

UPDATES: PEAT AND DRAINABILITY ASSESSMENTS



**A Shared Responsibility:
Converting Commitments into Action**

RSPO P&C 2018 - Peatlands



Criterion 7.7 No new planting on peat, regardless of depth after 15th November 2018 and all peatlands are managed responsibly.

Indicator 7.7.1 (C) There is no new planting on peat regardless of depth after 15 November 2018 in existing and new development areas.

Indicator 7.7.2 Areas of peat within the managed areas are inventoried, documented and reported (effective from 15 November 2018) to RSPO Secretariat.

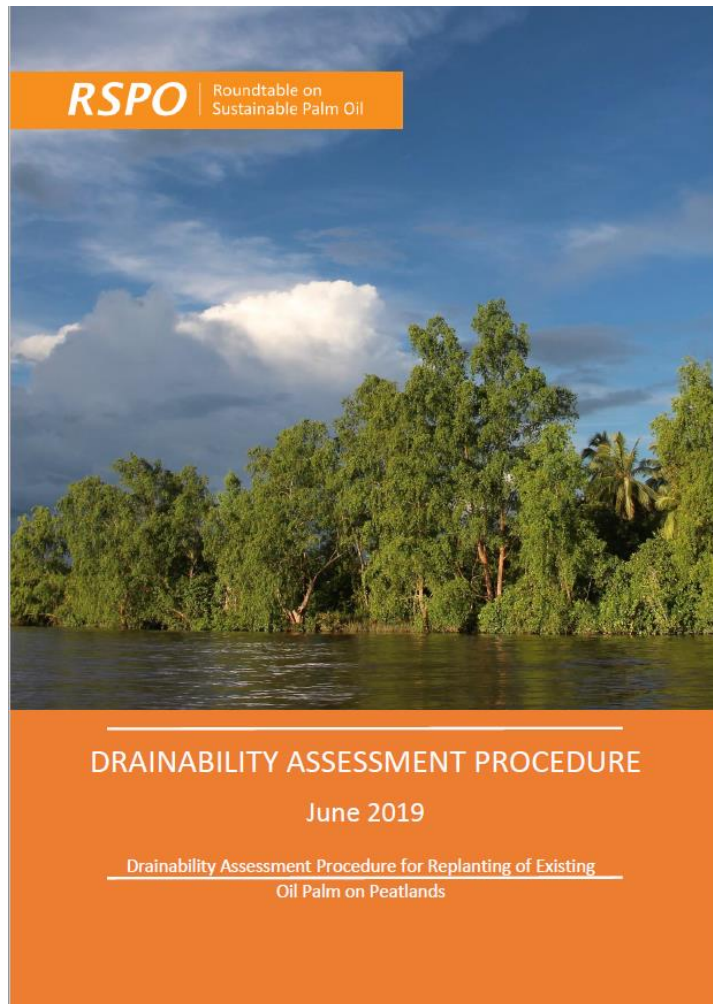
Indicator 7.7.3 (C) Subsidence of peat is monitored, documented and minimised.

Indicator 7.7.4 (C) A documented water and ground cover management programme is in place.

Indicator 7.7.5 (C) For plantations planted on peat, drainability assessments are conducted following the RSPO Drainability Assessment Procedure, or other RSPO recognised methods, at least five years prior to replanting. The assessment result is used to set the timeframe for future replanting, as well as for **phasing out of oil palm cultivation at least 40 years**, or two cycles, whichever is greater, **before reaching the natural gravity drainability limit** for peat. When oil palm is phased out, it is replaced with crops suitable for a higher water table (paludiculture) or rehabilitated with natural vegetation.

