

## Particulars

### About Your Organisation

**Organisation Name**

World Resources Institute (WRI)

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**Corporate Website Address**

<http://www.wri.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   |
|-------------------|---------------------|---|
| 6-0020-12-000-00  | 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 ?

The World Resources Institute (WRI) is a global environmental think tank that goes beyond research to put ideas into action. WRI's mission is to move human society to live in ways that protect Earth's environment and its capacity to provide for the needs and aspirations of current and future generations. WRI's Forest program aims to reverse rapid degradation of ecosystems and assure their capacity to provide humans with needed goods and services.

#### 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

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

During the reporting period, the following activities were undertaken to support sustainable palm oil, the RSPO, and its members:

- (1) Launching the beta-version of Global Forest Watch Commodities (GFW Commodities) at the RSPO European Summit in London. GFW-C is an online platform, hosted by WRI and multiple partner organizations including the RSPO, that offers a suite of tools to help businesses address deforestation in supply chains. In collaboration with the RSPO, WRI developed several tools and datasets specifically designed to support the capacity of the RSPO and its members including: publishing RSPO map of certified areas, digitized by AidEnvironment from existing audit reports; developing a prototype mill point "supplier risk assessment tool" to support companies in identifying highest priority mills for engagement (2015); developing a public-facing tool to allow users to sign-up for fire and deforestation alerts for specific areas of interest; publishing RSPO certified mill dataset (2015); publishing improved data on primary forests in Indonesia (2015); developing a global joint mill dataset (still in progress); developing specialized RSPO historic "LUCC analysis" tool;
- (2) Launching the Global Forest Watch – Fires website that provides near real-time monitoring of illegal fires in Indonesia to support monitoring of fire clearance for palm oil production. WRI is currently working directly with the RSPO to improve fire monitoring and verification capacity for RSPO's "Eyes on the Haze" initiative.
- (3) Engaging RSPO member companies to improve forest monitoring and risk assessment capabilities, promote traceability efforts, and drive improved transparency within palm oil supply chains. This includes several new formal partnerships with RSPO member producers, traders, and consumer goods manufacturers as well as with the IDH-convened Traceability Working Group.
- (4) Supporting the implementation of the staged implementation of the RSPO Remediation and Compensation Procedures by co-chairing the Compensation Taskforce and Biodiversity and High Conservation Values Working Group; leading the development of the historic land use/cover change (LUCC) analyses procedures and supporting documents; developing the review process for submitted LUCC analyses and reviewing all submissions thus far; developing an automated "RSPO LUCC tool" on the GFW-Commodities site; and helping to organize and conduct stakeholder outreach and roadshow events for the draft procedures.
- (5) Continuing to build capacity and provide technical support to the RSPO through our ongoing partnership by producing numerous situation-specific geospatial analyses requested by the Secretariat; setting up an automated fire alert system for RSPO certified areas; supporting the implementation on the resolution requiring members to submit their concession maps to be published; planning future activities to expand the WRI/RSPO partnership.
- (6) Publishing numerous reports and stories related to sustainable palm oil issues.
- (7) Partnering with other RSPO member NGOs to build mapping/monitoring potential – such as building an embedded mapping application on the Zoological Society of London's SPOTT website.
- (8) Participating in the Dispute Settlement Facility Advisory group. (9) Promoting improved land use planning, forest monitoring, and sustainable palm oil development at the country level in Indonesia through active engagement with government, KADIN, ISPO, and IPOP, and TFA Indonesia. This year WRI also established an official WRI Indonesia office.
- (10) Participating in the High Carbon Stock Steering Group and joining the HCV Resource Network.
- (11) Presenting at RSPO conferences, including the RT 12 in KL, RSPO Latin American conference in Guatemala, RSPO European Summit and numerous outreach events.

**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 Biodiversity & High Conservation Values Working Group (invited guest since 2012, member and co-chair since June 2013)

(2) Co-Chair of the Compensation Task Force (invited guest since 2012, member and co-chair since 2013)

(3) Member of the Indonesia High Conservation Values Task Force (member since 2012)

(4) Member of the Dispute Settlement Facility Advisory Group (member since 2013)

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**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**

(1) Ongoing partnership with the RSPO, focused on building the capacity of the RSPO through the development of tools and analyses and promoting the uptake of these tools and analyses by RSPO members.

(2) ToRs, MoUs, and/or partnership activities with several RSPO member producers, traders, consumer goods manufacturers, and retailers on issues surrounding forest monitoring, land use planning, traceability and transparency of palm oil supply chains.

(3) Partnership between WRI and Unilever geared towards increasing transparency of key commodity supply chains to help end tropical deforestation.

