



Forest Stewardship Council®



# Interim National Standard of Rwanda

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FSC-STD-RWA-01-2017-Rwanda Interim  
National Standards Plantations EN

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## **A Objective**

The objective of this standard is to provide a set of indicators for conformity assessments of responsible forest management by the FSC accredited certification bodies within the defined scope (see below).

## **B Scope**

This standard shall be applied in the following scope:

Geographic region: Rwanda

NTFPs: Not applicable

Types of The Organization: All organization types

Forest type: Plantations only (NB: harvesting of natural forests is legally prohibited in Rwanda)

All aspects of this document are considered to be normative, including the scope, effective date, references, terms and definitions, notes, tables and annexes, unless otherwise stated (e.g. examples).

## **C References**

The following referenced documents are relevant for the application of this document. For references without a version number, the latest edition of the referenced document (including any amendments) applies.

<i>FSC-STD-60-004</i>	<i>International Generic Indicators</i>
<i>FSC-DIR-20-007</i>	<i>FSC Directive on FSC Forest Management Evaluations</i>
<i>FSC-POL-01-004</i>	<i>Policy for the Association of Organizations with FSC</i>
<i>FSC-POL-20-003</i>	<i>The Excision of Areas from the Scope of Certification</i>
<i>FSC-POL-30-001</i>	<i>FSC Pesticides Policy</i>
<i>FSC-POL-30-401</i>	<i>FSC Certification and the ILO Conventions</i>
<i>FSC-POL-30-602</i>	<i>FSC Interpretation on GMOs (Genetically Modified Organisms)</i>
<i>FSC-STD-01-001</i>	<i>FSC Principles and Criteria for Forest Stewardship</i>
<i>FSC-STD-01-002</i>	<i>FSC Glossary of Terms</i>
<i>FSC-STD-01-003</i>	<i>SLIMF Eligibility Criteria</i>
<i>FSC-STD-30-005</i>	<i>FSC Standard for Group Entities in Forest Management Groups</i>
<i>FSC-GUI-60-002</i>	<i>SIR Guideline for Standards Developers</i>

## **D Development of this standard**

### **1. Registering the TWG:**

This was a pilot project with no TWG registered

### **2. Members of the TWG:**

This was a pilot project with no TWG registered

### **3. Meetings of the TWG:**

This was a pilot project with no TWG registered

### **4. First Public Consultation:**

30<sup>th</sup> August 2016 – 31<sup>st</sup> October 2016

### **5. First Public Consultation responses:**

Economic Chamber: 1 replies; Clarification on legal requirements on Union rights (2.1);

Clarification on impact assessment required at site level (6.2),

Social Chamber: 0 replies; Main concerns

Environmental chamber 1 replies; Legal compliance of Management Plan for small size woodland (1.3); Inclusion of chronic disease resulting from work (2.3); Clarification of maximum allowable cut for small woodland (5.2); Clarification on legal authorities for issuing permits for use of *alien species*\* (10.3)

Consensus for approval: yes

Need for 2<sup>nd</sup> Public Consultation: no

### **6. Second Public Consultation:**

Not required because Soil Association concluded that the first round of public consultation showed general support to the draft INS and there were no substantive, unresolved issues. A second round of consultation was therefore omitted by agreement with PSU. (See paragraph 5.4 of FSC-PRO-60-007 V 1-0 EN)

### **7. Adaptation of the IGIs**

Instructions for standard developers (FSC-STD-60-004) require adaptations at least to following IGI: 1.1.1; 1.2.1; 1.4.1; 1.4.2; 2.4.2; 2.4.3; 3.1.2; 3.3.1; 3.3.2; 4.2.4; 4.5.1; 5.2.1; 5.2.3; 5.2.4; 5.3.1; 5.3.2; 6.1.1; 6.4.1; 6.4.3; 6.5.1; 6.5.5; 6.6.1; 6.6.2; 6.6.3; 6.6.4; 6.6.X; 7.1.2; 7.2.1; 7.6.1; 8.2.2; 10.1.1; 10.6.4; 10.8.2; 10.12.1

SIR indicators are considered at least to following IGIs: 1.7.1; 1.7.5; 2.3.4; 2.3.5; 4.3.1; 4.4.1; 4.4.2; 4.5.1; 5.1.1; 5.1.2; 5.1.3; 5.4.2; 5.5.1; 5.5.2; 6.1.1; 6.1.2; 6.2.1; 6.4.1; 6.4.3; 6.4.4; 6.5.1; 6.5.4; 6.5.5; 7.1.1; 7.1.2; 7.2.1; 7.2.2; 7.6.1; 7.6.3; 7.6.4; 8.2.1; 8.2.2; 8.5.1; 9.1.1; 9.1.2; 9.3.1; 9.3.2; 9.3.3; 9.4.1; 9.4.2; 10.9.1; 10.9.2; 10.9.3 and 10.9.4 (FSC-STD-60-004)

When NTFPs are in the scope of the INS, TWG shall consider developing NTFP-specific indicators at least for the following FSC Criteria 1.3, 1.5, 2.3, 2.5, 5.1, 5.2, 5.4, 6.1, 6.2, 6.3, 7.1, 7.2, 7.3, 8.2, 8.5, 10.7, and 10.11 as well as addressing the NTFPs in Annexes 1, 2, 5 and 6

**Adaptations record:**

IGI nr	Adapted indicator in INS	Justification
1.3.4	(New IGI) Any private forest exceeding two hectares (2 ha) shall be subject to a management plan to be submitted to the District for approval.	Management Plan in Rwanda is compulsory > 2 ha, and subject to approval by the relevant local administration: Forest Law 2013 (Article 14)
1.3.5	(New IGI) The harvesting of a private forest of more than a half a hectare (½ ha) shall require a license	Harvesting licence compulsory for forest over 1/2 ha: Forest Law 2013 (Article 39)
2.1.2	Workers* are able to join labour organizations of their own choosing subject only to the rules of the labour organization concerned.	Splitting IGI into two: 2.1.2: Workers are allowed to join Union organisation. See 2.1.2b for establishment of Union organisation.
2.1.2b	Forest workers* are permitted to form trade union organisation, and are permitted to exercise their trade union rights in accordance with Rwanda Labour Law	Splitting IGI into two: 2.1.2: Workers are allowed to join Union organisation.  2.1.2b for establishment of Union organisation. As per Rwanda labour law (2009) Article 106. Indicator also amended from stakeholder consultation 30/08-31/10/16: clarification on
2.3.5	The Organisation shall continuously monitor of accidents and injuries to ensure long-term analysis of accidents/injuries pattern & frequency.	There is currently only one company involved in forestry industry operations in Rwanda, and no account is kept at national level of occupational hazards and accidents. Therefore comparison with national average is not possible.  Indicator also amended from stakeholder consultation 30/08-31/10/16: " <i>chronical disease resulting from work</i> " added to the indicator
2.4.2	Not applicable for Rwanda	Officially there is no minimum wage in Rwanda. However in every district there is a Labor Inspector. An unsatisfied employee is allowed to talk to the inspector, and if not satisfied, he/she can be referred to Ministry of Labor (MIFOTRA). See IGI 2.4.3 below
2.4.3	When no minimum wage levels exist, wages are established in agreement with workers, and in compliance with the Ministry of Labor (MIFOTRA) procedures	Officially there is no minimum wage in Rwanda. However in every district there is a Labor Inspector. An unsatisfied employee is allowed to talk to the inspector, and if not satisfied, he/she can be referred to Ministry of Labor (MIFOTRA).
5.1.1b (SIR)	(New IGI) The range of resources and	Adapted Indicator to cater for SIR: Identification implies in depth research while

	ecosystem services* that could strengthen and diversify the local economy are known.	knowledge can be empirical.
5.2.2b (SIR)	<b>(New IGI)</b> <b>5.2.2b (SIR): The maximum annual allowable cut for timber should not exceed 20% of the MAI (AND should not exceed 5,000 cbm/year)</b>	Adapted Indicator to cater for SIR  Indicator also amended from stakeholder consultation 30/08-31/10/16: Indicator re-worded for clarity
5.2.3a	The harvest over a defined period does not exceed the allowable cut determined in 5.2.2 for the same defined period.	IGI 5.2.3 split into 2 for clarity
5.2.3b	Actual annual harvest levels for timber are recorded	IGI 5.2.3 split into 2 for clarity
5.3.1a	Measures required to preventing, mitigating or compensating for negative social and environment impacts of management activities are quantified and documented in the management plan*.	IGI 5.3.1 split into 2 for clarity
5.3.1b	Sufficient funds are allocated to implement those measures, as required under 5.5.1	IGI 5.3.1 split into 2 for clarity
5.4.2a (SIR)	<b>(New IGI)</b> Reasonable* attempts are made to promote local employment	Adapted for SIR: Small organisations will have limited resources to support local development, beyond direct employment & support of local jobs. Requiring them to contribute even more might be unrealistic.
5.5.2a (SIR)	<b>(New IGI)</b> An annual budget plan is in place, and that incorporates expected costs and revenues.	Adapted for SIR: Sufficient funds might be difficult to achieve if the Organisation relies on external funds. It will be more realistic to require those Organisations to have an annual work plan in place showing expected costs and revenues.
6.1.1a (SIR)	<b>(New IGI)</b> The Organisation shall identify the main environmental values present in their FMU, and the measures proposed to minimise potential risks to those environmental values.	Adapted for SIR: Identification implies in depth research while knowledge can be empirical  The compliance with the indicator will incur high cost and external technical support will be needed.
6.2.1a (SIR)	<b>(New IGI)</b> An evaluation of environmental impacts of the operations is required before site-disturbing operations at stand level.	Adapted for SIR. The compliance with the indicator will incur high cost and external technical support will be needed. Indicator also amended from stakeholder consultation 30/08-31/10/16: Indicator re-worded for clarity
6.8.3		
6.4.1	Best Available Information* is used to identify rare and threatened species*, and their habitats*, including CMS, AEW, CITES species and those listed on national, regional and local lists of rare and threatened species* that are present or likely to be present	CITES is limited to trade in wildlife and Rwanda is party to other conventions and agreements that are aimed to protect species at international level

	within and adjacent to the Management Unit* (see Annex 4).	
6.5.1	Best Available Information* is used to identify native * species* that exist, or would exist under natural conditions* within the Management Unit*.	Reference to (native) “ecosystem” removed: man made forests are the only one that are harvested. Protected areas are not exploited. Species rather than native ecosystem are considered within the management unit.
6.6.1	Management activities maintain the plant communities and habitat features*found within native ecosystems* and are located within the Management Unit*.	Man-made forests are the only one that are harvested. Native forests are protected. However patches of remaining native forests might exist inside plantation areas
6.8.3	(New IGI) When the private forest to be harvested has a surface area equal to or exceeding half a hectare (0.5 ha), the person seeking to harvest shall inform the District Forestry Officer so that he/she advises him/her how to harvest such a forest	Required by Forest Law (2013), article 39. To avoid simultaneous harvesting of adjacent forests
7.2.1	The Management plan includes management actions, procedures, strategies and measures to achieve the <i>management objectives*</i> and that align with the District Management Plan.	Adapted to include the content of the district forest management plan.
10.1.1	Harvested sites are regenerated in a timely manner* that: 1) Protects affected environmental values*; and 2) Is suitable to recover overall pre-harvest* composition and structure.	Natural forests are under strict protection and are not harvested. This standard is for plantations only.
10.1.2	Regeneration activities* of existing plantations* are implemented in a manner that regenerate to the vegetation cover that existed prior to the harvest or to more natural conditions* using ecologically well-adapted species.	Natural forests are under strict protection and are not harvested. This standard is for plantations only.
10.3.1b	10.3.1b The use of <i>alien species*</i> is granted by a competent authority (Office of Agriculture and Livestock Inspection and Certification) and Rwanda Development Board as appropriate.	Use of exotic species is subjected to issuing of authorisation by competent authorities (i.e. RDB).  Indicator also amended from stakeholder consultation 30/08-31/10/16 to add “Office of Agriculture and Livestock Inspection and Certification” authority
10.7.2b	(New IGI) Chemical pesticides included on the ministerial list of banned chemicals and other prohibited pollutants are not used or stored in the Management Unit	To clarify consideration for, and compliance with national legislation on chemical usage.
10.12.1	Collection, clean up, transportation and disposal of all waste materials*	There is a set of regulations on waste management supporting this IGI, i.e.

	is done in an environmentally appropriate way that conserves environmental values* as identified in Criterion* 6.1, and that is in line with the Guidelines for Waste Management (Rwanda Utility Regulatory Authority)	Guidelines for waste management (Rwanda Utility Regulatory Authority)
10.3.1b	(New IGI) The use of alien species* is granted by a competent authority (Office of Agriculture and Livestock Inspection and Certification or Rwanda Development Board) as appropriate	If alien species are used, an authorisation issued by a competent authority is required.  Indicator also amended from stakeholder consultation 30/08-31/10/16: Indicator reworded for clarity

<b>Annex</b>	<b>Changes to the Annex in INS</b>	<b>Justification</b>
1	Inclusion of relevant legislation	Adaptation for inclusion of relevant legislation for Rwanda
2	Training requirements for workers	Inclusion of relevant guidelines for Rwanda
3	Ecosystem Services	Removed as not developed for Rwanda
4	List of rare and threatened species in the country or region	Inclusion of a list of endangered species & protected species in the country
5	Elements of the Management Plan	Inclusion of relevant guidelines for Rwanda
7	High Conservation Value Framework	Development of a HCV framework proposal for Rwanda

## **E Principles, Criteria and Indicators**

### **PRINCIPLE 1: COMPLIANCE WITH LAWS**

The Organization\* shall\* comply with all applicable laws\*, regulations and nationally-ratified\* international treaties, conventions and agreements. (P1 P&C V4)

**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. (new)

**Indicator 1.1.1** Legal registration\* to carry out all activities within the scope of the certificate is documented and unchallenged.

**Indicator 1.1.2** Legal registration\* is granted by a legally competent\* authority according to legally prescribed processes.

**Criterion 1.2** The Organisation\* shall\* demonstrate that the legal\* status of the Management Unit\*, including tenure\* and use rights\*, and its boundaries, are clearly defined. (C2.1 P&C V4)

**Indicator 1.2.1** Legal\* tenure\* to manage and use resources within the scope of the certificate is documented.

**Indicator 1.2.2** Legal\* tenure\* is granted by a legally competent\* authority according to legally prescribed processes.

**Indicator 1.2.3** The boundaries of all Management Units\* within the scope of the certificate are clearly marked or documented and clearly shown on maps.

**Criterion 1.3** 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. (C1.1, 1.2, 1.3 P&C V4)

**Indicator 1.3.1** All activities undertaken in the Management Unit\* are carried out in compliance with:

- Applicable laws\* and regulations and administrative requirements as listed in Annex 1,
- Legal\* and customary rights\*; and
- Obligatory codes of practice\*.

**Indicator 1.3.2** Payment is made in a timely manner\* of all applicable legally prescribed charges connected with forest\* management.

**Indicator 1.3.3** Activities covered by the management plan\* are designed to comply with all applicable laws\*

**Indicator 1.3.4** Any private forest exceeding two hectares (2 ha) shall be subject to a management plan to be submitted to the District for approval.

**Indicator 1.3.5** The harvesting of a private forest of more than a half a hectare (1/2 ha) shall require a license.

**Criterion 1.4** 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. (C1.5 P&C V4)

**Indicator 1.4.1** Measures are implemented to provide protection\* from unauthorized or illegal harvesting, hunting, fishing, trapping, collecting, settlement and other unauthorized activities.

**Indicator 1.4.2** Where protection\* is the legal\* 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** If illegal or unauthorized activities are detected, measures are implemented to address them.

**Criterion 1.5** 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. (C1.3 P&C V4)

**Indicator 1.5.1** Compliance with applicable national laws\*, local laws\*, ratified\* international conventions and obligatory codes of practice\* relating to the transportation and trade of forest products up to the point of first sale is demonstrated.

**Indicator 1.5.2** Compliance with CITES provisions is demonstrated, including through possession of certificates for harvest and trade in any CITES species

**Criterion 1.6** 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\*. (C2.3 P&C V4)

**Indicator 1.6.1** A publically available\* dispute\* resolution process is in place; developed through culturally appropriate\* engagement\* with affected stakeholders\*.

**Indicator 1.6.2** 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.

**Indicator 1.6.3** Up to date records of disputes related to issues of applicable laws\* or customary law, are held including:

- Steps taken to resolve disputes\*;
- Outcomes of all dispute\* resolution processes; and
- Unresolved disputes\*, the reasons they are not resolved, and how they will be resolved.

**Indicator 1.6.4** Operations cease in areas where disputes\* exist:

- Of substantial magnitude\*; or
- Of substantial duration\*; or
- Involving a significant\* number of interests.

**Criterion 1.7** 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. (new)

**Indicator 1.7.1** A policy is implemented that includes a commitment not to offer or receive bribes of any description.

**Indicator 1.7.2** The policy meets or exceeds related legislation.

**Indicator 1.7.3** The policy is publicly available\* at no cost.

**Indicator 1.7.4** Bribery, coercion and other acts of corruption do not occur.

**Indicator 1.7.5** Corrective measures are implemented if corruption does occur.

**Criterion 1.8** 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. (C1.6 P&C V4)

**Indicator 1.8.1** A written policy, endorsed by an individual with authority to implement the policy, includes a long-term\* commitment to forest\* management practices consistent with FSC Principles\* and Criteria\* and related Policies and Standards.

**Indicator 1.8.2** The policy is publicly available\* at no cost.

## **PRINCIPLE 2: WORKERS’\* RIGHTS AND EMPLOYMENT CONDITIONS**

The Organization\* shall\* maintain or enhance the social and economic wellbeing of workers\*. (new)

**Criterion 2.1** 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. (C4.3 P&C V4)

**Indicator 2.1.1** Employment practices and conditions for workers\* demonstrate conformity with or uphold\* the principles and rights of work addressed in the eight ILO Core Labour Conventions as defined in the ILO Declaration on Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work (1998).

**Indicator 2.1.2** Workers\* are able to join labour organizations of their own choosing subject only to the rules of the labour organization concerned.

2.1.2b Forest workers\* are permitted to form trade union organisation, and are permitted to exercise their trade union rights in accordance with Rwanda Labour Law

**Indicator 2.1.3** Agreements are implemented resulting from collective bargaining with formal and informal workers organizations\*.

**Criterion 2.2** The Organization\* shall\* promote gender equality\* in employment practices, training opportunities, awarding of contracts, processes of engagement\* and management activities. (new)

**Indicator 2.2.1** Systems are implemented that promote gender equality\* and prevent gender discrimination in employment practices, training opportunities, awarding of contracts, processes of engagement\* and management activities.

**Indicator 2.2.2** 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.

**Indicator 2.2.3** 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.

**Indicator 2.2.4** Women and men are paid the same wage when they do the same work.

**Indicator 2.2.5** 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.

**Indicator 2.2.6** Maternity leave is no less than a six-week period after childbirth.

**Indicator 2.2.7** Paternity leave is available and there is no penalty for taking it.

**Indicator 2.2.8** Meetings, management committees and decision-making forums are organized to include women and men, and to facilitate the active participation of both.

**Indicator 2.2.9** Confidential and effective mechanisms exist for reporting and eliminating cases of sexual harassment and discrimination based on gender, marital status, parenthood or sexual orientation.

**Criterion 2.3** 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. (C4.2 P&C V4)

**Indicator 2.3.1** Health and safety practices are developed and implemented that meet or exceed the ILO Code of Practice on Safety and Health in Forestry Work.

**Indicator 2.3.2** Workers\* have personal protective equipment appropriate to their assigned tasks.

**Indicator 2.3.3** Use of personal protective equipment is enforced.

**Indicator 2.3.4** Records are kept on health and safety practices including accident rates and lost time to accidents.

**Indicator 2.3.5** The Organisation shall continuously monitor accidents, injuries and chronic disease resulting from the work to ensure long-term analysis of accidents/injuries pattern & frequency.

**Indicator 2.3.6** The health and safety practices are reviewed and revised as required after major incidents or accidents.

**Criterion 2.4** 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\*. (new)

**Indicator 2.4.1** Wages paid by The Organization\* in all circumstances meet or exceed legal\* minimum wage rates, where such rates exist.

**Indicator 2.4.2.** Wages paid meet or exceed:

- 1) Minimum forest\* industry standards; or
- 2) Other recognized forest\* industry wage agreements; or
- 3) Living wages\* that are higher than legal\* minimum wages.

Not applicable for Rwanda because there is a legal minimum wage rate in Rwanda

**Indicator 2.4.3** When no minimum wage levels exist, wages are established in agreement with workers, and in compliance with the Ministry of Labor (MIFOTRA) procedures

**Indicator 2.4.4** Wages, salaries and contracts are paid on time.

**Criterion 2.5** The Organization\* shall\* demonstrate that workers\* have job-specific training and supervision to safely and effectively implement the Management Plan\* and all management activities. (C7.3 P&C V4)

**Indicator 2.5.1** Workers\* have job specific training consistent with Annex 2 and supervision to safely and effectively contribute to the implementation of the management plan\* and all management activities.

**Indicator 2.5.2** Up to date training records are kept for all relevant workers\*.

**Criterion 2.6** 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\*. (new)

**Indicator 2.6.1** A dispute\* resolution process is in place, developed through culturally appropriate\* engagement\* with workers\*.

**Indicator 2.6.2** Workers\* grievances are identified and responded to and are either resolved or are in the dispute\* resolution process.

**Indicator 2.6.3** Up-to-date records of workers\* grievances related to workers\* loss or damage of property, occupational diseases\* or injuries are maintained including:  
Steps taken to resolve grievances;  
Outcomes of all dispute\* resolution processes including fair compensation\*; and  
Unresolved disputes\*, the reasons they are not resolved, and how they will be resolved.

**Indicator 2.6.4** Fair compensation\* is provided to workers\* for work-related loss or damage of property and occupational disease\* or injuries.

### **PRINCIPLE 3: INDIGENOUS PEOPLES’\* RIGHTS**

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. (P3 P&C V4)

**Criterion 3.1** 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. (new)

*Notes: In order to surmount the 1994 Genocide, the country of Rwanda passed a new constitution in 2002 outlawing ethnicity entirely, and has legislated that all Rwandans need to shed their ethnicities in the pursuit of a national identity. The Batwa (or Twa) pygmies are among several groups of traditional hunters who have long lived in Central Africa and the Great Lakes region. Rwanda’s Batwa are estimated to number about 30,000. Forests were an integral part of their livelihood, but farm-land development and conservation projects (e.g. creation of national parks) from the mid-1990’s onwards have forced them-out of their traditional land.*

**In Rwanda, despite the lack of official recognition of indigenous peoples as such, the National Commission of Unity and Reconciliation recognised, in 2006, that the Batwa had been systematically forgotten and ignored and merited special attention. The Commission thus recommended special measures in favour of the Batwa in terms of education and health services.**

#### **References:**

**Les Pygmées Batwa de la Région des Grands Lacs. Jerome Lewis, 2001**

**The Twa Pygmies: Rwanda’s Ignored People. Jerome Lewis, 2006**

**Indigenous & Tribal People’s Rights in Practice, A Guide to ILO Convention No 169, ILO, 2009.**

**Indicator 3.1.1** Indigenous Peoples\* that may be affected by management activities are identified.

**Indicator 3.1.2** Through culturally appropriate\* engagement\* with the Indigenous Peoples\* identified in 3.1.1, the following issues are documented and/or mapped:

- Their legal\* and customary rights\* of tenure\*;
- Their legal\* and customary\* access to, and use rights\*, of the forest\* resources and ecosystem services\*;
- Their legal\* and customary rights\* and obligations that apply;
- The evidence supporting these rights and obligations;
- Areas where rights are contested between Indigenous Peoples\*, governments and/or others;
- Summary of the means by which the legal\* and customary rights\* and contested rights, are addressed by The Organization\*;
- The aspirations and goals of Indigenous Peoples\* related to management activities.

**Criterion 3.2** 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\*. (C3.1 and 3.2 P&C V4)

**Indicator 3.2.1** Through culturally appropriate\* engagement\* Indigenous Peoples\* 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, lands and territories\*.

