

Roundtable on Sustainable Palm Oil

New Planting Procedure

PUBLIC SUMMARY REPORT

A Summary of the Planning and Management of Socio-Environmental Impacts, High Conservation Values and High Carbon Stocks of New Developments Proposed by HIGATURU OIL PALM (HOP), Popondetta, Oro Province, Papua New Guinea.

May 31, 2016

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Abbreviations

ALS	Assessor Licensing	
	Scheme	
AOI	Area Of Interest	
BBGI	Biage Business Group	
	Inc	
CEPA	Conservation &	
	Environment	
	Protection Authority	

Department of Lands	
and Physical Planning	
Expression of Interest	
Free Prior Inform	
Concept	
Geographical	
Information Systems.	
General Manager	

HCV High Conservation		
	Value	
HCVMA	High Conservation	
Value Management		
	Area	
HCS	High Carbon Stock	
HOP	Higaturu Oil Palms	
IFMP	Integrated Forest	
Management Plan		

ILG	Incorporated Land	MOU	Memorandum Of	SABL	Special Agriculture
	Group		Understanding		Business Lease
LLG	Local Level	NBPOL	New Britain Palm Oil	SEIA	Socio-Environment
	Government		Limited		Impact Assessment
LO	Landowner	OPLD	Oro Provincial Lands	TFT	The Forest Trust
LSS	Land Settlement		Division	TSD	Technical Services
	Scheme	QABB	Queen Alexandra Bird		Division
LUCA	Land Use Change		wing Butterfly	VOP	Village Oil Palm
	Analysis	POIG	Palm Oil Innovations		0
ME	Mini Estates		Group		
MOA	Memorandum Of	RSPO	Roundtable Sustainable		
	Agreement		Palm Oil		

1.0 Executive Summary

This report summarizes management and monitoring recommendations provided in the Social and Environmental Impact Assessment, the High Conservation Value Assessment and a High Carbon Stock Assessment that were implemented as part of the new planting procedures required by the RSPO for a proposed new oil palm development put forth by Higaturu Oil Palm Ltd in Oro Province, Papua New Guinea.

Higaturu Oil Palms, part of the New Britain Palm Oil Group, has been an RSPO certified palm oil plantation since 20 Feb 2013. Higaturu Oil Palms, here forward referred to as HOP, is located on the Oro Plains of Oro Province of Papua New Guinea. HOP is and is planning to develop oil palm plantations on a 31 separate areas ranging in size 18 to 584 ha with a combined total area of roughly 3259.38 hectares were assessed against for potential social and environmental impacts (SEIA), the presence of High Conservation Values (HCV) and High Carbon Stock (HCS). The current study is being shared with the High Carbon Stock Steering Committee and demonstrates NBPOL's support for the Palm Oil Innovation Group.

The SEIA acknowledges that HOP has and is following due process as per the principles of Free, Prior and Informed Consent. Of the 31 estates assessed, 28 are under customary ownership and 3 under state leases. The study concludes that negative environmental impacts will be minimal as the proposed plantings are predominantly on man-made grassland. In addition it is concluded that although the proposed project's socio economic benefits are substantial, HOP must work to counter the perceived negative impacts identified. A comprehensive aspect and impact register with proposed mitigation measures has been accepted by HOP.

The HCV assessment was carried out by Daemeter consultancy in July 2015; a firm recognized by the HCV Assessor Licensing Scheme (ALS) as created by the HCV Resource Network and utilized the PNG and Global Generic HCV Toolkit as its reference methodology. The HCV assessment includes a consultation of results with the landowners of the areas assessed. The assessments have recognized the following

- There was no primary forest identified
- All areas required to maintain or enhance one of more High Conservation Values (HCV's) have been identified with management recommendations given
- all areas have no peat soils

• all local peoples' land and FPIC process has been followed.

To complement the HCV assessment a High Carbon Stock Assessment was carried out. The HCS assessment was carried out by the The Forest Trust utilizing the methodology recommended by the High Carbon Stock Approach to which POIG members subscribe. The study found a high correlation between HCS and HCV areas identified but found an additional 163.1 of habitat it considers High Carbon Stock Indicative Conserve in various patches amongst the estates assessed. The HCS study indicates that these areas should be considered for conservation due to their carbon stock and sequestration potential. The study includes management recommendations to maintain and enhance the HCS habitats and HOP has accepted these.

