

15 March 2019

Protecting forests and areas of high conservation value and eliminating unacceptable land use practices is a priority for Olam across our agricultural supply chains worldwide under our [Living Landscapes Policy](#).

Since we first began our palm oil business, we have been committed to sustainable palm oil production and sourcing both in our own plantations and through our third party supply chain. In Gabon, we have developed our plantations in line with RSPO Principles and Criteria, following independent third-party assessments and only on savannahs, regenerating farmland and degraded logging areas in order to minimise ecological impacts. We also are protecting 72,000 ha of High Conservation Value (HCV) forest – 50 per cent of our overall oil palm concession area of 144,000 ha. We strongly refuted points put forward by Mighty Earth, which contained some important factual errors and misinterpretations of our policies, and we have [hosted](#) Mighty Earth and other external stakeholders to see first-hand our environmentally and socially responsible approach.

Our [2018 Sustainable Palm Update](#) outlines our strong progress in implementing sustainable practices and achieving full RSPO certification on our own plantations. Since January 2017, we have upheld a moratorium on new plantation expansion in Gabon, and we are committed to no further development or expansion until all our plantations achieve full RSPO certification in 2021. We also are collaborating with our third party suppliers to establish traceability to plantations and production areas by 2020. A number of NGOs and organisations, such as IUCN, acknowledge a boycott of palm oil is not the answer to prevent deforestation; we support the revised RSPO Principles and Criteria and we are actively participating in multi-stakeholder discussions about implementing the procedures for high forest cover countries.

Alongside other major cocoa and chocolate companies, we are working to end deforestation and forest degradation in the cocoa supply chain. We are a signatory to the Cocoa & Forests Initiative (CFI) which aims to eliminate deforestation, protect and restore forests, and work with farming communities that depend on cocoa for their livelihoods.

We are supporting progress towards a traceable cocoa supply chain and we have implemented a strict ‘no sourcing’ policy from protected lands in our cocoa supply chains in Côte d’Ivoire and Ghana. All of the co-operatives we buy from must sign our Supplier Code and adhere to not sourcing from classified forests, national parks and reserves. In June 2018, we signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Ivorian Ministry of Forests and Water to support the preservation and rehabilitation of forêts classes. We are implementing an [action plan](#) to work with farmers and communities to protect and restore forests, which includes partnering with Rainforest Alliance to conserve forest reserves and native habitats, and planting over one million native and shade trees.

Further details about our actions and progress are available on www.olamgroup.com