

FSC FOREST STEWARDSHIP STANDARD FOR THE REPUBLIC OF ESTONIA

FSC-STD-EST-01-2026_EN



Photo credits:

Forest and seascape on Hiiumaa Island, Estonia ©Silver Gutmann

NOTE ON THIS ENGLISH VERSION:

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Local contact:	FSC Estonia (Hea Metsanduse Koda MTÜ), Kastani 42, 50410 Tartu, Estonia Email: info@ee.fsc.org/ standard@ee.fsc.org
FSC Policy and Performance Unit contact:	FSC International Center gGmbH – Policy and Performance Unit Adenauerallee 134 53113 Bonn Germany Phone: +49 -(0)228 -36766 -0 Fax: +49 -(0)228 -36766 -65 Email: country_requirements@fsc.org

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A FOREWORD

(Informative section)

A.1 The Forest Stewardship Council (FSC)

The Forest Stewardship Council A.C. (FSC) was established in 1993, as a follow-up to the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (the Earth Summit at Rio de Janeiro, 1992) with the mission to promote environmentally appropriate, socially beneficial, and economically viable management of the world's forests.

FSC provides a system for voluntary accreditation and independent third-party certification. This system allows certificate holders to market their products and services as the result of environmentally appropriate, socially beneficial and economically viable forest management. FSC also sets standards for the development and approval of Forest Stewardship Standards and Interim Forest Stewardship Standards which are based on the FSC Principles and Criteria. In addition, FSC sets standards for the accreditation of conformity assessment bodies (also known as certification bodies) that certify conformance with FSC's standards.

Environmentally appropriate forest management ensures that the production of timber, non-timber products and ecosystem services maintains the forest's biodiversity, productivity, and ecological processes.

Socially beneficial forest management helps both local people and society at large to enjoy long term benefits and also provides strong incentives to local people to sustain the forest resources and adhere to long-term management plans.

Economically viable forest management means that forest operations are structured and managed so as to be sufficiently profitable, without generating financial profit at the expense of the forest resource, the ecosystem, or affected communities. The tension between the need to generate adequate financial returns and the principles of responsible forest operations can be reduced through efforts to market the full range of forest products and services for their best value.

A.2 The FSC Principles and Criteria

FSC first published the FSC Principles and Criteria in November 1994 as a performance-based, out-come-orientated, worldwide standard. The Principles and Criteria focus on field performance of forest management rather than on the management systems for delivering that field performance.

There is no hierarchy between the Principles or between Criteria. They share equal status, validity and authority, and apply jointly and severally at the level of the individual Management Unit.

The FSC Principles and Criteria together with the International Generic Indicators (IGI) provide the basis for the development of locally adapted Forest Stewardship Standards (FSS) and Interim Forest Stewardship Standards (IFSS).

B PREAMBLE

B.1 Objective

(Informative section)

The objective of this standard is to provide a set of requirements for:

- 1. The Organization to implement responsible forest management within their Management Unit and to demonstrate conformity.
- 2. FSC accredited certification bodies (CBs) to determine conformity against this standard as the basis for granting, maintaining or renewing and renewing forest management certification in Estonia.

This standard sets out the required elements against which FSC accredited Certification Bodies shall evaluate the performance of The Organization in managing the forest within the scope (see Section B.2. below) of the standard.

B.2 Scope

(Normative section)

This standard shall be applied in the following scope:

Geographic region	Republic of Estonia
Forest types	All forest types
Ownership types	All types of ownership, including public, private and others
Scale and intensity categories (According to section 6 of FSC-STD-60-002)	All categories of Management Units, including provisions for small or low intensity managed forests (SLIMFs)
Forest products (According to FSC-STD-40-004a)	Rough wood; NTFPs not included

B.3 Responsibility for conformity

(Normative section)

The requirements in this standard cover all of The Organization's management activities that are related to the Management Unit (MU), whether within the MU or outside, whether directly undertaken or contracted out.

In terms of geographical space, the requirements in this standard apply generally to the entire geographic space inside the boundary of the MU which is being submitted for (re)certification. However, some of the Criteria and indicators apply beyond the boundary of the MU. This would include those infrastructural facilities that are part of the MU, as defined by the FSC Principles and Criteria.

This standard is to be used in conjunction with international, national, and local laws and regulations.

Where there might be situations of conflict between the requirements in this standard and laws, specific FSC procedures will apply.

Responsibility for ensuring conformity with the requirements in this standard lies with the person(s) or entities that is/are the certificate applicant or holder. For the purpose of FSC certification, this person(s) or entity(ies) are referred to as 'The Organization'. The Organization is responsible for decisions, policies and management activities related to the MU.

The Organization is also responsible for demonstrating that other persons or entities that are permitted or contracted by The Organization to operate in, or for the benefit of the MU, conform with the requirements in this standard. The Organization is required to take corrective actions in the event of such persons or entities not being in conformity with the requirements in this standard.

B.4 Note on the use of indicators and other elements in the standard

(Normative section)

Normative elements in the standard are:

Scope, effective date, validity period, glossary of terms, principles, criteria, indicators, tables and annexes (as well as other addenda which might be produced in association with this standard) unless indicated otherwise).

Note: With regard to the auditing of Annexes, when an indicator refers to an Annex, the conformity assessment shall cover both the indicator and the corresponding requirements in the Annex, unless the Annex is explicitly categorized as 'informative'.

Sub-indicators in an Annex contribute to the conformity assessment at the level of criterion in the same way as sub-indicators listed in an indicator within the main body of the standard.

Non-normative elements in the standard that can be used for guidance only, are:

Verifiers, notes, guidelines and examples which are attached to some of the indicators (as well as other guidance/applicability notes which might be produced in association with this standard).

Auditors may use other means for verification where appropriate. The Organization may also use verifiers as a guide to what may be required to demonstrate conformity.

Under each Criteria, corresponding Indicators are labelled, which are used to assess The Organization's conformance with the FSC Principles. If the Indicator is simply numbered, without an additional letter (e.g. 1.1.1), then this Indicator is applicable to Management Units (MU) of all sizes and forest types.

In some cases, requirements are determined that apply only to MUs of a certain size. In those cases, after the Indicator number, the letter 'a' for Large MUs or 'b' for Small MUs has been added (e.g. 5.2.1a or 5.2.1b). The Organization managing small or large MUs shall conform with these as applicable.

The MU size-related eligibility criteria and thresholds are provided in the table below.

SLIMF eligibility criteria	Thresholds
Small Management Units	100 hectares or smaller
Large Management Units	Larger than 100 hectares

Verbal forms for the expression of provisions

[Adapted from *ISO/IEC Directives Part 2: Rules for the structure and drafting of International Standards*]

“shall”

: indicates requirements strictly to be followed in order to conform with the standard; ‘shall not’ indicates a prohibition.

Given that this is a national standard, and considering the advice provided by FSC, the Standard Development Group (SDG) followed the approach of writing indicators in active voice in the manner that the IGIs are written and, therefore, has avoided the use of “shall” in indicators in this standard (except a few indicators based on the new IGI from V2-0 of FSC-STD-60-004). The rationale for this being that auditors check for conformity of *management activities** with requirements at the actual time of audits, not in future.

“should”

: indicates that among several possibilities one is recommended as particularly suitable, without mentioning or excluding others, or that a certain course of action is preferred but not necessarily required. The Organization can meet these requirements in an equivalent way provided this can be demonstrated and justified.

“may”

: indicates a course of action permissible within the limits of the standard; ‘need not’ indicates that a specified course of action is not a requirement.

“can”

: is used for statements of possibility and capability, whether material, physical or causal.

The text of the Principles and the Criteria under section F contains terms that are formatted in italics and marked with an *asterisk**. The terms that have been marked with an *asterisk** and formatted in italics in the indicators’ text, are local terms which have been added to apply to the local circumstances for this standard only, or the terms that are not marked in the Criteria otherwise. All the terms marked with asterisk and formatted in italics, are defined in the annex of Glossary of terms.

B.5 Interpretations and disputes

(Normative section)

Interpretation requests regarding the FSC Forest Stewardship Standards are submitted through the National Offices and in case there is no National Office, directly to FSC for processing and approval. Approved interpretations are published in the international FSC website (see: INT-STD-60-006_01).

