



Impact Update 2025





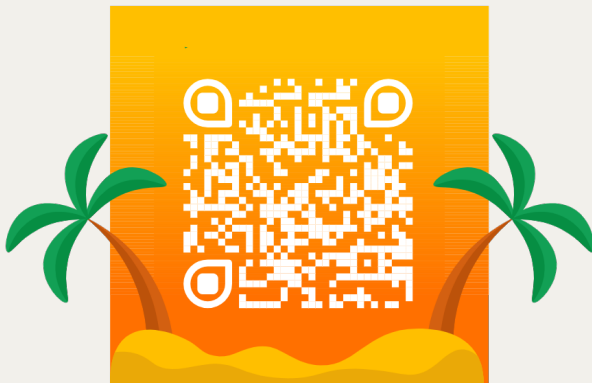
1.0 RSPO In Brief

About This Report

In 2024, we reflected on the last 20 years of the RSPO in our Impact Report 2024, celebrating the people, ideas, and partnerships that have driven meaningful change since our global partnership was officially formed in 2004.

Now, we're excited to share the Impact Update 2025, a data-focused compendium of what we've achieved over the past year, and the progress that continued from **1 January to 31 December 2024**. From livelihoods to landscapes, and markets to communities, this update captures the positive impacts we've made across **People, Planet, and Prosperity**.

We hope you explore this update alongside the full Impact Report 2024, available on our website or by scanning the QR code below.



Impact Report 2024

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Foreword from the CEO

Joseph D'Cruz



Guided by our unwavering commitment to continuous improvement, I am pleased to present the 2025 RSPO Impact Update. Reflecting the measurable impacts that we have achieved the past year, this report highlights the results of our shared efforts to build a more sustainable, resilient and inclusive palm oil sector.

The world has changed tremendously for over two decades, and so has the conversation around what sustainability means. But what has not changed are the values that we stand for: our enduring commitment to people, planet and prosperity. As we build the next chapter of the global partnership, particularly in this critical time of geopolitical and regulatory shifts, our collective vision and partnerships have never been more crucial.

Over the years, our mission-oriented platform has become a catalyst for change, delivering positive impacts across a range of social, environmental and economic indicators. As of 31 December 2024, we have conserved 425,597 hectares of priceless forest, an area 17 times the size of Kuala Lumpur, and a total of 5.1 million hectares of certified oil palm area globally across 24 countries, which expanded to São Tomé and Príncipe and Sri Lanka. Over 57,000 farmers in 14 countries have benefitted from the RSPO Smallholder Support Fund (RSSF), which has provided USD5.3 million in funding since 2013. A total of 356 Compensation Plans have been approved, remediating an area nearly twice the size of Singapore. Cumulative GHG emissions equal to 567,734 cars have been avoided since 2015 (an increase of 26,403 from 2023) – equivalent to the motor vehicle fleet of Botswana. And more than

640,000 workers around the world benefit from the working standards provided by the RSPO Principles and Criteria (P&C) Certification. Notably, we have also grown immensely, as our organisation counts more than 6,100 members across 105 countries and territories.

These barometers represent more than numbers. They tell the story of our ongoing journey and transformation. Our efforts continue with the adoption of the 2024 RSPO Standards, marking a new exciting chapter where our focus extends beyond technical compliance to embedding sustainability deeper into the fabric of global production and consumption. Alongside this, prisma by RSPO, our new global digital infrastructure, adds another driver of progress to the RSPO's future. More than just a certification, trade and traceability system, it provides the data and analytics that allow us to validate our commitments and also empower members to share the impactful stories that highlight why sustainable palm oil matters.

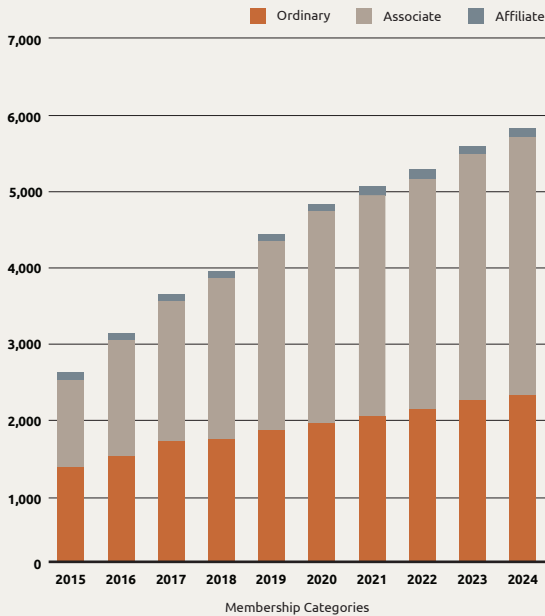
Though the world is very different today compared to the 20 years since RSPO was founded, the belief and dedication of our members and our shared values carry us through. Together, we safeguard our ecosystems and wildlife, nurturing the workers and farmers at the heart of our industry, and uplifting rural communities around the world. These values unite us to keep breaking frontiers and keep moving ahead towards our shared vision to sustainably transform the palm oil industry.

Let us continue this journey together.

RSPO Membership

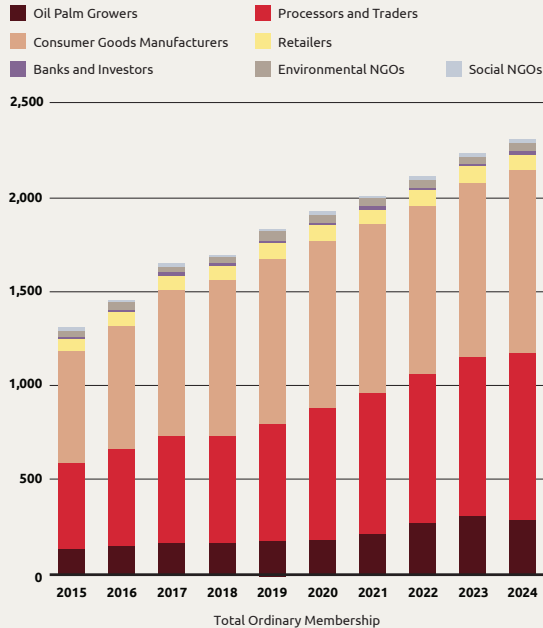
As of 31 December 2024, RSPO’s membership base reached 6,059 members across 105 countries, reflecting a 4.5% increase compared to the beginning of the reporting period. **Notable growth was observed in both the Ordinary (+72; 3.2%) and Supply Chain Associate (+176; 5.1%) Membership categories.** The growth within the Ordinary Membership category was primarily driven by an 8.4% increase in members from the Processor and/or Trader (P&T) and Consumer Goods Manufacturer (CGM) sectors.

Membership Categories



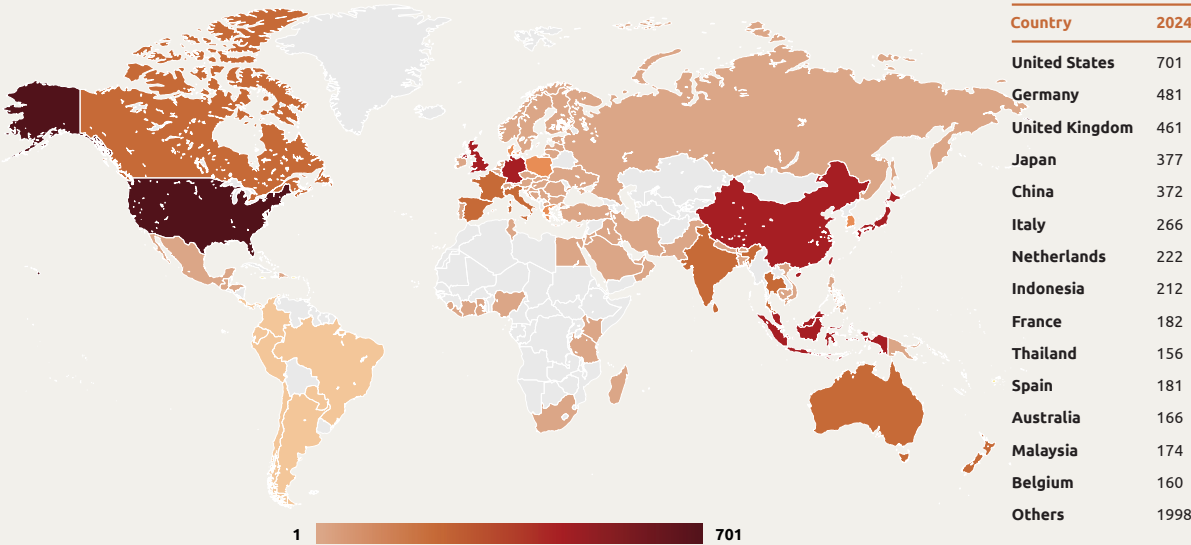
+86 members from China, representing 33% of the total net increase in RSPO membership.

Total RSPO Ordinary Membership



Membership expanded to three new countries: Iraq, Island of Jersey, and Sierra Leone.

RSPO Members across the world





2.0 Quick Recap: RSPO's Theory of Change

As shared in the last Impact Report (2024), RSPO has launched a revised Theory of Change (ToC) to guide our strategic direction in today's rapidly evolving sustainability landscape. This updated framework sets out how we aim to deliver meaningful impact through collective action, in line with our new vision and mission as a global partnership to make palm oil sustainable.