**Indicator 3.2.2** The legal\* and customary rights\* of Indigenous Peoples\* are not violated by The Organization\*.

**Indicator 3.2.3** Where evidence exists that legal\* and customary rights\* of Indigenous Peoples\* related to management activities have been violated the situation is corrected, if necessary, through culturally appropriate\* engagement\* and/or through the dispute\* resolution process as required in Criteria\* 1.6 or 4.6.

**Indicator 3.2.4** Free, prior and informed consent\* is granted by Indigenous Peoples\* prior to management activities that affect their identified rights through a process that includes:

- Ensuring Indigenous Peoples\* know their rights and obligations regarding the resource;
- Informing the Indigenous Peoples\* of the value, in economic, social and environmental terms, of the resource over which they are considering delegation of control;
- Informing the Indigenous Peoples\* of their right to withhold or modify consent to the proposed management activities to the extent necessary to protect their rights, resources, lands and territories\*; and
- Informing the Indigenous Peoples\* of the current and future planned forest\* management activities.

**Criterion 3.3** In the event of delegation of control over management activities, a binding agreement\* between The Organization\* and the Indigenous Peoples\* shall\* be concluded through Free, Prior and Informed Consent\*. 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 The Organization\*'s compliance with its terms and conditions. (new)

**Indicator 3.3.1** Where control over management activities has been granted through Free Prior and Informed Consent\* based on culturally appropriate\* engagement\*, the binding agreement\* contains the duration, provisions for renegotiation, renewal, termination, economic conditions and other terms and conditions.

**Indicator 3.3.2** Records of binding agreements\* are maintained.

**Indicator 3.3.3** The binding agreement\* contains the provision for monitoring\* by Indigenous Peoples\* of The Organization\*'s compliance with its terms and conditions.

**Criterion 3.4** The Organization\* shall\* recognize and uphold\* the rights, customs and culture of Indigenous Peoples\* as defined in the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (2007) and ILO Convention 169 (1989). (C3.2P&C V4)

**Indicator 3.4.1** The rights, customs and culture of Indigenous Peoples\* as defined in UNDRIP and ILO Convention 169 are not violated by The Organization\*.

**Indicator 3.4.2** Where evidence that rights, customs and culture of Indigenous Peoples\*, as defined in UNDRIP and ILO Convention 169, have been violated by The Organization\*, the situation is documented including steps to restore\* these rights, customs and culture of Indigenous Peoples\*, to the satisfaction of the rights holders.

**Criterion 3.5** The Organization\*, through engagement\* with Indigenous Peoples\*, shall\* identify sites which are of special cultural, ecological, economic, religious or spiritual significance and for which these Indigenous Peoples hold legal\* or customary rights\*. These sites shall\* be recognized by The Organization\* and their management, and/or protection\* shall\* be agreed through engagement\* with these Indigenous Peoples. (C3.3P&C V4)

**Indicator 3.5.1** Sites of special cultural, ecological, economic, religious or spiritual significance for which Indigenous Peoples\* hold legal\* or customary rights\* are identified through culturally appropriate\* engagement\*.

**Indicator 3.5.2** Measures to protect such sites are agreed, documented and implemented through culturally appropriate\* engagement\* with Indigenous Peoples\*. When Indigenous Peoples\* determine that physical identification of sites in documentation or on maps would threaten the value or protection\* of the sites, then other means will be used.

**Indicator 3.5.3** 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 Indigenous Peoples\*, and as directed by local and national laws\*.

**Criterion 3.6** The Organization\* shall\* uphold\* the right of Indigenous Peoples\* to protect\* and utilize their traditional knowledge\* and shall\* compensate local communities\* for the utilization of such knowledge and their intellectual property\*. A binding agreement\* as per Criterion\* 3.3 shall\* be concluded between The Organization\* and the Indigenous Peoples for such utilization through Free, Prior and Informed Consent\* before utilization takes place, and shall\* be consistent with the protection\* of intellectual property\* rights. (C3.4 P&C V4)

**Indicator 3.6.1** Traditional knowledge\* and intellectual property\* are protected and are only used when the acknowledged owners of that traditional knowledge\* and intellectual property\* have provided their Free, Prior and Informed Consent\* formalized through a binding agreement\*.

**Indicator 3.6.2** Indigenous Peoples\* are compensated according to the binding agreement\* reached through Free, Prior and Informed Consent\* for the use of traditional knowledge\* and intellectual property\*.

#### **PRINCIPLE 4: COMMUNITY RELATIONS**

The Organization\* shall\* contribute to maintaining or enhancing the social and economic wellbeing of local communities\*. (P4 P&C V4)

**Criterion 4.1** 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\*. (new)

**Indicator 4.1.1** Local communities\* that exist in the Management Unit\* and those that may be affected by management activities are identified.

**Indicator 4.1.2** Through culturally appropriate\* engagement\* with the local communities\*, identified in 4.1.1 the following are documented and/or mapped:

- Their legal\* and customary rights\* of tenure\*;
- Their legal\* and customary\* access to, and use rights\*, of the forest\* resources and ecosystem services\*;
- Their legal\* and customary\* rights\* and obligations that apply;
- The evidence supporting these rights and obligations;
- Areas where rights are contested between local communities \*, governments and/or others. Summary of the means by which the legal\* and customary rights\*, and contested rights are addressed by The Organization\*; and
- The aspirations and goals of local communities\* related to management activities.

**Criterion 4.2** 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\*. (C2.2 P&C V4)

**Indicator 4.2.1** 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.

**Indicator 4.2.2** The legal\* and customary rights\* of local communities\* to maintain control over management activities are not violated by The Organization\*.

**Indicator 4.2.3** Where evidence exists that legal\* and customary rights\* of local communities\* related to management activities have been violated the situation is corrected, if necessary, through culturally appropriate\* engagement\* and/or through the dispute\* resolution process in Criteria\* 1.6 or 4.6.

**Indicator 4.2.4** Free, prior and informed consent\* is granted by local communities\* prior to management activities that affect their identified rights through a process that includes:

- Ensuring local communities\* know their rights and obligations regarding the resource;
- Informing the local communities\* of the value, in economic, social and environmental terms, of the resource over which they are considering delegation of control;
- Informing the local communities\* of their right to withhold or modify consent to the proposed management activities to the extent necessary to protect their rights and resources; and
- Informing the local communities\* of the current and future planned forest\* management activities.

**Criterion 4.3** 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. (C4.1 P&C V4)

**Indicator 4.3.1** Reasonable\* opportunities are communicated and provided to local communities\*, local contractors and local suppliers for:

- Employment,
- Training, and
- Other services.

**Criterion 4.4** 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. (C4.4 P&C V4)

**Indicator 4.4.1** Opportunities for local social and economic development are identified through culturally appropriate \* engagement\* with local communities\* and other relevant organizations.

**Indicator 4.4.2** 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** The Organization\*, through engagement\* with local communities\*, shall\* take action to identify, avoid and mitigate significant\* negative social, environmental and economic impacts of its management activities on affected communities. The action taken shall\* be proportionate to the scale, intensity and risk\* of those activities and negative impacts. (C4.4 P&C V4)

**Indicator 4.5.1** Through culturally appropriate\* engagement\* with local communities\*, measures are implemented to identify, avoid and mitigate significant\* negative social, environmental and economic impacts of management activities.

**Criterion 4.6** The Organization\*, through engagement\* with local communities\*, shall\* have mechanisms for resolving grievances and providing fair compensation\* to local communities\* and individuals with regard to the impacts of management activities of The Organization\*. (C4.5 P&CV4)

**Indicator 4.6.1** A publicly available\* dispute\* resolution process is in place, developed through culturally appropriate\* engagement\* with local communities\*.

**Indicator 4.6.2** Grievances related to the impacts of management activities are responded to in a timely manner\*, and are either resolved or are in the dispute\* resolution process.

**Indicator 4.6.3** An up to date record of grievances related to the impacts of management activities is held including:

- Steps taken to resolve grievances
- Outcomes of all dispute\* resolution processes including fair compensation\* to local communities and individuals; and
- Unresolved disputes\*, the reasons they are not resolved, and how they will be resolved.

**Indicator 4.6.4** Operations cease in areas while disputes\* exist of:

- Substantial magnitude\*;
- Substantial duration\*; or
- Involving a significant\* number of interests.

**Criterion 4.7** The Organization\*, through engagement\* with local communities\*, shall\* identify sites which are of special cultural, ecological, economic, religious or spiritual significance, and for which these local communities\* hold legal\* or customary rights\*. These sites shall\* be recognized by The Organization\*, and their management and/or protection\* shall\* be agreed through engagement\* with these local communities\*. (new)

**Indicator 4.7.1** Sites of special cultural, ecological, economic, religious or spiritual significance for which local communities\* hold legal\* or customary rights\* are identified through culturally appropriate\* engagement\* and are recognized by The Organization\*.

**Indicator 4.7.2** Measures to protect such sites are agreed, documented and implemented through culturally appropriate engagement\* with local communities\*. When local communities\* determine that physical identification of sites in documentation or on maps would threaten the value or protection\* of the sites, then other means will be used.

**Indicator 4.7.3** 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 local communities\*, and as directed by local and national laws\*.

**Criterion 4.8** The Organization\* shall\* uphold\* the right of local communities\* to protect\* and utilize their traditional knowledge\* and shall\* compensate local communities\* for the utilization of such knowledge and their intellectual property\*. A binding agreement\* as per Criterion\* 3.3 shall\* be concluded between The Organization\* and the local communities\* for such utilization through Free, Prior and Informed Consent\* before utilization takes place, and shall\* be consistent with the protection\* of intellectual property\* rights. (new)

**Indicator 4.8.1** Traditional knowledge\* and intellectual property\* are protected and are only used when the owners of that traditional knowledge\* and intellectual property\* have provided their Free, Prior and Informed Consent\* formalized through a binding agreement\*.

**Indicator 4.8.2** Local communities\* are compensated according to the binding agreement\* reached through Free, Prior and Informed Consent\* for the use of traditional knowledge\* and intellectual property\*.

## **PRINCIPLE 5: BENEFITS FROM THE FOREST\***

The Organization\* shall\* efficiently manage the range of multiple products and services of the Management Unit\* to maintain or enhance long-term\* economic viability\* and the range of social and environmental benefits. (P5 P&C V4)

**Criterion 5.1** The Organization\* shall\* identify, produce, or enable the production of, diversified benefits and/or products, based on the range of resources and ecosystem services\* existing in the Management Unit\* in order to strengthen and diversify the local economy proportionate to the scale\* and intensity\* of management activities. (C5.2 and 5.4 P&C V4).

**Indicator 5.1.1** The range of resources and ecosystem services\* that could strengthen and diversify the local economy are identified.

**Indicator 5.1.1b (SIR):** The range of resources and ecosystem services\* that could strengthen and diversify the local economy are known.

**Indicator 5.1.2** Consistent with management objectives\*, the identified benefits and products are produced by The Organization\* and/or made available for others to produce, to strengthen and diversify the local economy.

**Indicator 5.1.3** When the Organization\* makes FSC promotional claims regarding the maintenance and/or enhancement of ecosystem services\*, Annex 3 is followed regarding additional requirements.

**Criterion 5.2** The Organization\* shall\* normally harvest products and services from the Management Unit\* at or below a level which can be permanently sustained. (C5.6 P&C V4)

**Indicator 5.2.1** 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\*.

**Indicator 5.2.2** Based on the timber harvesting level\* 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 5.2.2b** (SIR): The maximum annual allowable cut for timber should not exceed 20% of the MAI (AND should not exceed 5,000 cbm/year)

**Indicator 5.2.3a** The harvest over a defined period does not exceed the allowable cut determined in 5.2.2 for the same defined period.

**Indicator 5.2.3b** Actual annual harvest levels for timber are recorded

**Indicator 5.2.4** For extraction of commercially harvested services and non-timber forest products\* under The Organization's\* control a sustainable harvest level is calculated and adhered to. Sustainable harvest levels are based on Best Available Information\*.

**Criterion 5.3** The Organization\* shall\* demonstrate that the positive and negative externalities\* of operations are included in the management plan\*. (C5.1 P&C V4)

**Indicator 5.3.1a** Measures required to preventing, mitigating or compensating for negative social and environment impacts of management activities are quantified and documented in the management plan\*.

**Indicator 5.3.1b** Sufficient funds are allocated to implement those measures, as required under indicator 5.5.1

**Indicator 5.3.2** Benefits related to positive social and environment impacts of management activities are identified and included in the management plan\*.

**Criterion 5.4** 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. (C5.2 P&C V4)

**Indicator 5.4.1** 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.

**Indicator 5.4.2** Reasonable\* attempts are made to establish and encourage capacity where local goods, services, processing and value-added facilities are not available.

**Indicator 5.4.2a** (SIR): Reasonable\* attempts are made to promote local employment

**Criterion 5.5** The Organization\* shall\* demonstrate through its planning and expenditures proportionate to scale, intensity and risk\*, its commitment to long-term\* economic viability\*. (C5.1 P&C V4)

**Indicator 5.5.1** Sufficient funds are allocated to implement the management plan\* in order to meet this standard and to ensure long-term\* economic viability\*.

**Indicator 5.5.2** Expenditures and investments are made to implement the management plan\* in order to meet this standard and to ensure long-term\* economic viability\*.

**Indicator 5.5.2a** (SIR): 5.5.2b An annual budget plan is in place, and that incorporates expected costs and revenues.

## **PRINCIPLE 6: ENVIRONMENTAL VALUES\* AND IMPACTS**

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. (P6 P&C V4)

**Criterion 6.1** 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. (new)

**Indicator 6.1.1** Best Available Information\* is used to identify environmental values\* within, and, where potentially affected by management activities, outside of the Management Unit\*.

**Indicator 6.1.1a** The Organisation shall identify the main environmental values present in their FMU, and the measures proposed to minimise potential risks to those environmental values.

**Indicator 6.1.2** Assessments of environmental values\* are conducted with a level of detail and frequency so that:

- Impacts of management activities on the identified environmental values\* can be assessed as per Criterion\* 6.2;
- Risks\* to environmental values\* can be identified as per Criterion\* 6.2;
- Necessary conservation\* measures to protect values can be identified as per Criterion\* 6.3; and,
- Monitoring\* of impacts or environmental changes can be conducted as per Principle\* 8.

**Criterion 6.2** Prior to the start of site-disturbing activities, [The Organization\\*](#) shall\* identify and assess the [scale, intensity and risk\\*](#) of potential impacts of management activities on the identified [environmental values\\*](#). (C6.1 P&C V4)

**Indicator 6.2.1** An environmental impact assessment\* identifies potential present and future impacts of management activities on environmental values\*, from the stand level to the landscape level.

**Indicator 6.2.1a** (SIR): An evaluation of environmental impacts of the operations is required before site-disturbing operations at stand level.

**Indicator 6.2.2** The environmental impact assessment\* identifies and assesses the impacts of the management activities prior to the start of site-disturbing activities.

**Criterion 6.3** [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\\*](#) of these impacts. (C6.1 P&C V4)

**Indicator 6.3.2** Management activities prevent negative impacts to environmental values\*.

**Indicator 6.3.3** Where negative impacts to environmental values\* occur, measures are adopted to prevent further damage, and negative impacts are mitigated\* and/or repaired\*.

**Criterion 6.4** 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\*. (C6.2 P&C V4)

**Indicator 6.4.1** Best Available Information\* is used to identify rare and threatened species\*, and their habitats\*, including CMS, AEW, CITES species and those listed on national, regional and local lists of rare and threatened species\* that are present or likely to be present within and adjacent to the Management Unit\* (see Annex 4).

**Indicator 6.4.2** Potential impacts of management activities on rare and threatened species\* and their conservation\* status and habitats\* are identified and management activities are modified to avoid negative impacts.

**Indicator 6.4.3** The rare and threatened species\* and their habitats\* are protected, including through the provision of conservation zones\*, protection areas\*, connectivity\*, and other direct means for their survival and viability, such as species' recovery programs.

**Indicator 6.4.4** Hunting, fishing, trapping and collection of rare or threatened species\* is prevented.

**Criterion 6.5** 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. (C6.4 and 10.5 P&C V4 and Motion 2014#7)

**Indicator 6.5.1** Best Available Information\* is used to identify native ecosystems\* that exist, or would exist under natural conditions\* within the Management Unit\*.

**Indicator 6.5.2** Representative Sample Areas\* of native ecosystems\* are protected, where they exist.

**Indicator 6.5.3** 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** 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** 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. (C6.2 and C6.3 P&C V4)

**Indicator 6.6.1** Management activities maintain the plant communities and habitat features\* found within native ecosystems\* and are located within the Management Unit\*.

**Indicator 6.6.2** Where past management has eliminated plant communities or habitat features\*, management activities aimed at re-establishing such habitats\* are implemented.

**Indicator 6.6.3** 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** Effective measures are taken to manage and control hunting, fishing, trapping and collecting activities to ensure that naturally occurring native species\*, their diversity within species and their natural distribution are maintained.

**Indicator 6.6.5** Mechanisms for wildlife [protection\\*](#) are in place: Applicable national and/or international regulations on protection\*, hunting and trade in animal species or parts (trophies) shall\* be known and complied with;

**Indicator 6.6.6** An internal regulation banning and punishing the transportation of and trade in bush meat and firearms in the facilities and vehicles of The Organization\*;

**Indicator 6.6.7** A system of regular and punctual controls to ensure hunting policies are respected is implemented;

**Indicator 6.6.8** Effective mitigation measures are in place to ensure that workers\* do not increase hunting trapping or collecting of bush meat or wild fish.

**Criterion 6.7** 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. (C6.5 and 10.2 P&C V4)

**Indicator 6.7.1** Protection\* measures are implemented to protect natural watercourses\*, water bodies\*, riparian zones\* and their connectivity\*, including water quantity and water quality.

**Indicator 6.7.2** Where implemented protection\* measures do not protect watercourses\*, water bodies\*, riparian zones\* and their connectivity\*, water quantity or water quality from impacts of forest\* management, restoration activities are implemented.

**Indicator 6.7.3** Where natural watercourses, water bodies\*, riparian zones\* and their connectivity\*, water quantity or water quality have been damaged by past activities on land and water by The Organization\*, restoration activities\* are implemented.

**Indicator 6.7.4** Where continued degradation exists to watercourses\*, water bodies\*, water quantity and water quality caused by previous managers and the activities of third parties, measures are implemented that prevent or mitigate this degradation.

**Criterion 6.8** 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\*. (C10.2 and 10.3 P&C V4)

**Indicator 6.8.1** A varying mosaic of species, sizes, ages, spatial scales\*, and regeneration cycles is maintained appropriate to the landscape\*.

**Indicator 6.8.2** The mosaic of species, sizes, ages, spatial scales\*, and regeneration cycles is restored\* where it has not been maintained appropriate to the landscape\*.

**Indicator 6.8.3** When the private forest to be harvested has a surface area equal to or exceeding half a hectare (0.5 ha), the person seeking to harvest shall inform the District Forestry Officer so that he/she advises him/her how to harvest such a forest

**Criterion 6.9** 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:

Affects a very limited portion\* of the area of the Management Unit\*, and

Will produce clear, substantial, additional, secure long-term conservation\* benefits in the Management Unit\*, and

Does not damage or threaten [High Conservation Values\\*](#), nor any sites or resources necessary to maintain or enhance those High Conservation Values\*. (C6.10 P&C V4 and Motion 2014#7)

**Indicator 6.9.1** There is no conversion of natural forest\* to plantations\*, nor conversion of natural forests\* to non-forest\* land use, nor conversion of plantations\* on sites directly converted from natural forest\* to non-forest\* land use, except when the conversion:

- Affects a very limited portion\* of the Management Unit\*, and

- The conversion will produce clear, substantial, additional, secure, long-term conservation\* benefits in the Management Unit\*; and

- Does not damage or threaten High Conservation Values\*, nor any sites or resources necessary to maintain or enhance those High Conservation Values\*.

**Criterion 6.10** Management Units\* containing [plantations\\*](#) that were established on areas converted from [natural forest\\*](#) after November 1994 shall\* not qualify for certification, except where:

- Clear and sufficient evidence is provided that The Organization\* was not directly or indirectly responsible for the conversion, or

- 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\*. (C10.9 P&C V4)

**Indicator 6.10.1** Based on Best Available Information\*, accurate data is compiled on all conversions since 1994.

**Indicator 6.10.2** Areas converted from natural forest\* to plantation\* since November 1994 are not certified, except where:

- The Organization\* provides clear and sufficient evidence that it was not directly or indirectly responsible for the conversion; or

- The conversion is producing clear, substantial, additional, secure, long-term [conservation\\*](#) benefits in the Management Unit\*; and

- The total area of plantation\* on sites converted from natural forest\* since November 1994 is less than 5% of the total area of the Management Unit\*.

## **PRINCIPLE 7: MANAGEMENT PLANNING**

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. (P7 P&CV4)

**Criterion 7.1** 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. (C7.1a P&C V4)

**Indicator 7.1.1** Policies (vision and values) that contribute to meeting the requirements of this standard are defined.

**Indicator 7.1.2** Specific, operational management objectives\* that address the requirements of this standard are defined.

**Indicator 7.1.3** Summaries of the defined policies and management objectives\* are included in the management plan\* and publicized.

**Criterion 7.2** 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. (C7.1 P&C V4)

**Indicator 7.2.1** The Management plan includes management actions, procedures, strategies and measures to achieve the management objectives\* and that align with the District Management Plan.

**Indicator 7.2.2** The management plan\* addresses the elements listed in Annex 5, and is implemented.

**Criterion 7.3** The management plan\* shall\* include verifiable targets\* by which progress towards each of the prescribed management objectives\* can be assessed. (new)

**Indicator 7.3.1** Verifiable targets\*, and the frequency that they are assessed, are established for monitoring\* the progress towards each management objective\*.

**Criterion 7.4** The Organization\* shall\* update and revise periodically the management planning and procedural documentation to incorporate the results of monitoring\* and evaluation, stakeholder engagement\* or new scientific and technical information, as well as to respond to changing environmental, social and economic circumstances. (C7.2 P&C V4)

**Indicator 7.4.1** The management plan\* is revised and updated periodically consistent with Annex 5 to incorporate:

- Monitoring\* results, including results of certification audits;
- Evaluation results;
- Stakeholder engagement\* results;
- New scientific and technical information, and
- Changing environmental, social, or economic circumstances.

**Criterion 7.5** The Organization\* shall\* make publicly available\* a summary of the management plan\* free of charge. Excluding confidential information\*, other relevant components of the management plan\* shall\* be made available to affected stakeholders\* on request, and at cost of reproduction and handling. (C7.4 P&C V4)

**Indicator 7.5.1** A summary of the management plan\* in a format comprehensible to stakeholders including maps and excluding confidential information\* is made publicly available\* at no cost.

**Indicator 7.5.2** Relevant components of the management plan\*, excluding confidential information\*, are available to affected stakeholders\* on request at the actual costs of reproduction and handling.

**Criterion 7.6** The Organization\* shall\*, proportionate to scale, intensity and risk\* of management activities, proactively and transparently engage affected stakeholders\* in its management planning and monitoring\* processes, and shall\* engage interested stakeholders\* on request. (C4.4 P&C V4)

**Indicator 7.6.1** Culturally appropriate\* engagement\* is used to ensure that affected stakeholders\* are proactively and transparently engaged in the following processes:

- Dispute\* resolution processes (Criterion\* 1.6, Criterion\* 2.6, Criterion\* 4.6);
- Definition of Living wages\* (Criterion\* 2.4);
- Identification of rights (Criterion\* 3.1, Criterion\* 4.1), sites (Criterion\* 3.5, Criterion\* 4.7) and impacts (Criterion\* 4.5);
- Local communities'\* socio-economic development activities (Criterion\* 4.4); and
- High Conservation Value\* assessment, management and monitoring (Criterion\* 9.1, Criterion\* 9.2, Criterion\* 9.4).