In summary the HCV and HCS studies conclude that of the 3259.38 hectares assessed a total of 504.51ha were deemed important to maintain as habitat for HCV, 163.1were classified as to be considered for conservation due to HCS considerations and the remaining 2591.77ha were deemed suitable for development. All of these areas were mapped in a GIS and referenced in a comprehensive integrated management strategy presented on the basis of threats and mitigation analysis. The management recommendations to maintain these HCVs and HCSs have been accepted by HOP and are summarized in this report.

2.0 Scope of the Planning and Management

2.1 Organizational information and contact persons

Company Name	New Britain Palm Oil		
Subsidiary	Higaturu Oil Palms		
	RSPO Membership Number: 1-0016-04-000-		
	00		
Company Address	Higaturu Oil Palms		
	P.O Box 28		
	POPONDETTA		
	Oro Province		
	Papua New Guinea		
Geographical Location	E - 147°43′12″ - 148°27′25″		
	S - 8°34′28′′ - 8°55′30′′		
Capital Status	Foreign Investment		
Type of Business	Oil Palm plantation and milling		
Status of Land ownership	Customary land under Lease-lease Back		
	agreement.		
Contact Person	a. Sander Van Den Ende – Group		
	Sustainability Manger		
	(<u>svdende@nbpol.com.sg</u>)		
	b. Paul Maliou – Sustainability Manager		

Table 1: Organisational information and Contact person

	(pmaliou@nbpol.com.pg) c. Mike Jackson – General Manager (mjackson@nbpol.com.pg)		
Total Area of new planting (Overall	ll 3,261ha – Total Area Assessed		
Area Assessed)	656ha – HCV and HCA Area		
	2605ha - Plantable		

2.2 Personnel involved in planning and implementation

Planning and implementation plans for new planting involves Lands Department, Sustainability Department, TSD & GIS department and New Development.

Table 2: Personnel involved in planning and implementation

Name	Position
Sander van de Ende	Group Sustainability Manager
Paul Maliou	Sustainability Manager
Mike Jackson	General Manager
Richard Tiamu	TSD Manager
Brian Cazalet	Head of Plantations
Pieter Schlesinger	Estate Manager (New Development)
Benjamin Osa	Lands Manager



Figure 1: Organisational Structure

2.3 Stakeholders Consultation

The plantations which HOP currently managed have been established since the mid 1970's. Most of the executive staff is Papua New Guinean many of which are from the local area or have close ties there. NBPOL has long standing procedures based on the principles which are now commonly known as Free and Prior Informed Consent. These procedures have been summarized in a Management Guidelines (MG 21) which is audited against RSPO compliance and can be made publically available as per our commitment to transparency. While the MG is quite a long document, the essence of this document is distilled in the following guidelines. NBPOL does not solicit its interest to expand onto any one's land. NBPOL has a dedicated Lands Department to which landowners can express their interest in writing. Only then does NPBOL start the process of due diligence in assessing the viability of the proposed new developments. This is a process which can take anywhere from a year to over ten years, which includes the ensurance of complete understanding of the process and impacts involved, a complete verification of genealogy of the land owners to form the business relationship with and the legal mechanism to utilize to ensure this is founded in PNG Law. All of the proposed new developments included in this proposal have long case records with the NBPO Lands Department before the consultations of the SEIA, HCV and HCS were carried out.

SEIA stakeholder consultation was carried on the 18th – 25th of August 2015 at various sites, consultation with local landowners was held at each respective local meeting venues making easier for all the members to attend. The entire HCV and HCS work carried out from July 3-July 20 was based on field work in which the communities and landowners were intimately involved in the process. In addition on the 14-21 of October 2015 consultations were held with all the land owner groups and relevant stakeholders, cooperatives and government agencies representatives. The consultation was to provide feedback on the results of the HCV assessment and provide opportunities for communication and sharing the information, opinion and suggestion between the company, stakeholders and government bodies.

