

SGS

FOREST MANAGEMENT GENERIC STANDARD

2023

This checklist presents the SGS template for forest certification against the FSC Principles and Criteria. The Checklist reflects the requirements set out in FSC-STD-60-004 V2-0 EN (International Generic Indicators) as adapted for the relevant country.

This standard forms the basis for:

- Scoping assessment
- Certification assessment
- Surveillance assessment
- Information to stakeholders on the assessment criteria used by SGS

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CHANGES SINCE THE PREVIOUS VERSION OF THE STANDARD

Section	Change	Date
	Changes throughout	26/11/2018
	The address was updated – The Accredited office moved from ZA to Geneva in January 2021	6.2.2021
	The standard is updated according to the FSC Advice 20 007- 22. Changes are presented in Blue. The code of the document is updated according to the new Global Documents structure. Previous AD 33 V8 – become into the new GP4507F V9	14.6.2023
	The version did not change. New Adress of SGS Head office is included in the front page	1.11.2025

LAYOUT OF THE STANDARD:

The standard follows the FSC Principles and Criteria of Forest Stewardship Version 4 (January, 2000) The Standard is divided into 10 sections, each corresponding to one of the FSC principles with the criteria listed underneath each principle. Refer below for further clarification.

Each page of the standard is divided into 3 columns. The standard also serves as the checklist that is used during an assessment and for every criterion the following is provided:

The SGS Requirement: Indicator	This outlines the norm or indicators that SGS requires for compliance with the specific FSC criterion. A potential source of information or evidence that allows an auditor to evaluate compliance with an indicator. Some indicators make a distinction between the requirements for “normal” forests and SLIMF operations (Small and Low Intensity Managed Forests).
Verifiers	Verifiers are examples of what the SGS assessor will look for to ascertain if the specific norm or indicator has been met. This list is not exhaustive and the assessor may use other means of verifying the relevant indicator.
Guidance	Guidance is written in <i>italics</i> and assists the assessor in understanding the requirement of the specific indicator.

The FSC Principle

PRINCIPLE 1. COMMUNITY RELATIONS AND WORKER’S RIGHTS:

The FSC Criterion

Forest management operations shall maintain or enhance the long-term social and economic well being of forest workers and local communities.

Criterion 4.1: The communities within, or adjacent to, the forest management area should be given opportunities for employment, training, and other services

Indicator 4.1.6

Policies and procedures and the implementation thereof make qualifications, skills and experience the basis for recruitment, placement, training and advancement of staff at all levels

SLIMF:

Employees are not discriminated in hiring, advancement, dismissal remuneration and employment related to social security

Verifiers & Guidance:

No evidence of discrimination on the basis of: race, colour, culture, sex, age, religion, political opinion, national extraction or social origin

Employment policies and procedures.

Interviews with Forest Managers, workers and Labor Union representatives.

SLIMF:

Interviews with workers and contractors

An SGS Guideline (Italics)

The SGS verifier

The SGS Indicator

The SGS observation i.t.o. the indicator

The year of the evaluation

THE STANDARD

PRINCIPLE 1. COMPLIANCE WITH LAWS:	
The Organization* shall* comply with all applicable laws*, regulations and nationally-ratified* international treaties, conventions and agreements.	
Criterion 1.1	The Organization* shall* be a legally defined entity with clear, documented and unchallenged legal registration*, with written authorization from the legally competent* authority for specific activities.
Indicator 1.1.1	Verifiers & Guidance:
<i>Legal registration* to carry out all activities within the scope of the certificate is documented and unchallenged.</i>	
Indicator 1.1.2	Verifiers & Guidance:
<i>Legal registration* is granted by a legally competent* authority according to legally prescribed processes.</i>	
Criterion 1.2	The Organization* shall* demonstrate that the legal* status of the Management Unit*, including tenure* and use rights*, and its boundaries, are clearly defined.
Indicator 1.2.1	Verifiers & Guidance:
<i>Legal* tenure* to manage and use resources within the scope of the certificate is documented.</i>	
Indicator 1.2.2	Verifiers & Guidance:
<i>Legal* tenure* is granted by a legally competent* authority according to legally prescribed processes.</i>	
Indicator 1.2.3	Verifiers & Guidance:
<i>The boundaries of all Management Units* within the scope of the certificate are clearly marked or documented and clearly shown on maps.</i>	
Criterion 1.3	<i>The Organization* shall* have legal* rights to operate in the Management Unit*, which fit the legal* status of The Organization* and of the Management Unit*, and shall* comply with the associated legal* obligations in applicable national and local laws* and regulations and administrative requirements. The legal* rights shall* provide for harvest of products and/or supply of ecosystem services* from within the Management Unit*. The Organization* shall* pay the legally prescribed charges associated with such rights and obligations.</i>
Indicator 1.3.1	Verifiers & Guidance:
<i>All activities undertaken in the Management Unit* are carried out in compliance with:</i>	

1) <i>Applicable laws*</i> and regulations and administrative requirements, 2) <i>Legal*</i> and customary rights*; and 3) <i>Obligatory codes of practice*</i> .	
Indicator 1.3.2	Verifiers & Guidance:
Payment is made in a <i>timely manner*</i> of all applicable legally prescribed charges connected with <i>forest*</i> management.	
Indicator 1.3.3	Verifiers & Guidance:
Activities covered by the <i>management plan*</i> are designed to comply with all <i>applicable laws*</i> .	
Criterion 1.4	<i>The Organization* shall* develop and implement measures, and/or shall* engage with regulatory agencies, to systematically protect the Management Unit* from unauthorized or illegal resource use, settlement and other illegal activities.</i>
Indicator 1.4.1	Verifiers & Guidance:
Measures are implemented to provide <i>protection*</i> from unauthorized or illegal harvesting, hunting, fishing, trapping, collecting, settlement and other unauthorized activities.	
Indicator 1.4.2	Verifiers & Guidance:
Where <i>protection*</i> is the <i>legal*</i> responsibility of regulatory bodies, a system is implemented to work with these regulatory bodies to identify, report, control and discourage unauthorized or illegal activities.	
Indicator 1.4.3	Verifiers & Guidance:
If illegal or unauthorized activities are detected, measures are implemented to address them.	
Criterion 1.5	<i>The Organization* shall* comply with the applicable national laws*, local laws, ratified* international conventions and obligatory codes of practice*, relating to the transportation and trade of forest products within and from the Management Unit*, and/or up to the point of first sale.</i>
Indicator 1.5.1	Verifiers & Guidance:
Compliance with <i>applicable national laws*</i> , <i>local laws*</i> , <i>ratified*</i> international conventions and <i>obligatory codes of practice*</i> relating to the transportation and trade of forest products up to the point of first sale is demonstrated.	
Indicator 1.5.2	Verifiers & Guidance:

Compliance with CITES provisions is demonstrated, including through possession of certificates for harvest and trade in any CITES species.	
Criterion 1.6	<i>The Organization* shall* identify, prevent and resolve disputes* over issues of statutory or customary law*, which can be settled out of court in a timely manner*, through engagement with affected stakeholders*.</i>
Indicator 1.6.1	Verifiers & Guidance:
A <i>publicly available* dispute* resolution process</i> is in place; developed through <i>culturally appropriate* engagement* with affected stakeholders*</i> .	
Indicator 1.6.2	Verifiers & Guidance:
<i>Disputes* related to issues of applicable laws* or customary law* that can be settled out of court are responded to in a timely manner*, and are either resolved or are in the dispute* resolution process.</i>	
Indicator 1.6.3	Verifiers & Guidance:
Up to date records of disputes related to issues of <i>applicable laws* or customary law</i> , are held including: 1) Steps taken to resolve <i>disputes*</i> ; 2) Outcomes of all <i>dispute* resolution processes</i> ; and 3) Unresolved <i>disputes*</i> , the reasons they are not resolved, and how they will be resolved.	
Indicator 1.6.4	Verifiers & Guidance:
Operations cease in areas where <i>disputes*</i> exist: 1) Of substantial magnitude*; or 2) Of substantial duration*; or 3) Involving a <i>significant*</i> number of interests.	
Criterion 1.7	<i>The Organization* shall* publicize a commitment not to offer or receive bribes in money or any other form of corruption, and shall* comply with anti-corruption legislation where this exists. In the absence of anti-corruption legislation, The Organization* shall* implement other anti-corruption measures proportionate to the scale* and intensity* of management activities and the risk* of corruption.</i>
Indicator 1.7.1	Verifiers & Guidance:
A policy is implemented that includes a commitment not to offer or receive bribes of any description.	
Indicator 1.7.2	Verifiers & Guidance:
The policy meets or exceeds related legislation.	

Indicator 1.7.3	Verifiers & Guidance:
The policy is <i>publicly available</i> * at no cost.	
Indicator 1.7.4	Verifiers & Guidance:
Bribery, coercion and other acts of corruption do not occur.	
Indicator 1.7.5	Verifiers & Guidance:
Corrective measures are implemented if corruption does occur.	
Criterion 1.8 <i>The Organization* shall* demonstrate a long-term* commitment to adhere to the FSC Principles* and Criteria* in the Management Unit*, and to related FSC Policies and Standards. A statement of this commitment shall* be contained in a publicly available* document made freely available.</i>	
Indicator 1.8.1	Verifiers & Guidance:
A written policy, endorsed by an individual with authority to implement the policy, includes a <i>long-term*</i> commitment to <i>forest*</i> management practices consistent with FSC <i>Principles*</i> and <i>Criteria*</i> and related Policies and Standards.	
Indicator 1.8.2	Verifiers & Guidance:
The policy is <i>publicly available</i> * at no cost.	
PRINCIPLE 2. WORKERS** RIGHTS AND EMPLOYMENT CONDITIONS: <i>The Organization* shall* maintain or enhance the social and economic wellbeing of workers*.</i>	
Criterion 2.1 <i>The Organization* shall* uphold* the principles and rights at work as defined in the ILO Declaration on Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work (1998) based on the eight ILO Core Labour Conventions.</i>	
Indicator 2.1.1	Verifiers & Guidance:
<i>The Organization* shall* not use child labour.</i> 2.1.1.1 <i>The Organization* shall* not employ workers* below the age of 15, or below the minimum age* as stated under national, or local laws or regulations, whichever age is higher, except as specified in 2.1.1.2.</i> 2.1.1.2 <i>In countries where the national law* or regulations permit the employment of persons between the ages of 13 to 15 years in light work* such employment should not interfere with schooling nor, be harmful to their health or development. Notably, where children are subject to compulsory education laws, they shall* work only outside of school hours during normal day-time working hours.</i> 2.1.1.3 <i>No person under the age of 18 is employed in hazardous* or heavy work* except for the purpose of training within approved national laws* and regulation.</i>	

