



## Partners and Non-Partners of the Tropical Forest Alliance 2020 Announce Support for the Marrakesh Declaration for Sustainable Development of the Oil Palm Sector in Africa

Wednesday, 16 November 2016

Today, Partners of the Tropical Forest Alliance 2020 announce support for the implementation of the *Marrakesh Declaration for Sustainable Development of the Oil Palm Sector in Africa*. Pronounced on the occasion of COP22 in Marrakesh, Morocco, the **Marrakesh Declaration** represents a shared pledge by the governments of to develop national oil palm sectors in a way that delivers environmental targets while respecting national land use plans and the rights of indigenous peoples and much more.

### Announcement by private sector partners

*Colgate – Palmolive*

*Nestle*

*Unilever*

*Feronia*

*Golden Veroleum Liberia (GVL)*

*SIAT*

*Sime Darby*

*Socfin Group*

*Wilmar*

### Announcement by government partners

*Government of the Netherlands*

*Government of Norway*

*Government of the United Kingdom*

### Announcement by civil society partners

*AFPAT*

*Conservation International*

*Earth innovation Institute*

*Forest Trends*

*The Sustainable Trade Initiative IDH*

*Roundtable for Sustainable Palm oil (RSPO)*

*United Nations Development Programme*

*World Resource Institute*

*World Wide Fund for Nature*

*TFA 2020 Partners*

As organizations committed to responsible oil palm development and other commodities in Central and West Africa, we welcome and support the commitment of the signatories of the Marrakesh Declaration. The Marrakesh Declaration sends an important signal to market actors that will help accelerate the implementation of voluntary commitments to remove deforestation from palm oil supply chains.

Responsible palm oil production requires transparency, integrated land use planning, effective engagement and empowerment of local communities, as well as collaborative action at the landscape level. We will seek to align with the principles included in the Marrakesh Declaration, in support of responsible oil palm development in Central and West Africa. TFA 2020 and its Africa Palm Oil Initiative provide us with an important action-oriented platform to pursue collaborative efforts to implement the commitments included in the Marrakesh Declaration.

### About the Marrakesh Declaration

The signatories of the Marrakesh Declaration pledge to work with partners, including the Tropical Forest Alliance 2020, to fully implement national development plans for sustainable oil palm development. The implementation of national plans will be guided by underlying principles for sustainability, good

governance, transparency, recognition of community and human rights, partnerships, and equitable benefit sharing. The full text of the Declaration is accessible [here](#).<sup>1</sup>

### **About the Tropical Forest Alliance 2020**

The Tropical Forest Alliance 2020 is the global umbrella partnership that brings together government, private sector companies, and civil society organizations to reduce deforestation associated with the production of commodities such as palm oil, beef, soy, and pulp and paper. The Secretariat of TFA 2020 is hosted at the World Economic Forum, Geneva Switzerland. To learn more about the TFA 2020, go to [www.tfa2020.org](http://www.tfa2020.org).

### **About the TFA 2020 Africa Palm Oil Initiative**

The Africa Palm Oil Initiative (APOI) is TFA 2020's first Signature Initiative. It brings together TFA 2020 Partners and collaborators within governments, companies, civil society and indigenous and local peoples groups to help transition the palm oil sector to a sustainable driver of long-term, low-carbon development in the region in a way that is socially beneficial and protects tropical forests of the region.

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<sup>1</sup> "Zero net deforestation" in the Marrakesh Declaration applies the [World Wide Fund for Nature - definition of zero net deforestation](#) that is also used by The Consumer Goods Forum and Tropical Forest Alliance 2020.