Drainability Assessment

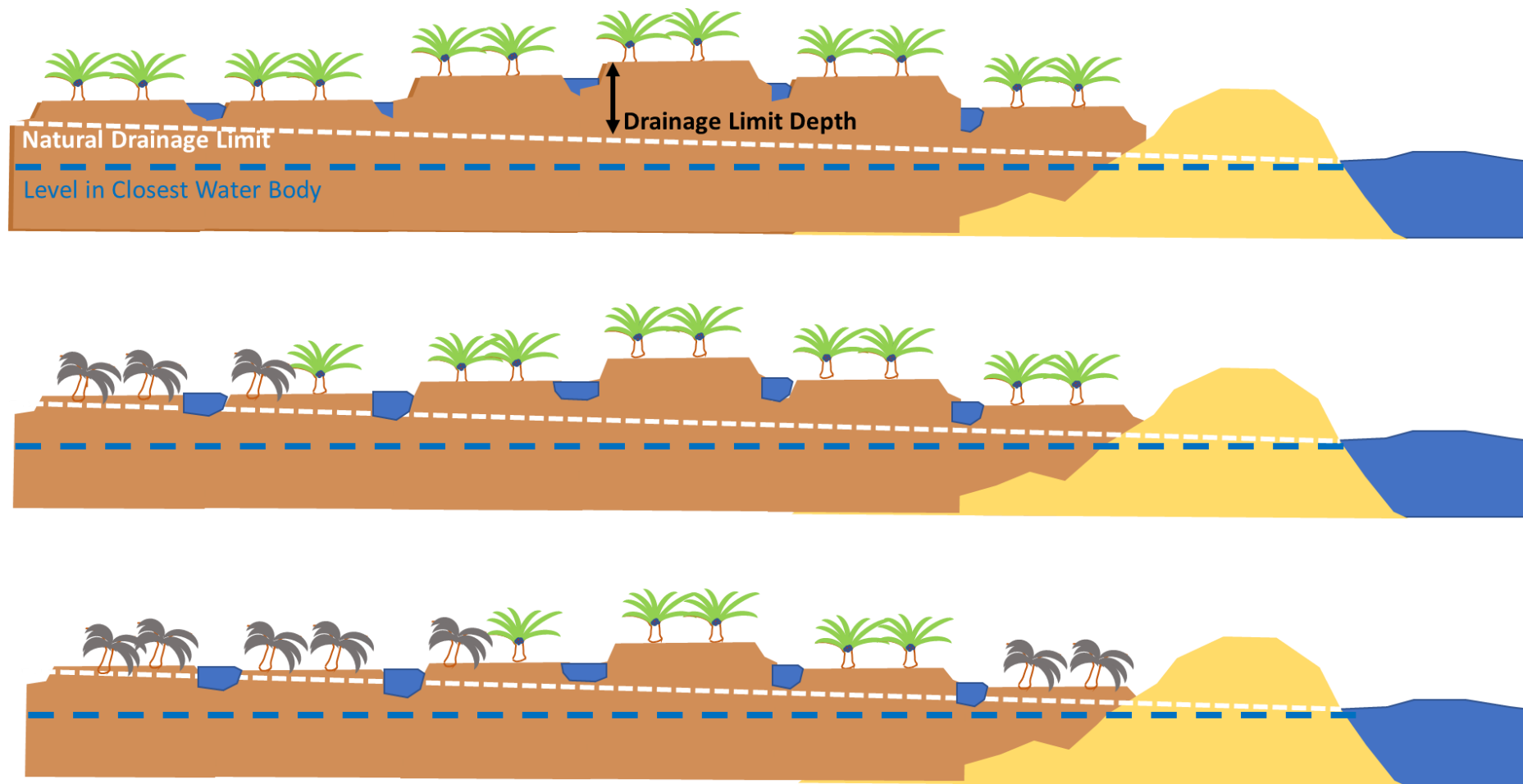
DA Procedure document

