

MINUTES OF MEETING

Independent Smallholder – No Deforestation Task Force (IS-NDTF) – 3rd Meeting

Time : 1930- 2130 (MYT)

Date : Wednesday, 07 October 2020

Venue : ZOOM Conference Call

Attendees:

Name	Initial	Organisation	Representation Category
1. Henriette Walz	HW	Rainforest Alliance	SNGO – Substantive (Co-Chair)
2. Daniel Uricoechea	DU	Oilsum Group	Smallholder (LATAM) (Co-Chair)
3. Paula den Hartog	PH	Rainforest Alliance	SNGO - Alternate
4. Dani Rahadian Hidayat	DH	FORTASBI	Smallholder (Indonesia)
5. J. Cyrus Saygbe	CS	Solidaridad Network	Smallholder (Africa)
6. Chrissy Durkin	CD	Rainforest Connection	ENGO
7. Angga Prathama Putra	APP	WWF	ENGO
8. Burhanuddin Ismail	BI	Bunge Loders Croklaan	P&T
9. Rob Nicholls	RN	PT. Musim Mas	P&T
10. Olivia Scholtz	OS	HCVRN	Technical Expert
11. Sheun Su Sin	SSS	HCSA	Technical Expert
12. Ashwin Selvaraj	AS	RSPO Secretariat	
13. Krishna Jeyabalan	KJ	RSPO Secretariat	
14. Tamanjong Victor Yuh	TV	RSPO Secretariat	
15. Diego Pierrend	DP	RSPO Secretariat	
16. Amir Afham	AA	RSPO Secretariat	
17. Nizar Wicaksono	NW	RSPO Secretariat	

Absent with apologies: NIL

Agenda:

Time	Item no	
7:30 pm	1.0	Introduction <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 2nd Co-chair Introduction.
7:40 pm	2.0	Briefing on the Independent evaluation of the RSPO simplified HCV approach and HCS toolkit for smallholders (Refer Annex 1 - Review of the RSPO HCV approach for Smallholders and the HCSA’s approach on HCS for smallholders) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Comparison on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Strengths ○ Potential risks ○ Limitations ○ Opportunities for adaptation

8:20 pm		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Guiding Principles Briefing on the recommendations for Simplified Combined HCV-HCS Approach for ISH
8:40 pm		
9:10 pm	3.0	Moving Forward & AOB
9:30 pm		Meeting adjourned

Updates on Action Points from last meeting:

No.	Action Point	Status
1	Daniel Uricoechea volunteered as a Co-Chair via email - Nomination was provided after the 2 nd IS-NDTF Meeting	Confirmed in current meeting.

No.	Description	Action Points (PIC)	Progress / Remarks
1.0 Introduction			
	<p>The co-chair welcomed all attending members and technical experts.</p> <p>The agenda was presented.</p> <p>Daniel Uricoechea was introduced as 2nd Co-chair.</p> <p>It was mentioned that feedback can also be provided via email once the meeting has been adjourned.</p> <p>Members were requested to briefly provide an introduction.</p>		No objection was raised for the appointment of the 2nd Co-Chair.
2.0 Briefing on the Independent evaluation of the RSPO simplified HCV approach and HCS toolkit for smallholders			
	<p>The presentation started with a brief background on the review of the existing Simplified HCV Approach as well as the HCSA approach.</p> <p>Decision was made at the SHIG meeting last year (in finalizing the RSPO ISH Standard prior to its endorsement) to develop a simplified combined HCV-HCS approach for ISH</p>		

The report/findings and recommendations (Draft 1) from the independent review was shared with HCSA and HCVRN for feedbacks to be incorporated to the final report.

Disclaimer provided before moving to the presentation on comparison:

- The comparison was based on the existing Simplified HCV Approach and the 4th revision of the HCSA Toolkit (the 5th version is in progress).
- The purpose of the comparison is to find a balance and not highlight which approach is better.

