

**Particulars****About Your Organisation****Organisation Name**Solidaridad

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**Corporate Website Address**<http://www.solidaridadnetwork.org/>

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**Primary Activity or Product**

- Social NGO
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**Related Company(ies)**No

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**Membership**

Membership Number	Membership Category	Membership Sector
7-0007-08-000-00	Ordinary	Social or Development Organisations (Non Governmental Organisations)

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## Social and Developmental NGOs

### Operational Profile

#### 1.1 What are the main activities of your organization?

Solidaridad is a global network organization with nine regional offices on five continents that promotes sustainable development by transforming supply and value chains, focusing on 13 internationally traded commodities, among which palm oil. Main activities undertaken are: 1) Producer Development: design, fund and monitor producer support activities, implemented by Solidaridad or other local, often private sector, partners; 2) Policy Influencing: Lobby and advocate with governments to encourage public policies that support sustainable production, trade, sourcing and consumption of key commodities. Develop and support sustainability initiatives by private sector organizations, NGO's, multi-stakeholder platforms and roundtables such as RSPO, participate in their governance and push for smallholder, worker and community benefits in standards systems; 3) Corporate Engagement: Encourage companies in established and emerging markets to produce and/or source sustainably; 4) Communication: Raise awareness with sector and policy stakeholders, as well as media and the general public, on sustainability issues and solutions in commodity production systems and value chains.

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

No

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

1) Co-chair RSPO Smallholder Working Group, member of RSPO Smallholder Support Fund, member of the RSPO Complaints Panel, and member of the RSPO Standing Committee Trade & Traceability; 2) Support for the RSPO National Interpretation processes in Guatemala, Honduras, Ghana, Ivory Coast and Nigeria; 3) Management and implementation of the Sustainable West African Palm Oil Programme in Ghana, Nigeria and Ivory Coast; 3) Management of the Palm Oil Farmer Support Programme, with 17 partnership projects with RSPO members in 9 producing countries (Honduras, Guatemala, Colombia, Ecuador, Brazil, Ghana, Malaysia, Indonesia and Papua New Guinea), of which ten are co-funded by RSPO; 4) Market development activities for sustainable palm oil in Europe, USA, South-East Asia and China, including support for the development of the Sustainable Palm Oil Initiative and Indonesian Sustainable Palm Oil standard, and setting up of the Asian Sustainable Palm Oil Network and China Sustainable Palm Oil Working Group; 5) Direct support to companies such as Henkel, Johnson & Johnson, Procter & Gamble, BASF, Nestlé and Cargill in moving towards a fully sustainable palm oil supply chain.

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

Yes

##### Please explain how

1) Co-chair of the RSPO Smallholder Working Group; 2) Member of the RSPO Smallholder Support Fund Panel, Compensation Task Force, Standing Committee Trade & Traceability and Complaints Panel; 3) Participant in the P&C review meetings and National Interpretation processes in Latin America and Africa.

#### 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

During the reporting period we partnered with producer and primary processing companies ADM, Agropalma, Asian Agri (PT Inti Indosawit Subur), Cargill, Indupalma (and four other mill groups in Colombia as well as Fedepalma, the National Federation of Oil Palm Cultivators), Grepalma (and five mill and plantation groups in Guatemala), Hondupalma (and seven other mill groups in Honduras, as well as FENAPALMAH, the Federation of Palm Growers of Honduras), Natural Habitats Group (and Ancupa, the sector organization of the Ecuadorean palm oil industry), New Britain Palm Oil, PTPN III, Tian Siang Air Kuning and Twifo and Benso Oil Palm Plantations. Solidaridad worked with these companies towards RSPO certification of their estates and CPO mills as well as their (independent) smallholder supply bases.

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

0-10%

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

Brands that supported our work and/or were actively engaged in field- or value chain transformation projects include Chanel, BASF, Henkel and Johnson&Johnson. The Farmer Support Programme (FSP) is a Public-Private Partnership of which approximately 40% is funded by the Netherlands Government, 40% by value chain actors (including RSPO) and 20% by other NGOs and charitable foundations. The SWAPP programme in West Africa is funded through a food security grant provided by the Netherlands Embassy. The SHARP secretariat, hosted by ProForest, is funded by NORAD and private sector participants in SHARP. Solidaridad's core staff and communications activities are funded by contributions from individuals and the Dutch Post Code Lottery.

