDZG sent a representative to the annual Association of Zoos and Aquariums (AZA) 2015 conference in September to attend the Palm Oil Advisory Committee meeting and discuss sustainable palm oil with representatives from zoos and aquariums c) Several presentations to staff and docents were made regarding current issues within the palm oil industry and highlight the progress of the RSPO in addressing those issues d) We continue to provide written material to our staff in regards to the RSPO 2. We continue to expand our public outreach efforts: a) We display our RSPO membership on graphics located on facility grounds. b) We provide a link to the RSPO website c) We have pocket size cards which display the RSPO logo d) Our docents supply information to our public guests about palm oil and the work done by the RSPO e) We target our public "animal encounter venues" and discuss palm oil conservation to connect the public with conservation issues relating to the animals they interact with on their visits. We explain how sustainable palm oil plays a major role in conservation of habitats f) A discussion group with our docents/volunteers was held with an opportunity for questions and answers to better educate those members who interact with zoo guests 3. A member of our staff is seated as an alternate member of the RSPO's Complaints Panel 4. We continue to build relationships with other North American zoos and the AZA to promote general knowledge of sustainable palm oil and drive the uptake of CSPO: a) SDZG is an active participant in the AZA Palm Oil Advisory Committee which allows us to discuss sustainable palm oil initiatives with representatives from zoos and aquariums nationwide b) SDZG actively makes recommendations to the AZA regarding the implementation of sustainable palm oil practices for member zoos and aquariums, promotes the position statement of the AZA on sustainable palm oil

**1. 4 Did members of your staff participate in RSPO working groups/taskforces in the reporting period?**

No

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

Yes

**Please explain how**

We work as part of the AZA Palm Oil Advisory Council to support efforts to promote sustainable palm oil. San Diego Zoo Global visited RSPO Member HUTAN in November 2015 and explored the issue of palm oil, its impact on local communities and wildlife, and the role smallholders play in Sabah, Malaysian Borneo.

**1.6 What percentage of your organizations overall activities focus on palm oil?**

10%

**1.7 How is your work on palm oil funded?**

Our work on palm oil is funded through the annual operating budgets of San Diego Zoo Global's Operations, Education, Conservation, and Marketing Departments.

**Time-Bound Plan**

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

2015

**Comment:**

SDZG has a representative currently serving as an alternate member of the Complaints Panel. SDZG has applied for membership to the Biodiversity and High Conservation Value Working Group in the past (2014), though our application was not accepted. We remain open to future opportunities to serve as a member of a working group for which our skills are well suited. However, we participate in a North American group focused on promoting the use of sustainable palm oil, via the Association of Zoos and Aquariums Palm Oil Advisory Council.

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

2013

**Comment:**

Implementation began in 2013, but we continue to expand efforts to further provide support to the RSPO and members in good standing.

**2.3 What are your interim milestones towards achieving your commitments to promote sustainable palm oil (the production/uptake of CSPO)?**

1. We continue to expand our public outreach efforts to include signage reflecting our RSPO membership at various exhibits at the San Diego Zoo and San Diego Zoo Safari Park 2. We continue to target our public "animal encounters" as venues to discuss the palm oil conservation crises and the role of the RSPO, to connect the public with conservation issues relating to animals they interact with on their visits 3. We continue to investigate ways to build relationships with other North American zoos and the AZA to promote general knowledge of sustainable palm oil and drive the uptake of CSPO

**2.4 Which countries that your institution operates in do the above commitments cover?**

- United States

**Actions for Next Reporting Period****3.1 Outline actions that will be taken in the coming year to promote sustainable palm oil(along the supply chain)**

With members of the Advisory Council, we are working to put together a session on sustainable palm oil and the role of the RSPO for the upcoming September 2016 AZA annual conference to be held in San Diego, California.