NOTE: Regarding international interpretations - when applying this standard, consider relevant interpretations by inquiring with local FSC representatives (e.g., National Offices or representatives, or FSC’s Policy and Performance Unit, if no national FSC presence exists), or your certification body. International interpretations are available through the [FSC Document Centre](#).

Disputes between stakeholders concerning certification requirements are managed by FSC dispute resolution procedure (see: [<FSC-PRO-01-008-Processing Complaints in the FSC Certification Scheme Procedure>](#)).

C CONTEXT

(Informative section)

C.1 General description of Estonian forestry sector

Geography and natural conditions

Estonia is located in Northern Europe, on the eastern coast of the Baltic Sea, thus lying in the northern part of the temperate zone and in the transition zone between maritime and continental climate. As a part of the East European Plain, Estonia is a flat territory, where uplands and plateau-like areas alternate with lowlands, depressions and valleys. The highest point in Estonia and the Baltic States is Suur Munamägi Hill (318 m), which is located in the middle part of the Haanja Upland.

The main factor influencing the climate of Estonia is the Atlantic Ocean, in particular the North-Atlantic Stream. The active cyclonic activity occurring in the northern part of the Atlantic Ocean (the Icelandic minimum) determines a very high variability of the weather in Estonia and causes strong winds, high precipitation and abrupt fluctuations in temperature. The prevailing western winds carry humid maritime air deep into the inland parts of the continent. In the cold season this brings about a considerably warmer, while in the warm season a somewhat cooler weather. The annual average temperature in Estonia is 4.3–6.5°C, which is considerably higher than in more eastern areas lying on the same latitudes but having a more continental climate.

The main factor shaping the differences in air temperatures between different regions in Estonia is the Baltic Sea. In winter it keeps the coastal areas much warmer than the inland (the average air temperature in January is (-6)- 7°C in Central and East Estonia and (-2)- 4°C in the West-Estonian Archipelago).

In spring, the inland warms up much faster than the sea. Therefore, coastal areas remain comparatively cooler than the rest of Estonia. Differences between the average temperatures in May exceed 3.5°C. In summer these territorial differences begin to disappear. The average temperature in July varies between 16.0°C and 17.4°C. The vegetation period lasts for 180–195 days and the frost-free period 110–190 days, both are longer on the coast.

The snow cover in Estonia is characterised by large territorial and temporal variations. The average duration of snow cover during winter is 75–135 days. Snow cover remains for the shortest time on the small islands near the western coast of Saaremaa Island and for the longest time on the Haanja and Pandivere Uplands.

The annual average wind speed in the inland parts of Estonia is less than 4 m/s; on the coasts of the open seas it is more than 6 m/s. Bigger still are the differences in the frequency of storm winds. In the inland, storm winds (more than 15 m/s) are rare, occurring only a few times a year, while on the coast and islands of the open seas the frequency of storm winds reaches 30–45 days/year.

Estonia is located in a region of humid climate, where the amount of precipitation exceeds the total evaporation. The annual average of the relative air humidity is 80–83%. It is higher in winter and at its lowest in May, being 70% on average. The annual average precipitation varies between 550 and 800 mm. As a rule, the coastal zone receives less rainfall than the inland areas. It is particularly dry on the coast in spring and in the first half of summer.¹

¹ Estonica Web Encyclopaedia, Location and natural conditions (http://www.estonica.org/en/Nature/Location_and_natural_conditions/), last visited 22.02.2019

Forestry sector

Estonia belongs to the northern part of the mixed forest sub-zone of the temperate forest zone. Due to a large variety of soil conditions and moisture regimes, many different types of forest grow here.² Total forest land area is 2,33 million hectares, which makes Estonia one of the most forested countries compared to the area, as 51,5% of mainland area is forest land (with 47% stocked and 4,5% un-stocked³).

In terms of ownership categories, the forest land area is distributed as follows: 46% State Forest Management Centre land, 5% other state forest land, 1% forest land subject to privatization, 28% forest land owned by private individuals, 20% forest land owned by private legal entities.

Regarding dominant tree species, the forest land area is divided almost in half between conifers and deciduous trees (36,7% pine, 19,3% spruce, 25,5% birch and the remaining 18,5% is mainly other deciduous trees). The average growing stock of stands is 206 m³/ha (pine-dominant stands having the highest average growing stock – 237 m³/ha and grey alder-dominant stands having the lowest average growing stock – 151 m³/ha).

Estonian forest land is distributed into protection categories as follows – total protected forest area is 24,6%, of which 12,6% is protection forests and 12% is protected forests (the latter includes 11,7% of protected forests and projected protected areas, as well as 0,3% of woodland key habitats).⁴

It is estimated that there are around 35,000-45,000 plant, fungi and animal species in Estonia, with around 26,600 recorded so far. Taking into consideration the area of the country, Estonia is among the countries with highest biodiversity in the biogeographical region and many species can be found, which are otherwise rare in Europe.⁵

C.2 FSC Estonia and Standard Development Group

Although sustainable forest management roots in Estonia go back to the mid-1990s, the current FSC Estonia (legal name is MTÜ Hea Metsanduse Koda) was established in early 2002. Similarly to the international FSC membership, the newly formed non-profit association members were divided into three chambers - the Environmental, Social and Economic Chamber. The aim of the organization was to become a member of the FSC International Network and to adapt the international framework of the FSC forest stewardship standard for the Republic of Estonia.

In May 2004, an agreement was signed with FSC International, according to which both organisations sought the same forestry goals, and in 2010 a partnership agreement was signed by which FSC Estonia was granted the status of a national FSC office. This means that FSC Estonia is the official channel of communication between FSC International and Estonian stakeholders, and FSC Estonia is authorized to represent the positions and opinions of FSC International in Estonia.

The SDG is a working group officially approved by FSC International, which aims to prepare an FSC forest stewardship standard in accordance with FSC requirements, which will be valid in the territory of the Republic of Estonia. The SDG is not a separate legal entity. It is a working group established by FSC Estonia, but the SDG is free and separate from FSC Estonia in decisions regarding the standard.

The task of SDG in the standard development process is to review in detail the standard's drafts and to make recommendations on their content and to propose amendments. In addition, it is the SDG task to review and evaluate the comments received from stakeholders during the public consultation processes

² Estonica Web Encyclopaedia, Flora and fauna, Forests (http://www.estonica.org/en/Nature/Flora_and_fauna/Forests/), last visited 22.02.2019

³ Statistics Estonia (<https://andmed.stat.ee/>), data for 2023

⁴ Yearbook Forest 2016, Estonian Environment Agency, 2017

⁵ Estonian Nature Conservation Development Plan Until 2020, Estonian Ministry of The Environment, 2012

and the results of the field tests. The SDG strives to achieve consensus among all its members during the development of relevant formulations and wording of the standard.

The SDG has a three-chamber structure (Environmental, Social and Economic Chambers) reflecting the structure of FSC. In addition, members of the SDG represent their respective interests, fields of activities and expertise. The SDG can also engage external experts to bring clarity to issues where more information is needed or where the team does not have the necessary expertise. In addition, the SDG has an impartial moderator whose task is to moderate the discussions and help achieve consensus.

This standard draft was prepared by the SDG with the following composition:

Chamber	Name	Organization
Social	<u>Ahto Kaasik</u>	Hiite Maja Foundation
	<u>Aivar Ruukel</u>	Soomaa Tourism non-profit association
	<u>Kaarel Tiganik</u>	Estonian Foresters Association non-profit association
	<u>Rea Raus</u>	Statera non-profit association
Environmental	<u>Anneli Palo</u>	University of Tartu
	<u>Jaanus Libek</u>	Estonian Fund for Nature Foundation
	<u>Kalev Sepp</u>	Estonian University of Life Sciences
	<u>Olev-Andres Tinn</u>	Estonian Greens political party
	<u>Renno Nellis</u>	Eagle Club non-profit association
Economic	<u>Ivar Sibul</u>	Estonian University of Life Sciences
	<u>Tarmo Meus</u>	Multiland private limited company
	<u>Rainer Laigu</u>	State Forest Management Centre. SDG member until June 2020
	<u>Tõnis Tõnisson</u>	Estonian Private Forestry Union non-profit organisation. SDG member until June 2020
	<u>Marti Piirimäe</u>	Graanul Invest public limited company. SDG member until June 2020

During the standard drafting process, The SDG has been moderated by Raul Rosenvald, Senior Researcher at the Forestry and Rural Construction Institute of the Estonian University of Life Sciences. The SDG has been assisted by Marion Kade, Project Coordinator and later Executive Director of FSC Estonia, FSC Estonia Executive Director Indrek Talpsep and, subsequently, FSC Estonia Executive Director Kristjan Maasalu.