A detailed comparison was presented in terms of:

- General Comparison
 - Focus, Scale, Users and Process applied
 - Resources required, Supplementary resources available, and Initial ISH data collection
 - Land Conflicts and Potential future group expansion.
- Strengths
 - Wider landscape, Mapping of Oil Palm Plot Boundaries
 - Accuracy of HCV / HCS Forest identification for conservation
 - Risk and Safeguards - Management and Monitoring of HCV and HCS
- Potential risks
 - Wider Landscape
 - Mapping of Oil Palm Plot Boundaries
- Limitations
 - Wider landscape
 - Accuracy of HCV / HCS Forest identification for conservation
 - Mapping of Oil Palm Plot Boundaries
 - Management and Monitoring of HCV and HCS
 - Probability maps
- Opportunities for adaptation

Technical questions raised by members towards the RSPO Secretariat and HCSA representative on the comparison were provided with additional clarification after every comparison element was presented.

Proposed Guiding Principles for The Development

Concern was raised regarding the availability of experts in regions for ISH groups to reach out to for the purpose carrying out assessments.

- The ability for a group manager and group to carry out assessment should be a priority.
- Cost of assessment in specific countries (LATAM region as an example) are considerably higher

This concern was addressed by the co-chair by reference to the 3rd Guiding principle. It was also mentioned the challenge regarding cost as well as training is something that can be picked up by the task force.

The 3 proposed guiding principles was presented by the Co-Chair:

1. Core Sustainability Requirements Are Maintained

- The approach must ensure an adequate level of rigor and not compromise compliance with core sustainability requirements, such as those expressed in NDPE commitments. The approach shall also address potential risks as well as safeguards.

2. The Assessment Process Is Tailored for an ISH Group Member / GM

- To address the cost and complexity of the existing combined HCV-HCS Assessment through the development of an approach that is tailored to the ISH context.

3. Independently Carried out by ISH Group

- The approach should allow for an ISH GM or Member to use it without prior extensive technical knowledge on HCV and HCS as per the methodology employed by the Simplified HCV Approach.

Technical expert mentioned that it should be noted that the basis of a risk-based approach starts as a group manager farmer led participatory process in terms of using risk maps and site level information to determine the risk. Basis for recourse to external expertise to support the process applies to higher risk areas due to the complex situation. The starting point will not require external expertise to identify risk level. The basis for technical knowledge should come from the guiding materials/trainings needed.

Based on a question on the existing methods, clarification was provided on the current use of the Simplified HCV Approach as well as the HCSA Toolkit. The Simplified HCV approach is already in use in Thailand for existing plantations of Certified ISH Groups and the HCSA Toolkit V4 has been trailed in West Kalimantan.

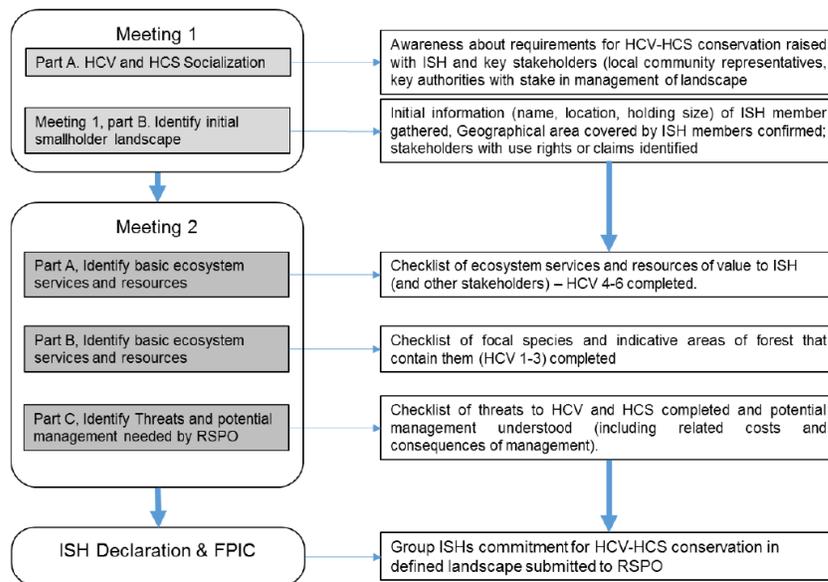
The Co-Chair indicated that the comments and feedback on the 3 guiding principles will be taken into account for amendment of the guiding principles which will be presented in the next meeting.

