

## Particulars

<b>Organisation Name</b>	Wetlands International
<b>Corporate Website Address</b>	<a href="http://www.wetlands.org">http://www.wetlands.org</a>
<b>Primary Activity or Product</b>	Environmental NGO
<b>Related Company(ies)</b>	None
<b>Country Operations</b>	Australia, Argentina, China - People's Republic of, Guatemala, Guinea-Bissau, India, Indonesia, Japan, Kenya, Malaysia, Mali, Netherlands, Panama, Russian Federation, Senegal
<b>Membership Number</b>	6-0007-07-000-00
<b>Membership Type</b>	Ordinary Members
<b>Membership Category</b>	Environmental and Conservation NGOs
<b>Primary Contacts</b>	Marcel Silvius <b>Address:</b> PO Box 471 6700 AL Wageningen  Netherlands
<b>Person Reporting</b>	Marcel Silvius

## Related Information

Other information on palm oil:

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<b>Reporting Period</b>	01 July 2012 - 30 June 2013
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## Environmental and Conservation NGOs

### Operational Profile

#### 1. What are the main activities of your organisation?

Wetlands International is the only global not-for-profit organization dedicated to the conservation and restoration of wetlands. Our vision is a world where wetlands are treasured and nurtured for their beauty, the life they support and the resources they provide.

Wetlands International recognizes a potential role of biofuels in terms of emission reductions compared to fossil fuels. However, under the current practice, biofuels often have large negative impacts on high carbon natural ecosystems, for example peatlands, where the expansion of biofuels crop production leads to higher rather than lower greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions. Wetlands International is a leading expert on environmental matters related to land use and management of (tropical) peatlands, including for palm oil and for pulp wood production. This pertains particularly to biodiversity, GHG and soil subsidence issues, but also to social aspects. We work in a critical and constructive manner with the corporate sector to improve their 'sustainability' performance. We challenge their economic strategies and production system standards which disregard the need for sustainability criteria, particularly those relevant to wetlands. In addition, we also work to influence policy change and commitments from various governments. Some examples of our substantive work in this area includes science based contributions to the UNFCCC, IPCC, Indonesian and Malaysian Governments, EU (on biofuels, RED, FQD, CAP) including a successful lobby to the European Commission for the inclusion of wetlands and peatlands sustainability criteria in the EU Renewable Energy Directive and the Fuel Quality Directive.

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

No

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

- Involved in the scientific review on the impact of oil palm plantations on peat (completed, in press with RSPO).
- Involved in the development of peat monitoring and methods paper which is currently being published as a RSPO document.
- Active participation in the RSPO P&C Review Taskforce where we pushed for criteria to ban palm oil produced on peat and contributed to the formulation of appropriate GHG and peatland clauses in Criteria, Indicators and Guidance.
- Contributed to the improvement of the Palm Oil GHG tool.
- Member of the former RSPO GHG working group and Peatland Working Group (2012-2013)
- Member of the new RSPO GHG Working Group, which will have its first meeting in November 2013.
- Working on the identification and mapping of oil palm plantation concessions on peat in parts of Indonesia and Malaysia.
- Ongoing monitoring of palm oil expansion on peatlands/peat swamp forests.
- Ongoing work to promote the development of a permanent moratorium in Indonesia on expansion of oil palm plantations on peatlands.
- Development and implementation of an awareness campaign on the issue of peatland subsidence and flooding when drained, and the long-term social, economic and environmental security impacts of this.
- Ongoing lobby work to influence EU biofuels policy in which we (a) have been arguing for the rejection of the RSPO RED application as one of EU sustainability schemes (as we do not agree with having a standard within a standard and believe that the RSPO RED standard is in some ways creating loopholes for industry, and (b) submitted a policy brief on Indirect land use change and peatlands.
- Involved in various fora and policy platforms on 'palm oil and peat' issues, and ongoing work to promote paludiculture as an alternative for unsustainable peatland land-use.

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

Yes

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**If yes, please explain how:**

See no 3

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

No

**If yes, please explain how:**

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

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**7. How is your work on palm oil funded?**

It is funded by various donors including the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Netherlands (DGIS) and NORAD (Norway)

**Time-Bound Plan****8. Date started or expect to start participating in RSPO working groups/taskforces**

2008

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

2014

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

- Contribute to the implementation of the new RSPO P&C through monitoring, and provision of awareness and training materials regarding GHG and land subsidence issues
- Ensure reduction of emission by the sector by stopping the expansion of oil palm plantations on peat and encouraging the rehabilitation of peatlands well before the drainage base is reached.
- Encourage Malaysian and Indonesian governments to adopt policies in support of the RSPO P&C (to create a level playing field)
- Industry standards, regulations and community practices are improved for at least three production systems to prevent the loss of wetlands and their values, such as for water, climate regulation and biodiversity.
- Inclusion of ILUC factors in the EU revised Renewable Energy Directive

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

Indonesia, Malaysia, Netherlands

**Actions for Next Reporting Period****12. Outline actions that will be taken in the coming year to promote sustainable palm oil**

- Proposal on the development of user-friendly guidance for the implementation of the newly adopted P&C and for measuring and monitoring the required data for GHG and carbon calculations.
- To promote adequate NGO participation in the RSPO process, such as National Interpretations in Indonesia and Malaysia on the new RSPO P&C.

## Reasons for Non-Disclosure of Information

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

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- Other reason:

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## Application of Principles & Criteria for all members sectors

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

- Energy and carbon footprints
- Ethical conduct
- Labour rights
- Stakeholder engagement

**Energy and carbon footprints policy**

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**Ethical conduct policy**

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**Labour rights policy**

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**Stakeholder engagement policy**

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

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

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

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

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

No

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## Challenges

1. Significant economic, social or environmental obstacles

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

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Cost Effective:

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Robust:

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Simpler to Comply to:

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

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