



RSPO is an international non-profit organisation formed in 2004 with the objective to promote the growth and use of sustainable oil palm products through credible global standards and engagement of stakeholders.

# Factsheet on

**Strengthening local communities, small and small producers and working people in Guatemala and Honduras in RSPO mechanisms – Guatemala Honduras**



# OXFAM

## About

**Oxfam** is a global organization that fights inequality to end poverty and injustice. We offer [lifesaving support](#) in times of crisis and advocate for [economic justice](#), [gender equality](#), and [climate action](#). We demand equal rights and equal treatment so that everyone can thrive, not just survive. The future is equal.

**CNV**, we are the development organisation of the Dutch trade union CNV, and we work closely with international partner unions. We train partners from abroad to become strong negotiating partners in their own countries to strengthen the voice of workers young people and women.

## Background

Oxfam and CNV International work with the RSPO to improve guidelines and practices related to human rights and communities affected by palm oil operations, including workers, indigenous people, women, and human rights defenders. They focus on ensuring these groups are actively involved and informed in using RSPO standards.

Their work also encourages RSPO companies and auditors to consult social movements and human rights organizations when assessing compliance. Their goals align with RSPO's outreach program, which seeks to raise awareness among communities, civil society, and local governments about RSPO processes, ensuring active participation in sustainable palm oil practices.



## Objectives

In this regard, the objectives of Oxfam and CNV International in their work in RSPO are very much aligned with the objectives of the RSPO outreach program, which seeks to ensure informed and qualified participation from communities and workers of the RSPO at all levels, establishing stronger linkages with the RSPO through intermediary organisations, and for civil society organisations (CSOs) and local governments to be aware of the RSPO and its mechanisms, facilitating active and informed community participation in the implementation

of sustainability efforts by producers and palm oil companies.

## Project Approaches

1. **Access to RSPO Mechanisms:** Social groups, workers, and local actors can use RSPO tools to take part and protect their rights in palm oil areas.
2. **Creation of a CSO Working Group:** A CSO group or Human Rights Observatory in Guatemala and Honduras will work with RSPO to support its rules during audits and certifications.
3. **Best Practices and Challenges:** Find best practices and challenges in training and using RSPO tools. Improve RSPO policies (P&C 2023) for better results.
4. **Pilot Dialogues for Direct Agreements:** Set up talks between companies and social groups to create agreements, especially between palm oil companies and workers.

## Project Area

### Guatemala

- Northeastern region (Petén, Alta Verapaz)
- Northeastern region (Izabal, Alta Verapaz)
- Southwestern region (Escuintla, Suchitepéquez, Quetzaltenango, San Marcos).

### Honduras

- Valle del Sula (Puerto Cortés, Yoro, Atlántida)
- Valle Lean (Atlántida)
- Valle del Aguán (Colón, Yoro)

## Deliverables

1. **Capacity Building Initiatives:** Delivered training sessions on the RSPO standards and mechanisms and engaged labour unions, local communities, and certification bodies to enhance their understanding and use of RSPO frameworks.
2. **Stakeholder Engagement:** Enhancing the ability of these groups to access RSPO mechanisms, including the Complaints and Appeals Procedure, ensuring their voices are heard in decision-making processes.
3. **Establishment of Observatories:** Created the **Human Rights and Labor Rights Observatory** for the oil palm industry that focused on monitoring, reporting, and advocating for improvements in Guatemala and Honduras.

Find out more at [rspo.org](https://rspo.org)