

ALDI Nord



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APPROACH AND KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

As an international company with global supply chains, we are aware of our responsibility to respect human rights and protect the environment. ALDI Nord was the first food discounter to join the Global Compact of the United Nations (UN) in 2017, and we are addressing climate protection as a priority in our agenda, including in our [Palm Oil Purchasing Policy](#).

Our target of using 100% Roundtable on Sustainable Palm Oil (RSPO) certified sustainable palm oil from physical supply chain options in our own-brand products was reached in 2019 for food products; our total certification rate is currently at 98.6% (Identity Preserved 0.1%, Segregated 61%, Mass Balance 37%, Book & Claim 1%).

ROADBLOCKS AND SOLUTIONS

The challenges which come with the conventional cultivation of oil palm are multidimensional and entrenched within complex supply chains. In the non-food sector in particular, our direct influence and the availability of derivatives and fractions from physical supply chains are partly limited. Moreover, achieving supply chain transparency is challenging, wherever middlemen are involved. For this reason we are currently working on a data system for our supply chains in order to improve transparency and positively influence human rights and environmental issues.

Since 2017, ALDI has been supporting a smallholder project in Côte d'Ivoire in order to pave the way for sustainable palm oil cultivation. Implemented in close cooperation with our business partner, The Solidaridad Network, the project builds on an existing RSPO initiative and focuses on the protection of natural forests and environmentally friendly cultivation methods. Solidaridad offers intensive training to coach smallholders and other stakeholders on how to protect nature. This has a positive impact not only on the environment, but also on the availability of sustainable palm oil and the livelihoods of smallholders.

POST-2020 ACTION PLANS

Following up the implementation of our target, we want to improve the level of traceability for our complex palm oil supply chain as well as the awareness of our suppliers through dialogues and guidance. Furthermore, together with suppliers and relevant stakeholders, we are seeking solutions to increase the availability of RSPO Certified Sustainable Palm Oil, specifically derivatives and fractions.

The issue of deforestation is of great importance to us. Forests are climate protectors; they absorb large amounts of the global CO₂ emissions and also serve as habitats for numerous animal and plant species. This is why we have prioritised the issue of deforestation in our latest [sustainability strategy](#) and are working together with ALDI South internationally on comprehensive measures and a concrete target to make an impactful contribution in key areas of forest protection. We are particularly interested in supporting the sustainable procurement of palm oil and soy, as these commodities contribute significantly to global deforestation and the associated risks. We sent out a clear signal of support in June 2020 by signing the WWF Cerrado Soya position paper.

In order to be successful in the area of forest conservation, we will have to bundle our commitment even more strongly in the future and work together with partners such as politicians, NGOs, suppliers and stakeholder or trade initiatives to improve transparency and effectiveness. Without this joint commitment, it will not be possible to achieve sufficient impact.



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