**Indicator 7.6.2** Culturally appropriate\* engagement\* is used to:

- Determine appropriate representatives and contact points (including where appropriate, local institutions, organizations and authorities);
- Determine mutually agreed communication channels allowing for information to flow in both directions;
- Ensure all actors (women, youth, elderly, minorities) are represented and engaged equitably;
- Ensure all meetings, all points discussed and all agreements reached are recorded;
- Ensure the content of meeting records is approved; and
- Ensure the results of all culturally appropriate\* engagement\* activities are shared with those involved.

**Indicator 7.6.3** Affected stakeholders\* are provided with an opportunity for culturally appropriate\* engagement\* in monitoring\* and planning processes of management activities that affect their interests.

**Indicator 7.6.4** On request, interested stakeholders\* are provided with an opportunity for engagement\* in monitoring\* and planning processes of management activities that affect their interests.

## **PRINCIPLE 8: MONITORING AND ASSESSMENT**

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\*. (P8 P&C V4)

**Criterion 8.1** 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\*. (new)

**Indicator 8.1.1** 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** 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. (C8.2 P&C V4)

**Indicator 8.2.1** The social and environmental impacts of management activities are monitored\* consistent with Annex 6.

**Indicator 8.2.2** Changes in environmental conditions are monitored\* consistent with Annex 6.

**Criterion 8.3** The Organization\* shall\* analyze the results of monitoring\* and evaluation and feed the outcomes of this analysis back into the planning process. (C8.4 P&C V4)

**Indicator 8.3.1** 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** If monitoring\* results show non-conformities with the FSC Standard then management objectives\*, verifiable targets\* and / or management activities are revised.

**Criterion 8.4** The Organization\* shall\* make publicly available\* a summary of the results of monitoring\* free of charge, excluding confidential information\*. (C8.5 P&C V4)

**Indicator 8.4.1** A summary of the monitoring\* results consistent with Annex 6, in a format comprehensible to stakeholders including maps and excluding confidential information\* is made publicly available\* at no cost.

**Criterion 8.5** 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. (C8.3 P&C V4)

**Indicator 8.5.1** A system is implemented to track and trace all products that are marketed as FSC certified.

**Indicator 8.5.2** Information about all products sold is compiled and documented, including:

- Common and scientific species name;
- Product name or description;
- Volume (or quantity) of product;
- Information to trace the material to the source of origin logging block;
- Logging date;
- If basic processing activities take place in the forest, the date and volume produced; and
- Whether or not the material was sold as FSC certified.

**Indicator 8.5.3** 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:

- Name and address of purchaser;
- The date of sale;
- Common and scientific species name;
- Product description;
- The volume (or quantity) sold;
- Certificate code; and
- The FSC Claim "FSC 100%" identifying products sold as FSC certified.

## **PRINCIPLE 9: HIGH CONSERVATION VALUES\***

The Organization\* shall\* maintain and/or enhance the High Conservation Values\* in the Management Unit\* through applying the precautionary approach\*. (P9 P&C V4)

**Criterion 9.1** The Organization\*, through engagement\* with affected stakeholders\*, interested stakeholders\* and other means and sources, shall\* assess and record the presence and status of the following High Conservation Values\* in the Management Unit\*, proportionate to the scale, intensity and risk\* of impacts of management activities, and likelihood of the occurrence of the High Conservation Values\*:

- **HCV 1 – Species diversity.** Concentrations of biological diversity\* including endemic species, and rare\*, threatened\* or endangered species, that are significant\* at global, regional or national levels.

- **HCV 2 – Landscape\*-level ecosystems\* and mosaics.** Intact forest landscapes and large landscape\*-level ecosystems\* and ecosystem\* mosaics that are significant\* 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.

- **HCV 3 – Ecosystems\* and habitats\*.** Rare\*, threatened\*, or endangered ecosystems\*, habitats\* or refugia\*.

- **HCV 4 – Critical\* ecosystem services\*.** Basic ecosystem services\* in critical\* situations, including protection\* of water catchments and control of erosion of vulnerable soils and slopes.

- **HCV 5 – Community needs.** Sites and resources fundamental for satisfying the basic necessities of local communities\* or Indigenous Peoples\* (for livelihoods, health, nutrition, water, etc.), identified through engagement\* with these communities or Indigenous Peoples.

- **HCV 6 – Cultural values.** Sites, resources, habitats\* and landscapes\* of global or national cultural, archaeological or historical significance, and/or of critical\* cultural, ecological, economic or religious/sacred importance for the traditional cultures of local communities\* or Indigenous Peoples, identified through engagement\* with these local communities\* or Indigenous Peoples.

(C9.1 P&C V4 and Motion 2014#7)

**Indicator 9.1.1** An assessment is completed using Best Available Information\* that records the location and status of High Conservation Value\* Categories 1-6, as defined in Criterion\* 9.1; the High Conservation Value Areas\* they rely upon (Annex 7), and their condition

**Indicator 9.1.2** The assessment uses results from culturally appropriate\* engagement\* with affected\* and interested stakeholders\* with an interest in the conservation\* of the High Conservation Values\*.

**Criterion 9.2** 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. (C9.2 P&C V4)

**Indicator 9.2.1** Threats to High Conservation Values\* are identified (Annex 7) using Best Available Information\*.

**Indicator 9.2.2** Management strategies and actions are developed to maintain and/or enhance the identified High Conservation Values\* and to maintain associated High Conservation Value Areas\* (Annex 7) prior to implementing potentially harmful management activities.

**Indicator 9.2.3** Affected\* and interested stakeholders\* and experts are engaged in the development of management strategies and actions to maintain and/or enhance the identified High Conservation Values\*.

**Indicator 9.2.4** The strategies developed are effective to maintain and/or enhance the High Conservation Values\*.

**Criterion 9.3** 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. (C9.3 P&C V4)

**Indicator 9.3.1** 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** 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** Activities that harm High Conservation Values\* cease immediately and actions are taken to restore\* and protect the High Conservation Values\*.

**Criterion 9.4** 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. (C9.4 P&C V4)

**Indicator 9.4.1** A program of periodic monitoring\* (Annex 7) assesses:

- Implementation of strategies;
- The status of High Conservation Values\* including High Conservation Value Areas\* on which they depend; and
- The effectiveness of the management strategies and actions for the protection\* of High Conservation Value\* to fully maintain and/or enhance the High Conservation Values\*.

**Indicator 9.4.2** The monitoring\* program includes engagement\* with affected\* and interested stakeholders\* and experts.

**Indicator 9.4.3** The monitoring\* program has sufficient scope, detail and frequency to detect changes in High Conservation Values\*, relative to the initial assessment and status identified for each High Conservation Value\*.

**Indicator 9.4.4** Management strategies and actions are adapted when monitoring\* or other new information shows that these strategies and actions are insufficient to ensure the maintenance and/or enhancement of High Conservation Values\*.

## **PRINCIPLE 10: IMPLEMENTATION OF MANAGEMENT ACTIVITIES**

Management activities conducted by or for The Organization\* for the Management Unit\* shall\* be selected and implemented consistent with The Organization\*'s economic, environmental and social policies and objectives\* and in compliance with the Principles\* and Criteria\* collectively. (new)

**Criterion 10.1** After harvest or in accordance with the management plan\*, The Organization\* shall\*, by natural or artificial regeneration methods, regenerate vegetation cover in a timely fashion to pre-harvesting or more natural conditions\*. (new)

**Indicator 10.1.1** Harvested sites are regenerated in a timely manner\* that:

- 1) Protects affected environmental values\*; and
- 2) Is suitable to recover overall pre-harvest\* composition and structure.

**Indicator 10.1.2** Regeneration activities\* of existing plantations\* are implemented in a manner that regenerate to the vegetation cover that existed prior to the harvest or to more natural conditions\* using ecologically well-adapted species;

**Criterion 10.2** 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. (C10.4 and C10.8 P&C V4)

**Indicator 10.2.1** 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\*.

**Indicator 10.2.2** Species chosen for regeneration are consistent with the regeneration objectives\* and with the management objectives\*.

**Criterion 10.3** 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. (C6.9 and C10.8 P&C V4)

**Indicator 10.3.1** Alien species\* are used only when direct experience and / or the results of scientific research demonstrate that invasive impacts can be controlled.

**Indicator 10.3.1b** The use of alien species\* is granted by a competent authority (Office of Agriculture and Livestock Inspection and Certification or Rwanda Development Board) as appropriate.

**Indicator 10.3.2** Alien species\* are used only when effective mitigation measures are in place to control their spread outside the area in which they are established.

**Indicator 10.3.3** The spread of invasive species\* introduced by The Organization\* is controlled.

**Indicator 10.3.4** 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\*.

**Criterion 10.4** The Organization\* shall\* not use genetically modified organisms\* in the Management Unit\*. (C6.8 P&C V4)

**Indicator 10.4.1** Genetically modified organisms\* are not used.

**Criterion 10.5** The Organization\* shall\* use silvicultural practices that are ecologically appropriate for the vegetation, species, sites and management objectives\*. (new)

**Indicator 10.5.1** Silvicultural practices are implemented that are ecologically appropriate for the vegetation, species, sites and management objectives\*.

**Criterion 10.6** 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. (C10.7 P&C V4 and Motion 2014#7)

**Indicator 10.6.1** The use of fertilizers\* is minimized or avoided.

**Indicator 10.6.2** When fertilizers\* are used, their ecological and economic benefits are equal to or higher than those of silvicultural systems that do not require fertilizers\*.

**Indicator 10.6.3** When fertilizers\* are used, their types, rates, frequencies and site of application are documented.

**Indicator 10.6.4** When fertilizers\* are used, environmental values\* are protected, including through implementation of measures to prevent damage.

**Indicator 10.6.5** Damage to environmental values\* resulting from fertilizer\* use is mitigated or repaired.

**Criterion 10.7** 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. (C6.6 and C10.7 P&C V4)

**Indicator 10.7.1** Integrated pest management, including selection of silviculture\* systems, is used to avoid, or aim to eliminate, the frequency, extent and amount of chemical pesticide\* applications, and result in non-use or overall reductions in applications.

**Indicator 10.7.2** Chemical pesticides\* prohibited by FSC's Pesticide Policy are not used or stored in the Management Unit\* unless FSC has granted derogation.

**Indicator 10.7.2b** Chemical pesticides included on the ministerial list of banned chemicals and other prohibited pollutants are not used or stored in the Management Unit

**Indicator 10.7.3** Records of pesticide\* 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** The use of pesticides\* 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** If pesticides\* are used, application methods minimize quantities used, while achieving effective results, and provide effective protection\* to surrounding landscapes\*.

**Indicator 10.7.6** Damage to environmental values\* and human health from pesticide\* use is prevented and mitigated or repaired where damage occurs.

**Indicator 10.7.7** When pesticides\* are used:

- The selected pesticide\*, application method, timing and pattern of use offers the least risk to humans and non-target species; and
- Objective evidence demonstrates that the pesticide\* is the only effective, practical and cost effective way to control the pest.

**Criterion 10.8** 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\*. (C6.8 P&C V4)

**Indicator 10.8.1** The use of biological control agents\* is minimized, monitored\* and controlled.

**Indicator 10.8.2** Use of biological control agents\* complies with internationally accepted scientific protocols\*.

**Indicator 10.8.3** The use of biological control agents\* is recorded including type, quantity, period, location and reason for use.

**Indicator 10.8.4** Damage to environmental values\* caused by the use of biological control agents\* is prevented and mitigated or repaired where damage occurs.

**Criterion 10.9** The Organization\* shall\* assess risks\* and implement activities that reduce potential negative impacts from natural hazards\* proportionate to scale, intensity, and risk\*. (new)

**Indicator 10.9.1** Potential negative impacts of natural hazards\* on infrastructure\*, forest\* resources and communities in the Management Unit\* are assessed.

**Indicator 10.9.2** Management activities mitigate these impacts.

**Indicator 10.9.3** The risk\* for management activities to increase the frequency, distribution or severity of natural hazards\* is identified for those hazards\* that may be influenced by management.

**Indicator 10.9.4** Management activities are modified and/or measures are developed and implemented that reduce the identified risks\*.

**Criterion 10.10** 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. (C6.5 P&C V4)

**Indicator 10.10.1** Development, maintenance and use of infrastructure\*, as well as transport activities, are managed to protect environmental values\* identified in Criterion\* 6.1.

**Indicator 10.10.2** Silviculture\* activities are managed to ensure protection of the environmental values\* identified in Criterion\* 6.1.

**Indicator 10.10.3** Disturbance or damages to water courses\*, water bodies\*, soils, rare and threatened species\*, habitats\*, ecosystems\* and landscape values\* are prevented, mitigated and repaired in a timely manner\*, and management activities modified to prevent further damage.

**Criterion 10.11** The Organization\* shall\* manage activities associated with harvesting and extraction of timber and non-timber forest products\* so that environmental values\* are conserved, merchantable waste is reduced, and damage to other products and services is avoided. (C5.3 and C6.5 P&C V4)

**Indicator 10.11.1** Harvesting and extraction practices for timber and non-timber forest products\* are implemented in a manner that conserves environmental values\* as identified in Criterion\* 6.1.

**Indicator 10.11.2** Harvesting practices optimize the use of forest\* products and merchantable materials.

**Indicator 10.11.3** Sufficient amounts of dead and decaying biomass and forest\* structure are retained to conserve environmental values\*.

**Indicator 10.11.4** Harvesting practices avoid damage to standing residual trees, residual woody debris on the ground and other environmental values\*.

**Criterion 10.12** The Organization\* shall\* dispose of waste materials\* in an environmentally appropriate manner. (C6.7 P&C V4)

**Indicator 10.12.1** Collection, clean up, transportation and disposal of all waste materials\* is done in an environmentally appropriate way that conserves environmental values\* as identified in Criterion\* 6.1, and that is in line with the Guidelines for Waste Management (Rwanda Utility Regulatory Authority).

## F Glossary of Terms

**Adaptive management:** A systematic process of continually improving management policies and practices by learning from the outcomes of existing measures (Source: Based on World Conservation Union (IUCN). Glossary definitions as provided on IUCN website).

**Affected stakeholder:** Any person, group of persons or entity that is or is likely to be subject to the effects of the activities of a Management Unit. Examples include, but are not restricted to (for example in the case of downstream landowners), persons, groups of persons or entities located in the neighborhood of the Management Unit. The following are examples of affected stakeholders:

- **Local communities**
- **Indigenous Peoples**
- **Workers**
- **Forest dwellers**
- **Neighbors**
- **Downstream landowners**
- **Local processors**
- **Local businesses**
- **Tenure and use rights holders, including landowners**
- **Organizations authorized or known to act on behalf of affected stakeholders, for example social and environmental NGOs, labor unions, etc. (Source: FSC-STD-01-001 V5-0).**
- **Alien species: A species, subspecies or lower taxon, introduced outside its natural past or present distribution; includes any part, gametes, seeds, eggs, or propagules of such species that might survive and subsequently reproduce (Source: Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), Invasive Alien Species Programme. Glossary of Terms as provided on CBD website).**
- **Applicable law: Means applicable to The Organization as a *legal*\* person or business enterprise in or for the benefit of the Management Unit and those laws which affect the implementation of the FSC Principles and Criteria. This includes any combination of statutory law (Parliamentary-approved) and case law (court interpretations), subsidiary regulations, associated administrative procedures, and the national constitution (if present) which invariably takes *legal*\* precedence over all other *legal*\* instruments (Source: FSC-STD-01-001 V5-0).**
- **Aquifer: A formation, group of formations, or part of a formation that contains sufficient saturated permeable material to yield significant quantities of water to wells and springs for that unit to have economic value as a source of water in that region. (Source: Gratzfeld, J. 2003. [Extractive Industries in Arid and Semi-Arid Zones](#). World Conservation Union (IUCN)).**
- **Best Available Information: Data, facts, documents, expert opinions, and results of field surveys or consultations with stakeholders that are most credible, accurate, complete, and/or pertinent and that can be obtained through *reasonable*\* effort and cost, subject to the *scale*\* and *intensity*\* of the management activities and the *Precautionary Approach*\*.**
- **Binding Agreement: A deal or pact, written or not, which is compulsory to its signatories and enforceable by law. Parties involved in the agreement do so freely and accept it voluntarily.**
- **Biological diversity: The variability among living organisms from all sources including, inter alia, terrestrial, marine and other aquatic ecosystems and the**

ecological complexes of which they are a part; this includes diversity within species, between species and of ecosystems (Source: Convention on Biological Diversity 1992, Article 2).

- **Biological control agents:** Organisms used to eliminate or regulate the population of other organisms (Source: Based on FSC-STD-01-001 V4-0 and World Conservation Union (IUCN). Glossary definitions as provided on IUCN website).
- **Confidential information:** Private facts, data and content that, if made publicly available, might put at risk *The Organization*\*, its business interests or its relationships with stakeholders, clients and competitors.
- **Conflicts between the Principles and Criteria and laws:** Situations where it is not possible to comply with the Principles and Criteria and a law at the same time (Source: FSC-STD-01-001 V5-0).
- **Connectivity:** A measure of how connected or spatially continuous a corridor, network, or matrix is. The fewer gaps, the higher the connectivity. Related to the structural connectivity concept; functional or behavioral connectivity refers to how connected an area is for a process, such as an animal moving through different types of landscape elements. Aquatic connectivity deals with the accessibility and transport of materials and organisms, through groundwater and surface water, between different patches of aquatic ecosystems of all kinds. (Source: Based on R.T.T. Forman. 1995. Land Mosaics. The Ecology of Landscapes and Regions. Cambridge University Press, 632pp).
- **Conservation/Protection:** These words are used interchangeably when referring to management activities designed to maintain the identified environmental or cultural values in existence long-term. Management activities may range from zero or minimal interventions to a specified range of appropriate interventions and activities designed to maintain, or compatible with maintaining, these identified values (Source: FSC-STD-01-001 V5-0).
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**Conservation Areas Network:** Those portions of the *Management Unit*\* for which conservation is the primary and, in some circumstances, exclusive objective; such areas include *representative sample areas*\*, *conservation zones*\*, *protection areas*\*, *connectivity*\* areas and *High Conservation Value Areas*\*.

**Conservation zones and protection areas:** Defined areas that are designated and managed primarily to safeguard species, habitats, ecosystems, natural features or other site-specific values because of their natural environmental or cultural values, or for purposes of monitoring, evaluation or research, not necessarily excluding other management activities. For the purposes of the Principles and Criteria, these terms are used interchangeably, without implying that one always has a higher degree of conservation or protection than the other. The term 'protected area' is not used for these areas, because this term implies *legal*\* or official status, covered by national regulations in many countries. In the context of the Principles and Criteria, management of these areas should involve active conservation, not passive protection' (Source: FSC-STD-01-001 V5-0).

**Critical:** The concept of criticality or fundamentality in Principal 9 and HCVs relates to irreplaceability and to cases where loss or major damage to this HCV would cause serious prejudice or suffering to affected stakeholders. An ecosystem service is considered to be critical (HCV 4) where a disruption of that service is likely to cause, or poses a threat of, severe negative impacts on the welfare, health or survival of local communities, on the environment, on HCVs, or on the functioning of significant infrastructure (roads, dams, buildings etc.). The notion of criticality here refers to the importance and risk for natural resources and environmental and socio-economic values (Source: FSC-STD-01-001 V5-0).

**Criterion (pl. Criteria):** A means of judging whether or not a Principle (of forest stewardship) has been fulfilled (Source: FSC-STD-01-001 V4-0).

**Culturally appropriate [mechanisms]:** Means/approaches for outreach to target groups that are in harmony with the customs, values, sensitivities, and ways of life of the target audience.

**Customary law:** Interrelated sets of customary rights may be recognized as customary law. In some jurisdictions, customary law is equivalent to statutory law, within its defined area of competence and may replace the statutory law for defined ethnic or other social groups. In some jurisdictions customary law complements statutory law and is applied in specified circumstances (Source: Based on N.L. Peluso and P. Vandergeest. 2001. Genealogies of the political forest and customary rights in Indonesia, Malaysia and Thailand, Journal of Asian Studies 60(3):761–812).

**Customary rights:** Rights which result from a long series of habitual or customary actions, constantly repeated, which have, by such repetition and by uninterrupted acquiescence, acquired the force of a law within a geographical or sociological unit (Source: FSC-STD-01-001 V4-0).

**Dispute:** for the purpose of the IGIs, this is an expression of dissatisfaction by any person or organization presented as a complaint to *The Organization*\*, relating to its management activities or its conformity with the FSC Principles and Criteria, where a response is expected (Source: based on FSC-PRO-01-005 V3-0 Processing Appeals).

**Dispute of substantial duration:** *Dispute*\* that continues for more than twice as long as the predefined timelines in the FSC System (this is, for more than 6 months after receiving the complaint, based on FSC-STD-20-001).

**Dispute of substantial magnitude:** For the purpose of the International Generic Indicators, a *dispute*\* of substantial magnitude is a *dispute*\* that involves one or more of the following:

- **Affects the legal\* or customary rights\* of Indigenous Peoples\* and local communities\*;**
- **Where the negative impact of management activities is of such a scale that it cannot be reversed or mitigated;**
- **Physical violence;**
- **Destruction of property;**
- **Presence of military bodies;**
- **Acts of intimidation against forest\* workers\* and stakeholders\*.**

This list should be adapted or expanded by Standard Developers.

**Economic viability:** The capability of developing and surviving as a relatively independent social, economic or political unit. Economic viability may require but is not synonymous with profitability (Source: Based on the definition provided on the website of the European Environment Agency).

**Ecosystem:** A dynamic complex of plant, animal and micro-organism communities and their non-living environment interacting as a functional unit (Source: Convention on Biological Diversity 1992, Article 2).

**Ecosystem function:** An intrinsic ecosystem characteristic related to the set of conditions and processes whereby an ecosystem maintains its integrity (such as primary productivity, food chain, biogeochemical cycles). Ecosystem functions include such processes as decomposition, production, nutrient cycling, and fluxes of nutrients and energy. For FSC purposes, this definition includes ecological and evolutionary processes such as gene flow and disturbance regimes, regeneration cycles and ecological seral development (succession) stages. (Source: Based on R. Hassan, R. Scholes and N. Ash. 2005. *Ecosystems and Human Well-being: Synthesis. The Millennium Ecosystem Assessment Series.* Island Press, Washington DC; and R.F. Noss. 1990. *Indicators for monitoring biodiversity: a hierarchical approach.* *Conservation Biology* 4(4):355–364).

**Ecosystem services:** The benefits people obtain from ecosystems. These include:

- **provisioning services such as food, forest products and water;**
- **regulating services such as regulation of floods, drought, land degradation, air quality, climate and disease;**
- **supporting services such as soil formation and nutrient cycling;**
- **and cultural services and cultural values such as recreational, spiritual, religious and other non-material benefits.**
- **(Source: Based on R. Hassan, R. Scholes and N. Ash. 2005. *Ecosystems and Human Well-being: Synthesis. The Millennium Ecosystem Assessment Series.* Island Press, Washington DC).**

**Engaging or engagement:** The process by which The Organization communicates, consults and/or provides for the participation of interested and/or affected stakeholders ensuring that their concerns, desires, expectations, needs, rights and opportunities are considered in the establishment, implementation and updating of the *management plan*\* (Source: FSC-STD-01-001 V5-0).

**Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA):** Systematic process used to identify potential environmental and social impacts of proposed projects, to evaluate alternative approaches, and to design and incorporate appropriate prevention, mitigation, management and monitoring measures (Source: based on Environmental impact assessment, guidelines for FAO field projects. Food and agriculture organization of the United Nations (FAO). Rome,-STD-01-001 V5-0).

**Environmental values:** The following set of elements of the biophysical and human environment:

- **ecosystem functions (including carbon sequestration and storage);**
- **biological diversity;**
- **water resources;**
- **soils;**
- **atmosphere;**
- **landscape values (including cultural and spiritual values).**
- **The actual worth attributed to these elements depends on human and societal perceptions (Source: FSC-STD-01-001 V5-0).**
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**Externalities:** The positive and negative impacts of activities on stakeholders that are not directly involved in those activities, or on a natural resource or the environment, which do not usually enter

standard cost accounting systems, such that the market prices of the products of those activities do not reflect the full costs or benefits (Source: FSC-STD-01-001 V5-0).

**Fair compensation:** Remuneration that is proportionate to the magnitude and type of services rendered by another party or of the harm that is attributable to the first party.

