Samling Group

Timber and pulp assessment

Total score: 16.1%

Latest update: July 2019
Next scheduled: July 2020

About this company: Established in 1963 and headquartered in Malaysia, Samling Group owns timber operations in Malaysia, Guyana, New Zealand and China, and is involved in timber production, processing, manufacturing, trading and distribution. It operates across a wide range of other sectors, including palm oil production.

Landbank: 3,417,000 hectares

Thomson Reuters ticker: Private company
Bloomberg ticker: Private company

Activities: Timber production, timber processing and manufacturing, trading and distribution

Locations: Malaysia (Sarawak), Guyana (Georgetown), New Zealand (Gisborne), China

Headquarters: Malaysia

Related companies: Glenealy Plantations Bhd (SPOTT palm oil company) is a subsidiary of Samling.

Website: [http://www.samling.com](http://www.samling.com)

Latest annual report (2011)

Thomson Reuters ticker: Private company
Bloomberg ticker: Private company

Total: 20.5 / 127

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sustainability policy and leadership</th>
<th>1 / 9</th>
<th>11.1%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

1. Sustainable forestry policy or commitment for all its operations?
The company has an Environmental Policy and a Sustainable Forest Management Policy. However, it is not clear whether these apply to all of its forestry operations and they do not cover social issues

2. Sustainability policy or commitment applies to all sourcing?

3. High-level position of responsibility for sustainability?

4. One or more board members have responsibility for sustainability?
This indicator is disabled as the company is not publicly listed

5. Percentage or number of women board members?
This indicator is disabled as the company is not publicly listed

6. Percentage or number of women in senior management team?

7. Sustainability report published within last two years?

8. Member of multiple industry schemes or other external initiatives to improve forest management or
The company states it works with the Wildlife Conservation Society of New York (WCS) and the International Tropical Timber Organization (ITTO) to conduct wildlife, biodiversity and conservation research and surveys in Malaysia.

9. Activities with government, NGOs or academic institutions to improve the sustainability of forest products?

The company states it works with the Wildlife Conservation Society of New York (WCS) and the International Tropical Timber Organization (ITTO) to conduct wildlife, biodiversity and conservation research and surveys in Malaysia.

10. Climate risks assessment available?

No source

11. Natural capital assessment available?

No source

12. Lists countries and operations?

Malaysia (forest concessions and plantations, production facilities), New Zealand (forest plantation), Guyana (forest concessions, production facilities), People's Republic of China (forest plantation, production facilities)

13. Total area of natural forest designated for wood/wood fibre production (ha)?

2,941,000 - Information from an undated source

14. Total area of forest plantation (ha)?

476,000 - Information from an undated source

15. Area of plantation/natural forest within outgrower schemes (ha)?

No source

16. Unplanted (areas designated for future development as plantation forest) (ha)?

2,357 - Figure only refers to operations in New Zealand

17. Conservation set-aside and/or HCV area (ha)?

2,357 - Figure only refers to operations in New Zealand

18. Area of Intact Forest Landscape (ha)?

No source

19. Number of Forest Management Units (FMUs)?

7 - The company's operations in New Zealand consist of seven FMUs, but the total number of FMUs the company operates is not stated