(4) Active participation in the IDH-Convened Traceability Working Group

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

10%

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

(1) WRI's Project POTICO has received generous support from: NewPage Corporation, Walmart, the Netherlands Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency, the International Finance Corporation's Biodiversity and Agricultural Commodities Program (the International Finance Corporation is not responsible for the implementation or administration of this project), and the United Kingdom Climate Change Unit of Indonesia (UKCCU). (2) Global Forest Watch – Commodities, along with Global Forest Watch has received generous support from the U.S. government through USAID, along with the Norwegian government through NORAD, and the British government through DFID.

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

2011

**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 of CSPO)?**

2009: (1) Launch of WRI's Project POTICO, aimed at promoting sustainable palm oil production and improved forest management in Indonesia (2) Began engagement with RSPO as an affiliate member. (3) Established an MoU with RSPO member grower to implement a pilot "land swap" initiative.

2011: (1) Initiated engagement in the RSPO INA HCV TF 2012: (2) Became an ordinary member of the RSPO (3) Established an MoU with the RSPO Secretariat to help build the capacity of the Secretariat. (4) Published WRI working paper "How to Identify Potentially Suitable Degraded Land for Sustainable Palm Oil in Indonesia". (5) Launched the Forest Cover Analyzer and Suitability Mapper at RT 10. (6) Conducted training sessions for RSPO Certification Bodies for use of WRI's web applications in the certification process. (7) Began attending the BHCV WG and CTF (as an invited guest). (8) Conducted internal palm oil product usage inventory for WRI headquarters in Washington, DC.

2013: (9) Became official members and elected co-chair of the BHCV WG and CTF and became member of the DSF AG. (10) Provided technical support to RSPO Secretariat in Riau hot spot analysis. (11) Continued to work with the RSPO to develop products and publications on issues related to sustainable palm oil production (12) Expanded the geographic coverage of WRI web applications within Indonesia. (13) Established partnership with an RSPO member grower company in line with Project POTICO's objectives.

2014: (1) Established an official WRI Indonesia presence (yayasan) (2) Continued to be active in RSPO as members and co-chairs on RSPO working groups and taskforces (3) Established partnership activities with several RSPO member companies in line with Project POTICO's and Global Forest Watch Commodities' strategies (4) Launched Global Forest Watch Commodities beta website at RSPO European Summit (5) Launched RSPO certified areas map on GFW Commodities platform (6) Developed and implemented risk methodology for assessing company risk of violating sourcing policies (7) Launched Indonesia primary forest data on GFW Commodities platform (8) Released updated Intact Forest Landscape data (9) Launched GFW Fires platform (10) Collaborated with leading palm oil companies to advance transparency in the palm oil sector through new commitments and public data (11) Supported the staged implementation of the RSPO Remediation and Compensation Procedures (12) Announced public partnership with Unilever and actively engaged with producers, traders, and buyers/retailers on transparency and traceability for palm oil supply chains (13) Launched RSPO certified mill data on the GFW Commodities platform. (14) Participated in TFA (as a partner as well as with TFA Indonesia group and TFA Palm Oil Initiative for Africa).

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

- Indonesia
- 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)**

(1) Continue to build upon partnership with the RSPO, actively participate in working groups, and develop tools and analyses to support the capacity of the RSPO and its members. (2) Build on existing partnerships and establish new partnerships with RSPO member producers, traders, buyers/retailers, and investors, as well as non-member companies. Through these partnership develop and ensure private sector uptake of tools, analyses, and implementation activities to promote commitments to sustainability (3) Expand the geographic focus of WRI's work related to palm oil and other commodities. (4) Based on stakeholder feedback, adapt and improve the Global Forest Watch Commodities platform and associated datasets to improve transparency, forest monitoring, traceability, and sustainable land use planning in the palm oil supply chain. (5) Publish reports, analyses, tools, and datasets related to sustainable palm oil. (6) Conduct in-depth country level engagement activities in Indonesia related to sustainable land use planning, improved transparency, and government support for sustainable palm oil (such as the OneMap initiative, ISPO, mapping suitable areas for production, protection of HCV set asides, transparency, and concession allocation processes). (7) Partner with NGOs and multistakeholder platforms to build capacity and support efforts related to sustainable palm oil.

**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?

Yes

**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](#)
- Land Use Rights  
[EN-Policies-to-PNC-landuserights.pdf](#)
- Ethical Conduct  
[EN-Policies-to-PNC-ethicalconduct.pdf](#)
- Labour rights  
[EN-Policies-to-PNC-laborrights.pdf](#)
- Stakeholder engagement  
[EN-Policies-to-PNC-stakeholderengagement.pdf](#)

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

The internal WRI employee handbook includes additional details on policies relevant to several of the P&C requirements (labour rights, ethical conduct, carbon footprint/sustainability). Other WRI policies and reports relevant to ethical business conduct are publicly available online on the WRI website. See <http://www.wri.org/about/wri-annual-reports-and-corporate-documents> for further details.

**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?**

Major publications: How to Identify Degraded Land for Sustainable Palm Oil in Indonesia. April 2012.

<http://www.wri.org/publication/how-identify-degraded-land-sustainable-palm-oil-indonesia>.

Available in English and Bahasa Indonesia. How to Change Legal Land Use Classifications to Support More Sustainable Palm Oil Production in Indonesia. October 2013.

<http://www.wri.org/publication/how-to-change-legal-land-use-classifications-to-support-Available> in English and Bahasa Indonesia. Interactive

Web Applications: Global Forest Watch: [www.globalforestwatch.org](http://www.globalforestwatch.org). Available in 15 languages.

Global Forest Watch Commodities [commodities.globalforestwatch.org](http://commodities.globalforestwatch.org) Global Forest Watch Fires: [fires.globalforestwatch.org](http://fires.globalforestwatch.org). Global Forest Watch Commodities Tutorial and Overview:

<http://www.wri.org/resources/videos/global-forest-watch-commodities-tutorial-overview>

Numerous web stories (blogs) related to sustainable palm oil published on the WRI website since initial engagement with the RSPO in 2009 (search request for "palm oil" returns results of 262 blog posts on the WRI site - for full list of blogs, publications, tools, and press releases visit [wri.org](http://wri.org)). All are available in English, many that are specifically relevant to Indonesia are also available in Bahasa Indonesia. Within the current reporting period, several examples include:

<http://www.wri.org/blog/2013/10/%E2%80%9Cswapping-land%E2%80%9D-produce-http://www.wri.org/blog/2014/03/indonesian-fires-bring-more-haze-southeast-asia>

<http://www.wri.org/blog/2013/06/3-ways-achieve-zero-tropical-deforestation-2020>

<http://www.wri.org/blog/2014/01/7-stories-watch-2014>

<http://www.wri.org/blog/2014/03/fires-indonesia-spike-highest-levels-june-2013-haze->

**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?

WRI has identified four key obstacles to the expansion of sustainable palm oil on degraded land rather than high conservation value forests in Indonesia (similar challenges apply more broadly as well): (1) Technical: Policy-makers lack the accurate land cover and land use spatial data needed to develop and implement an effective degraded land utilization strategy. This shortcoming constrains the government's ability to identify degraded land suitable for oil palm expansion and to conduct land use monitoring and enforcement activities. Additionally, palm oil buyers/retailers, investors, and traders still lack necessary data to achieve full supply chain traceability and to effectively assess the associated risks to sustainability commitments associated with their supply bases. (2) Legal: In many areas, physically degraded land is legally classified as "forest" and therefore unavailable for agricultural expansion, while forested land is legally classified as "non-forest" and therefore at risk of conversion. (3) Social: Oil palm plantation projects face high risk of social conflict due to land tenure issues. This is especially a problem on degraded lands which tend to have more claims than forested areas. Historically, poorly managed projects have resulted in highly unequal distribution of costs and benefits of expansion, leading to the marginalization of local communities. (4) Financial: Many permits for plantation development on forested land have already been issued. Changing these permits and ensuring the long term sustainable management of the forest will likely require financial incentives for local stakeholders—companies, communities, and governments—who expected to benefit from plantation development. These incentives could include payments for reducing emissions from deforestation or revenues from low impact forest uses. Project POTICO's primary focus was on mitigating these obstacles in Indonesia by providing data-driven analysis to support government and civil society actions for effective and equitable land-use in the region. Additionally (and at a global scale), WRI's Global Forest Watch-Commodities (GFW-Commodities) initiative provides a dynamic online forest monitoring and alert system that unites satellite technology and open data to guarantee access to timely and reliable information about forests. GFW-Commodities draws on timely and reliable information to provide business-relevant analyses through a suite of analytical tools.

### 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)**

WRI's efforts related to palm oil focus on supporting companies in the successful implementation of their sustainability commitments, which in turn has direct impact on market transformation. We work to build capacity and improve supply chain transparency to enable companies and other stakeholders to monitor and publicly demonstrate progress and identify problems/risks, as well as to influence the development of more robust standards, policies, and best management practices.

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

Following an internal inventory of products containing palm oil and palm oil derivatives used in the WRI headquarters in Washington, DC, WRI produced an internal report of its findings for its staff and is seeking to include an official organizational strategy guiding palm oil use.

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