**Fertilizer:** Mineral or organic substances, most commonly N, P<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub> and K<sub>2</sub>O, which are applied to soil for the purpose of enhancing plant growth.

**Focal species:** Species whose requirements for persistence define the attributes that must be present if that landscape is to meet the requirements of the species that occur there (Source: Lambeck, R., J. 1997. Focal Species: A multi-species Umbrella for Nature Conservation. *Conservation Biology* vol 11 (4): 849-856.).

**Forest:** A tract of land dominated by trees (Source: FSC-STD-01-001 V5-0. Derived from FSC Guidelines for Certification Bodies, Scope of Forest Certification, Section 2.1 first published in 1998, and revised as FSC-GUI-20-200 in 2005, and revised again in 2010 as FSC-DIR-20-007 FSC Directive on Forest Management Evaluations, ADVICE-20-007-01).

**Formal and informal workers organization:** association or union of *workers\**, whether recognized by law or by *The Organization\** or neither, which have the aim of promoting *workers\** rights and to represent *workers\** in dealings with *The Organization\** particularly regarding working conditions and compensation.

**Free, Prior, and Informed Consent (FPIC):** A *legal\** condition whereby a person or community can be said to have given consent to an action prior to its commencement, based upon a clear appreciation and understanding of the facts, implications and future consequences of that action, and the possession of all relevant facts at the time when consent is given. Free, prior and informed consent includes the right to grant, modify, withhold or withdraw approval (Source: Based on the Preliminary working paper on the principle of Free, Prior and Informed Consent of Indigenous Peoples (...) (E/CN.4/Sub.2/AC.4/2004/4 8 July 2004) of the 22nd Session of the United Nations Commission on Human Rights, Sub-commission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights, Working Group on Indigenous Populations, 19–23 July 2004).

**Gender equality:** Gender equality or gender equity means that women and men have equal conditions for realizing their full human rights and for contributing to, and benefiting from, economic, social, cultural and political development (Source: Adapted from FAO, IFAD and ILO workshop on 'Gaps, trends and current research in gender dimensions of agricultural and rural employment: differentiated pathways out of poverty', Rome, 31 March to 2 April 2009.).

**Genetically modified organism:** An organism in which the genetic material has been altered in a way that does not occur naturally by mating and/or natural recombination. (Source: Based on FSC-POL-30-602 FSC Interpretation on GMO (Genetically Modified Organisms)).

**Genotype:** The genetic constitution of an organism (Source: FSC-STD-01-001 V5-0).

**Grassland:** Land covered with herbaceous plants with less than 10% tree and shrub cover (Source: UNEP, cited in FAO. 2002. Second Expert Meeting on Harmonizing Forest-Related Definitions for use by various stakeholders).

**Habitat:** The place or type of site where an organism or population occurs (Source: Based on the Convention on Biological Diversity, Article 2).

**Habitat features:** *Forest\** stand attributes and structures, including but not limited to:

- **Old commercial and non-commercial trees whose age noticeably exceeds the average age of the main canopy;**
- **Trees with special ecological value;**
- **Vertical and horizontal complexity;**
- **Standing dead trees;**
- **Dead fallen wood;**
- **Forest openings attributable to natural disturbances;**

- Nesting sites;
- Small wetlands, bogs, fens;
- Ponds;
- Areas for procreation;
- Areas for feeding and shelter, including seasonal cycles of breeding;
- Areas for migration;
- Areas for hibernation.
- High Conservation Value (HCV): Any of the following values:
  - HCV1 - Species Diversity. Concentrations of *biological diversity*\* including endemic species, and rare, *threatened or endangered*\* species, that are significant at global, regional or national levels.
  - HCV 2 - Landscape-level ecosystems and mosaics. Intact Forest Landscapes, large landscape-level ecosystems\* and ecosystem mosaics that are significant 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.
  - HCV 3 - Ecosystems and habitats. Rare, threatened, or endangered ecosystems, habitats\* or refugia\*.
  - HCV 4 - Critical ecosystem services. Basic ecosystem services\* in critical situations, including protection of water catchments and control of erosion of vulnerable soils and slopes.
  - HCV 5 - Community needs. Sites and resources fundamental for satisfying the basic necessities of local communities or Indigenous Peoples\* (for example for livelihoods, health, nutrition, water), identified through engagement with these communities or Indigenous Peoples\*.
  - HCV 6 - Cultural values. Sites, resources, habitats and landscapes\* of global or national cultural, archaeological or historical significance, and/or of critical cultural, ecological, economic or religious/sacred importance for the traditional cultures of local communities or Indigenous Peoples\*, identified through engagement with these local communities or Indigenous Peoples\*.
- (Source: based on FSC-STD-01-001 V5-0).

**High Conservation Value Areas:** Zones and physical spaces which possess and/or are needed for the existence and maintenance of identified *High Conservation Values*\*.

**High grading:** High grading is a tree removal practice in which only the best quality, most valuable timber trees are removed, often without regenerating new tree seedlings or removing the remaining poor quality and suppressed understory trees and, in doing so, degrading the ecological health and commercial value of the forest. High grading stands as a counterpoint to sustainable resource management (Source: based on Glossary of Forest Management Terms. North Carolina Division of Forest Resources. March 2009).

**Indicator:** A quantitative or qualitative variable which can be measured or described, and which provides a means of judging whether a *Management Unit*\* complies with the requirements of an FSC Criterion. Indicators and the associated thresholds thereby define the requirements for responsible forest management at the level of the *Management Unit*\* and are the primary basis of forest evaluation (Source: FSC-STD-01-002 V1-0 FSC Glossary of Terms (2009)).

**Indigenous Peoples:** People and groups of people that can be identified or characterized as follows:

- **The key characteristic or Criterion is self-identification as Indigenous Peoples at the individual level and acceptance by the community as their member**
- **Historical continuity with pre-colonial and/or pre-settler societies**
- **Strong link to territories and surrounding natural resources**
- **Distinct social, economic or political systems**
- **Distinct language, culture and beliefs**
- **Form non-dominant groups of society**
- **Resolve to maintain and reproduce their ancestral environments and systems as distinctive peoples and communities.**

(Source: Adapted from United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous, Factsheet 'Who are Indigenous Peoples' October 2007; United Nations Development Group, 'Guidelines on Indigenous Peoples' Issues' United Nations 2009, United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, 13 September 2007).

**Infrastructure:** In the context of forest management, roads, bridges, culverts, log landings, quarries, impoundments, buildings and other structures required in the course of implementing the *management plan*\*.

**Intact Forest Landscape:** a territory within today's global extent of forest cover which contains forest and non-forest ecosystems minimally influenced by human economic activity, with an area of at least 500 km<sup>2</sup> (50,000 ha) and a minimal width of 10 km (measured as the diameter of a circle that is entirely inscribed within the boundaries of the territory) (Source: Intact Forests / Global Forest Watch. Glossary definition as provided on Intact Forest [website](#). 2006-2014).

**Intellectual property:** Practices as well as knowledge, innovations and other creations of the mind (Source: Based on the Convention on Biological Diversity, Article 8(j); and World Intellectual Property Organization. What is Intellectual Property? WIPO Publication No. 450(E). No Date).

**Intensity:** A measure of the force, severity or strength of a management activity or other occurrence affecting the nature of the activity's impacts (Source: FSC-STD-01-001 V5-0).

**Interested stakeholder:** Any person, group of persons, or entity that has shown an interest, or is known to have an interest, in the activities of a Management Unit. The following are examples of interested stakeholders.

- **Conservation organizations, for example environmental NGOs**
- **Labor (rights) organizations, for example labor unions**
- **Human rights organizations, for example social NGOs**
- **Local development projects**

- **Local governments**
- **National government departments functioning in the region**
- **FSC National Offices**
- **Experts on particular issues, for example High Conservation Values**
- **(Source: FSC-STD-01-001 V5-0)**
- **Internationally accepted scientific protocol: A predefined science-based procedure which is either published by an international scientific network or union, or referenced frequently in the international scientific literature (Source: FSC-STD-01-001 V5-0).**
- **Invasive species: Species that are rapidly expanding outside of their native range. Invasive species can alter ecological relationships among native species and can affect ecosystem function and human health (Source: Based on World Conservation Union (IUCN). Glossary definitions as provided on IUCN**

**Lands and territories:** For the purposes of the Principles and Criteria these are lands or territories that Indigenous Peoples or local communities have traditionally owned, or customarily used or occupied, and where access to natural resources is vital to the sustainability of their cultures and livelihoods (Source: Based on World Bank safeguard OP 4.10 Indigenous Peoples, section 16 (a). July 2005.)

**Landscape:** A geographical mosaic composed of interacting ecosystems resulting from the influence of geological, topographical, soil, climatic, biotic and human interactions in a given area (Source: Based on World Conservation Union (IUCN). Glossary definitions as provided on IUCN website).

**Landscape values:** Landscape values can be visualized as layers of human perceptions overlaid on the physical landscape. Some landscape values, like economic, recreation, subsistence value or visual quality are closely related to physical landscape attributes. Other landscape values such as intrinsic or spiritual value are more symbolic in character and are influenced more by individual perception or social construction than physical landscape attributes (Source: Based on website of the Landscape Value Institute).

**Legal:** In accordance with primary legislation (national or local laws) or secondary legislation (subsidiary regulations, decrees, orders, etc.). 'Legal' also includes rule-based decisions made by legally competent agencies where such decisions flow directly and logically from the laws and regulations. Decisions made by legally competent agencies may not be legal if they do not flow directly and logically from the laws and regulations and if they are not rule-based but use administrative discretion (Source: FSC-STD-01-001 V5-0).

**Legally competent:** Mandated in law to perform a certain function (Source: FSC-STD-01-001 V5-0).

**Legal registration:** National or local *legal*\* license or set of permissions to operate as an enterprise, with rights to buy and sell products and/or services commercially. The license or permissions can apply to an individual, a privately-owned enterprise or a publicly-owned corporate entity. The rights to buy and sell products and/or services do not carry the obligation to do so, so *legal*\* registration applies also to Organizations operating a Management Unit without sales of products or services; for example, for unpriced recreation or for conservation of biodiversity or habitat (Source: FSC-STD-01-001 V5-0).

**Legal status:** The way in which the Management Unit is classified according to law. In terms of tenure, it means the category of tenure, such as communal land or leasehold or freehold or State land or government land, etc. If the Management Unit is being converted from one category to another (for example, from State land to communal indigenous land) the status includes the current position in the transition process. In terms of administration, legal status could mean that the land is owned by the nation as a whole, is administered on behalf of the nation by a government department, and is leased by a government Ministry to a private sector operator through a concession (Source: FSC-STD-01-001 V5-0).

**Living wage:** The remuneration received for a standard work week by a worker in a particular place sufficient to afford a decent standard of living for the worker and her or his family. Elements of a decent standard of living include food, water, housing, education, health care, transport, clothing, and other essential needs including provision for unexpected events (Source: A Shared Approach to a Living Wage. ISEAL Living Wage Group. November 2013).

**Local communities:** Communities of any size that are in or adjacent to the Management Unit, and also those that are close enough to have a significant impact on the economy or the environmental values of the Management Unit or to have their economies, rights or environments significantly affected by the management activities or the biophysical aspects of the Management Unit (Source: FSC-STD-01-001 V5-0).

- **website).**

**Local laws:** The whole suite of primary and secondary laws (acts, ordinances, statutes, decrees) which is limited in application to a particular geographic district within a national territory, as well as secondary regulations, and tertiary administrative procedures (rules / requirements) that derive their authority directly and explicitly from these primary and secondary laws. Laws derive authority

ultimately from the Westphalian concept of sovereignty of the Nation State (Source: FSC-STD-01-001 V5-0).

**Long-term:** The time-scale of the forest owner or manager as manifested by the objectives of the *management plan*\*, the rate of harvesting, and the commitment to maintain permanent forest cover. The length of time involved will vary according to the context and ecological conditions, and will be a function of how long it takes a given ecosystem to recover its natural structure and composition following harvesting or disturbance, or to produce mature or primary conditions (Source: FSC-STD-01-002 V1-0 FSC Glossary of Terms (2009)).

**Management objective:** Specific management goals, practices, outcomes, and approaches established to achieve the requirements of this standard.

**Management plan:** The collection of documents, reports, records and maps that describe, justify and regulate the activities carried out by any manager, staff or organization within or in relation to the Management Unit, including statements of objectives and policies (Source: FSC-STD-01-001 V5-0).

**Management plan monitoring:** Follow up and oversight procedures for the purpose of evaluating the achievement of the *management objectives*\*. The results of the monitoring activities are utilized in the implementation of *adaptive management*\*.

**Management Unit:** A spatial area or areas submitted for FSC certification with clearly defined boundaries managed to a set of explicit long term management objectives which are expressed in a *management plan*\*. This area or areas include(s):

- **all facilities and area(s) within or adjacent to this spatial area or areas under *legal*\* title or management control of, or operated by or on behalf of The Organization, for the purpose of contributing to the management objectives; and**
- **all facilities and area(s) outside, and not adjacent to this spatial area or areas and operated by or on behalf of The Organization, solely for the purpose of contributing to the management objectives.**
- **(Source: FSC-STD-01-001 V5-0).**

**Managerial control:** Responsibility of the kind defined for corporate directors of commercial enterprises in national commercial law, and treated by FSC as applicable also to public sector organizations (Source: FSC-STD-01-001 V5-0).

**National laws:** The whole suite of primary and secondary laws (acts, ordinances, statutes, decrees), which is applicable to a national territory, as well as secondary regulations, and tertiary administrative procedures (rules / requirements) that derive their authority directly and explicitly from these primary and secondary laws (Source: FSC-STD-01-001 V5-0).

**Native species:** Species, subspecies, or lower taxon, occurring within its natural range (past or present) and dispersal potential (that is, within the range it occupies naturally or could occupy without direct or indirect introduction or care by humans) (Source: Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD). Invasive Alien Species Programme. Glossary of Terms as provided on CBD website).

**Natural conditions/native ecosystem:** For the purposes of the Principles and Criteria and any applications of restoration techniques, terms such as 'more natural conditions', 'native ecosystem' provide for managing sites to favor or restore native species and associations of native species that are typical of the locality, and for managing these associations and other environmental values so that they form ecosystems typical of the locality. Further guidelines may be provided in FSC Forest Stewardship Standards (Source: FSC-STD-01-001 V5-0).

**Natural forest:** A forest area with many of the principal characteristics and key elements of native ecosystems, such as complexity, structure and biological diversity, including soil characteristics, flora and fauna, in which all or almost all the trees are native species, not classified as plantations.

- **'Natural forest' includes the following categories:**
- **Forest affected by harvesting or other disturbances, in which trees are being or have been regenerated by a combination of natural and artificial regeneration with**

species typical of natural forests in that site, and where many of the above-ground and below-ground characteristics of the natural forest are still present. In boreal and north temperate forests which are naturally composed of only one or few tree species, a combination of natural and artificial regeneration to regenerate forest of the same native species, with most of the principal characteristics and key elements of native ecosystems of that site, is not by itself considered as conversion to plantations.

- Natural forests which are maintained by traditional silvicultural practices including natural or assisted natural regeneration.
- Well-developed secondary or colonizing forest of native species which has regenerated in non-forest areas.
- The definition of 'natural forest' may include areas described as wooded ecosystems, woodland and savanna. Natural Hazards: disturbances that can present risks to social and *environmental values*\* in the *Management Unit*\* but that may also comprise important ecosystem functions; examples include drought, flood, fire, landslide, storm, avalanche, etc.
- Non-timber forest products (NTFP): All products other than timber derived from the Management Unit (Source: FSC-STD-01-001 V5-0).
- Objective: The basic purpose laid down by The Organization for the forest enterprise, including the decision of policy and the choice of means for attaining the purpose (Source: Based on F.C. Osmaston. 1968. *The Management of Forests*. Hafner, New York; and D.R. Johnston, A.J. Grayson and R.T. Bradley. 1967. *Forest Planning*. Faber & Faber, London).
- Obligatory code of practice: A manual or handbook or other source of technical instruction which The Organization must implement by law (Source: FSC-STD-01-001 V5-0).
- Occupational accident: An occurrence arising out of, or in the course of, work which results in fatal or non-fatal injury (Source: International Labour Organization (ILO). Bureau of Library and Information Services. ILO Thesaurus as provided on ILO website).
- Occupational disease: Any disease contracted as a result of an exposure to risk factors arising from work activity (Source: International Labour Organization (ILO). Bureau of Library and Information Services. ILO Thesaurus as provided on ILO website).
- Occupational injuries: Any personal injury, disease or death resulting from an occupational accident (Source: International Labour Organization (ILO). Bureau of Library and Information Services. ILO Thesaurus as provided on ILO website).

**Organism:** Any biological entity capable of replication or of transferring genetic material (Source: Council Directive 90/220/EEC).

**The Organization:** The person or entity holding or applying for certification and therefore responsible for demonstrating compliance with the requirements upon which FSC certification is based (Source: FSC-STD-01-001 V5-0).

**Peatland:** Is constituted by flooded and soggy areas, with large accumulations of organic material, covered by a layer of poor vegetation associated with a certain degree of acidity, and which presents a characteristic amber color (Source: Aguilar, L. 2001. About Fishermen, Fisherwomen, Oceans and tides. IUCN. San Jose (Costa Rica)).

**Pesticide:** Any substance or preparation prepared or used in protecting plants or wood or other plant products from pests; in controlling pests; or in rendering such pests harmless. This definition includes insecticides, rodenticides, acaricides, molluscicides, larvaecides, fungicides and herbicides (Source: FSC-POL-30-001 FSC Pesticides Policy (2005)).

**Plantation:** A forest area established by planting or sowing with using either alien or native species, often with one or few species, regular spacing and even ages, and which lacks most of the principal characteristics and key elements of natural forests. The description of plantations may be further defined in FSC Forest Stewardship Standards, with appropriate descriptions or examples, such as:

- **Areas which would initially have complied with this definition of ‘plantation’ but which, after the passage of years, contain many or most of the principal characteristics and key elements of native ecosystems, may be classified as natural forests.**
- **Plantations managed to restore and enhance biological and habitat diversity, structural complexity and ecosystem functionality may, after the passage of years, be classified as natural forests.**
- **Boreal and north temperate forests which are naturally composed of only one or few tree species, in which a combination of natural and artificial regeneration is used to regenerate forest of the same native species, with most of the principal characteristics and key elements of native ecosystems of that site, may be considered as natural forest, and this regeneration is not by itself considered as conversion to plantations (Source: FSC-STD-01-001 V5-0).**
- **Precautionary approach: An approach requiring that when the available information indicates that management activities pose a threat of severe or irreversible damage to the environment or a threat to human welfare, The Organization will take explicit and effective measures to prevent the damage and avoid the risks to welfare, even when the scientific information is incomplete or inconclusive, and when the vulnerability and sensitivity of environmental values are uncertain (Source: Based on Principle 15 of Rio Declaration on Environment and Development, 1992, and Wingspread Statement on the Precautionary Principle of the Wingspread Conference, 23–25 January 1998).**

**Pre-harvest [condition]:** The diversity, composition, and structure of the *forest\** or plantation prior to felling timber and appurtenant activities such as road building.

**Principle:** An essential rule or element; in FSC’s case, of forest stewardship (Source: FSC-STD-01-001 V4-0).

**Protection:** See definition of Conservation.

**Protection Area:** See definition of Conservation Zone.

**Publicly available:** In a manner accessible to or observable by people generally (Source: Collins English Dictionary, 2003 Edition).

**Rare species:** Species that are uncommon or scarce, but not classified as threatened. These species are located in geographically restricted areas or specific habitats, or are scantily scattered on a large scale. They are approximately equivalent to the IUCN (2001) category of Near

Threatened (NT), including species that are close to qualifying for, or are likely to qualify for, a threatened category in the near future. They are also approximately equivalent to imperiled species (Source: Based on IUCN. (2001). IUCN Red List Categories and Criteria: Version 3.1. IUCN Species Survival Commission. IUCN. Gland, Switzerland and Cambridge, UK).

**Ratified:** The process by which an international law, convention or agreement (including multilateral environmental agreement) is legally approved by a national legislature or equivalent *legal\** mechanism, such that the international law, convention or agreement becomes automatically part of national law or sets in motion the development of national law to give the same *legal\** effect (Source: FSC-STD-01-001 V5-0).

**Reasonable:** Judged to be fair or appropriate to the circumstances or purposes, based on general experience (Source: Shorter Oxford English Dictionary).

**Reduced impact harvesting:** Harvesting (including logging) using techniques to reduce the impact on the residual stand (Source: Based on Guidelines for the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Biodiversity in Tropical Timber Production Forests, IUCN 2006).

**Refugia:** An isolated area where extensive changes, typically due to changing climate or by disturbances such as those caused by humans, have not occurred and where plants and animals typical of a region may survive (Source: Glen Canyon Dam, Adaptive Management Program Glossary as provided on website of Glen Canyon Dam website).

**Representative Sample Areas:** Portions of the *Management Unit\** delineated for the purpose of conserving or restoring viable examples of an ecosystem that would naturally occur in that geographical region.

**Resilience:** The ability of a system to maintain key functions and processes in the face of stresses or pressures by either resisting or adapting to change. Resilience can be applied to both ecological systems and social systems (Source: IUCN World Commission on Protected Areas (IUCN-WCPA). 2008. Establishing Marine Protected Area Networks – Making it Happen. Washington D.C.: IUCN-WCPA National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and The Nature Conservancy.)

**Restore / Restoration:** These words are used in different senses according to the context and in everyday speech. In some cases 'restore' means to repair the damage done to environmental values that resulted from management activities or other causes. In other cases 'restore' means the formation of more natural conditions in sites which have been heavily degraded or converted to other land uses. In the Principles and Criteria, the word 'restore' is not used to imply the recreation of any particular previous, pre-historic, pre-industrial or other pre-existing ecosystem (Source: FSC-STD-01-001 V5-0)

The Organization is not necessarily obliged to restore those environmental values that have been affected by factors beyond the control of The Organization, for example by natural disasters, by climate change, or by the legally authorized activities of third parties, such as public infrastructure, mining, hunting or settlement. FSC-POL-20-003 The Excision of Areas from the Scope of Certification describes the processes by which such areas may be excised from the area certified, when appropriate.

The Organization is also not obliged to restore environmental values that may have existed at some time in the historic or pre-historic past, or that have been negatively affected by previous owners or organizations. However, The Organization is expected to take reasonable measures to mitigate, control and prevent environmental degradation which is continuing in the Management Unit as a result of such previous impacts.

**Riparian zone:** Interface between land and a water body, and the vegetation associated with it.

**Risk:** The probability of an unacceptable negative impact arising from any activity in the Management Unit combined with its seriousness in terms of consequences (Source: FSC-STD-01-001 V5-0).

**Scale:** A measure of the extent to which a management activity or event affects an environmental value or a management unit, in time or space. An activity with a small or low spatial scale affects only a small proportion of the forest each year, an activity with a small or low temporal scale occurs only at long intervals (Source: FSC-STD-01-001 V5-0).

**Scale, intensity and risk:** See individual definitions of the terms 'scale', 'intensity', and 'risk'.

**Significant:** For the purposes of Principle 9, HCVs 1, 2 and 6 there are three main forms of recognizing significance.

- **A designation, classification or recognized conservation status, assigned by an international agency such as IUCN or Birdlife International.**
- **A designation by national or regional authorities, or by a responsible national conservation organization, on the basis of its concentration of biodiversity.**
- **A voluntary recognition by the manager, owner or Organization, on the basis of available information, or of the known or suspected presence of a significant biodiversity concentration, even when not officially designated by other agencies.**
- **Any one of these forms will justify designation as HCVs 1, 2 and 6. Many regions of the world have received recognition for their biodiversity importance, measured in many different ways. Existing maps and classifications of priority areas for biodiversity conservation play an essential role in identifying the potential presence of HCVs 1, 2 and 6 (Source: FSC-STD-01-001 V5-0).**
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**Silviculture:** The art and science of controlling the establishment, growth, composition, health and quality of forests and woodlands to meet the targeted diverse needs and values of landowners and society on a sustainable basis (Source: Nieuwenhuis, M. 2000. Terminology of Forest Management. IUFRO World Series Vol. 9. IUFRO 4.04.07 SilvaPlan and SilvaVoc).

