Small Producers in Malaysia
-Lessons learnt from RSPO Certification

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Wild Asia believes that an understanding of social and environmental issues is fundamental to sustainable developments. Our mission is to inspire businesses to improve their social and environmental practices to meet and exceed global standards. We aim to promote change from within the industry by engaging with businesses, particularly those with direct social and environmental impacts.

Promoting Change. Inspiring People. Engaging Businesses.
Wild Asia’s Palm Oil Initiative 2017

Technical Advisory Support
Developing a pool of technical resource & expertise to guide palm producers, conduct technical assessments and provide advice to the palm sector in a number of strategic ways (supplier mapping & risk management).

Field Programme
Active field programmes (across target regions) to provide technical support to small palm producers. The field programmes allow Wild Asia to directly engage with local palm producers. It is a unique opportunity to develop “real-world” methods and approaches.

Professional Training
Developing and improving our professional education for the palm oil sector by delivering RSPO-endorsed training: Lead Auditors Series and Technical Series (such as HCV, and others).
Who we work with

Some past work

Working across the palm oil value-chain
Large palm oil producers | Financiers | Manufacturers | NGOs
Who Are Small Farmers?
Malaysia Small Farmer - The PERCEPTION
Wild Asia

Malaysia Small Farmer- The REALITY

Business savvy, has contract workers & other $$ streams

Family Farm. Too old to maintain himself. Has hired workers

Lives in the city. Outsources work to a contractor/dealership
Points to consider

**Farmer Organization**
- Natural clusters/ Leveraging on existing relationships
- Reach
- Commitment
- Scalability of program
- Funds / Long term self sustenance
- Responsibility

**Impacts**
- Social impacts: labour, children, women, communities, public H&S
- Best practices: understood and applied by owner & farm operator
- Managing environmental/ Biodiversity at a landscape level
- Traceability: Reliance on Middlemen (traders/ dealers, etc)
Wild Asia’s Solutions
a) Building Partnerships
b) Regional WAGS Field Units

Wild Asia’s Local Field Units
e.g. Perak, Johor, Sabah
c) Farmer Support Programme – using innovative approaches

- Direct support for producers
- Innovating new approaches
- Sharing lessons learnt

oilpalm.wildasia.org
Help us Create a Better World, One Step at a Time

We need skilled & talented people to guide and create change from within organisations.

JOIN THE ACADEMY

academy.wildasia.org
2) Enhancing farm knowledge with Technology

1. Automated tree counts, area calculations
2. Digital Doctor
3. Digital spatial analysis
4. Context analysis

wasis.wildasia.org
3) WASIS – Traceability and Analytics

DroneDeploy results. In the future results will be displayed over a Google Maps image.

Field team
Your palm look mostly healthy due to beneficial plants & reduced -icide usage. Well done!

Discuss...
d) Promoting values not certification

1. Known Source
2. Fair Trade
3. Sustained Yields
4. Positive Impact
In Conclusion

Certification for Small Farmers
What’s the Importance?

✓ Credibility tool. Demonstrates compliance to credible national & international standards as well as company sustainability policies.

✓ Allows sale of certified product-link to supply chain

✓ Companies/Buyers can use for effective communication (i.e: CSR/ conformance to company sustainability policies/ risk within supply base)

✓ BUT….Have we considered the challenges?
Is it practical?

• Despite Certification, there remains very specific areas that global suppliers are concerned about - and thus - our approach is to keep the front-end neutral so we can adjust to suite the outcomes.

• The aim should be “How to help small farmers improve productivity, lower cost and provide an understanding of their farm management that allows them to make better agri-based investments”
Conclusion

✓ Good Initiative. Smallholders should be supported

✓ More active participation needed from relevant partners - companies directly linked to smallholders (i.e.: mills, buyers, relevant stakeholder, etc)

✓ Audit process should be simplified and ALL (CB and client) should be in alignment on how standards are interpreted.

✓ Impact and Cost needs to be reviewed
Examples of Our Work

KINABATANGAN Sabah Smallholder Support Program
https://tinyurl.com/zjatd2s

BELURAN Sabah Smallholder Support Program
https://tinyurl.com/httr8pg
Any questions?