C.3 Technical experts and consultative forum

Where appropriate, technical experts attended the discussions of SDG, whose assessments and views were taken into account in the discussions by the group, but who did not participate in the decision-making process.

In addition to the SDG and technical experts, a Standard Advisory Board (which fulfilled the role of the Consultative Forum) was also involved in the standard drafting process, with the aim of ensuring that the interests of those not represented in the development group were reflected in the process. The Standard Advisory Board (SAB) was informed about the standard drafting process - before each meeting of the SDG, the materials of the meeting were received by the SAB and the members could give input for the meeting. The number of members of the SAB was not limited, which means that everyone could join at any time. The members of the SAB were also entitled to participate in an SDG meeting when there were justified interests or to share specific expert knowledge and on the basis of a prior agreement. This opportunity was actively used by several members of the SAB during the drafting process.

C.4 Background information on the standard development

In May 2016, FSC Estonia initiated the process of development of FSC Forest Stewardship Standard for Estonia, aiming to prepare a standard based on FSC Principles, that is in effect on the entire territory of Estonia and corresponds to the circumstances of the Republic of Estonia, and which would be environmentally friendly, beneficial to society and economically viable. In the process of drafting the standard, the International Generic Indicators were adapted to the Estonian context, following FSC Principles and Criteria and requirements while taking into account specific local ecological, social and economic conditions.

The first draft of FSC Forest Stewardship Standard for Estonia was developed by January 2017, the second draft by April 2017. The third draft was forest tested and went through stakeholder consultation by September 2017. The fourth draft had been developed between September 2018 and November 2019.

Further changes were introduced to the standard based on the feedback from the Performance and Standards Unit (at present, Policy and Performance Unit, P&P) and transfer to International Generic Indicators V2-0 (FSC-STD-60-004 V2-0). As a result, an extra public consultation was conducted during the time period between 9 March and 6 April 2020, to consult the updated FSS that included new requirements from IGI V2-0.

Throughout the process of development of the standard, there was disagreement among the SDG members, with respect to the existence of Indigenous Peoples in Estonia. As a result, the FSC Permanent Indigenous Peoples' Committee (PIPC) was requested for their opinion. The PIPC concluded (in April 2020) that there were Indigenous Peoples in Estonia and, therefore, Principle 3 was to be included in the standard.

Due to the continued disagreement among the SDG on that issue, P&P took over the process of incorporation of Principle 3 into the standard, based on the *Interim Approach Towards Failing and Missing Processes for Developing or Revising National Standards*, approved by the FSC International Board of Directors at their 87th meeting (March 2021).

Subsequently, indicators for Principle 3 were developed by an independent expert (hired by P&P) during the time period February – August 2022. Those indicators were incorporated by P&P into the standard, which underwent an extra public consultation (conducted by FSC Estonia) from 14 April to 15 May 2023 (including the indicators of Principle 3), before finally submitted to P&P on 16 February 2024.

NOTE: Further information is available from P&P upon request.

D REFERENCES

(Informative section)

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

FSC-POL-20-003	<i>FSC Policy on the Excision of Areas from the Scope of Certification</i>
FSC-POL-30-001	<i>FSC Pesticides Policy</i>
FSC-POL-30-602	<i>FSC Interpretation on GMOs: Genetically Modified Organisms</i>
FSC-STD-20-007	<i>Forest Management Evaluations</i>
FSC-STD-30-005	<i>FSC Standard for Group Entities in Forest Management Groups</i>
FSC-PRO-01-008	<i>Processing Complaints in the FSC Certification Scheme</i>
FSC-PRO-30-006	<i>Ecosystem Services Procedure: Impact Demonstration and Market Tools</i>
FSC-DIR-20-007	<i>FSC Directive on FSC Forest Management Evaluations</i>
FSC-DIR-60-006	<i>FSC Directive on FSC Country Requirements</i>
FSC-GUI-30-003	<i>FSC Guidelines for the implementation of the right to Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC)</i>

NOTE: When applying this standard, consider relevant interpretations by inquiring with local FSC representatives (e.g., National Offices or representatives, or FSC's Policy and Performance Unit, if no national FSC presence exists), or your certification body. International interpretations are available through the FSC Document Centre (<https://fsc.org/en/document-centre>).

E ABBREVIATIONS

(Informative section)

FSC Forest Stewardship Council

IFSS Interim Forest Stewardship Standard

NF Normative Framework

FSS Forest Stewardship Standard

P&P Policy and Performance Unit (previously known as PSU - Performance and Standards Unit)

F PRINCIPLES*, CRITERIA* AND INDICATORS*

(Normative section)

PRINCIPLE* 1: COMPLIANCE WITH LAWS

The Organization* shall comply with all applicable laws*, regulations and nationally-ratified* international treaties, conventions and agreements.

- 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.**
 - 1.1.1. The Organization has been registered and is identifiable in public commercial registry and owns all permits to carry out activities within the scope of the certificate.
- 1.2. The Organization* shall demonstrate that the legal* status of the Management Unit*, including tenure* and use rights*, and its boundaries, are clearly defined.**
 - 1.2.1. The Organization has documents demonstrating the legal ownership or use rights of the Management Unit.
 - 1.2.2. The legal use right is registered by a legally competent governmental body.
 - 1.2.3. The boundaries of Management Units are clearly defined (e.g. shown on maps, marked in the field, a natural boundary).
- 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.**
 - 1.3.1. All activities in the Management Unit are carried out in compliance with applicable laws, Legal and customary rights and the Internal Codes of Practice of The Organization.
 - 1.3.2. Payment is made in a timely manner of all applicable legally prescribed charges connected with forest management
 - 1.3.3. The activities covered by the management plan comply with all applicable laws.
 - 1.3.4. The requirements of this Estonian FSC forest stewardship standard which are in conflict with applicable national laws are recorded.
- 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.**
 - 1.4.1. Measures are in place which provide protection from illegal harvesting, hunting, fishing, trapping, collecting, settlement and other unauthorized activities in the forest.
 - 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.
 - 1.4.3. The Organization documents any identified illegal or unauthorized activities and takes appropriate action to bring these to end.

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.

1.5.1. In the transportation and trade of forest products, The Organization follows applicable laws and ratified international conventions.

1.5.2 The Organization follows the requirements of CITES.

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*.

1.6.1. A publicly available dispute resolution process is in place; developed through engagement with affected stakeholders.

Note: Further guidance provided in Annex G.

1.6.2. In resolving disputes, The Organization upholds efforts towards reaching an agreement or consensus, in accordance with Annex G.

1.6.3. Up-to-date records of disputes related to issues of applicable laws or customary rights are held, including:

- 1) Steps taken to resolve disputes;
- 2) The outcome of each dispute;
- 3) Unresolved disputes, the reasons they are not resolved, and how they will be resolved.

1.6.4. Operations cease in areas where disputes exist:

- 1) Of substantial magnitude; or
- 2) Of substantial duration; or
- 3) Involving a significant number of interests; or
- 4) Involving *public interest**.

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.

1.7.1. The Organization has stated publicly that it will not engage in any kind of corruption in its freely available anti-corruption policy document.

1.7.2. The policy meets or exceeds related legislation.

1.7.3. There is no corruptive activity in The Organization.

1.7.4. Corrective measures are implemented if corruption has occurred.

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.**

1.8.1. The Organization affirms its long-term commitment to conform with this Estonian FSC forest stewardship standard and related Policies and Standards in an official written policy, endorsed by an individual with authority to implement the policy.