2.1.1.4 <i>The Organization* shall* prohibit worst forms of child labour*.</i>	
Indicator 2.1.2	Verifiers & Guidance:
<p><i>The Organization* shall* eliminate all forms of forced and compulsory labour.</i></p> <p>2.1.2.1 Employment relationships are voluntary and based on mutual consent, without threat of a penalty.</p> <p>2.1.2.2 There is no evidence of any practices indicative of forced or compulsory labour, including, but not limited to, the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Physical and sexual violence • Bonded labour • Withholding of wages /including payment of employment fees and or payment of deposit to commence employment • Restriction of mobility/movement • Retention of passport and identity documents • Threats of denunciation to the authorities. 	
Indicator 2.1.3	Verifiers & Guidance:
<p><i>The Organization* shall* ensure that there is no discrimination in employment and occupation.</i></p> <p>2.1.3.1 <i>Employment and occupation*</i> practices are non-discriminatory.</p>	
Indicator 2.1.4	Verifiers & Guidance:
<p><i>The Organization* shall* respect freedom of association and the right to collective bargaining.</i></p> <p>2.1.4.1 <i>Workers*</i> are able to establish or join <i>worker organizations*</i> of their own choosing.</p> <p>2.1.4.2 <i>The Organization*</i> respects the rights of workers to engage in lawful activities related to forming, joining or assisting a <i>workers' organization*</i>, or to refrain from doing the same; and will not discriminate or punish workers for exercising these rights.</p> <p>2.1.4.3 <i>The Organization*</i> negotiates with lawfully established <i>workers' organizations*</i> and/ or duly selected representatives in <i>good faith*</i> and with the best efforts to reach a <i>collective bargaining*</i> agreement.</p> <p>2.1.4.4 <i>Collective bargaining*</i> agreements are implemented where they exist.</p>	
Criterion 2.2	<i>The Organization* shall* promote gender equality* in employment practices, training opportunities, awarding of contracts, processes of engagement* and management activities.</i>
Indicator 2.2.1	Verifiers & Guidance:

<p>Systems are implemented that promote <i>gender equality</i>* and prevent gender discrimination in employment practices, training opportunities, awarding of contracts, processes of <i>engagement</i>* and management activities.</p>	
<p>Indicator 2.2.2</p> <p>Job opportunities are open to both women and men under the same conditions, and women are encouraged to participate actively in all levels of employment.</p>	<p>Verifiers & Guidance:</p>
<p>Indicator 2.2.3</p> <p>Work typically carried out by women (nurseries, silviculture, Non Timber Forest Product harvesting, weighing, packing, etc.) is included in training and health & safety programs to the same extent as work typically carried out by men.</p>	<p>Verifiers & Guidance:</p>
<p>Indicator 2.2.4</p> <p>Women and men are paid the same wage when they do the same work.</p>	<p>Verifiers & Guidance:</p>
<p>Indicator 2.2.5</p> <p>Women are paid directly and using mutually agreed methods (e.g. direct bank transfer, direct payments for school fees, etc.) to ensure they safely receive and retain their wages.</p>	<p>Verifiers & Guidance:</p>
<p>Indicator 2.2.6</p> <p>Maternity leave is no less than a six-week period after childbirth.</p>	<p>Verifiers & Guidance:</p>
<p>Indicator 2.2.7</p> <p>Paternity leave is available and there is no penalty for taking it.</p>	<p>Verifiers & Guidance:</p>
<p>Indicator 2.2.8</p> <p>Meetings, management committees and decision-making forums are organized to include women and men, and to facilitate the active participation of both.</p>	<p>Verifiers & Guidance:</p>
<p>Indicator 2.2.9</p> <p>Confidential and effective mechanisms exist for reporting and eliminating cases of sexual harassment and discrimination based on gender, marital status, parenthood or sexual orientation.</p>	<p>Verifiers & Guidance:</p>

Criterion 2.3	<i>The Organization* shall* implement health and safety practices to protect workers* from occupational safety and health hazards. These practices shall*, proportionate to scale, intensity and risk* of management activities, meet or exceed the recommendations of the ILO Code of Practice on Safety and Health in Forestry Work.</i>	
Indicator 2.3.1	Verifiers & Guidance:	
Health and safety practices are developed and implemented that meet or exceed the ILO Code of Practice on Safety and Health in Forestry Work.	groups	
Indicator 2.3.2	Verifiers & Guidance:	
Workers* have personal protective equipment appropriate to their assigned tasks.		
Indicator 2.3.3	Verifiers & Guidance:	
Use of personal protective equipment is enforced.		
Indicator 2.3.4	Verifiers & Guidance:	
Records are kept on health and safety practices including accident rates and lost time to accidents.		
Indicator 2.3.5	Verifiers & Guidance:	
The frequency and severity of accidents are consistently low compared to national forest* industry averages.	groups	
Indicator 2.3.6	Verifiers & Guidance:	
The health and safety practices are reviewed and revised as required after major incidents or accidents.		
Criterion 2.4	<i>The Organization* shall* pay wages that meet or exceed minimum forest* industry standards or other recognized forest* industry wage agreements or living wages*, where these are higher than the legal* minimum wages. When none of these exist, The Organization* shall* through engagement* with workers* develop mechanisms for determining living wages*.</i>	
Indicator 2.4.1	Verifiers & Guidance:	
Wages paid by The Organization* in all circumstances meet or exceed legal* minimum wage rates, where such rates exist.	groups	
Indicator 2.4.2	Verifiers & Guidance:	
Wages paid meet or exceed:		

1) Minimum <i>forest*</i> industry standards; or 2) Other recognized <i>forest*</i> industry wage agreements; or 3) <i>Living wages*</i> that are higher than <i>legal*</i> minimum wages.	
Indicator 2.4.3	Verifiers & Guidance:
When no minimum wage levels exist, wages are established through <i>culturally appropriate* engagement* with workers* and/or formal and informal workers organizations*</i> .	
Indicator 2.4.4	Verifiers & Guidance:
Wages, salaries and contracts are paid on time.	
Criterion 2.5	<i>The Organization* shall* demonstrate that workers* have job-specific training and supervision to safely and effectively implement the Management Plan* and all management activities.</i>
Indicator 2.5.1	Verifiers & Guidance:
<i>Workers* have job specific training consistent with Annex B and supervision to safely and effectively contribute to the implementation of the management plan* and all management activities.</i>	groups
Indicator 2.5.2	Verifiers & Guidance:
Up to date training records are kept for all relevant <i>workers*</i> .	
Criterion 2.6	<i>The Organization* through engagement* with workers* shall* have mechanisms for resolving grievances and for providing fair compensation* to workers* for loss or damage to property, occupational diseases*, or occupational injuries* sustained while working for The Organization*.</i>
Indicator 2.6.1	Verifiers & Guidance:
<i>A dispute* resolution process is in place, developed through culturally appropriate* engagement* with workers*.</i>	groups
Indicator 2.6.2	Verifiers & Guidance:
<i>Workers* grievances are identified and responded to and are either resolved or are in the dispute* resolution process.</i>	
Indicator 2.6.3	Verifiers & Guidance:
Up-to-date records of <i>workers* grievances related to workers* loss or damage of property, occupational diseases* or injuries are maintained including:</i>	

<p>1) Steps taken to resolve grievances; 2) Outcomes of all <i>dispute*</i> resolution processes including <i>fair compensation*</i>; and 3) Unresolved <i>disputes*</i>, the reasons they are not resolved, and how they will be resolved.</p>	
<p>Indicator 2.6.4</p> <p><i>Fair compensation*</i> is provided to <i>workers*</i> for work-related loss or damage of property and occupational <i>disease*</i> or injuries.</p>	<p>Verifiers & Guidance:</p>
<p>PRINCIPLE 3. INDIGENOUS PEOPLES' RIGHTS:</p> <p><i>The Organization* shall* identify and uphold* Indigenous Peoples* legal* and customary rights* of ownership, use and management of land, territories* and resources affected by management activities.</i></p>	
<p>Criterion 3.1 <i>The Organization* shall* identify the Indigenous Peoples* that exist within the Management Unit* or those that are affected by management activities. The Organization* shall* then, through engagement* with these Indigenous Peoples, identify their rights of tenure*, their rights of access to and use of forest* resources and ecosystem services*, their customary rights* and legal* rights and obligations, that apply within the Management Unit*. The Organization* shall* also identify areas where these rights are contested.</i></p>	
<p>Indicator 3.1.1</p> <p><i>Indigenous Peoples* that may be affected by management activities are identified.</i></p>	<p>Verifiers & Guidance:</p>
<p>Indicator 3.1.2</p> <p>Through <i>culturally appropriate* engagement*</i> with the <i>Indigenous Peoples*</i> identified in 3.1.1, the following are documented and/or mapped:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Their <i>legal* and customary rights* of tenure*</i>; 2) Their <i>legal* and customary* access to, and use rights*</i>, of the <i>forest* resources and ecosystem services*</i>, 3) Their <i>legal* and customary rights* and obligations that apply</i>; 4) The evidence supporting these rights and obligations; 5) Areas where rights are contested between <i>Indigenous Peoples*</i>, governments and/or others; 6) Summary of the means by which the <i>legal* and customary rights*</i> and contested rights, are addressed by <i>The Organization*</i>; and 7) The aspirations and goals of <i>Indigenous Peoples*</i> related to management activities, <i>Intact Forest Landscapes*</i> and <i>Indigenous cultural landscapes*</i>. 	<p>Verifiers & Guidance:</p>

Criterion 3.2		<i>The Organization* shall* recognize and uphold* the legal* and customary rights* of Indigenous Peoples* to maintain control over management activities within or related to the Management Unit* to the extent necessary to protect their rights, resources and lands and territories*. Delegation by Indigenous Peoples of control over management activities to third parties requires Free, Prior and Informed Consent*.</i>
Indicator 3.2.1	Verifiers & Guidance:	
	Through <i>culturally appropriate* engagement* Indigenous Peoples*</i> are informed when, where and how they can comment on and request modification to management activities to the extent necessary to protect their rights, resources, <i>lands and territories*</i> .	
Indicator 3.2.2	Verifiers & Guidance:	
	The <i>legal* and customary rights*</i> of Indigenous Peoples* are not violated by The Organization*.	
Indicator 3.2.3	Verifiers & Guidance:	
	Where evidence exists that <i>legal* and customary rights* of Indigenous Peoples*</i> related to management activities have been violated the situation is corrected, if necessary, through <i>culturally appropriate* engagement*</i> and/or through the <i>dispute* resolution process</i> as required in <i>Criteria* 1.6 or 4.6</i> .	
Indicator 3.2.4	Verifiers & Guidance:	
	<p><i>Free, prior and informed consent*</i> is granted by <i>Indigenous Peoples*</i> prior to management activities that affect their identified rights through a process that includes:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Ensuring <i>Indigenous Peoples*</i> know their rights and obligations regarding the resource; 2) Informing the <i>Indigenous Peoples*</i> of the value of the resource, in economic, social and environmental terms; 3) Informing the <i>Indigenous Peoples*</i> of their right to withhold or modify consent to the proposed management activities to the extent necessary to protect their rights, resources, <i>lands and territories*</i>; and 4) Informing the <i>Indigenous Peoples*</i> of the current and future planned <i>forest* management activities</i>. 	
Indicator 3.2.5	Verifiers & Guidance:	
	Where the process of <i>Free Prior and Informed Consent*</i> has not yet resulted in an FPIC agreement, <i>the Organisation*</i> and the affected <i>Indigenous Peoples*</i> are engaged in a mutually agreed FPIC process that is advancing, in <i>good faith*</i> and with which the community is satisfied.	

