

Examples of Low GHG Emission in New Oil Palm Development

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ABSTRACT

Responsible low emission new oil palm development is becoming a necessity for the industry. It also requires commitment to public reporting.

The results using the RSPO GHG Assessment Procedure for New Development by the grower members in achieving low carbon new oil palm development are shared. Identification and estimation of the potential sources of emission and sinks of carbon from plantations enables designing of new oil palm development, including mitigation plan in minimizing net greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions.

The results of projected GHG emission associated with new oil palm development by RSPO members in Malaysia, Indonesia, PNG, South America and Africa are presented. These results were obtained from GHG Assessment Report submissions (through RSPO New Planting Procedure) from the year 2015 to 2017, demonstrated the use of RSPO GHG Assessment Procedure for New Development in land use planning to ensure that new plantation developments are designed to minimise net GHG emission.

These new oil palm developments are planned on 194,099 ha of which 127,620 ha (66%) is proposed to be developed and the balance in set-aside areas. resulting in a projected net emission reduction of about 2 million tCO₂eq or 1.54 tCO₂eq/tCPO. The emission reduction comes from avoiding planting on peat and establishing conservation areas which accounted for about 34% of the areas as well as adopting other emission reduction strategies.

Keyword: *oil palm, RSPO, criterion 7.8, GHG emission, Palm GHG, emission hotspots, LCA*