1.8.2. The official policy statement is made 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*.

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*.

2.1.1. The Organization follows the rules of Estonian labour law (including provisions related to *Child** labour) and the ILO conventions ratified in Estonia. (Annex H)

2.1.1.1 The Organization shall not employ a *minor** subject to the obligation to attend school, or allow such a *minor** to work, except in the cases provided for in sub-section (4) of Employment Contracts Act § 7. "Entry into employment contract with *minor***".

2.1.1.2 No person under the age of 18 is employed in hazardous or *heavy work**, as is listed in the "List of occupational hazards and work prohibited to *minors***", Employment Contracts Act § 7, except for the purpose of training within approved national laws and regulation.

2.1.2. The Organization shall eliminate all forms of forced and compulsory labour.

2.1.2.1 Employment relationships are voluntary and based on mutual consent, without threat of a penalty.

2.1.2.2 There is no evidence of any practices indicative of *forced or compulsory labour**, including, but not limited to, the following:

- 1) Physical and sexual violence
- 2) Bonded labour
- 3) Withholding of wages /including payment of employment fees and/or payment of deposit to commence employment
- 4) Restriction of mobility/movement
- 5) Retention of passport and identity documents
- 6) Threats of denunciation to the authorities

2.1.3. The Organization shall ensure that there is no *discrimination** in *employment and occupation**.

2.1.3.1 *Employment and occupation** practices are non-discriminatory

2.1.4. Workers are able to freely establish or join *labour organizations**.

2.1.5. The Organization respects the right of workers to participate or not to participate in lawful activities related to the establishment of, joining or providing assistance to a labour organisation. The Organization does not discriminate against or sanction workers on the grounds of exercising these rights.

2.1.6. The Organization negotiates in *good faith** with the established labour organisations and/or their duly elected representatives and makes best efforts to reach a *collective bargaining** agreement.

2.1.7. The agreements resulting from *collective bargaining** with labour organisations have been adhered to.

- 2.1.8. The Organization respects the right of labour organisations to set out their own constitution and rules.

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

- 2.2.1. The activity of The Organization promotes gender equality and avoids gender *discrimination** in employment relationships (including training opportunities and engagement in the organizational processes).
- 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.
- 2.2.3. Work in nurseries, silviculture, Non Timber Forest Product harvesting, weighing, packing, and similar, is included in training and health & safety programs to the same extent as all other types of work.
- 2.2.4. Women and men receive equal pay when they do equal work.
- 2.2.5. Workers 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.
- 2.2.6. Maternity leave is no less than a 100 calendar days period after childbirth, according to Employment Contracts Act § 59.
- 2.2.7. Paternity leave is available and there is no penalty for taking it.
- 2.2.8. The Organization disapproves any cases of harassment, including sexual harassment, and *discrimination** on any grounds and builds awareness among its workers of the opportunities of identifying and reporting such cases.
- 2.2.9. Confidential and effective mechanisms exist for reporting and eliminating cases of harassment and discrimination mentioned in Indicator 2.2.7.

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.

- 2.3.1. The Organization performs work tasks in compliance with Estonian laws and the ILO Code of Practice on Safety and Health in Forestry Work"
- 2.3.2. Appropriate personal protection equipment is used in The Organization in performing work tasks. (Annex I)
- 2.3.3. The Organization has recorded health and safety practices and any instances of *occupational accidents**, and designs and implements measures to avoid new accidents.
- 2.3.4. The health and safety practices have been reviewed and revised as required after major incidents or *occupational accidents**.
- 2.3.5. The Organization constantly takes relevant measures to improve health and safety practices, in order to reduce the frequency and severity of accidents over time.

- 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*.**
- 2.4.1. The Organization pays wages that in all circumstances meet or exceed the minimum wage established by Employment Contracts Act
 - 2.4.2. The Organization pays wages that meet or exceed minimum forest industry wage levels.
 - 2.4.3. Wages and contracts have been paid by the agreed date.
- 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*.**
- 2.5.1. Involved responsible workers as well as responsible contractor employees carrying out work tasks have relevant competencies for the work according to annex B and supervision to safely and effectively contribute to the implementation of the management plan
 - 2.5.2. The Organization maintains an up-to-date record of workers training.
- 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*.**
- 2.6.1. A dispute resolution process is in place, developed through engagement with workers or with representative of workers.
 - 2.6.2. Workers grievances are recorded and responded to and are either resolved or are in the resolution process.
 - 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:
 - 1) Steps taken to resolve grievances;
 - 2) Outcomes of all dispute resolution process including fair compensation; and
 - 3) Unresolved disputes, including the reasons they are not resolved, and how they will be resolved.
 - 2.6.4. Fair compensation is provided to workers for work-related loss or damage of property, occupational diseases or occupational injuries.
 - 2.6.5. Any contractor and/or subcontractor of The Organization affirms that it will meet the requirements of the Indicators specified under Criterion 2.6.

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*.

Note: Following the requirements established by the FSC Principles and Criteria, Criterion 3.1 requires the identification of presence of Indigenous Peoples that exist within the Management Unit or outside of the MU and if these communities could be affected by *management activities**. Once the Indigenous Peoples are identified, Criterion 3.1 henceforth requires The Organization to have knowledge of the rights and obligations of those Indigenous Peoples within the MU. In cases where the Indigenous People(s) and their forest dependency (regardless whether granted by the law or not), as outlined in this note, is identified in Criterion 3.1, the remaining criteria and indicators of this Principle become automatically applicable and therefore mandatory to be conformed to by The Organization".

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.

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

Note: Estonia has not recognized any people on its territory as indigenous. In Estonia, the Setos are officially considered one of several regional ethnic groups of Estonians. The representative body of the Setos, the Seto Congress (Seto Kongress) convenes every 3 years. It selects a 13-member Seto Elders board (Seto Vanemate kogu) that represents the Setos in matters within its mission in regional contexts and functions as an executive body of the Seto people. Historically, Seto have settled in their present lands at roughly the same time around 1500 BC as other groups of Baltic Finnic groups that later formed Estonians as an ethnicity. Since 2017, Setos have one local administrative unit the Setomaa parish (Setomaa vald), which unites all 157 Seto villages that remain on the Estonian side of the current de-facto Estonian-Russian border. The Võro declared themselves as an Indigenous People at the Võro Congress on April 22nd 2023 and elected an 11-member Võro Elders board as their representative body. Further self-identifications as Indigenous Peoples might occur.

3.1.2. The Organization identifies the areas within the Management Unit where the Indigenous People use the forest resources. This is done through engagement with affected Indigenous Peoples.

3.1.3. Through engagement with the identified Indigenous Peoples, The Organization identifies, documents and/or maps:

- 1) Legal and customary rights to use land, water, forest, natural resources and ecosystem services.
- 2) How The Organization takes into consideration the rights of the Indigenous People.
- 3) How the planned *management activities** will affect the traditional economic activities and the current forest structure within the Management Unit.
- 4) Areas (if any) where the above-mentioned rights are contested between the Indigenous People, The Organization, Government and/or others.
- 5) The aspirations and goals of Indigenous Peoples related to *management activities** and *Indigenous cultural landscapes**.

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*.

- 3.2.1. The Organization offers Indigenous Peoples an opportunity to express their views on the management plan for the areas where forest-related use rights of the Indigenous Peoples might be affected, when it is prepared or revised. Indigenous People statements are recorded, as well as how they are considered in the plans.
- 3.2.2. The participatory planning process is offered to the Indigenous Peoples that could be affected by planned *management activities**, provided that the Indigenous People have described to The Organization how they use the land within the defined area according to 3.1.1 and 3.1.2.
- 3.2.3. The participatory planning process is conducted every two (2) years by the initiative of The Organization, provided that *management activities** are planned to be carried out.
- 3.2.4. The results of participatory planning process are documented and the Indigenous Peoples that do not participate in the planning process are informed of the outcome.
- 3.2.5. The Organization respects the Indigenous Peoples' land use description and aligns its *management activities** that are included in the participatory planning process with this description.

Note: A prerequisite for the participatory planning process to be conducted in an efficient and appropriate manner is that both parties show respect and understanding for each other's rights.