**Stakeholder:** See definitions for 'affected stakeholder' and 'interested stakeholder'.

**Statutory law or statute law:** The body of law contained in Acts of Parliament (national legislature) (Source: Oxford Dictionary of Law).

**Tenure:** Socially defined agreements held by individuals or groups, recognized by *legal*\* statutes or customary practice, regarding the 'bundle of rights and duties' of ownership, holding, access and/or usage of a particular land unit or the associated resources there within (such as individual trees, plant species, water, minerals, etc.) (Source: World Conservation Union (IUCN). Glossary definitions provided on IUCN website).

**Threat:** An indication or warning of impending or likely damage or negative impacts (Source: Based on Oxford English Dictionary).

**Threatened species:** Species that meet the IUCN (2001) criteria for Vulnerable (VU), Endangered (EN) or Critically Endangered (CR), and are facing a high, very high or extremely high risk of extinction in the wild. These categories may be re-interpreted for FSC purposes according to official national classifications (which have *legal*\* significance) and to local conditions and population densities (which should affect decisions about appropriate conservation measures) (Source: Based on IUCN. (2001). IUCN Red List Categories and Criteria: Version 3.1. IUCN Species Survival Commission. IUCN. Gland, Switzerland and Cambridge, UK.).

**Timber harvesting level:** The actual harvest quantity executed on the *Management Unit*\*, tracked by either volume (e.g. cubic meters or board feet) or area (e.g. hectares or acres) metrics for the purpose of comparison with calculated (maximum) allowable harvest levels.

**Timely manner:** As promptly as circumstances reasonably allow; not intentionally postponed by *The Organization*\*; in compliance with applicable laws, contracts, licenses or invoices.

**Traditional Knowledge:** Information, know-how, skills and practices that are developed, sustained and passed on from generation to generation within a community, often forming part of its cultural or spiritual identity (Source: based on the definition by the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO). Glossary definition as provided under Policy / Traditional Knowledge on the WIPO website).

**Traditional peoples:** Traditional peoples are social groups or peoples who do not self-identify as indigenous and who affirm rights to their lands, forests and other resources based on long

established custom or traditional occupation and use (Source: Forest Peoples Programme (Marcus Colchester, 7 October 2009)).

**Uphold:** To acknowledge, respect, sustain and support (Source: FSC-STD-01-001 V5-0).

**Use rights:** Rights for the use of resources of the Management Unit that can be defined by local custom, mutual agreements, or prescribed by other entities holding access rights. These rights may restrict the use of particular resources to specific levels of consumption or particular harvesting techniques (Source: FSC-STD-01-001 V5-0).

**Verifiable targets:** Specific goals, such as desired future forest conditions, established to measure progress towards the achievement of each of the *management objectives*\*. These goals are expressed as clear outcomes, such that their attainment can be verified and it is possible to determine whether they have been accomplished or not.

**Very Limited portion:** The area affected *shall*\* not exceed 0.5% of the area of the *Management Unit*\* in any one year, nor affect a total of more than 5% of the area of the *Management Unit*\* (Source: based on FSC-STD-01-002 V1-0 FSC Glossary of Terms (2009)).

**Waste materials:** unusable or unwanted substances or by-products, such as:

- **Hazardous waste, including chemical waste and batteries;**
- **Containers;**
- **Motor and other fuels and oils;**
- **Rubbish including metals, plastics and paper; and**
- **Abandoned buildings, machinery and equipment.**

**Water bodies (including water courses):** Seasonal, temporary, and permanent brooks, creeks, streams, rivers, ponds, and lakes. Water bodies include riparian or wetland systems, lakes, swamps, bogs and springs.

**Water scarcity:** A water supply that limits food production, human health, and economic development. Severe scarcity is taken to be equivalent to 1,000 cubic meters per year per person or greater than 40% use relative to supply (Source: Millennium Ecosystem Assessment. 2005. *Ecosystems and Human Well-Being: Policy Responses. Findings of the Responses Working Group*. Washington DC: Island Press, Pages 599-605).

**Water stress:** Occurs when the demand for water exceeds the available amount during a certain period or when poor quality restricts its use. Water stress causes deterioration of freshwater resources in terms of quantity (aquifer over-exploitation, dry rivers, etc.) and quality (eutrophication, organic matter pollution, saline intrusion, etc.) (Source: UNEP, 2003, cited in Gold Standard Foundation. 2014. *Water Benefits Standard*).

**Wetlands.** Transitional areas between terrestrial and aquatic systems in which the water table is usually at or near the surface or the land is covered by shallow water (Source: Cowardin, L.M., Carter, V., Golet, F.C., Laroe, E.T. 1979. *Classification of Wetlands and Deepwater Habitats of the United States*. DC US Department: Washington).

Under the Ramsar Convention, wetlands can include tidal mudflats, natural ponds, marshes, potholes, wet meadows, bogs, peatlands, freshwater swamps, mangroves, lakes, rivers and even some coral reefs (Source: IUCN, No Date, [IUCN Definitions](#) – English).

**Workers:** All employed persons including public employees as well as 'self-employed' persons. This includes part-time and seasonal employees, of all ranks and categories, including laborers, administrators, supervisors, executives, contractor employees as well as self-employed contractors and sub-contractors (Source: ILO Convention C155 Occupational Safety and Health Convention, 1981).

Annex 1: Minimum list of applicable laws, regulations and nationally-ratified international treaties, conventions and agreements

1. <i>Legal</i> * rights to harvest	
1.1 Land <i>tenure</i> * and management rights	<p>Legislation covering land <i>tenure</i>* rights, including <i>customary rights</i>* as well as management rights, that includes the use of <i>legal</i>* methods to obtain <i>tenure</i>* rights and management rights. It also covers <i>legal</i>* business registration and tax registration, including relevant legally required licenses.</p> <p><b>Organic Law N° 03/2013/OL of 16/06/2013</b> repealing Organic Law n° 08/2005 of 14/07/2005 determining the use and management of land in Rwanda</p> <p><b>Law N°47bis/2013 of 28/06/2013</b> determining the management and utilisation of forests in Rwanda</p> <p><b>Presidential order n°25/01 of 09/07/2012</b> establishing the list of fees and other charges levied by decentralized entities and determining their thresholds (Article 9,10,11,12, 27)</p>
1.2 Concession licenses	<p>Legislation regulating procedures for issuing <i>forest</i>* concession licenses, including the use of <i>legal</i>* methods to obtain concession licenses. Bribery, corruption and nepotism are particularly well-known issues that are connected with concession licenses.</p> <p><b>Law N°47bis/2013 of 28/06/2013</b> determining the management and utilisation of forests in Rwanda (Article 40, 41, 42)</p> <p><b>Organic Law N° 03/2013/OL of 16/06/2013</b> repealing Organic Law n° 08/2005 of 14/07/2005 determining the use and management of land in Rwanda (Article 17)</p> <p><b>Prime Minister’s Order No115/03 of 25/06/2015</b> determining the organ issuing a state forest harvesting license and modalities for its issuance</p> <p><b>Ministerial order n° 001/14/10/TC of 19/02/2014</b> establishing regulations on public procurement, standard bidding documents and standard contracts</p> <p><b>Law No 23/2003 of 07/08/2003</b> aims at prevention, suppression and punishment of corruption and related offences.</p>
1.3 Management and harvesting planning	<p>Any national or sub-national <i>legal</i>* requirements for Management Planning, including conducting <i>forest</i>* inventories, having a <i>forest</i>* <i>management plan</i>* and related planning and <i>monitoring</i>*, impact assessments, consultation with other entities, as well as approval of these by <i>legally competent</i>* authorities.</p> <p><b>Law N°47bis/2013 of 28/06/2013</b> determining the management and utilisation of forests in Rwanda (Article 11, 12, 13,14)</p> <p>Ministerial Order <b>No006/MINIRENA/2015 of 18/06/2015</b> determining the management of protected state forests not governed by special laws</p>

	<p><b>Prime Minister’s Order No115/03 of 25/06/2015</b> determining the organ issuing a state forest harvesting license and modalities for its issuance</p> <p><b>Ministerial Order No004/MINIRENA/2015 of 18/06/2015</b> determining the issuance of license used for the activities relating to a District or private forest (Article 3, 4)</p>
1.4 Harvesting permits	<p>National or sub-national laws and regulations regulating procedures for issuing harvesting permits, licenses or other <i>legal</i>* documents required for specific harvesting operations. This includes the use of <i>legal</i>* methods to obtain the permits. Corruption is a well-known issue that is connected with the issuing of harvesting permits.</p> <p><b>Law N°47bis/2013 of 28/06/2013</b> determining the management and utilisation of forests in Rwanda (Article 53)</p> <p><b>Prime Minister’s Order No115/03 of 25/06/2015</b> determining the organ issuing a state forest harvesting license and modalities for its issuance (Article 3)</p> <p><b>Ministerial Order No004/MINIRENA/2015 of 18/06/2015</b> determining the issuance of license used for the activities relating to a District or private forest (Article 4, 5)</p> <p><b>Law No 23/2003 of 07/08/2003</b> aims at prevention, suppression and punishment of corruption and related offences.</p>
<b>2. Taxes and fees</b>	
2.1 Payment of royalties and harvesting fees	<p>Legislation covering payment of all legally required <i>forest</i>* harvesting specific fees such as royalties, stumpage fees and other volume-based fees. This includes payments of the fees based on the correct classification of quantities, qualities and species. Incorrect classification of <i>forest</i>* products is a well-known issue that is often combined with bribery of officials in charge of controlling the classification.</p> <p><b>Presidential order n°25/01 of 09/07/2012</b> establishing the list of fees and other charges levied by decentralized entities and determining their thresholds (Article 23)</p>
2.2 Value added taxes and other sales taxes	<p>Legislation covering different types of sales taxes which apply to the material being sold, including the sale of material as growing <i>forest</i>* (standing stock sales).</p> <p><b>Law N° 59/2011 of 31/12/2011</b> establishing the sources of revenue and property of decentralized entities and governing their management (Article 18, 43)</p> <p><b>Law No 37/2012 of 09/11/2012</b> establishing the Value Added Tax</p> <p><b>Law N°02/2015 of 25/02/2015</b> modifying and complementing Law n° 37/2012 of 09/11/2012 establishing the value added tax</p>
2.3 Income and profit	<p>Legislation covering income and profit taxes related to profit derived from the sale of <i>forest</i>* products and harvesting activities. This category is also</p>

taxes	<p>related to income from the sale of timber and does not include other taxes generally applicable for companies and is not related to salary payments.</p> <p><b>Presidential order n°25/01 of 09/07/2012</b> establishing the list of fees and other charges levied by decentralized entities and determining their thresholds</p> <p><b>Organic Law N° 12/2013/OL of 12/09/2013</b> on State finances and property (Article 9)</p>
<b>3. Timber harvesting activities</b>	
3.1 Timber harvesting regulations	<p>Any <i>legal*</i> requirements for harvesting techniques and technology including selective cutting, shelter wood regenerations, clear felling, transport of timber from the felling site, seasonal limitations, etc. Typically this includes regulations on the size of felling areas, minimum age and/or diameter for felling activities, and elements that <i>shall*</i> be preserved during felling, etc. Establishment of skidding or hauling trails, road construction, drainage systems and bridges, etc., <i>shall*</i> also be considered as well as the planning and <i>monitoring*</i> of harvesting activities. Any legally binding codes for harvesting practices <i>shall*</i> be considered.</p> <p><b>Prime Minister's Order No115/03 of 25/06/2015</b> determining the organ issuing a state forest harvesting license and modalities for its issuance (Article 4).</p> <p><b>Instructions of the Director General (RNRA)</b> governing open competition of buying a tree or a forest belonging to the state (<i>in press</i>)</p> <p><b>Ministerial Order No004/MINIRENA/2015 of 18/06/2015</b> determining the issuance of license used for the activities relating to a District or private forest</p> <p>Tree harvesting manual for Rwanda (RNRA, July 2014)</p>
3.2 Protected sites and species	<p>International, national, and sub national treaties, laws, and regulations related to protected areas, allowable <i>forest*</i> uses and activities, and/or rare, threatened, or endangered species, including their <i>habitats*</i> and potential <i>habitats*</i>.</p> <p>Volcanoes National Park gazetted in 1934 (Voir <b>Décret du 26/11/1934</b> fixant les limites du PN d'Albert) as a small area bounded by Karisimbi, Bisoke and Mikeno, intended to protect the gorillas from poachers.</p> <p>Rwanda ratified the Convention on International Trade of Endangered Species (<b>CITES</b>) by <b>Presidential decree n°211 of 25 June 1980</b> to control trade with endangered plant and animal species and the <b>RAMSAR Convention</b> dealing with wetland especially as habitat for waterfowl.</p> <p><b>Loi N°22/2005 du 21/11/2005</b> portant creation du Park National de Nyungwe;</p> <p><b>Law N°33/2010 of 24/09/2010</b> establishing Akagera National Park.</p> <p><b>Law N°47bis/2013 of 28/06/2013</b> determining the management and utilisation of forests in Rwanda (Article 25, 26, 27);</p>

	<p><b>Law N°45/2015 of 15/10/2015</b> establishing the Gishwati -Mukura National Park.</p> <p><b>Ministerial Order No006/MINIRENA/2015 of 18/06/2015</b> determining the management of protected state forests not governed by special laws.</p> <p><b>Ministerial Order No008/MINIRENA/2015</b> of 18/06/2015 establishing a list of protected trees.</p> <p>Presidential order n° 68/01 of 12/03/2014 ratifying the accession of Rwanda to the International union for Conservation of nature and natural resources (<b>IUCN</b>)</p> <p>Presidential order n°69/01 of 12/03/2014 ratifying the treaty of 05 February 2005 on the conservation and sustainable management of forest ecosystems in central Africa and establishing the central African forests commission (<b>COMIFAC</b>)</p>
3.3.Environmental requirements	<p>National and sub national laws and regulations related to the identification and/or <i>protection*</i> of <i>environmental values*</i> including but not limited to those relating to or affected by harvesting, acceptable levels for soil damage, establishment of buffer zones (e.g., along water courses, open areas and breeding sites), maintenance of retention trees on the felling site, seasonal limitations of harvesting time, environmental requirements for <i>forest*</i> machineries, use of <i>pesticides*</i> and other chemicals, biodiversity <i>conservation*</i>, air quality, <i>protection*</i> and <i>restoration*</i> of water quality, operation of recreational equipment, development of non-forestry <i>infrastructure*</i>, mineral exploration and extraction, etc.</p> <p><b>The constitution of the republic of Rwanda</b> of 2003 revised in 2015 (article 53)</p> <p><b>Organic Law n° 04/2005 of 08/04/2005</b> determining the modalities of protection, conservation and promotion of environment in Rwanda, especially in Articles 61, 71 and 94; Rwanda signed The Paris Agreement on Climate change 12<sup>th</sup> December 2015 (pending ratification).</p>
3.4 Health and safety	<p>Legally required personal <i>protection*</i> equipment for persons involved in harvesting activities, implementation of safe felling and transport practices, establishment of <i>protection*</i> zones around harvesting sites, safety requirements for machinery used, and legally required safety requirements in relation to chemical usage. The health and safety requirements that <i>shall*</i> be considered relevant to operations in the <i>forest*</i> (not office work, or other activities less related to actual <i>forest*</i> operations).</p> <p>Law N° 13/2009 of 27/05/2009 regulating labour in Rwanda (Article 90-96)</p> <p>Tree harvesting manual for Rwanda (RNRA, July 2014)</p>
3.5 <i>Legal*</i> employment	<p><i>Legal*</i> requirements for employment of personnel involved in harvesting activities including requirements for contracts and working permits, requirements for obligatory insurance, requirements for competence certificates and other training requirements, and payment of social and</p>

	<p>income taxes withheld by the employer. Also covered are the observance of minimum working age and minimum age for personnel involved in hazardous work, legislation against forced and compulsory labor, and discrimination and freedom of association.</p> <p>Law N° 13/2009 of 27/05/2009 regulating labour in Rwanda (Article 18, 66, 82, 94, 97)</p>
<b>4. Third parties' rights</b>	
4.1 <i>Customary rights*</i>	<p>Legislation covering <i>customary rights*</i> relevant to <i>forest*</i> harvesting activities, including requirements covering the sharing of benefits and indigenous rights.</p> <p>Not specified. In the <b>Law N°47bis/2013 of 28/06/2013</b> determining the management and utilisation of forests in Rwanda, <b>article 4 specify the forest owner and rights</b></p>
4.2 <i>Free Prior and Informed Consent*</i>	<p>Legislation covering “free prior and informed consent” in connection with the transfer of <i>forest*</i> management rights and <i>customary rights*</i> to <i>The Organization*</i> in charge of the harvesting operation.</p> <p>The following rights being additionally and subject to the organization (licensee) having obtained all requisites government approvals and under the provision of the Law N°47bis/2013 of 28/06/2013 determining the management and utilisation of forests in Rwanda (articles 40, 41, 42) and the Organic Law N° 03/2013/OL of 16/06/2013 repealing Organic Law n° 08/2005 of 14/07/2005 determining the use and management of land in Rwanda; the licensee shall have:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The exclusive right to harvest forest produces on the concession;</li> <li>2. The exclusive rights to construct sheds, buildings warehouses, workshops/meetings accommodation facilities and processing plants at appropriate locations;</li> <li>3. The exclusive rights to establish, cultivate, manage and harvest a commercial forest plantation, to raise, tend and maintain tree seedling nurseries, construct sheds, and buildings to houses employees, tools and maintain the land referred in the concession.</li> <li>4. Ownership of all forest produce established, maintained and harvested under the concession boundary;</li> <li>5. Right to construct and maintain roads throughout the concession, subject to any applicable environmental conditions and obligation pursuant to applicable laws.</li> </ol>
4.3 <i>Indigenous Peoples**</i> rights	<p>Legislation that regulates the rights of <i>Indigenous Peoples*</i> as far as it is related to forestry activities. Possible aspects to consider are land <i>tenure*</i>, and rights to use certain <i>forest*</i> related resources and practice traditional activities, which may involve <i>forest*</i> lands.</p> <p><b>Organic Law N° 03/2013/OL of 16/06/2013</b> repealing Organic Law n° 08/2005 of 14/07/2005 determining the use and management of land in Rwanda (Article 4, 5, 23, 27, 34 )</p>

<b>5. Trade and transport</b>	
<b>NOTE:</b> This section covers requirements for <i>forest*</i> management operations as well as processing and trade.	
5.1 Classification of species, quantities, qualities	<p>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 or avoid payment of legally prescribed taxes and fees.</p> <p><b>Prime Minister’s Order No115/03 of 25/06/2015</b> determining the organ issuing a state forest harvesting license and modalities for its issuance (Article 7,9)</p> <p><b>Ministerial Order No004/MINIRENA/2015 of 18/06/2015</b> determining the issuance of license used for the activities relating to a District or private forest</p> <p><b>Presidential order n°25/01 of 09/07/2012</b> establishing the list of fees and other charges levied by decentralized entities and determining their thresholds (Article 23)</p>
5.2 Trade and transport	<p>All required trading and transport permits <i>shall*</i> exist as well as legally required transport documents which accompany the transport of wood from <i>forest*</i> operations.</p> <p><b>Ministerial Order No004/MINIRENA/2015 of 18/06/2015</b> determining the issuance of license used for the activities relating to a District or private forest ( Article 15-27)</p> <p>Amabwiriza ya Minisitiri No 01024/MINIFOM/2010 yo ku wa 28/12/2010 (Ministerial Regulations No 01024/MINIFOM/2010 of 28/12/2010 article 13)</p>
5.3 Offshore trading and transfer pricing	<p>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 is considered to be an important source of funds that can be used for payment of bribery to the <i>forest*</i> operations and personnel involved in the harvesting operation. Many countries have established legislation covering transfer pricing and offshore trading. It <i>should*</i> be noted that only transfer pricing and offshore trading, as far as it is legally prohibited in the country, can be included here.</p> <p><b>Offshore trading is not specified in Rwandan laws</b> however : it is legally prohibited in the country by The Constitution of the Republic of Rwanda of 2003 revised in 2015, in its <b>Article 164: “No exemption or reduction of a tax can be granted unless authorised by law”</b>.</p> <p>Zero-rated goods and services are only those specified in the article 5 of Law N°37/2012 OF 09/11/2012 establishing the value added tax.</p> <p>Law N° 25/2005 OF 04/12/2005 on tax procedures</p>
5.4 Custom regulations	<p>Custom legislation covering areas such as export/import licenses and product classification (codes, quantities, qualities and species).</p> <p><b>Ministerial Order No004/MINIRENA/2015 of 18/06/2015</b> determining the issuance of license used for the activities relating to a District or private forest (Article 23-27)</p>
5.5 CITES	CITES permits (the Convention on International Trade in Endangered

	<p>Species of Wild Fauna and Flora, also known as the Washington Convention).</p> <p>Rwanda ratified the Convention on International Trade of Endangered Species (<b>CITES</b>) by <b>presidential decree n°211 of 25 June 1980</b> to control trade with endangered plant and animal species</p>
<b>6. Due diligence / due care</b>	
6.1 Due diligence / due care procedures	<p>Legislation requiring due diligence/due care procedures, including, e.g., due diligence/due care systems, declaration obligations, and/or the keeping of trade related documents, etc.</p> <p>Law N° 06/2015 of 28/03/2015 relating to investment promotion and facilitation (Article 13)</p>
<b>7. Ecosystem Services</b>	
	<p>Legislation covering <i>ecosystem services*</i> rights, including <i>customary rights*</i> as well as management rights that include the use of <i>legal*</i> methods to make claims and obtain benefits and management rights related to <i>ecosystem services*</i>. National and subnational laws and regulations related to the identification, protection and payment for <i>ecosystem services*</i>. Also includes <i>legal*</i> business registration and tax registration, including relevant <i>legal*</i> required licenses for the exploitation, payment, and claims related to <i>ecosystem services*</i> (including tourism).</p> <p><b>Payment for ecosystem services in Rwanda remains on concept papers but not yet under legislations. Even the Law No12 ter/2014 of 19/05/2014</b> regulating the Tourism Industry in Rwanda doesn't provide that, however the policies (Tourism policy and Protected areas concessions management policy) call for supporting community revenue-sharing projects and community management in tourism programmes and benefit/revenues sharing between Government of Rwanda and the community around protected areas is based implemented this policies.</p> <p>For plantation forests, these rights are expected once the REDD+ strategy for Rwanda is approved.</p>

*Annex 2: Training requirements for workers*

*Workers\* shall\* be able to:*

**1) Implement forest\* activities to comply with applicable legal\* requirements (Criterion\*1.5);**

**Whether trees are been planted for a small woodlot (less than 2 hectares) or a large commercial plantation for timber production, there are some basic practices that workers should be equipped with, that will greatly enhance productivity and thus the return on the farmer's investment.**

Depending on their job responsibilities, workers shall be able to:

- Understand and read the district land use plans and district forest management plan;
- Draw the forest management operational plan;

- Select the site for forest planting and choose the most optimum forest species following the suitability and agroecological zoning for Rwanda; and prepare site at the best timing for planting,
- Monitor the growth of the planted trees while applying the silvicultural activities required to obtain high productivity of forest concession
- Collect, handle tree seeds and ensure the quality of planting material (seedlings or cuttings)
- Collect, identify, and document forest pests and diseases
- Conduct epidemiological survey and report the findings
- Implement appropriate biological and chemical treatments for forest pest and disease control
- Ensure the Harvesting Plan complies with Forest Management Plan
- Keep records on harvesting planning and execution
- Keep records for forest sales and exports
- Manipulate Forest inventory tools and equipment
- Implement the rules and guidelines of conservation and protection of remnant forests and protected trees found within the commercial forest concession.