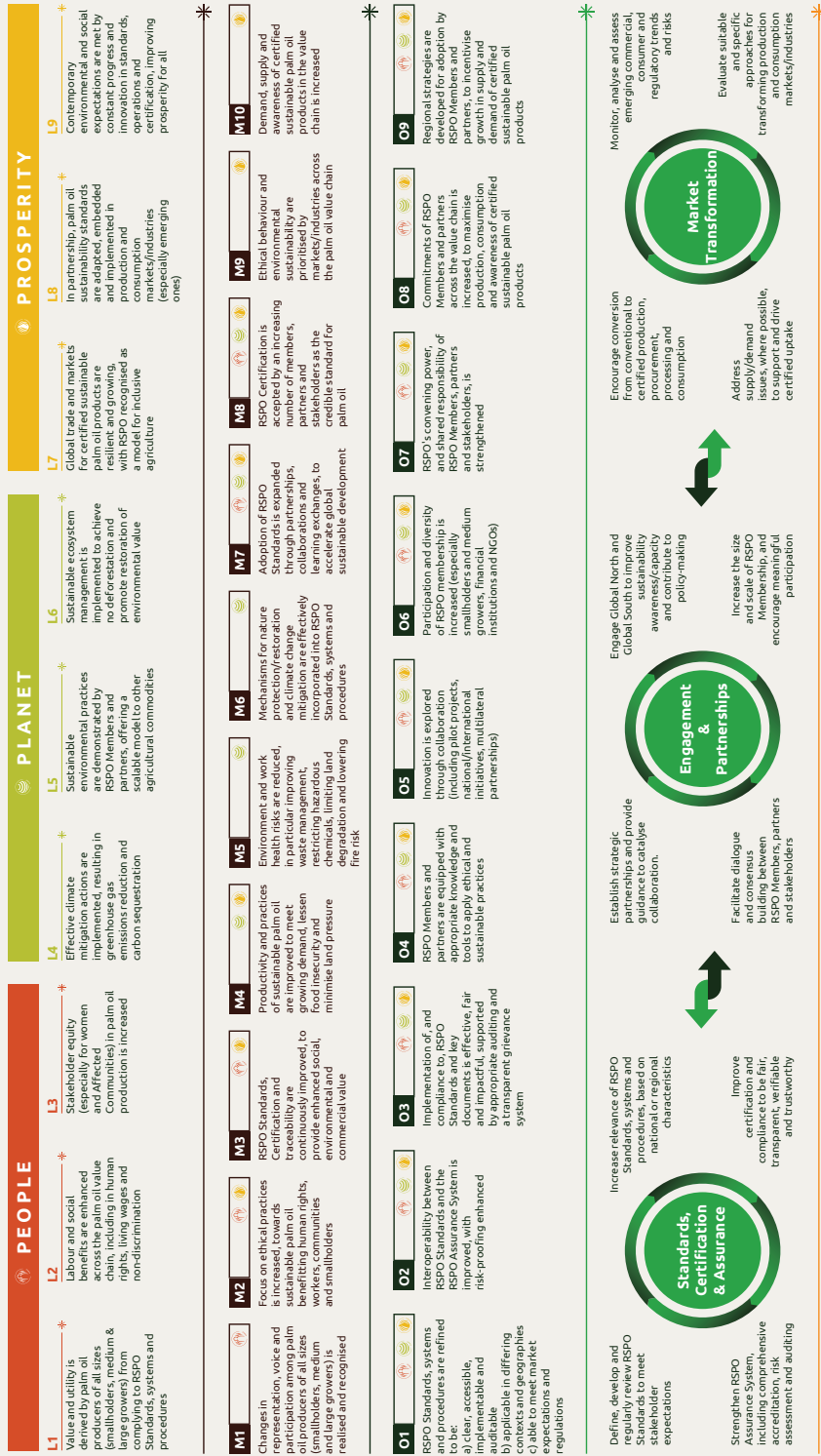
The revised ToC outlines clearer pathways to change, introduces new tools for engagement and learning, and is supported by a robust, performance-based Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) system. It also marks a shift away from linear models, embracing the complex and interconnected nature of sustainability challenges.

Currently in the implementation phase, we are actively socialising the revised ToC across RSPO teams and stakeholders, and beginning to track performance against new KPIs to ensure transparency, accountability, and long-term impact.

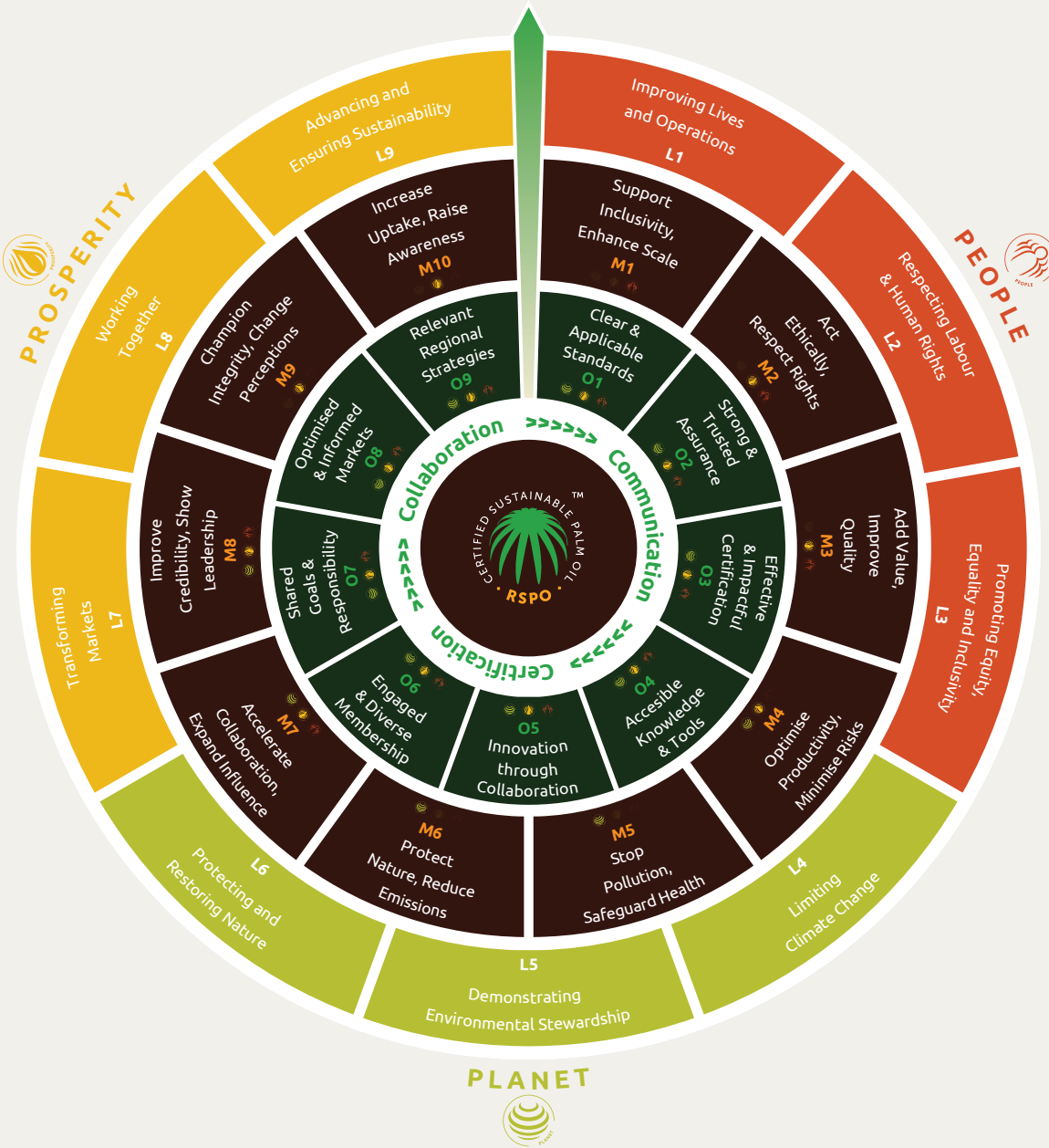
A global partnership to make palm oil sustainable

RSPO is a partnership for progress and positive impact, facilitating global change to make the production and consumption of palm oil sustainable

The palm oil value chain equitably balances the interests of People, Planet and Prosperity



A Global Partnership to Make Palm Oil Sustainable



LEGEND

Outputs













Intermediate outcomes

Long-term outcomes

Simplified RSPO Theory of Change - highlight key RSPO Outputs, Outcomes and Impacts