Criterion 3.3	In the event of delegation of control over management activities, a <i>binding agreement</i>* between <i>The Organization</i>* and the <i>Indigenous Peoples</i>* shall* be concluded through <i>Free, Prior and Informed Consent</i>*. The agreement shall* define its duration, provisions for renegotiation, renewal, termination, economic conditions and other terms and conditions. The agreement shall* make provision for monitoring by Indigenous Peoples of <i>The Organization</i>*'s compliance with its terms and conditions.	
Indicator 3.3.1	Where control over management activities has been granted through <i>Free Prior and Informed Consent</i>* based on <i>culturally appropriate engagement</i>*, the <i>binding agreement</i>* contains the duration, provisions for renegotiation, renewal, termination, economic conditions and other terms and conditions.	Verifiers & Guidance:
Indicator 3.3.2	Records of <i>binding agreements</i>* are maintained.	Verifiers & Guidance:
Indicator 3.3.3	The <i>binding agreement</i>* contains the provision for monitoring by <i>Indigenous Peoples</i>* of <i>The Organization</i>*'s compliance with its terms and conditions.	Verifiers & Guidance:
Criterion 3.4	<i>The Organization</i>* shall* recognize and <i>uphold</i>* the rights, customs and culture of <i>Indigenous Peoples</i>* as defined in the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (2007) and ILO Convention 169 (1989).	
Indicator 3.4.1	The rights, customs and culture of <i>Indigenous Peoples</i>* as defined in UNDRIP and ILO Convention 169 are not violated by <i>The Organization</i>*.	Verifiers & Guidance:
Indicator 3.4.2	Where evidence that rights, customs and culture of <i>Indigenous Peoples</i>*, as defined in UNDRIP and ILO Convention 169, have been violated by <i>The Organization</i>*, the situation is documented including steps to <i>restore</i>* these rights, customs and culture of <i>Indigenous Peoples</i>*, to the satisfaction of the rights holders.	Verifiers & Guidance:

Criterion 3.5		<i>The Organization*</i> , through <i>engagement*</i> with <i>Indigenous Peoples*</i> , shall identify sites which are of special cultural, ecological, economic, religious or spiritual significance and for which these <i>Indigenous Peoples</i> hold <i>legal*</i> or <i>customary rights*</i> . These sites shall be recognized by <i>The Organization*</i> and their management, and/or <i>protection*</i> shall be agreed through <i>engagement*</i> with these <i>Indigenous Peoples</i> .
Indicator 3.5.1	Verifiers & Guidance:	
Sites of special cultural, ecological, economic, religious or spiritual significance for which <i>Indigenous Peoples*</i> hold <i>legal*</i> or <i>customary rights*</i> are identified through <i>culturally appropriate* engagement*</i> .		
Indicator 3.5.2	Verifiers & Guidance:	
Measures to protect such sites are agreed, documented and implemented through <i>culturally appropriate* engagement*</i> with <i>Indigenous Peoples*</i> . When <i>Indigenous Peoples*</i> determine that physical identification of sites in documentation or on maps would threaten the value or <i>protection*</i> of the sites, then other means will be used.		
Indicator 3.5.3	Verifiers & Guidance:	
Wherever sites of special cultural, ecological, economic, religious or spiritual significance are newly observed or discovered, management activities cease immediately in the vicinity until protective measures have been agreed to with the <i>Indigenous Peoples*</i> , and as directed by local and <i>national laws*</i> .		
Criterion 3.6		<i>The Organization*</i> shall uphold the right of <i>Indigenous Peoples*</i> to protect and utilize their traditional <i>knowledge*</i> and shall compensate <i>local communities*</i> for the utilization of such knowledge and their <i>intellectual property*</i> . A <i>binding agreement*</i> as per <i>Criterion* 3.3</i> shall be concluded between <i>The Organization*</i> and the <i>Indigenous Peoples</i> for such utilization through <i>Free, Prior and Informed Consent*</i> before utilization takes place, and shall be consistent with the <i>protection*</i> of <i>intellectual property*</i> rights.
Indicator 3.6.1	Verifiers & Guidance:	
<i>Traditional knowledge*</i> and <i>intellectual property*</i> are protected and are only used when the acknowledged owners of that <i>traditional knowledge*</i> and <i>intellectual property*</i> have provided their <i>Free, Prior and Informed Consent*</i> formalized through a <i>binding agreement*</i> .		
Indicator 3.6.2	Verifiers & Guidance:	
Indigenous Peoples* are compensated according to the binding agreement* reached through <i>Free, Prior and Informed Consent*</i> for the use of traditional knowledge* and intellectual property*.		

PRINCIPLE 4. COMMUNITY RELATIONS:	
<i>The Organization* shall* contribute to maintaining or enhancing the social and economic wellbeing of local communities*.</i>	
Criterion 4.1	<i>The Organization* shall* identify the local communities* that exist within the Management Unit* and those that are affected by management activities. The Organization* shall* then, through engagement* with these local communities*, identify their rights of tenure*, their rights of access to and use of forest* resources and ecosystem services*, their customary rights* and legal* rights and obligations, that apply within the Management Unit*.</i>
Indicator 4.1.1	Verifiers & Guidance:
<i>Local communities* that exist in the Management Unit* and those that may be affected by management activities are identified.</i>	
Indicator 4.1.2	Verifiers & Guidance:
<p>Through <i>culturally appropriate* engagement*</i> with the <i>local communities*</i> identified in 4.1.1, the following are documented and/or mapped:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Their <i>legal* and customary rights* of tenure*</i>; 2) Their <i>legal* and customary* access to, and use rights*</i>, of the <i>forest* resources and ecosystem services*</i>; 3) Their <i>legal* and customary* rights* and obligations</i> that apply; 4) The evidence supporting these rights and obligations; 5) Areas where rights are contested between <i>local communities*</i>, governments and/or others; 6) Summary of the means by which the <i>legal* and customary rights*</i>, and contested rights are addressed by <i>The Organization*</i>; and 7) The aspirations and goals of <i>local communities*</i> related to management activities. 	
Criterion 4.2	<i>The Organization* shall* recognize and uphold* the legal* and customary rights* of local communities* to maintain control over management activities within or related to the Management Unit* to the extent necessary to protect their rights, resources, lands and territories*. Delegation by local communities* of control over management activities to third parties requires Free, Prior and Informed Consent*.</i>
Indicator 4.2.1	Verifiers & Guidance:
<i>Through culturally appropriate* engagement* local communities* are informed of when, where and how they can comment on and request modification to management activities to the extent necessary to protect their rights.</i>	
Indicator 4.2.2	Verifiers & Guidance:

<p><i>The legal* and customary rights* of local communities* to maintain control over management activities are not violated by The Organization*.</i></p>	
<p>Indicator 4.2.3</p>	<p>Verifiers & Guidance:</p>
<p>Where evidence exists that <i>legal* and customary rights* of local communities*</i> related to management activities have been violated the situation is corrected, if necessary, through <i>culturally appropriate* engagement*</i> and/or through the <i>dispute* resolution process</i> in <i>Criteria* 1.6 or 4.6.</i></p>	
<p>Indicator 4.2.4</p>	<p>Verifiers & Guidance:</p>
<p><i>Free, Prior and Informed Consent*</i> is granted by <i>local communities*</i> prior to management activities that affect their identified rights through a process that includes:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Ensuring <i>local communities*</i> know their rights and obligations regarding the resource; 2) Informing the <i>local communities*</i> of the value of the resource, in economic, social and environmental terms; 3) Informing the <i>local communities*</i> of their right to withhold or modify consent to the proposed management activities to the extent necessary to protect their rights and resources; and 4) Informing the <i>local communities*</i> of the current and future planned <i>forest* management activities.</i> 	
<p>Indicator 4.2.5</p>	<p>Verifiers & Guidance:</p>
<p>Where the process of <i>Free Prior and Informed Consent*</i> has not yet resulted in an FPIC agreement, <i>the Organisation*</i> and the affected <i>local communities *</i> are engaged in a mutually agreed FPIC process that is advancing, in <i>good faith*</i> and with which the community is satisfied.</p>	
<p>Criterion 4.3 <i>The Organization* shall* provide reasonable* opportunities for employment, training and other services to local communities*, contractors and suppliers proportionate to scale* and intensity* of its management activities.</i></p>	
<p>Indicator 4.3.1</p>	<p>Verifiers & Guidance:</p>
<p><i>Reasonable* opportunities are communicated and provided to local communities*, local contractors and local suppliers for:</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Employment, 2) Training, and 3) Other services. 	

Criterion 4.4		<i>The Organization* shall* implement additional activities, through engagement* with local communities*, that contribute to their social and economic development, proportionate to the scale*, intensity* and socio-economic impact of its management activities.</i>
Indicator 4.4.1	Verifiers & Guidance:	
Opportunities for local social and economic development are identified through <i>culturally appropriate* engagement*</i> with <i>local communities*</i> and other relevant organizations.		
Indicator 4.4.2	Verifiers & Guidance:	
Projects and additional activities are implemented and/or supported that contribute to local social and economic benefit and are proportionate to the socio-economic impact of management activities.		
Criterion 4.5		<i>The Organization*</i>, through <i>engagement*</i> with <i>local communities*</i>, <i>shall*</i> take action to identify, avoid and mitigate <i>significant*</i> negative social, environmental and economic impacts of its management activities on affected communities. The action taken <i>shall*</i> be proportionate to the <i>scale, intensity and risk*</i> of those activities and negative impacts.
Indicator 4.5.1	Verifiers & Guidance:	
Through <i>culturally appropriate* engagement*</i> with <i>local communities*</i> , measures are implemented to identify, avoid and mitigate <i>significant*</i> negative social, environmental and economic impacts of management activities.		
Criterion 4.6		<i>The Organization*</i>, through <i>engagement*</i> with <i>local communities*</i>, <i>shall*</i> have mechanisms for resolving grievances and providing <i>fair compensation*</i> to <i>local communities*</i> and individuals with regard to the impacts of management activities of <i>The Organization*</i>.
Indicator 4.6.1	Verifiers & Guidance:	
A <i>publicly available* dispute*</i> resolution process is in place, developed through <i>culturally appropriate* engagement*</i> with <i>local communities*</i> .		
Indicator 4.6.2	Verifiers & Guidance:	
Grievances related to the impacts of management activities are responded to in a <i>timely manner*</i> , and are either resolved or are in the <i>dispute*</i> resolution process.		
Indicator 4.6.3	Verifiers & Guidance:	
An up to date record of grievances related to the impacts of management activities is held including: 1) Steps taken to resolve grievances;		