20. Maps of forest management units (FMUs)?

Some of the company's concession maps are available on GFW

21. Forest management plans available for all FMUs?

No source
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Indicator</th>
<th>Score</th>
<th>Source</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Forest Management Plans could only be found for operations in Sarawak</td>
<td>× 0 / 1</td>
<td>No source</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22. Monitoring of forest management plan implementation?</td>
<td>× 0 / 1</td>
<td>No source</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23. Company has provided valid legal documents to Open Timber Portal on use rights (at the time of SPOTT assessments)?</td>
<td>0 / 1</td>
<td>No source</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>This indicator is disabled as the company reports that it doesn't operate in a geography currently covered by Open Timber Portal</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>24. Company has provided valid legal documents to Open Timber Portal on forest management (at the time of SPOTT assessments)?</td>
<td>0 / 1</td>
<td>No source</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>This indicator is disabled as the company reports that it doesn't operate in a geography currently covered by Open Timber Portal</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>25. Company has provided valid legal documents to Open Timber Portal on timber harvesting (at the time of SPOTT assessments)?</td>
<td>0 / 1</td>
<td>No source</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>This indicator is disabled as the company reports that it doesn't operate in a geography currently covered by Open Timber Portal</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>26. Number of company owned pulp and paper mills?</td>
<td>× 0 / 1</td>
<td>No source</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27. Maps or addresses of company owned pulp and paper mills?</td>
<td>× 0 / 1</td>
<td>No source</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28. Number of company owned sawmills?</td>
<td>× 0 / 1</td>
<td>No source</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29. Maps or addresses of company owned sawmills?</td>
<td>× 0 / 1</td>
<td>No source</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30. Number of supplier mills?</td>
<td>× 0 / 1</td>
<td>No source</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>31. Maps or addresses of supplier mills?</td>
<td>× 0 / 1</td>
<td>No source</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>32. Procedures to trace raw materials to country of harvest?</td>
<td>P 0.5 / 1</td>
<td>Source</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The company has FSC CoC certification which only covers the certified portion of its supply</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>33. Procedures to trace raw materials to FMU level?</td>
<td>P 0.5 / 1</td>
<td>Source</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The company has FSC CoC certification which only covers the certified portion of its supply</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>34. Percentage of supply traceable to country level (above 80%)?</td>
<td>× 0 / 2</td>
<td>No source</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>35. Percentage of supply traceable to FMU level (above 75%)?</td>
<td>× 0 / 2</td>
<td>No source</td>
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</table>
### Deforestation and biodiversity

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Question</th>
<th>Score</th>
<th>Source</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>36. Commitment to zero conversion of natural forest?</td>
<td>×</td>
<td>No source</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>37. Zero conversion commitment applies to all sourcing?</td>
<td>×</td>
<td>No source</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>38. Commitment to minimise the impact of logging roads?</td>
<td>×</td>
<td>No source</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>39. Commitment to protect forest areas from illegal activities?</td>
<td></td>
<td>Source</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The company only refers to protection from illegal encroachment within one FMU (Syarikat Samling Timber Sdn Bhd)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>40. Evidence of monitoring deforestation?</td>
<td>×</td>
<td>No source</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>41. Amount of deforestation recorded?</td>
<td>×</td>
<td>No source</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>42. Commitment to biodiversity conservation?</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>Source</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The company has a commitment to uphold international treaties and conventions on biodiversity and also to collaborate with local and international expert organisations to carry out research, development and monitoring programmes for conservation and protection</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>43. Examples of species and/or habitat conservation management?</td>
<td>×</td>
<td>No source</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>44. Implementing a landscape-level approach to biodiversity conservation?</td>
<td>×</td>
<td>No source</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>45. Identified species of conservation concern referencing international or national system of species classification?</td>
<td>×</td>
<td>No source</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>46. Commitment to sustainably manage the use of non-timber forest products (NTFPs)?</td>
<td>×</td>
<td>No source</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>47. Commitment not to use genetically modified organisms?</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>Source</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The company has committed to not be directly or indirectly involved in the introduction of genetically modified organisms in forestry operations. This commitment is made through the FSC Policy for Association (FSC-POL-01-004)</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### HCV, HCS and impact assessments

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Question</th>
<th>Score</th>
<th>Source</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>48. Commitment to conduct High Conservation Value (HCV) assessments?</td>
<td></td>
<td>Source</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The company does not have a direct commitment to conduct HCV assessments across all of its operations. However, the</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The company has committed to not be directly or indirectly involved in the destruction of high conservation values in forestry operations. This commitment is made through the FSC Policy for Association (FSC-POL-01-004). For this half points are awarded.

### 49. HCV commitment applies to all sourcing?

The company has committed to not be directly or indirectly involved in the destruction of high conservation values in forestry operations. This commitment is made through the FSC Policy for Association (FSC-POL-01-004). For this half points are awarded.