The RSPO Impact Framework



RSPO Impact Pillar	RSPO Theory of Change Long-Term Outcomes	RSPO Impact Theme	RSPO Impact Indicator	Indicator Description
 PEOPLE	L1 - Value and utility is derived by palm oil producers of all sizes (smallholders, medium & large growers) from complying to RSPO Standards, systems and procedures	 Improving Lives and Operations	Smallholder Inclusion	Progress on encouraging participation of smallholder farmers towards sustainability
			Smallholder Certification	Progress on the scale of smallholder farmers within RSPO Certification
			Continuous Improvement	Improvements to palm oil producer operations and smallholder farmer livelihoods through RSPO Certification
	L2 - Labour and social benefits are enhanced across the palm oil value chain, including in human rights, living wages and non-discrimination	 Respecting Labour & Human Rights	Workers and Working Conditions	Status on respecting workers' rights and labour conditions through RSPO Certification
			Human Rights Risk	Status and risk level of human rights breaches within RSPO Certification
	L3 - Stakeholder equity (especially for women and Affected Communities) in palm oil production is increased	 Promoting Equity, Equality and Inclusivity	Gender Welfare	Progress on inclusivity, equal access, empowerment and needs of women through RSPO Certification
			Community Engagement	Progress in engaging communities and relevant stakeholders on their concerns, and mechanisms to address or remedy such concerns
 PLANET	L4 - Effective climate mitigation actions are implemented, resulting in greenhouse gas emissions reduction and carbon sequestration	 Limiting Climate Change	Emissions Mitigation and Avoidance	Progress on climate change goals through emissions mitigation and avoidance within RSPO certification
	L5 - Sustainable environmental practices are demonstrated by RSPO Members and partners, offering a scalable model to other agricultural commodities	 Demonstrating Environmental Stewardship	Environmental Sustainability	Progress towards environmentally sustainable practices within RSPO certification
			Fire Risk	Progress of mitigating and minimising fire risks within RSPO certification
			Water Management	Progress towards responsible usage of water and protecting freshwater ecosystems within RSPO certification
	L6 - Sustainable ecosystem management is implemented to achieve no deforestation and promote restoration of environmental value	 Protecting and Restoring Nature	Safeguarding Nature	Progress on achieving no deforestation within RSPO certification
			Remediation	Status of upholding responsibility of palm oil producers regarding historical deforestation through RSPO procedures
			Biodiversity	Progress towards preserving and enhancing biodiversity within RSPO certification
 PROSPERITY	L7 - Global trade and markets for certified sustainable palm oil products are resilient and growing, with RSPO recognised as a model for inclusive agriculture	 Transforming Markets	Certified Supply and Consumption	Progress on shifting global production and consumption of palm oil towards sustainability
			Shared Responsibility	Progress on matching certified consumption to certified production, and all RSPO members follow in the spirit of RSPO Principles and Criteria
	L8 - In partnership , palm oil sustainability standards are adapted, embedded and implemented in production and consumption markets/industries (especially emerging ones)	 Working Together	Partnerships and Collaborations	Progress in developing partnerships, including for research, to support, implement and improve RSPO standards or strategies
			Convene for Change	Progress in enabling dialogue and engaging stakeholders to adopt, enable, achieve, advance or reference RSPO standards globally, by country or by industry
	L9 - Contemporary environmental and social expectations are met by constant progress and innovation in standards, operations and certification, improving prosperity for all	 Advancing and Ensuring Sustainability	Certification Trends	Progress on the reach, extent and traceability of RSPO certification in the global palm oil and palm oil products market
			Jurisdictional Approach	Progress on scaling up the impact of RSPO through landscape-level certification based on the Jurisdictional Approach
			Knowledge and Resources	Availability of information and platforms to support progress towards sustainability and to continuously improve RSPO standards, systems and procedures

Highlights of RSPO Impacts

This Impact Update covers the nine Impact Themes and 21 Impact Indicators, using updated data to illustrate progress and key developments. For brevity, here are 15 highlights of RSPO’s key achievements that advance People, Planet and Prosperity.

Smallholder Inclusion

US\$5.3 million in RSSF funding to support 140 projects and 57,516 farmers in 14 countries since 2013 (+33 projects, +8,526 farmers from 2023)



Improving Lives and Operations

Smallholder Certification

Independent Smallholder (ISH) certification has expanded to Peru; 46,248 individual ISH certified globally (+6,001 from 2023)



Improving Lives and Operations

Continuous Improvement

In 2024, 284,188 ISH -Credits worth US\$6.5 million bought to directly benefit 116 certified ISH groups (+22,396 ISH -Credits, +31 groups from 2023)



Improving Lives and Operations

Workers and Working Conditions

642,067 workers represented by RSPO P&C Certification globally (+50,237 from 2023)



Respecting Labour and Human Rights

Gender Welfare

Women represent 15% and 25% of management and administration in certified mills and estates, respectively



Promoting Equity, Equality and Inclusivity

Community Engagement

9 RSPO Community Outreach & Engagement programmes in 7 countries, working with 200 local grassroots organisations to reach 4,750 affected stakeholders



Promoting Equity, Equality and Inclusivity

Emissions Mitigation and Avoidance

Cumulative GHG emissions equal to 567,734 cars avoided since 2015 (+26,403 from 2023) – roughly equal to the motor vehicle fleet of Botswana



Limiting Climate Change

Fire Risk

Probability of 1.4% of hotspots detected within RSPO concessions in Indonesia and Malaysia



Demonstrating Environmental Stewardship

Water Management

29,469 ha of riparian reserves - not part of designated HCV areas - have been set aside for protection under RSPO Certification



Demonstrating Environmental Stewardship

Water Management

Average water footprint of 5.27 m³/MT of palm oil production within RSPO P&C Certification, significantly lower than other vegetable oils (e.g., soybean, rapeseed)



Demonstrating Environmental Stewardship

Safeguarding Nature

425,597 ha conserved under RSPO Certification – an area 17 times the size of Kuala Lumpur



Protecting and Restoring Nature

Remediation

356 Compensation Plans approved – remediating an area nearly twice the size of Singapore (139,690 ha, +26,736 ha from 2023)



Protecting and Restoring Nature

Partnerships and Collaborations

Since 2018, RSPO has partnered/collaborated with over 250 companies, organisations, institutions and governments to advance sustainability goals



Working Together

Certification Trends

5.1 million ha of certified oil palm area globally across 24 countries, expanded to São Tomé And Príncipe and Sri Lanka



Advancing and Ensuring Sustainability

Certification Trends

Midstream and downstream facilities certified under the RSPO Supply Chain Certification (SCC) Standard increased to 7,099 sites worldwide (+192 from 2023)



Advancing and Ensuring Sustainability

3.0 Improving Lives and Operations

Long-term Outcome (L1): Value and utility is derived by palm oil producers of all sizes (smallholders, medium and large growers) from complying to RSPO Standards, systems and procedures.



3.1 Smallholder Inclusion

Since the creation of the RSPO Smallholder Support Fund (RSSF) in 2013, a total of US\$5.3 million has been allocated to the Fund and US\$3.2 million has been disbursed to support 140 projects, benefitting 57,516 independent smallholders in 14 countries.

In 2024, a total of 33 new projects were funded, reaching additional 8,526 independent smallholders.

	Total Funding Approved (US\$)	Total Funding Disbursed (US\$)		RSPO Membership (ISH Groups)	RSPO Certification (of ISH Groups)		Certified ISHs	Certified Production Area	Certified FFB Volume
2013-2024	5,305,926	3,213,435	»»»	195	123	»»»	46,248	128,633	2,146,273
Change vs 2023	+5.4%	+6.3%		-39	+14		+6,001	+19,283	+146,245
Of which				-16.7%	12.8%		14.9%	17.6%	7.3%
RSSF Projects			ISH Groups funded by RSSF	ISH Groups (change vs 2023)		Certified ISH Groups funded by RSSF	Certified ISH Groups (change vs 2023)		
Total	57,516			95	71		24,245	67,766	1,195,688
	(140 Projects)			(+27)	(+21)		(+6.4%)	(+9.3%)	(+5.2%)
Indonesia	26,003			61	44		17,595	40,092	618,534
	(77 Projects)			(+19)	(+11)		(+55.7%)	(+53.8%)	(+13.9%)
Malaysia	2,251			5	5		1,753	4,874	113,013
	(11 Projects)			(+2)	(+2)		(-22.2%)	(-41.4%)	(-26.8%)
Latin America	6,449		»»»	4	1	»»»	32	591	5,439
	(14 Projects)			(-2)	(+1)		(+100%)	(+100%)	(+100%)
Africa	17,567			3	1		67	252	5,677
	(8 Projects)			(+2)	(-1)		(-98.7%)	(-96.9%)	(-72.4%)
ROW	5,246			22	20		4,798	21,957	453,025
	(30 Projects)			(+6)	(+8)		(+14.5%)	(+13.2%)	(+8.2%)

RSSF funding as a pathway to ISH certification, as of 31 Dec 2024

3.2 Smallholder Certification



As of December 2024, over 145,000 smallholders across 14 countries have become RSPO Certified. This includes scheme smallholders, certified through mills under the RSPO P&C, and independent smallholders (ISH), certified under the RSPO ISH Standard.

Indonesia leads with 77% of the certified smallholders (83,511 scheme; 28,822 ISH), followed by Papua New Guinea (nearly 13,000 scheme smallholders), and Thailand (over 9,000 ISH).