**2) Understand the content, meaning and applicability of the eight ILO Core Labour Conventions (*Criterion\*2.1*);**

**It is the employers' responsibility to ensure that their workers are treated fairly and in accordance with the country's relevant labour laws. However, it is strongly recommended that employers go further than just the legal requirements and invest time and money in the general welfare and productivity of their workers.**

In commercial forestry, the licensee/forest leaseholder shall forbid any form of discrimination aiming at denying the worker the right to equal opportunity or to the salary especially when the discrimination is based on race, color, or origin; sex, marital status or family responsibilities; religion, beliefs or political opinions; social or economic conditions; country of origin; disability; previous, current or future pregnancy; any other type of discrimination (Rwanda labour law, 2009: Article 12).

Workers and their representatives shall have the right to express their personal or collective opinions on the content, conditions, execution and organization of work. The opinions of workers cannot be a basis for sanction against them (Rwanda labour law, 2009: Article 13).

Forest workers are permitted by the Rwanda labour law, 2009 in its article 106 to form union rights in forest concession and are trained to exercise their rights and obligation in forestry works.

**3) Recognize and report on instances of sexual harassment and gender discrimination (*Criterion\*2.2*);**

Pursuant to the International Convention on Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination against Women of May 1, 1980 ratified by Presidential Order n° 431/16 of 10/11/1981;

It shall be forbidden to directly or indirectly subject a worker to gender based violence or moral harassment within the context of work.

**4) Safely handle and dispose of hazardous substances to ensure that use does not pose health risks\* (Criterion\*2.3);**

The forest workers' contract must contain guarantee of payment of salary and provide respect of general conditions of work, health and safety at workplace (concession/timber processing plant) and other obligations of the licensee/leaseholder regard to forest worker (Labour law 2009, Article 44).

**5) Carry out their responsibilities for particularly dangerous jobs or jobs entailing a special responsibility (Criterion\*2.5);**

Forestry work in Rwanda is characterised by difficult working conditions - often in remote areas, heavy physical work and high accident rates. This often results in low productivity and a high turnover of workers. The poor productivity of workers is often over-looked despite it being one of the main contributors to high operating costs. To improve matters requires an investment in the people themselves as well as their training, supervision and giving them the right tools or equipment for the job.

If a workforce is employed away from home and in temporary accommodation, the Employer should ensure that it is to a reasonable standard, with adequate water supply and designated toilet and cooking areas. A workforce that is poorly housed is unlikely to perform well, and it is to the Employer's advantage to make the accommodation as comfortable as possible.

**6) Identify where Indigenous Peoples\* have legal\* and customary rights\* related to management activities (Criterion\*3.2);**

Indigenous Peoples rights for Rwanda are viewed as local community rights to management activities. Good relations with the local community are important through social-corporate responsibility, creation of off-forest project to forest-dependent communities. Local community shall be given priority while recruiting field officers, guardians, full-time and part-time workers.

**7) Identify and implement applicable elements of UNDRIP and ILO Convention 169 (Criterion\*3.4);**

**ILO Convention No. 169 on indigenous and tribal peoples is an international treaty as adopted by the International Labour Conference of the ILO in 1989 is not applicable for Rwanda. ILO 169 (1989) is based on respect for the cultures and ways of life of "indigenous peoples" and recognizes their right to land and natural resources and to define their own priorities for development. According to Organic Land Law of Rwanda (2013), in its article 34, the land owner shall enjoy full rights to exploit his/her land in accordance with the provisions of this Law and other laws. The State recognizes the right to freely own land and shall protect the land owner from being dispossessed of the land whether totally or partially, except in case of expropriation due to public interest.**

Article 3 of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP) acknowledges that indigenous peoples have the right to self-determination. Convention No. 169 explicitly provides for rights to participation, consultation and self-management for indigenous peoples. According to Rwanda Labour law 2009, in its article 138 internal rules and regulations shall be established by the concession manager after consultation with the workers' delegates. The content is mainly limited to rules relating to technical organization of work, discipline, provisions concerning health and the security at workplace

**8) Identify sites of special cultural, ecological, economic, religious or spiritual significance to *Indigenous Peoples*\* and implement the necessary measures to protect them before the start of *forest*\* management activities to avoid negative impacts (*Criterion*\* 3.5 and *Criterion*\*4.7);**

Not well known in Rwanda. However, where identified, the concession manager and workers shall respect the cultural and religious/spiritual values of the local community while implementing the concession or lease agreement.

**9) Identify where *local communities*\* have *legal*\* and *customary rights*\* related to management activities (*Criterion*\*4.2);**

As 6) above

**10) Carry out social, economic and *environmental impact assessments*\* and develop appropriate mitigation measures (*Criterion*\*4.5);**

Environmental impact assessments (EIA) are key tool to minimise environmental impacts of forest concession projects. Plantations of all sizes should be planned and managed in a socially acceptable and environmentally sustainable way. In practice this means taking into consideration the local communities' concerns or interests as well looking after one's workforce so that they have safe working environment. It also means that the tree planting should minimise any possible negative impact on the environment. Clearly defined environmental guidelines should be followed throughout the forestry operations.

Forest concession shall offer excellent opportunities to provide local communities not just with employment opportunities but also to supply them with fuelwood (off cuts) and other products. When forest concessions are planned and executed well, they can also have a very positive impact on the environment notably through Carbon sequestration and soil stabilisation.

Workers should be able to collect data for environmental impact assessment report as per Rwanda EIA guideline as published by Rwanda Development Board (RDB);

**11) Implement activities related to the maintenance and/or enhancement of declared *ecosystem services*\* (*Criterion*\*5.1);**

Workers should be able to:

Delineate water catchments within/or where the forest concession belongs;

Where relevant workers should be able to:

- Examine how forest management in the concession affects forest carbon balance;
- Investigate the mechanics of forest carbon markets;
- Which species best suited to plan on water streams to mitigate siltation
- Utilize tools for measuring and accounting for forest carbon (including satellite imagery, remote sensing, and integrated carbon sequestration models

**12) Handle, apply and store *pesticides*\* (*Criterion*\* 10.7); and**

Rwanda is a signatory of both the World Trade Organization (WTO) Agreement on the application of Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures (SPS Agreement) and the International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC). The IPPC, a treaty established in 1952, is a convention to secure common and effective action to prevent the spread and introduction of pests of

plants and plant products, and to promote appropriate measures for their control. Rwanda has ratified the IPPC under the Presidential Order No. 28/01 of 09/07/2012. The SPS established in the year 1995 is an agreement under WTO which applies to all sanitary and phytosanitary measures which may affect international trade.

Rwanda signed the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety adopted in 2000 Montreal, Canada and ratified in 2003. The country is currently drafting a biosafety law to address issues of biosecurity to protect habitats, endangered species and conservation areas. At the national level, crop protection is governed by an existing Presidential Order which dates from 1975 (The Presidential Order No. 252/11 of 13 November 1975 on the phytosanitary inspection of plants and plant products for import and export, and findings concerning quality and damage. However this law is outdated, and to address this, the government is therefore preparing the Law on Protection of Plant Health which is currently in draft form. Safe and efficient use of pesticides is very crucial to human health as well as to environmental conservation.

Worker should therefore be sensitized/or trained in laws, regulations and protocols regarding the National requirement for use and handling pesticides. These are: The law governing the use of Agrochemicals No. 30/2012 of 01/08/2012; The Plant Health Law (Draft); The Rwanda Seed Law No. 14/2003 of 23/05/2003 on the Production, Control and Commercialization of quality seeds; the law governing Seed and Plant varieties (Draft); and the Law on Biosafety (Draft).

Forest growers must first check that any chemical is registered for use in Rwanda, have trained their staff/workers properly in pesticide use, provide appropriate PPE (Personal Protective Equipment) for those handling chemicals and follow the instructions on the product's label.

### **13) Implement procedures for cleaning up spills of waste materials\*(Criterion\* 10.12).**

Poor management of waste resulting from forest value chain causes risk to waste handlers, workers and the community. During handling of waste materials, forest workers and waste handlers (within and outside the forest concession and log treatment plants) can come into contact with this waste if it has not been packaged safely.

As opposed to direct contact with personnel, waste can also contaminate the environment, water, air, or land and therefore can indirectly impact on health especially for the surrounding community. Workers should therefore be trained in waste disposal and Standards on the management of waste disposal at site as provided by Rwanda Utilities Regulatory Agency (RURA) and other international standards applied to forest product processing industry.

*Annex 3: Additional Requirements for Ecosystem Services*

**Note: Additional requirements for Ecosystem Services have not been drafted for Rwanda**

#### Annex 4: List of rare and threatened species in the country or region

CITES species : Species protected under the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora is available at

<https://cites.org/eng/app/appendices.php>

Download of the rare and threatened species list from <http://www.iucnredlist.org/>

Species identified from other sources of best available information:

#### A- Species protected under the Ministerial Order No 007/2008 OF 15/08/2008 establishing the list of protected animal and plant species:

##### Protected mammals

NAMES (KI(KINYARWANDA)IZINA	MAMMALS/NAME	SCIENTIFIC NAME
1. Ingagi	Gorilla	<i>Gorilla gorilla beringei</i>
2. Impundu	Chimpanzee	<i>Pan troglodydes</i>
3. Inkura	Black rhinoceros	<i>Diceros bicornis</i>
4. Inzovu	Elephant	<i>Loxodonta Africana</i>
5. Inkoronko	Roan antelope	<i>Hippotagus equinus</i>
6. Inzobe	Sitatunga	<i>Tragelaphus spekei</i>
7. Intare	Lions	<i>Panthera Leo</i>
8. Ingwe	Leopard	<i>Panthera pardus</i>
9. Igihondabamabere	Klipspringer	<i>Oreotragus oretragus</i>
10. Imbogo	Buffalo	<i>Syncerus caffer (Sparrman)</i>
11. Urutarangwe	Cheetah	<i>Acinonyx jubatus (Schreber)</i>

12. Umukara	Zool mongoose	<i>Felis aurata (Temminck)</i>
13. Ifumberi	Cephalophus	<i>Cephalophus nigrifrons (Grays)</i>
14. Imondo	Zool serval	<i>Felis aurata (Temminck)</i>
15. Isega	Wild dog	<i>Lycaon pictus (Temminck)</i>
16. Impongo	Bushbuck	<i>Tragelaphus (Pallas)</i>
17. Imvubu	Hippopotamus	<i>Hippopotamus</i>
18. Imparage	Burchell's zebra	<i>Equus burcheli (Gray)</i>

#### Protected Birds

<b>1. Uruyongoyongo</b>	Black-headed Heron	<i>Ardea melanocephala</i>
<b>2. Inyange</b>	Cattle Egret	<i>Bubulcus ibis</i>
<b>3. Ncenceberi</b>	Grauer's Swamp Warbler	<i>Bradypterus graueri</i>
<b>4. Igihunyira</b>	Owls	<i>Strigidae</i>
<b>5. Nyamaguru</b>	All Lemoroids	<i>Lemuroide</i>
<b>6. Umusambi</b>	Grey Crowned-Crane	<i>Balearica regulorum</i>
<b>7. Intashya</b>	Swallow	<i>Hirundinidae</i>
<b>8. Ikiwangajwanga</b>	Arrow-marked Babbler	<i>Turdoides jardineii</i>
<b>9. Inyombya</b>	Cape Robin-Chat	<i>Cossypha caffra</i>
<b>10. Ibisamujyonjyo</b>	All pangolins	<i>Manis SP</i>
<b>11. Inkongoro</b>	Vulture	<i>Aegyptiidae</i>
<b>12. Umusamanzuki</b>	Bee-eater	<i>Meropidae</i>
<b>13. Ishwima y'inzovu</b>	Scimitar bills	<i>Phoniculudae</i>
<b>14. Injongo</b>	Hamerkop	<i>Scopus umbretta</i>
<b>15. Umununi</b>	Sunbirds	<i>Nectarinidae</i>

### Protected Reptiles

REPTILE (KINYARWANDA)	NAME	REPTILE
1. Utunyamasyo twose		Tortoises (all species)
2. Uruziramire		Python
3. Ingona		Crocodile
4. Impiri		Viper

### Protected plants

PLANT (KINYARWANDA)	NAME	SCIENTIFIC NAME
1. Umuvumu		<i>Ficus thonningii</i>
2. Umwumba		<i>Prunus Africana</i>
3. Umwasa		<i>Pentadesma reindersii</i>
4. Icyufe		<i>Myrianthus holstii</i>
5. Umutima w'isi		<i>Thonningia sanguinea</i>
6. Magaru		<i>Hypoestes trifolia</i>
7. Igikakarubamba		<i>Aloe sp.</i>
8. Umugote		<i>Syzygium guineense</i>
9. Umuko		<i>Erythrina abyssinica</i>
10. Intare y'irungu		<i>Fagara chalybea</i>
11. Ikivungavungo		<i>Kigelia Africana</i>
12. Ikivungavungo		<i>Orchidaceae</i>
13. Ikimashi		<i>Eulophia streptopetala</i>
14. Ikimashi		<i>Eulophia horsafalli</i>
15. Ikimashi		<i>Diaphananthe bilosa</i>
16. Ikimashi		<i>Disa emili</i>
17. Ikimashi		<i>Disperis kilimanjarica</i>
18. Ikimashi		<i>Euggelingia ligulifolia</i>
19. Ikimashi		<i>Polystachya hastate</i>
20. Ikimashi		<i>Tridactyle anthomaniaca</i>

21. Umuyove	<i>Entandopheragma sp</i>
22. Umufu	<i>Podocarpus usambarensis</i>
23. Umusebeya	<i>Albizzia sasa</i>
24. Umuhereko	<i>Piptadenia Africana</i>
25. Umuhurizo	<i>Podocarpus milinjianus</i>
26. Umushwati	<i>Carapa grandiflora</i>
27. Umushika	<i>Strombosia Scheffleri</i>

**B Species protected under the Convention on Migratory Species of Wild Animals (Bonn Convention)**

Family	Scientific Name	Common Name
Hominidae	<i>Gorilla gorilla</i>	Mountain gorilla
Vespertilionidae	<i>Miniopterus schreibersii</i>	Common bent-wing bat, Schreibers' long-fingered bat, or Schreibers' bat
Molossidae	<i>Otomops martiensseni</i>	Large-eared Free-tailed Bat, Martienssen's Free-tailed Bat, Giant Mastiff Bat, Martienssen Bat, Martienssen's Big-eared Bulldog Bat
Canidae	<i>Lycaon pictus</i>	African Wild Dog
Elephantidae	<i>Loxodonta africana</i>	African Elephant
Ardeidae	<i>Ardeola idae</i>	Madagascar Pond Heron
Falconidae	<i>Falco naumanni</i>	Lesser Kestrel
Falconidae	<i>Falco vespertinus</i>	Red-footed falcon
Hirundinidae	<i>Hirundo atrocaerulea</i>	Blue Swallow
Ardeidae	<i>Ixobrychus minutus</i>	Little Bittern
Ardeidae	<i>Ixobrychus sturmii</i>	Dwarf Bittern
Ardeidae	<i>Ardeola rufiventris</i>	Rufous-bellied Heron
Ciconiidae	<i>Mycteria ibis</i>	Yellow-billed stork
Ciconiidae	<i>Ciconia nigra</i>	Black Stork

Ciconiidae	<i>Ciconia episcopus</i>	Woolly-necked Stork
Ciconiidae	<i>Ciconia ciconia</i>	White Stork
Threskiornithidae	<i>Plegadis falcinellus</i>	Glossy Ibis
Threskiornithidae	<i>Threskiornis aethiopicus</i> <i>aethiopicus</i>	African Sacred Ibis
Threskiornithidae	<i>Platalea alba</i>	African Spoonbill
Pandionidae	<i>Pandion haliaetus</i>	Osprey
Accipitridae	<i>Aviceda cuculoides</i>	African Couckoo Hawk
Accipitridae	<i>Pernis apivorus</i>	European Honey Buzard
Accipitridae	<i>Milvus migrans</i>	Black Kite
Accipitridae	<i>Circus aeruginosus</i>	Western marsh-Harrier
Accipitridae	<i>Circus macrourus</i>	Pallid Harrier
Accipitridae	<i>Circus pygargus</i>	Montagu's Harrier
Accipitridae	<i>Accipiter badius</i>	Shikra
Accipitridae	<i>Accipiter ovampensis</i>	Ovampo Sparrowhawk
Accipitridae	<i>Butastur rufipennis</i>	Grasshopper Buzzard
Accipitridae	<i>Buteo buteo</i>	Common Buzzard
Accipitridae	<i>Buteo oreophilus</i>	Mountain Buzzard
Accipitridae	<i>Aquila pomarina</i>	Lesser Spotted Eagle
Accipitridae	<i>Aquila rapax</i>	Tawny eagle
Accipitridae	<i>Aquila nipalensis</i>	Steppe Eagle
Accipitridae	<i>Aquila wahlbergi</i>	Wahlebergi eagle

Accipitridae	<i>Hieraaetus pennatus</i>	Booted Eagle
Falconidae	<i>Falco tinnunculus</i>	Common Kestrel
Falconidae	<i>Falco amurensis</i>	Amur Falcon
Falconidae	<i>Falco eleonora</i>	<i>Eleonora's Falcon</i>
Falconidae	<i>Falco concolor</i>	<i>Sooty Falcon</i>
Falconidae	<i>Falco subbuteo</i>	Eurasian Hobby
Falconidae	<i>Falco biarmicus</i>	<i>Lanner Falcon</i>
Falconidae	<i>Falco peregrinus</i>	Pergrine Falcon
Strigidae	<i>Otus scops</i>	Eurasian Scops Owl
Phasianidae	<i>Coturnix coturnix coturnix</i>	<i>Common Quail</i>
Rallidae	<i>Porzana porzana</i>	<i>Spotted Crake</i>
Rallidae	<i>Porzana parva parva</i>	<i>Little Crake</i>
Rallidae	<i>Porzana intermedia pusilla</i>	<i>Baillon's Crake</i>
Rallidae	<i>Aenigmatolimnas marginalis</i>	Striped Crake
Rallidae	<i>Crex crex</i>	Corncrake
Rallidae	<i>Sarothrura boehmi</i>	Streaky-breasted Flufftail
Glareolidae	<i>Glareola pratincola</i>	Collared Pratincole
Glareolidae	<i>Glareola nordmanni</i>	Black-winged Pratincole
Laridae	<i>Sterna nilotica nilotica</i>	Gull-billed Tern

Laridae	<i>Sterna caspia</i>	Caspian Tern
Laridae	<i>Sterna bengalensis</i>	Lesser Crested Tern
Laridae	<i>Chlidonias leucopterus</i>	White-winged Tern
Meropidae	<i>Merops apiaster</i>	European Bee-eater
Coraciidae	<i>Coracias garrulus</i>	European Roller

*C List of Species protected under Agreement on the Conservation of African-Eurasian Migratory Water birds (AEWA)*

**Note:** Although some of the species on the AEWA list are not endangered, they have to be protected because of threats to their habitats (i.e. wetlands).

Species	IUCN Category
<i>Tachybaptus ruficollis</i> Little Grebe	LC
<i>Podiceps cristatus</i> Great Crested Grebe	LC
<i>Pelecanus onocrotalus</i> Great White Pelican	LC
<i>Pelecanus rufescens</i> Pink-backed Pelican	LC
<i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i> Great Cormorant	LC
<i>Ixobrychus minutus</i> Little Bittern	LC
<i>Ixobrychus sturmii</i> Dwarf Bittern	LC
<i>Nycticorax nycticorax</i> Black-crowned Night-Heron	LC
<i>Ardeola ralloides</i> Squacco Heron	LC
<i>Ardeola idae</i> Madagascar Pond-Heron	EN
<i>Ardeola rufiventris</i> Rufous-bellied Heron	LC
<i>Bubulcus ibis</i> Cattle Egret	LC
<i>Ardea cinerea</i> Grey Heron	LC
<i>Ardea melanocephala</i> Black-headed Heron	LC
<i>Ardea purpurea</i> Purple Heron	LC
<i>Casmerodius albus</i> Great Egret	LC
<i>Mesophoyx intermedia</i> Intermediate Egret	LC
<i>Egretta garzetta</i> Little Egret	LC
<i>Mycteria ibis</i> Yellow-billed Stork	LC
<i>Anastomus lamelligerus</i> African Openbill	LC
<i>Ciconia abdimii</i> Abdim's Stork	LC
<i>Ciconia episcopus</i> Woolly-necked Stork	LC
<i>Ciconia ciconia</i> White Stork	LC
<i>Leptoptilos crumeniferus</i> Marabou Stork	LC
<i>Balaeniceps rex</i> Shoebill	VU
<i>Threskiornis aethiopicus</i> Sacred Ibis	LC
<i>Plegadis falcinellus</i> Glossy Ibis	LC
<i>Platalea alba</i> African Spoonbill	LC
<i>Dendrocygna bicolor</i> Fulvous Whistling-Duck	LC
<i>Dendrocygna viduata</i> White-faced Whistling-Duck	LC
<i>Thalassornis leuconotus</i> White-backed Duck	LC
<i>Plectropterus gambensis</i> Spur-winged Goose	LC
<i>Sarkidiornis melanotos</i> Comb Duck	LC

Species	IUCN Category
<i>Alopochen aegyptiacus</i> Egyptian Goose	LC
<i>Nettapus auritus</i> African Pygmy-goose	LC
<i>Anas undulata</i> Yellow-billed Duck	LC
<i>Anas erythrorhyncha</i> Red-billed Duck	LC
<i>Anas acuta</i> Northern Pintail	LC
<i>Anas querquedula</i> Garganey	LC
<i>Anas crecca</i> Common Teal	LC
<i>Anas hottentota</i> Hottentot Teal	LC
<i>Netta erythrophthalma</i> Southern Pochard	LC
<i>Oxyura maccoa</i> Maccoa Duck	NT
<i>Balearica regulorum</i> Grey Crowned Crane	VU
<i>Sarothrura elegans</i> Buff-spotted Flufftail	LC
<i>Sarothrura boehmi</i> Streaky-breasted Flufftail	LC
<i>Rallus caerulescens</i> African Rail	LC
<i>Crecopsis egregia</i> African Crake	LC
<i>Amaurornis flavirostris</i> Black Crake	LC
<i>Porzana pusilla</i> Baillon's Crake	LC
<i>Porphyrio alleni</i> Allen's Gallinule	LC
<i>Gallinula chloropus</i> Common Moorhen	LC
<i>Gallinula angulata</i> Lesser Moorhen	LC
<i>Fulica cristata</i> Red-knobbed Coot	LC
<i>Himantopus himantopus</i> Black-winged Stilt	LC
<i>Glareola pratincola</i> Collared Pratincole	LC
<i>Glareola nordmanni</i> Black-winged Pratincole	LC
<i>Vanellus spinosus</i> Spur-winged Plover	LC
<i>Vanellus albiceps</i> White-headed Lapwing	LC
<i>Vanellus senegallus</i> Wattled Lapwing	LC
<i>Vanellus coronatus</i> Crowned Lapwing	LC
<i>Vanellus superciliosus</i> Brown-chested Lapwing	LC
<i>Charadrius hiaticula</i> Common Ringed Plover	LC
<i>Charadrius pecuarius</i> Kittlitz's Plover	LC
<i>Charadrius tricollaris</i> Three-banded Plover	LC
<i>Charadrius forbesi</i> Forbes's Plover	LC
<i>Charadrius marginatus</i> White-fronted Plover	LC
<i>Charadrius asiaticus</i> Caspian Plover	LC
<i>Gallinago media</i> Great Snipe	NT
<i>Gallinago gallinago</i> Common Snipe	LC
<i>Numenius phaeopus</i> Whimbrel	LC
<i>Tringa erythropus</i> Spotted Redshank	LC
<i>Tringa stagnatilis</i> Marsh Sandpiper	LC
<i>Tringa nebularia</i> Common Greenshank	LC
<i>Tringa ochropus</i> Green Sandpiper	LC
<i>Tringa glareola</i> Wood Sandpiper	LC
<i>Calidris alba</i> Sanderling	LC
<i>Calidris minuta</i> Little Stint	LC
<i>Calidris temminckii</i> Temminck's Stint	LC
<i>Calidris ferruginea</i> Curlew Sandpiper	LC
<i>Philomachus pugnax</i> Ruff	LC
<i>Larus fuscus</i> Lesser Black-backed Gull	LC
<i>Larus cirrocephalus</i> Grey-headed Gull	LC
<i>Larus ridibundus</i> Common Black-headed Gull	LC
<i>Sterna nilotica</i> Gull-billed Tern	LC
<i>Chlidonias leucopterus</i> White-winged Tern	LC
<i>Rynchops flavirostris</i> African Skimmer	NT

## ANNEX 5: Elements of the Management Plan

### 1) The results of assessments, including:

Natural resources and *environmental values\**, as identified in *Principle\* 6* and *Principle\*9*;

Social, economic and cultural resources and condition, as identified in *Principle\* 6*, *Principle\* 2* to *Principle\* 5* and *Principle\*9*;

Major social and environmental risks in the area, as identified in *Principle 6*, *Principle\* 2* to *Principle\* 5* and *Principle\* 9*; and

The maintenance and/or enhancement of *ecosystem services\** for which promotional claims are made as identified in *Criterion\* 5.1* and Annex3.