**Reasons for Non-Disclosure of Information****4.1 If you have not disclosed any of the above information please indicate the reasons why****GHG Emissions****5.1 Are you currently assessing the GHG emissions from your operations?**

No

**Please explain why**

We performed a GHG audit of San Diego Zoo operations in 2009. The independent audit was conducted by students of an environmental economic course from Point Loma Nazarene University. We ascertained areas in which we could improve our carbon footprint, and in the time since we have addressed many of the recommendations of the auditors, including: • Installation of smart thermostats • Replacement of CFL lighting by LEDs • Where possible, telecommuting has been implemented • Monitors and tvs have been replaced by flat panel, energy star appliances • Motion occupancy sensors installed where possible • As equipment motors are replaced, energy efficient variable frequency soft start drives are installed where possible • Solar panels have been installed at the SDZG Institute for Conservation Research • Our primary research facility, the Beckman Center, is LEED certified with a silver rating • Vehicle fleet improvements include the replacement of older vehicles with smart vehicles powered by electric power or with improved fuel efficiency • Employee van pool system accelerated to improve carbon footprint of employee transportation. Since the 2009 audit we have not yet repeated the process of evaluating our GHG emissions, though we continue to strive to improve our footprint.

**5.2 Do you publicly report the GHG emissions of your operations?**

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**5.2 Please upload related document**

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**5.2 Add a link to a website**

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**Application of Principles & Criteria for all members sectors**

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

- Energy and carbon footprints  
[EN-Policies-to-PNC-waterland.pdf](#)
- Ethical Conduct  
[EN-Policies-to-PNC-ethicalconduct.pdf](#)
- Labour rights  
[EN-Policies-to-PNC-laborrights.pdf](#)

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

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**6.2 If no to any of the above, what steps will your organization take to realize ethical conduct in business-applicable regulations and industry practices?**

N/A

**6.3 What best practice guidelines or information has your organization provided to facilitate production and consumption of CSPO? What languages are these guidelines available in?**

N/A

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

No

**Please explain why**

We are not a producer/manufacturer. However, we do support the efforts of the eNGO stakeholder group in identifying and addressing violations of the P&C

**Detail**

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**Website link**

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**Concession Map**

**7.1 This questions only applies for companies who would like to declare concession boundaries owned. (both RSPO Certified and uncertified)**

**Do you agree to share your concession maps with the RSPO?**

No

**Please explain why**

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## 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?

a) The lack of products in North America containing 100% CSPO, and thus marked with the RSPO palm tree logo, make it difficult to educate visitors to our facilities about quick and easy ways to promote the uptake of CSPO. Though recent updates to the RSPO website have been helpful, we continue to encourage the RSPO to include on their website a public-friendly (i.e., simplified) list of products of RSPO members in good standing that can be marketed to the public easily, so they can find products they can purchase to support the effort to increase CSPO uptake. SDZG would like to link to such a list in our exhibit signage and electronic communications. b) ENGOs in North America and across the globe have provided mixed messages to the public, making it difficult, but necessary, to clarify the best way to affect change with respect to the palm oil conservation crisis. Although this environment is slowly changing as North American zoos and NGOs begin to share the same message, we continue to encounter confusion and "pro-boycott" attitudes that will take some time to overcome.

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

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#### Cost Effective:

Yes

#### Robust:

Yes

#### Simpler to Comply to:

Yes

### 3 How has your organization supported the vision of RSPO to transform markets? (e.g. Funding; Engagement with key stakeholders; Business to business education/outreach)

Our primary efforts thus far have been aimed at informing our staff and volunteers about the RSPO and the role it plays in addressing the palm oil conservation crisis. In doing so, we have been building a reservoir of knowledge among our staff to be shared with the general public. As our outreach efforts grow and begin to reach the public, we anticipate that we can play a significant role in developing consumer attitudes about sustainable palm oil, and thus influence the uptake of CSPO in North America. Additionally, as a member of the AZA Palm Oil Advisory Council, SDZG participates in a nation-wide effort of like-minded zoological institutions to perpetuate a uniform message to be delivered to North American consumers and zoo-goers to have a more significant impact on market transformation efforts. We will continue to provide guidance to the AZA to contribute towards a positive change promoting CSPO uptake across the United States.

### 4 Other information on palm oil (sustainability reports, policies, other public information)

N/A