

Title: Innovation & transformation towards CSPO

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The RSPO standard can play an important role for emerging countries by upholding the right to land by the customary land owners, addressing subsequent land usage by employing the principle of Free Prior Informed Consent and by ensuring that environmental impacts are minimised whilst maximising the subsequent prosperity elements of development.

The challenges faced by the Oil Palm Industry in Papua New Guinea are diverse and complex. This paper describes how NBPOL has used the ISO “process approach” to drive sustainability initiatives utilising its robust structure to implement the RSPO standard and to incorporate the RSPO principles into daily operations. It discusses how this has not only transformed the business but also the lives of the company’s associated smallholders.

Beginning in 2004 the NBPOL operations in West New Britain gained ISO 14001 certification and subsequently achieved RSPO certification in 2008. The ISO14001 approach provided a rugged framework and prepared the company for the implementation of the necessary control mechanism which have allowed the RSPO principles to become a reality in practice. Adopting this approach NBPOL is now moving to towards Group certification and expects to complete all site certification by 2012. Recognising the importance of smallholders as not only a stakeholder but an active player in the production cycle, NBPOL has been careful to include these in the process. The journey continues and has necessitated innovative thinking in order to continue moving forward. This paper describes some of those processes as part of the cycle of Plan, Do Check and Act.

The paper will conclude by outlining the supply chain options employed by NBPOL in order that both the company and smallholders can leverage the maximum benefits from delivering certified, traceable and fully segregated oil into the heart of Europe.