

Cargill and World Wildlife Fund

Partnering to conserve natural resources, improve agricultural sustainability and increase food security

Cargill has been working with World Wildlife Fund (WWF) since 2005 to conserve natural resources, protect biodiversity and advance agricultural sustainability while improving food security. We collaborate to share knowledge that informs agricultural practices and policies around the world. WWF and Cargill have been working together for over a decade to assess risks and tackle challenges across many of the supply chains in which Cargill operates.



Our Work Together Includes:

Sustainable agriculture – Collaborating to improve the sustainability of aquaculture, beef, dairy, palm and soy supply chains around the world, accelerate the use of environmentally preferable agricultural practices in the U.S. Midwest, and conserve wetlands and improve farming methods used by smallholder corn growers in northeastern China.

Forest protection – Working together to move forward with the implementation of Cargill's Forest Policy and Forest Protection Action Plan, including our Policy on Sustainable Fiber-Based Packaging based on an in-depth analysis of our corrugated, paper bag, and folding carton global suppliers.

Food security – Partnering to raise awareness of food security issues, including continued outreach related to Food Chain Reaction, an event focused on securing the global food system in the face of climate change.

Food Waste – Exploring initiatives to reduce food loss and waste in agricultural supply chains and downstream food consumption, focusing on South American grain storage and handling, processing and distribution.

What started with a dialogue on deforestation in the Amazon in 2005, today stretches to sustainable supply chain opportunities in aquaculture and seafood as far away as Norway and Thailand. Our work together has touched Asia, Europe, North America and South America, across commodities, including oil palm, soy, sugar, maize, cotton, beef, dairy, and seafood that serve important stakeholders with whom both Cargill and WWF collaborate including: Coca-Cola, General Mills, McDonald's, Pepsi, Unilever, Walmart, and many more.

WWF has been a keen partner as Cargill stepped forward to help launch the Brazilian Soy Moratorium, form the Roundtable on Sustainable Palm Oil, lead the Better Sugar Initiative, develop the Global Roundtable for Sustainable Beef, and endorse the

New York Declaration on Forests. As a trusted counselor, WWF has helped Cargill develop our commitments to sustainable palm oil, sustainable fiber-based packaging, and Cargill's sustainability focus areas: climate change, land use, water resources and farmer livelihoods.

In 2014, Cargill, WWF, Mars, and the Center for American Progress co-sponsored and co-created the Food Chain Reaction, a global food security and climate change scenario exercise that involved more than 75 leaders from government, private sector and civil society in a three-day simulation game. Today, our businesses are working with WWF to explore and identify strategic opportunities in wild caught fishery procurement and "wild-caught" for livestock.



Examples of our work together includes:

Sustainable agriculture

Aquaculture and seafood – Partnering to advance strategies for improving the sustainability of the aquaculture and seafood supply chain, including responsible use of marine raw materials (fishmeal and fish oil) and terrestrial-based feed ingredients in aquaculture, Marine Stewardship Council certification (especially for South American feed and fisheries) and participation in the Global Salmon Initiative to improve the sustainability of farmed salmon around the world. Together, we are working to conserve marine resources, reduce environmental impact and increase transparency.

Beef and other livestock – Collaborating to improve the sustainability of the beef supply chain, including serving as founding members of the U.S. Roundtable for Sustainable Beef to advance environmental conservation practices, develop a pilot project to improve feed procurement, encourage harmonization of standards and increase transparency across the industry. Cargill also provides technical expertise and financial support for WWF's beef life cycle working group to build consensus around environmental impacts of beef production. Together, we are pursuing opportunities to share best practices for sustainable animal feed across the livestock industry and advance environmentally sustainable poultry production practices in Asia.

Dairy – Advancing conservation practices in the dairy feed sector, including improving water quality and quantity by reducing the environmental impact and amount of water used in dairy production.

Palm oil – Working together to meet Cargill's commitment to achieve 100 percent transparent, traceable and sustainable palm supply chain by 2020, and define better management practices in the production and trade of palm oil through the Roundtable for Sustainable Palm Oil (RSPO). As part of our commitment to sustainable palm oil production, Cargill collaborated with WWF to assess implementation of RSPO principles and criteria by our palm oil suppliers in Indonesia. In 2009, WWF evaluated the agronomic feasibility of planting oil palm on degraded lands in Indonesia that helped Cargill conclude that planting on degraded areas was financially more attractive than the practice of clearing secondary forest in Kalimantan. We continue working together to analyze our supply chain for ways to improve deforestation-free sourcing, including from smallholder farmers who use environmentally sustainable practices.

Soy – Cargill and WWF are founding members, and current collaborators as part of the Soy Working Group (GTS) of the Amazon Soy Moratorium, established in 2006 as a voluntary ban on purchasing soy produced on newly deforested land, the moratorium has helped reduce the rate of deforestation in the Amazon biome by 82-percent. Today, the GTS has formed a new Cerrado Working Group, to promote a similar cross-sector dialogue for addressing increasing land conversion and deforestation pressures occurring in savannah regions of Brazil.

Midwest Row Crop Collaborative – Accelerating the use of environmentally preferable agricultural practices in the U.S. Midwestern states of Illinois, Iowa and Nebraska through

participation in the Midwest Row Crop Collaborative, a partnership of leading agricultural and food companies and conservation organizations, including WWF and Cargill, launched in 2016. The collaborative supports efforts to optimize soil health, reduce nutrient runoff into rivers and streams, maximize water conservation and reduce greenhouse gas emissions from agriculture.

Corn sustainability and wetlands conservation in China – To help smallholder corn farmers in Northeastern China improve agricultural practices and conserve wetlands, Cargill and WWF worked together along with other partners, launched a sustainable farming project in Jilin province in 2012 aimed at increasing corn production while decreasing the environmental impact of agricultural inputs and practices. The project was hugely successful: increasing yields by more than 28 percent on 10 demonstration farms, improving crop value by 10 percent through better storage practices, and providing training and dissemination to more than 26,000 corn farmers about application of better practices, cover cropping, harvesting, and storage. Insights from the three-year project are being shared with other companies and scaled to other Cargill locations in China.

Forest protection

Fiber-based packaging – Partnering to increase the sustainability of Cargill's packaging as part of our Forest Protection Action Plan. In 2016, WWF helped conduct an in-depth analysis of Cargill's corrugated, paper bag and folding carton global suppliers to understand the forest management practices behind the fibers used in our packaging. Informed by that baseline, we developed an action plan to work with our suppliers toward eliminating any fiber from unknown forest origins or high risk sources. WWF helped us formulate Cargill's Policy on Sustainable Fiber-Based Packaging, announced in January 2017, in support of Cargill's 2015 Policy on Forests.

Food security

Food Chain Reaction – Collaborating to promote understanding of food security issues through ongoing efforts stemming from Food Chain Reaction, an event co-hosted by WWF, Cargill and others in 2015 that brought together 65 international policymakers and thought leaders for a simulation about securing the global food system in the midst of climate change. We are exploring ways to expand these insights to include new geographies and scale awareness of food security challenges.

For more information, please visit Cargill.com or WWF.org

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