



Starbucks and Sustainable Palm Oil

Starbucks goal is for all our products to be produced under the highest quality and ethical standards. Because tropical forests are being cleared for oil palm cultivation, destroying habitat and biodiversity, and impacting communities, we believe it is important for both our company and industry to address these environmental and social impacts.

To this end, we support a zero-tolerance approach to deforestation – consistent with our Coffee and Farmer Equity (C.A.F.E.) and Cocoa Practices programs – as well as a stronger focus on preserving high carbon stock and remaining peat areas and managing existing plantations on peat, according to best practices. As members of the Roundtable on Sustainable Palm Oil (RSPO), we are engaging the organization and other industry stakeholders regarding sustainable production practices and support efforts.

We are working to ensure our suppliers use RSPO certified palm oil for Starbucks-branded products in company owned stores globally by the end of 2015 and are beginning to work with our licensed and joint venture partners to encourage them to adopt this same commitment. Only palm oil with a traceability level of Mass Balance, Segregation, or stronger is acceptable. GreenPalm Certificates are not accepted as they do not provide supply chain traceability.

Overview:

2013

- **July** – Make commitment to use only Roundtable on Sustainable Palm Oil (RSPO) certified palm oil from Mass Balance or Segregation traceability systems for Starbucks branded products in company operated stores.
 - Follow best practices established by major purchasers, and the traceability provided, we require suppliers to use RSPO certified palm oil from Mass Balance and Segregation systems.
 - Determine that because GreenPalm Certificates do not provide traceability, they do not meet our transparency criteria.

2014

- **April** – Join RSPO Roundtable – the only recognized certification for responsibly sourced palm oil – and support efforts to improve industry standards.

2015

- **June** – Join 15 likeminded companies, investors and NGOs to become a signatory of the [Green Century letter](#) which calls on RSPO to deepen and broaden its work on traceability and community impacts.
- **July** – Expand Palm Oil Policy to include our zero-tolerance approach to deforestation, preserving high carbon stock and peat areas.

2016

- **January** – Consistent with our initial public-stated commitment, we will report on our progress toward our 100% goal.