

RSPO
Greenhouse Gas Working Group 2
(GHG WG2)
Final Recommendations

November 2011

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Use of the recommendations

- Recommendations should **not** be retrospective before January 2012.
- Where recommendations require changes to the P&C they should be used to inform the work of the **P&C Review Task Force**.
- Where recommendations **do not require** changes to the P&C their implementation should be considered and overseen by the **RSPO EB**.

Measuring and reporting on GHG emissions

- The group encourages companies to start using the PalmGHG tool (or an equivalent) **immediately as a voluntary** action to monitor GHG emissions - as required by the existing Criterion 5.6 in the RSPO P&C.
- The RSPO P&C should continue to require monitoring and also require reporting of information on GHG emissions resulting from palm oil production. **PalmGHG** (*developed via consensus, field tested, peer reviewed*) or **an equivalent** should be used to provide a common framework
- The PalmGHG tool should be further developed to provide a mechanism to deliver information for **different reporting requirements** (eg internal management, **EU RED, US biofuels**).

Reducing emissions in existing operations

- The group encourages all RSPO members to begin using all **the best practice guidance** (management of peat and best practice for reducing emissions) immediately as **voluntary action**.
- The RSPO P&C should continue to require the development and implementation of a **plan to reduce GHG emissions identified** in their existing operations. The plan should include reported **time-bound targets** for implementing the measures in the plan
- Plantations on **peat** should be managed at least to the standard set out in the guidance on **best management practices**

Minimising emissions from new operations

- The RSPO P&C should require new operations (plantations and mills) to be designed to **decrease GHG emissions**
- To achieve this **for plantations** total carbon emissions (above and below ground) from expansion **should not result in a carbon debt greater** than that which can be **paid back** in the period of **one rotation over** the whole management unit.

Minimising emissions from new operations

*It was suggested that it would be useful to check on the **ISPO requirement***

Some proposed guidance on how this can be reached includes:

- **Guidance 1:** Expansion of plantations should be on **low C stock** ('degraded') land (*ie* avoiding peat, areas with high biomass etc) or on land which is in **current intensive agricultural** or plantation use
- **Guidance 2: Low C-stock/degraded land**
- To achieve this **for mills** they should incorporate low emission management (eg better management of POME, efficient boilers etc)

Smallholders and small producers

- Consideration should be given to allowing more **flexibility** in the timing for smallholders and small companies to implement changes recognising their more limited resources and capacity

Land use change and oil palm

- The RSPO uses the findings of **the land use change studies**, once they are completed and peer reviewed, as its **official position** on oil palm and land use and land use change

Monitoring progress

- All RSPO members, as part of their annual reporting, should be required to **report on progress** in reducing GHG emissions. This should be implemented by revising the annual reporting format