



FACT DIALOGUE

Forest, Agriculture & Commodity Trade



FACT Forum Co-Chair Statement

The Forest, Agriculture, and Commodity Trade (FACT) Dialogue Forum, co-chaired by the United Kingdom and Indonesia, concluded successfully in Bali on 8th March. This high-level event brought together delegates from FACT member countries, as well as Ministerial representatives from the UK and Indonesia, to address critical issues related to sustainable trade, environmental conservation, and climate action.

The UK Minister for Energy and Net Zero Security, Rt Hon Graham Stuart MP, and the Indonesian Vice Minister for Environment and Forestry, Dr. Alue Dohong, both delivered speeches on the importance of FACT in promoting sustainable commodity trade while safeguarding forests and ecosystems.

The FACT Forum was also used as an opportunity to mark the official launch of the second phase of the National Initiatives for Sustainable and Climate Smart Oil Palm Smallholders, or NISCOPS, project. NISCOPS Phase II will expand on Phase 1 and be supported by the UK and Dutch Governments. It will see the programme put to work in Colombia, Ghana, Indonesia, Malaysia and Nigeria, all member countries of FACT. Support for smallholders is a pillar of FACT collaboration, as set out in the FACT Roadmap published at COP26 in Glasgow.

NISCOPS aims to transform the palm oil sector, addressing both supply and demand side challenges to shift to more sustainable and inclusive palm oil production globally. The launch of NISCOPS Phase II was welcomed with remarks from the UK's Minister Graham Stuart, Ambassador Lambert Grijns of the Netherlands, and Indonesia's Dr Musdhalifa Machmud.

During the Forum, over three days, policymakers from FACT member countries made progress on delivering the FACT Roadmap. Dialogue was focused around defining sustainable production, exchanging on how countries are adapting to the evolving regulatory framework, and discussing how best to collaborate around shared objectives such as building access to finance for smallholder and how to progress transparency and traceability in supply chains.

Delegates also had the opportunity to see examples of sustainable practices during a field visit. They saw the agroforestry coffee production within Wanagiri Village's Forest, managed by BUMDES Eka Giri Karya Utama. Delegates were also shown the work of the SATIN Foundation tree adoption programme with the UK and Indonesia adding their support. KSU Apik sites showcased responsible forest management and local craftsmanship in local communities.

FACT member countries will continue implementing agreed-upon actions, sharing best practices, and collaborating on research initiatives. The UK and Indonesia reaffirm their joint commitment to combat climate change and promote sustainable development through their role of co-chair of the FACT Dialogue.

A full readout of the meeting will be provided in due course by the FACT Secretariat via the newsletter.