Promoting the Production and Use of Sustainable Palm Oil
Plenary Session 4
Clarifying the New Planting Procedure

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New Planting Procedure

- Criterion 7.3 of P&C (2007) says that ‘New plantings since November 2005, have not replaced primary forest or any area required to maintain or enhance one or more High Conservation Values’.

- The General Assembly of the RSPO decided that a New Planting Procedure (NPP) should be introduced to clarify the application of the P&Cs to new plantings by all members.

- A New Plantings Procedure Working Group was established and developed a detailed procedure that came into action from January 2010.
NPP Review

• Original NPP Working Group set up in 2009
• Based on recommendations and agreement of NPP WG in May 2009– New Planting Procedure approved in September 2009 for implementation starting January 2010
• The first year of the NPP saw relatively few members making notifications and some unrest from all sides as to its effectiveness.
• A new NPPWG was established in early 2011
Objective of the NPP Review

• To review how many members have implemented NPP
• To identify barriers to implementation
• To propose changes to the NPP for better implementation
• To identify what changes the RSPO and/or members should seek externally to ensure NPP implementation
Review process

NPP Review include the following processes:

• Obtain feedback and input from stakeholders – particularly that of Growers

• Incorporate recommendations from Growers to the NPP R WG workshop in Malaysia and Indonesia

• Further comments and deliberation by the WG members
Recommendation for clarification

1. **Integration with national legal processes.**
   - NPP should be conduct in parallel with legal requirements

2. **Procedures to negotiate with communities.**
   - including raising awareness of the RSPO guidance on best practice in implementing FPIC.

3. **Conflict of interest.**
   - the certification body carrying out the verification cannot be the same one that conducted HCV/SEIA and prepared the implementation plan.
4. Verification field audit.
   • the evaluation of the impact assessment and implementation plan for the NPP do not need to be duplicated for certification later.

5. Public notification.
   • such as the local language requirements.

6. Dispute resolution.
   • including defined quicker responses and grading.
7. Clarification of a number of terms used in the NPP documentation.

- Marginal and Fragile soils
- Land Preparation
- Associated development: includes establishing mills, nurseries, housing, roads, boundary marking and earthworks
- Local Peoples’ land
- New planting
- Replanting
- Participatory (in relation to assessments)
- Comprehensive (in relation to assessments)
- Independent (in relation to assessments)
Recommendation for key amendments

- Waiver of step 3 ‘Verification by CB’ for companies that already been certified
- Verification by the CB should include field and document audit
EB Decision

• To publish guidance and clarification on a range of issues that the working group identified as difficulties with the implementation of the NPP; and

• To incorporate the changes to the NPP recommended by the working group into the P&C review next year.
Thank You!

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