



## **Independent Smallholders**

6,039 independent smallholders supplied FFB to our palm oil mills in 2023. To support their livelihoods, we are engaging with them to help the farmers to implement good agricultural practices and increase their yields and profitability.

Dedicated teams engage directly with independent smallholders to promote the benefits of sustainable land management and socialize supplier requirements for compliance with our Sustainability Policy. In December 2023, we reached our target of engaging with 100% of independent smallholders in our supply chain. The information collected from surveys is being used to understand current practices, yields, and needs and opportunities for improvement.

A Farmer Field School (FFS) program has been developed in collaboration with Daemeter Consulting to share tools and knowledge to help smallholders to increase their yields and profitability. The program is designed to further build relationships with independent smallholders, to enhance their knowledge on sustainable agronomic practices, and reduce the negative environmental impacts of their activities through improved management practices.

The FFS was launched in 2019, when 269 independent smallholders benefitted from the training provided. Having been put on hold due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the program resumed in 2021, benefitted 97 independent smallholders. FFS has seen 467 Farmers trained to date, of a total 6,039 independent smallholders engaged.

101 independent smallholders are currently enrolled in the FFS. Through the program, they are learning how to successfully and sustainably cultivate oil palm. Topics of training are tailored to the needs of the farmers and include: quality of seeds / planting material, composting processes, optimal use of fertilizer, handling of pests and disease, soil health and harvesting techniques.

The knowledge gained will help farmers to improve the productivity of the land that they own and will support progression towards sustainable palm oil certification (ISPO and RSPO).









Farmer Field School for Independent Smallholders.

## Scheme Smallholder Programs (Plasma)

Goodhope has developed 7,522 hectares of oil palm as cooperative-owned scheme smallholder plantations (Plasma) to support sustainable development among the local communities. Currently Goodhope has 7,882 members in its Plasma schemes, in a total of 29 cooperatives.

For each cooperative (100% of scheme smallholders), we provide training to promote self-management, financial awareness and financial planning skills. All scheme smallholders participate in regular meetings, EHS training and tax training. This enhances the abilities of members to effectively manage their income provided by the plasma partnership scheme.

Monthly meetings are held between Cooperative Committees and company representatives to discuss financial reports, agronomy, and planning for the following months and years. Furthermore, an Annual Members Meeting is held each year for stakeholders.