

Global Platform for Sustainable Natural Rubber

Founding Members Statement

October 25, 2018

The “Global Platform for Sustainable Natural Rubber” (“GPSNR”), will establish standards, methods and tools for producing, trading, processing, and/or acquiring natural rubber, or products containing natural rubber, according to the principles laid out below. The founding members of the GPSNR believe that a pre-competitive platform for all stakeholders along the natural rubber value chain is needed to effectively and efficiently reduce the ecological and social footprint of natural rubber. The founding members invite other members of the natural rubber value chain, academia, and civil society to join and build the GPSNR.

Mission of the Global Platform for Sustainable Natural Rubber

To lead improvements in the socio-economic and environmental performance of the natural rubber value chain.

Vision of the Global Platform for Sustainable Natural Rubber

A fair, equitable and environmentally sound natural rubber value chain.

From the date of this Statement and until more comprehensive standards are adopted by the GPSNR, the founding members each independently acknowledge that best practices include:

- purchasing policies or guidelines that are consistent with the following principles, or members of the natural rubber value chain demonstrably integrating those principles into their purchasing decisions or production operations;
- engaging within the GPSNR to strengthen and harmonize policies, standards, systems and/or programs under the GPSNR; and
- engaging with relevant stakeholders including government and supply chain stakeholders to implement initiatives in designated high biodiversity and/or carbon stock pilot landscapes to demonstrate the viability of implementing SNR commitments.

Because some signatories of this Statement are not part of the value chain (e.g., civil society) or have operations that only involve certain aspects of the value chain, the pledges above apply to the extent they are relevant to the activities and/or operations of the signatories:

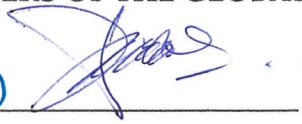
Each of the Founding Members recognizes the importance of companies promoting and integrating the following principles into their production, trading, processing and/or buying of natural rubber and products containing natural rubber.

Sustainable Natural Rubber Principles

1. To advance natural rubber production and processing that protects peatlands, and avoids ecosystem conversion, deforestation and forest degradation based on identification and management of forests and other natural ecosystems as outlined in the guidelines of the High Conservation Value Resource Network, the High Carbon Stock Approach, or other applicable regulatory frameworks.
2. To appropriately manage water along the natural rubber value chain.
3. To recognize, promote, and protect the rights of indigenous peoples and local communities; to not engage in "land grabbing"; to obtain Free Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC), as defined by the UN-REDD Programme from existing land users; and to promote adequate compensation where land use is granted.
4. To comply with applicable labor laws for employees and contractors and fulfill the intent of the International Labor Organization's eight core conventions.
5. To recognize and promote human rights within the natural rubber value chain, including alleviating poverty by promoting programs that improve smallholders' livelihoods.
6. To promote principles of equity throughout the supply chain.
7. To establish and implement protocols for rubber traceability from farm to end-user, working towards full traceability for industrial plantations and applying a risk-based approach for smallholder farms.
8. To support transparent reporting along the entire natural rubber supply chain.
9. To not engage in corruption and to take a zero-tolerance approach on corruption within the value chain.
10. To establish an open, transparent, and independent process to ensure that the members of the GPSNR are respecting, protecting, and contributing to the eventual standards and the reputation of the GPSNR.
11. To develop auditing protocols that allow those interested in these principles to learn which members of the natural rubber value chain are following these best practices.
12. To support training and educational efforts to raise awareness and build capacity for the implementation of these principles, including improvement of production practices by focusing on vertical (improved yield and quality) rather than horizontal (increased planted area) expansion.

FOUNDING MEMBERS OF THE GLOBAL PLATFORM FOR SUSTAINABLE NATURAL RUBBER:

(TIM LEONG)



On behalf of:

Smithland Global Pte Ltd



(Peter Tan)

On behalf of:

Smithland Global Pte Ltd