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Environment and Sustainability - The Role of the Roundtable on Sustainable Palm Oil*

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The Roundtable on Sustainable Palm Oil (RSPO)'s mission is to transform markets to make sustainable palm oil the norm. The underlying purpose of this mission is for Certified Sustainable Palm Oil to be the standard to be applied to the whole industry, and not just a niche product. This is vital in ensuring that the positive impact of sustainable palm oil will be permanent, as it plays a key role that extends beyond protecting the environment and biodiversity alone. Sustainable palm oil practices also influence social interests, leading to gradual improvement in the socioeconomic status of local communities. However, the challenge RSPO faces is that ensuring that future expansion of plantations do not occur at the expense of natural ecosystems. This paper highlights the role of the Roundtable on Sustainable Palm Oil's practices, particularly the impact and implementation of Certified Sustainable Palm Oil (CSPO) leading to more improvement in the socioeconomic of local communities and environmental conditions.

Keywords: Roundtable on Sustainable Palm Oil (RSPO), sustainable palm oil, palm oil environment, plantations, membership, deforestation, greenhouse gases, environmental, ecosystems, deforestation, wildlife, certified sustainable palm oil.

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