

Lessons Learned from the RPSO NPP:

Relevance to the Complaints System

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Presentation for Preparatory Cluster Complaints System Revamp
RSPO RT12, 17 November 2014, Kuala Lumpur

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This presentation



- Aidenvironment
- Experiences with using the New Planting Procedure:
 - Upsides
 - Areas for improvement
- Enriching the Complaints System with “Issue Filtering”

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Pity the Complaints Panel



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About Aidenvironment

Founded:	Amsterdam, 1988
Mandate:	Foundation
Offices:	Netherlands, Indonesia and Malaysia
Work fields:	Sustainable natural resource management, commodity trade & investment

Worked on palm oil since 1997
RSPO member since June 2014

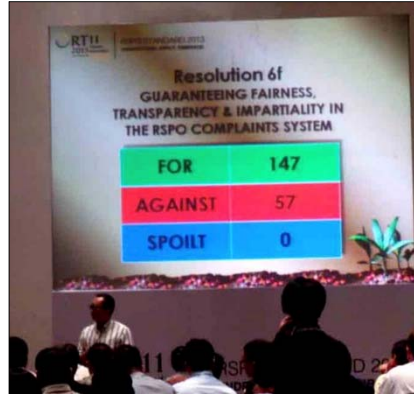


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Focus on RSPO's "accountability mechanisms"

The P&C require robust Certification Systems

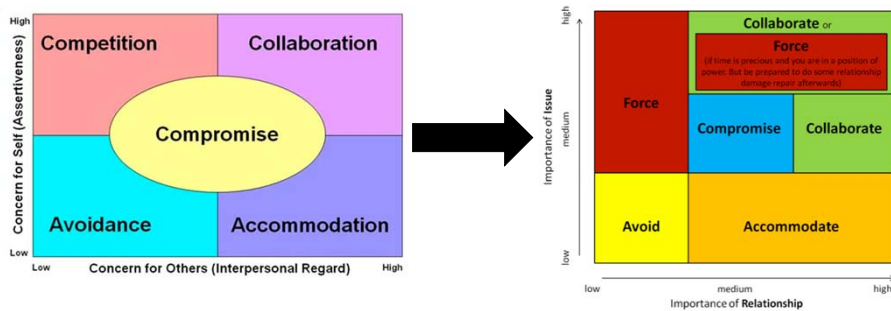
- ☒ Membership applications
- ☒ Partial certification
- ☒ Complaints and grievances
- ☒ DSF
- ☒ ASI
- ☒ Impact mapping
- ☒ Compensation and Remediation
- ☒ New Planting Procedure (NPP)



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From compromise to level playing field

As RSPO adopts more, and more formal rules for governance, "amicable" resolution (compromise) becomes just one of the possible outcomes



Source: Stevens, 2013

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RSPO's New Planting Procedure

A procedure meant to pre-empt future conflict (or compromise)