### 50. Commitment to only use licensed High Conservation Value (HCV) assessors accredited by the HCV Resource Network’s Assessor Licensing Scheme (ALS)?

This indicator is disabled until sufficient number of HCV ALS licensed assessors are available for the location where the company operates.

### 51. High Conservation Value (HCV) assessments available?

- **Result:** No source

### 52. High Conservation Value (HCV) management and monitoring plans available?

- **Result:** No source

### 53. Commitment to the High Carbon Stock (HCS) Approach?

- **Result:** No source

### 54. High Carbon Stock (HCS) assessments available?

- **Result:** No source

### 55. Commitment to conduct social and environmental impact assessments (SEIAs)?

- **Result:** No source

### 56. Social and environmental impact assessments (SEIAs) available?

- **Result:** No source

### 57. Company has provided valid legal documents to Open Timber Portal on impact assessments (at the time of SPOTT assessments)?

This indicator is disabled as the company reports that it doesn’t operate in a geography currently covered by Open Timber Portal.

### Soils, fire and GHGs

- **15 / 14**
- **10.7%**

- **3 media reports**

### 58. Commitment to best management practices for soils and/or peat?

- **Result:** No source

### 59. Commitment to reduced impact logging?

- **Result:** Source

### 60. Commitment to no planting on peat of any depth?

- **Result:** No source

### 61. Commitment on peatland planting applies to all sourcing?

- **Result:** No source
62. Landbank or planted area on peat (ha)?

- 0 / 1  No source

63. Evidence of best management practices for soils and/or peat?

- 0 / 1  No source

64. Commitment to zero burning?

- 0 / 1  No source

65. Commitment to zero burning applies to all sourcing?

- 0 / 1  No source

66. Evidence of management and monitoring fires?

The company states that it involves some communities in a Community Skills Programme which encourages indigenous communities to eradicate 'slash and burn' practices. The company also held a fire safety awareness course. No evidence could be found of fire monitoring activities

- 0 / 1  No source

67. Details/number of hotspots/fires in FMUs controlled by the company?

- 0 / 1  No source

68. Time-bound commitment to reduce GHG emissions intensity?

- 0 / 1  No source

69. Progress towards reducing GHG emission intensity?

- 0 / 1  No source

70. Report GHG emissions from land use change?

- 0 / 1  No source

71. Methodology used to calculate GHG emissions?

- 0 / 1  No source

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Water, chemical and waste management

2 / 13 15.4%

2 media reports

72. Time-bound commitment to improve water quality (BOD and COD)?

- 0 / 1  No source

73. Progress towards commitment on water quality (BOD and COD)?

The company reports BOD and COD figures for its FMUs in Sarawak only

- 0.5 / 1  Source

74. Commitment to protection of natural waterways through buffer zones?

- 0 / 1  No source

75. Evidence of treatment of pulp and paper mill effluent?

- 0 / 1  No source

76. Evidence of sawmill run-off containment and wastewater treatment?

- 0 / 1  No source
77. Time-bound commitment to improve water use intensity?  
- 0 / 1  No source

78. Progress towards commitment on water use intensity?  
- 0 / 1  No source

79. Commitment to eliminate chlorine and chlorine compounds for bleaching?  
- 0 / 1  No source

80. Commitment to minimise the use of chemicals, including pesticides and chemical fertilisers?  
- P 0.5 / 1  Source

   The company has a policy for its certified natural forests to avoid the use of chemical pesticides but this does not cover all of its operations

81. No use of World Health Organisation (WHO) Class 1A and 1B pesticides?  
- 0 / 1  No source

82. No use of chemicals listed under the Stockholm Convention and Rotterdam Convention?  
- 0 / 1  No source

83. Integrated Pest Management (IPM) approach?  
- P 0.5 / 1  Source

   The company has a policy for its certified natural forests to adopt environmentally friendly non-chemical methods of pest management, but it is unclear if this is being implemented

