

Training Outline



Sustainability Standards Training Series

MSPO Basic Social Impact Assessment (SIA) Training

(Approved Module for MSPO SIA Internal Assessor and MSPO Auditor)

Acknowledgement

The MSPO Basic Social Impact Assessment (SIA) Training draws upon the latest developments in MSPO's social sustainability framework, including the MSPO SIA Procedure (effective 26 June 2025) and the SIA Guidelines, officially launched in July 2022 by MSPO as a scheme owner. The structured approach of this course mirrors the standardized methodology, competency requirements, and submission procedures outlined by MSPO Social Impact Assessment (SIA) Procedure, enabling participants to conduct and audit SIAs with confidence and authority.

Training program overview

This program is developed to build the competencies of MSPO auditors and internal SIA assessors in line with the MSPO SIA Procedure and the MSPO SIA Guidelines & Approach Document. Participants will be trained to identify, assess, and manage social impacts in accordance with the MSPO 2530:2022 standard requirements. The course also prepares assessors to engage with stakeholders, manage social records, and report findings that are aligned with sustainability, legal compliance, and ESG expectations.

Training Objectives

Upon successful completion of this program, participants will be able to:

- Demonstrate the competency to conduct Social Impact Assessments (SIA) in accordance with the MSPO SIA Guidelines and Approach Document and MSPO SIA Procedure, as required by the MSPO 2530:2022 standard.
- 2. Apply the complete SIA process, including stakeholder mapping, consultation, impact identification, mitigation planning, and development of a Social Management Plan (SMP).



- 3. Prepare and document SIA reports and related records for internal implementation or submission to the scheme owner, ensuring readiness for MSPO audit verification.
- 4. Comply with relevant legal social sustainability requirements, such as the Employment Act, Act 446, Passports Act, and Anti-Trafficking in Persons Act, within the operating unit that require to be certified under MSPO certification scheme.
- 5. Fulfill the training requirement necessary to qualify as an Internal or External MSPO SIA Assessor, based on competency criteria set by the scheme owner.

Training Scope / Guideline

- 1. MSPO Social Impact Assessment (SIA) Procedure
- 2. MSPO SIA Guidelines and Approach document
- 3. MSPO Standards (MS 2530:2022)
 - a. Part 2-2: General principles for organised smallholders
 - b. Part 3-1: General Principles for Oil Palm Plantations (40.46 hectares to 500 hectares)
 - c. Part 3-2: General principles for oil palm plantations (More than 500 hectares)
 - d. Part 4-1: General Principles for Palm Oil Mill including Supply Chain Requirements
 - e. Part 4-2: General Principles for Palm Oil Processing Facilities including Supply Chain Requirements
 - f. Part 4-3: General Principles for Dealers including Supply Chain Requirements

Target Participant

Auditor, Sustainability Team Member, Sustainability Manager, Internal Auditor

Training outline

Module 1: Introduction to Social Elements & Sustainable Development

- → Malaysia's Structural Economic Change: Past, Present, and Future
- ☐ Economy, Lifestyle & Modern Era Needs
- → Concept of Sustainability and the SDGs
- → Malaysia SDG Roadmap & 5Ps

Module 2: MSPO SIA Requirement & Assessor Roles

- General: Enablers of MSPO Governance and Qualification Framework
- → MSPO Requirement for SIA (When and Why)
- → Scope of Assessment (Group vs Individual)
- → Roles & Responsibilities:
 - o Scheme Owner
 - o MSPO SIA Assessor
 - Organisation
 - o MSPO Auditor



- → Competency Requirements (Internal & External Assessors)
- → MSPO SIA Procedure & Submission Flow
- ☐ Importance of SIA Report Readiness for Audit
- → Audit Findings Related to SIA: Major vs Minor Non-Conformities

Module 3: Understanding Social Impact & Socio-Economy

- ☐ Definition and Examples of Social Impact
- → Positive vs Negative Impact
- → Socio-psychological, Economic, Cultural, Infrastructure, Governance Impacts
- ☐ Terms: 'social', 'economic', and 'socio-economic' (Hacking 2006)

Module 4: Conflict Identification, Causes & Resolution

- → What is Social Conflict?
- → Common Causes (Value, Interest, Structural, Relationship, Information)
- → Conflict Resolution Strategies
- → Role of SIA in Managing Social Conflict

Module 5: MSPO Social Principles & Legal Context

- → MSPO Social Principles (Principle 1, 3, 4, 5)
- → Connection to Labour Rights & Legal Framework

Module 6: SIA Process, Principles & Planning

- → SIA Definition (IAIA, MSPO)
- SIA Principles (Participation, Gender, Food Security, Baseline Data)
- → SIA Process Flow (Step-by-step overview)
- → Planning and Pre-Consultation Checklist

Module 7: Scoping, Site Visit & Data Collection

- → Scoping Assessment (What & Why)
- → Mapping, GPS, Literature Review
- → Onsite Observation & Documentation
- → Community Profile Considerations

Module 8: Stakeholder Identification, Consultation & Ethics

- → Stakeholder Mapping and Classification
- → Consultation Process & FPIC
- Ethics in SIA (Confidentiality, Informed Consent, Integrity, Anonymity)



Module 9: Participatory Approach, Management Plan & Reporting

- → Participatory Process & Stakeholder Involvement
- → Developing Mitigation & Management Plan
- □ Reporting Components
- → Post-SIA Review & Update

Module 10: ESG, NSRF & Global Alignment

- → What is ESG?
- → ESG-SDG-GRI Interconnection
- → ESG Score (FTSE Russell)
- → NSRF & ISSB Framework for Malaysia
- → How SIA Supports ESG & National Reporting

Module 11: SIA Guideline and Template Review, Case study

- → MSPO SIA Guidelines Chapters 1–6
- → Explanation of Tables 1–18
- ☐ Categorized SIA Reporting by Operational Scale
- → Simulated SIA Exercise (scoping, stakeholder analysis, reporting)

Contact Information

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