

Particulars

About Your Organisation

1.1 Member Name

TRANSITIONS Développement Durable S.A.S.

1.2 Membership Number

8-0174-15-000-00

1.3 Membership Sector

Organisations

1.4 Membership Category

Affiliate

1.5 Country

France

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?

TRANSITIONS is a sustainability consultancy based in Paris funded in 2007. We carry out missions at both national and international level, with local authorities, companies, cooperatives, agricultural sectors and NGOs in order to support and promote change towards more sustainable, responsible and inclusive development models.

With a strong expertise in sustainable sourcing, Transitions assists private players in designing strategies, developing tools and methodologies, and implementing action plans in order to secure responsible and deforestation-free sources of supplies. Our expertise covers a wide range of agricultural, forestry, animal, mineral and synthetic raw materials. With a long experience working in strategic advising related to the composite landscapes of various commodities, we benefit from a strong understanding of value chain complexities, a good reputation with external stakeholders, as well as a deep expertise in building sustainable sourcing strategies and procurement models that deliver positive impacts both in the supply chain and in the field.

As an independent third-party, we act as facilitators to build dialogue with direct and indirect suppliers, as well as internal and external stakeholders in order to enhance win-win improvement all along the chain. As of 2021, Transitions is part of Ecocert's Advisory & Training Division.

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

We support the implementation of our clients' sustainability policies, notably through purchase practice strategies aiming to increase the share of sustainable palm oil.

In 2019, Transitions and its partner BSR launched the Action for Sustainable Derivatives (ASD) initiative (<https://sustainablederivatives.org/>). The ASD initiative brings together companies from the cosmetics, home and personal care, healthcare, and oleochemicals industries in the building of a responsible palm derivatives supply chain. ASD participants aim to scale up efforts towards compliance with No Deforestation, No Peat, No Exploitation (NDPE) principles and to positively transform the palm oil industry.

By harmonizing requirements, standardizing tools and methodologies, and mutualizing efforts, ASD intends to increase the transparency of the global derivatives supply-chain, collectively monitor risks and activities along the supply-chain, and implement collective action projects to address social and environmental issues on the ground. Notably in 2023:

- ASD moved towards more proactive grievance monitoring through use of satellite monitoring tool Nusantara Atlas. Such enhanced monitoring is also an effort to move towards compliance with verified deforestation-free sourcing needs from regulations. ASD is also strengthening its support on grievance management by developing plans for collective grievance management.

- ASD aims to create a unified voice of influence for derivatives users, and a platform for engaging with the full sector towards the common goal of securing NDPE-compliant supplies in derivative supply chains. This includes: assessment of direct suppliers and cascading sustainability expectations; relationship-building with traders to identify opportunities for collective action; coordinating with wider sustainable palm initiatives to ensure alignment; and engaging RSPO towards a more robust mass balance model. In 2021, Transitions and ASD members, along with civil society partners, submitted of the approved Resolution GA18-2c requesting to strengthen social and environmental safeguards for the non-certified share of palm oil considered in the MB certification.

- It's been two years since ASD set up a collective Impact Fund fund through which companies can pool resources to collectively support jurisdictional projects in key sourcing regions. Currently in its second year of collective support to Kaleka's Mosaik Initiative, ASD has an established relationship with Kaleka and can achieve deeper on-the-ground engagement, including the possibility for companies to purchase independent smallholder credits from the project. In the near-term, ASD plans to expand the portfolio of projects it supports.

- During the public consultations for the revision of the RSPO principles and criteria, ASD proposed a common reading grid and pushed ASD members to respond to the consultations.

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

35%

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?

The organization is funded through the various consultancy missions supporting our clients, including members of the ASD initiative (Action for Sustainable Derivatives).

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)

We will continue to support our clients in the implementation of their sustainability policy, notably through an increased use of sustainable palm oil. Through the ASD initiative, we support oleochemical users in their supply-chain monitoring and business transformation toward the production and consumption of more sustainable palm oil, including CSPO. The ASD aims to identify opportunities for increased uptake and availability of MB/SG certified derivatives, in order to support its members and promote sustainable palm oil. ASD is also supporting its members in supporting the uptake of CSPO through ISH credits.

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

Lack of certified volumes available in the derivatives sector, notably for PKO-based products (all RSPO schemes included), and absence of SG/IP volumes for derivatives.

Supply chain challenges and price volatility due to the current market context.

Lack of robustness of the MB model due to the absence of verification and traceability mechanisms for conventional palm oil. In the context of the EUDR law, MB volumes will be difficult to valorize with the current guarantees offered by this model.

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

As a sustainability consultation agency, we support the increase of transparency and sustainability in palm oil sourcing supply-chains, the implementation of sustainability sourcing policies, and support to sustainable palm production initiatives for our clients. We also develop and cooperate on methodologies, tools and solutions for the industry, promoted through working groups, webinars, and conferences, in order to increase transparency in the supply-chain, the development of robust risk assessment and monitoring methodologies including supplier assessment for palm related topics, the uptake of sustainable palm oil volumes, and the development of responsible field projects supporting smallholders towards RSPO certification.

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

<https://static1.squarespace.com/static/6166ce0aec25090d097ac817/t/654b714633137e7c0c6223d2/1699443031062/ASD+Annual+Update+on+Progress+2023.pdf>