	Certified Smallholders		Certified Production Area		Certified FFB Volume	
	2024	% change	2024	% change	2024	% change
Scheme	99,597	-19.8%	205,971	-31.4%	3,564,922	-36.7%
Indonesia	83,511	-16.2%	136,722	-18.9%	2,379,754	-27.2%
Malaysia	0	-	0	-	0	-
Latin America	15	-98.6%	4,553	-90.5%	349,318	-74.5%
Africa	3,184	-29.8%	16,740	-36.6%	149,776	-29.4%
Row	12,887	-31.9%	47,956	0.0%	686,074	-12.4%
Independent	46,248	14.9%	128,633	17.6%	2,146,273	7.3%
Indonesia	28,822	12.7%	64,216	15.3%	981,900	-6.6%
Malaysia	2,912	27.7%	10,519	21.8%	162,867	3.8%
Latin America	142	-10.1%	2,320	18.5%	28,887	39.3%
Africa	4,883	-4.5%	6,879	-18.4%	25,495	17.6%
RoW	9,489	33.3%	44,699	29.1%	947,124	26.4%
Total Smallholders	145,845	-11.3%	334,604	-18.3%	5,711,195	-25.2%

Distribution and statistics of RSPO certified smallholders (scheme, ISH)

3.3 Continuous Improvement

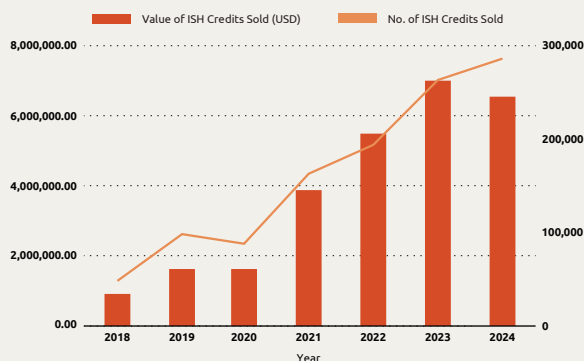


RSPO Independent Smallholder Credits (ISH Credits) allows downstream RSPO Members to purchase ISH Credits from certified ISH groups to directly compensate ISHs for their sustainable best practices. In 2024, ISH Credits trade reached 284,188, equivalent to US\$6.5 million.

The average total value per group from ISH Credits sales shifted from US\$82,619 in 2023 to US\$56,498 in 2024. This change reflects two key developments: a broader inclusion of smallholder groups – growing from 85 to 116 groups – and a moderation in average IS-Credit prices. While the average value per group has adjusted accordingly, the overall increase in participation highlights positive momentum toward greater access and market engagement across the sector.

Year	Average Price for IS-CSPO	Average Price for IS-CSPKO	Average Price for IS-CSPKE
2018	16.78	56.07	2.14
2019	14.79	49.03	1.80
2020	13.98	59.34	1.15
2021	17.86	87.21	0.83
2022	12.62	156.83	0.51
2023	10.61	192.81	0.58
2024	9.47	139.30	0.53

IS-CSPO : Independent Smallholder – Certified Sustainable Palm Oil Credits
 IS-CSPKO : Independent Smallholder – Certified Sustainable Palm Kernel Expeller Credits
 IS-CSPKE : Independent Smallholder – Certified Sustainable Palm Kernel Oil Credits



ISH Credits sales and value (2018-2024)

4.0 Respecting Labour & Human Rights

Long-term Outcome (L2): Labour and social benefits are enhanced across the palm oil value chain, including in human rights, living wages and non-discrimination.



4.1 Workers and Working Conditions

RSPO Standards ensure that, through certification, workers' rights are protected. According to data from 535 RSPO Metrics Templates¹ representing 540 RSPO Units of Certification (UoCs), a total of 642,067 workers were employed by RSPO Certified Units as of December 2024. Of these, 89% were employed in estates, while 11% worked in mills.

CERTIFIED PALM OIL MILLS			
	2024 (change vs. 2023)	2024	
Demographics Total number of mill workers	68,439 (+4,312)	Indonesia	35,633
		Malaysia	14,825
		Latin America	9,278
		Africa	4,961
		ROW	3,742
Demographics and Employment Non-locals as a percentage of total mill workers	10.3% (+0.4%)	Indonesia	7.3%
		Malaysia	26.0%
		Latin America	4.0%
		Africa	1.6%
		ROW	4.0%
Training Non-management workers trained as a percentage of total non-management mill workers	79.1% (-1.3%)	Indonesia	80.3%
		Malaysia	81.4%
		Latin America	59.2%
		Africa	95.1%
		ROW	91.2%
Internal Grievance Closed cases as a percentage of all cases received by year-end in square brackets	96.7% [8,928] (+0.8%)	Indonesia	88.6% [1,113]
		Malaysia	97.6% [6,830]
		Latin America	100.0% [870]
		Africa	67.7% [31]
		ROW	100.0% [84]

CERTIFIED OIL PALM ESTATES			
	2024 (change vs. 2023)	2024	
Demographics Total number of estate workers	573,628 (+45,925)	Indonesia	337,883
		Malaysia	110,068
		Latin America	45,869
		Africa	56,111
		ROW	23,697
Demographics and Employment Non-locals as a percentage of total estate workers	25.3% (+2.6%)	Indonesia	14.5%
		Malaysia	78.3%
		Latin America	17.0%
		Africa	3.1%
		ROW	1.7%
Training Field workers trained as a percentage of total field estate workers	87.4% (+1.4%)	Indonesia	90.0%
		Malaysia	92.6%
		Latin America	87.2%
		Africa	75.4%
		ROW	64.3%
Internal Grievance Closed cases as a percentage of all cases received by year-end in square brackets	98.3% [34,368] (+5.5%)	Indonesia	90.8% [6,587]
		Malaysia	98.4% [25,230]
		Latin America	100.0% [1,742]
		Africa	88.5% [191]
		ROW	90.6% [618]

Labour-related statistics of RSPO Certified Units

¹ Values from the metrics templates received in 2023 were used as a proxy for 123 Units of Certification (UoCs) in 2024, due to the unavailability of updated data arising from audit and licensing cycle dynamics.

5.0 Promoting Equity, Equality and Inclusivity

Long-term Outcome (L3): Stakeholder equity (especially for women and affected communities) in palm oil production is increased.



5.1 Gender Welfare



Based on data used for 2024 reporting from 535 RSPO Metrics Templates¹, representing 540 RSPO UoCs, 21% of the workforce are women.

CERTIFIED PALM OIL MILLS

	2024 (change vs. 2023)		2024
Participation and Inclusion Female workers as a percentage of total workers	8.4% (+0.4%)	Indonesia	5.44%
		Malaysia	10.79%
		Latin America	12.45%
		Africa	12.26%
		ROW	12.48%
Equal Access Female:Male ratio of workers trained	1.1:1	Indonesia	1.2:1
		Malaysia	1.1:1
		Latin America	0.9:1
		Africa	0.8:1
		ROW	1:1
Empowerment Female workers in management roles as a percentage of total management roles	14.7% (-0.7%)	Indonesia	10.74%
		Malaysia	17.19%
		Latin America	19.20%
		Africa	12.34%
		ROW	17.39%

CERTIFIED PALM OIL ESTATES

	2024 (change vs. 2023)		2024
Participation and Inclusion Female estate workers as a percentage of total estate workers	22.5% (-0.6%)	Indonesia	23.79%
		Malaysia	18.59%
		Latin America	10.04%
		Africa	29.54%
		ROW	28.71%
Equal Access Female:Male ratio of estate workers trained	1:1	Indonesia	1.1:1
		Malaysia	1:1
		Latin America	1.1:1
		Africa	0.8:1
		ROW	1:1
Empowerment Female workers in administrative roles as a percentage of total administrative roles	24.5% (+2.6%)	Indonesia	21.60%
		Malaysia	28.25%
		Latin America	24.62%
		Africa	22.71%
		ROW	32.84%

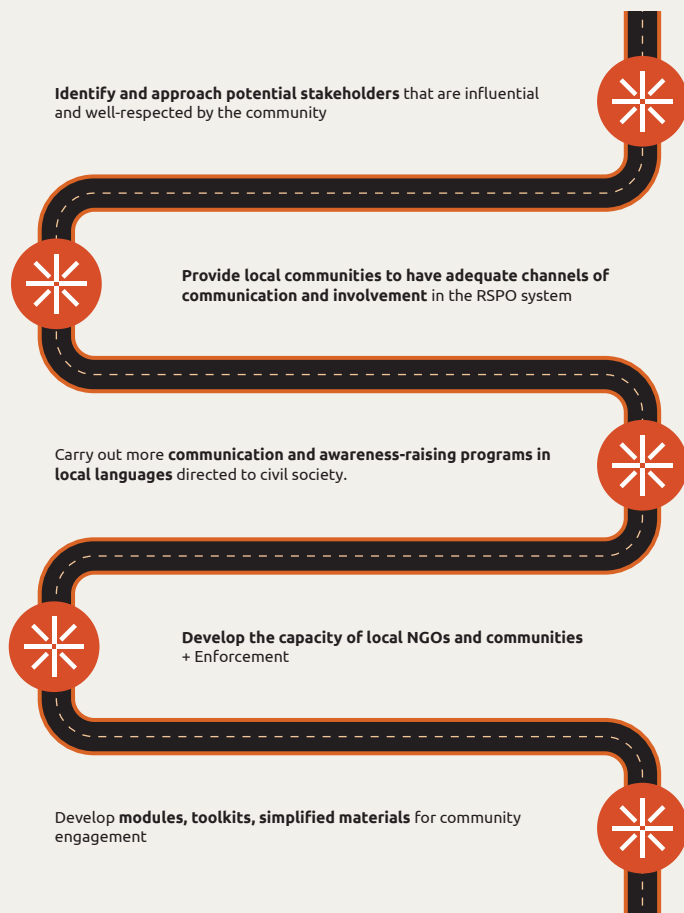
Gender Demographics in 540 RSPO Certified Units

¹ Introduced in May 2021 as a requirement of the RSPO Principles and Criteria (P&C) 2018. Values from the metrics templates received in 2023 were used as a proxy for 123 Units of Certification (UoCs) in 2024, due to the unavailability of updated data arising from audit and licensing cycle dynamics.

