

Position of Safacam

A [press release](#) and some articles concerning Safacam, in which the RSPO certification auditing process is criticised, have recently been published.

These recent publications refer to a report published by [Milieudefensie](#) last March 2021. This report questioned the certification audit process followed by SCS Global Services (RSPO Auditors). Following this publication, SCS Global Services [stated its position](#) to demonstrate that the allegations were unfounded.

Safacam and the Socfin Group selected an RSPO auditor firm from a list of [Certifying Bodies](#), accredited by Assurance Services International (ASI) [and](#) registered by RSPO. These experts conducted their mission impartially and independently.

The recent press releases also listed several alleged conflicts between Safacam and its neighbouring communities. We therefore want to clarify the situation and provide further information on the responsible management demonstrated by Safacam in its operations.

Maintaining good neighbourly relationships with the communities living in and around its plantation is of utmost importance to Safacam. The dialogue with the communities is mostly done directly and without intermediaries/third party organisations not belonging to the villages. Indeed, the surrounding communities are autonomous and perfectly organised to manage their relations with the company directly.

Dialogue is conducted in two different ways, depending on the type of meeting or consultation: communities are gathered in an extended assembly in each village or through representatives designated by the populations themselves:

- Leader or notable chosen in the village;
- Village development committee;
- Village women's representative;
- Village chief.

This frank and direct dialogue, reinforced since 2019 with the recruitment of a dedicated community liaison officer, allows for the provision and implementation of constructive solutions and projects with the populations, ensuring serene cohabitation of the parties in the long term.

Safacam, a private company established in the region for more than a century, operates in full compliance with valid land title deeds and land leases. Safacam is operating in line with the Socfin Group approach, which is based on a code of standards and good practices: the [Socfin responsible management policy](#). On a daily basis, Safacam does everything to strictly apply Socfin's commitments in order to develop responsible tropical agriculture.

And, contrary to the image depicted in this article, Safacam, a subsidiary of the Socfin Group in Cameroon, wants its palm oil and rubber production operations to be to the benefit of all: its employees, smallholders and communities, by improving their living conditions. This is an integral part of the Socfin Group's mission: to initiate or boost long-term socio-economic development of isolated rural areas, while strengthening and protecting communities' rights, quality of life and the environment.

[Click here](#) for more information on Safacam's commitment to sustainable development in Cameroon.