



Our Palm Oil Policy

Our principles focus on, but are not limited to, those outlined in our sourcing criteria below:

Sourcing Criteria

- Adhering to the Principles and Criteria of the RSPO
- No deforestation:
 - No development of High Carbon Stock (HCS)¹ forest areas
 - No development of High Conservation Value (HCV)² areas
- No exploitation:
 - Respect for indigenous peoples and local communities rights to give or withhold their Free, Prior Informed Consent (FPIC) to operations on lands to which they hold legal, communal or customary rights
 - No forced, bonded or child labour. Respect for the rights of all workers including contract, temporary and migrant workers. Compliance with the ILO Fundamental Convention³
- No development on peat lands⁴, regardless of depth
- No use of fire to clear or prepare land
- Respect for local, national and international laws
- Facilitation of the inclusion of smallholders into the supply chain
- No use of toxic chemicals under the Stockholm (POP) Convention – including Paraquat

¹ High Carbon Stock (HCS) forests include primary forests, high, medium and low-density and regenerating forests

² High Conservation Value (HCV) areas contain items of biological, social or cultural value that are important to conserve, including rare, threatened and endangered species and their habitat. Please visit the HCV website for more information : <http://hcvnetwork.org/>

³ <http://www.ilo.org/global/standards/introduction-to-international-labour-standards/conventions-and-recommendations/lang--en/index.htm>

⁴ Peatlands are areas that contain more than 65% organic matter



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ecostore uses plant-based ingredients derived from palm oil and palm kernel oil in our products as an alternative to using petrochemicals. The petrochemical industry contributes heavily to air pollution and the risks and impacts extend to our aquatic environment. Faced with increasing restraints on access to mineral oil, companies are now pushing into some of the most fragile places on earth including our oceans, the Arctic, the tar sands of Canada and the New Zealand coastline.

Oil palms are highly efficient oil producers and are a very land efficient crop if managed effectively. With technological advances, palm oil has become a renewable alternative to petrochemicals for many industries, which is helping to alleviate poverty in developing countries. However, the rapid growth of the palm oil industry is resulting in the expansion of oil palm plantations, threatening tropical forests, the habitats of endangered species, and the rights of local people.

Here at ecostore we are committed to working towards ensuring that the palm oil we use in our products is responsibly sourced and does not contribute to deforestation or human rights issues. ecostore was one of the first consumer businesses to join the Roundtable on Sustainable Palm Oil (RSPO) in 2007. The RSPO is an association under Swiss law that is composed of various organisations from different sectors of the palm oil industry, including environmental and social NGOs, who are involved in developing and implementing global standards for sustainable palm oil. The RSPO standards make sure that the fundamental rights of local communities, plantation workers, small farmers and their families are respected and taken into account and that no new primary forests or high conservation value (HCV) areas have been cleared for palm oil production since November 2005.

ecostore is committed to ensuring that our approach to sustainability builds on and improves upon the RSPO certification, taking responsibility for managing our own supply chain by being fully engaged with our suppliers. It is important to achieve traceability of our palm oil supply chain back to the plantation source in order to ensure that we are using palm oil derivatives from plantations that meets both the RSPO requirements, and our principles for sustainability. Our progress will be available through regular updates on our website to support our transparency policy.



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Action Plan:

ecostore is working closely with raw materials suppliers, enabling us to fully trace the source of our palm oil derivatives through our supply chain. We are taking responsibility for our own supply chain to bring about more responsible sourcing, helping communities and companies to deliver responsible products.

ecostore is committed to

1. Ensuring all suppliers demonstrate continuous improvement towards becoming fully traceable and adhering to our policy
2. Distributing and monitoring progress on this policy
3. Publically reporting progress every 6 months

Examples of current partnerships: BASF, LG Chemicals & New Britain Palm Oil

Our target is to achieve traceability back to the palm oil mills of our suppliers during the 2015-2016 calendar year. Based on the information gained, we will agree on more specific milestones for further traceability back to the plantation and for supplier compliance with our policy.

We are optimistic that lasting positive change can occur within the palm oil industry thanks to the very strong commitment to sustainability by our partners such as BASF, LG Chemicals and New Britain Palm Oil.