

Particulars

About Your Organisation

1.1 Member Name

OVID Verband der ölsaatenverarbeitenden Industrie in Deutschland e.V.

1.2 Membership Number

8-0094-08-000-00

1.3 Membership Sector

Organisations

1.4 Membership Category

Affiliate

1.5 Country

Germany

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?

OVID represents the oilseed crushing and vegetable oil refining companies in Germany. As an association OVID is the interface between its member companies, politics, industry, academia and institutions.

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

Discussion, exchange and communication of palm oil and RSPO related topics within OVID board and OVID committees (e.g. committee on sustainability) and with other stakeholders in the supply chain.

Collaboration and input in multistakeholder alliances and working groups in order to improve standards, mechanisms and measures to improve sustainable supply chains.

Publication of press releases, Social Media Postings and position papers on sustainable supply chains, due diligence and deforestation.

Participation in conferences, seminars, training courses.

Publication of a facts and data brochure on sustainable supply chains, title: „Sustainable Palm Oil and Soy? Yes Please!“, publication of accompanying information, such as a fact check on sustainably certified palm oil in Germany

Since 2019 OVID is board member of FONAP (Forum for Sustainable Palm Oil in Germany), a multistakeholder platform with the aim to boost significantly the proportion of segregated, certified sustainable palm oil in Germany. OVID's membership in the FONAP-board was continued in 2021 by elections of the General Assembly of Members. As board member OVID heads the permanent FONAP working group on communication, also the communication task force of FONAP and is responsible for all communication activities and publications of FONAP.

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

10.0%

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?

Our general work as an association including palm oil is funded by membership fees.

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)

In 2024, our focus will continue to be active participation in the board of the Forum for Sustainable Palm Oil (FONAP).

OVID will further accompany the implementation of the EU Deforestation Regulation individually as well as in cooperation with other German agricultural associations and in Dialogue with other stakeholders.

The recognition by the EU of our member companies' sustainability measures plays a central role here. In dialog with politicians and through our communications work, we are trying to persuade legislators to take greater account of certification as part of the due diligence statement than has been provided for by law against Deforestation to date. Through our involvement with FONAP, we are also trying to persuade RSPO to lobby the EU to take greater account of certification systems in legislation.

We are continuing our information activities on the benefits of sustainably certified palm oil. We will also critically monitor the implementation of the Deforestation Regulation - also with regard to the palm oil supply chain - and articulate questions and challenges.

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

In Germany demand is still lower than supply of CSPO.

Supply chain regulation competes in part with certification.

Criticism based on individual cases could discredit RSPO and CSPO.

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

We coordinate these measures to a large extent through our active participation as a member of FONAP (see above) and through our work on the FONAP Board.

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

+++ Letter from the Alliance of Associations on EUDR to political decision-makers (in german):
"Preventing a false start for the EU Deforestation Regulation (EUDR)"

https://www.raiffeisen.de/sites/default/files/2024-04/Verb%C3%A4ndeschreiben%20EUDR%20an%20BM%20%C3%96zdemir_.pdf

+++ Fact check on sustainable PO on Social Media (in german):

<https://twitter.com/ovidverband/status/1594640586220380160?s=61&t=8fSDHBt81d4leQOsYqUSpA>

+++ Joint associations position on the eu regulation regarding deforestation free products (in german):

<https://www.ovid-verband.de/artikel/positionen/gemeinsame-verbaende-position-zur-eu-verordnung-ueber-entwaldungsfreie-produkte>

+++ OVID-Brochure „Sustainable Palmoil and Soy. Yes Please!“ (in german):

<https://www.ovid-verband.de/artikel/positionen/nachhaltiges-palmoel-und-soja-ja-bitte>

+++ OVID-Position Paper on "Supporting human rights due diligence in the supply chains of the German oil milling industry" (in german):

<https://www.ovid-verband.de/artikel/positionen/unterstuetzungmenschentlicher-sorgfaltspflicht-in-den-lieferketten-der-deutschen-oelmuehlenindustr> Press Release