<p>2) Outcomes of all <i>dispute*</i> resolution processes including <i>fair compensation*</i> to <i>local communities*</i> and individuals; and</p> <p>3) Unresolved <i>disputes*</i>, the reasons they are not resolved, and how they will be resolved.</p>	
<p>Indicator 4.6.4</p> <p>Operations cease in areas while <i>disputes*</i> exist of:</p> <p>1) Substantial magnitude*; 2) Substantial duration*; or 3) Involving a <i>significant*</i> number of interests.</p>	<p>Verifiers & Guidance:</p>
<p>Criterion 4.7 <i>The Organization*</i>, through <i>engagement*</i> with <i>local communities*</i>, <i>shall*</i> identify sites which are of special cultural, ecological, economic, religious or spiritual significance, and for which these <i>local communities*</i> hold <i>legal*</i> or <i>customary rights*</i>. These sites <i>shall*</i> be recognized by <i>The Organization*</i>, and their management and/or <i>protection*</i> <i>shall*</i> be agreed through <i>engagement*</i> with these <i>local communities*</i>.</p>	
<p>Indicator 4.7.1</p>	<p>Verifiers & Guidance:</p>
<p>Sites of special cultural, ecological, economic, religious or spiritual significance for which <i>local communities*</i> hold <i>legal*</i> or <i>customary rights*</i> are identified through <i>culturally appropriate* engagement*</i> and are recognized by <i>The Organization*</i>.</p>	
<p>Indicator 4.7.2</p>	<p>Verifiers & Guidance:</p>
<p>Measures to protect such sites are agreed, documented and implemented through <i>culturally appropriate engagement*</i> with <i>local communities*</i>. When <i>local communities*</i> determine that physical identification of sites in documentation or on maps would threaten the value or <i>protection*</i> of the sites, then other means will be used.</p>	
<p>Indicator 4.7.3</p>	<p>Verifiers & Guidance:</p>
<p>Whenever sites of special cultural, ecological, economic, religious or spiritual significance are newly observed or discovered, management activities cease immediately in the vicinity until protective measures have been agreed to with the <i>local communities*</i>, and as directed by local and <i>national laws*</i>.</p>	
<p>Indicator 4.7.4</p>	<p>Verifiers & Guidance:</p>

Criterion 4.8	The <i>Organization*</i> shall uphold the right of <i>local communities*</i> to protect and utilize their <i>traditional knowledge*</i> and shall compensate <i>local communities*</i> for the utilization of such knowledge and their <i>intellectual property*</i> . A <i>binding agreement*</i> as per <i>Criterion* 3.3</i> shall be concluded between <i>The Organization*</i> and the <i>local communities*</i> for such utilization through <i>Free, Prior and Informed Consent*</i> before utilization takes place, and shall be consistent with the <i>protection*</i> of <i>intellectual property*</i> rights.		
Indicator 4.8.1	Verifiers & Guidance:		
	Traditional <i>knowledge*</i> and <i>intellectual property*</i> are protected and are only used when the owners of that <i>traditional knowledge*</i> and <i>intellectual property*</i> have provided their <i>Free, Prior and Informed Consent*</i> formalized through a <i>binding agreement*</i> .		
Indicator 4.8.2	Verifiers & Guidance:		
	<i>Local communities*</i> are compensated according to the <i>binding agreement*</i> reached through <i>Free, Prior and Informed Consent*</i> for the use of <i>traditional knowledge*</i> and <i>intellectual property*</i> .		
PRINCIPLE 5. BENEFITS FROM THE FOREST:			
<i>The Organization*</i> shall efficiently manage the range of multiple products and services of the <i>Management Unit*</i> to maintain or enhance <i>long-term* economic viability*</i> and the range of social and environmental benefits.			
Criterion 5.1	<i>The Organization*</i> shall identify, produce, or enable the production of, diversified benefits and/or products, based on the range of resources and <i>ecosystem services*</i> existing in the <i>Management Unit*</i> in order to strengthen and diversify the local economy proportionate to the <i>scale* and intensity*</i> of management activities.		
Indicator 5.1.1	Verifiers & Guidance:		
	The range of resources and <i>ecosystem services*</i> that could strengthen and diversify the local economy are identified.		
Indicator 5.1.2	Verifiers & Guidance:		
	Consistent with <i>management objectives*</i> , the identified benefits and products are produced by <i>The Organization*</i> and/or made available for others to produce, to strengthen and diversify the local economy.		
Indicator 5.1.3	Verifiers & Guidance:		
	When <i>The Organization*</i> uses FSC Ecosystem Services Claims, <i>The Organization*</i> shall comply with applicable requirements in FSC-PRO-30-006.		

Criterion 5.2		<i>The Organization* shall* normally harvest products and services from the Management Unit* at or below a level which can be permanently sustained.</i>	
Indicator 5.2.1		Verifiers & Guidance:	
<i>Timber harvesting levels* are based on an analysis of current Best Available Information* on growth and yield; inventory of the forest*; mortality rates; and maintenance of ecosystem functions*.</i>			
Indicator 5.2.2		Verifiers & Guidance:	
Based on the <i>timber harvesting level*</i> analysis, a maximum allowable annual cut for timber is determined that does not exceed the harvest level that can be permanently sustained including by ensuring that harvest rates do not exceed growth.			
Indicator 5.2.3		Verifiers & Guidance:	
Actual annual harvest levels for timber are recorded and the harvest over a defined period does not exceed the allowable cut determined in 5.2.2 for the same defined period.			
Indicator 5.2.4		Verifiers & Guidance:	
For extraction of commercially harvested services and <i>non-timber forest products*</i> under <i>The Organization's*</i> control a sustainable harvest level is calculated and adhered to. Sustainable harvest levels are based on <i>Best Available Information*</i> .			
Criterion 5.3		<i>The Organization* shall* demonstrate that the positive and negative externalities* of operations are included in the management plan*.</i>	
Indicator 5.3.1		Verifiers & Guidance:	
Costs related to preventing, mitigating or compensating for negative social and environment impacts of management activities are quantified and documented in the <i>management plan*</i> .			
Indicator 5.3.2		Verifiers & Guidance:	
Benefits related to positive social and environment impacts of management activities are identified and included in the <i>management plan*</i> .			

Criterion 5.4		<i>The Organization* shall* use local processing, local services, and local value adding to meet the requirements of The Organization* where these are available, proportionate to scale, intensity and risk*. If these are not locally available, The Organization* shall* make reasonable* attempts to help establish these services.</i>
Indicator 5.4.1	Verifiers & Guidance:	
Where cost, quality and capacity of non-local and local options are at least equivalent, local goods, services, processing and value-added facilities are used.		
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Indicator 5.4.2	Verifiers & Guidance:	
<i>Reasonable* attempts are made to establish and encourage capacity where local goods, services, processing and value-added facilities are not available.</i>		
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Criterion 5.5		<i>The Organization* shall* demonstrate through its planning and expenditures proportionate to scale, intensity and risk*, its commitment to long-term* economic viability*.</i>
Indicator 5.5.1	Verifiers & Guidance:	
Sufficient funds are allocated to implement the <i>management plan*</i> in order to meet this standard and to ensure <i>long-term* economic viability*</i> .		
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Indicator 5.5.2	Verifiers & Guidance:	
Expenditures and investments are made to implement the <i>management plan*</i> in order to meet this standard and to ensure <i>long-term* economic viability*</i> .	communities and the forest manager	
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PRINCIPLE 6. ENVIRONMENTAL VALUES* AND IMPACTS:		
<i>The Organization* shall* maintain, conserve* and/or restore* ecosystem services* and environmental values* of the Management Unit*, and shall* avoid, repair or mitigate negative environmental impacts.</i>		
Criterion 6.1		<i>The Organization* shall* assess environmental values* in the Management Unit* and those values outside the Management Unit* potentially affected by management activities. This assessment shall* be undertaken with a level of detail, scale and frequency that is proportionate to the scale, intensity and risk* of management activities, and is sufficient for the purpose of deciding the necessary conservation* measures, and for detecting and monitoring possible negative impacts of those activities.</i>
Indicator 6.1.1	Verifiers & Guidance:	
<i>Best Available Information*</i> is used to identify <i>environmental values*</i> within, and, where potentially affected by management activities, outside of the <i>Management Unit*</i> .		
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Indicator 6.1.2	Verifiers & Guidance:	

<p>Assessments of <i>environmental values*</i> are conducted with a level of detail and frequency so that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Impacts of management activities on the identified <i>environmental values*</i> can be assessed as per <i>Criterion* 6.2</i>; 2) <i>Risks*</i> to <i>environmental values*</i> can be identified as per <i>Criterion* 6.2</i>; 3) Necessary <i>conservation*</i> measures to protect values can be identified as per <i>Criterion* 6.3</i>; and, 4) Monitoring of impacts or environmental changes can be conducted as per <i>Principle* 8</i>. 	
<p>Criterion 6.2 Prior to the start of site-disturbing activities, <i>The Organization* shall* identify and assess the scale, intensity and risk*</i> of potential impacts of management activities on the identified <i>environmental values*</i>.</p>	
<p>Indicator 6.2.1</p> <p><i>An environmental impact assessment*</i> identifies potential present and future impacts of management activities on <i>environmental values*</i>, from the stand level to the landscape level.</p>	<p>Verifiers & Guidance:</p>
<p>Indicator 6.2.2</p> <p>The <i>environmental impact assessment*</i> identifies and assesses the impacts of the management activities prior to the start of site-disturbing activities.</p>	<p>Verifiers & Guidance:</p>
<p>Criterion 6.3 <i>The Organization* shall* identify and implement effective actions to prevent negative impacts of management activities on the environmental values*, and to mitigate and repair those that occur, proportionate to the scale, intensity and risk*</i> of these impacts.</p>	
<p>Indicator 6.3.1</p> <p>Management activities are planned and implemented to prevent negative impacts and to protect <i>environmental values*</i>.</p>	<p>Verifiers & Guidance:</p>
<p>Indicator 6.3.2</p> <p>Management activities prevent negative impacts to <i>environmental values*</i>.</p>	<p>Verifiers & Guidance:</p>
<p>Indicator 6.3.3</p> <p>Where negative impacts to <i>environmental values*</i> occur, measures are adopted to prevent further damage, and negative impacts are <i>mitigated*</i> and/or <i>repaired*</i>.</p>	<p>Verifiers & Guidance:</p>