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**Time-Bound Plan****2.1 Date started or expect to start participating in RSPO working groups/taskforces**

2010

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

2009

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

2014 (achieved): - € 3.5 million of Farmer Support Programme (FSP) funding allocated to 17 projects working towards RSPO compliance in nine major palm producing countries; - 11,000 smallholders trained in good agricultural practices and 32,000 workers benefiting from standard compliance by producers (smallholders and estates) through FSP project partnership; - 255,000 ha. of palm oil production under sustainable management and 517,000 MT of CPO sustainably produced; - Revised P&C integrated in national interpretations / guidance in three countries in Latin America and three countries in Africa; 2015 (achieved): - Implementation RSPO Smallholder Support Fund (RSSF) projects started in Ghana and Nigeria; - Supported the development of a labour criteria auditing toolkit RSPO, together with Verité; - Launched the China Sustainable Palm Oil Working Group. June 2016; - Measurable improvements in yields and income of smallholders in FSP and RSPO smallholder pilot project regions (final results FSP available and publicized); - New round of producer support and policy influencing programmes approved and funded, including projects working towards RSPO compliance and certification, with a focus on smallholders; - Applications to the RSPO Smallholder Support Fund for Ivory Coast, Honduras, Guatemala and Colombia submitted. September 2016: - Implementation new batch of producer support and policy influencing programmes starts; - Application to the RSPO Smallholder Support Fund for Indonesia submitted.

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

- Brazil
- China
- Colombia
- Cote d'Ivoire
- Ecuador
- France
- Germany
- Ghana
- Guatemala
- Honduras
- India
- Indonesia
- Liberia
- Malaysia
- Mexico
- Netherlands
- Nicaragua
- Nigeria
- Papua New Guinea
- United Kingdom
- 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**

- Continued engagement in RSPO working groups and committees to make the RSPO a community of change that matters for smallholders, workers and local communities; - Engagement with relevant buyers and financiers of oil palm to source and invest in sustainable palm oil; - Continuation of innovative producer support programmes, with a focus on smallholders, to promote sustainable production of palm oil in producing countries; - Continue policy influencing work towards governments, private sector organizations and multi-stakeholder initiatives to promote policies that support sustainable and smallholder inclusive palm oil supply chains; - Present Solidaridad's work and our results at RSPO RT14 and other relevant events; - Communicate our achievements and partnerships to Dutch and global audiences in 2016.

**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**

To date we have not had the capacity on the ground to measure GHG emissions from our smallholder support programmes. However, we plan to do so in the near future (late 2016).

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

No

**Please explain why**

Lack of data.

**5.2 Please upload related document**

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**5.2 Add 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:**

- Ethical Conduct  
[SN-Policies-to-PNC-ethicalconduct.pdf](#)
- Stakeholder engagement  
[SN-Policies-to-PNC-stakeholderengagement.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?**

Although Solidaridad as an NGO is not per se subject to business regulations and industry practices, we develop partnerships with industry on a structural basis and have put measures in place to ensure ethical and professional conduct in such partnerships. To this end, we disseminate and adhere to our Code of Conduct and Rules of (private sector) Engagement, which are part of our ISO system.

**6.3 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?**

Good practice guides, educational posters and other materials have been produced and disseminated locally, e.g. in Indonesia, Malaysia and Ghana. Solidaridad is currently gathering the guidelines and information produced in its programme since 2009, most of which has been compiled by project partners. The materials have been shared with RSPO through the Smallholder Working Group Linking and Learning page. Solidaridad, in cooperation with Verité, has also supported the development of an RSPO labour criteria certification toolkit, which has been tested by Certifying Bodies and producer companies.