2.4. Reference documents

2.4.1. List of Reports

- CEPA has been advised by HOP with regards the proposed ME's and HOP has been formally cleared to proceed with land evaluation and acquisition.
- Notification for Environmental Permits for the new plantings submitted to CEPA have not yet been issued
- Local stakeholders including LLG's have been informed and included in discussions.
- MOU with landowners setting out terms and conditions
- Social Environment Impact Assessment 2015 by Mr. Narua Lovai
- HCV assessment for New Development 2015 by Daemeter Consultancy
- HCS Assessment for New Development 2015 by TFT

2.4.2 List of Legal Documents

Table 3: List of Legal Documents

1	Environment Act	Conservation &	2000
		Environment	
		Protection Authority	
2	Environment (Prescribe	Conservation &	2002
	Activities) Regulation	Environment	
		Protection Authority	
3	Land Group Incorporation	Lands Department	2009
	(Amendment) Act		
4	Fauna (Protection & Control)	Conservation &	2014
	Act	Environment	
		Protection Authority	
5	Papua New Guinea Logging	Forestry Authority	1996
	Code of Practiced		
6	Papua New Guinea Lands Act	Lands Department	1996

2.5 Location Maps

Both at landscape level and property level including area of new plantings. Prior to development at the new concessions preliminary assessments were undertaken and soil types recorded with a view for long term suitability. Preliminary maps of soil types for new planting areas are used in HCV identification process.



Figure 2: Location Map of HOP Project site



Figure 3: Location Map showing HOP New Proposed Development Areas



Figure 4: Soil Map showing soil suitability within all the proposed MEs

2.6 Area and Time plan for new Planting

Plantings will only proceed once all the NPP documentation has been approved by RSPO and has passed the 30 day period of public notification. Below is the expected timeframe of the proposed new plantings once the RSPO requirements have been met.

Name	Planting Time Table
Bana, Biage, Hoemba, Bakito Extension, Isatapa, Joiha, Jopare, Mohamei, Serembe, Sesehota, Sipari, UKD Extension	2016
Hoka, Soropa, Darua, Takoh, Hasina, Ufenapa, Wuria Purofafa	2017
Akute, Aruka, Viviri, Ase, Boruga Pusute, Bouga, Hopanda, Jireka 1, Jireka 2, Mena Extension, Sigu, Sauma	2018

Table 4: Area and Time plan for proposed new planting

3.0. Summary of Management and Planning

3.1 Summary of Planning and programs for Social and Environmental Impacts

The SEIA development and preparation of management and monitoring plan was prepared under cooperation agreement between Narua Lovai, a freelance SEIA consultant, and HOP. The preparation of this report refers to the result of identification and analysis of the Social Impact Assessment conducted in 17-25 August 2015 in the areas around HOP in Oro Province, Papua New Guinea.

The following management and mitigation measures are recommended for adoption and implementation, in order to address the significant potential social and environmental impacts and make the project socially acceptable and beneficial.

Table 5: Management and mitigation measures for Social Environment Impact Assessment

o	Aspect/Activity	Potential Impact/s	Relevant RSPO Principles	Mitigation measure/s	Performance indicator/s	Monitoring period/ frequency	Persons responsible for mitigation and monitoring
A	PRE-PLAINTING SITE EVAI	LUATION AND LANDUSE F	AGREEIVIENT NEG	UTIATIONS			
1	Expression of Interest (EoI) from landowners (LOs).	 Resistance by some LOs against the proposal to enter ME development venture with HOP. Some LOs may prefer establishing VOP blocks or other land uses. 	 Principles 7 including FPIC. 	 Ascertain that the Eol genuinely reflects the collective intention of all the landowners. Ensure that LOs are not coerced or unduly influenced in giving up their land for ME development. 	 Confirmation meeting held with the community. Confirmation interviews held with individual members of the community representing the demographic cross-section of the community. FPIC 	 During ILG registration and ME agreement negotiation . 	 Lands Officer Sustainability Manager
2	Study of ILG Genealogy.	 Some ILG members are not included. Disputes over eligibility for membership may arise. 	 Principles 1,2, 6 & 7 	 Ensure all LOs actively participate in the study. 	 Assessment of ILG genealogy in accordance with RSPO guidelines and the ILG Act. Timely submission of Genealogy 	 Prior to the start of ME agreement negotiation s. 	 Lands Officer Sustainability Manager

