

## An Inclusive Model for Independent Smallholders in Africa: NedOil, Sierra Leone

### ROUNDTABLE MEETING ON SUSTAINABLE PALM OIL



A Renewed Commitment to  
Achieving Market Transformation



Natural Habitats  
Sierra Leone



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### Introduction

- NedOil Ltd. was founded by Lion Heart Foundation in 2007 and became part of Natural Habitats Group, producer and processor of organic palm oil in 2013
- It is a palm oil mill company located in Yele, the centre of Sierra Leone with +2000 independent smallholders 100% organic certified.
- NedOil supports independent smallholders in obtaining organic certification through an ICS.



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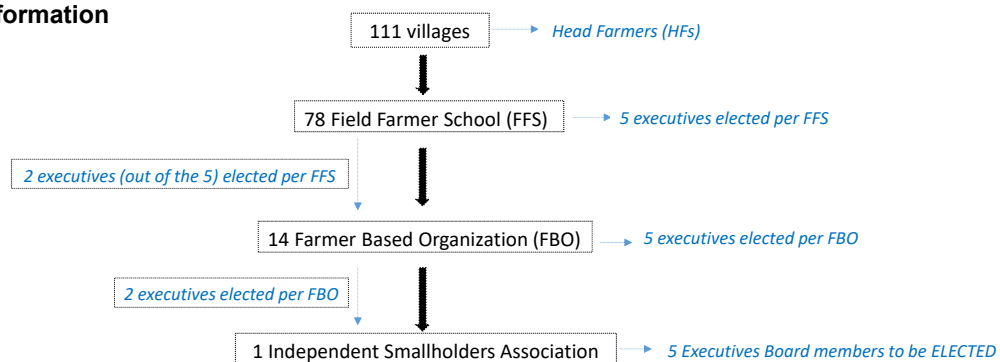
### Nedoil Smallholders profile

- The farmers depends on oil palm cultivation for their main source of income.
- Their current yields are low with an average of 3.2Mt FFB/ha.
- Average plantation size of 1.5ha.
- Our current group of +2,000 farmers is being internally audited for Organic and RSPO certification.



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### Group formation



- Legality:
  - Land titles
  - Draft of the Constitution of the association
  - Registration in governmental institutions.



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### Capacity building and technical support

- Continuous capacity building through specialized training on:
  - Best Management Practices
  - Good Agricultural Practices focused in organic agriculture
  - Health and Safety
  - Solving non-conformities
  - Land rights and gender equality
- Plan to establish demonstration farms at FFS level.





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### Major challenges faced by independent smallholders in Africa

- Low quality planting materials resulting in low yields.
  - Lack of knowledge in good agricultural practices.
  - Lack of formal procedure to prove land tenure rights.
  - Absence of quality formal education and basic literacy skills.
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- The farmers need support to renovate and rehabilitate their plantations to secure their livelihoods in the future.



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### Opportunities for livelihood improvement to guarantee sustainable palm oil production in Africa

- Improved planting materials for rehabilitation and expansion.
- Access to local and global markets that will guarantee a stable income.
- Access to finance to buy farm inputs (such as improved planting materials), health and safety equipment, collection tools and high quality farm tools.
- Technical support to grow other food crops to improve food security in oil palm landscapes.
- Government and private sector support to formalise and legalise farmer associations.
- Support for reducing the negative environmental impacts of local oil palm processing.
- Fair and transparent governance by Group Managers.



# Thank You!!