5.2 Community Engagement



The Intermediary Organisation (IMO) Community Engagement and Outreach Programme is an RSPO initiative designed to strengthen sustainable palm oil efforts in producer countries by partnering with local intermediaries to disseminate RSPO's sustainability standards and promote inclusive engagement.



1. Programme Coverage and Reach

RSPO has allocated nearly USD 3 million to support nine Community Outreach and Engagement Programmes in seven countries, reaching more than 6,000 affected stakeholders and 200 grassroots organisations through partnerships with nine Intermediary Organisations (IMOs).

2. Knowledge Sharing and Learning

To enhance visibility and access to programme outcomes, RSPO has launched the IMO Programme Portal, which hosts educational materials, best practices, and lessons learned from the field.

3. Programme Implementation Status

Out of the nine outreach programmes, eight have been completed and assessed by independent evaluators. The final programme, covering Guatemala and Honduras, is expected to conclude by October 2025.

4. Conflict Prevention and Resolution

In Sabah, Malaysia, the Conflict Prevention Platform (CPP), implemented by partner Bio Community Initiative (BCI), has proven effective, with active participation from communities and intermediary individuals, and a growing willingness among growers to resolve land disputes collaboratively.

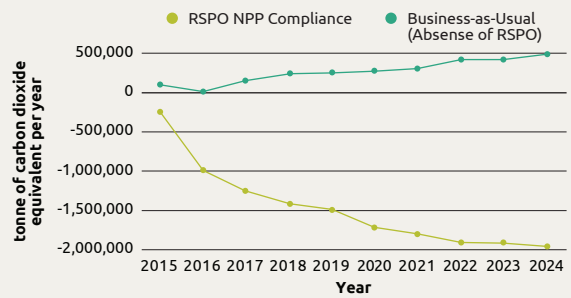
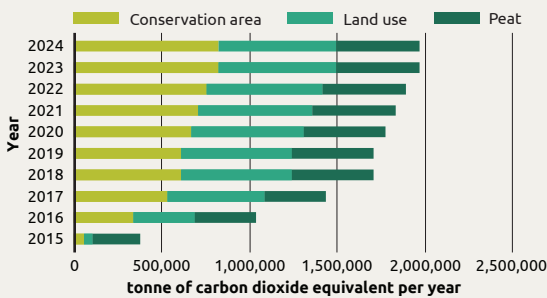
6.0 Limiting Climate Change

Long-term Outcome (L4): Effective climate mitigation actions are implemented, resulting in greenhouse gas emissions reduction and carbon sequestration

6.1 Emissions Mitigation and Avoidance

Since 2015, the RSPO New Planting Procedure (NPP) has helped avoid greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions by requiring comprehensive GHG assessments for all new oil palm developments. In 2024, over 113,000 tCO₂e/year of emissions were sequestered through NPP¹, bringing the cumulative total to 2.43 million tCO₂e/year avoided since 2015, equivalent to the annual emissions from 567,734 passenger cars².

Without RSPO's NPP, a worst-case scenario³ would have led to a net increase in emissions, with up to 485,540 tCO₂e/year being emitted instead of sequestered.



Cumulative emissions avoidance through RSPO NPP (2015-2024) (left);
Two scenarios on cumulative GHG emissions since 2015: with RSPO NPP and without RSPO NPP (right)

Mitigating Emissions

RSPO Members are required to take active steps to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions from plantation and mill operations.

To support mitigation, RSPO mandates the use of the PalmGHG calculator to quantify emissions from key sources. This enables growers and millers to identify emission hotspots and evaluate their reduction strategies.

The launch of PalmGHG v5.0 is planned for the fourth quarter of 2025, aligning with Phase 2 of *prisma*. As part of the PalmGHG v5.0 enhancement, a pilot test was conducted from December 2024 to January 2025, with 78 participants from 55 companies signing up. By the end of the testing period, 25% had submitted feedback, offering valuable insights from a diverse group of members to support the refinement of the tool ahead of its launch.

As part of RSPO's commitment to continuous improvement and alignment with international best practices, PalmGHG v5.0 introduces several key improvements to enhance consistency with international standards and user experience. The updated tool aligns with the GHG Protocol, enabling emissions to be reported under Scopes 1, 2, and 3. In addition, emission factors and methodologies have been revised and standardised using internationally recognised sources where relevant. The PalmGHG v4.0 manual is currently being upgraded to include a methodological framework – outlining the scope, boundaries and calculation methods, significantly enhancing transparency and alignment with global GHG reporting standards.

¹ Data cleaning was carried out on NPP submissions from 2015 to 2024 to ensure accuracy and proper representation.

² Calculated using the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)'s Greenhouse Gas Equivalencies Calculator.

³ In the worst-case scenario, all land, including conservation areas and peatlands, is assumed to be damaged or exploited without applying any best management practices.



7.0 Demonstrating Environmental Stewardship

Long-term Outcome (L5): Sustainable environmental practices are demonstrated by RSPO members and partners, offering a scalable model to other agricultural commodities.



7.1 Environmental Sustainability

Where pesticide use is unavoidable, its usage and application must be managed to safeguard the environment, the health of workers, the well-being of surrounding communities, and to avoid potential contamination of soil or water bodies.

In 2024, prophylactic use of pesticides was found in only 4.5% of UoCs. The application of restricted pesticides was reported by 4.1% of UoCs, down from 6.3% in 2023.

Prophylactic Use of Pesticides	4.5%	Indonesia	2.46%
		Malaysia	8.11%
		Latin America	5.36%
		Africa	3.70%
		Rest of the World	5.26%
WHO 1A or 1B or Stockholm/ Rotterdam Convention pesticides, or paraquat	4.1%	Indonesia	4.21%
		Malaysia	4.73%
		Latin America	1.79%
		Africa	0.00%
		Rest of the World	10.53%

Pesticide usage in 540 RSPO Certified Units

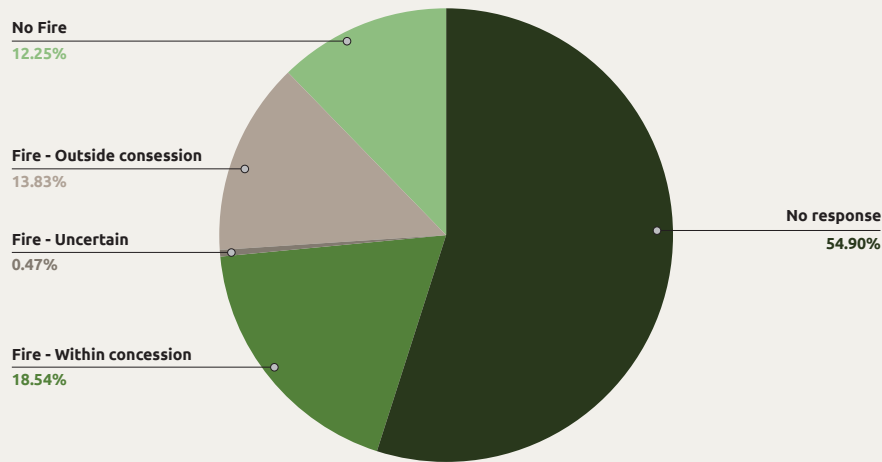
7.2 Fire Risk

Since monitoring began, the number of hotspots detected within RSPO concessions as a percentage of any and all hotspots detected in Indonesia and Malaysia has remained consistently low at 1.38% in 2024.

Of the Hotspot Alerts in RSPO concessions, only 18.5% were confirmed in-concession fires, down from 26% in 2023. Another 13.8% of alerts were outside the concession, and 12% were false alarms.

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2021	2022	2023	2024
Total Hotspots Detected	85,471	67,922	519,742	349,806	-	-	-	-
	Of which				Probability of occurrence			
Hotspots	1,216	847	2,903	4,831	1.40%	1.20%	0.60%	1.38%
Peat Hotspots	98	51	303	377	0.10%	0.08%	0.06%	0.11%

Fire Hotspots in RSPO concessions in Indonesia and Malaysia 2021-2024



Responses to Hotspot Alerts in RSPO concessions 2024

7.3

Water Management



Based on 535 RSPO Metrics Templates, representing 540 RSPO UoCs, the average freshwater usage in certified mills was 5.27 cubic meters per metric tonne (m³/MT) of CSPO.

Water usage is fairly consistent across most regions, with the exception in the Rest of the World, where it is significantly lower. This usage has remained constant since 2021.

Region	Freshwater Usage per CSPO produced (m³/MT)	Freshwater Usage per CSPO produced (m³/kg)
Indonesia	5.11	0.005
Malaysia	6.51	0.007
Latin America	4.96	0.005
Africa	5.42	0.005
Rest of the World	3.24	0.003
Global Average	5.27	0.005

Estimated freshwater usage per MT or kg of CSPO produced (2024)

Additionally, under RSPO Certification requirements, riparian reserves must be protected—or rehabilitated if degraded to restore their ecological and physical functions, such as water filtration, riverbank stabilisation, erosion control, flood mitigation, and support for biodiversity. As of December 2024, RSPO-certified growers have designated 29,469 ha of riparian reserves (not part of designated HCV areas) for protection, with the areas distributed across Indonesia (26.9%), Malaysia (21.4%), the Rest of the World (21.1%), Latin America (16.7%), and Africa (13.9%).