- 3.2.6 On state lands, Riigimetsa Majandamise Keskus (RMK - State Forest Management Centre) takes into consideration the proposals of Indigenous Peoples and simultaneous activities of different authorities in the area.
- 3.2.7 Prior to the management plan entering into force, *management activities** planned on state lands that might affect forest-related rights of the Indigenous Peoples, are agreed with the Indigenous Peoples in accordance with the FPIC principle (see Indicator 3.2.12).
- 3.2.8 *Management activities** are not carried out in the areas where forest-related rights of the Indigenous People might be affected, before the participatory planning process has been conducted.
- 3.2.9 The Organization upholds the rights of Indigenous Peoples to make personal use of non-timber forest products (NTFP).
- 3.2.10 The legal and customary rights of the Indigenous People are not violated.
- 3.2.11 If there is evidence that The Organization has violated the legal or customary rights of Indigenous People, the situation is corrected in a *culturally appropriate** manner and/or through the dispute resolution method required by Criterion 1.6 or 4.6 and following the guidance provided in Annex G.

3.2.12 An agreement with the Indigenous People on the practice of forestry is reached as follows:

- 1) In the initial phase of development or revision of a management plan, a preliminary negotiation is held, in which the Indigenous Peoples and The Organization provisionally agree on the objectives of *management activities** of The Organization and the surveys and reports to be prepared to support the planning.
- 2) The Organization obtains the free, prior and informed consent (FPIC) of the Indigenous People both for the agreement (with respective terms) on cooperation procedures to be used in the process, and for the *management activities** to be carried out during the agreement period.
- 3) Once the agreement defining the consent has been signed, it is deemed to give consent to all the measures agreed in the agreement without separate negotiations.
- 4) The management plan is discussed in consultation with the Indigenous Peoples (and on state lands, with their representative body as well, if such exists) following the FPIC principles before the plan is approved.

3.2.13 If the FPIC process has not resulted in an FPIC agreement, representatives of The Organization and Indigenous Peoples participate in a mutually agreed FPIC negotiation process that proceeds in *good faith** on both sides and is welcomed by the Indigenous Peoples

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.**

3.3.1 Where FPIC has been provided for *management activities**, a written binding agreement is concluded between the parties that regulates:

- 1) the duration of consent,
- 2) provisions for renegotiation,
- 3) renewal and termination of the agreement,
- 4) economic conditions and other terms and conditions,
- 5) how the agreed terms and conditions shall be monitored.

3.3.2 Agreements binding both parties are maintained.

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).**

3.4.1 The rights, customs and culture of Indigenous Peoples as defined in the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and ILO Convention 169 are not violated by The Organization.

3.4.2 If it is proven that The Organization has violated the rights, customs and culture of the Indigenous People, as defined in UNDRIP and ILO Convention 169, The Organization documents the conflict situation and its steps of resolution, primarily seeking to reach a negotiated settlement between the parties.

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.

3.5.1 The Organization, through engagement with the Indigenous Peoples, defines the most important sites for their culture:

- 1) old settlements and other cultural remains of the Indigenous People,
- 2) culturally important paths,
- 3) sacred groves and trees, cross-trees, burial places, sacrificial places, or other culturally or historically significant places.

3.5.2 Each site defined according to Indicator 3.5.1 is taken into consideration and protected when practicing forestry, through engagement with the Indigenous Peoples. If the Indigenous Peoples do not wish to disclose this information, The Organization is not required to maintain these maps and information, but will act in other ways to secure the essential values.

3.5.3 If a previously unknown culturally, ecologically, economically, religiously or spiritually particularly significant site is detected, *management activities** in the vicinity of the site are halted until protection of the site has been agreed with the Indigenous Peoples, the National Heritage Board, and as required by the Estonian legislation.

3.5.4 The sites mentioned in Indicator 3.5.1 are recorded by The Organization in the management plan.

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.

3.6.1 Traditional knowledge and intellectual property are respected and are only used after FPIC has been provided by the owners of that traditional knowledge and intellectual property and a binding agreement has been concluded with the owners.

Note: Traditional knowledge refers to, for example, indigenous designs, traditional indigenous symbols, and describing products or services as indigenous products or services.

3.6.2 Compensation is provided for the Indigenous People for the use of traditional knowledge and intellectual property in accordance with the binding agreement reached through FPIC.

PRINCIPLE* 4: COMMUNITY RELATIONS

The Organization* shall contribute to maintaining or enhancing the social and economic wellbeing of *local communities**.

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**.

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

Note: Initial list of local communities can be found on the website of FSC Estonia: contact person, contact data (phone and email), list of cadastral units related to the interests of a local community.

4.1.2. The Organization informs identified local communities and those who might be identified as such about the list of local communities accessible on the website of FSC.

4.1.3 The Organization engages with local communities to identify, document and/or map significant interests and rights of any local community related to *management activities**, including:

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

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 *traditional peoples** of control over *management activities** to third parties requires *Free, Prior and Informed Consent**.

4.2.1. The Organization, by agreement with the local community, finds an opportunity and a way for local communities to express their opinion on the *management activities** and propose changes to protect their rights. Parties involved will strive for an agreement based on Dispute Resolution guide (Annex G) if no agreement has been reached.

4.2.2. The legal and customary rights of local communities (including the right for personal use of NTFPs) are not violated by The Organization.

4.2.3. Where evidence exists that the legal or customary rights of local communities have been violated in connection with *management activities** the situation is corrected, if necessary, through engagement in accordance with dispute resolution procedure (according to Criterion 1.6 or 4.6).

- 4.2.4. The Organization has provided information to the owners and/or managers of neighbouring land units before the beginning of regeneration cutting, where dwellings are less than 100 metres from the felling site, as well as to the representatives of a local community which have expressed their wish in that regard through earlier engagement (according to Criterion 4.1), and strives to take account of their proposals in carrying out cutting activities.

Note: The preferred way of providing information is direct communication, but it can also be done through local authorities and/or using demarcation tapes, information boards etc.

- 4.2.5. Free, Prior and Informed Consent is granted by local communities prior to *management activities** that affect their identified rights through a process that includes:

- 1) Ensuring local communities know their rights and obligations regarding the resource;
- 2) Informing the local communities of the value of the resource, in economic, social and environmental terms;
- 3) 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
- 4) Informing the local communities of the current and future planned forest *management activities**.

- 4.2.6 Where the process of Free Prior and Informed Consent has not yet resulted in an FPIC agreement, The Organization and the affected local communities are engaged in a mutually agreed FPIC process that is advancing, in *good faith** and with which the community is satisfied.

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**.**

- 4.3.1. Reasonable work and training opportunities are communicated and provided to local communities and regional enterprises.

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**.**

- 4.4.1. Opportunities for local social and economic development are identified through engagement with local communities and other relevant organizations.

- 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**.

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.**

- 4.5.1 The Organization, through engagement with local communities, has taken action to identify, avoid or mitigate significant negative social, economic and environmental impact of its *management activities** on local communities.

- 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*.**
- 4.6.1. A publicly available dispute resolution process is in place; developed through engagement with affected local communities. Guide provided in Annex G.
 - 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.
 - 4.6.3. The Organization keeps records of outcomes of dispute resolution processes, including steps taken to resolve grievances, fair compensation for local communities and individuals and unresolved disputes, the reasons they are not resolved, and how they will be resolved.
- 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*.**
- 4.7.1. The Organization, through engagement with local communities and using *Best available information**, identifies and recognizes sites which are of special cultural, ecological, economic, religious or spiritual significance.
 - 4.7.2. Protection measures or management practices for the sites of special significance have been agreed and documented through engagement with local communities and these agreements are implemented. It can be decided together with the local communities that the location of the sites is not made publicly available.
 - 4.7.3. Where sites of special cultural, ecological, economic, religious or spiritual significance for a local community are newly observed or discovered, the *management activities** in the vicinity of those sites are immediately stopped until protection measures or management practices have been agreed with local communities in a timely manner.
 - 4.7.4. No *management activities** are carried out in historical *natural sacred sites** identified by The Organization in accordance with Indicator 4.7.1 (with the exception of activities resulting from laws, *public interest**, etc.).
- 4.8. The Organization* shall uphold* the right of traditional peoples* to protect* and utilize their traditional knowledge* and shall compensate traditional peoples* 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 traditional 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.**
- 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.
 - 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.

