



ALDI UK & Ireland

Palm Oil Policy

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Position Statement

ALDI UK is part of the ALDI SOUTH Group.

“The ALDI SOUTH Group of Companies conducts its business according to the principle of corporate responsibility. In all we do we assume responsibility towards our customers, business partners, employees, the community, and the environment.”

(Source: [Corporate Responsibility Principles of the ALDI SOUTH Group](#))

Background

The rising demand for palm oil worldwide has led to a decline in rainforests. Tropical rainforest, primarily located in Malaysia and Indonesia, is being deforested at a significant rate to make way for palm oil plantations. It is estimated that over 50% of the original primary rainforest in Indonesia has been deforested. Native species such as the Sumatran Tiger and Orangutans are critically endangered largely due to this habitat loss.

Palm oil is a very efficient oil, so reformulating to an alternative can need up to nine times more land to produce, and could lead to higher deforestation rates. Also, the palm supply chain has a number of different actors; not being part of the palm oil supply chain would mean leaving the future development of the palm oil sector to others, who might not be as concerned about the sustainable cultivation of oil palms. Therefore, we do not believe removing palm oil from our products is the solution. Instead, we ensure that 100% of the palm oil used in our products comes from sustainable certified sources.

We have been a member of the Roundtable on Sustainable Palm Oil (RSPO) since 2011. The ALDI SOUTH Group is an active member of the Retailer Palm Oil Group (RPOG), and the Palm Oil Transparency Coalition (POTC), and represented in the RSPO Board of Governors by the RPOG, which has a seat on this board. ALDI has been actively involved in the Smallholder Working Group (SHWG) in the past and is now a member of the Smallholder Standing Committee (SHSC).

In addition to our engagement in the RSPO, the ALDI North and ALDI SOUTH business groups have been supporting a smallholder project in Côte d'Ivoire since 2017 in order to pave the way for a sustainable cultivation of palm (kernel) oil. In close cooperation with our NGO partner Solidaridad, we have developed a project that focuses on the protection of natural forests and environmentally-friendly cultivation methods. Solidaridad offers intensive training which builds on an existing RSPO Smallholder Support Fund project supporting 5,000 smallholders and is intended to qualify up to 3,200 smallholders to protect their forests as well as align their cultivation methods with environmental and resource conservation requirements.

We have developed the ALDI Policy on Sustainable Palm Oil to protect vital rainforest resources in our product sourcing, by ensuring that products containing palm oil are sourced sustainably according to Roundtable on Sustainable Palm Oil (RSPO) principles. All ALDI own-brand products containing palm oil must be RSPO certified.

Scope

This policy applies to all ALDI own label food and non-food products within the UK and Ireland.

Non-declared processing aids are excluded from this policy.



Policy

Food Products

3.3.1 a	If an ALDI own-label food product contains palm oil in any form (including as part of another ingredient) the palm oil must be RSPO certified using Identity Preserved (IP), Segregated (SEG) or Mass Balance (MB) system.	Requirement	Scope: All own-label food
3.3.1 b	All products containing palm oil must have a valid Final Production Facility RSPO certificate.	Requirement	
3.3.1 c	RSPO should be added to pack of certified products.	Aspirational	

Non-Food Products

3.3.2 a	If an ALDI own-label non-food product contains palm oil in any form (including as part of another ingredient) the palm oil must be RSPO certified using Identity Preserved (IP), Segregated (SEG) or Mass Balance (MB) system.	Requirement	Scope: All own-label non-food
3.3.2 b	All products containing palm oil must have a valid final production facility RSPO certificate.	Requirement	
3.3.2 c	Derivatives & fractions (D&F) not available as physically certified can be covered with RSPO Credits until 2025 For Seasonal and SpecialBuy products, credits must be purchased 8 weeks prior to the on sale date. For Core range products, credits must be purchased by January of previous year.	Requirement	
3.3.2 d	By 2025, all D&F must be physically certified.	Requirement by 2025	
3.3.2 e	RSPO should be added to pack of certified products.	Aspirational	


Implementation

As part of the tender provided to ALDI, all suppliers of food and non-food products containing palm oil must confirm that the product they are supplying is RSPO certified.

All palm oil in products must be declared as part of the product specification provided to ALDI via the online eSpec system. Supporting documentation such as RSPO certificates for both the raw material and the final production facility must also be uploaded to the specification.



Definitions

<p>Roundtable of Sustainable Palm Oil (RSPO)</p> 	<p>Roundtable on Sustainable Palm Oil (RSPO) define global standards for sustainable palm oil. They have developed a set of environmental and social criteria which companies must comply with in order to produce Certified Sustainable Palm Oil (CSPO). https://rspo.org/about</p>
<p>RSPO Credits</p>	<p>RSPO Credits works as an offsetting scheme. An RSPO certified producer receives one RSPO Credit for each tonne of certified palm oil they produce. These credits are then offered on the open market with a premium that goes back to the producer.</p> <p>ALDI do not accept RSPO Credits for food products. RSPO Credits are accepted for non-food palm oil derivatives & fractions that are not on the market as physically certified, until 2025 when it is hoped that they will become available.</p> <p>The Technical Service Provider will provide the supplier with a list of ingredients that can be found physically certified.</p>
<p>Palm Oil & Palm Kernel Oil</p>	<p>Palm Oil is derived from the flesh of the palm fruit whereas Palm Kernel Oil is derived from the seed or kernel at the core of the fruit. They are physically and chemically different from one another and therefore have different applications in food and non-food products.</p>
<p>Fractions & Derivatives (D&F)</p>	<p>At the first level of refining palm oil is fractionated, or split, into liquid and solid oils. Further refining and blending may then be carried out to produce different oils with unique physical and chemical properties. All these fractions and derivatives are in scope of this policy.</p>
<p>Identity Preserved (IP) Palm Oil</p>	<p>Certified (RSPO) palm is from a single identifiable certified source is kept separately from ordinary palm oil throughout the supply chain.</p>
<p>Segregated (SEG) Palm Oil</p>	<p>Certified (RSPO) palm oil is kept completely separate from non-certified palm oil throughout the whole supply chain.</p>
<p>Mass Balance (MB) Palm Oil</p>	<p>Certified (RSPO) palm oil is mixed with non-certified palm oil at a point in the supply chain. The volume of certified palm oil purchased is always equal to the volume of certified palm oil imputed in the supply chain.</p>