**6.4 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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**6.5 Has your organization partnered with any RSPO members in the implementation of or benchmarking against the Principles and Criteria?**

Yes

**Detail**

We have partnered with the following producer and primary processing companies: - ADM to support 268 of their independent smallholder suppliers and their 280 land laborers in benchmarking and monitoring their own performance against the RSPO P&C; - Agropalma to reduce the number of work accidents among 3,500 land labourers on their estate in Brazil through worker safety training; - Asian Agri / PT Inti Indosawit Subur to train and RSPO certify 6,600 plasma smallholders and implement Good Agricultural Practices (GAP) training for 436 independent smallholders working towards RSPO certification in Jambi, Indonesia; - Kerese Mills & Plantations to RSPO certify 54 smallholders in their supply base; - Cargill and independent CPO mill Tian Siang Air Kuning to RSPO certify 34 independent smallholders in their supply chain; - Indupalma, Aceites S.A., Palmaceite S.A., Hacienda la Cabaña S.A., Manuelita Aceites y Energía and Fedepalma, the National Federation of Oil palm Cultivators in Colombia to move these five companies and their independent smallholder suppliers towards RSPO certification; - NAISA, Palmas de Ixcán, NaturAceites, Santa Rosa, Las Palmas (Grupo MEME) and Grepalma, the National Palm Oil Industry Association of Guatemala to improve labour conditions, health and safety performance on their estates and in their mills through RSPO certification; - Aceydesa, AgroPalma, Coapalma, Corapsa, Cooperativa Salamá, Grupo Jaremar, Honducaribe, Hondupalma, Palcasa, Palmasa, as well as FENAPALMAH, the Federation of Palm Growers of Honduras, form the PASH (Sustainable Honduran Palm Oil Project) consortium, which is coordinating RSPO certification of all its member companies, impacting 7,500 farmers, workers and processors; - Natural Habitats Group and ANCUPA, the sector organization of the Ecuadorean palm oil industry to train 900 smallholders to become RSPO certified; - New Britain Palm Oil to develop innovative models for re-planting of smallholdings in Papua New Guinea; - PTPN III to improve the environmental and labour conditions in its mill and on its estate in accordance with RSPO requirements and organize and train 898 smallholders and their workers in its supply base to move them towards ISPO and RSPO certification; - Twifo and Benso Oil Palm Plantations (TOPP and BOPP) to train 1,500+ smallholders in their supply bases and supported BOPP to become the first RSPO certified oil palm mill in Ghana.

**Website link**

[www.solidaridadnetwork.org/supply-chains/palm-oil](http://www.solidaridadnetwork.org/supply-chains/palm-oil)

**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?

- Inclusion of independent smallholders is challenging and still limited, reflected in the low % of independent smallholder certification ( less than 1%); - High costs and lack of direct (perceived) incentives and benefits of RSPO certification for (independent) smallholders are a significant obstacle in certifying smallholders; - Smallholders find it difficult to meet the RSPO P&C due to practical limitations such as not being in possession of an official land title or having planted after 2005 and not being able to carry out a Land Use Cover Change Analysis; - Lack of auditing and systems development capacity in certain growing regions (Latin America, West and Central Africa); - Lack of guidance to audit compliance with social and labour criteria. Solidaridad is working to develop innovative models to bring greater speed and scale to the process of improving practices in palm oil production, specifically with regards to smallholders. We work to address the concrete obstacles smallholders face in achieving certification, including access to technical support, inputs and (financial) resources. Together with Verité we have supported the development of a toolkit on RSPO labour requirements and regulations for companies and certifying bodies to practically implement labour standards, and conducted awareness trainings with auditors and companies.

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

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#### Cost Effective:

No

#### Robust:

Yes

#### Simpler to Comply to:

No

### 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)

- We promote RSPO as a community of change in the palm oil sector by actively engaging in RSPO committees and working groups.  
- We design, fund and implement producer support programmes to assist especially small growers in the move towards sustainable palm oil production. - Solidaridad engages with actors and companies across the supply chain to promote sustainable palm oil production and procurement.

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

Please see Solidaridad's 2014 Annual Report (2015 Annual Report to become available in April 2016) and our palm oil website page for more information: <http://annualreport.solidaridadnetwork.org/2014/en/palm-oil> <http://www.solidaridadnetwork.org/supply-chains/palm-oil>