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**.

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

5.1.2. Consistent with its management objectives The Organization produces the forest products and ecosystem services identified under Indicator 5.1.1 and/or makes these available to others for production, to strengthen and diversify the *local economy**.

5.1.3. When The Organization uses FSC Ecosystem Services Claims, The Organization shall conform with applicable requirements in FSC-PRO-30-006.

5.2. The Organization* shall normally harvest products and services from the **Management Unit*** at or below a level which can be permanently sustained.

5.2.1a The Organization has produced a long-term forest resource analysis on the basis of current data on forest inventory and timber harvesting, including growth and yield; inventory of the forest; mortality rates; and maintenance of ecosystem functions

5.2.1b The Organization has a management plan drawn up on the basis of appropriate forest inventory data or has produced an analysis of forest resource that includes the estimation of harvesting levels.

5.2.2 Based on the forest resource analysis, maximum allowable annual timber harvest volume is determined which does not exceed growth.

Note: Large MUs are recommended to use *calculated optimal harvest area** to determine harvest volumes for regeneration cutting.

5.2.3. The annual timber harvest volume enables to maintain or develop balanced age-class and species distribution across all the forests of The Organization.

5.2.4. Actual annual timber harvest volumes are recorded by The Organization. The Organization ensures that the sum of actual annual harvest volumes in a defined period (maximum 10 years) does not exceed the sum of allowable harvest volumes calculated for the same period.

5.2.5 For providing services and harvesting non-timber forest products for commercial purposes from a Management Unit under The Organization's control, sustainable harvest levels have been calculated and are adhered to. Sustainable harvest levels are based on *Best available information**.

5.3. The Organization* shall demonstrate that the positive and negative *externalities** of operations are included in the *management plan**.

5.3.1. Costs related to preventing, mitigating or compensating for negative social and environment impacts of *management activities** are quantified in the management plan and/or in the budget.

5.3.2. Benefits related to positive social and environment impacts of *management activities** are quantified in the management plan and/or in the budget.

- 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.**
- 5.4.1. Where cost, quality and capacity of non-local and local options are at least equivalent, local goods and services are used.
- 5.4.2. The Organization makes reasonable attempts to establish and encourage capacity where local goods, services, processing and value-added facilities are not available.
- 5.5. *The Organization** shall demonstrate through its planning and expenditures proportionate to *scale, intensity and risk**, its commitment to *long-term* economic viability**.**
- 5.5.1. Sufficient funds have been allocated and expenditures and investments made to implement the Management Plan in order to meet the requirements of this standard and to ensure long-term economic viability.

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.

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.

6.1.1. *Best available information** has been used to estimate which environmental values (both inside and outside of the Management Unit) are affected or could be affected by The Organization's forest *management activities**.

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

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

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**.

6.2.1. An *environmental impact assessment** or equivalent defines and describes the forest *management activities** that have significant impact on environmental values at stand and landscape levels in the Management Plan.

6.2.2. The Organization analyses potential environmental impacts (or uses analyses carried out by other parties) based on the requirements of Indicator 6.1.1 prior to construction and reconstruction activities (including roads and drainage systems) that includes:

- 1) Risks that potentially affect *protected natural objects**, *key habitats**, *wet forests** with natural water regime, *wetlands** and protected species, and identified opportunities for the prevention or mitigation of these risks.
- 2) Preliminary analysis and a site map made publicly available at least 30 days before the beginning of work.
- 3) Summary of the analysis and the site map made publicly available.

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.**

6.3.1. Forest *management activity** is planned and carried out in a way that prevents or reduces negative impact or increases positive impact on environmental values.

6.3.2. Where a significant negative impact on environmental values occurs, measures are taken to avoid further damage and negative impacts are mitigated and/or repaired.

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**.**

6.4.1. *Best available information** is used to identify protected species (I and II protection category), rare and threatened species and their habitats, including CITES species (where applicable) that are present within the Management Unit or adjacent to it where they can be affected by forest *management activity** (See Annex F for the respective sources and lists).

6.4.2. The potential impact of The Organization's forest *management activities** on rare and threatened species and habitats is identified and the *management activity** is adapted to the conservation status, ecological requirements and geographical range of the species to prevent or reduce any negative impact.

6.4.3. Harvest activities are prohibited in the known nesting sites of protected bird species in birds nesting period.

6.4.4. Regeneration felling is avoided during the spring-summer period from April 15 to June 25, with the exception of alvar forests, oligotrophic boreal heath forests and oligo-mesotrophic boreal forests and regeneration felling under a forest protection expert assessment.

6.4.5. In cases where protected (I and II category), rare or threatened species are detected, The Organization informs a competent governmental body. The Organization ceases field-based *management activities** in respective areas, until conservation measures have been determined.

6.4.6. Rare and threatened species and their habitats are protected according to the conservation status, ecological requirements and geographical range of the species, using, among others, establishment of *protected natural objects**, maintaining connectivity and/or other direct measures, such as population recovery programs.

6.4.7. Rare and threatened species are not hunted, fished or harvested.

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*.

- 6.5.1. On the basis of *Best available information**, including national registries, the *protected natural objects**, *key habitats** and *woodland habitats under the Habitats Directive** which exist, or would exist under natural conditions in the Management Unit, are identified.
- 6.5.2. On the basis of *Best available information**, including national registries, the Representative Sample Areas of native ecosystems are protected, where they exist.
- 6.5.3. Where an *area with key habitat features** is found, forest *management activity** is stopped until conservation measures are determined.
- 6.5.4. All *key habitats** are entered into a national register and are maintained.
- 6.5.5. Where areas specified under Indicator 6.5.1 are not present, or where existing areas inadequately represent native ecosystems, or are otherwise insufficient, the most suitable part of the Management Unit has been restored to conditions as close to natural conditions as possible.
- 6.5.6. 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.
- 6.5.7. Representative Sample Areas in combination with other components of the *Conservation Areas Network** cover at least 10% of the area of the Management Unit.

Note: For group certification, the requirements for *Conservation Areas Network** can be met at the group level on the basis of respective provisions of standard FSC-STD-30-005 V2-0 Forest management groups.

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.

- 6.6.1. *Management activities** maintain the plant communities and habitat features found within native ecosystems in which the Management Unit is located.
- 6.6.2. The treatment of young growths and middle-aged stands on fertile soils is directed to growing healthy mixed stands.
- 6.6.3. The share of *secondary species** is at least 20%
- 6.6.4. Forest management has preserved existing *ecologically valuable fallen dead wood** in varying stages of decay, at least 15 m³/ha, and consisting of various species to the maximum possible extent.
- 6.6.5. The Organization does not include fresh dead wood (less than 2 years old) resulting from a natural disturbance (excluding fire) in the calculation of volumes required by Indicator 6.6.4, unless there are no other feasible options.

- 6.6.6 Forest management has preserved existing standing dead trees and/or snags with >15 cm diameter at breast height (preferably with signs of burning) at least 5 m³ per ha, ensuring safety.
- 6.6.7 In regeneration felling, at least 15 specimens of trees required for biodiversity i.e. *retention trees** of diverse species have been preserved per ha (in case of aspens over 50 cm in diameter, at least 10 per ha), ensuring safety. If possible, the trees are retained in groups. *Retention trees** are never cut or removed from the forest. When choosing *retention trees**, the following are preferred:
- 1) Trees that have been preserved over the previous felling period;
 - 2) Specimens of *Ulmus glabra*, *Ulmus laevis*, *Tilia cordata*, *Quercus robur*, *Acer platanoides*, *Populus tremula*, *Pinus sylvestris*, *Alnus glutinosa*;
 - 3) Trees with the largest diameter, old trees and trees with large crown;
 - 4) Trees with hollows or burning signs;
 - 5) Trees containing large-sized stick nests (D>50cm), together with the trees in their immediate surroundings.
- Understorey trees are considered as *retention trees** in a group of *retention trees** together with canopy trees.
- 6.6.8 Improvement cutting favours the preservation of trees described under Indicator 6.6.7.
- 6.6.9 Not all of noble hardwoods (oak, ash, elms, maple) and lindens are harvested from a felling site.
- 6.6.10 Cutting spares the transitional zone (ecotone) between forest and open landscape (bog, agricultural land), maintaining its understorey and shrub layer and preserving *retention trees**, *ecologically valuable fallen dead wood**, standing dead trees and snags (including burned).
- 6.6.11 Where past management has eliminated plant communities or habitat features, *management activities** aimed at re-establishing such habitats are implemented.
- 6.6.12 The Organization maintains, enhances or restores the *key habitats** features, associated with native ecosystems, to support biodiversity.
- 6.6.13 If The Organization is engaged in hunting, fishing or harvesting of non-timber forest products these are specified in the management plan and are carried out sustainably and in compliance with relevant legislation. Effective measures are taken to ensure that naturally occurring native species, their diversity within species and their natural distribution are maintained.