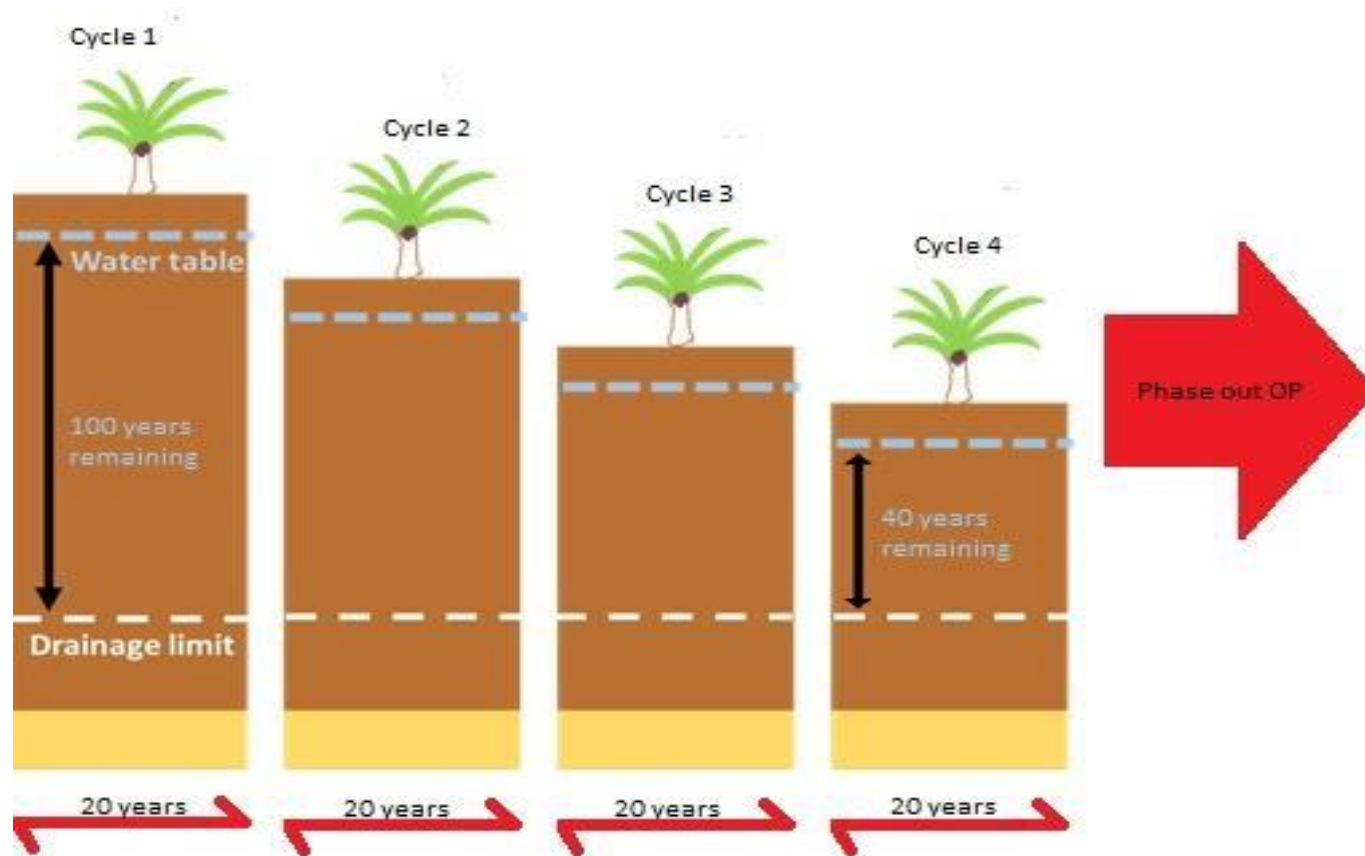


Download the full Drainability Assessment Procedure document from:

