



Palm Oil **Innovation** Group

A journey towards responsible palm oil

Introductory Session: **POIG Verification Indicators**

Bangkok, 06/Nov/2016

POIG Verification Working Group

Presentation by:

- Tulio Dias, Agropalma
- Sandra Duifhuizen, POIG Secretariat
- Grant Rosoman, Greenpeace

Q&A Panel:

- Tulio Dias, Agropalma
- Patrick Anderson, FPP
- Grant Rosoman, Greenpeace
- Gemma Tillack, RAN

Overview

1. Introduction to the Palm Oil Innovation Group (POIG)
2. POIG's Areas of Innovation – indicators that go beyond RSPO?
3. How does POIG compare to the RSPO NEXT?
4. How to get involved with POIG?
5. Question and Answer
6. POIG's Activities 2016/2017

What is POIG?

- A multi-stakeholder initiative with a mission to transform the palm oil industry, and **break the link between palm oil, the destruction of forests and peatlands, and the violation of human and labour rights**
- Founded in 2013, the initiative was developed in partnership with **leading NGOs** as well as with **progressive palm oil producers**

POIG's Mission & Vision

Vision

A responsible supply chain that has broken the link between palm oil production and the destruction of forests and peatlands, the exploitation of communities and workers, and climate change.

Mission

Achieve the adoption of responsible palm oil production practices by key players in the supply chain through developing and sharing a credible and verifiable benchmark, and creating and promoting innovations.

POIG's Objectives

- POIG aims to support the RSPO through **building on RSPO standards** and commitments and by both demonstrating innovation to implement RSPO existing standards as well as with additional critical issues.
- POIG focuses on three thematic areas of **environmental responsibility, partnerships with communities,** and **corporate and product integrity**
- POIG focuses on **creating innovations** in the palm oil industry and the **promotion** of these innovations.

POIG Members

Three Growers:



Four Consumer Goods Manufacturers:



Nine NGOs:



POIG Verification

- Requiring independent third party verification against POIG's environmental and social indicators is essential for POIG's mission
- The first pilot POIG verification indicators were developed by the POIG Organising Committee with the help of palm oil standards experts, and released in April 2014
- The first trial audits against the pilot indicators were undertaken by auditors appointed by POIG grower members Agropalma and DAABON as well as founding member New Britain Palm Oil

POIG Verification

- An updated version of the verification indicators was released in March 2016
- Agropalma, DAABON and Musim Mas, the current producer and trader/processor members of the POIG, have been/will be audited against the revised indicators during 2016/17
 - Agropalma received its audit in July, 2016
 - DAABON will have a POIG audit in January 2017
 - Musim Mas plan to have the audit in December (2 sites) and January/February 2017 (2 sites)

POIG's Innovations - Charter Indicators

Environment Responsibility:

- No Deforestation: POIG requires use of the HCS Approach and definitions to address deforestation
- Peatland: no expansion onto peatland but also restoration
- GHG reporting: make reports public
- Pesticide & Chemical Fertiliser minimisation: esp. no paraquat
- No GMOs
- Water Accountability: targets/measures to reduce water use, consumption & pollution
- HCV/RTE species: including protection outside management area

POIG's Innovations - Charter Indicators

Partnership with communities – ‘no exploitation’ commitments

- FPIC: resourced access to independent expert advice to be offered to communities at each stage of a FPIC or conflict resolution process
- Effective Conflict Resolution: mechanism and mutually agreed outcomes
- Food Security: minimum set asides of gardens or farmlands (0.5ha/pp) in new plantations or expansion areas for the maintenance or strengthening of communities' food security
- Social Conditions: SIAs address key equality issues

POIG's Innovations – Charter Indicators

Partnership with communities – ‘no exploitation’ commitments

- Workers Rights: detailed indicators related to workers' rights, including limits on the use of temporary labour; and robust provisions against child labor, forced labour and human trafficking
- Smallholders: specific guidance on smallholder support, including developing a group certification plan

POIG's Innovations – Charter Indicators

Corporate and Product Integrity

- Corruption: policy prohibiting corruption publicly available
- Traceability: system to identify location (covered by RSPO Segregated)
- Reporting on social, labour and environmental performance: covering POIG indicators
- RSPO certification: 50% of the company's plantations and mills are RSPO certified upon commitment to the POIG Charter and 100% within 24 months
- Responsible Supply Chains: POIG indicators independently verified within 12 months after signing the commitment to this Charter

POIG's Innovations

How else is POIG innovating?

- Labour audit and labour requirements testing/strengthening (report coming)
- Beginning exploration of innovations to strengthen the 3rd party verification model – esp. on Col and 'firewall'/Escrow Acct proposal
- Peatland management paradigm shift: techniques to rewet peatlands and move to paludiculture – identifying species, trials.

POIG and RSPO NEXT

- As one of POIG's aims is to support the RSPO through building on RSPO standards, POIG supports that RSPO NEXT has been released, and hopes that it continues to be developed to close the gaps with POIG indicators
- POIG is still stronger on HCSA (until HCS convergence implemented), Peat, Labour, Food Security, requiring RSPO certification on a short timeline
- POIG is ready to be implemented and verified by progressive companies, and has been endorsed by leading NGOs outside the RSPO

Who can join POIG and how?

Categories of Membership

- Growers
- Processors and Traders
- NGOs
- Retailers and Manufacturers
- Other e.g. finance sector

Each membership category has different requirements – see website or the brochure for more information: <http://poig.org/join-poig/>

What POIG is working on – 2016/2017

- Verification of POIG producers against revised indicators
- Publishing POIG Charter and verification indicators in Bahasa Indonesia, Spanish and Japanese.
- Testing & promoting innovations surrounding labour and peatlands
 - Testing Innovations on Labour 2016 and beyond
 - Testing Innovations on Peat 2017
- Publishing POIG Charter for Traders & Processors
- Publishing Guidance on POIG Verification
- Push for POIG requirements and innovations in the RSPO P&C revision
- Increasing public communications on POIG via our members (e.g. General Newsletter)
- Processing new membership applications

Question & Answer



Thank you!

For more information:

info@poig.org

www.poig.org