84. Chemical usage per ha or list of chemicals used?  
- P 0.5 / 1  Source

   The company reports 70kg/ha of fertiliser and 4 to 5 litres/ha of herbicide use for one of its concessions

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Community, land and labour rights

85. Commitment to human rights, referencing the UN Declaration on Human Rights or UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights?  
- ✓ 1 / 1  Source

   The company has committed to not be directly or indirectly involved in the violation of human rights in forestry operations. This commitment is made through the FSC Policy for Association (FSC-POL-01-004), which defines human rights as those established through the UN Declaration of Human Rights

86. Commitment to human rights applies to all sourcing?  
- ✓ 1 / 1  Source

   The company has committed to not be directly or indirectly involved in the violation of human rights in forestry operations. This commitment is made through the FSC Policy for Association (FSC-POL-01-004), which defines human rights as those established through the UN Declaration of Human Rights

87. Commitment to respect indigenous and local communities' rights?  
- ✓ 1 / 1  Source

   The company has committed to not be directly or indirectly involved in the violation of human rights in forestry operations. This commitment is made through the FSC Policy for Association (FSC-POL-01-004), which encompasses the rights of Indigenous and Tribal Peoples as established by the ILO Convention 169

88. Commitment to respect legal and customary property rights?  
- P 0.5 / 1  Source

   The company has committed to not be directly or indirectly involved in the violation of traditional rights in forestry operations. This commitment is made through the FSC Policy for Association (FSC-POL-01-004), which encompasses...
89. Commitment to free, prior and informed consent (FPIC)?  
0 / 1  No source

90. FPIC commitment applies to independent suppliers?  
0 / 1  No source

91. Details of free, prior and informed consent (FPIC) process available?  
0 / 1  No source

92. Examples of local stakeholder engagement to prevent conflicts?  
0 / 1  No source

93. Details of process for addressing land conflicts available?  
0 0.5 / 1 Source

The company states that it has a community relations policy. However, only limited detail is provided on how the company addresses land conflicts.

94. Commitment to support the inclusion of women across forestry operations, including addressing barriers faced?  
0 / 1  No source

95. Commitment to provide essential community services and facilities?  
1 / 1  Source

96. Company has provided valid legal documents to Open Timber Portal on population rights (at the time of SPOTT assessments)?  
0 / 1  No source

This indicator is disabled as the company reports that it doesn’t operate in a geography currently covered by Open Timber Portal.

97. Commitment to respect all workers’ rights?  
0 / 1  No source

98. Reference to Fundamental ILO Conventions?  
1 / 1  Source

The company has committed to not be directly or indirectly involved in the violation of any of the ILO Core Conventions. This commitment is made through the FSC Policy for Association (FSC-POL-01-004).

99. Commitment to eliminate gender related discrimination with regards to employment and occupation?  
0 / 1  No source

100. Company has provided valid legal documents to Open Timber Portal on labour regulations (at the time of SPOTT assessments)?  
0 / 1  No source

This indicator is disabled as the company reports that it doesn’t operate in a geography currently covered by Open Timber Portal.

101. Percentage or number of temporary employees?  
0 / 1  No source

102. Percentage or number of women employees?  
0.5 / 1  Source

8 - Eight female workers are reported for the company’s operations in New Zealand.

103. Payment of minimum wage?
104. Reporting of salary by gender?

105. Commitment to address occupational health and safety, referencing the ILO Code of Practice on Safety and Health in Forestry Work?
The company has a Health, Safety and Environment policy, but this does not reference the ILO Code of Practice on Safety and Health in Forestry Work

106. Time lost due to work-based injuries?

107. Number of fatalities as a result of work-based accidents?
1 - One fatality was reported for the company's operations in New Zealand in 2018

108. Provision of personal protective equipment and related training?
The company has a policy for its certified natural forests to provide appropriate training and equipment for pesticide use but this does not cover all of the company's operations