0	Aspect/Activity	Potential Impact/s	Relevant RSPO Principles	Mitigation measure/s	Performance indicator/s	Monitoring period/ frequency	Persons responsible for mitigation and monitoring
3	Survey of baseline ILG household socio- economic situation including the following aspects: Type of house Population Demography Education and skills Economic activity Income Nutrition Water supply Sanitation Health Law and order Local government support	Certain households not included in the survey.	 Principles 1,2, 3,4, 5,	Ensure all households are covered in the survey.	 Report. All households are covered in the survey. 	 Prior to the start of site preparatio n and then every three years during the lease period. 	 Lands Officer Sustainability Manager
4	Negotiation of ME Agreement as per the ILG Act.	 Land use agreement not understood by all LOs. Members of the ILG community not given the opportunity to hear from existing 	 Principles 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 & 8. 	 Ascertain that LOs are kept informed on the progress of the negotiations. Facilitate discussions between 	 LOs are kept informed on the progress of the negotiations. 	 During ME Agreement negotiation s. 	 Lands Officer Sustainability Manager

ο	Aspect/Activity	Potential Impact/s	Relevant RSPO Principles	Mitigation measure/s	Performance indicator/s	Monitoring period/ frequency	Persons responsible for mitigation and monitoring
5	Finalisation and signing	 ME landowners. Some LOs unwilling to proceed with ME development. LO terms and conditions not adequately accommodated in the agreement. LOs not fully aware 	Principles	 intending and current ME landowners. Ascertain that 	 LOs are aware 	 During and 	Lands Officer
	of ME Agreement.	of terms and conditions of the agreement before signing it.	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 & 8.	LOs are aware of terms and conditions of the agreement before signing it.	of terms and conditions of the agreement before signing it. This should be verified by the Ward Councillor and two local pastors.	up to the signing of the ME Agreement	 Sustainability Manager
6	Pre-development water quality analysis	 Lack of monitoring data will not help HOP deal effectively with water contamination allegations. 	 Principles 1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7 & 8. 	 Carry out pre- development water quality monitoring. 	 Pre- development water quality monitoring carried out. 	 Before start of site preparatio n. 	 Sustainability Manager
В	SITE PREPARATION AND	PLANTING					
7	Marking out of HCV sites, unplantable areas	• Some sites not marked for buffer zone protection.	 Principles 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 & 	 Ensure all relevant sites are clearly 	 All relevant sites are clearly 	 Prior to site preparatio 	 Lands Officer Sustainability Manager

0	Aspect/Activity	Potential Impact/s	Relevant RSPO Principles	Mitigation measure/s	Performance indicator/s	Monitoring period/ frequency	Persons responsible for mitigation and monitoring
	and buffer zones.		8.	marked.	marked.	n and planting.	
8	Enhancement of buffer zone vegetation.	 Species mix not improved in buffer zone. Lack of connectivity of forest areas and corridors to allow safe movement of fauna and avifauna. 	 Principles 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 & 8. 	 Facilitate restoration of local species variety including QABB vines in the buffer zones. Ensure connectivity of forest areas throughout the region. 	 Diverse local species including QABB vines in the buffer zones. Uninterrupted connectivity of forest areas throughout the region. 	During site preparatio n and planting	 Plantation Manager Sustainability Manager
9	Payment of land rental to ILG.	 Funds not used for the benefit of the ILG. Members not aware of how these funds are used. 	 Principles 2, 6, & 7. 	 Check that funds are used for the common good of the ILG. Confirm transparency in the use of ILG revenue. ILG Management training scheduled for February- October 2016 	• Funds are used for the common good of the ILG.	• Quarterly	 Lands Officer Sustainability Manager
10	Employment on ME.	 Priority not given to members of the 	• Principles 2, 3, 4, 5,	• Engage workers from outside of	• ME workers are from the	Quarterly	Lands OfficerSustainability

