Sustainable Oil Palm Production: An Outgrower’s Perspective

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Integrated Grower: 
Grower operating a Mill
CPO

Outgrower: 
Independent Grower without a mill.
FFB

2) My experiences with RSPO

Roundtable on Sustainable Palm Oil (RSPO) 
Malaysia National Interpretation (MY-NI)

Indicators and Guidance to establish the RSPO Principles & Criteria 
Final Draft: March 2008

Preamble
This document categorised smallholders into 3 main categories which are the organised smallholders, independent smallholders and small-growers. Organised smallholders are defined as smallholdings managed by government agencies such as FELDA, FELCRA, RISDA and SALKINA and those managed by other organisations such as state land development schemes. Independent smallholders are individuals who own plantations of less than 40 ha. Small-growers are defined as plantation owners of more than 40 ha but below 600 ha.
What happened?

Two Gates

Unit of Certification

- CPO route
  - Mill & Supply Base
    - Independent Millers
      - Non Starter
    - Intergrated RSPO Certified Millers
      - Not Practical
  - FFB route
    - Group Manager
      - Grouped Smallholders < 50 ha
      - Excluded
4.2.3 The unit of certification shall be the mill and its supply base:

- The unit of certification must include both directly managed land (or estates) and associated smallholders and outgrowers, where estates have been legally established with proportions of lands allocated to each.

- All the FFB from the directly managed lands (or estates) shall be produced to certifiable standards. The mill will develop and implement a plan to ensure that 100% of associated smallholders and outgrowers are of certifiable standard within 3 years.
2: REQUIREMENTS ON CERTIFYING GROUPS

2.1 Applicable Certification Standards

2.1.1 A sample of group members shall be assessed against the relevant RSPO Standard for Sustainable Oil Palm Production. The relevant standard shall apply as follows:

2.1.1.1 For those group members that are independent smallholders, the applicable standard shall be the RSPO Principles & Criteria for Independent Smallholders under Group Certification. All the criteria shall apply to the management of oil palm and the certified end product is FFB. Where mixed farming is practiced (i.e. where oil palm is grown together with other crops on the same piece or land or property), the contiguous area of farming shall also comply with the RSPO Principles and Criteria. The exception is where the different crops can clearly be segregated and delineated from oil palm, whereby areas that are not planted with oil palm do not need to comply with the RSPO Principles and Criteria.

2.1.1.3 For those group members that are independent growers not classified as smallholders, the applicable standard shall be the grower specific criteria within the RSPO Generic Principles & Criteria. As of June 2016, Group Certification under RSPO shall only cover independent smallholders. Larger independent oil palm growers (i.e. usually exceeding 50 ha, or as defined by national interpretations, and without an associated mill) may be included within Group Certification at a later time as decided by the RSPO.

2.1.2 All the criteria shall apply to the management of oil palm and the certified product is FFB.

2.1.3 Where national interpretations for either standard mentioned in 2.1.1 exist, these shall be used instead of the generic global standard.

2.1.4 The RSPO Supply Chain Certification Systems (November 2008) shall apply to the trading of all RSPO certified products originating from a certified group.

Note 1. Note for consideration of the Executive Board: RSPO Supply Chain standards for FFB.

Currently the RSPO supply chain standards refer exclusively to the transport and trading of Crude Palm Oil (CPO), since they were designed to work with the model of certification for mills where the certified product would be CPO. However, the introduction of a Group Certification credit, where the product of the group is likely to be FFB, requires the introduction of supply chain standards for FFB.
2.1.1.2 For those group members that are independent growers not classified as smallholders, the applicable standard shall be the grower specific criteria within the RSPO Generic Principles & Criteria. [NB: As of June 2010, Group Certification under RSPO shall only cover independent smallholders. Larger independent oil palm growers (i.e. usually exceeding 50 ha, or as defined by national interpretations, and without an associated mill) may be included within Group Certification at a later time as decided by the RSPO]
The proposed solution

Unit of Certification

- CPO route
- FFB route

Mill & Supply Base
- Independent Millers
- Integrated RSPO Certified Millers
- Grouped Smallholders < 50 ha

Group Manager

Growers

All Growers with appropriate Standards, Guidance & Indicators to be imposed according to size of the plantations

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FIRST INDEPENDENT SMALLHOLDERS IN THE WORLD TO BE RSPO CERTIFIED - Roundtable on Sustainability

This page contains information about the first independent smallholders to achieve RSPO certification in the world, highlighting the challenges and solutions involved in the process. The text discusses the importance of traceability and transparency in the palm oil supply chain and the role of certification in ensuring sustainable practices.

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Non Starter

Not Practical

Excluded
October 11, 2012 – Thailand is the first country in the world to have independent smallholders as RSPO (Roundtable on Sustainable Palm Oil) Certified which comprises a community of 412 smallholders over 2,767.33 hectares of planted land. These independent smallholders will now have an opportunity to trade approximately 52,000 mt of certified sustainable Fresh Fruit Bunches (FFB) generating an estimated 10,000 mt of certified sustainable palm oil (CSPO). Currently, the total annual production capacity of RSPO certified sustainable FFB is approximately 36 million metric tonnes globally.

The international multi stakeholder organization and certification scheme for sustainable palm oil, RSPO, has been collaborating closely with major producing countries around the world to build capacity amongst independent smallholders in the past few years. This was a pressing priority after the successful certification of scheme smallholders in Malaysia, Indonesia and Papua New Guinea.

CPO or FFB???
Irrelevant to me!!!
‘Mr Gorbachev, tear down this wall!’