<https://www.rspo.org/resources/peat>

Peatland Subsidence leads to long term risk

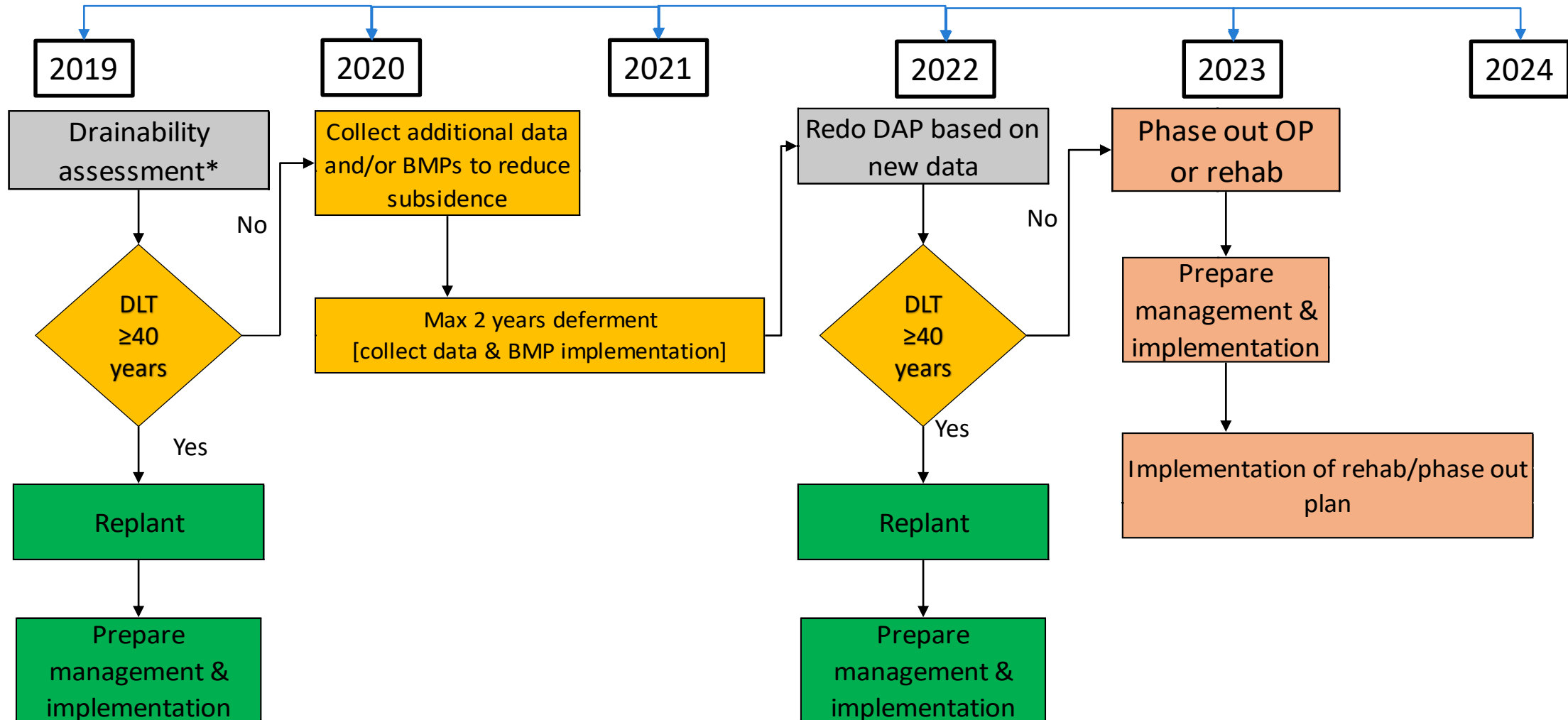




Drainability Assessment

- Determines the remaining time where drainage can be done naturally through gravity flow
- To be initially **conducted 15 years after planting** (at least 5-years prior to replanting) on peat
- Drainability is to be done in accordance to the '**RSPO Drainability Assessment Procedure**' or other RSPO recognised methods
 - Phase out and leave a **buffer of OP 2-cycles or 40 years** (whichever higher) prior to reaching the drainage base.

5-year transition period



* Done for all fields planned for replanting on 2019-2024

Drainability assessment – Other methods

No	Item	Requirement	Remarks
1	DA conducted before 11 June 2019	DA assessment with other methods accepted if: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> DA done before 11 June 2019 Replanting activities <u>started before 11 June 2019</u> 	For DA reports covering multiple years (e.g. replanting from 2018-2025), replanting can only proceed for the areas in which replanting activities have started before 11 June 2019. Remaining areas must follow requirements as per item 2
2	DA conducted 11 June – 15 Nov 2019	<p>To send DA report (other method) to RSPO/PLWG2 for review. Planting to only start after passing the review;</p> <p>OR</p> <p>Conduct DA based on RSPO methodology & submit to RSPO (Verification/DA procedure revision purposes only)</p>	
3	DA conducted 15 Nov 19 onwards	<p>To send new DA methodology to PLWG2 for review. Once approved, DA can be conducted using the approved methodology;</p> <p>OR</p> <p>Conduct DA based on RSPO methodology & submit to RSPO (for DAP revision purposes only)</p>	

Peat Inventory

Peat Inventory

- All areas of peat within management area must be inventorised, documented and reported to RSPO Secretariat.
- Inventory will cover area of peat planted, conserved & rehabilitated, indicative peat depth and etc.
 - Condition **as at 15th November 2018** (e.g. how much peat was planted and conserved as at 15th November 2018)
 - Inclusive of maps and shapefile of extent of peat
- Reporting done 2 times:
 - **1st reporting: by 15th November 2019**
 - 2nd reporting: 12 months before P&C 2018 revision (2022)
 - **Additional reporting:** If any significant changes to areas of peat (acquisition, resurvey, divestment)

Map & Shapefile	Min. requirement
Peat planted with OP	Based on survey
Unplanted peat (peat conservation areas)	Indicative

Note: All maps & shapefiles are for internal RSPO use and shall not be shared publicly.