0	Aspect/Activity	Potential Impact/s	Relevant RSPO Principles	Mitigation measure/s	Performance indicator/s	Monitoring period/ frequency	Persons responsible for mitigation and monitoring
		 ILG community. Income abused on alcohol and luxury items, neglecting house improvement, water supply tank, better sanitation and clothing for the family. Increased income may lead to greater promiscuity and STD/HIV-AIDS infections. 	6, 7&8.	 the immediate area only when necessary. Provide awareness on budgeting and facilitate saving of income. Provide regular awareness on STD/HIV-AIDS infections. 	 ILG community or the immediate area. Awareness provided on budgeting and facilitate saving of income. Regular awareness on STD/HIV-AIDS infections. 		Manager
С	MAINTENANCE AND HAP	RVESTING					
11	Fertiliser application.	 Improper application of fertilisers resulting in bodily harm to sprayers and contamination of ground and surface water. 	 Principles 2, 4, 5, 6, 7 & 8. 	 Ensure proper application of fertiliser. Carry out periodic water quality monitoring. 	 Application of fertiliser by trained persons using the correct procedure. Water quality monitoring carried out as scheduled. 	 Monthly Six monthly 	 Plantation Manager Sustainability Manager

0	Aspect/Activity	Potential Impact/s	Relevant RSPO Principles	Mitigation measure/s	Performance indicator/s	Monitoring period/ frequency	Persons responsible for mitigation and monitoring
12	Pest control.	 Improper application of pesticides resulting in bodily harm to sprayers and contamination of ground and surface water. 	 Principles 2, 4, 5, 6, 7 & 8. 	 Ensure proper application of pesticides. Carry out periodic water quality monitoring. 	 Application of pesticides by trained persons using the correct PPE and procedure. Water quality monitoring carried out as scheduled. 	 Monthly Six monthly 	 Plantation Manager Sustainability Manager
13	Maintenance of buffer zone.	 Neglected buffer zone not effectively serving its intended purpose. 	 Principles 2, 4, 5, 6, 7 & 8. 	 Maintain local species variety including QABB vines in the buffer zones. Ensure connectivity of forest areas throughout the region. 	 Diverse local species including QABB vines in the buffer zones. Uninterrupted connectivity of forest areas throughout the region. 	• Monthly	 Plantation Manager Sustainability Manager
14	Payment of land rental, company shares and FFB royalty to the ILG.	 Funds not used for the benefit of the ILG. Lack of transparency in the use of these funds. 	 Principles 1, 2, 4, 6, 7 & 8. 	 Provide financial management assistance to the ILG Committee. Ensure members are informed of 	 Financial management assistance provided to the ILG Committee. Transparency in the use of ILG funds. 	• Six monthly	 Lands Officer Plantation Manager Sustainability Manager

ο	Aspect/Activity	Potential Impact/s	Relevant RSPO Principles	Mitigation measure/s	Performance indicator/s	Monitoring period/ frequency	Persons responsible for mitigation and monitoring
				use of ILG funds.			
15	HOP and ME management meetings.	 The inability to identify issues, resolve the negative aspects and maximise positive outcomes in a collaborative manner will prevent HOP from assisting the ILG community upgrade its socio- economic status and quality of life. 	 Principles 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 & 8. 	 Conduct regular management meetings. With the participation of the community, develop and implement solutions to issues identified by the meeting. 	 Management meetings conducted and corrective actions implemented. 	• Six monthly	 Lands Officer Plantation Manager Sustainability Manager
16	Three yearly household socio-economic surveys.	 Lack of monitoring and timely resolution may lead to severe social problems and decline in welfare of the ILG community. 	 Principles 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 & 8. 	 Carry out socio- economic surveys at three year intervals. With the participation of the community, develop and implement solutions to issues identified by the surveys. 	 Socio- economic surveys carried out and corrective actions implemented. 	• Three yearly	 Lands Officer Plantation Manager Sustainability Manager

3.2 Summary of HCV and HCS Management and Mitigation Plan

The results of the HCV identified 5 types of HCV in the entire proposed development areas and recommends for these areas to be managed and monitored by the company. These recommendations were subsequently discussed with NBPOL staff, stakeholders (during stakeholder consultations) and with the ME owners and government officials (during the public consultations). The HCS areas are to be managed in same way, so as to maintain or enhance these values originally identified. As such there will be no distinction made in management guidelines between these. All the areas are duly identified and mapped and made available in the Notification. The following table summarizes the management and monitoring recommendations.

