WILMAR SMALLHOLDERS SUPPORT HONDURAS PROGRAMME (WISSH)

Fourth Progress Report December 2016 – February 2017

WISSH Achievements, One Year On

WISSH celebrated its one-year anniversary in February 2017 as it completed phase one of its programme. During the year 2016, the WISSH programme, designed to empower smallholders to improve yield while maintaining responsible best practices, trained a total of 1,980 smallholders, achieving more than 85% of our intended target of 2,300 smallholders associated with The Industrial Association of Palm Oil Producers in Honduras (AIPAH). These smallholders were trained in over 119 sessions in 2 key areas, Wilmar's Sustainability (No Deforestation, No Peat and No Exploitation) Policy as well as Good Environmental Practices & Ecosystem Conservation.

As part of the programme our implementation partner, NES Naturaleza, also piloted a mobile application (app) to facilitate crop management. This app is a monitoring and controlling tool that enables record keeping of field activities, such as pesticide application, fossil fuel use, and harvesting schedules. Three editions of pocket guidebooks featuring information of the training topics and functionalities of the Monitor & Control app were published and distributed to the smallholders. We also collected GPS coordinates from the participants and produced 1,500 concession maps which captured locations of smallholder farms.

Moving on to Phase 2 of WISSH

In phase two of WISSH, we are targeting to train 3,600 smallholders - both associated and independent smallholders. Plan is underway to organise seven trainings during 2017 on five topics, and implement the monitoring and control tool at the mills. We are also pleased to have one new mill, Asapalsa, joining the WISSH programme. As a result, WISSH kick-started its 2017 programme with nine mills.

1. **"Train the Trainers" (TtT 2)**

During the week of 13 February, the second "Train the Trainers" session was held with participation from 50 supervisors from the nine mills associated with AIPAH. The training was focused on:
   - The significance of information for successful management
   - The need for records as a way for improvement
   - A monitoring and control system as a means for productivity.

Additionally, during the five-day training, an evaluation session was organized where supervisors shared their experiences and lessons learned from the first year of the WISSH programme. One of the lessons learned is that in order to gather more accurate information of smallholders' economic and social situation, questions designed for the survey have to be very clear and specific.

Overall, WISSH received very positive feedback from the supervisors who indicated that the training sessions and the training methodology are very useful for training smallholders. The smallholders also indicated to the supervisors that they were very happy with the programme.

All recommendations are welcomed and would be taken into consideration for the improvement of WISSH programme.

2. WISSH - Monitoring and Control tool

As mentioned in the last progress report, NES has designed a monitoring and control tool, including a mobile app, which can be used to store and monitor information on crop management in an efficient and effective way. The app was piloted end 2016 / early 2017, at Aceites y Derivados (Aceydesa) Palm Oil Mill a member of AIPAH.

At the TtT workshop, the supervisor of Aceydesa explained the benefits and difficulties of using the mobile app to the other supervisors of the AIPAH group, who were eager to learn more about this tool. In particular, Aceydesa shared that through gathering the data using

new information could be collected from the field, giving them more visibility on the farms.

Following the successful trial of the app by Aceydesa, at least 2 supervisors from each of the nine mills received the mobile app software, including the 11 sections which they could immediately implement and use on the app.

1. Application of pesticides
2. Biodiversity data
3. Participation in trainings
4. Use of fossil fuel
5. Harvesting
6. Disposal of the agrochemicals containers
7. Application of Fertilisers
8. Monitoring of pests
9. Monitoring diseases
10. Monitoring of Good Agricultural Practices for continuous improvement
11. Other observations
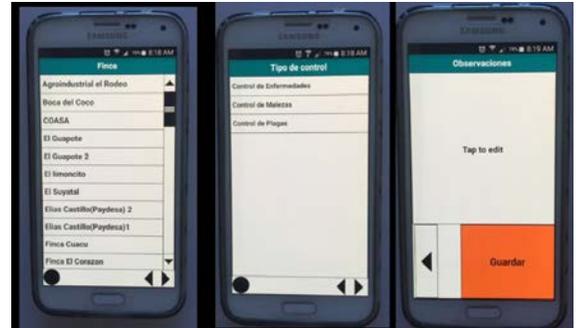
Prior to the launch of the app, the supervisors received a special handbook explaining the basics of this monitoring and control tool.

Since this tool is critical for field information gathering, the mills have asked for more training support as well as customization of the app according to their respective needs. Additional trainings will be conducted in March 2017.

#	Mill	WISSH TOSH 3		
		Number of Smallholders trained by:		
		NES NATURALEZA	SUPERVISORS AIPAH	TOTAL
1	HONDUPALMA	113	473	586
2	ACEYDESA	68	60	128
3	PALMASA	120	105	225
4	HONDUCARIBE	116	0	116
5	ASAPALSA	125	38	163
6	PALCASA	52	29	81
7	COINSU	63	243	306
8	COAPALMA	64	234	298
9	SALAMA	60	75	135
	TOTALES	**781**	**1257**	**2038**

3. Training of Smallholders (TOSH 3)

Immediately following the training of the trainers, NES started the Training of Smallholders (TOSH). This was the third training that the associated smallholders received during WISSH so far. The objective of this specific TOSH training session was to strengthen the capacities of small producers in aspects relating to General Management of the farm. The focus was mainly on business leadership, loyalty, financial and budget management, and decision making. For a week, NES gave the training together with the supervisors to a total of 781 different

smallholders. Subsequently, the supervisors passed on the knowledge to smallholders, reaching a total of 2022 producers in 75 sessions organised from the end of February until mid-March.

4. Fourth Guide pocketbook.

The fourth edition of the WISSH pocket guidebook was also published. This version explains

different aspects of managing a palm oil business, including financial management and decision-making.

This guidebook was used during the Training of Smallholders session. Also these handbooks can be taken into the plantation in order to consult whenever needed.