

Press release: 23.01.2017

Project offers free expert support to Danish companies pursuing responsible sourcing of palm oil, soy and beef

NEPCon and SEGES are now opening a case study programme that provides companies with the opportunity to identify and minimise the risks connected with sourcing palm oil, soy and beef in collaboration with experts – free of charge. 16 national risk assessments from some of the world's largest producer countries of palm oil, soy and beef are now ready for Danish companies to put into use. The risk assessments provide new and comprehensive data that can help minimise social and environmental risks right where the commodities are produced. Palm oil, soy and beef are often produced in the midst of some of the world's most sensitive natural areas.

The global ingredient company DuPont Nutrition & Health and the Scandinavian importer of meat CARMO Food have already started the process of exploring the potential of the risk assessments in the project's case study programme.

"We joined the project focusing on sustainable beef from Brazil and Argentina last year and right from the start it has been a very educational collaboration. With the help of NEPCon's great expertise we have, among other things, established procurement policies in connection with our CSR strategy. Specifically, this means that we now have defined requirements for our South American suppliers, which helps us ensure that the beef we source in these locations, does not come from threatened rainforest areas," said Jeppe Jakobsen, Purchasing Manager in CARMO Food.

"This project is a unique opportunity for us to update our 'Sustainable Soy Sourcing Policy', try out new ways to analyse our supply chain and identify any potential problems or suppliers that we need to place under scrutiny," stated Mikkel Thrane, Life Cycle Sustainability Manager at DuPont Nutrition & Health.

NEPCon and SEGES are looking for an additional three companies for the case study programme, who wish to make use of the free expert help offered by the project to achieve responsible import of soy, beef and palm oil. More specifically, NEPCon and SEGES are looking for: A) companies with palm oil from Indonesia, Malaysia or Ghana in their products; B) companies with soy from Brazil, Argentina, Paraguay, Bolivia or China in their products; C) companies sourcing beef from Argentina or Brazil.

"We have a unique opportunity to offer Danish companies a course of 4-6 months, in which our experts can help analysing a defined scope of a supply chain for risk and produce a concrete action plan to minimise the identified risks. It is an exciting opportunity to strengthen current sourcing policies or create and establish a new one," said Alexandra Banks from NEPCon.

Contact

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[See the news on the webpage.](#)

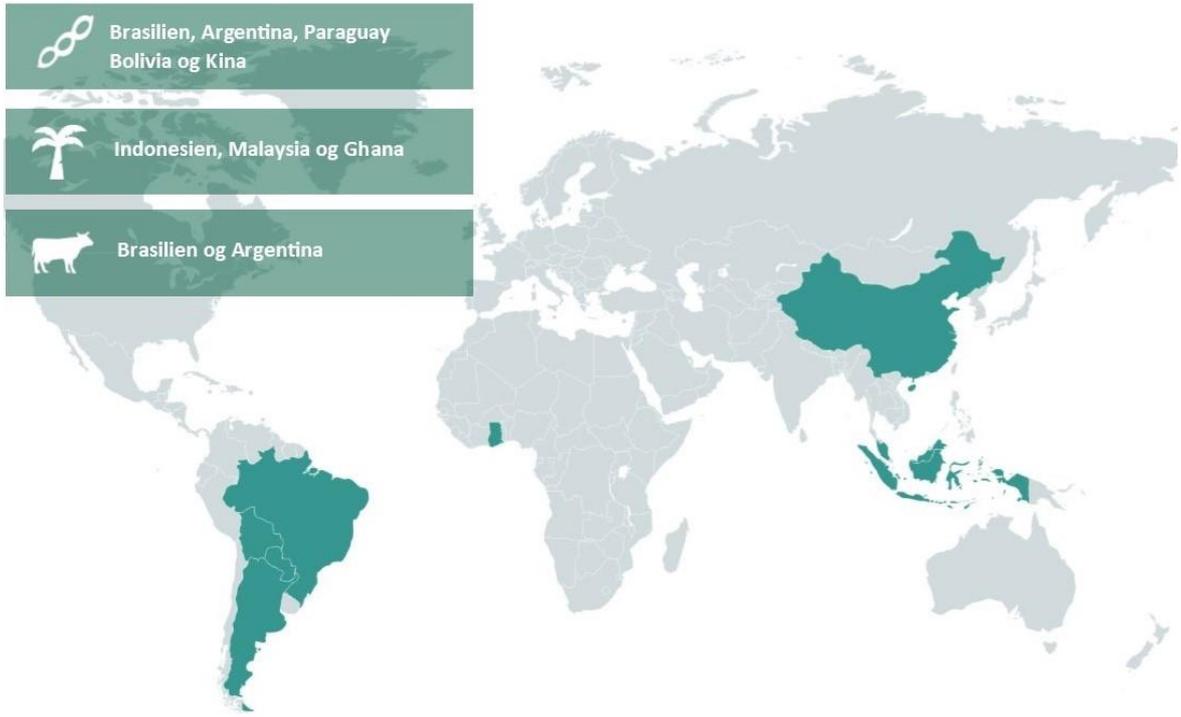
Facts about the project

- The project *Responsible Sourcing of Soy, Cattle and Palm Oil* is financed by DANIDA and implemented by NEPCon, and knowledge centre for agriculture SEGES.
- [NEPCon](#) (Nature Economy and People Connected) is an international non-profit organisation that builds commitment and capacity for mainstreaming sustainability.
- [SEGES](#) covers all aspects of farming and farm management under Landbrug & Fødevarer.
- [ARTICLE](#) Read more about the new risk assessments and why CARMO Food is involved in the project.
- Read more about the case study programme [here](#).

Facts on palm oil, soy and beef

- Cattle farming is responsible for app [14,5%](#) of all greenhouse gas emissions according to FAO (Food and Agricultural Organization of the United Nations).
- Cattle farming in Amazonas in Brazil is the [primary cause](#) for felling of rain forest. In a 20-year period, (1993-2013) the stock rose with 200% and an area of rain forest equal to Italy was cut down during this time.
- The productions of soy feed for Danish pigs in South America, annually takes up an area equal to the [size of Zealand in Denmark](#).
- In 2013 certifications schemes for soy (RTRS, ProTerra and ISCC) represented only [2-3% of the global trade of soy](#), according to KPMG's report "Sustainable Insight – A Roadmap to Sustainable Soy" (2013).
- Palm oil is found in around [50%](#) of all products sold in the supermarkets, from ready-made meals through to shampoo and lipstick.
- In the last 20 years, over [3,5 million hectares](#) of Indonesian and Malaysian forest has been cleared to make room for palm oil production.
- [Round Table of Sustainable Palm Oil](#) (RSPO) is an international recognised certification scheme, whose purpose is to ensure a responsible and sustainable production of palm oil.
- 16 Danish companies have joined Dansk Industri Fødevarer's "[Erhvervsinitiativ for bæredygtig palmeolie](#)" with a target of 100% physically certified RSPO in 2018.
- Certified RSPO palm oil only represents [17%](#) (11 m tons) of the global trade of palm oil.

Overview of available risk assessments developed by NEPCon



Number of companies with and without commitments for different forest related commodities from the global study done by ForestTrends in 2016: http://forest-trends.org/releases/p/supply_change_2016
Source: McCarthy, Ben. *Supply Change: Tracking Corporate Commitments to Deforestation-free Supply Chains, 2016.* Washington, DC: Forest Trends, 2016.