The forest management plan shall specify the forest tenure (State, District and private forests). Qualitative and quantitative assessment report for individual Forest Management Unit (FMU) shall describe within the respective series and Management Entity (ME), the tree species and treatment regime decided, based on the stand situation and objectives. Forests and tree species are allocated according to either coppice or high forest regime. The leaseholder (or licensee for public forest) is allowed to choose other or specific species ensuring a similar productivity and protection objective. Specifically, for Eucalyptus spp. it is recommended to choose different species depending on the site situation to avoid e.g. pests and termites spreading over large areas. For sites with enabling conditions, mixed species can be chosen to ensure multiple (social, environmental, economic and cultural) benefits. Under the supervision of Directorate of Forest Management at Rwanda Natural Resources Authority (RNRA), the leaseholder shall reflect the choice in his/her management proposal subject to approval.

The forest management plan is approved by an Order of the Minister in charge of Forests. Any private forest exceeding two hectares (2 ha) shall be subject to a management plan to be submitted to the District for approval (Forest Law 2013, article 11, 14).

### 2) Programs and activities regarding:

*Workers\*'* rights, occupational health and safety, *equality\**, as identified in *Principle\*4*; *gender*

*Indigenous Peoples\**, community relations, local economic and social development, identified, as in *Principle\* 3*, *Principle\* 4* and *Principle\*5*;

Stakeholder *engagement\** and the resolution of *disputes\**; and grievances, as identified in *Principle\* 7* and *Principle\*9*;

Planned management activities and timelines, silvicultural systems used, typical harvesting methods and equipment, as identified in *Principle\*10*;

The rationale for harvesting rates of timber and other natural resources, as identified in *Principle\*5*.

Before management or conversion of any individual forest can proceed, several conflicts must be solved. Due to the multitude of conflict types and the underlying reasons or history of the conflict, each forest has to be approached individually. The leaseholder together with the District forest officer (DFO) and the administrative Sector and Cell staff visit the conflict sites together and make an assessment of the situation and persons involved, before calling all

involved stakeholders for a meeting to solve the conflict. The obvious pressure and dependence of people on resources makes these meetings delicate and require all parts involved on site for examination.

The Management plan shall contain elements relating to the following: conventional procedures for settling disputes likely to arise between workers and employers. It shall be forbidden to directly or indirectly subject a worker to gender based violence or moral harassment within the context of work.

For areas with river and lakeshores specific species have to be planted, different from the main stand in accordance to their suitability in agroecological zones of Rwanda (Refer to “*Monographie des Principales Espèces Recommandées Dans les Opérations De Reboisement et d’agroforesterie par Zones Agro- Bioclimatiques Du Rwanda*”), and can as well be harvested according to prescriptions by the forest law and regulations. Any forest is recommended to be planted with a differing species from the main stand (such as *Grevillea* or *Euphorbia* spp.) for boundary purposes.

Whilst the management of a production forest is aligned to the dominant species, any existing mixed species shall be preserved and supported according to the treatment model for the specific species.

Based on the planting scheme, planting as well as beating up activities are integrated in the Silvicultural Treatment Schedule and therefore integrated in the overall management activities for the forests. Reforestation of empty areas within a forest unit is as well integrated into series of ‘conversion of non-productive forests’.

### **3) Measures to *conserve\** and/or *restore\**:**

Rare and threatened species\* and habitats\*; Water bodies\* and riparian zones\*;

*Landscape\* connectivity\**, including wildlife corridors;

Declared *ecosystem services\** as identified in *Criterion\** 5.1, and Annex 3;

Representative Sample Areas\*, as identified in Principle\* 6; and High Conservation Values\*, as identified in Principle\*9.

None of the FMU forests includes river or lakesides. However, shall there be for any reason, contradicting this statement, river or lake sides in FMU forests, they have to be managed according to special prescriptions as stated in the laws regulating the Environment and Forests in Rwanda. Forest Law n°47bis/2013 of 28/06/2013 in its Article 6 determines forests along the shores of rivers and lakes as protected state forests. In Article 7 the law allows for setting up modalities for the harvesting of forests along the shores of rivers and lakes (draft available pending publication).

Organic Law ° 04/2005, determining the modalities of protection, conservation and promotion of environment in Rwanda as of 08/04/2005, in its Article 85 determines that agricultural activities shall respect a distance of ten meters away from the banks of streams and rivers and 50m from banks of lakes. Furthermore, Article 86 states that no pastoral activities that require agricultural activities in swamps shall be carried out without respecting a distance of ten meters away from the banks of rivers and 50m away from the bank of lakes.

**4) Measures to assess, prevent, and mitigate negative impacts of management activities on:**

Environmental values\*, as identified in *Principle\* 6* and *Principle\*9*;

Declared *Ecosystem services\** as identified in *Criterion\* 5.1* and Annex 3;

Social Values, as identified in *Principle\* 2* to *Principle\* 5* and Principle\* 9.

Depending on the stand location (agro-bioclimatic zone, situated on a river or lake shore, etc.) and the stand situation (slope, soil, exposition, etc.), each forest management unit (FMU) is assessed regarding its protection status. Three protection purposes are particularly assessed: (i) plantations with a river shore, (ii) plantations with a lake shore and (iii) plantations with a high risk for erosion and landslides.

Tree planting and Management should take account of the impact on people and the environment and minimize negative impacts on the environment. Growers must first check that any chemical is registered for use in Rwanda, have trained their staff/workers properly in pesticide use, provide appropriate PPE (Personal Protective Equipment) for those handling chemicals and follow the instructions on the product's label.

**5) A description of the *monitoring\** program, as identified in *Principle\* 8*, including: Growth and yield, as identified in *Principle\* 5*;**

Declared *Ecosystem services\** as identified in *Criterion\* 5.1* and Annex 3;

*Environmental values\**, as identified in Principle\*6; Operational impacts, as identified in *Principle\*10*;

High Conservation Values\*, as identified in Principle\*9;

*Monitoring\** systems based on stakeholder *engagement\** planned or in place, as identified in *Principle\* 2* to *Principle\* 5* and *Principle\*9*;

Maps describing the natural resources and land use zoning on the *Management Unit\**.

Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) shall ensure that the implementation of the forest management is in accordance to the forest management plan (FMP), identifying early any delays or challenges, so the plan can be adapted accordingly. Under the supervision of Director of Forest Management at Rwanda Natural Resources Authority (RNRA) and in line with the management agreement of public forests, the leaseholder/co-manager shall provide all data and information needs for the District forest officer (DFO) to integrate in his overall reporting responsibilities, the Annual Performance Evaluation Report on the implementation of the FMP/agreements of private or public forests, highlighting (i) the progress / delay for every mentioned activity of the previous year, (ii) the reasons for the delay and (iii) propose the further approach to resolve any delay or other challenge. The DFO shall evaluate in cooperation with the Gender and Family Promotion Officer of the District. M&E of the forest management plan can be broken down into four parts:

1. M&E of the individual activities of the **10-Year Action Plan** shall include *Forests with land use conflict (if any)*: approach each forest with conflict individually; Ensure *seedling availability* for (i) reforestation / afforestation activities and (ii) planting and (iii) beating up in existing production forests through establishment of sufficient tree nurseries and production of seedlings; Ensure *implementation of silvicultural activities* according to Silvicultural Treatment Schedule in each individual forest foreseen for service/timber/energy wood production (including afforestation/reforestation activities and protection measures for river shore, lakeshore, landslide risk and erosion prone forests; FMU leaseholder shall actively participate and collaborate with other Forest Management Groups (FMG); Ensure *mainstreaming gender in forest management* plan and implementation: women and women's organizations shall be engaged in forest management activities;
2. The leaseholder shall elaborate a detailed technical M&E of the **Silvicultural Treatment Schedule** for each individual forest: The implementation of Silvicultural Operation Program activities shall be controlled on an annual basis or as the activities are implemented, keeping records in a tabular format. The DFO is responsible for the record keeping, supported by the forest extensionists at sector level and in cooperation with the leaseholder. The results of the Technical Monitoring Sheet for the public production forests shall be delivered on an annual basis to RNRA to integrate them in the National Forest Monitoring and Evaluation system (FMES). The actually harvested wood volume per ha will be a good indicator for the overall productivity of a stand.

The silvicultural activities are planned for every year for the entire duration of the forest management unit (FMU). Reforestation sites are integrated into the overall planning and respective silvicultural treatment activities, such as weeding or planting and further management activities.

The leaseholder shall make use of all his inputs for the FMU to yield the highest possible productivity and earliest possible profitability.

The overall duration of the Management Plan of a forest unit is 33 years (average 8 years of primary plantation + 3 rotations) until the final cut of a full management cycle and fifty hectares (50 ha) are the minimum unit of forests to be converted / managed per year. This is set based on growth rate of Eucalyptus sp. the dominant species in Rwandan forest plantations (55 % of the plantation forests of Rwanda followed by Pin)

To ensure that only about 50 ha are converted / managed per year, for the initial 4 years, each year FMU forests with approximately 50 ha are planned to be converted / managed. To reach an annual conversion and management of approximately 50 ha, one forest within the FMU may be treated in two/ three or many parts, since being with larger than a forest unit.

The Silvicultural Treatment Schedules for each individual FMU forest should contain as the Forest ID, treatment regime, species and any kind of silvicultural activities for each year (year 0 to year 33 depending on the size of a forest unit above 50 ha) for the entire Management duration.

3. Detailed **Financial** M&E of the Silvicultural Treatment Program for each individual forest: Expected financial balance including income and costs are estimated for each individual forest as accurate as possible. The financial aspects of the Silvicultural Operation Program shall be monitored and evaluated for each individual production forest.

The first stage of the financial M&E consists of following and keeping records in a tabular format of real income and real costs per forest for each series (conversion of high forest or management of coppices) and management entity (ME), so that real benefits (financial balance) can be determined.

The second stage is the comparison of real and expected benefits (and real and expected income and costs) and resulting deviations.

The related costs and income and therefore the financial balance / benefit of the Silvicultural Operation Program activities shall be controlled on an annual basis. The monitoring is to be implemented by the DFO and the leaseholder, supported by the forest extensionists under the supervision of Director of Forest Management Unit at RNRA.

The leaseholder shall elaborate the business planning i.e. income and resulting financial balance for the implementation of the forest management plan (FMP). This cash flow serves to (i) give an overview of required financial sources and to be expected income and benefits and (ii) to show the approximate annual cash flow over the first 10 years of the forest management/ lease duration. Costs for the FMP implementation can be subdivided into two separate types: (i) silvicultural activity costs (cost of plant material to final cut via digging ditches, planting, weeding, beating up, cleaning anti-erosion ditches, pruning, thinning, clear cut (coppice) or coppice reduction etc.) and (ii) costs for licenses and taxation (considered here are cutting license, transport license, profit taxation).

4. **Revision of the Simplified Forest Management Plan (SFMP)** every 5 years;

As is stated in the Forest Law (2013), every five years, the SFMP shall be reviewed and revised whenever necessary. For private forests, the revision shall be carried out by the leaseholder in cooperation with the DFO. The Authority in charge of forests (RNRA) shall issue instructions to help private persons/leaseholders prepare their forests management plans. These plans are approved by the District council.

## Annex 6: Monitoring Requirements

1. *Monitoring\** in 8.2.1 is sufficient to identify and describe the environmental impacts of management activities, including where applicable:
  - The results of regeneration activities (*Criterion\** 10.1);
  - The use of ecologically well adapted species for regeneration (*Criterion\** 10.2);
  - Invasiveness or other adverse impacts associated with any *alien species\** within and outside the *Management Unit\** (*Criterion\** 10.3);
  - The use of *genetically modified organisms\** to confirm that they are not being used. (*Criterion\** 10.4);
  - The results of silvicultural activities (*Criterion\** 10.5);
  - Adverse impacts to environmental values\* from fertilizers\* (*Criterion\** 10.6);
  - Adverse impacts from the use of *pesticides\** (*Criterion\** 10.7);
  - Adverse impacts from the use of biological control agents (*Criterion\** 10.8);
  - The impacts from *natural hazards\** (*Criterion\** 10.9);
  - The impacts of infrastructural development, transport activities and silviculture to *rare and threatened species\**, *habitats\**, *ecosystems\**, *landscape values\** water and soils (*Criterion\** 10.10);
  - The impacts of harvesting and extraction of timber on *non-timber forest products\**, *environmental values\**, merchantable wood waste and other products and services (*Criterion\** 10.11); and
  - Environmentally appropriate disposal of *waste materials\** (*Criterion\** 10.12).
  
2. *Monitoring\** in 8.2.1 is sufficient to identify and describe social impacts of management activities, including where applicable:
  - Evidence of illegal or unauthorized activities (*Criterion\** 1.4);
  - Compliance with *applicable laws\**, *local laws\**, *ratified\** international conventions and obligatory *codes of practice\** (*Criterion\** 1.5);
  - Resolution of *disputes\** and grievances (*Criterion\** 1.6, *Criterion\** 2.6, *Criterion\** 4.6);
  - Programs and activities regarding *workers\** rights (*Criterion\** 2.1);
  - Gender equality\**, Sexual harassment and gender discrimination (*Criterion\** 2.2);
  - Programs and activities regarding occupational health and safety (*Criterion\** 2.3);
  - Payment of wages (*Criterion\** 2.4);
  - Worker\** Training (*Criterion\** 2.5);
  - Where *pesticides\** are used, the health of *workers\** exposed to *pesticides\** (*Criterion\** 2.5 and *Criterion\** 10.7);
  - The identification of Indigenous Peoples\* and local communities\* and their legal\* and customary rights\* (*Criterion\** 3.1 and *Criterion\** 4.1);
  - Full implementation of the terms in *binding agreements\** (*Criterion\** 3.2 and *Criterion\** 4.2);

*Indigenous Peoples\** and community relations (*Criterion\** 3.2, *Criterion\** 3.3 and *Criterion\** 4.2);

*Protection\** of sites of special cultural, ecological, economic, religious or spiritual significance to *Indigenous Peoples\** and *local communities\** (*Criterion\** 3.5 and *Criterion\** 4.7);

The use of traditional knowledge\* and intellectual property\* (*Criterion\** 3.6 and *Criterion\** 4.8);

Local economic and social development (*Criterion\** 4.2, *Criterion\** 4.3, *Criterion\** 4.4, *Criterion\** 4.5);

The production of diversified benefits and / or products (*Criterion\** 5.1);

The maintenance and/or enhancement of *ecosystem services\** (*Criterion\** 5.1);

Activities to maintain or enhance *ecosystem services\** (*Criterion\** 5.1);

Actual compared to projected annual harvests of timber and *non-timber forest products\** (*Criterion\** 5.2);

The use of local processing, local services and local value added manufacturing (*Criterion\** 5.4);

Long term\* economic viability\* (*Criterion\** 5.5); and

High Conservation Values\* 5 and 6 identified in *Criterion\** 9.1.

3. *Monitoring\** procedures in 8.2.2 are sufficient to identify and describe changes in environmental conditions including where applicable:

The maintenance and/or enhancement of *ecosystem services\** (*Criterion\** 5.2) (when *The Organization\** makes FSC promotional claims regarding the provision of *ecosystem services\**, or receives payment for the provision of *ecosystem services\**);

*Environmental values\** and *ecosystem functions\** including carbon sequestration and storage (*Criterion\** 6.1); including the effectiveness of actions identified and implemented to prevent, mitigate and repair negative impacts to *environmental values\** (*Criterion\** 6.3);

*Rare and threatened species\**, and the effectiveness of actions implemented to protect them and their *habitats\** (*Criterion\** 6.4);

*Representative sample areas\** and the effectiveness of actions implemented to *conserve\** and/or *restore\** them (*Criterion\** 6.5);

Naturally occurring *native species\** and *biological diversity\** and the effectiveness of actions implemented to *conserve\** and/or *restore\** them (*Criterion\** 6.6);

Water courses, *water bodies\**, water quantity and water quality and the effectiveness of actions implemented to *conserve\** and/or *restore\** them (*Criterion\** 6.7);

*Landscape values\** and the effectiveness of actions implemented to maintain and/or *restore\** them (*Criterion\** 6.8);

Conversion of *natural forest\** to *plantations\** or conversion to non-forest\* (*Criterion\** 6.9);

The status of *plantations\** established after 1994 (*Criterion\** 6.10); and

*High Conservation Values\** 1 to 4 identified in *Criterion\** 9.1 and the effectiveness of actions implemented to maintain and/or enhance them.

## ANNEX 7 HCV Framework

Instructions to The Organization for using the HCV Framework: **Draft proposal for stakeholder's consultation**

**HCV 1 – Species diversity. Concentrations of *biological diversity\** including endemic species, and *rare\**, *threatened\** or endangered species, that are *significant\** at global, regional or national levels.**

In Rwanda HV1 and HCV 2 type are considered under one single category: *Concentrations of biological diversity\* including endemic species, and rare\*, threatened\* or endangered species, that are significant\* at global, regional or national levels”* are found in National Parks. National parks of Rwanda are protected ecosystems and wildlife reserves which are maintained and managed by the Rwanda Development Board (RDB) with assistance from government ministries.

Each park protects a distinct ecosystem and variety of species. **See HCV 2 below.**

### IDENTIFICATION OF HCV 1

1. Description of Best Available Information in the country for identifying HCV1:
2. Description of interested and affected stakeholders:
3. Description of culturally appropriate engagement for identifying HCVs:
4. Examples of HCV1 species in the country:
5. Geographic areas where HCV1 is likely present:
6. Maps of HCV1 areas in the country:
7. Threats to HCV1 areas in the country:

### STRATEGIES FOR MAINTAINING HCV1

1. **Protection zones, harvest prescriptions, and/or other strategies to protect threatened, endangered, endemic species, or other concentrations of biological diversity\* and the ecological communities and habitats\* upon which they depend, sufficient to prevent reductions in the extent, integrity, quality, and viability of the habitats\* and species occurrences.**
2. **Where enhancement is identified as the objective\*, measures to develop, expand, and/or restore\* habitats\* for such species are in place.**

### MONITORING HCV1

**HCV 2 – *Landscape*-level *ecosystems*\* and mosaics. Intact forest landscapes and large *landscape*-level *ecosystems*\* and *ecosystem*\* mosaics that are *significant*\* 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.**

## **IDENTIFICATION OF HCV2**

1. Description of Best Available Information in the country for identifying HCV2:

### **1.1. Nyungwe National Park**

Nyungwe National Park is situated in Nyamagabe Nyaruguru, Rusizi, Nyamasheke and Karongi Districts, in south-west part Rwanda. Nyungwe National Park consists of Nyungwe reserve with an area of one hundred and one thousand five hundred fifteen hectares and fifty nine acres (101,515.59Ha), Nyamudongo reserve with an area of four hundred thirty hectares and thirty eight acres (430.38 Ha) and Gisakura reserve with an area of eleven hectares and seventy acres (11.70 Ha); the total area is one hundred and one thousand nine hundred fifty seven hectares and sixty seven acres (101,957.67Ha). The boundary of Nyungwe National park is described in the law no N°22/2005 of 21/11/2005 establishing Nyungwe National Park. Nyungwe National Park has been gazetted as forest reserve in 1933. Since then its surface has declined around 20% due to logging and conversion into agriculture landscape. In 2005 Nyungwe and adjacent Cyamudongo forest became National park. Nyungwe forms part of the isolated mountain ranges of Africa. Their flora consists of more than 80% of plants which are not known elsewhere (endemics). Thus the African mountains are considered to represent a floral region called afro-montane and afro-alpine centre of endemism. Nyungwe is among the most diverse and an important montane forest in East Africa and it is famous mainly for its diversity in primates (13 species) and birds (285). Also the flora and vegetation are unique with 47 local endemic species of flowering plants and about 280 Alebertine Rift endemics (more information can be found in book of Plant of Nyungwe National Park Rwanda (Fischer E&.Killmann D., 2008).

### **1.2. Akagera National Park**

Akagera National Park is situated along with Akagera river in Kayonza, Gatsibo and Nyagatare Districts in Eastern Province of Rwanda. The area of the Akagera National Park is one hundred twelve thousand one hundred ninety-three hectares (112 193 ha). The boundaries of the Akagera National Park are described on annex 1 of the Law N°33/2010 of 24/09/2010 establishing Akagera National Park.

Akagera National Park comprises the largest protected wetland in Central Africa, the network of marshes and lakes of the Akagera basin. It is of basic importance because of the high biological diversity associated to wetland ecosystems. Two species are on the red list of IUCN: *Balaeniceps rex* (Shoe-bill of the Nile) and of *Falco naumanni* (Crece-rellette falcon), a palearctic migratory bird and five species on the CITES list: *Ardeides Egretta garzetta*, *Ardea goliath*, *Bubukus ibis*, *Anatide Alopochen aegyptiacus* and *Ploceade Phoceus cucullatus*. Moreover, the Akagera basin contains one of the most significant populations of *Sitatunga* in Africa. Lastly, Akagera area is one of the last refuges of inter-lacustrine savannas.

**At national level:** Akagera region may be the only refuge of flora and fauna of savanna and dry forest in Rwanda. It is the most significant area for large mammals in the country. Eventually, the Akagera area is a part of Rwanda's heritage.

### 1.3. Volcano National Park

Volcano National Park is located in the North of Rwanda bordering Democratic Republic of Congo and Uganda and covers medium and high altitudes towards the south of Virunga Chain. Its length is around 40km and its width varies from 1km to 8km. The surface area of the parks is about 160km<sup>2</sup>. Volcano National Park was first gazetted in 1925 as a small area bounded by Karisimbi, Bisoke and Mikeno, intended to protect the gorillas from poachers. It was the very first National Park to be created in Africa.

Diversity of flora Virunga Massif comprises a total of 878 known species of plants, 81 of them being trees, 124 endemic plants of the Rift Valley and 5 listed on the IUCN list. Concerning VNP specifically, a recent study drew up a list of 301 species of herbaceous plants, 40 species of liana and 36 species of woody plants.

Regarding the fauna, the park is best known for the Mountain Gorilla (*Gorilla beringei beringei*) as its flag species. Mountain gorilla is endemic-sub-species considered to be in “endangered” by International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN). The whole of Virunga forest has a total of 86 known species of mammals, 34 of them being big mammals, 18 endemic species, and 6 species are endangered and 18 have been indicated by IUCN. Other mammals include: golden monkey (*Cercopithecus mitiskandti*), black-fronted duiker (*Cephalophus nigrifrons*), buffalo (*Syncerus caffer*) and bushbuck (*Tragelaphus scriptus*). There are also some herds of elephants (*Laxodonta africana*) in the park. There are 178 recorded bird species, with at least 13 species and 16 subspecies endemic to the Virunga and Ruwenzori Mountains. Some animals like the giant forest hog, bush pig (*Potamochoerus porcus*), bush buck (*Tragelaphus scriptus*) black-fronted duiker (*Cephalophus nigrifrons*) and several varieties of smaller predator are also seen in the Park. The following endemic bird species are easy to observe in VNP: Ruwenzori Turaco (*Musophaga johnstoni*), Ruwenzori double collared Sunbird (*Cinnyris stuhlmani*), Red-faced Woodland warbler (*Phylloscopus lactus*), etc. Other classes of animals are relatively less known. Thus, a collection of compiled work by (Plumptre et al., 2003), demonstrates 43 species of reptiles in the whole of Virunga massif, 7 of which are endemic species of Albertine Rift. The same report shows a total of 43 species of amphibians, 16 of which are endemic species of Albertine Rift, 9 endangered species and 16 species which appear on the list of IUCN.