GA Resolution 6e

Item	Remarks	
Summary	Extension of Scope of “Peat inventory” reporting requirements (Indicator 7.7.2) to uncertified management units (existing members) and new RSPO members.	
Membership sector Affected	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Growers • Processor & Traders 	
Deadlines	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Existing certified units – 15 Nov 2019 (Inventory, maps & shapefiles) • Existing uncertified units <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 31 March 2020 (Inventory) ▪ 31 May 2020 (maps & shapefiles) • New members – Within four (4) months of becoming members 	
Benefits/Risks	Benefits <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased reputation – definitive statistics/impacts/trends of P&C 2018 impact on peat management and conservation • Improved monitoring – accurate shapefiles on peat 	Risks <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Possible issue on country specific restriction on information sharing. • Additional requirement for new members



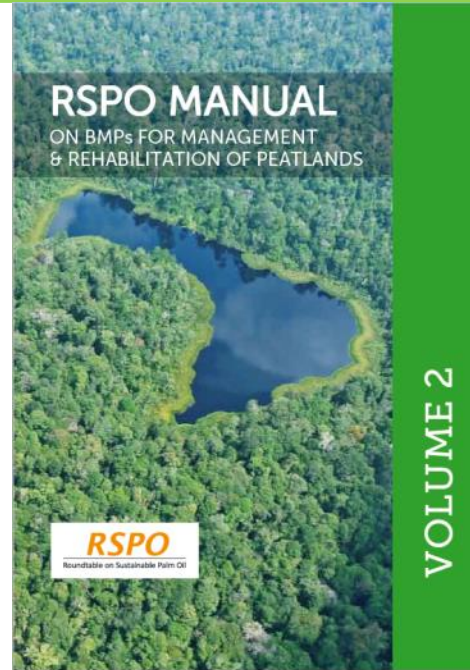
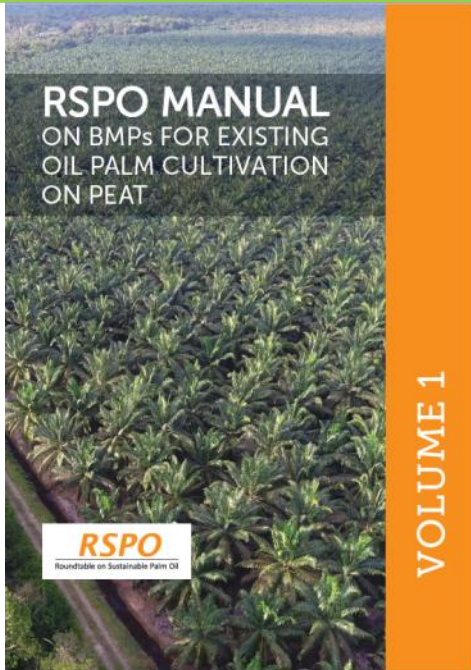
BMP Peatland Manual Volume 1 & 2

RSPO P&C 2018 – Peatlands

- **Indicator 7.7.6 (C)** All existing plantings on peat are managed according to the “RSPO Manual on **Best Management Practices** (BMPs) for existing oil palm cultivation on peat”, version 2 (**2019**) and associated audit guidance.
- **Indicator 7.7.7 (C)** All areas of unplanted and set-aside peatlands in the managed area (regardless of depth) are protected as “**peatland conservation areas**”; new drainage, road building and power lines by the unit of certification on peat soils is prohibited; peatlands are managed in accordance with the “*RSPO **BMPs** for Management and Rehabilitation of Peatlands*”, version 2 (**2019**) and associated audit guidance

BMP Peatland Manual Vol 1 & 2

Chapters in revised BMPs (50-70% new material)



- Revision of peat BMPs:
 - Vol 1: Existing OP Cultivation on Peat
 - Vol 2: BMP for Management & Rehabilitation of Peatlands
- **Associated Audit Guidance**
- Released June 2019

