

# Tesco's approach to sustainable palm oil

Presentation for Sustainable Palm Oil Dialogue,  
September 2020

# Tesco and palm oil

- Tesco is a global retailer (UK, Europe, Asia).
- 2019 annual palm oil footprint was 52k tonnes (*approximately 8,000 Own Brand products from 500+ suppliers*).
- Committed to zero-net deforestation in our sourcing of palm oil, soy, timber and Brazilian beef.
- Tesco has been a member of the RSPO since 2007.
- In 2015, we achieved 100% RSPO certification for all palm oil for our biggest market in the UK .
- In 2019, we then achieved 100% RSPO for all palm oil used in our global Tesco Own Brand products (*42% Segregated; 41% Mass Balance; 17% RSPO Credits*).
- First international retailer in Asia to achieve RSPO certification for our Tesco Own Brand palm cooking oil
- We have ambition new physical certification targets (e.g. moving as much of our UK palm oil and derivatives to Segregated by 2021).



# Tesco's approach to RSPO labelling

- We put the RSPO logo on products on a case by case basis - usually where it is highly relevant to the product (e.g. palm cooking oil).
- For most products, only very small quantities of palm oil are used in the product (often forming less than 1% of most products).
- Palm oil might not be the most material sustainability issue for the product (e.g. palm oil in a tuna sandwich).
- Consumers ask us to reduce confusion and clutter on labelling.
- Products have to include other important labelling requirements beyond sustainability of ingredients (e.g. nutritional information, condition of use, packaging recyclability information etc.).
- We recognise certification in palm oil as an important starting point towards industry transformation.



# Supporting industry transformation

- **Working collaboratively with industry** – including the Retailers' Palm Oil Group, CGF Forest Positive Coalition for Action and the Palm Oil Transparency Coalition (POTC).
- **From RSPO certified supply to verified zero deforestation traders** – as a member of the POTC and CGF CoA, we are committed to moving to sourcing only from traders who have credible time-bound actions plans to be verified zero deforestation for all palm oil they trade globally.
- **Working with WWF** – we are working with our partners WWF to achieve this move to verified zero deforestation traders as part of our Sustainable Basket Metric.
- **Advocating for supporting regulation** – we also recognise that voluntary initiatives need to be supported by effective legislation. We are now calling on the UK governments for mandatory due diligence for deforestation-free food.





Thank you