



**SHARP**

# Palm oil

## Riau, Sumatra, Indonesia



Training for farmer cooperative members,  
Riau, Indonesia

Model:	Cooperative as Implementing Entity.
Key stakeholders:	SNV – SHARP Regional Focal Point. Village unit cooperative. Farmer organisation of independent palm oil smallholders formed by cooperative. Local RSPO certified palm oil mill – preferred buyer for cooperative. Local social NGO. International environmental NGO. Local government.
No. of participating SHs:	209
Priority risks:	Irregular land tenure situation for most farmers. Proximity to National Park → risk to HCVs.
Priority farmer needs:	To meet expectations on deforestation/HVC risk, legality and quality for RSPO-certified mill. To improve agriculture practices in order to increase yield and quality of oil palm fruit.
Change realised:	Obtaining business licence to operate legally. Improvements in fertiliser use and other agricultural practices.
Lessons and challenges:	Both the cooperative and farmer organisation needed substantial advisory and technical support to implement RSS, but proved capable of implementing measures to mitigate risk. Loose affiliation with cooperative and growing competition between mills left independent smallholders free to sell fruit to undiscerning buyers, undermining business case for working towards RSPO group certification.