### 1.4. Gishwati-Mukura National Park

The Gishwati-Mukura National Park is situated in Rutsiro and Ngororero Districts, in the Western Province of the Republic of Rwanda. The Gishwati-Mukura National Park consists of Gishwati reserve with an area of one thousand five hundred seventy hectares (1,570Ha) and the Mukura reserve with an area of one thousand nine hundred eighty eight hectares (1,988 Ha); the total area is three thousand five hundred fifty eight hectares (3,558Ha). Boundaries of Gishwati-Mukura National Park are described in Annex I of the law N°45/2015 of 15/10/2015 establishing the Gishwati -Mukura national Park.

Gishwati forest has recorded 58 species of trees and shrubs, including numerous indigenous hardwoods and bamboo. A wide range of fauna can be found within the forest. This includes four species of primates (Eastern chimpanzee, and golden, blue, and L'Hoest's monkeys). Other mammals in the reserve include the red river hog, the black front duiker, the southern tree hyrax, the serval, and felis aurata. In addition, 209 species of birds, 20 of which are endemic to the Albertine Rift, and 10 of which are on the IUCN Red List (White-backed Vulture, Hooded Vulture, White-headed Vulture, Bateleur, Martial Eagle, Crowned Eagle, Pallid Harrier, Dwarf Honeyguide, Lagden's Bushshrike, Shelley's Crimsonwing) and a number of amphibians and reptiles have been recorded in the reserve.

Mukura forest has a rich biodiversity with 243 plant species, 59 bird species, including 7 species that are endemic to the Albertine Rift and 3 which are on the IUCN Red List for conservation concerns. These include the Grauer's Swamp Warbler and Grey Crowned Crane (endangered) and Kivu Ground Thrush (vulnerable).

## 2. Description of interested and affected stakeholders:

HCV1 areas are under the supervision of Ministry of trade and industry (MINICOM) through Rwanda Development board (RDB) in charge managing National Parks and Tourism for management of parks and tourism as well as Ministry of Natural Resources (MINIRENA) through Rwanda Natural Resources Authority (RNRA), an agency in charge of Forests and Nature conservation. A part from the government responsible of natural resource management and tourism; other stakeholders including representatives from local companies, NGOs, research organizations whose their mission is to conserve natural and critical ecosystems for social, environmental and economic values are below listed as HCVs stakeholders.

## 3. Description of culturally appropriate engagement for identifying HCVs:

Cultural services of natural parks of Rwanda are tightly bound to human values and behavior at local level, as well as to communities and patterns of social, and economic status of the community. Thus, cultural services from these natural ecosystems are more likely to differ among individuals and communities across the country; some are strongly linked to traditional medicine, others to food habits. Very few are limited religions.

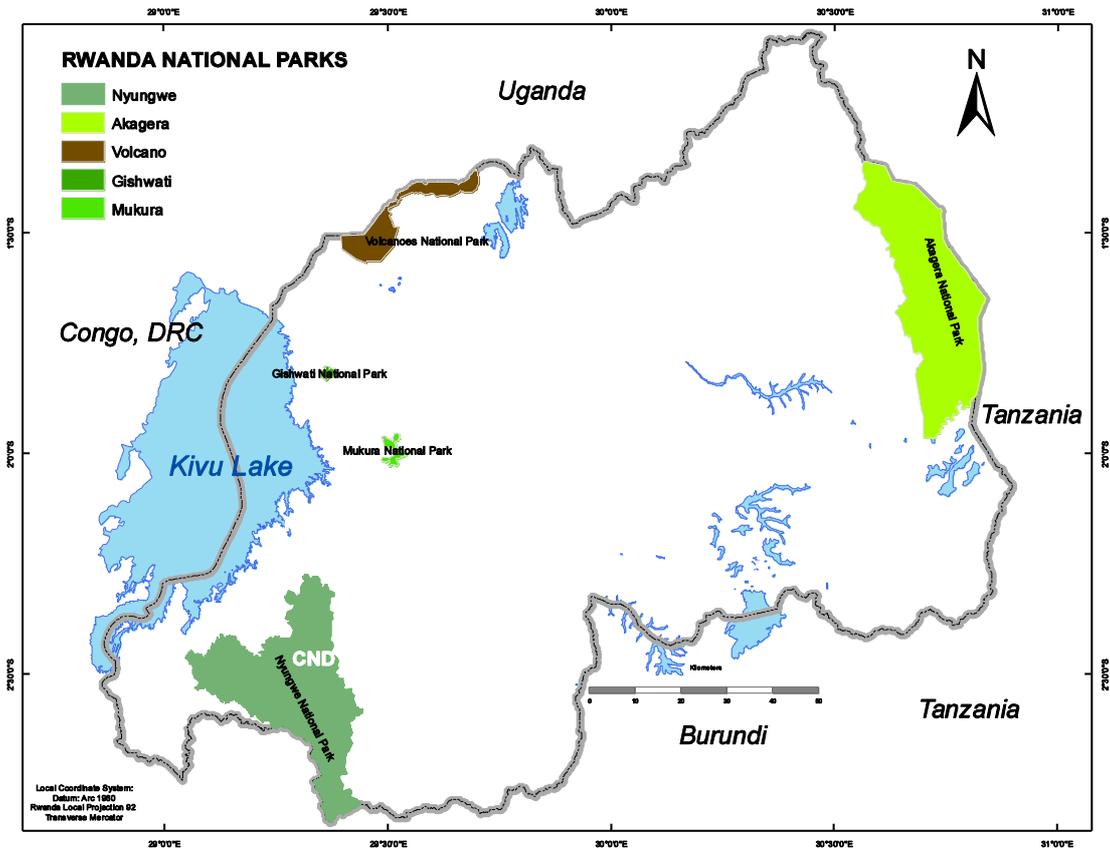
## 4. Examples of rare/threatened / endangered species in the country

Scholars have shown that over hundred tree species are threatened with extinction in Rwanda. Some tree species become totally extinct, others become very rare or are remarkably reduced due to their selective felling for sawmill products. Examples are *Entandophragma excelsum*, *Faurea saligna*, *Symphonia globulifera*, *Hagenia abyssinica*, *Parinari excelsa*, *Podocarpus latifolius*, *Polyscias fulva*, *Markhamia lutea*, *Arundinaria mildbraedii*; bamboo plantations which have become less at the foot of the volcanoes; *Neobutonia macrocalyx*, *Dombeya goetzenii* and *Prunus africana* which have become extinct from the Volcanoes National Park. *Acacia hockii*, *Acacia kirkii mildraedii*, *Adenia barquaertii*, *Adenia rumicifolia*; *Adenia schweinfurthii*; *Afrocarpus usambarensis*, *Albizia grandibracteata gummifera*, *Ardisia kivuensis*, *Maesopsis eminii*; *Osyris lanceolata*, *Prunus africana*, *Syzygium parvifolium* (more refer to Ministerial Order No008/MINIRENA/2015 of 18/06/2015 establishing a list of protected

## 5. Geographic areas where HCV2 is likely present:

Nyungwe, Mukura, Gishwati as well as Volcanoes forests form part of the isolated mountain ranges and volcanoes of Africa. In central and eastern Africa, these mountains are situated along the Albertine Rift valley. Nyungwe National Park is situated in Nyamagabe Nyaruguru, Rusizi, Nyamasheke and Karongi Districts, in south-west part Rwanda, adjacent to Kibira forest in Burundi. Gishwati and Mukura forests are situated at the Congo Niles crest in the western region of Rwanda. The Volcano National Park is located in the North of Rwanda bordering Democratic Republic of Congo and Uganda and covers medium and high altitudes towards the south of Virunga Chain. Akagera wooded Savannah is located in Eastern lowland along the Akagera river bordering Tanzania.

6. Maps of HCV2 areas in the country:



Maps are also in annex of respective laws establishing the above mentioned parks/ or annex to this INS.

7. Threats to HCV1 areas in the country:

- **Bush fires** affecting Nyungwe, and the Akagera National Park and the savannas of the east, the valleys of Nyabarongo, Akagera and Akanyaru.
- Invasive exotic species *Lantana camara (umuhengeri)* shrub has colonized the nature and continue to spread over eastern natural shrubs affecting regeneration of savannah degraded ecosystems.

## STRATEGIES FOR MAINTAINING HCV2

- 1) Protection zones, harvest prescriptions, and/or other strategies to protect threatened, endangered, endemic species, or other concentrations of *biological diversity*\* and the ecological communities and *habitats*\* upon which they depend, sufficient to prevent reductions in the extent, integrity, quality, and viability of the *habitats*\* and species occurrences.

The following strategies are envisaged following different goals and objectives of the conservation in Rwanda( Biodiversity and conservation strategy , 2003)

### 1. Improved conservation of protected areas.

#### 1.1. Improved protection and management of protected areas

- Development and implementation of land use and management plans for each protected area;
- Involvement of the population living around in the conservation of protected areas;

#### 1.2. Improved knowledge of the biodiversity of protected areas

- Inventory and characterization of the components of the biodiversity of protected areas;
- Regular monitoring of the state of the biodiversity of protected area

### 2. Sustainable use of the biodiversity of natural ecosystems

#### 2.1. Conservation of genetic biodiversity of native plant and animal species;

- inventory of native endemic and/or less known species of economic importance and characterization of their genetic diversity
- in-situ and ex-situ conservation of native genetic heritage

#### 2.2. Sustainable use of biological resources of natural ecosystems;

- development of alternatives to the use of biodiversity (e.g. alternative of energy, aimed at poverty reduction)
- research and promotion of appropriate technologies for rational use of biological resources

#### 2.3. Development of an environmentally sustainable and economically viable tourism.

- development of ecotourism oriented infrastructure
- promotion of small and medium scale diversified and environmentally viable tourist activities

### 3. Rational use of biotechnology

#### 3.1. improved access to and transfer of biotechnology

- Definition and implementation of mechanisms for the transfer and exchange of biotechnology.

#### 3.2. risk-free use of biotechnology

- improved knowledge of advantages and risks of biotechnology
- development of national procedures and measures for the assessment and management of risks caused by genetically modified organisms

#### **4. Development and strengthening of policy, institutional, legal and human resource frameworks**

##### *4.1. improvement of policy and legal frameworks for sustainable conservation of biodiversity*

- development and updating of policies related to the conservation of biodiversity and the creation of an enabling environment for their implementation
- Development of an integrated policy and legal framework for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity and equitable sharing of benefits derived from biological resources.

#### **STRATEGIES FOR MAINTAINING HCV2 (Cont.)**

##### *4.2. building of institutional and human resource capacities for sustainable conservation of biodiversity*

- establishment of an integrated system of information, formal and informal education and communication for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity;
- promotion of a conservation and biodiversity management-focused integrated research-development;
- establishment and strengthening of community management structures of biological resources;
- Strengthening of partnership and formation of networks of actors for the promotion of the conservation of biodiversity and sustainable use of biological resources.

##### *4.3. Strengthening regional and international cooperation for conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity.*

- strengthening of regional cooperation for the conservation of protected areas and wetlands
- strengthening of links among the parties, the states and their specialized institutions for the promotion of technical and scientific cooperation related to biodiversity
- national capacity building for access, use and exchange of information through the clearing house mechanism
- Establishment and strengthening of mechanisms at the national level for the mobilization of the necessary financial resources for the implementation of the Convention on Biodiversity.

#### **5. Equitable sharing of benefits derived from the use of biological resources.**

##### *5.1 Strengthening of the rights of grassroots communities for the control and sustainable use of biological resources*

- increased benefits derived by the grassroots communities through the exploitation of biological resources
- establishment of mechanisms for monitoring and control by the grassroots communities on the exploitation of biological resources
- Where enhancement is identified as the *objective\**, measures to develop, expand, and/or *restore\* habitats\** for such species are in place.
  - Restoration of Gishwati and Mukura forests with Native species
  - Kibirizi-Muyira reserve in Nyanza buffer zone completed, restoration with native species
  - Rehabilitation of Gako forest reserve of Bugesera with native species

## MONITORING HCV2

Result based-monitoring approach (Annual Performance based assessment)

## HCV3 – Ecosystems\* and habitats\*. Rare\*, threatened\*, or endangered ecosystems\*, habitats\* or refugia\*.

### IDENTIFICATION OF HCV3

1. Description of Best Available Information in the country for identifying HCV3:  
Remnants of rare and fragile natural terrestrial ecosystems which are not part of the protected area network, including gallery forests.

*(See Inventory & Mapping of Threatened Remnant Terrestrial Ecosystems Outside Protected Areas Through Rwanda; National University of Rwanda; Final Report; October 2011)*

None of the FMU forests includes river or lakesides. However, shall there be for any reason, contradicting this statement, river or lake sides in FMU forests, they have to be managed according to special prescriptions as stated in the laws regulating the Environment and Forests in Rwanda. Forest Law n°47bis/2013 of 28/06/2013 in its Article 6 determines forests along the shores of rivers and lakes as protected state forests. In Article 7 the law allows for setting up modalities for the harvesting of forests along the shores of rivers and lakes (draft available pending publication).

Organic Law ° 04/2005, determining the modalities of protection, conservation and promotion of environment in Rwanda as of 08/04/2005, in its Article 85 determines that agricultural activities shall respect a distance of ten meters away from the banks of streams and rivers and 50m from banks of lakes. Furthermore, Article 86 states that no pastoral activities that require agricultural activities in swamps shall be carried out without respecting a distance of ten meters away from the banks of rivers and 50m away from the bank of lakes.

2. Description of Interested and affected stakeholders:

3. Examples of HCV3 ecosystems and habitats in the country:

**Buhanga** relict forest contains sacred water-spring, marshland, medicinal plants, native trees and even a last refuge for arboreal, migratory birds. For example, African *Pitta Pitta angolensis* is a migrant bird that breeds in central Tanzania, Malawi, southeast Democratic Republic of Congo, eastern Zambia, Zimbabwe and possibly northern South Africa that was sighted in Buhanga sacred forest (See: *BirdLife International Africa Partnership; e-bulletin 2008*)

Despite the small size of gallery forests in Rwanda, there are home to an important biodiversity with endemic and rare species. The most important of these gallery forests is the **Ibanda-Makera** forest. Most of the plant species found there are used in traditional medicine, diet and other activities practised for the survival of the local population.

4. Geographic areas where HCV3 is likely present:

Throughout Rwanda - All Provinces

Detailed maps of threatened forest ecosystems provided in “*Inventory & Mapping of Threatened Remnant Terrestrial Ecosystems Outside Protected Areas Through Rwanda; National University of Rwanda; Final Report; October 2011*”

5. Maps of HCV3 areas in the country:

6. Threats to HCV3 areas in the country:

Most common causes of deforestation consist in land clearance for agriculture, livestock and the cutting down of trees for firewood or charcoal production. And other illicit activities such as mining.

### **STRATEGIES FOR MAINTAINING HCV3**

1. Strategies that fully maintain the extent and integrity of rare or threatened *ecosystems\**, *habitats\**, or *refugia\**.

Conservation measures that increase awareness of local communities on the importance of biodiversity. The awareness creation will lead to the involvement of local community entities in protecting biological resources, and the promotion of participative conservation of biological resources found in those remnant terrestrial ecosystem.

Due to a crucial challenge of encroachment occurring near natural ecosystems, a system should be designed to motivate communities to conserve and manage biological resources. There is also a need for the involvement of local authorities to ensure better management of the biodiversity of natural ecosystems outside of protected areas

1. Where enhancement is identified as the *objective\**, measures to *restore\** and/or develop rare or threatened *ecosystems\**, *habitats\**, or *refugia\** are in place.

### **MONITORING HCV3**

**HCV4 – Critical\* ecosystem services\*. Basic ecosystem services\* in critical\* situations, including protection\* of water catchments and control of erosion of vulnerable soils and slopes.**

#### **IDENTIFICATION OF HCV4**

1. Description of Best Available Information in the country for identifying HCV4:

2. Description of Interested and affected stakeholders:

Apart from the government entity (ministry and agencies) in charge of natural resources management; the Ministry of Infrastructure through the agency in charge of hydropower plant located downstream Rugezi ensure the protections and management of Rugezi catchment. Local NGO (e.g. Arcos) also participate with community mobilization for the protection and sustainable use of upper catchment land as well as biodiversity conservation of the area.

Kamiranzovu is part of Nyungwe national park and therefore share stakeholders together with Nyungwe forest.

3. Examples of HCV4 critical ecosystem services in the country:

**The Rugezi Marsh** is a protected area in Rwanda, covering 6,735 hectares. The wetland is one of headwaters of the Nile, situated in the Northern Province within the Buberuka Highlands. At 2,100 metres, the marsh is a high altitude peat bog. Rugezi developed from an accumulation of organic materials within a quartzite rock-trapping water depression. In its natural state, Rugezi has been playing a significant ecological, hydrological, socio-economical, historic, and recreational role in Rwanda. It is also an Important Bird Area (IBA) recognized by the BirdLife International in 2001, and is reported to be the habitat of 43 species of birds within and in the surrounding areas of the marsh. The specific species of Grauer's swamp warbler (*Bradypterus graueri*) and white-winged swamp warbler (*Bradypterus carpalis*) living together is reported as "unusual" by BirdLife.

Rugezi marsh land functions as a regulating basin to moderate the flows inflows and outflows and is given the epithet "earth kidneys". Rugezi marsh regulates, retains, and filters water resources which flow into the downstream lakes of Burera (bordering Uganda) and Ruhondo. Its effectiveness as water balancing of the resources has been dented in recent years due to high anthropogenic pressure and also due to the development specific project of agricultural reclamation and drainage of the marsh. Currently, the protection the Rugezi catchment has been improved and restoration is prominently gained.

**Kamiranzovu swamp**, located in Nyungwe forest, is the largest **peat** bog in Africa and was the habitat of last elephants in Nyungwe. It is dominated by Cyperus species. Other important and dominating herbs are *crassocephalum paludum*, *impatiens mildbraedii*, and orchids *Eulophia holsifallii*, *satyrium crasscaule* and *Disa eminii*. The marginal zone is characterized by bushes (e.g. *Syzygium rowlandii*, *Apodyte dimidiata*, *Hymenodictyon floribundum*) which are densely covered with cushions of bryophytes, lichens and vascular epiphytes.

4. Geographic areas where HCV4 is likely present:

5. Maps of HCV4 areas in the country:

6. Threats to HCV4 areas in the country:

## STRATEGIES FOR MAINTAINING HCV4

1. Strategies to protect any water catchments of importance to *local communities\** located within or downstream of the *Management Unit\**, and areas within the unit that are particularly unstable or susceptible to erosion.

*The following strategies have been formulated for the Sustainable use of agro-biodiversity upper catchments and wetlands;*

- improved performance of native varieties and species
- promotion of sustainable traditional production systems
- prevention of introduction of intrusive species, control and eradication of non native species likely to threaten ecosystems and native species
- Development of mechanisms for checking the importation and dissemination of genetic material capable of having harmful effects on biodiversity, particularly on agro-biodiversity.
- Development of a master plan for the use and management of wetlands.

## MONITORING HCV4

**HCV5 – Community needs. Sites and resources fundamental for satisfying the basic necessities of *local communities\** or *Indigenous Peoples\** (for livelihoods, health, nutrition, water, etc.), identified through *engagement\** with these communities or Indigenous Peoples.**

## IDENTIFICATION OF HCV5

1. Description of Best Available Information in the country for identifying HCV5:  
In each **District**, the following remnant forests have been identified by the community as important for their traditional (social, medical, cultural and food) needs and are currently protected by the Ministerial Order No006/MINIRENA/2015 of 18/06/2015 determining the management of protected state forests not governed by special laws.
2. Description of Interested and affected stakeholders:  
Local communities collecting NTFPs
3. Examples of HCV5 sites and resources fundamental for local communities in the country:  
From West to East, in **Nyamasheke District** (Sasa, Shangwe, Kambizi, Gako, Rubona, Ruzi, Kabi, Mushavu, Karengye/Cyihene, Tereri, Cyamunyu, Mwuahagire, Nyanamo, Mushungwe, Kanyana, Mirambo, Biti, Bukwi, Kamiko, Shyute, Mugurusa, Gisakura Forests, Ntendezi, Nyirakesha); **Karongi** (Icyegera, Cyangwe, Akasemuhigi, Akanyamushaba, Mpangara, Mukondwe, Akana ka Mukondwe, Mbabara, Byanka, Akamahoro(Akarutabire), Ishegesha, Nyenyeri, Nyamakoma, Ndoha, Dutake, Karehe-Gatuntu-Rubambirana complex, Muciro, Mariri Peninsula); **Rutsiro** (Akarugaruka, Rutembagara, Nyamunini, Rwanuma, Icyanyungwe,Uruhingo, Icyegera, Murambi, Sagitwe, Kankomo, Nyanamo, Akaringa, Gishayu, Kanzayingoro, Ubushinya, Kasenyamakoma, Bugarura, Gakoyi, Gishamwamwa, Wawa, Nyamirundi, Nyantima, Ntumba, Nyarugwa, Mukore, Nyamibombwe, Nyamakanda forests); **Rusizi** (Gihaya, Ireba, Bweremata, Nkombo,

Kamarari, Ishywa, Mashyuza, Shagasha); **Ngorero** (Sanza/ Nyabitukura); **Musanze** (Buhanga); **Burera** (Munanira , Cyuza , Bihosho) Nyagatare (Muvumba gallery forests); **Muhanga** (Busaga ); **Kamonyi** (Rukaragata); Nyanza (Kibirizi-Muyira) **Kirehe** (Ibanda-Makera, Marenga Island, Nyagasenyi, Nasho); **Gatsibo** (Gabiho); **Ngoma** (Mashoza); and **Bugesera** (Karama, Gako) forests.

4. Geographic areas where HCV5 is likely present:

Across the country (13 districts of 30 Rwanda's districts)

5. Maps of HCV5 areas in the country:

6. Threats to HCV5 areas in the country:

- **Land clearing lead to loss of genetic resources with ecological, medical, food, industrial and cultural value.**
- **Uncontrolled introduction of new species in an ecosystem (accidentally): The risks that go with uncontrolled introduction of exotic species include the following, among others: dominance of exotic species over native ones; competition, loss and lack of appreciation of the identity of local species and varieties; introduction of new uncontrollable diseases; uncontrolled cross-breeding; dependence on the outside for certain species; and colonization of certain areas by exotic species**

#### STRATEGIES FOR MAINTAINING HCV5

1. Strategies to protect the community's and/or *Indigenous Peoples*\*\* needs in relation to the *Management Unit*\* are developed in cooperation with representatives and members of *local communities*\* and *Indigenous Peoples*\*.

As for HCV2

#### MONITORING HCV5

**HCV 6 – Cultural values. Sites, resources, *habitats*\* and *landscapes*\* of global or national cultural, archaeological or historical significance, and/or of *critical*\* cultural, ecological, economic or religious/sacred importance for the traditional cultures of *local communities*\* or Indigenous Peoples, identified through *engagement*\* with these *local communities*\* or Indigenous Peoples.**

#### IDENTIFICATION OF HCV 6

1. Description of Best Available Information in the country for identifying HCV6:  
Similar to HCV5

2. Description of Interested and affected stakeholders:  
Local community

3. Examples of HCV6 significant cultural values in the country:

**Buhanga** sacred forest is a relict forest of tremendous ecological importance to Rwandan society located in Musanze District. A total of 45 botanical taxa belonging to 28 families

were reported to be used by the local community. According to traditional healers, *Brillantaisia cicatricose* is used to treat human and animal diseases and *Senna septemtrionalis* is used to treat ailments. Other forests may have the same importance to local community which their use and belief has led to conservation by the community themselves to date.

4. Geographic areas where HCV6 is likely present:  
Buhanga relict forest lies in volcanic belt.

5. Maps of HCV6 areas in the country:

6. Threats to HCV6 areas in the country:

#### **STRATEGIES FOR MAINTAINING HCV6**

1. Strategies to protect the cultural values are developed in cooperation with representatives and members of *local communities\** and *Indigenous Peoples\**.

#### **MONITORING HCV6**