6.7. The Organization* shall protect* or restore* natural water courses, 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.

- 6.7.1. Measures have been taken to protect natural water bodies, riparian zones and their connectivity, including water quantity and water quality.
- 6.7.2. In the buffer zones of natural water bodies, understorey trees, understorey and shrub layer and *retention trees**, *ecologically valuable fallen dead wood** and standing dead wood and snags are preserved.
- 6.7.3 On slopes steeper than 40 degrees, bordering a natural water body, no forests are harvested.

- 6.7.4 The parts of forests not affected by existing drainage systems are not drained, with the exception of cases specified under Indicator 10.10.5.
- 6.7.5 Water bodies having a natural stream bed, being part of a drainage system are not reconstructed or regenerated. If it is inevitable for the functioning of the other parts of the drainage system, activities for the reconstruction and *management of land improvement systems** are permitted without altering the shape and depth of the natural stream bed.
- 6.7.6 The *collecting ditches** of protected peatlands and the ditches located in these peatlands are not reconstructed, maintained or regenerated, unless this is inevitable for the functioning of the other parts of the system.
- 6.7.7 Where the status and connectivity of water bodies, including water quantity and quality, and riparian zones in the Management Unit has degraded or continues to degrade due to the forest *management activities** of The Organization or preceding managers, measures are taken to prevent or mitigate this *degradation** or restore the pre-management conditions.

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*.**

- 6.8.1. The Organization maintains and / or shapes the diversity of the tree species and age classes naturally inherent to the landscape in the Management Unit.
- 6.8.2. Where the diversity of the tree species and age classes naturally characteristic to the landscape is not satisfactory in the forest, The Organization restores this.

Note: “restores” refers to the implementation of restoration measures, not necessarily achieving the desirable stand condition for the next audit.

6.9. *The Organization shall not convert natural forest* or High Conservation Value Areas* to plantations* or to non-forest land-use*, nor transform plantations* on sites directly converted from natural forest* to non-forest land-use*, except when the conversion*:**

- a) **Affects a very limited portion* of the *Management Unit**, and**
- b) **Will produce clear, substantial, *additional**, secure long-term *conservation** and social benefits in the *Management Unit**, and**
- c) **Does not damage or threaten *High Conservation Values**, nor any sites or resources necessary to maintain or enhance those *High Conservation Values**.**

6.9.1 There is no conversion of natural forest or High Conservation Value Areas to plantations, or to non-forest land-use, nor transformation of plantations on sites directly converted from natural forest to non-forest land-use, except when it:

- 1) Affects a very limited portion of the Management Unit, and
- 2) Will produce clear, substantial, additional, secure, long-term conservation and social benefits in the Management Unit, and
- 3) Does not damage or threaten High Conservation Values, nor any sites or resources necessary to maintain or enhance those High Conservation Values.

6.10. ***Management Units**** containing ***plantations**** that were established on areas converted from ***natural forest**** between 1 December 1994 and 31 December 2020 shall not qualify for certification, except where:

- a) The conversion affected a ***very limited portion**** of the ***Management Unit**** and is producing clear, substantial, ***additional****, secure long-term ***conservation**** benefits in the ***Management Unit****, or
- b) ***The Organization**** which was ***directly**** or ***indirectly**** involved in the conversion demonstrates ***restitution**** of all ***social harms**** and ***proportionate**** ***remedy**** of ***environmental harms**** as specified in the applicable FSC Remedy Framework, or
- c) ***The Organization**** which was not involved in the conversion but has acquired ***Management Units**** where conversion has taken place demonstrates ***restitution**** of ***priority social harms**** and ***partial remedy**** of ***environmental harms**** as specified in the applicable FSC Remedy Framework.

6.10.1 Based on ***Best available information****, accurate data is compiled on all conversions between 1 December 1994 and 31 December 2020 within the Management Unit.

6.10.2 Areas converted from natural forest to plantation between 1 December 1994 and 31 December 2020 are not certified, except where:

- 1) The conversion affected a very limited portion of the Management Unit and is producing clear, substantial, additional, secure long-term conservation benefits in the Management Unit, or
- 2) The Organization which was directly or indirectly involved in the conversion demonstrates restitution of all social harms and proportionate remedy of environmental harms as specified in the applicable FSC Remedy Framework, or
- 3) The Organization which was not involved in conversion but has acquired Management Units where conversion has taken place demonstrates restitution of priority social harms and partial remedy of environmental harms as specified in the applicable FSC Remedy Framework, or
- 4) The Organization qualifies as a ***Small-scale smallholder****.

6.11 *Management Units shall not qualify for certification if they contain *natural forests** or *High Conservation Value Areas** converted after 31 December 2020, except where the *conversion**:**

- a) Affected a very *limited portion** of the *Management Unit**, and**
- b) Is producing clear, substantial, *additional**, secure *long-term** *conservation** and social benefits in the *Management Unit**, and**
- c) Did not threaten *High Conservation Values**, nor any sites or resources necessary to maintain or enhance those *High Conservation Values**.**

6.11.1 Based on *Best available information** , accurate data is compiled on all conversions of natural forests and High Conservation Value Areas after 31 December 2020 within the Management Unit.

6.11.2 Areas where natural forests or High Conservation Value Areas have been converted after 31 December 2020 are not certified, except where the conversion:

- 1) affected a very limited portion of the Management Unit, and
- 2) is producing clear, substantial, additional, secure long-term conservation and social benefits in the Management Unit, and
- 3) did not threaten High Conservation Values, nor any sites or resources necessary to maintain or enhance those High Conservation Values.

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.

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.

7.1.1a The Organization has a Management Plan setting out policies (visions and values) and management objectives, which contribute to meeting the requirements of this standard.

7.1.1b The Organization has a management plan that conforms to the legal requirements for management planning applicable in Estonia.

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.

7.2.1. The management plan includes the **management activities***, strategies and measures contributing to the achievement of management objectives

7.2.2. The management plan is being fulfilled and addresses the elements listed in Annex D.

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

7.3.1. In order to assess the implementation of each management objective, verifiable targets and frequency of assessments are established.

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.

7.4.1. The management plan is updated at least once a year to incorporate:

- 1) monitoring results, including results of audits;
- 2) stakeholder engagement results, including Grievances;
- 3) new scientific and technical information;
- 4) changes in environmental, social, or economic circumstances
- 5) evaluation results of Rare, Threatened and Endangered species
- 6) adjustments (if needed) in the Site Plan managed by Operational Staff and
- 7) adjustments (if needed) in the engagement plan by General Manager.

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.**

7.5.1. The Organization makes publicly available a summary of the management plan (including the summaries of the defined policies and management objectives) in a format comprehensible to stakeholders, including maps and excluding confidential information.

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.

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.**

7.6.1. Stakeholders are proactively and transparently engaged in the following activities:

- 1) Dispute resolution (Criteria 1.6, 2.6 and 4.6);
- 2) Identification of rights (Criteria 3.1 and 4.1), *Indigenous cultural landscapes** (Criterion 3.1),
- 3) special sites (Criteria 3.5 and 4.7) and impacts (Criterion 4.5);
- 4) Activities contributing to the socio-economic development of local communities (Criterion 4.4);
- 5) High conservation value assessment, protection and monitoring (Criteria 9.1, 9.2 and 9.4).

