



Stepwise  
Support  
Programme

ProForest and Wild Asia's

# Stepwise Support Programme for Oil Palm

Helping you towards sustainability in agriculture

## About ProForest & Wild Asia

**ProForest** is an independent company working with natural resource management and specialising in practical approaches to sustainability. ProForest has provided technical support to RSPO since its inception, and facilitated the development of the Principles & Criteria and of the certification systems. Proforest work ranges from international policy development to the practical implementation of requirements on the ground, with a particular focus on turning policy into practice. The ProForest team's individual backgrounds range from industry to academia with combined experience of working in more than forty countries. All team members have higher degrees in natural resource management or biological sciences, and at least five years of experience in the natural resource sector.

**Wild Asia** is a social enterprise working to promote concepts of sustainability through global standards, raising awareness, promoting education and developing practical implementation models. Wild Asia has worked exclusively in Asia and have built up a wide experience base in dealing with the complexities and challenges of promoting sustainability in this part of the world. Wild Asia has experience in forestry, tourism, and agriculture sectors. The core sustainability programmes that Wild Asia currently runs include the Responsible Tourism Initiative, Sustainable Agriculture Initiative, and the Natural Corridor Initiative.

## For more information

**ProForest**



**ProForest Ltd**

South Suite, Frewin Chambers, Frewin, Court, Oxford, OX1 3HZ, UK.  
T +44 (0)1865 243439 E info@proforest.net W www.proforest.net

**Wild Asia Sdn Bhd**

Upper Penthouse, Wisma RKT, No. 2 Jalan Raja Abdullah, 50300 Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.  
T +603 4251 4518 E info@wildasia.net W www.wildasia.net

Photo credits: Wild Asia and ProForest



## What is the Stepwise Support Programme?

ProForest and Wild Asia recognise that many plantation managers are just starting the process of achieving certification. They will need support and guidance to understand certification requirements, assess current performance and implement action plans. It is sometimes difficult to decide where to start, and some common questions include:

- How do I get certified?
- What do I need to do first?
- Where do I need to focus management efforts in improving performance?
- I have an existing plantation, do I need to do an impact assessment?
- How do I show my investors and buyers that I am committed to RSPO when I am not yet certified?

The **Stepwise Support Programme** aims to provide a solution to these questions. The programme is designed for producers who aim to achieve certification but may not have the in-house capacity to ensure that all the requirements are met. The programme will:

- Assist producers to achieve RSPO certification; and
- Assist producers to demonstrate their commitments and progress to the supply chain.

## What is the process?

The **Stepwise Support Programme** is designed to give you confidence in planning, implementing and communicating your approach to RSPO standards.

This includes identifying the key challenges in achieving compliance, and setting targets to improve performance.

Coupled with stringent monitoring, the programme will also be able to provide producers with verified and credible means to be able to demonstrate that they are making progress towards achieving RSPO certification. All programme participants will be issued with statements of progress, making communication to clients that much easier.



## Why the Stepwise Support Programme?

The **Stepwise Support Programme** is one of the first global support programmes specifically designed for the oil palm sector. ProForest and Wild Asia are both known and respected technical organisations within the global sustainability sector. We share the common goal of promoting sustainability in agriculture. We have experience throughout the entire sustainable palm oil supply chain; combining our experience from policy development to field implementation is one of our core strengths. The programme is designed for the whole oil palm supply chain.

### For producers:

- Assess your current operations against the RSPO principles & criteria.
- Develop specific action plans to address your weak areas.
- Implement new approaches or solutions to achieve sustainability.
- Communicate your plans and achievements to customers.

### For buyers, processors & investors:

- Risk assess your current supply chain.
- Increase your confidence in buying from your supply chain.
- Support a credible monitoring programmes for your supply chain.
- Develop joint training and awareness activities to support your suppliers.



## Other specific support services that we can provide:

- **Supply chain** – Map and risk assess your supply chain.
- **Baseline audits** – Know your gaps and weak compliance areas.
- **Assess** – From social or biodiversity assessments to landscape HCVF analysis.
- **Training** – Conducting a wide range of modules to help your understand the issues behind sustainable agriculture.

