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2nd Annual Conference of  
Polish Coalition for Sustainable Palm Oil

# TOGETHER TOWARDS SUSTAINABLE PALM OIL

## CONFERENCE SUMMARY



## H.E. I Gede Ngurah Swajaya, Director General for American and European Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Republic of Indonesia

Keynote speech



- Industry is subjected to various changes, that are omitted due to prejudice in negative campaigns
- The demand for vegetable oils is increasing – palm oil, due to its productivity, is key commodity helping to meet the demand
- Thanks to strong coalitions and partnerships we can incentivise even faster transformation of oil palm plantations into sustainable sources.
- We must not forget the socio-economic aspect: palm oil production helped 10 millions of Indonesian people out of poverty. Palm oil is the most important commodity in Indonesia.
- Reduced Deforestation is a concrete result of Sustainability strategy implemented by the government of the Republic of Indonesia. Forest fires were reduced by 82% compared to previous years.
- **Since 2018 there are no new plantations in Indonesia.**
- **Key to transformation of palm oil industry to 100% sustainable is wide Education and promoting reliable and verified data.**



# STATE OF AFFAIRS IN POLAND



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# How much palm oil is in Poland?

Dr Tomasz Bocheński



- The report is a continuation of research conducted since 2019.
- Year 2020 is a first, in which import of palm oil decreased by 12%. Until now, import was increasing by 5-6% annually. We cannot link it directly and solely to the pandemic. Palm oil can be partially substituted by other vegetable oils.
- Germany and the Netherlands are the biggest exporters of palm oil to Poland. Compared to last years export from Malaysia increased. This is connected to the world's trend of general shortening supply chains.
- **In Poland in 2020 there was 60% of certified (SG&MB) palm oil.**



# WORLD'S PERSPECTIVE



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# WWF Palm Oil Buyers Scorecard – transparency for sustainable palm oil

Julia Koczorowska



- WWF Palm Oil Buyers Scorecard is a tool enabling tracking progress towards Sustainable palm oil.
- Significant number of companies declared goals and targets in palm oil segment by 2020. Now is a good moment to verify the achievements.
- Scorecard shows changes in time in palm oil production, underlining development and responsibility of business.
- The 2021 Scorecard is more extensive than previous ones.
- **Transparency is first step towards achieving basic Sustainable Development Goals.**

# Impact of Sustainability Certification on Indonesian Smallholders

Rukayiah Rafik



- Forum FORTASBI – Sustainable Palm Oil Smallholders Forum, associate around 10 000 independent smallholders of Indonesia.
- In possession of independent smallholders is around 42% of oil palm plantation in Indonesia.
- Their engagement in sustainability related activities is inevitable and highly profitable for environment and the local economy. It does require additional work.
- RSPO certification contribute to 9 of 17 SDGS on village level.
- **Supporting smallholders through RSPO Credits is invaluable for improvement in environmental practices and socio-economic conditions.**



# COMESTIBLES SEGMENT



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# Palm Oil in food sector – challenges and opportunities

Martina Torma



- World's demand on palm oil and other vegetable oils has increased due to rise of global population
- Palm oil has many qualities, which make him a valuable asset in food sector: Palm oil can be used to enhance the appearance of products, as an emulsifier, for its stability at high temperatures. Like butter, palm oil is almost a 50-50 composition of saturated and unsaturated fatty acids, and has a smooth and creamy texture. The absence of smell makes it a perfect ingredient in many recipes, especially baked goods. In addition it has a natural preservative effect which extends the shelf life of food products.
- 19% of palm oil worldwide is RSPO certified
- **Even if certified sustainable, not all this palm oil is sold as sustainable. This creates a concerning lack of demand which could really undermine the willingness of the growers to still commit to sustainable practices.**
- On European market, 86% is RSPO certified.

# Biedronka's way towards 100% sustainable palm oil

Adam Lalewicz



- Certified palm oil is one of the pillars of Sustainable Supply Chain strategy in Biedronka.
- Fighting deforestation is one of the priorities of Biedronka's CSR strategy.
- Biedronka is actively involved in PCSPO activities, inviting its' suppliers to participate and educate themselves.
- Checkpoints with suppliers regarding SPO:
  - Including CPO requirements in requests for proposal.
  - Verification of meeting the standards by Biedronka's representatives (announced and unannounced checks)
  - Ensuring certain and adequate paragraphs in the trade agreement
  - Certainty of having a certified palm oil in the products on the shelf.
- **Since January 2019 all own brand products contain only certified palm oil.**



# Palm oil in Żabka's assortment

Władysław Jaskulski



- Żabka strongly encourages suppliers to use certified palm oil.
- **By the end of 2023, conventional palm oil will be eliminated from own brand products.**
- The predominance of certified palm oil products is already visible.
- Actions taken while partnering with suppliers
  - Verification of product composition
  - Contact with the suppliers and certification check
- Further educational activities for suppliers are planned.



# OLEOCHEMICALS SEGMENT



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# European perspective on oleochemical segment

Judith Murdoch



- **Oleochemical market is an incredibly complex one, bearing in mind the supply chain.**
- There are only few oleofactories in Europe. They are a necessity in palm oil processing. It causes palm oil to travel back to other oleofactories in Asia.
- Poland is a leading player in health and personal care sector.
- Mass Balance certificate is predominant in oleochemical segment.
- NDPE policies are crucial – No Deforestation, No Peat and No Exploitation.

# Chemistry for sustainable future

Aleksandra Pienczykowska



- Palm oil is used in BASF mainly in cosmetic and detergent branches.
- Only palm and coconut oil have proper carbon chains C12 nad C14 structure, which leads to their irreplaceability.
- In 2020 goal of 100% of certified palm oil and palm kernel oil was reached.
- **BASF commits to 100% certified palm oil in intermediate products by 2025.**
- The company engages suppliers and smallholder in education and promotes positive environmental and economic impact of sustainable palm oil production.
- Supplier Code of Conduct, among others, refers to responsible palm oil sourcing.





# FACTS AND MYTHS

# Facts and myths on palm oil

Marta Krawcewicz, prof. Krzysztof Krygier, Magdalena Wieczerzyńska



- **Why is palm oil so badly perceived?**
  - Outdated or unchecked opinions are prevalent. They are not supported by scientific research or do not take modern technology and procedures into account.
  - Lack of distinction between certified and conventional palm oil is common.
  - Rise in certification awareness is critical.
- **Since April 2021 trans fats are forbidden in EU.** They may be found in partially hydrogenated vegetable oils. Solid fats were widely used and there are no alternatives as economically effective as palm oil.
- **World Health Organisation does not have any guidelines indicating palm oil avoidance.**
- **What should a responsible consumer do?**
  - Check for certification – it needs to be supported by the manufacturers.
  - Raising awareness of certified palm oil is a must.
  - Having the RSPO logo present on packaging is one of the Coalition long term goals.

Thank you for your attention!



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na polskim rynku  
do 2023 roku