HCV	Threat	Management Recommendation	Monitoring Recommendation
1	 Conversion of forest areas to agriculture. Increased extraction of logs to meet demand from the ply mill & sawmill 	 Agreement on forest boundaries with clans and demarcation of all HCV areas, including boundaries adjacent to future palms and within existing forest Agreement on use of forest areas by clans (e.g. no clearing for agriculture, limited firewood extraction, but no tree felling allowed) Propagation of <i>Pararistolochia</i> vine NBPOL support for adjacent QABB conservation areas Communication and awareness on the importance of maintaining HCVs. 	 Quarterly surveys of all HCVs to check for incursions of gardening or logging Surveys include mapping of any further clearing and restoration activities within HCVMA. This should include Landsat image interpretation as well as in-field GPSing of boundaries. Monitoring amounts of Pararistilochia vines planted and surviving Annual QABB survey in sample HCVMAs. Annual Community surveys in sample HCVMAs to monitor trend in hunting effort and success Use of Monitoring Results to adapt management recommendations in the future .
3	 Conversion of forest areas to agriculture. Increased extraction of logs to meet demand from the ply mill & sawmill 	 Agreement on forest boundaries with clans and demarcation of forest areas. Agreement on use of forest areas by clans (e.g. no clearing for agriculture, limited timber extraction) 	 As above: Mapping of any further clearing and restoration activities within HCVMA Use of Monitoring Results to adapt management recommendations in the future

Table 6: Identification of HCV areas and proposed measures

4	 Burning to a agricultural developments the riparian strip. Lack of away by company employees contractors HCV 4, parts small river to buffers and mismanage high risk act within buffer (e.g building through rip areas). People consthuts and live (permanent temporarily farming anity farming and farming anity farming and farming anity farming and farming anity farming and farming anity farming anity farming anity farming anity farming and farming anity farming and farming anity farming anyty far	Int within on buffer Int within on buffer International In	Demarcate boundaries of ACV areas. HCV areas marked on NBPOL operational maps. Maintain and establish iparian buffers – this nvolves planting trees of value to the community in degraded riparian areas. Tree pecies to be planted should be selected in consultation with the community to ensure they obtain benefit rom these species. Agreeing with the community on allowable use of regetation in riparian areas e.g. sak-sak)	bufferUse of evalua	erly monitoring of riparian condition adaptive management to te and adjust management onitoring activities as sary
5	 Continued agricultural expansion p increased p on forest an Degradatio water quali fish stocks 	putting e pressure • A reas. (i n of fi ity and • A co p	Agreement with clans on bermissible levels of resource extraction from forest areas. Agreement on "no clearing" e.g. for gardens) within orest areas within the lease. Agreed enforcement protocol of holding back rental bayments for transgressions ound in inspections		g recommendations for HCV 1 erlap with HCV 5 and are not
6	 Accidental of cemeterion other cultur (e.g. WW2 sites) by NE staff. 	ies and t ral sites • C historical n BPOL • C a • II h	Demarcation in the field prior o land clearing and planting. Demarcation on operational naps Documentation of cultural and historical values nterpretation of cultural and historical values e.g. putting up signage on site and raining of interpretive guides		s to make sure enclaved areas Il clearly delineated.

4.0 Internal Responsibility

This document is the public summary of the Planning and Management of Socio-Environment Impact Assessment, High Conservation Value and High Carbon Stock Assessments for the new developments at Higaturu Oil Palms and has been approved by the management.

Signed for on behalf of Higaturu Oil Palms by:

Malion

Mike Jackson General Manager –NBPOL-Higaturu 31/05/2016

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Paul Maliou Sustainability Manager 31/05/16