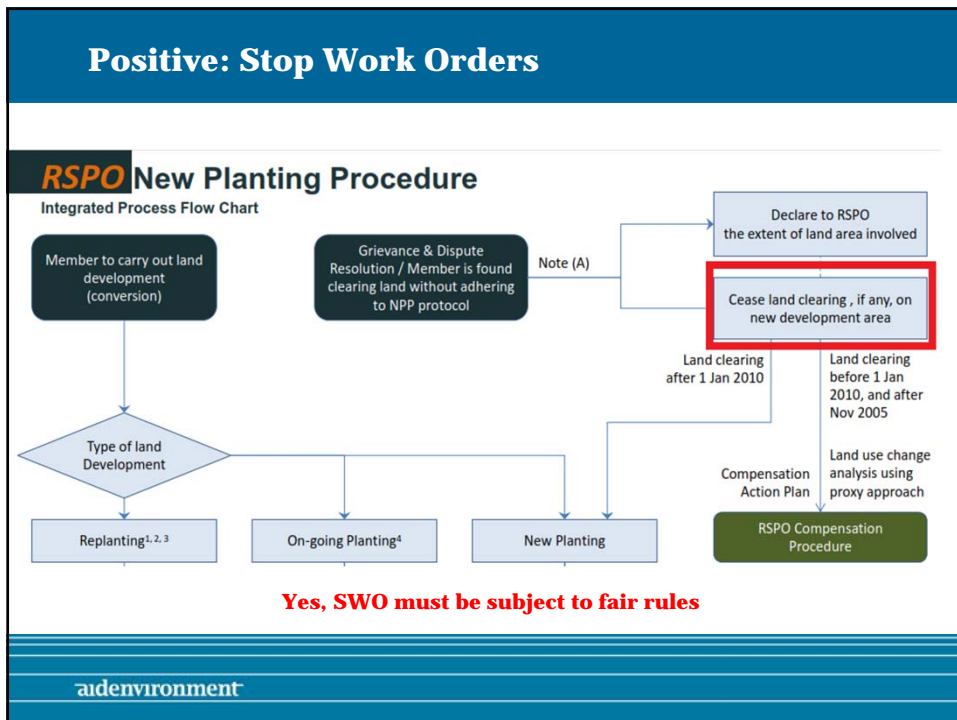
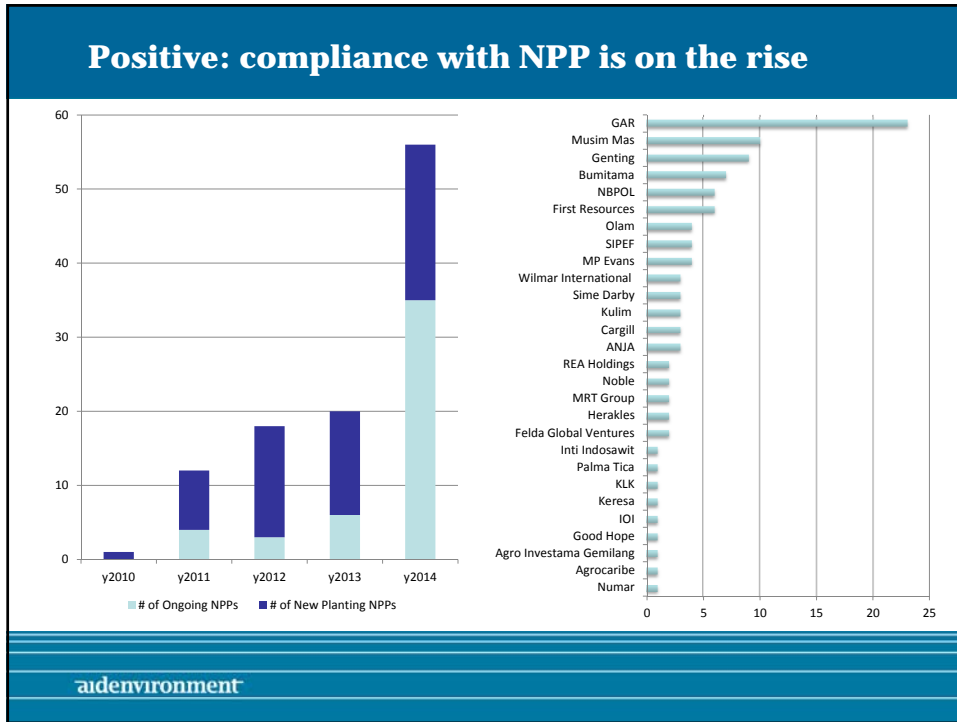
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Testing and using the NPP

- Three major comments filed since December 2013
- 107 NPPs reviewed (October 2010 – July 2014)
- Continuous monitoring

- 107 NPPs: 1,17 million hectares
- Of this, 164,000 ha (14%) is identified as HCV
- An average NPP covers 11,000 ha.
- Range from 25 ha to 70,000 ha

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Positive: RSPO facilitated dialogue between parties



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Positive: real change on the ground



Community land classification	Sites nr in KML documentation (incl HCV map)	Sites nr after quick participatory mapping	Acreege after buffered (ha)	Remarks
Adat land				
Graveyard	Nil	15	44	No Go Area
Keramat	4	13	48	No Go Area
Wellspring	Nil	1	3	No Go Area



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But,

There are still many inconsistencies and weaknesses in NPPs

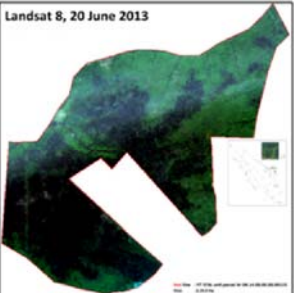
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One NPP, two statuses


Certification Body

Land development and planting of oil palm will begin in January 2014 following the procedures of the RSPO New Planting Procedures (NPP). **This is part of an ongoing planting and this report is meant for notification only.**

