Issues surrounding the maintenance of High Conservation Values in oil palm landscapes

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• 2. Compliance with applicable laws and regulations
  – 2.1. There is compliance with all applicable local, national and ratified international laws and regulations

• 5. Environmental responsibility and conservation of natural resources and biodiversity
  – 5.2 The status of rare, threatened or endangered species and High Conservation Value habitats, if any, that exist in the plantation or that could be affected by plantation or mill management, shall be identified and their conservation taken into account in management plans and operations

• 7. Responsible development of new plantings
  – 7.3 New plantings do not replace any area containing one or more High Conservation Values
## 6 High Conservation Values

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>HCV 1</th>
<th>Areas with important levels of biodiversity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Protected areas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Critically Endangered species</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Viable populations of Endangered, Endemic or Protected species</td>
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<td></td>
<td>- Areas of important temporal use</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HCV 2</td>
<td>Large landscape level ecosystems</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HCV 3</td>
<td>Rare or Endangered Ecosystems</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HCV 4</td>
<td>Ecosystem services</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HCV 5</td>
<td>Natural areas critical for meeting the basic needs of local people</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HCV 6</td>
<td>Areas critical for maintaining cultural identity</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The History of the HCV approach

Developed for the Forest Stewardship Council

- Promote responsible management

Adopted by the Roundtable on Sustainable Palm Oil

Tool to promote responsible management

Tool to guide land use change

FSC

100% From well-managed forests

Cert no. SCS-COC-00213

www.fsc.org

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RSPO

Roundtable on Sustainable Palm Oil
Identifying HCVs

Issues:

- Assessors required to determine ‘Go’ & ‘No Go’ areas for oil palm development on the basis of an HCV assessment
- Inconsistent interpretation of HCV criteria and assessment methodology
  - HCVs vs HCV Areas vs HCV Management Areas
  - Differences between definitions in global & national toolkits eg. HCV 2 & HCV 3
Identifying HCVs

Potential solutions:

• Improved guidance on identifying HCVs
  – Harmonise global vs national interpretations
  – Incorporate experience gained from applying this concept in agricultural landscapes
  – Smallholders?

• Approve HCV assessors & monitor performance

• Training for HCV assessors
  – Collaboration with other certification schemes
  – New frontiers for oil palm expansion

• Guidance for certification bodies on auditing HCV assessments
HCV monitoring & management

**Issues:**

- Lack of RSPO approved guidance on HCV monitoring & management
- Are efforts to conserve HCVs having the desired impact?

**Potential solutions:**

- Process to finalise RSPO guidance on HCV monitoring & management
**Scale of application**

**Issues:**
- Implemented at the scale of a single concession
  - Voluntary
- Aims to conserve values that need to be identified & managed at the *landscape level*
  - HCV 1, 2, 3 & (4)
Potential solutions:

• Landscape level assessments
  – Eg. Mapping HCV 2 & 3 in East Kalimantan (18 million ha)

• Cross border collaborations

• Supportive legal frameworks

• Effective land use planning

Wells et al 2010
Legal status of HCV in Indonesia

Challenges:
• HCV terminology not recognised by Indonesian regulations
• Limited time to acquire land within the location permit
  – HCV not secure until land use title confirmed (HGU)
• HCV areas within the HGU considered to be ‘idle’ land
  – PP No 11/2010 - Controlling & Optimising Idle Land

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Old Izin</th>
<th>Revised Izin</th>
<th>Differences</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Total Ha</td>
<td>HCV Total Ha</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>HCV</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20,000</td>
<td>4,235</td>
<td>5,135</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20,000</td>
<td>7,304</td>
<td>6,498</td>
</tr>
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<td>18,000</td>
<td>5,811</td>
<td>8,441</td>
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<td>20,000</td>
<td>5,463</td>
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<td>15,000</td>
<td>7,276</td>
<td>7,140</td>
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<tr>
<td>14,100</td>
<td>1,653</td>
<td>3,100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13,000</td>
<td>2,671</td>
<td>9,890</td>
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<tr>
<td>120,100</td>
<td>34,414</td>
<td>52,204</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(HCV = 28%)  (HCV = 25%)

HCV Lost = 21,291 Ha
Non HCV Lost = 46,605 Ha
Legal support for conserving HCVs

Potential solutions:

• Inform local government why these areas are being conserved
  – Share HCV assessment & management plan
  – Include HCV management within environmental management & monitoring plans (RKL/RPL)
• Actively manage the HCV areas
• Develop MoU with local government & communities
• Utilise existing regulation ie. protected species & protected areas
HCV and land use planning

Issues:
• Spatial planning based on suitability, not land cover
• Areas of land with conflicting land use status

Forest Areas at Risk for Conversion

Paoli et al 2010

Source: SPOT Veg 2008 – SARvision

c. 55 million ha
Potential solutions:

- Company due diligence
- Provide decision makers with maps identifying HCV areas
- Collaborative process involving all stakeholders
- Moratorium – an opportunity to revise & synergise land use plans?
Thank you for listening

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