Sustainable Palm Oil Coalition for India (I-SPOC) Completes One Year

The Sustainable Palm Oil Coalition for India (I-SPOC, www.indiaspoc.org) is a multi-stakeholder platform developed for the purpose of ‘promoting sustainable consumption, import and trade of palm oil and its derivatives in India’. The Coalition was launched in September 2018, following a couple of years of preparatory work (including background studies and discussions) undertaken by the four Founding Members - Centre for Responsible Business, WWF India, Roundtable on Sustainable Palm Oil, and Rainforest Alliance.

From the time of its inception, 18 organisations have joined the coalition (12 businesses and 6 NGOs) and have committed to a shared vision to promote uptake of sustainable palm oil in India. The 18 organisations as part of the coalition work on the following objectives:

- Create broader industry and consumer awareness on sustainability issues and commitment to responsible sourcing policies and practices
- Facilitate multisector industry dialogue on sustainable palm oil
- Build sustainable trade partnerships linking similar platforms in producer countries
- Establish broad-based dialogue on supportive policy environment and regulation

The first anniversary (17th September 2019) was marked by a review of progress made, including the development of a roadmap for the next year. The Coalition reaffirmed its commitment to support businesses in India to develop Policies and Operational Plans for Sustainable Sourcing of Palm Oil, as part of broader deforestation free supply chains. All key businesses that use palm oil in India, as part of their supply chain should be engaged by the Coalition.