8.0 Protecting and Restoring Nature

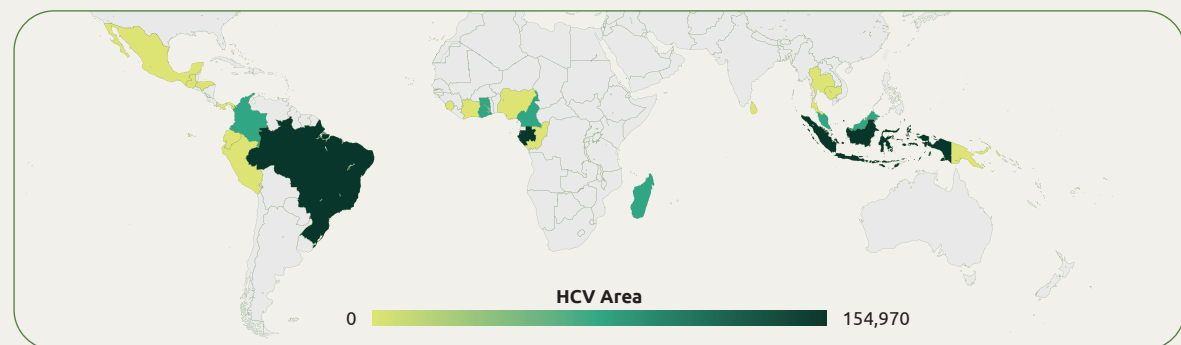
Long-term Outcome (L6): Sustainable ecosystem management is implemented to achieve no deforestation and promote restoration of environmental value



8.1 Safeguarding Natures

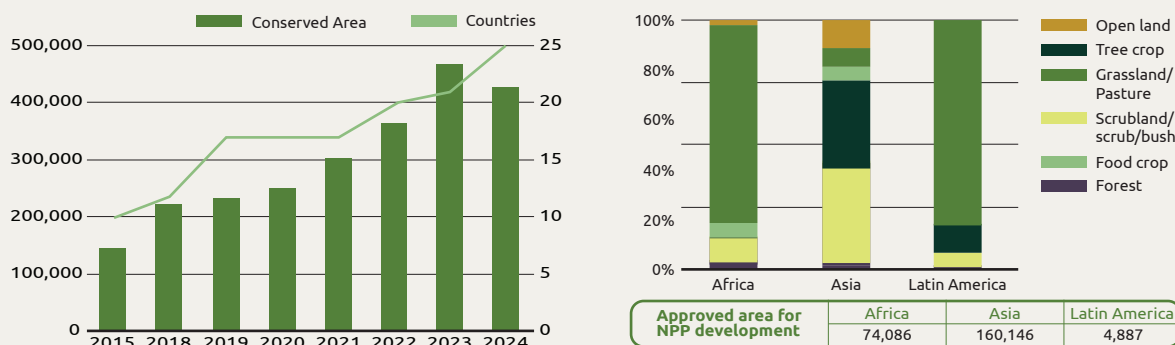


As of December 2024, RSPO members have set aside 425,597 ha of land identified as High Conservation Value (HCV) and High Carbon Stock (HCS) areas. Protected and managed by RSPO UoCs across 25 countries, the largest conserved areas are in Indonesia (164,998 ha), Gabon (85,250 ha), Brazil (84,113 ha), and Malaysia (22,087 ha).



Distribution of RSPO conservation area by country in hectares (2024)

For new oil palm developments, the RSPO New Planting Procedure (NPP) is used to evaluate potential areas for conservation and oil palm development. Since 2015, approximately 501,035 ha of proposed new plantings have been submitted to RSPO, with 239,119 ha approved for development. The remaining areas were set aside due to environmental or social sensitivities in line with RSPO standards.



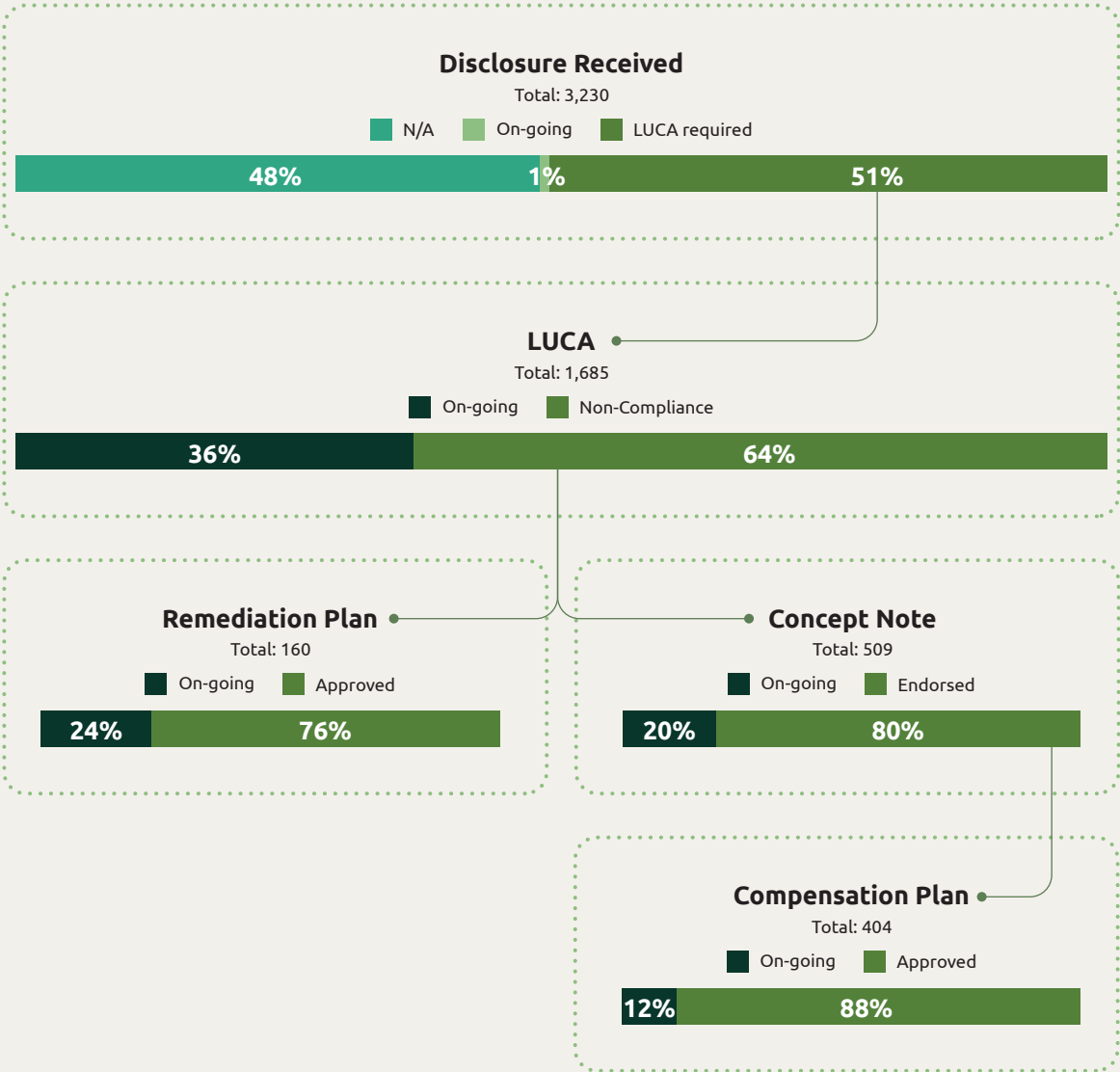
RSPO conservation area by hectare and by country (2015-2024) (left); Cumulative land profile of areas approved for oil palm development (right)

8.2 Remediation



Since 2015, the RSPO Remediation and Compensation Procedure (RaCP) has been set in place to provide a clear, formal and transparent procedure for RSPO Member growers to remediate and compensate for past land clearance carried without prior HCV assessment from November 2005.

As of December 2024, a total of 356 compensation cases have been approved leading to the remediation and compensation close to 140,000 ha globally, mainly distributed across Indonesia (78%), Latin America (15%) and Africa (6%).



RaCP case progress/completion at each step of RaCP process (as of Dec 2024)

9.0 Working Together

Long-term Outcome (L8): In partnership, palm oil sustainability standards are adapted, embedded and implemented in production and consumption markets/ industries (especially emerging ones).

9.1 Partnerships and Collaborations

Since 2018, RSPO has collaborated with over 250 companies, organisations, institutions, and governments to advance global sustainability goals in the palm oil sector.

