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

November 2011
Overview

1. Use of the recommendations
2. Measuring and reporting on GHG emissions
3. Reducing emissions in existing operations
4. Minimising emissions from new operations
5. Smallholders and small producers
6. Land use change and oil palm
7. Monitoring progress
8. Wider dissemination of outputs
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.