Volume 1	Volume 2
Nature & characteristics of peat and constraints and impact of OP cultivation	Peatland ecosystems
Water management	Management of existing PSF
Management of nutrients, pests and diseases	Rehabilitation of PSF
BMPs on operational issues	PSF revegetation
BMPs on environmental & social issues	Partnerships with government, local communities & NGOs
BMPs on R&D, monitoring and documentation	

Peatland Rehabilitation through Rewetting



South Ketapang Landscape –

750,000 ha 60% plantation
22% conservation area; 8%
HCV/HCS/Peat in plantations

Partners:

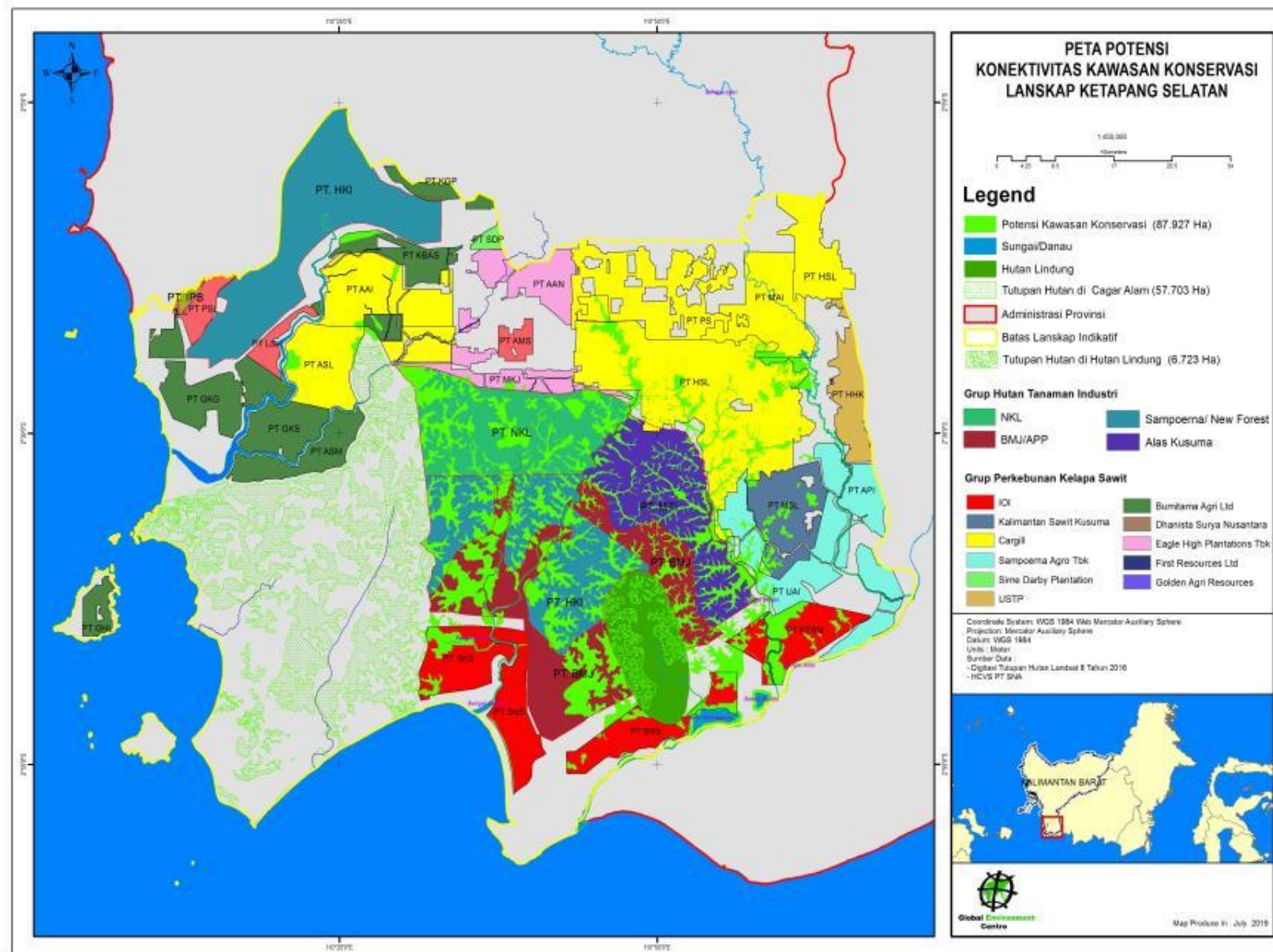
Local Government

Local Communities

Forest plantations

RSPO Members: IOI ; Cargill;
Bumitama Agri; Sampoerna
Agro; Sime Darby

- Linking together and harmonising action
- Conserving environment
- Sustainable community development



Peat Factsheet

RSPO

Responsible. Sustainable. Better.