RSPO advances its goals through strong partnerships, grounded in the belief that meaningful progress requires active stakeholder engagement, as outlined in its Theory of Change. The highlights below showcase some of RSPO most recent collaborations:

Strategic MoUs

Partners	Year	Objective
Global Green Chemicals Public Company Limited (GGC), GIZ	2024	A joint initiative to integrate climate mitigation and low-carbon farming into sustainable palm oil production.
Indian Vegetable Oil Producers' Association (IVPA)	2024	Promote sustainable palm oil cultivation/imports in India
Solidaridad & AAK	2024	Support smallholders & sustainable practices in Mexico

RSPO Annual Roundtable Conference on Sustainable Palm Oil (RT)

The RSPO Annual Roundtable Conference on Sustainable Palm Oil (RT) series continues to serve as a global platform for stakeholder dialogue and knowledge exchange. In 2025, RT will take place in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia from the 3rd to 5th of November, centered on the theme "Building the Next 20: Sustainability in Action, paving the way for the next era of sustainable palm oil. This follows from the exciting discussions at RT2024 in Bangkok, Thailand, under the theme 'Innovating for Impact'.



10.0 Advancing and Ensuring Sustainability

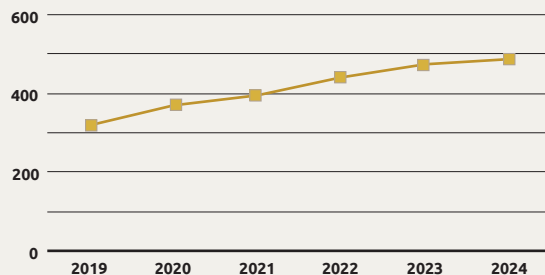
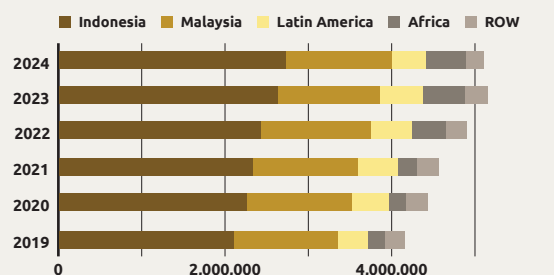
Long-term Outcome (L9): Contemporary environmental and social expectations are met by constant progress and innovation in standards, operations and certification, improving prosperity for all.



10.1 Certification Trends



As of December 2024, a total of 5.1 million hectares across 24 countries were certified under the 2018 RSPO P&C, with 78% of the certified area located in Indonesia and Malaysia. During the year, 29 new P&C Certificates were approved.



Evolution of RSPO certified area (hectares/ha) by country or region (left); Evolution of RSPO certified mills (global) (right)

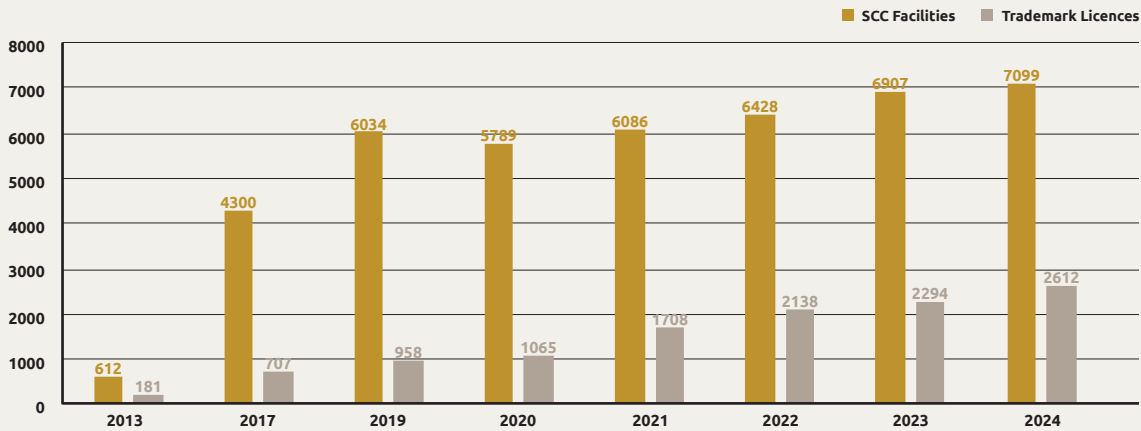
In 2024, a total of 524 certified mills were operating under the Mass Balance (MB), Identity Preserved (IP), or dual IP-MB supply chain models, as detailed in the table below:

Country/Region	Certification Model				
	IP	MB	IP, MB	Total	
Indonesia	54 (+ 4)	205 (- 3)	19 (+ 9)	278	(+ 10)
Malaysia	50 (- 7)	78 (+ 5)	15 (+ 15)	143	(+ 13)
Latin America	18 (- 8)	22 (- 8)	12 (+ 4)	52	(- 12)
Africa	9 (+ 1)	17 (- 1)	1	27	
ROW	15 (- 3)	6	3 (+ 1)	24	(- 2)
Total	146 (- 13)	328 (- 7)	50 (+ 29)	524	(+ 9)

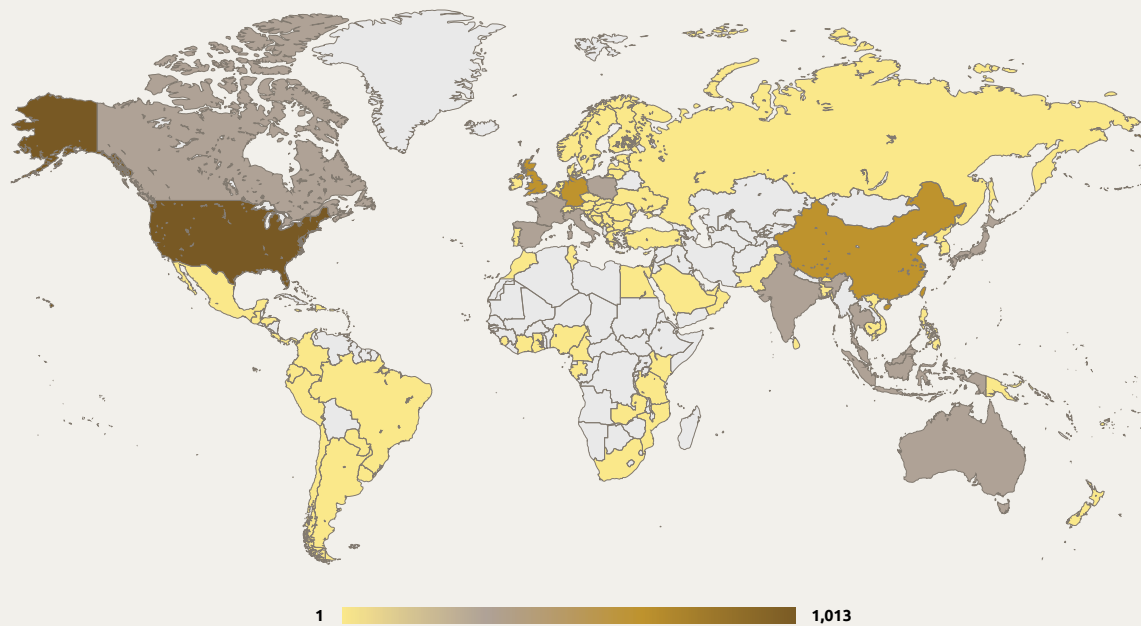
Active certified mills by country/region and Supply Chain Model

The number of RSPO SCC Standard certified midstream and downstream facilities grew by 2.8% in 2024, reaching a total of 7,099 facilities globally. Of these, 50% are located in Europe, and 16% in North America.

On consumer visibility of RSPO Certification, RSPO Trademark usage increased by 13.9% in 2024, with 318 new licences issued, bringing the total number of active licences to 2,612.



Evolution of RSPO SCC certified facilities and Trademark licences



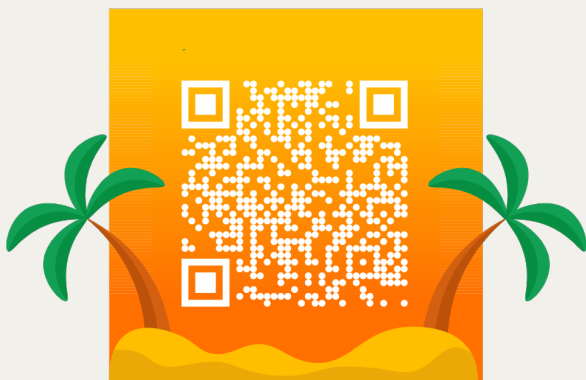
Global distribution of RSPO SCC certified facilities



Appendix 1 - Base Data and Glossary

Base Data

Associated reference datasets previously published in the RSPO Impact Report have been moved to the supplementary data file that accompanies this Impact Update 2025. These datasets show historical data in the areas of RSPO membership, certification coverage, efficiency of the RSPO grievance system and trademark usage, which are also indicative of RSPO's overall impact. Unless otherwise stated, all data presented is representative of the calendar year (1 January to 31 December). The supplementary data file is available on our website or can be downloaded by scanning the QR code below.



Impact Update 2025 Base Data

Glossary

Affiliate Members: RSPO membership category consisting of organisations that are not directly involved in the palm oil supply chain, but have expressed interest in RSPO's objectives and activities. Membership extends to academia, research and development organisations, donors and sponsors. Affiliate members may attend the annual General Assembly as observers.

Annual Communication of Progress (ACOP): Reports submitted by RSPO members to gauge their progress towards producing, processing, consuming or supporting 100% RSPO certified sustainable palm oil. These reports are mandatory for Ordinary and Affiliate members, and are submitted each year.

Best Management Practices (BMPs): Practical guidelines to enhance oil palm management.