Criterion 6.4		<p>The Organization* shall* protect rare species* and threatened species* and their habitats* in the Management Unit* through conservation zones*, protection areas*, connectivity* and/or (where necessary) other direct measures for their survival and viability. These measures shall* be proportionate to the scale, intensity and risk* of management activities and to the conservation* status and ecological requirements of the rare and threatened species*. The Organization* shall* take into account the geographic range and ecological requirements of rare and threatened species* beyond the boundary of the Management Unit*, when determining the measures to be taken inside the Management Unit*.</p>
Indicator 6.4.1	<p>Best Available Information* is used to identify <i>rare and threatened species*</i>, and their <i>habitats*</i>, including CITES species (where applicable) and those listed on national, regional and local lists of <i>rare and threatened species*</i> that are present or likely to be present within and adjacent to the <i>Management Unit*</i>.</p>	Verifiers & Guidance:
Indicator 6.4.2	<p>Potential impacts of management activities on <i>rare and threatened species*</i> and their <i>conservation* status and habitats*</i> are identified and management activities are modified to avoid negative impacts.</p>	Verifiers & Guidance:
Indicator 6.4.3	<p>The <i>rare and threatened species*</i> and their <i>habitats*</i> are protected, including through the provision of <i>conservation zones*</i>, <i>protection areas*</i>, <i>connectivity*</i>, and other direct means for their survival and viability, such as species' recovery programs.</p>	Verifiers & Guidance:
Indicator 6.4.4	<p>Hunting, fishing, trapping and collection of <i>rare or threatened species*</i> is prevented.</p>	Verifiers & Guidance:
Criterion 6.5		<p>The Organization* shall* identify and protect representative sample areas of native ecosystems* and/or restore* them to more natural conditions*. Where representative sample areas* do not exist or are insufficient, The Organization* shall* restore* a proportion of the Management Unit* to more natural conditions*. The size of the areas and the measures taken for their protection or restoration, including within plantations, shall* be proportionate to the conservation* status and value of the ecosystems* at the landscape* level, and the scale, intensity and risk* of management activities.</p>
Indicator 6.5.1	<p>Best Available Information* is used to identify native ecosystems* that exist, or would exist under <i>natural conditions*</i>, within the <i>Management Unit*</i>.</p>	Verifiers & Guidance:
Indicator 6.5.2		Verifiers & Guidance:

Representative Sample Areas* of native ecosystems* are protected, where they exist.	
Indicator 6.5.3	Verifiers & Guidance:
Where Representative Sample Areas* do not exist, or where existing sample areas inadequately represent native ecosystems* , or are otherwise insufficient, a proportion of the Management Unit* is restored* to more natural conditions* .	
Indicator 6.5.4	Verifiers & Guidance:
The size of the Representative Sample Areas* and/or restoration* areas is proportionate to the conservation* status and value of the ecosystems* at the landscape* level, the size of the Management Unit* and the intensity* of forest* management.	
Indicator 6.5.5	Verifiers & Guidance:
Representative Sample Areas* in combination with other components of the conservation areas network* comprise a minimum 10% area of the Management Unit* .	
Criterion 6.6	The Organization* shall* effectively maintain the continued existence of naturally occurring native species* and genotypes*, and prevent losses of biological diversity*, especially through habitat* management in the Management Unit*. The Organization* shall* demonstrate that effective measures are in place to manage and control hunting, fishing, trapping and collecting.
Indicator 6.6.1	Verifiers & Guidance:
Management activities maintain the plant communities and habitat features* found within native ecosystems* in which the Management Unit* is located.	
Indicator 6.6.2	Verifiers & Guidance:
Where past management has eliminated plant communities or habitat features* , management activities aimed at re-establishing such habitats* are implemented.	
Indicator 6.6.3	Verifiers & Guidance:
Management maintains, enhances, or restores* habitat features* associated with native ecosystems* , to support the diversity of naturally occurring species and their genetic diversity.	
Indicator 6.6.4	Verifiers & Guidance:

Effective measures are taken to manage and control hunting, fishing, trapping and collecting activities to ensure that naturally occurring <i>native species*</i> , their diversity within species and their natural distribution are maintained.	
Criterion 6.7 <i>The Organization* shall* protect* or restore* natural watercourses, water bodies*, riparian zones* and their connectivity*. The Organization* shall* avoid negative impacts on water quality and quantity and mitigate and remedy those that occur.</i>	
Indicator 6.7.1	Verifiers & Guidance:
<i>Protection*</i> measures are implemented to protect natural <i>watercourses*</i> , <i>water bodies*</i> , <i>riparian zones*</i> and their <i>connectivity*</i> , including water quantity and water quality.	
Indicator 6.7.2	
Where implemented <i>protection*</i> measures do not protect <i>watercourses*</i> , <i>water bodies*</i> , <i>riparian zones*</i> and their <i>connectivity*</i> , water quantity or water quality from impacts of <i>forest*</i> management, restoration activities are implemented.	Verifiers & Guidance:
Indicator 6.7.3	
Where natural <i>watercourses</i> , <i>water bodies*</i> , <i>riparian zones*</i> and their <i>connectivity*</i> , water quantity or water quality have been damaged by past activities on land and water by <i>The Organization*</i> , <i>restoration activities*</i> are implemented.	Verifiers & Guidance:
Indicator 6.7.4	
Where continued degradation exists to <i>watercourses*</i> , <i>water bodies*</i> , water quantity and water quality caused by previous managers and the activities of third parties, measures are implemented that prevent or mitigate this degradation.	Verifiers & Guidance:
Criterion 6.8 <i>The Organization* shall* manage the landscape* in the Management Unit* to maintain and/or restore* a varying mosaic of species, sizes, ages, spatial scales* and regeneration cycles appropriate for the landscape values* in that region, and for enhancing environmental and economic resilience*.</i>	
Indicator 6.8.1	Verifiers & Guidance:
A varying mosaic of species, sizes, ages, <i>spatial scales*</i> , and regeneration cycles is maintained appropriate to the <i>landscape*</i> .	
Indicator 6.8.2	
The mosaic of species, sizes, ages, <i>spatial scales*</i> , and regeneration cycles is <i>restored*</i>	Verifiers & Guidance:

where it has not been maintained appropriate to the <i>landscape</i> *.	
<p>Criterion 6.9 <i>The Organization* shall* not convert natural forest* to plantations*, nor natural forests* or plantations* on sites directly converted from natural forest* to non-forest* land use, except when the conversion:</i></p> <p>a) <i>Affects a very limited portion* of the area of the Management Unit*, and</i></p> <p>b) <i>Will produce clear, substantial, additional, secure long-term conservation* benefits in the Management Unit*, and</i></p> <p>c) <i>Does not damage or threaten High Conservation Values*, nor any sites or resources necessary to maintain or enhance those High Conservation Values*.</i></p>	
<p>Indicator 6.9.1</p> <p>There is no conversion of natural forest or High Conservation Value Areas to plantations, or to non-forest land-use, nor transformation of plantations on sites directly converted from natural forest to non-forest land-use, except when it:</p> <p>1) Affects a very limited portion of the Management Unit, and</p> <p>2) Will produce clear, substantial, additional, secure, long-term conservation and social benefits in the Management Unit, and</p> <p>3) Does not damage or threaten High Conservation Values, nor any sites or resources necessary to maintain or enhance those High Conservation Values</p>	<p>Verifiers & Guidance:</p>
<p>Criterion 6.10 <i>Management Units* containing plantations* that were established on areas converted from natural forest* after November 1994 shall* not qualify for certification, except where:</i></p> <p>a) <i>Clear and sufficient evidence is provided that The Organization* was not directly or indirectly responsible for the conversion, or</i></p> <p>b) <i>The conversion affected a very limited portion* of the area of the Management Unit* and is producing clear, substantial, additional, secure long-term conservation* benefits in the Management Unit*.</i></p>	
<p>Indicator 6.10.1</p> <p>Based on Best Available Information, accurate data is compiled on all conversions between 1 December 1994 and 31 December 2020 within the Management Unit.</p>	<p>Verifiers & Guidance:</p>
<p>Indicator 6.10.2</p> <p>Areas converted from natural forest to plantation between 1 December 1994 and 31 December 2020 are not certified, except where:</p> <p>1) The conversion affected a very limited portion of the Management Unit and is producing clear, substantial, additional, secure long-term conservation benefits in the Management Unit, or</p> <p>2) The Organization which was directly or</p>	<p>Verifiers & Guidance:</p>

<p>indirectly involved in the conversion demonstrates restitution of all social harms and proportionate remedy of environmental harms as specified in the applicable FSC Remedy Framework, or</p> <p>3) The Organization which was not involved in conversion but has acquired Management Units where conversion has taken place demonstrates restitution of priority social harms and partial remedy of environmental harms as specified in the applicable FSC Remedy Framework, or</p> <p>4) The Organization qualifies as a small-scale smallholder.</p>	
<p>Criterion 6.11 <i>Management Units* shall not qualify for certification if they contain natural forests* or High Conservation Value* areas converted after 31 December 2020, except where the conversion:</i></p> <p><i>a) affected a very limited portion* of the Management Unit, and</i></p> <p><i>b) is producing clear, substantial, additional, secure long-term conservation* and social benefits in the Management Unit, and</i></p> <p><i>c) did not threaten High Conservation Values, nor any sites or resources necessary to maintain or enhance those High Conservation Values</i></p>	
<p>Indicator 6.11.1</p>	<p>Verifiers & Guidance:</p>
<p>Based on Best Available Information, accurate data is compiled on all conversions of natural forests and High Conservation Value Areas after 31 December 2020 within the Management Unit.</p>	
<p>Indicator 6.11.2</p>	<p>Verifiers & Guidance:</p>
<p>Areas where natural forests or High Conservation Value Areas have been converted after 31 December 2020 are not certified, except where the conversion:</p> <p>1) Affected a very limited portion of the Management Unit, and</p> <p>2) Is producing clear, substantial, additional, secure long-term conservation and social benefits in the Management Unit, and</p> <p>3) Did not threaten High Conservation Values, nor any sites or resources necessary to maintain or enhance those High Conservation Values.</p>	

PRINCIPLE 7. MANAGEMENT PLANNING:	
<i>The Organization* shall* have a management plan* consistent with its policies and objectives* and proportionate to scale, intensity and risks* of its management activities. The management plan* shall* be implemented and kept up to date based on monitoring information in order to promote adaptive management*. The associated planning and procedural documentation shall* be sufficient to guide staff, inform affected stakeholders* and interested stakeholders* and to justify management decisions.</i>	
Criterion 7.1	<i>The Organization* shall*, proportionate to scale, intensity and risk* of its management activities, set policies (visions and values) and objectives* for management, which are environmentally sound, socially beneficial and economically viable. Summaries of these policies and objectives* shall* be incorporated into the management plan*, and publicized.</i>
Indicator 7.1.1	Verifiers & Guidance:
Policies (vision and values) that contribute to meeting the requirements of this standard are defined.	
Indicator 7.1.2	Verifiers & Guidance:
Specific, operational <i>management objectives*</i> that address the requirements of this standard are defined.	
Indicator 7.1.3	Verifiers & Guidance:
Summaries of the defined policies and <i>management objectives*</i> are included in the <i>management plan*</i> and publicized.	
Criterion 7.2	<i>The Organization* shall* have and implement a management plan* for the Management Unit* which is fully consistent with the policies and management objectives* as established according to Criterion* 7.1. The management plan* shall* describe the natural resources that exist in the Management Unit* and explain how the plan will meet the FSC certification requirements. The management plan* shall* cover forest* management planning and social management planning proportionate to scale*, intensity* and risk* of the planned activities.</i>
Indicator 7.2.1	Verifiers & Guidance:
The <i>management plan*</i> includes management actions, procedures, strategies and measures to achieve the <i>management objectives*</i> .	
Indicator 7.2.2	Verifiers & Guidance:
The <i>management plan*</i> addresses the elements listed in Annex E, and is implemented.	
Criterion 7.3	<i>The management plan* shall* include verifiable targets* by which progress towards each of the prescribed management objectives* can be assessed.</i>
Indicator 7.3.1	Verifiers & Guidance:

<p>Verifiable targets*, and the frequency that they are assessed, are established for monitoring the progress towards each management objective*.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Site productivity, yield of all products harvested; • Composition and observed changes in the flora and fauna; • Water quality and quantity; • Soil erosion, compaction, fertility and carbon content; • Wildlife populations, <i>biodiversity*</i> and status of <i>High Conservation Values*</i>; • Sensitive cultural and environmental resources; • Stakeholder satisfaction with <i>engagement*</i>; • Benefits of management operations provided to <i>local communities*</i>; • Number of <i>occupational accidents*</i>; • Area of <i>Intact Forest Landscape* protected*</i> as <i>Core Areas*</i> and • Overall <i>economic viability*</i> of the <i>Management Unit*</i>.
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<p>Criterion 7.4</p>	<p><i>The Organization* shall*</i> update and revise periodically the management planning and procedural documentation to incorporate the results of monitoring and evaluation, stakeholder <i>engagement*</i> or new scientific and technical information, as well as to respond to changing environmental, social and economic circumstances.</p>
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<p>Indicator 7.4.1</p> <p><i>The management plan*</i> is revised and updated periodically consistent with Annex F to incorporate:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Monitoring results, including results of certification audits; 2) Evaluation results; 3) Stakeholder <i>engagement*</i> results; 4) New scientific and technical information, and 5) Changing environmental, social, or economic circumstances. 	<p>Verifiers & Guidance:</p>
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<p>Criterion 7.5</p>	<p><i>The Organization* shall*</i> make <i>publicly available*</i> a summary of the <i>management plan*</i> free of charge. Excluding <i>confidential information*</i>, other relevant components of the <i>management plan*</i> shall* be made available to <i>affected stakeholders*</i> on request, and at cost of reproduction and handling.</p>
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<p>Indicator 7.5.1</p> <p>A summary of the <i>management plan*</i> in a format comprehensible to stakeholders including maps and excluding <i>confidential information*</i> is made <i>publicly available*</i> at no cost.</p>	<p>Verifiers & Guidance:</p>
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<p>Indicator 7.5.2</p> <p>Relevant components of the <i>management plan*</i>, excluding <i>confidential information*</i>, are available to <i>affected stakeholders*</i> on request at the actual costs of reproduction and handling.</p>	<p>Verifiers & Guidance:</p>
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<p>Criterion 7.6</p>	<p><i>The Organization* shall*</i>, proportionate to <i>scale, intensity and risk*</i> of management activities, proactively and transparently engage <i>affected stakeholders*</i> in its management planning and monitoring processes, and shall* engage <i>interested stakeholders*</i> on request.</p>
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<p>Indicator 7.6.1</p>	<p>Verifiers & Guidance:</p>
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<p>Culturally appropriate* engagement* is used to ensure that affected stakeholders* are proactively and transparently engaged in the following processes:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Dispute* resolution processes (Criterion* 1.6, Criterion* 2.6, Criterion* 4.6); 2) Definition of Living wages* (Criterion* 2.4); 3) Identification of rights (Criterion* 3.1, Criterion* 4.1), Indigenous cultural landscapes* (Criterion* 3.1) sites (Criterion* 3.5, Criterion* 4.7) and impacts (Criterion* 4.5); 4) Local communities** socio-economic development activities (Criterion* 4.4); and 5) High Conservation Value* assessment, management and monitoring (Criterion* 9.1, Criterion* 9.2, Criterion* 9.4). 	
<p>Indicator 7.6.2</p>	<p>Verifiers & Guidance:</p>
<p>Culturally appropriate* engagement* is used to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Determine appropriate representatives and contact points (including where appropriate, local institutions, organizations and authorities); 2) Determine mutually agreed communication channels allowing for information to flow in both directions; 3) Ensure all actors (women, youth, elderly, minorities) are represented and engaged equitably; 4) Ensure all meetings, all points discussed and all agreements reached are recorded; 5) Ensure the content of meeting records is approved; and 6) Ensure the results of all culturally appropriate* engagement* activities are shared with those involved. 	
<p>Indicator 7.6.3</p>	<p>Verifiers & Guidance:</p>
<p>Affected rights holders* and affected stakeholders* are provided with an opportunity for culturally appropriate* engagement* in monitoring and planning processes of management activities that affect their interests.</p>	
<p>Indicator 7.6.4</p>	<p>Verifiers & Guidance:</p>
<p>On request, interested stakeholders* are provided with an opportunity for engagement* in monitoring and planning processes of management activities that affect their interests.</p>	

PRINCIPLE 8. MONITORING AND ASSESSMENT:	
<i>The Organization* shall* demonstrate that, progress towards achieving the management objectives*, the impacts of management activities and the condition of the Management Unit*, are monitored* and evaluated proportionate to the scale, intensity and risk* of management activities, in order to implement adaptive management*.</i>	
Criterion 8.1	<i>The Organization* shall* monitor* the implementation of its Management Plan*, including its policies and management objectives*, its progress with the activities planned, and the achievement of its verifiable targets*.</i>
Indicator 8.1.1	Verifiers & Guidance:
Procedures are documented and executed for monitoring the implementation of the management plan* including its policies and management objectives* and achievement of verifiable targets*.	
Criterion 8.2	
<i>The Organization* shall* monitor* and evaluate the environmental and social impacts of the activities carried out in the Management Unit*, and changes in its environmental condition.</i>	
Indicator 8.2.1	Verifiers & Guidance:
The social and environmental impacts of management activities are monitored* consistent with Annex G.	
Indicator 8.2.2	
Verifiers & Guidance:	
Changes in environmental conditions are monitored* consistent with Annex G.	
Criterion 8.3	
<i>The Organization* shall* analyze the results of monitoring and evaluation and feed the outcomes of this analysis back into the planning process.</i>	
Indicator 8.3.1	Verifiers & Guidance:
Adaptive management* procedures are implemented so that monitoring results feed into periodic updates to the planning process and the resulting management plan*.	
Indicator 8.3.2	
Verifiers & Guidance:	
If monitoring results show non-conformities with the FSC Standard then management objectives*, verifiable targets* and/or management activities are revised.	
Criterion 8.4	
<i>The Organization* shall* make publicly available* a summary of the results of monitoring free of charge, excluding confidential information*.</i>	
Indicator 8.4.1	Verifiers & Guidance:
A summary of the monitoring results consistent with Annex G, in a format comprehensible to stakeholders including maps and excluding confidential information* is made publicly available* at no cost.	

Criterion 8.5	<i>The Organization* shall* have and implement a tracking and tracing system proportionate to scale, intensity and risk* of its management activities, for demonstrating the source and volume in proportion to projected output for each year, of all products from the Management Unit* that are marketed as FSC certified.</i>
Indicator 8.5.1	Verifiers & Guidance:
<p>A system is implemented to track and trace all products that are marketed as FSC certified. As part of that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) <i>Transaction verification*</i> is supported by providing <i>FSC transaction*</i> data, as requested by the certification body; 2) <i>Fibre testing*</i> is supported by surrendering samples and specimens of materials and information about species composition for verification, as requested by the certification body. 	
Indicator 8.5.2	Verifiers & Guidance:
<p>Information about all products sold is compiled and documented, including:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Common and scientific species name; 2) Product name or description; 3) Volume (or quantity) of product; 4) Information to trace the material to the source of origin logging block; 5) Logging date; 6) If basic processing activities take place in the forest, the date and volume produced; and 7) Whether or not the material was sold as FSC certified. 	
Indicator 8.5.3	Verifiers & Guidance:
<p>Sales invoices or similar documentation are kept for a minimum of five years for all products sold with an FSC claim, which identify at a minimum, the following information:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Name and address of purchaser; 2) The date of sale; 3) Common and scientific species name; 4) Product description; 5) The volume (or quantity) sold; 6) Certificate code; and 7) The FSC Claim "FSC 100%" identifying products sold as FSC certified. 	

PRINCIPLE 9. HIGH CONSERVATION VALUES:	
<i>The Organization* shall* maintain and/or enhance the High Conservation Values* in the Management Unit* through applying the precautionary approach*.</i>	
Criterion 9.1	<p><i>The Organization*</i>, through <i>engagement*</i> with <i>affected stakeholders*</i>, <i>interested stakeholders*</i> and other means and sources, <i>shall*</i> assess and record the presence and status of the following <i>High Conservation Values*</i> in the <i>Management Unit*</i>, proportionate to the <i>scale, intensity and risk*</i> of impacts of management activities, and likelihood of the occurrence of the <i>High Conservation Values*</i>:</p> <p>HCV 1 – Species diversity. Concentrations of <i>biological diversity*</i> including endemic species, and <i>rare*</i>, <i>threatened*</i> or endangered species, that are <i>significant*</i> at global, regional or national levels.</p> <p>HCV 2 – Landscape*-level ecosystems* and mosaics. <i>Intact Forest Landscapes*</i> and large <i>landscape*-level ecosystems*</i> and <i>ecosystem*</i> mosaics that are <i>significant*</i> at global, regional or national levels, and that contain viable populations of the great majority of the naturally occurring species in natural patterns of distribution and abundance.</p> <p>HCV 3 – Ecosystems* and <i>habitats*</i>. <i>Rare*</i>, <i>threatened*</i>, or endangered <i>ecosystems*</i>, <i>habitats*</i> or <i>refugia*</i>.</p> <p>HCV 4 – Critical* ecosystem services*. Basic <i>ecosystem services*</i> in <i>critical*</i> situations, including <i>protection*</i> of water catchments and control of erosion of vulnerable soils and slopes.</p> <p>HCV 5 – Community needs. Sites and resources fundamental for satisfying the basic necessities of <i>local communities*</i> or <i>Indigenous Peoples*</i> (for livelihoods, health, nutrition, water, etc.), identified through <i>engagement*</i> with these communities or Indigenous Peoples.</p> <p>HCV 6 – Cultural values. Sites, resources, <i>habitats*</i> and <i>landscapes*</i> of global or national cultural, archaeological or historical significance, and/or of <i>critical*</i> cultural, ecological, economic or religious/sacred importance for the traditional cultures of <i>local communities*</i> or Indigenous Peoples, identified through <i>engagement*</i> with these <i>local communities*</i> or Indigenous Peoples.</p>
Indicator 9.1.1	Verifiers & Guidance:
An assessment is completed using <i>Best Available Information*</i> that records the location and status of <i>High Conservation Value*</i> Categories 1-6, as defined in <i>Criterion*</i> 9.1; the <i>High Conservation Value Areas*</i> they rely upon, and their condition.	
Indicator 9.1.2	Verifiers & Guidance:
This assessment includes identification of <i>Intact Forest Landscapes*</i> , as of January 1, 2017.	
Indicator 9.1.3	Verifiers & Guidance:
The assessment uses results from <i>culturally appropriate*</i> <i>engagement*</i> with affected <i>rights holders*</i> and <i>affected*</i> and <i>interested stakeholders*</i> with an interest in the <i>conservation*</i> of the <i>High Conservation Values*</i> .	

