

PRESS RELEASE
RSPO CERTIFICATION

Kao achieves Top Scorer Status in RSPO Shared Responsibility Scorecard, strengthening commitment to sustainable palm oil sourcing

Kao is under the top-scorers of the Shared Responsibility Scorecard prepared by Round Table for Sustainable Palm Oil (RSPO). Kao recognizes that its business is dependent on natural capital and strives to procure natural resources sustainably. Kao is now one of the top-scorers and mentioned very high in the Shared Responsibility Scorecard with the maximum number of points possible, demonstrating our sustainability leadership and commitment to transform our business.

Barcelona, [12/11/2024] — Kao proudly announces its recognition as a top scorer in the Shared Responsibility Scorecard issued by the Round Table for Sustainable Palm Oil (RSPO) on 30th September 2024. This prestigious status underscores Kao's commitment to sustainable sourcing and ethical business practices, particularly in the procurement of palm oil and palm kernel oil. These essential natural resources are key components in Kao's surfactants, featured in products such as detergents and shampoos. Achieving this top-tier score reflects Kao's alignment with global sustainability goals and its dedication to fostering environmental stewardship and social responsibility within the palm oil industry.

As part of the RSPO's rigorous evaluation process, Kao was assessed on multiple critical sustainability criteria, achieving high scores across each category:

- **Transparency and ethical practices:** Kao upholds transparency and integrity in its sourcing practices, maintaining compliance with ethical and legal standards to ensure the highest levels of accountability.
- **Social impact:** Kao is committed to protecting community rights, supporting smallholders, and promoting fair working conditions, aiming to make a positive social impact within the communities connected to its operations.
- **Environmental resource management:** With a strong focus on sustainable resource management, Kao takes active steps to reduce its environmental footprint, ensuring that its practices align with the company's broader sustainability goals.
- **Sustainable sourcing:** Kao has robust policies in place for sourcing palm oil responsibly, reinforcing its leadership position in sustainable resource management within the chemical industry.

A collaborative approach to sustainable sourcing

The RSPO certification is part of Kao Corporation's global group certification, led by Kao Corporation Japan, and includes Kao Chemicals Europe's contributions, particularly in the development of derivatives from palm oil and palm kernel oil. Kao Chemicals Europe, a key part of Kao's global network, reinforces Kao's sustainability initiatives and furthers the group's commitment to responsible sourcing and production.

For more details on Kao's RSPO certification and sustainability efforts, visit the RSPO Shared Responsibility Scorecard: [RSPO Shared Responsibility Scorecard](#).

To explore Kao's ongoing initiatives in sustainable palm oil and palm kernel oil sourcing, visit our Palm Dashboard for the latest updates: [Kao Palm Dashboard](#).

For further details on Kao Chemicals Europe's sustainable product offerings, please visit our website or contact our team.