



## **NEWS RELEASE**

### **APICAL WINS AT INDONESIAN SUSTAINABLE BUSINESS AWARDS**

**Jakarta, 21 February 2020** – Apical Group was announced as winner of the Best Supply Chain award at the 2019 Sustainable Business Awards (SBA) today in the Indonesian capital city. The award was presented by Minister Suharso Monoarfa, Minister of National Development Planning.

This is the first year Apical has participated in the SBA, which is in its 8th year running. SBA Indonesia is organised by Global Initiatives, alongside local partners PwC Indonesia, Indonesian Business Council for Sustainable Development (IBCS), Control Union and the Indonesian Chamber of Commerce and Industry (KADIN).

Apical Group, one of the largest palm oil processors, traders and exporters in Indonesia, won in the supply chain management category based on the policies and guidelines it has in place, such as the Manual for Responsible Sourcing, to build a traceable and transparent palm oil supply chain from the level of refineries to the smallholder.

Apical also played a part in shaping the palm oil industry, through the co-development of the Sustainability Assurance and Innovation Alliance (SUSTAIN) which brings together relevant stakeholders in the palm oil industry to initiate a blockchain solution for improving traceability to and from production areas. Through such solutions, SUSTAIN can help accelerate the push towards No Deforestation, No Peat, No Exploitation (NDPE) compliance.

Apical Group President, Dato' Yeo How said, "We are grateful to be acknowledged and honoured to receive this award by Global Initiatives. This reinforces what we have been doing towards achieving transparent and sustainable supply chain networks within our business and across the palm oil industry." He added, "The road to sustainability must be one of growth and collaboration. Only this way can businesses generate commercial value in a sustainable way and share the success with other industry players."

The SBA validates and celebrates the companies which are leading the way in sustainable business and which have truly instilled this objective into their long-term business strategy. The awards also aim to inspire all businesses, large and small, to make sustainability the foundation of their corporate mission and brand, according to Chief Operations Officer of Global Initiatives, Shefali Chaddha.

Global Initiatives use a state-of-the-art process developed by an international team with over 15 years of experience in a wide range of business awards, benchmarking and metrics. Once the responses have been submitted, they are assessed and scored by the respective local PwC offices using a scoring framework and converted into quantitative scores.

**About Apical**



Apical Group Ltd is one of the largest exporters of palm oil in Indonesia, owning and controlling an extensive spectrum of the palm oil business value chain from sourcing to distribution. It is also engaged in the refining, processing and trading of palm oil for both domestic use and international export. Its operations are located in Indonesia, China and Spain, and include five refineries, three biodiesel plants, an oleochemical plant and a kernel crushing plant. Apical's business is built on a broad sourcing network in Indonesia with integrated refinery assets at strategic locations in Indonesia and China. These are strengthened by efficient logistic channels supported by Apical's own infrastructure to deliver to a wide range of clients from international trade houses to local industrial buyers. With its unique business model, Apical has been able to control product quality and address sustainability and food safety issues, while running highly efficient operations at its world-class refineries and integrated storage and bulking facilities.

### **Apical Group Sustainability**

Since launching the Apical Sustainability Policy 2014, Apical has made strides in its transformation journey by adopting global standards and best practices within its operations, subsidiaries and in partnership with suppliers. Apical refineries have been certified by the International Sustainability and Carbon Certification (ISCC) since 2010 and it has been a member of the Roundtable on Sustainable Palm Oil (RSPO) since 2011. It achieved full traceability to mills in 2015 and has targeted full traceability to plantations by 2020. The Group promotes the protection of high conservation value (HCV) and high carbon stock (HCS) areas, peatland and towards positive socio-economic development. It partnered with The Forest Trust, Proforest and Daemeter to integrate its supply chain transformation, ensure responsible sourcing and continuous improvement in its supply chain. Apical is committed to sustainable operations as the fundamental core of its business to deliver high value products for today's global market demands.

For more information, please visit Apical's [website](#).

#### For enquiries, please contact:

Stephanie Ambrose

Sustainability Communications Manager, Apical

Email : [stephanie\\_ambrose@apicalgroup.com](mailto:stephanie_ambrose@apicalgroup.com)

Tel : +603 2785 1991

Apical (M) Sdn Bhd, Level 6, Tower 2, Avenue 5, Bangsar South City,, No 8, Jalan Kerinchi, 59200 Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia