



PZ Cussons expands Palm Oil Promise to include Pulp & Paper

The company expands its no deforestation commitment as it reveals its performance against 2020 Palm Oil Action Plan goals and sets new targets for 2023

16 DEC 2020, LON Leading international consumer products group, PZ Cussons today discloses its progress against its 2020 Palm Oil Action Plan and announces it is expanding its no-deforestation commitment to include pulp & paper.

The Company also unveiled its new 2023 Palm Oil Action Plan to meet its goal of sourcing 100% of its palm oil from producers independently verified as compliant with No Deforestation, No Peat, No Exploitation (NDPE) standards.

Neill Craigie, Regional Managing Director at PZ Cussons, said: "We are extremely excited to start to apply what we have learnt on our palm oil journey to our paper and cardboard supply chain. We know that gaining full transparency of our supply chains is critical to sector transformation.

"Like many other consumer products brands, we had very little visibility of where our palm oil came from when we first published our Palm Oil Promise in 2014. After a lot of hard work in partnership with suppliers and other brands, we can now trace 99% of our palm oil to the mill and 94% of our palm oil derivatives. Given our decision to broaden the scope of the derivatives we trace to include all palm derived ingredients used by third-party manufacturers and complex ingredients that may contain traces of oil palm, we're incredibly proud of this progress."

PZ Cussons is focusing its attention and resources on the materials which it uses most of and which have clear links to deforestation. Based on these criteria, palm oil and pulp & paper are clear priorities.

Dyuti Raj Anshu, Global Head of Procurement at PZ Cussons, said: "We have learnt a lot from our palm oil journey, particularly the importance of taking a stepped approach to meeting our ultimate goal. This involves setting out clear interim targets and specific actions to meet each one. This means that we can be confident that we are always moving forward."

PZ Cussons will publish its Pulp & Paper Action Plan, a detailed tactical approach setting out the steps it will take to ensure the paper and cardboard it uses do not contribute to deforestation, in July 2021.



Highlights from 2020 Palm Oil Action Plan and new 2023 Palm Oil Action Plan

The Company reports that today, 100% of its crude palm oil and palm kernel oil suppliers and 99% of its palm oil derivative suppliers have NDPE commitments aligned to its own. Additionally, 99% of its palm oil and 94% of its palm oil derivatives are fully traceable to mill.

Neill Craigie continues: "Our target was always an ambitious one and the job is not yet finished. While we have made great progress, we know this is only the end of the beginning.

"Our 2023 Action Plan sets out how we will focus on supplier engagement, transformation and independent verification, to ensure we fulfill and expand on our 2020 commitment. In particular how we will actively rate our suppliers so we can buy more from those that most closely share our goals."

With high levels of traceability now achieved, PZ Cussons is monitoring its palm oil supply chain using Starling¹ satellite data. This will continue to be an area of focus.

Dyuti Raj Anshu, explains: "During 2020 we have been sharing Starling satellite data with our suppliers. This helps us verify deforestation-free areas and identify any areas needing action.

"One particular challenge is derivative suppliers that only share global mill lists - they share with us all the mills in their supply chain, regardless of where our physical oil comes from. It is difficult for us to allocate resources across such a large number of mills and we continue to engage with these suppliers to urge them to share tailored data."

PZ Cussons has continued to support the Forest Conservation Fund, with investments in three conservation projects in Indonesia which are helping to secure standing forest, protect biodiversity and reduce carbon impacts in our supply chain. Activities in the past six months have included supporting a local community in East Kalimantan to develop and implement their forest protection protocol for 7,200 hectares of forest, community-led restoration of degraded forest areas in West Kalimantan, and support for forest patrols to tackle illegal logging.

¹ Starling, created by Airbus and Earthworm Foundation uses a combination of high resolution imagery and radar data in order to provide monitoring of land cover change, focusing on forest cover loss. It is a private and independent tool that allows companies to monitor the implementation of their No Deforestation policy. Starling uses Airbus's high-resolution SPOT 6 and SPOT 7 satellites as well as dozens of other third-party sensors. The data generated is then processed through machine learning algorithms which are designed for large geographical areas. With sharp accuracy and detailed resolution, Starling's reference maps differentiate between production forests that include palm plantations, natural forests and other areas.



Read PZ Cussons' 2023 Palm Oil Action Plan and 2020 Palm Oil Action Plan here: <https://www.pzcussons.com/good-4-business/the-palm-oil-promise/>

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