An addition to the guiding principles was proposed:
The approach should be aligned with the RSPO smallholder strategy and the smallholder standard (stepwise approach).

Briefing on the recommendations for Simplified Combined HCV-HCS Approach for ISH from the Independent Report:

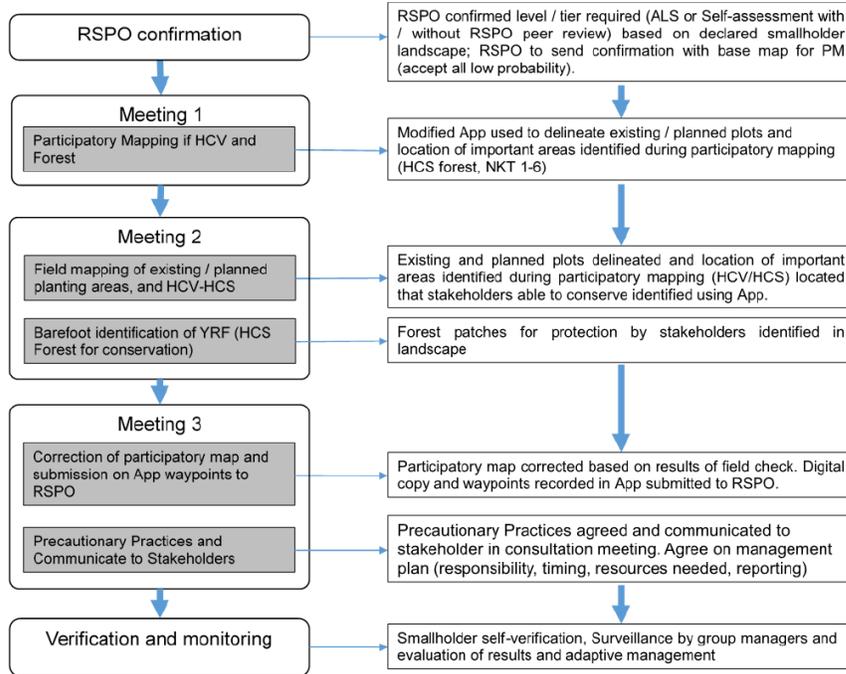
An overview of the proposed approach with 2 Phases was presented by the RSPO secretariat based on the recommendation from the Independent Review.

Phase 1: Smallholder Declaration / FPIC for the approach



To amend Guiding Principles based on feedback. To be presented in the next meeting.

Phase 2: Simplified Combined HCV-HCS Approach



Technical questions raised by on both Phases 1 and 2 were provided with additional clarification.

3.0 Moving Forward & AOB

HCSA representative enquired on the feedback that was provided on the Independent Report suggestion. Will the feedback be included in the discussion and incorporated by the Task Force?

The RSPO secretariat clarified that the task force will need to reflect on the proposal by the independent review and consider if it adheres to the guiding principles.

The feedback provided by HCSA as well as HCVRN can be taken into consideration during the discussion on the solutions.

The upcoming meetings will be focused on technical discussions on the solutions and way forward. HCSA was requested to inform on the availability of technical representatives.

Follow up by HCSA representative on availability of technical representative

<p>Proposal was made by the RSPO Secretariat to set the bi-weekly meetings for Wednesday at the same timing. (7.30 – 9.30 PM GMT +8). No objections were raised.</p>		
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Meeting Adjourned

End of minutes