Training Outline

Sustainability Standards Training Series

MSPO Awareness Course

(For Technical Expert and SIA Internal Assessor — Aligned with MSPO Certification Scheme Document Version 2 and MSPO SIA Procedure 2025)

Course Introduction

The MSPO Awareness Course serves as a foundational training program under the Malaysian Sustainable Palm Oil (MSPO) Certification Scheme. It aims to equip participants with comprehensive understanding of the MS 2530:2022 Standard (MSPO 2.0), its principles, and key certification requirements.

This course has been endorsed by the MSPO Scheme Owner as a mandatory requirement for individuals intending to be appointed as Technical Experts under certification bodies or SIA Internal Assessors under company appointments. The program also supports those involved in MSPO-related roles such as internal auditors and consultants seeking deeper insights into MSPO implementation and compliance.

Note:

Completion of the MSPO Awareness Course fulfills the awareness training requirement stipulated in both the MSPO Certification Scheme Document (Version 2) and MSPO SIA Procedure (2025). The course must be delivered by MSPO Endorsed Training Providers (ETPs) to ensure validity and recognition under the Scheme Owner.

Course Objective

1) Provide foundational understanding of the Malaysian Sustainable Palm Oil (MSPO) Certification Scheme and its governing structure, including the MS 2530:2022 Standards (MSPO 2.0), certification processes, and accreditation framework.
2) Fulfil the mandatory awareness training requirement set by the MSPO Scheme Owner for individuals appointed as Technical Experts under certification bodies and SIA Internal Assessors under company appointments.
3) Develop participants' competency in interpreting and applying the principles, criteria, and requirements of the MS 2530:2022 Standards, ensuring alignment with sustainability, environmental, and social compliance expectations.

4) Enhance the capability of consultants, auditors, and sustainability personnel to support MSPO-certified operating units in maintaining, improving, and demonstrating conformance to the MSPO 2.0 Standards.
5) Equip participants with knowledge on key sustainability and compliance elements embedded within MSPO, including legal compliance, environmental protection, social impact assessment, biodiversity conservation, labour standards, and traceability.
6) Promote consistent understanding and interpretation of MSPO requirements across all stakeholders, ensuring credibility and harmonization of implementation throughout the palm oil supply chain.

Target Participant

1) **Technical Experts** appointed by Certification Bodies, in accordance with the competency criteria stated in the MSPO Certification Scheme Document (Version 2).
2) **MSPO SIA Internal Assessors** appointed by MSPO-certified companies, as outlined in the MSPO SIA Procedure (2025).
3) **MSPO Consultants and Sustainability Practitioners** who provide advisory or facilitation services related to MS 2530:2022 compliance.
4) Company personnel involved in the implementation or monitoring of MSPO requirements, including sustainability, safety, health, social, and environmental management teams.
5) **MSPO Internal Auditors** who require comprehensive understanding of the MS 2530:2022 Standard to strengthen their internal audit competency and system evaluation.
6) Stakeholders and supporting entities (e.g., NGOs, research bodies, training institutions, or government agencies) seeking an in-depth and structured introduction to the MSPO framework and certification requirements.
7) Individuals keen to participate in MSPO-related industries, looking to enhance career opportunities in sustainability, compliance, or certification sectors.

Course Outline (3 days)

Day 1 – MSPO Scheme, Governance & Standards

Introduction to Malaysian Sustainable Palm Oil (MSPO):

↳ Objectives, scope, parts and certification categories.

Governing the MSPO Scheme:

↳ Scheme Owner roles, documented procedures/rules; Accredited Certification Bodies (ACBs) & accreditation linkages

MSPO Certification Scheme Document (Version 2):

↳ competency framework, ETP delivery requirements, certification process requirements, audit and decision rules, man-day guidance, group certification clarifications and circular updates

e-MSPO system overview

- (audit, certification, traceability, logo, complaint & grievances modules) and current progress updates.

MS 2530:2022 structure and clause mapping;

- comparison with 2013 version; how MSPO supports SDGs.
- Traceability concept and expectations under MSPO (including e-MSPO traceability module updates).

Day 2 – Cross-cutting Procedures & Key Topics

Social Impact Assessment (SIA) Procedure 2025:

- pathways (internal vs external), assessor eligibility, required trainings (Basic SIA Training and 3-day MSPO Awareness), report expectations and submission timeframes.

HCV Assessment Procedure:

- scope, assessor expectations, workflow/steps and integration with MSPO audits.

GHG Calculator Procedure:

- scope and intent, data needs, indicators (e.g., 4.5.4.2/4.5.4.3), Introductory MSPO GHG Calculator, and future updates.

Legal and compliance landscape:

- National legal requirements embedded within MSPO (OSH, environment, labour).
    - Scope of the standard
    - Social Impact
    - Foreign Labour
    - Forced Labour
    - Employment
    - Biodiversity Requirements
    - Safety and Health
    - Environmental Management
    - Subcontracting Works / Outsourced process.

Correspondence with others

- Comparison with other sustainability standards (RSPO, CoC biomass, management system standards).
    - Management System Standards Comparison.
    - Malaysian Sustainable Palm Oil (MSPO) vs. Malaysian Sustainable Palm Oil (MSPO) chain of custody of oil palm biomass
    - MS 2530:2013 vs MS 2530:2022
    - MSPO vs RSPO
    - How MSPO supports the SDG

Day 3 – Implementation, Evidence & Competency Application

Principles, Criteria & Indicators (PC&I)

- clause-by-clause orientation and evidence expectations.
  - P&C Comparison – 2022 vs 2013
  - Standard Structure – Part 1, Part 2, Part 3 and Part 4
  - Principle Criteria Clause-by-Clause
  - MSPO Standard Mapping
  - Evaluation System through Internal Audit
  - System Review

MSPO documentation:

- policies, procedures/SOPs, management plans and records; outsourced processes.
  - Policies, Procedures/SOPs, Management Plan and Records
  - How its impact to operating units
  - Gap Analysis – Current System vs. MSPO 2.0
  - MSPO Records
  - Compliance Evidence, Monitoring and Measurement

Internal audit & system review aligned to MSPO;

- gap analysis – current system vs MSPO 2.0; monitoring and measurement.

Records & traceability evidence;

- biodiversity, labour, OSH and environmental management documentation controls.

MSPO training & appointment of personnel:

- roles and competency matrices for Technical Experts, Internal Assessors and other personnel.
  - MSPO Training & Appointment of Personnel

Course Delivery & Assessment

- Delivery by MSPO Endorsed Training Provider (ETP).
- Mode: lectures, guided discussions, case work and exercises; optional online access to materials.
- Assessment: short quizzes/activities to reinforce competency; certificate of completion issued upon passing/attendance.MSPO Standard Requirement

Certification & Validity Notes

- Completion of this course satisfies the awareness training requirement referenced by the MSPO Scheme Owner for appointments as Technical Expert (by CBs) and SIA Internal Assessor (by companies). Competence recognition is subject to the full set of criteria defined in the MSPO Certification Scheme Document (Version 2) and the MSPO SIA Procedure (2025).

Key References

- MSPO Certification Scheme Document Version 2 (2025).
- MSPO SIA Procedure (2025).
- MSPO GHG Calculator Procedure (2025) and Circular on Introductory MSPO GHG Calculator (Aug 2025).
- MSPO HCV Assessment Procedure (2025) and related guidelines.
- e-MSPO Progress Update and Traceability Module announcements (2025).

Contact Information

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