



MALAYSIA

In 2015, WWF started working with biscuit producer Bahlsen to make its palm oil supply chains sustainable and transparent from the small, local farmers in Sabah through to the refineries in Europe and ultimately to Bahlsen itself.

Around 350 smallholder farmers in Sabah are being trained and supported with growing their oil palms sustainably. This means that the farmers do not clear further rainforest area, that they keep their distance from rivers, do not drain valuable peat bogs and control weeds mechanically rather than chemically in order to avoid using toxic pesticides. This is good for the groundwater, the insects and the people who work on the palm oil plantations.

By using better planting material and with good fertiliser management, smallholder farmers can also increase their yields and maintain the fertility of their soils for a long time.

This challenge is ultimately about the balancing act between the greatest possible yields and the least possible interference in nature. The project is having a direct impact on improving both livelihoods and the commitment of smallholder farmers to preserve the valuable biodiversity of Sabah.

