

The benefits of palm oil are impressive: With a yield of over 3.5 t / ha, palm oil is by far the most profitable vegetable oil. Other vegetable oils such as coconut oil, sunflower oil and rapeseed oil show yields of approx. 0.5 - 1.3 t / ha and need much more acreage to achieve the same amount of produced oil.

The palm oil problem

The great demand for palm oil has led to large monocultures with poor management with resulting social and environmental problems worldwide. In order to produce palm oil in large quantities and at low cost, large areas of forest are cleared and then converted to palm oil monocultures. This led to large areas of rainforest being destroyed and a resulting loss of biodiversity. Land rights conflicts, greenhouse gas emissions and illegal logging in the growing regions are also problematic.

BACKGROUND RSPO SCC CERTIFICATION



Because the efficiency and variety of uses palm oil offers is so far unrivalled, the RSPO (Round Table for Sustainable Palm Oil) initiative was launched in 2004 for the certification of palm oil production according to ecologically, socially and economically responsible criteria. The RSPO is a globally recognised member-based organisation in which representatives of environmental organisations, social organisations and the industry are represented. The aim is to promote the sustainable cultivation of palm oil and to reduce the damage caused to the environment from cultivation.

RSPO certification consists of clearly formulated requirements for the management of the oil palm plantations and subsequent supply chain activities in order to control material flows from the certified plantation to the finished product.

CERTIFICATION OF THE RSPO SUPPLY CHAIN (SCC)



If your company intends to bring RSPO certified products on the market, then certification according to the RSPO guidelines for supply chains is required. Core requirement is traceability. You will need to clearly document the flow of material or goods of the certified components. This means from the original product through to the materials used. This is done to prevent uncontrolled mixing.

There are different methods that you can use depending on the situation:

Identity Preserved (IP)	Segregation (SG)	Mass Balance (MB)
The supply chain model ensures that a certified oil palm product delivered to the end user can be clearly traced to a certified mill and its supply base (plantation).	The supply chain model ensures that a certified oil palm product, that is delivered to the end user, comes only from certified sources.	The supply chain model allows a certification statement to be transferred from one oil palm product to another by means of physical mixing or administration under strictly controlled conditions.

Certification under identity preserved (IP) is only possible in a few supply chains. The segregation model (SG) is usually used if only certified Palm oil or its derivatives are used. The mass balance model (MB) is usually used when non-certified materials are used in production which are mixed with certified materials.

If you want to certify just one site, choose single certification. If you wish to have multiple sites certified, a multi-site certification of all sites with a single certificate number may be of interest.

Should parts of your work processes be allocated to external service providers, then these activities can be included in the scope of your certification. Here, a distinction is made between low and high risk material mixing activities. By high risk, services providers must be audited.

Thus, different certification setups are possible depending on your company's organisation. Fill-in our questionnaire under „Request Proposal“ on our homepage and receive a free non-binding offer of a certification tailored to your needs.

THE WAY TO RSPO SCC CERTIFICATION



When you have chosen the correct form of certification, you can begin to prepare your company. The relevant RSPO standards form the basis for the requirements to be met. We are happy to send you these free of charge upon request. A brief overview of the most important points:

- Designation of responsible staff
- Preparation of documented procedures (e.g. RSPO manual)
- Staff training
- Determination of the audit date for the initial audit

Immediately after your acceptance of our certification proposal we will assign an auditor for your company, with whom you can directly arrange an audit date for the initial audit. The audits are often concluded in one day. After completion of the audit, the auditor creates an audit report which is then evaluated at our Hamburg offices. After successful certification, you can sell RSPO certified products, provided that these have been manufactured according to the RSPO requirements. In future, annual surveillance audits are carried out by a GFA auditor to monitor continued compliance with the RSPO requirements.

Please contact us if you have further questions.

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