

# **"Strategic and entrepreneurial innovation & transformation towards CSPO: Latin America"**

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Is it the beginning of the end for the RSPO or, is the beginning of its maturity?

After the “partial” failure of RSPO in Indonesia, partial success in “Malaysia” and the unknown future at the buyer’s side, what has left for Latin America?

Conventional/industrial agriculture (including oil palm) is energy-and input-intensive. It is high productivity (tons/ha) relies on the extensive use of petrochemical fertilizers, chemicals, fuel, water, and continuous investments. Agriculture is facing a multitude of challenges on both demand and supply side. On demand side, these include food security, population growth, etc. On the supply side, these challenges include limited availability of land, water, rural labor, mineral inputs, biodiversity loss, as well the agriculture vulnerability to climate change.

A number of *Roundtables* are in an ongoing hard work to greening the agriculture. Oil palm plantations, as we all know, are in the front roll of those been accused of biodiversity depletion, deforestation, and many social problems as land tenure, unfair payment and etc.

As new entrants, Latin America players, growers and users, have the chance to practice new agriculture paradigms, which can be called *Green Agriculture* in the context of a *Green Economy*, defined as one that results in “improved human well-being and social equity, while significantly reducing environmental risks and ecological scarcities” (UNEP 2010). In its simplest expression, a *green economy* is low carbon, resource efficient, and socially inclusive. In a *green economy*, growth in income and employment should be driven by public and private investments that reduce carbon emissions and pollution, enhance energy and resource efficiency, and prevent the loss of biodiversity and ecosystem services. These are the drivers of RSPO, reason why we still believe the RSPO initiative is the best option for oil palm growers in Latin America to enhance our business towards a sustainable and fair future.