

Palm Oil Policy

Purpose

This policy details Elior's awareness of the environmental damage caused by non-sustainable palm oil and our commitment to achieving 100% sustainable palm oil within our nominated supply chain by phasing out non-sustainable palm oil in favour of environmentally friendly sources.

Scope

Elior UK recognises its environmental impact (direct and indirect) on the provision of palm oil through its use in products within our operations.

To help ensure our purchases do not contribute to deforestation of the world's rainforests or negatively impact the communities that depend on them, our government contracts purchase via a restricted buying list of products compatible with sustainable palm oil. For our other business sectors, and as part of our CSR Strategy, 'The Positive Foodprint Plan', all palm oil will meet sustainable sourcing criteria by 2025.

Background

Palm oil is the world's most popular vegetable oil. It is used for food products, detergents, cosmetics and biofuel. The Global production of palm oil has increased exponentially over the last decade and global demand for palm oil is expected to double again by 2020.

To meet demand large areas of tropical forests and other ecosystems have been cleared to make room for vast monoculture palm oil plantations. This has detrimental effects on the local environment causing loss of critical habitat leading to loss of biodiversity, soil erosion, air pollution, soil and water pollution and climate change. In some cases, the expansion of plantations has led to the eviction of forest-dwelling peoples.

Responsibilities

Elior UK is working with nominated suppliers to map our usage of palm oil and provide information on all product lines that contain palm oil so that we can create a transparent and traceable palm oil supply chain for food and non-food items.

Governance

This policy will be reviewed at least annually at Board level to judge its effectiveness and will be updated in accordance with changes in the law.



Catherine Roe
Chief Executive, Elior UK
2 December 2019