Criterion 9.2		<i>The Organization* shall* develop effective strategies that maintain and/or enhance the identified High Conservation Values*, through engagement* with affected stakeholders*, interested stakeholders* and experts.</i>
Indicator 9.2.1	Verifiers & Guidance:	
Threats to <i>High Conservation Values*</i> are identified using <i>Best Available Information*</i> .		
Indicator 9.2.2	Verifiers & Guidance:	
Management strategies and actions are developed to maintain and/or enhance the identified <i>High Conservation Values*</i> and to maintain associated <i>High Conservation Value Areas*</i> prior to implementing potentially harmful management activities.		
Indicator 9.2.3	Verifiers & Guidance:	
<i>Affected rights holders*</i> , <i>affected*</i> and <i>interested stakeholders*</i> and experts are engaged in the development of management strategies and actions to maintain and/or enhance the identified <i>High Conservation Values*</i> .		
Indicator 9.2.4	Verifiers & Guidance:	
Management strategies are developed to <i>protect* core areas*</i> .		
Indicator 9.2.5	Verifiers & Guidance:	
The <i>vast majority*</i> of each <i>Intact Forest Landscape*</i> is designated as <i>core area*</i> .		
Indicator 9.2.6	Verifiers & Guidance:	
The strategies developed are effective to maintain and/or enhance the <i>High Conservation Values*</i> .		
Indicator 9.2.7	Verifiers & Guidance:	
Management strategies allow limited <i>industrial activity*</i> within <i>core areas*</i> only if all effects of <i>industrial activity*</i> including <i>fragmentation*</i> :		
1) Are restricted to a <i>very limited portion of the core area*</i> ;		
2) Do not reduce the <i>core area*</i> below 50,000 ha, and		
3) Will produce clear, substantial, additional, long-term conservation and social benefits.		

Criterion 9.3		<i>The Organization* shall* implement strategies and actions that maintain and/or enhance the identified High Conservation Values*. These strategies and actions shall* implement the precautionary approach* and be proportionate to the scale, intensity and risk* of management activities.</i>	
Indicator 9.3.1	Verifiers & Guidance:		
The High Conservation Values* and the High Conservation Value Areas* on which they depend are maintained and/or enhanced, including by implementing the strategies developed.			
Indicator 9.3.2	Verifiers & Guidance:		
The strategies and actions prevent damage and avoid risks to High Conservation Values*, even when the scientific information is incomplete or inconclusive, and when the vulnerability and sensitivity of High Conservation Values* are uncertain.			
Indicator 9.3.3	Verifiers & Guidance:		
Core areas* are protected* consistent with Criterion* 9.2.			
Indicator 9.3.4	Verifiers & Guidance:		
Limited industrial activity* in core areas* is consistent with Indicator 9.2.7.			
Indicator 9.3.5	Verifiers & Guidance:		
Activities that harm High Conservation Values* cease immediately and actions are taken to restore* and protect the High Conservation Values*.			
Criterion 9.4		<i>The Organization* shall* demonstrate that periodic monitoring is carried out to assess changes in the status of High Conservation Values*, and shall* adapt its management strategies to ensure their effective protection*. The monitoring shall* be proportionate to the scale, intensity and risk* of management activities, and shall* include engagement* with affected stakeholders*, interested stakeholders* and experts.</i>	
Indicator 9.4.1	Verifiers & Guidance:		
A program of periodic monitoring assesses: 1) Implementation of strategies; 2) The status of High Conservation Values*, including High Conservation Value Areas* on which they depend; and 3) The effectiveness of the management strategies and actions for the protection* of High Conservation Values*, to fully maintain and/or enhance the High Conservation Values*.			
Indicator 9.4.2	Verifiers & Guidance:		

The monitoring program includes <i>engagement*</i> with <i>affected* rights holders, affected and interested stakeholders*</i> and experts.	
Indicator 9.4.3	
The monitoring program has sufficient scope, detail and frequency to detect changes in <i>High Conservation Values*</i> , relative to the initial assessment and status identified for each <i>High Conservation Value*</i> .	
Indicator 9.4.4	Verifiers & Guidance:
Management strategies and actions are adapted when monitoring or other new information show that these strategies and actions are insufficient to ensure the maintenance and/or enhancement of <i>High Conservation Values*</i> .	
<p>PRINCIPLE 10. IMPLEMENTATION OF MANAGEMENT ACTIVITIES:</p> <p>Management activities conducted by or for <i>The Organization*</i> for the <i>Management Unit*</i> shall* be selected and implemented consistent with <i>The Organization*</i>'s economic, environmental and social policies and <i>objectives*</i> and in compliance with the <i>Principles*</i> and <i>Criteria*</i> collectively.</p>	
<p>Criterion 10.1 After harvest or in accordance with the <i>management plan*</i>, <i>The Organization*</i> shall*, by natural or artificial regeneration methods, regenerate vegetation cover in a timely fashion to pre-harvesting or more <i>natural conditions*</i>.</p>	
Indicator 10.1.1	Verifiers & Guidance:
<p>Harvested sites are regenerated in a <i>timely manner*</i> that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Protects affected <i>environmental values*</i>; and 2) Is suitable to recover overall <i>pre-harvest*</i> or <i>natural forest*</i> composition and structure. 	
Indicator 10.1.2	Verifiers & Guidance:
<p><i>Regeneration activities*</i> are implemented in a manner that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) For harvest of existing <i>plantations*</i>, regenerate to the vegetation cover that existed prior to the harvest or to more <i>natural conditions*</i> using ecologically well-adapted species; 2) For harvest of <i>natural forests*</i>, regenerate to <i>pre-harvest*</i> or to more <i>natural conditions*</i>; or 3) For harvest of degraded <i>natural forests*</i>, regenerate to more <i>natural conditions*</i>. 	

Criterion 10.2 <i>The Organization* shall* use species for regeneration that are ecologically well adapted to the site and to the management objectives*. The Organization* shall* use native species* and local genotypes* for regeneration, unless there is clear and convincing justification for using others.</i>	
Indicator 10.2.1	Verifiers & Guidance:
<i>Species* chosen for regeneration are ecologically well adapted to the site, are native species* and are of local provenance, unless clear and convincing justification is provided for using non-local genotypes* or non-native species*.</i>	
Indicator 10.2.2	Verifiers & Guidance:
<i>Species chosen for regeneration are consistent with the regeneration objectives* and with the management objectives*.</i>	
Criterion 10.3 <i>The Organization* shall* only use alien species* when knowledge and/or experience have shown that any invasive impacts can be controlled and effective mitigation measures are in place.</i>	
Indicator 10.3.1	Verifiers & Guidance:
<i>Alien species* are used only when direct experience and/or the results of scientific research demonstrate that invasive impacts can be controlled.</i>	
Indicator 10.3.2	Verifiers & Guidance:
<i>Alien species* are used only when effective mitigation measures are in place to control their spread outside the area in which they are established.</i>	
Indicator 10.3.3	Verifiers & Guidance:
<i>The spread of invasive species* introduced by The Organization* is controlled.</i>	
Indicator 10.3.4	Verifiers & Guidance:
<i>Management activities are implemented, preferably in cooperation with separate regulatory bodies where these exist, with an aim to control the invasive impacts of alien species* that were not introduced by The Organization*.</i>	
Criterion 10.4 <i>The Organization* shall* not use genetically modified organisms* in the Management Unit*.</i>	
Indicator 10.4.1	Verifiers & Guidance:
<i>Genetically modified organisms* are not used.</i>	

Criterion 10.5 <i>The Organization* shall* use silvicultural practices that are ecologically appropriate for the vegetation, species, sites and management objectives*.</i>	
Indicator 10.5.1	Verifiers & Guidance:
Silvicultural practices are implemented that are ecologically appropriate for the vegetation, species, sites and <i>management objectives*</i> .	
Criterion 10.6 <i>The Organization* shall* minimize or avoid the use of fertilizers*. When fertilizers* are used, The Organization* shall* demonstrate that use is equally or more ecologically and economically beneficial than use of silvicultural systems that do not require fertilizers, and prevent, mitigate, and/or repair damage to environmental values*, including soils.</i>	
Indicator 10.6.1	Verifiers & Guidance:
The use of <i>fertilizers*</i> is minimized or avoided.	
Indicator 10.6.2	Verifiers & Guidance:
When <i>fertilizers*</i> are used, their ecological and economic benefits are equal to or higher than those of silvicultural systems that do not require <i>fertilizers*</i> .	
Indicator 10.6.3	Verifiers & Guidance:
When <i>fertilizers*</i> are used, their types, rates, frequencies and site of application are documented.	
Indicator 10.6.4	Verifiers & Guidance:
When <i>fertilizers*</i> are used, <i>environmental values*</i> are protected, including through implementation of measures to prevent damage.	
Indicator 10.6.5	Verifiers & Guidance:
Damage to <i>environmental values*</i> resulting from <i>fertilizer*</i> use is mitigated or repaired.	
Criterion 10.7 <i>The Organization* shall* use integrated pest management and silviculture* systems which avoid, or aim at eliminating, the use of chemical pesticides*. The Organization* shall* not use any chemical pesticides* prohibited by FSC policy. When pesticides* are used, The Organization* shall* prevent, mitigate, and/or repair damage to environmental values* and human health.</i>	
Indicator 10.7.1	Verifiers & Guidance:
Integrated pest management, including selection of <i>silviculture*</i> systems, is used to avoid, or aim to eliminate, the frequency, extent and amount of chemical <i>pesticide*</i> applications, and result in non-use or overall reductions in applications.	

