

Particulars

About Your Organisation

1.1 Member Name

Agricultural Industries Confederation Limited

1.2 Membership Number

8-0209-18-000-00

1.3 Membership Sector

Associations

1.4 Membership Category

Affiliate

1.5 Country

United Kingdom

2.0 Does your company or organisation produce, process, consume or sell any palm oil or any products containing derivatives of palm oil?

No

2.2 Please select all the sectors that best describe the business activities of your company or organisation, including your primary RSPO membership sector. You may select multiple sectors and will be required to complete the ACOP form for the relevant sectors

- I am a bank or financial institution that finances or supports companies or organisations that produce or manufacture palm oil, palm kernel oil or related products
- I am a conservation and environmental NGO supporting the sustainable development of the palm oil industry
- I am a social and human development NGO supporting the sustainable development of the palm oil industry
- I am an Affiliate member of the RSPO, indirectly involved in the palm oil industry

Affiliates

1. Operational Profile

1.1 What are the main activities of your organisation?

AIC is a trade association based in the UK representing the agri-supply industry in the areas of political lobbying, technical information, trade assurance, conference and events.

1.2 What activities has your organisation undertaken to promote sustainable palm oil, the RSPO and/or RSPO members in the reporting period?

Our AIC Services Palm Oil Credit Scheme (APOCS) was launched in 2019 as a system to purchase RSPO Credits on behalf of AIC members and promote the use of sustainable palm oil in the animal feed sector. During the reporting period we have continued to operate the system and made Credits purchases for our members of both CSPO and CSPKE.

1.3 What percentage of your organisation's overall activities focus on palm oil?

2.0%

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

No

1.5 Does your organisation have any past or on-going collaborations with public or private sector palm oil industry players to support them in their efforts to increase the production or consumption of certified sustainable palm oil (CSPO)?

Yes

1.6 How is your organisation's work on palm oil funded?

AIC membership fees fund information provision and the operation of the member RSPO Credit purchase scheme, AIC Palm Oil Credit Scheme (APOCS). Further funding comes directly from the APOCS scheme.

2. Actions for Next Reporting Period

2.1 Please outline activities that your organisation will take in the coming year to promote the production or consumption of certified sustainable palm oil (CSPO)

AIC will continue to promote its APOCS RSPO Credit purchase scheme to members of AIC animal feed sector and encourage the use of sustainably produced palm oil, palm kernel expeller and derivatives within animal feed supply chains. In addition the knowledge and awareness of sustainable palm oil within the animal feed sector will continue to be provided via website updates and information sent to AIC members, non-members, trade assurance participants and stakeholders.

Challenges and Support

1.1 What significant obstacles or challenges has your company encountered in the promotion of certified sustainable palm oil (CSPO)? What efforts has your company taken to address these obstacles or challenges?

- Awareness of RSPO in the market
- Difficulties in the certification process
- Certification of smallholders
- Competition with non-RSPO members
- High costs in achieving or adhering to certification
- Human rights issues
- Insufficient demand for RSPO-certified palm oil
- Low usage of palm oil
- Reputation of palm oil in the market
- Reputation of RSPO in the market
- Supply issues
- Traceability issues
- No challenges faced
- Others

Others

One continuing challenge is around the lack of focus on palm oil, which makes up a very small proportion of the products used by the industry (estimated at around 0.33%). This is exacerbated by the fact that many feed manufacturers purchase a blended oil which reduces the visibility of the palm oil itself. Most palm oil is used in fat blends for ruminant feeds, along with PFAD and mixed soft acids.

Further challenges are the cost implications for businesses to move to CSPO from non-certified supply which can be difficult to justify in a market where margins are tight and traceability can be difficult where small amounts of derivatives or mixed blends are used.

AIC continues to raise awareness of the option of CSPO and in particular the PalmTrace RSPO Credits Certificates scheme, as well as the options to purchase Credits for palm kernel expeller and other palm oil derivatives.

Changes in regulation in Europe and the UK around sustainability and forest risk commodities have focussed attention on oil palm and soy. AIC is involved in discussion and consultation with UK governments where feed supply chains are affected. Members and trade assurance scheme participants are kept updated and support and training are developed as required.

1.2 In addition to the actions already reported in this ACOP report, what other ways has your company supported the vision of the RSPO to transform markets to make sustainable palm oil the norm?

- Communication and/or engagement to transform the negative perception of palm oil
- Engagement with business partners or consumers on the use of CSPO
- Engagement with government agencies
- Engagement with peers and clients
- Promotion of CSPO through off product claims
- Promotion of CSPO outside of RSPO venues such as trade workshops or industry associations
- Promotion of physical CSPO
- Providing funding or support for CSPO development efforts
- Research & Development support
- Stakeholder engagement
- No actions taken
- Others

Others

-

1.3 If your company has any other publicly-available reports or information regarding its palm oil-related policies and activities, please provide the links here

APOCS website link: <https://www.agindustries.org.uk/resource/palm-oil-apocs.html>