Certification Body (CB): Organisation that provides third party auditing and certification services related to a product, process or system, and which can issue a certificate of compliance.

Certified Sustainable Palm Kernel Expeller (CSPKE): Palm kernel expeller produced by RSPO Supply Chain Certified kernel crusher from palm kernels derived from FFB grown on a plantation that has been managed and certified in accordance with the RSPO Principles & Criteria.

Certified Sustainable Palm Kernel Oil (CSPKO): Palm kernel oil produced by RSPO Supply Chain Certified kernel crusher from palm kernels derived from FFB grown on a plantation that has been managed and certified in accordance with the RSPO Principles & Criteria.

Certified Sustainable Palm Oil (CSPO): Palm oil that has been grown on a plantation that has been managed and certified in accordance with the RSPO Principles & Criteria.

Crude palm oil (CPO): A type of unrefined vegetable oil obtained from the fruit of the oil palm tree.

Decent Living Wage (DLW): The remuneration received by a worker, for work performed on regular hours, in a particular place sufficient to afford a decent standard of living for the worker and her or his family.

Dispute Settlement Facility (DSF): The Dispute Settlement Facility is a part of the RSPO Complaints System and offers complainants, RSPO members, and relevant stakeholders involved in an active social or environmental related complaint, the opportunity to resolve these matters through mutually agreed terms, with the help of DSF Mediation.

Final conservation liability (FCL): Compensation liabilities incurred by RSPO members as a result of clearance without prior HCV assessment since November 2005. FCL is expressed in hectares.

Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC): A principle that a community has the right to give or withhold its consent to proposed projects that may affect the lands they customarily own, occupy or otherwise use.

Fresh Fruit Bunch (FFB): Bunch harvested from the oil palm tree. Each bunch can weigh from 5 to 50 kilogrammes and can contain 1,500 or more individual fruits.

Gender sensitive: Refers to provision of equal rights, responsibilities and opportunities for all regardless of gender, sexual orientation and gender identity including men, women, girls and boys, and other gender identities as described by the individual. This principle is applied particularly in relation to labour practices and the treatment of workers.

Greenhouse gas (GHG): Term for gases that trap heat within the atmosphere. The primary greenhouse gases are water vapour, carbon dioxide, methane, nitrous oxide, and ozone.

Hectares (ha): A unit of measurement equivalent to 10,000 square metres, or 100m x 100m.

High Conservation Value (HCV): The concept of High Conservation Value Forest (HCVF) was first developed by the Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) in 1999 as their 9th Principle. The FSC defined HCVF as forests of outstanding and critical importance due to its environmental, socio-economic, cultural, biodiversity and landscape value.

High Carbon Stock (HCS) Forest: Forests that are important to local communities or that have high carbon or biodiversity values.

High Forest Cover Country (HFCC): Landscapes having >60% forest cover (based on recent, trusted REDD+ and national data); <1% oil palm cover; a deforestation trajectory that is historically low but increasing or constant; and a known frontier area for oil palm or where major areas have been allocated for development.

High Forest Cover Landscape (HFCL): Landscapes having >80% forest cover. Landscape as defined under HCSA Toolkit (Module 5): "The size of a landscape may be determined by (a) identifying the watershed or the geographical land unit containing a cluster of

interacting ecosystems; (b) selecting a unit size that encompasses the plantation concession and a buffer of the surrounding area (e.g. 50,000 ha or 100,000 ha); or (c) using a radius of 5 km from the area of interest (for instance, the planned concession)."

Hotspot: A small area with a relatively high temperature in comparison to its surroundings.

Human Rights Defenders (HRD): Individuals, groups and associations who promote and protect universally recognised human rights and contribute to the effective elimination of all forms of violations of human rights and fundamental freedoms of individuals and peoples. This includes environmental Human Rights Defenders, whistleblowers, complainants and community spokespersons. The definition does not include those individuals who commit or propagate violence.

Identity Preserved (IP): The Identity Preserved supply chain model assures that RSPO certified palm oil is kept separate from oil that is not RSPO certified. This oil can be physically traced back to its plantation of origin.

ISEAL Alliance: Global membership association for credible sustainability standards, which work together to improve the impact and effectiveness of current and potential future members.

Jurisdictional approach (JA): In the context of sustainable palm oil, the jurisdictional approach involves the certification of palm oil production at the provincial level, utilising a particular model of rural development. The approach facilitates collaboration between local stakeholders and regional governments to improve the welfare of small-scale farmers, curb the use of environmentally destructive practices such as slash-and-burn clearing, and iron out supply chain inefficiencies.

Land Use Change Analysis (LUCA): Assessment determining changes to vegetation cover and land use over a given timeframe. Must be completed by RSPO members prior to any conversion or new planting.

Mass balance (MB): Supply chain model that allows certified claims to be transferred from one oil palm product to another, either through physical blending or administratively under strictly controlled circumstances.

Metric tonne (MT): A unit of mass equivalent to 1,000 kilogrammes.

New Planting Procedure (NPP): Provides guidance on how and under what conditions new oil palm plantings should be carried out.

Oil palm: A species of palm (*Elaeis guineensis*) and the principal source of palm oil. It is native to west and southwest Africa, but is now cultivated in over 26 countries. Ideal growing conditions occur up to 10 degrees either side of the equator.

Ordinary members: RSPO membership category consisting of organisations that have either direct involvement, or have activities around, the palm oil supply chain. Only ordinary members are allowed to submit resolutions and vote at the annual General Assembly.

PalmGHG: A calculator developed by the RSPO Greenhouse Gas Working Group (2010–2011) and further refined and improved by the RSPO Emission Reduction Working Group to estimate and monitor net GHG emissions from current estate and mill operations, as well as new plantings.

Palm Kernel Expeller (PKE): By-product of the Palm Kernel Oil extraction process, as a dried residue commonly used as meal in animal feed applications. Also known as Palm Kernel Cake.

Palm Kernel Oil (PKO): Oil extracted from the kernel or core of the palm fruit.

Palm Oil: Edible oil extracted from the fruit of the oil palm. Palm oil is one of the few highly saturated vegetable fats. It remains semi-solid at room temperature and is suitable for a wide variety of applications. Palm oil is an ingredient in a large number of products, including margarine, baked goods, chocolate, ice cream, soaps and cosmetics. It is also used as fuel for vehicles and power plants.

PalmTrace: RSPO's traceability system for certified oil palm products. Certified members use PalmTrace to register their physical sales and processing activities - from mill level to refineries - under the IP, SG and MB supply chain models. PalmTrace also supports RSPO's Book and Claim model by enabling the trade of RSPO Credits.

Peat: Peat is an accumulation of rotting plant material, forming in wetlands or peatlands.

Remediation and Compensation Procedure (RaCP): Procedure whereby RSPO members are required to remediate and compensate for land clearance without prior HCV assessment since November 2005.

RSPO Board of Governors (BoG): RSPO management body comprised of 32 RSPO members, representing each of the seven RSPO membership categories and designated by the General Assembly for two years.

RSPO Complaints and Appeals Procedure (CAP): RSPO procedure for dealing with complaints arising from a breach of the RSPO Key Documents, and appeals against the decision of the Complaints Panel in relation to such Complaints.

RSPO Complaints Panel: High-level body that handles complaints against RSPO members.

RSPO Credits / Book and Claim (B&C): Model where the supply chain is not monitored for the presence

of sustainable palm oil. Manufacturers and retailers support the production of RSPO certified sustainable oil palm products through the purchase of credits from RSPO certified growers, crushers and independent smallholders.

RSPO Drainability Assessment (DA) Procedure: The RSPO DA Procedure has been developed to support growers to assess future subsidence and flood risks of peatlands and adjust their management processes to reduce subsidence rates and prolong the workable lifetime of their plantations.

RSPO Principles & Criteria (P&C): Guidelines on how palm oil companies and growers should produce palm oil sustainably. It forms the basis of all company assessments for certification and is reviewed every five years.

RSPO Smallholder Support Fund (RSSF): A fund established by the RSPO to help small, independent operators secure sustainable palm oil certification while minimising costs. The RSSF is funded from 10% of income generated through the trading of CSPO.

Segregated (SG): The Segregated supply chain model maintains separation between sustainable palm oil from different certified sources and ordinary palm oil throughout the supply chain. The model assures that RSPO certified oil palm products delivered to the end user come only from RSPO certified sources.

Set-aside area: Areas set-aside that are not planned to be planted, such as peatlands, areas of fragile or marginal soils, steep slopes, etc., excluding HCV areas.

Smallholders: Farmers growing oil palm on a plantation of less than 50 hectares. Smallholders may be scheme (supplying FFB under a contractual arrangement with a specific palm oil mill) or independent (supplying FFB to multiple palm oil mills).

Standing Committees: Committees that oversee RSPO's overall operations, consisting of members from the BoG and RSPO members. Four Standing Committees have been appointed to lead: Standards & Certification, Trade & Traceability, Communications & Claims and Finance.

Supply Chain Associates: RSPO membership category consisting of companies that procure, use or trade less than 500 MT of CSPO annually. Supply chain associates may attend the annual General Assembly as observers.

United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs): A set of 17 aspirational global goals to end poverty, protect the planet and ensure that all people enjoy peace and prosperity. The goals build on the successes of the Millennium Development Goals, while including new areas such as climate change, economic inequality, innovation, sustainable consumption, peace and justice, among other priorities.