Indicator 10.7.2	Verifiers & Guidance:
Chemical <i>pesticides</i> * prohibited by FSC's Pesticide Policy are not used or stored in the <i>Management Unit</i> * unless FSC has granted derogation.	
Indicator 10.7.3	Verifiers & Guidance:
Records of <i>pesticide</i> * usage are maintained, including trade name, active ingredient, quantity of active ingredient used, period of use, location and area of use and reason for use.	
Indicator 10.7.4	Verifiers & Guidance:
The use of <i>pesticides</i> * complies with the ILO document "Safety in the use of chemicals at work" regarding requirements for the transport, storage, handling, application and emergency procedures for cleanup following accidental spillages.	
Indicator 10.7.5	Verifiers & Guidance:
If <i>pesticides</i> * are used, application methods minimize quantities used, while achieving effective results, and provide effective <i>protection</i> * to surrounding <i>landscapes</i> *.	
Indicator 10.7.6	Verifiers & Guidance:
Damage to <i>environmental values</i> * and human health from <i>pesticide</i> * use is prevented and mitigated or repaired where damage occurs.	
Indicator 10.7.7	Verifiers & Guidance:
When <i>pesticides</i> * are used: 1) The selected <i>pesticide</i> *, application method, timing and pattern of use offers the least risk to humans and non-target species; and 2) Objective evidence demonstrates that the <i>pesticide</i> * is the only effective, practical and cost effective way to control the pest.	
Criterion 10.8 <i>The Organization* shall* minimize, monitor* and strictly control the use of biological control agents* in accordance with internationally accepted scientific protocols*. When biological control agents* are used, The Organization* shall* prevent, mitigate, and/or repair damage to environmental values*.</i>	
Indicator 10.8.1	Verifiers & Guidance:
The use of <i>biological control agents</i> * is minimized, <i>monitored</i> * and controlled.	
Indicator 10.8.2	Verifiers & Guidance:

Use of biological control agents* complies with <i>internationally accepted scientific protocols*</i> .	
Indicator 10.8.3	Verifiers & Guidance:
The use of <i>biological control agents*</i> is recorded including type, quantity, period, location and reason for use.	
Indicator 10.8.4	Verifiers & Guidance:
Damage to <i>environmental values*</i> caused by the use of <i>biological control agents*</i> is prevented and mitigated or repaired where damage occurs.	
Criterion 10.9 <i>The Organization* shall* assess risks* and implement activities that reduce potential negative impacts from natural hazards* proportionate to scale, intensity, and risk*.</i>	
Indicator 10.9.1	Verifiers & Guidance:
Potential negative impacts of <i>natural hazards*</i> on <i>infrastructure*</i> , <i>forest*</i> resources and communities in the <i>Management Unit*</i> are assessed.	
Indicator 10.9.2	Verifiers & Guidance:
Management activities mitigate these impacts.	
Indicator 10.9.3	Verifiers & Guidance:
The <i>risk*</i> for management activities to increase the frequency, distribution or severity of <i>natural hazards*</i> is identified for those <i>hazards*</i> that may be influenced by management.	
Indicator 10.9.4	Verifiers & Guidance:
Management activities are modified and/or measures are developed and implemented that reduce the identified <i>risks*</i> .	
Criterion 10.10 <i>The Organization* shall* manage infrastructural development*, transport activities and silviculture* so that water resources and soils are protected, and disturbance of and damage to rare and threatened species*, habitats*, ecosystems* and landscape values* are prevented, mitigated and/or repaired.</i>	
Indicator 10.10.1	Verifiers & Guidance:
Development, maintenance and use of <i>infrastructure*</i> , as well as transport activities, are managed to protect <i>environmental values*</i> identified in <i>Criterion* 6.1</i> .	
Indicator 10.10.2	Verifiers & Guidance:

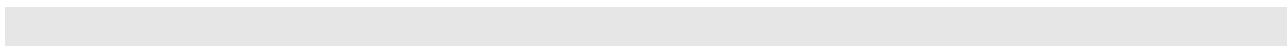
Silviculture* activities are managed to ensure protection of the <i>environmental values*</i> identified in <i>Criterion*</i> 6.1.	
Indicator 10.10.3	Verifiers & Guidance:
Disturbance or damages to <i>water courses*</i> , <i>water bodies*</i> , soils, <i>rare and threatened species*</i> , <i>habitats*</i> , <i>ecosystems*</i> and <i>landscape values*</i> are prevented, mitigated and repaired in a <i>timely manner*</i> , and management activities modified to prevent further damage.	
Criterion 10.11 <i>The Organization* shall*</i> manage activities associated with harvesting and extraction of timber and <i>non-timber forest products*</i> so that <i>environmental values*</i> are conserved, merchantable waste is reduced, and damage to other products and services is avoided.	
Indicator 10.11.1	Verifiers & Guidance:
Harvesting and extraction practices for timber and <i>non-timber forest products*</i> are implemented in a manner that conserves <i>environmental values*</i> as identified in <i>Criterion*</i> 6.1 and <i>High Conservation Values*</i> identified in <i>Criteria*</i> 9.1 and 9.2.	
Indicator 10.11.2	Verifiers & Guidance:
Harvesting practices optimize the use of <i>forest*</i> products and merchantable materials.	
Indicator 10.11.3	Verifiers & Guidance:
Sufficient amounts of dead and decaying biomass and <i>forest*</i> structure are retained to conserve <i>environmental values*</i> .	
Indicator 10.11.4	Verifiers & Guidance:
Harvesting practices avoid damage to standing residual trees, residual woody debris on the ground and other <i>environmental values*</i> .	
Criterion 10.12 <i>The Organization* shall*</i> dispose of <i>waste materials*</i> in an environmentally appropriate manner.	
Indicator 10.12.1	Verifiers & Guidance:
Collection, clean up, transportation and disposal of all <i>waste materials*</i> is done in an environmentally appropriate way that conserves <i>environmental values*</i> as identified in <i>Criterion*</i> 6.1.	

APPENDIX A

A.	NATIONAL LEGISLATION
	<p>Legal Rights to Harvest:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Land tenure and management rights <i>Legislation covering land tenure rights, including customary rights as well as management rights that includes the use of legal methods to obtain tenure rights and management rights. It also covers legal business registration and tax registration, including relevant legal required licenses.</i> • Concession licenses <i>Legislation regulating procedures for the issuing of forest concession licenses, including use of legal methods to obtain concession license. Especially bribery, corruption and nepotism are well-known issues in connection with concession licenses.</i> • Management and harvest planning <i>Any legal requirements for management planning, including conducting forest inventories, having a forest management plan and related planning and monitoring, as well as approval of these by competent authorities.</i> • Harvesting permits <i>Legislation regulating the issuing of harvesting permits, licenses or other legal document required for specific harvesting operations. It includes the use of legal methods to obtain the permit. Corruption is a well-known issue in connection with the issuing of harvesting permits.</i>
1.	
2.	
	<p>Taxes and Fees</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Payment of royalties and harvesting fees <i>Legislation covering payment of all legally required forest harvesting specific fees such as royalties, stumpage fees and other volume based fees. It also includes payments of the fees based on correct classification of quantities, qualities and species. Incorrect classification of forest products is a well-known issue often combined with bribery of officials in charge of controlling the classification.</i> • Value added and sales taxes <i>Legislation covering different types of sales taxes which apply to the material being sold, including selling material as growing forest (standing stock sales).</i> • Income and profit taxes <i>Legislation covering income and profit taxes related to the profit derived from sale of forest products and harvesting activities. This category is also related to income from the sale of timber and does not include other taxes generally applicable for companies or related to salary payments.</i>
3.	
4.	
	<p>Timber Harvesting Activities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Timber harvesting regulations <i>Any legal requirements for harvesting techniques and technology including selective cutting, shelter wood regenerations, clear felling, transport of timber from felling site and seasonal limitations etc. Typically this includes regulations on the size of felling areas, minimum age and/or diameter for felling activities and elements that shall be preserved during felling etc. Establishment of skidding or hauling trails, road construction, drainage systems and bridges etc. shall also be considered as well as planning and monitoring of harvesting activities. Any legally binding codes for harvesting practices shall be considered.</i> • Protected sites and species <i>Covers legislation related to protected areas as well as protected, rare or endangered species, including their habitats and potential habitats</i> • Environmental requirements <i>Covers legislation related to environmental impact assessment in connection with harvesting, acceptable level for soil damage, establishment of buffer zones (e.g. along water courses, open areas, breeding sites), maintenance of retention trees on felling site, seasonal limitation of harvesting time, and environmental requirements for forest machineries.</i>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Health and safety <i>Legally required personal protection equipment for persons involved in harvesting activities, use of safe felling and transport practice, establishment of protection zones around harvesting sites, and safety requirements to machinery used. Legally required safety requirements in relation to chemical usage. The health and safety requirements that shall be considered relate to operations in the forest (not office work, or other activities less related to actual forest operations).</i> • Legal employment <i>Legal requirements for employment of personnel involved in harvesting activities including requirement for contracts and working permits, requirements for obligatory insurances, requirements for competence certificates and other training requirements, and payment of social and income taxes withhold by employer. Furthermore, the points cover observance of minimum working age and minimum age for personal involved in hazardous work, legislation against forced and compulsory labour, and discrimination and freedom of association</i>
5.	
6.	
	<p>Third Party Rights</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Customary rights <i>Legislation covering customary rights relevant to forest harvesting activities including requirements covering sharing of benefits and indigenous rights</i> • Free prior and informed consent (FPIC) <i>Legislation covering “free prior and informed consent” in connection with transfer of forest management rights and customary rights to the organisation in charge of the harvesting operation</i> • Rights of indigenous peoples <i>Legislation that regulates the rights of indigenous people as far as it’s related to forestry activities. Possible aspects to consider are land tenure, right to use certain forest related resources or practice traditional activities, which may involve forest lands</i>
7.	
8.	
	<p>Trade and Transport</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Classification of species, quantities, qualities <i>Legislation regulating how harvested material is classified in terms of species, volumes and qualities in connection with trade and transport. Incorrect classification of harvested material is a well-known method to reduce/avoid payment of legality prescribed taxes and fees</i> • Trade and transport <i>All required trading permits shall exist as well as legally required transport document which accompany transport of wood from forest operation</i> • Offshore trading and transfer pricing <i>Legislation regulating offshore trading. Offshore trading with related companies placed in tax havens combined with artificial transfer prices is a well-known way to avoid payment of legally prescribed taxes and fees to the country of harvest and considered as an important generator of funds that can be used for payment of bribery and black money to the forest operation and personal involved in the harvesting operation. Many countries have established legislation covering transfer pricing and offshore trading. It should be noted that only transfer pricing and offshore trading as far as it is legally prohibited in the country, can be included here.</i>
9.	
10.	
	<p>Custom regulations</p> <p><i>Custom legislation covering areas such as export/import licenses, product classification (codes, quantities, qualities and species)</i></p>
11.	
12.	
	<p>CITES</p> <p><i>CITES permits (the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora, also known as the Washington Convention)</i></p>

13.	
14.	
	Other
15.	
16.	
B.	REGULATIONS PERTINENT TO FORESTRY RELATED TO AND EMERGING FROM NATIONAL LEGISLATION AND OTHER LEGISLATIVE INSTITUTIONS:
17.	
18.	
C.	INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENTS PERTINENT TO FORESTRY
19.	Convention on Biological Diversity
20.	Convention on the International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES)
21.	International Labour Organisation (ILO) (insert all ILO conventions relevant to the country)
22.	
D.	LOCAL STANDARDS AND BEST OPERATING PRACTICES
23.	
24.	



APPENDIX B

LIST OF RARE THREATENED AND ENDANGERED SPECIES LISTED FOR "INSERT NAME OF COUNTRY"

As an alternative to completing the table below, provide a reference to a website where this information can be found.

	SCIENTIFIC NAME	COMMON NAME	STATUS
A.	FLORA		
1.			
2.			
3.			
B.	FUANA (MAMMALS)		
4.			
C.	FUANA (REPTILES)		
5.			
D.	FUANA (BIRDS)		
6.			
E.	FUANA (FISH)		
7.			

APPENDIX C

LIST OF ISSUES OF CONTENTION RAISED BY STAKEHOLDERS IN TERMS OF THIS STANDARD

Issue Nr	Issue

End of Standard