The RSPO is an international non-profit organisation formed in 2004 with the objective to promote the growth and use of sustainable oil palm products through credible global standards and engagement of stakeholders.

Factsheet on PEAT REQUIREMENTS FOR RSPO GROWERS

INTRODUCTION

Over the past 25 years, the development of new technologies for water management and agronomy for cultivating oil palm (OP) on peat, as well as government planning in some regions has led to the expansion of OP on peatlands. Cultivating OP on peatlands leads to significant drawbacks.

The RSPO Principles and Criteria (P&C) 2018 requires *no new planting on peat (regardless of depth) after 15 November 2018 and all peatlands are managed responsibly*. For existing OP planted on peatlands, RSPO developed *Best Management Practices (BMP) for Existing Oil Palm Cultivation on Peat* to address the impacts of development on peat.

How Does RSPO Define Peat?

The RSPO's definition of organic soil (peat) is as follows:

"Histosols (organic soils) are soils with cumulative organic layer(s) comprising more than half of the upper 80cm or 100cm of the soil surface containing 35% or more of organic matter (35% or more Loss on Ignition) or 18% or more organic carbon (FAO 1998, 2006/7; USDA 2014; IUSS 1930)."

*Malaysia & Indonesia have a separate definitions of peat. Countries may have their own definition of peat, which can be defined through their National Interpretation (NI) process.

Impacts of Development on Peat



Carbon & Greenhouse Gas Implications

- Higher risk of peat fires from drying of peat
- Increased CO₂ & N₂O emissions from drainage of peat



Social, Economic & Livelihood Implications

- Loss of ecosystem services
- Human health affected by haze resulting from peat fire.



Other Ecological Implications

- Increased erosion
- Loss of biodiversity
- Increased flood risk and saltwater intrusion due to soil subsidence
- Agrochemical runoff affecting aquatic biodiversity
- Haze conditions following peat and forest fires

RSPO

1 Factsheet on PEAT REQUIREMENTS

Investigates Issues Arising from Oil Palm

members to identify areas of peat within their managed areas, to safeguard and minimise the impact of OP cultivation on peat respectively. RSPO has developed a Peat Inventory Template for areas of peat (planted, unplanted and rehabilitated) within their

a drainability assessment (DA) to be conducted 5 years prior to conducted to predict the potential lifespan of a plantation. The Limit Time - i.e. the time when the drainage base of the peat is expected to phase out OP, if the results of the assessment indicate a drainage base.

and threshold. Taking into consideration the future rise of sea level, the mean sea level is at high risk of becoming unproductive and 10-year threshold in which OP will be phased out.

Best Management Practices (BMP) - 7.7.6 & 7.7.7

When planting on peatlands, unplanted and set aside peatlands to comply with the RSPO Manual on BMPs Volume 1 & 2. The *Peat Audit* requirements for grower members to comply with both indicator by Certification Bodies (CBs) for assessments on peatlands and respective Certification Units.

Additional guidance on BMPs that are important for enhancing the peatland rehabilitation of forested or degraded planting on peat.

Guidance on BMPs for Management & Rehabilitation of Peatlands (Volume 2)

- Peatland ecosystems
- Management of existing peat swamp forest areas in or adjacent to OP plantations
- Rehabilitation of peat swamp forests in degraded sites
- Implementing peat swamp forest re-vegetation
- Partnerships between plantation companies, government, local communities and NGOs.

Find out more at [rspo.org/resources/peat](https://www.rspo.org/resources/peat)

RSPO

2 Factsheet on PEAT REQUIREMENTS

Limited hardcopies available at RSPO booth.

Soft copies will be available for download at:

<https://www.rspo.org/resources/peat>

Thank You