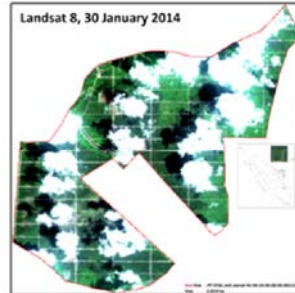
Landsat 8, 20 June 2013



Landsat 8, 24 September 2013



Landsat 8, 30 January 2014

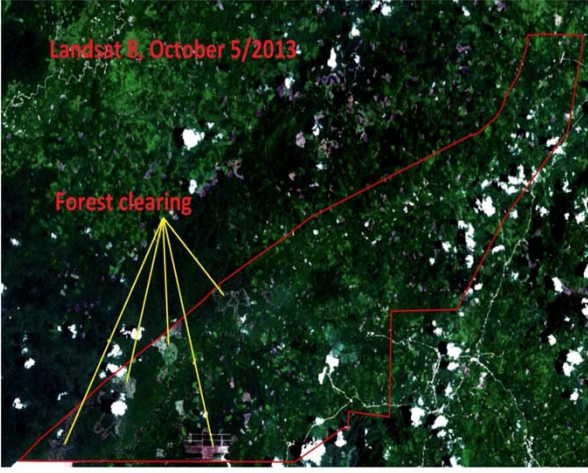


X	This is a completely new development and stakeholders may submit comments.
	This is part of an ongoing planting and is meant for notification only.

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RSPO

Completely new development?



Landsat 8, October 5/2013

Forest clearing

RSPO NOTIFICATION OF PROPOSED NEW PLANTING

This notification shall be on the RSPO website for 30 days as required by the RSPO procedures for new plantings (<http://www.rspo.org/?q=page/535>). It has also been posted on local on-site notice boards.

Date of notification: 5 December 2013

Tick whichever is appropriate

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	This is a completely new development and stakeholders may submit comments.
<input type="checkbox"/>	This is part of an ongoing planting and is meant for notification only.

COMPANY : PT
 SUBSIDIARY (if any) : PT
 RSPO Membership Number : ..

Not NPP but HCV studies are considered as the “Go-Ahead”

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But, when is an HCV assessment completed?

The date of completion of HCV assessment is **essential** for monitoring but **only 10% of all NPPs clearly reported completion of HCV assessment**

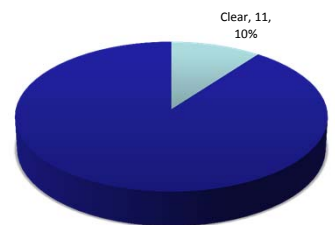
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To:
RSPO Board of Governors
Cc:
RSPO Secretariat
HCV Network
Accreditation Services International
RSPO ENGO members

Date:
8 August 2014

Subject:
Final HCV maps

Dear members of the RSPO Board of Governors,



Clear, 11,	10%
Unclear, 96,	90%

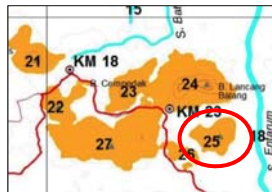
Source: Aidenvironment's review of 107 NPP reports from 2010-July 2014

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One NPP, two HCV maps

Planning and Management doc

NPP documentation doc



Orange: HCV



Green: cleared; blue: HCV

What happened to HCV site #25?

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Changed NPP scope during public consultation

Is this allowed?

Original scope



Adjusted scope



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“Issue filtering”

- Most NPPs offer grounds to file comments

But what causes weak NPPs?

- Plantation company?
- Certification Body?
- RSPO secretariat/Working Groups?
- The government?
- Communities



- RSPO facilitated dialogue can help to unravel these complex realities

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RSPO has no “issue registrar”

- What if RSPO itself is part of the problem?
 - E.g. NPP Template for CBs
- Except for GA Resolutions or lobbying Working Group chairs, there are no mechanisms to put RSPO’s own problems on an agenda
- Perhaps, we should have a public logbook ?



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Conclusions

- NPP offers a valuable tool to prevent non-compliance
- However, there is a lot of non-compliance with NPP itself
- Rules are getting increasingly complicated

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Conclusions

- Issue filtering to unravel complex problems
- Escalation to full complaint may be avoidable in many instances
- Especially so, if there are multiple outcomes possible

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Thank you



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