Certification standards

109. Time-bound plan for achieving 100% third-party legality verification of FMUs or achieved?

110. Time-bound plan to source only wood/wood fibre that is in legal compliance verified by a third party?

111. Percentage area (ha) verified as being in legal compliance by a third party?
573,461 - The company has one FSC certificate for its New Zealand operations (35,012 ha), two MTCS certificates in Malaysia (20,193 ha), and four STLVS certificates in Malaysia (518,256 ha), however the percentage area this covers cannot be accurately calculated

112. Percentage of all wood/wood fibre supply traded/processed verified as being in legal compliance by a third party?

113. Time-bound plan for achieving 100% FSC FM certification of FMUs or achieved 100% FSC-certiﬁcation of FMUs?

114. Commitment to source only wood/wood fibre that meets FSC Controlled Wood requirements?

115. Percentage area (ha) FSC FM certiﬁed?
35,012 - FSC FM certification covers only the company’s New Zealand plantation and the percentage area this covers cannot be accurately calculated

116. Percentage of wood/wood fibre supply from outgrower scheme and/or independent suppliers that is
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Question</th>
<th>Score</th>
<th>Source</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>FSC FM certified?</strong></td>
<td>✗ 0 / 2</td>
<td>No source</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>117. Percentage of all wood/wood fibre supply traded/processed that are FSC certified (above 75%)?</strong></td>
<td>✗ 0 / 2</td>
<td>No source</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>118. Percentage area (ha) PEFC certified (excluding FSC certified area)?</strong></td>
<td>✗ 0 / 2</td>
<td>Source</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

20,193 - The company has Malaysian Timber Certification Scheme (MTCS) certification. However, the percentage area this covers cannot be accurately calculated.

### Smallholders and suppliers

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Question</th>
<th>Score</th>
<th>Source</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>119. Programme to support outgrower scheme smallholders?</strong></td>
<td>✗ 0 / 1</td>
<td>No source</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>120. Percentage of outgrower scheme smallholders involved in programme?</strong></td>
<td>✗ 0 / 1</td>
<td>No source</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>121. Process used to prioritise, assess and/or engage suppliers on compliance with company's policy and/or legal requirements?</strong></td>
<td>✗ 0 / 1</td>
<td>No source</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>122. The company has a Due Diligence System (DDS)?</strong></td>
<td>✗ 0 / 1</td>
<td>No source</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>123. Suspension or exclusion criteria for suppliers?</strong></td>
<td>✗ 0 / 1</td>
<td>No source</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>124. Percentage of suppliers assessed and/or engaged on compliance with company requirements?</strong></td>
<td>✗ 0 / 1</td>
<td>No source</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

### Governance and grievances

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<tr>
<th>Question</th>
<th>Score</th>
<th>Source</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>125. Commitment to ethical conduct and prohibition of corruption?</strong></td>
<td>☢ 0.5 / 1</td>
<td>Source</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

The company's 2011 Annual Report states they are committed to "ensuring all aspects of the business are conducted in a way that promotes ethical and sustainable practices". A commitment on the prohibition of corruption could not be identified.

**126. Company has provided valid legal documents to Open Timber Portal on legal registration (at the time of SPOTT assessments)?**

This indicator is disabled as the company reports that it doesn't operate in a geography currently covered by Open Timber Portal.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Question</th>
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<th>Source</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>127. Disclosure of the company’s management approach to tax and payments to governments?</strong></td>
<td>✗ 0 / 1</td>
<td>No source</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indicator</td>
<td>Score</td>
<td>Source</td>
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<td>--------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>128. Company has provided valid legal documents to Open Timber Portal on taxes, fees and royalties (at the time of SPOTT assessments)?</td>
<td>0 / 1</td>
<td>No source</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>This indicator is disabled as the company reports that it doesn't operate in a geography currently covered by Open Timber Portal</td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>129. Whistleblowing procedure?</td>
<td>0 / 1</td>
<td>No source</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>130. Own grievance or complaints system open to all stakeholders?</td>
<td>0 / 1</td>
<td>No source</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>131. Details of grievances disclosed?</td>
<td>0 / 2</td>
<td>No source</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>