Promoting Innovations

The Group is committed to leverage its best management practices and promote innovations alongside environmentally friendly practices throughout its supply chain from “Seed to Oil” in order to ensure that it continues to operate in a sustainable manner. In place are policies and practices that have been rolled out in all operations which are reviewed from time to time to incorporate new findings and ideas. In order to sustain high production and continue to excel in an increasing labour-tight business, the Group has put greater efforts in implementing effective and site-specific mechanisation. The Group continue to monitor closely and evaluate the performance of the motorised wheelbarrows to enhance the productivity of in-field crop evacuation. The ‘net and crane’ system has also been augmented for implementation in the fields with suitable terrain. Collection bins with scissors lift system which can be utilised as mobile ramps are more widely used now in areas remotely located from the palm oil mills. The thrust on mechanisation will continue. The implementation of mechanisation in the operations is expected to improve work efficiency with assured quality in a cost effective manner.

On the other hand, the Group’s palm oil mills have also strived to improve product quality and reduce losses by exploring several innovative modifications in the mill process flows, including exploring a loose fruit separator system in the Sabang Palm Oil Mill-1. In the reporting year, Desa Talisai palm oil mill was a recipient of the IJM Innovation Award for its innovation which was implemented to enhance efficiency in shell utilisation. The Group continued its collaborative biotechnology research with ACGT Sdn Bhd, a Bionexus company on oil palm screening and biomarker research project while its research entity, Quality, Training and Research Centre’s (QTRC) collaborated with the International Plant Nutrition Institute (IPNI) in the field research on best management practices covering from “Seed to Oil” is on-going.

Sharing of Knowledge

The Group’s R&D personnel continue to contribute to the advancement of scientific research on oil palm in conferences. In addition, top management continued to engage with the local tertiary fraternity by presenting reviews and updates on the palm oil industry as well as career opportunities for the benefit of students at Universiti Tunku Abdul Rahman and Universiti Malaysia Sabah. The list of presentations are in page 54.
Effective Investor Relations

The Group believes in providing accurate and succinct information in a timely manner to shareholders, potential investors, the investing community and members of the public. The Group’s Annual General Meeting (AGM) remains a vital platform for open dialogue with our shareholders. Aside from this, information is disseminated through quarterly announcements to Bursa Malaysia, Annual Report and analyst briefings. In addition, the Group also maintains a corporate website to better serve shareholders and other relevant stakeholders.

At the Malaysian Investor Relations (IR) Awards 2014, IJM Plantations Berhad was nominated for 7 categories – for Best Company for Investor Relations, Best CEO for IR, Best CFO for IR, Best IR Website, Business Knowledge and Insights of IR Team, Quality of Annual Report/Formal Disclosure and Quality of One-on-One Meetings. During the award presentation in June 2014, the Group emerged as winners for having the Best CEO and Best CFO for IR under the Mid-Cap public listed companies in Malaysia category.


“Oil Palm Sector: Timeline, Realities and Career Opportunities”. Universiti Malaysia Sabah, Kota Kinabalu-Sabah, 17 Mac 2014.

“Growth of oil palm seedlings influenced by nursery practices in Malaysia and Indonesia”. International Oil Palm Conference (IOPC) 2014, Bali, Indonesia, 17-19 June 2014.
**Stakeholder Engagements**

The Group recognises the importance of addressing sustainability issues relating to the production of palm oil products vis-à-vis other edible oils and agriculture-per-se on a level playing field. The Group believes that through proactive engagement with relevant stakeholders from multidisciplinary backgrounds, a platform for exchange of views can be established. Over the years, the Group has taken initiatives to host various stakeholders visiting the operations to share the palm oil supply-chain and socio-environmental footprints. Some of these engagements have evolved into constructive collaborations or partnerships such as the collaboration with a social NGO, Borneo Child Aid towards the establishment of Humana-IJMP learning centres for the children of guest workers, collaboration with local universities on research projects and internship placements for students and an information sharing platform with the industry fraternity. In the reporting year, the stakeholders included analysts, journalists, academicians and planters. The Group also welcomed foreign researchers and scientists from IPNI, oil palm planters from AgroAmerica, Guatemala and American soybean visitors from the United Soybean Board (USB), US Soybean Export Council (USSEC) and American Soybean Association (ASA). Many participants involved in the stakeholder engagements, including the annual supply-chain familiarisation programme designated as “Walk with CEO” were enthralled with their visit, stay and open deliberations.

The chart below shows the various groups of stakeholders engaged by the Group during the reporting year.

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**“Walk with CEO”**

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**Engagement with stakeholders**