

Particulars

About Your Organisation

Organisation Name

The Zoological Society of London

Corporate Website Address

<http://www.zsl.org>

Primary Activity or Product

- Environmental NGO
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Related Company(ies)

No

Membership

Membership Number	Membership Category	Membership Sector
6-0009-11-000-00	Ordinary	Environmental or Nature Conservation Organisations (Non Governmental Organisations)

Environmental and Conservation NGOs

Operational Profile

1.1 What are the main activities of your organization ?

The Zoological Society of London (ZSL), a charity (registered no. 208728) founded in 1826, is a world-renowned centre of excellence for conservation science and applied conservation. ZSL's mission is to promote and achieve the worldwide conservation of animals and their habitats. This is realised by carrying out field conservation and research in over 50 countries across the globe and through education and awareness-raising at our two zoos, ZSL London Zoo and ZSL Whipsnade Zoo, inspiring people to take conservation action.

The Zoological Society of London has been involved with the palm oil industry since 2002 when it was approached by a concession holder to advise on protecting a tiger population utilizing their land. Since then, ZSL has been engaging with the sector to develop practical tools and materials that help the industry to protect, maintain and enhance HCVs and ensure the environmental sustainability of palm oil production.

ZSL takes a collaborative approach to working with the industry, engaging oil palm growers, RSPO auditors, HCV assessors, other actors along the supply chain, and the RSPO, to ensure that the tools developed are functional, easy to use, and effective.

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

HCV Management and Monitoring Tools

ZSL continues to develop and implement practical HCV monitoring and management tools to support RSPO members in the uptake of Best Management Practices to reduce and/or avoid negative environmental impacts of operations on HCVs and other environmental values. This includes the RSPO-endorsed HCV Impact Monitoring System, which comprises monitoring protocols and SMART (Spatial Monitoring and Reporting Tool) conservation software, adapted for production landscapes. Currently, four companies trained by ZSL are using this system, while ZSL has been in discussion with others to commence training and implementation.

Sustainable Palm Oil Platform (SPOP) and Transparency Toolkit (SPOTT)

ZSL manages the Sustainable Palm Oil Platform, which collates and disseminates BMP guidelines, case studies of company best practice, and other information related to sustainable palm oil. The Platform also hosts the Sustainable Palm Oil Transparency Toolkit (SPOTT), launched in November 2014. The Toolkit drives transparency, aims to build trust in the industry, and promote sustainable palm oil, by engaging with and assessing oil palm growers (22 RSPO members and 4 non-members) on their transparency related to environmental performance and the sustainability of their operations. The Toolkit is being further expanded to include additional growers, who will be scored against an updated indicator framework. ZSL has been conducting an extensive period of consultation to ensure the updated platform and Toolkit reflect evolving best practice and respond to stakeholder needs.

Stakeholder engagement

ZSL continues to work with the palm oil industry to support the monitoring and management of environmental risk and the uptake of certified sustainable palm oil. As well as working with growers to support BMPs, ZSL continues to work with stakeholders in the financial and manufacturing sectors, including as part of the UK Roundtable on Sourcing Sustainable Palm Oil with the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA).

Other

ZSL continues to engage and lead discussions on the palm oil sector within the zoo constituency. In addition, ZSL conducts engages the general public and conducts education activities through its exhibits and information boards within the zoos.

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

Yes

Please explain how

ZSL is a substantive member of the Compensation Task Force, the Biodiversity and HCV Working Group, the Indonesian HCV Task Force, the HCV Smallholder Task Force, the Innovation Lab and the Jurisdictional Approach Working Group. ZSL is also an alternate member of the RSPO Board of Governors.

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

ZSL actively engages growers to adopt and implement Best Management Practices for monitoring and managing HCVs. This primarily involves supporting growers to adopt and implement the RSPO-endorsed HCV Impact Monitoring System, including training growers in the use of SMART (Spatial Monitoring and Reporting Tool) conservation software for production landscapes.

ZSL also engages with other stakeholders in the palm oil supply chain, including the financial sector and manufacturing sector. ZSL works with these actors to support them in monitoring and managing environmental risk, including by using the Sustainable Palm Oil Transparency Toolkit (SPOTT), and consults with them to ensure the Toolkit responds to stakeholder needs. The Sustainable Palm Oil Platform includes advice for supply chain actors, including a procurement guide.

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 grants, charitable donations and some charitable core funds. The costs of training companies in the implementation of HCV monitoring and management tools are met by the companies themselves.

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

2008

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

2008

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

Our work on promoting best management practices is ongoing. ZSL continues to train grower companies on BMPs, primarily in Indonesia, and we continue our work in Cameroon to ensure that sustainable practices are utilised from the outset. ZSL is working to ensure the use of tools for the improved monitoring and management of HCVs and environmental impacts related to oil palm production are rolled out across all concessions of those companies currently engaged and aims to obtain commitments from additional growers for the implementation of these systems.

ZSL continues to support industry transparency through the Sustainable Palm Oil Transparency Toolkit. We will relaunch the Toolkit in November 2015, to cover an increasing number of growers, to represent at least 50% of the global landbank under development for oil palm, and increase the detail of the indicator framework used to assess companies. ZSL will continue to engage with oil palm growers to increase transparency in the sector.

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

- Cameroon
- Indonesia
- United Kingdom

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)

We will continue to work in the areas detailed above. The Transparency Toolkit will be further developed to include more growers and to ensure the indicator framework and functionality reflect evolving best practice and stakeholder needs.

We will continue to work with growers and other stakeholders in the palm oil industry, to roll out uptake of the HCV Impact monitoring System, and support improved monitoring and management of environmental risk in the palm oil sector.

In addition, we are embarking on a jurisdictional pilot project in South Sumatra that includes oil palm concessions. Through this project we will engage and work with several oil palm growers.

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?**

Yes

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

No --

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:**

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

ZSL complies with all relevant UK regulations and laws and has a due diligence procedure, Conservation Committee and Ethics Council.

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?

ZSL has produced the following outputs to facilitate production and consumption of CSPO:

- A Practical Handbook for Conserving High Conservation Value Species and Habitats within Oil Palm landscapes
- A Practical Handbook for Conserving High Conservation Value (HCV) Species and Habitats Within Oil Palm Landscapes in West and Central Africa
- A Practical Toolkit for Identifying and Monitoring Biodiversity in Oil Palm Landscapes
- Symposium entitled "Sustainable palm oil, challenges, a common vision, and the way forward."
- A paper entitled "Legal and policy barriers for biodiversity conservation"
- HCV Threat Monitoring Protocol
- Draft HCV 5&6 monitoring protocol
- Procurement Guide for Sustainable Palm Oil
- Case studies on the Sustainable Palm Oil Platform

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

Yes

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?

ZSL believes that the current standard of HCV assessment, monitoring and management is not sufficiently robust to ensure that HCVs are identified and protected. The audit process has been found to lack credibility in a number of cases and the lack of clear data on the impact of implementing the RSPO P&C concerns our membership category.

ZSL is also concerned by a lack of access to CSPO derivatives preventing full uptake of sustainable palm oil.

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

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Cost Effective:

Yes

Robust:

No

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)

ZSL believes that it is one of the leaders in developing innovative tools and guidelines to support the efforts to improve environmental management and protection within oil palm landscapes. We use our expertise to support members in implementing such practices whilst at the same time encourage members to demonstrate true impact.

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

Many of our outputs can be downloaded on the Sustainable Palm Oil Platform (www.sustainablepalmoil.org)