7.6.2. Affected stakeholders and *Affected Rights Holders** are ensured the opportunity to participate in a *culturally appropriate** way in the planning of forest *management activities** and monitoring procedures that affect their interests.

7.6.3. 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**.

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**.

8.1.1a The Organization has a documented procedure for monitoring the implementation of the management plan, including its policies and Management objectives, that is carried out systematically and periodically. The Organization documents the results and assesses changes.

8.1.1b The Organization monitors the implementation of forest *management activities** and changes in environmental and social conditions according to management plan.

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.

8.2.1. The social and environmental impacts of forest *management activities** are monitored consistent with Annex E.

8.3. The Organization* shall analyze the results of monitoring and evaluation and feed the outcomes of this analysis back into the planning process.

8.3.1. Monitoring and assessment results are addressed and implemented in connection with Indicator 7.4.1.

8.3.2. In the case of monitoring results showing non-conformities with the FSC Standard, the management objectives, verifiable targets and/or forest *management activities** are revised.

8.4. The Organization* shall make *publicly available** a summary of the results of monitoring free of charge, excluding *confidential information**.

8.4.1a A summary of the monitoring results (including spatial data with maps) consistent with Annex E, in a format comprehensible to stakeholders, without confidential information is made publicly available at no cost.

8.4.1b Monitoring results (including maps, where appropriate) without confidential information are made publicly available at no cost.

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.

8.5.1. The Organization uses a system implemented to track and trace all products that are marketed as FSC certified. As a part of that The Organization presents as requested by the certification body:

- 1) *transaction** data of products with FSC claims to conduct *transaction verification**;
- 2) samples and specimens of materials and information about species composition for *fibre testing**.

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

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

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:

- 1) Name and registry number of purchaser;
- 2) The date of sale;
- 3) Product name and description;
- 4) The volume (or quantity) sold;
- 5) Certificate code;
- 6) The FSC Claim "FSC 100%" identifying products sold as FSC certified and
- 7) Common and scientific species name.

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**.

- 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**.

- 9.1.1. Using *Best available information**, The Organization (including Annex F) identifies and records the location of High Conservation Value areas in its possession, the type and condition of the High Conservation Value categories 1-6, as defined in Criterion 9.1.
- 9.1.2. The Organization uses the results from engaging with *Affected Rights Holders** and affected and interested stakeholders with an interest in the conservation of the High Conservation Values in the assessment of High Conservation Values

- 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.

- 9.2.1. Threats to High Conservation Values are identified using *Best available information**.
- 9.2.2. Strategies and measures are developed on the basis of relevant methods, to maintain and/or enhance the identified High Conservation Values and the associated High Conservation Value Areas prior to implementing potentially harmful forest *management activities**.

- 9.2.3. *Affected Rights Holders**, affected and interested stakeholders and experts are engaged in the development of strategies and measures to maintain and/or enhance the identified High Conservation Values.
- 9.2.4. The strategies developed are effective to maintain and/or enhance the High Conservation Values.
- 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*.***
 - 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 (Annex F).
 - 9.3.2. High Conservation Value forests are managed using precautionary approach.
 - 9.3.3. Activities that harm High Conservation Values are ceased immediately and measures are taken to restore and protect the High Conservation Values.
- 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.***
 - 9.4.1a The Organization has a monitoring plan to assess the effectiveness of the management strategies and the status of High Conservation Values (Annex F High Conservation Value framework)
 - 9.4.1b The Organizations assesses the status of High Conservation Values during forest inventory at least once in 5 years.
 - 9.4.2 *Affected Rights Holders**, affected and interested stakeholders and experts are engaged in monitoring.
 - 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.
 - 9.4.4. Additional conservation measures are implemented when the status of High Conservation Values has changed.
 - 9.4.5 The monitoring results and other new information are implemented when managing High Conservation Values and determining conservation measures for 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.

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**.**

10.1.1. Harvested sites are regenerated in a timely manner to more natural conditions that:

- 1) mitigates impacts on environmental values;
- 2) is suitable to recover overall pre-harvest or natural forest composition and structure
- 3) promotes the forest towards more natural conditions after regeneration cutting in a plantation established on a parcel of forest land and
- 4) for harvest of degraded natural forests, regenerates to more natural conditions.

10.1.2. In exceptional cases, when *Thalwegs** have been constructed or *trench dredging** has been used (when human activity or natural disturbances have resulted in areas becoming excessively moist), the effect of drainage does not go over the boundaries of the area that became excessively moist initially.

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.**

10.2.1. Tree species chosen for regeneration are well adapted to the habitat, are native species and are of source material of permitted origin. When cultivation material from other sources is used, clear and convincing justifications are presented.

10.2.2. Species chosen for regeneration conform with the forest management objectives.

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.**

10.3.1. Alien species are used only when direct experience and/or the results of scientific research demonstrate that there is no invasive impact and it is only done in felled alien species stands or for scientific purposes.

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.

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

10.3.4. The Organization notifies governmental agencies of findings related to invasive species and implements measures to prevent the spread of invasive tree species.

10.3.5 The Organization cooperates with stakeholders to control invasive species of forest lands. (Annex A 3.3)

10.4. *The Organization shall not use *genetically modified organisms** in the Management Unit*.**

10.4.1. Genetically modified organisms are not used.

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

10.5.1. The Organization uses *management activities** that take into account soils and ecological properties of the biota and comply with management objectives.

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.**

10.6.1. Only fertilizers produced from forest products (e.g. wood ash) are used on forest lands and it is done in compliance with applicable laws and within safe limits confirmed by scientific studies and their use is minimized or avoided.

10.6.2. If fertilizers mentioned in Indicator 10.6.1 are used on forest land, their ecological and economic benefits are equal to or higher than those of silvicultural systems that do not require fertilizers.

10.6.3. If fertilizers mentioned in Indicator 10.6.1 are used on forest land, their types, quantities, time, site of application, and area have been documented.

10.6.4. When using fertilizers mentioned in Indicator 10.6.1 on forest land, measures to prevent and mitigate damage are implemented. Fertilizers are not used on steep (40 degrees and over) slopes, no closer than 20 m to the edge of water bodies, in *wet forests**, and in High Conservation Value areas.

10.6.5. Damage to environmental values resulting from using fertilizers mentioned in Indicator 10.6.1 is mitigated or repaired.

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.**

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 synthetic pesticide applications, and result in non-use or overall reductions in applications.

10.7.2 The use of pesticides is in conformance with the requirements of Clause 4.12 of the most recent FSC pesticide policy.

10.7.3 No pesticides containing glyphosates are used or stored in Management Unit, unless for exceptional cases for fending off invasive species

10.7.4 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.

10.7.5 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.

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

10.7.7 When pesticides are used:

- 1) application methods minimize quantities used, while achieving effective results, and provide effective protection to surrounding landscapes; and
- 2) the selected pesticide, application method, timing and pattern of use offers the least risk to humans and non-target species; and
- 3) objective evidence demonstrates that the pesticide is the only effective, practical and cost-effective way to control the pest.

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**.**

10.8.1. The usage of biological control agents is minimal (excluding traditional biological control agents e.g. *Phlebiopsis gigantea*, native bird species and social insects), monitored and controlled.

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

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

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

10.9. The Organization* shall assess *risks and implement activities that reduce potential negative impacts from *Natural Hazards** proportionate to *scale, intensity, and risk**.**

10.9.1. The Organization has assessed the potential negative impacts of natural hazards on infrastructure and forest resources in the Management Unit.

10.9.2. 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.

10.9.3. The Organization plans and implements measures, that avoid or mitigate impacts described in Indicators 10.9.1. and 10.9.2.

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.**

10.10.1. Silviculture activities are managed to ensure protection of the environmental values identified in Criterion 6.1.

10.10.2. Land damages on forests are minimal when felling and transporting forest materials and damaged lands are restored according to Forest Law.

10.10.3 The Organization does not damage *key habitats** and habitat conditions of I and II category Red List species during reconstruction of drainage ditches and *management of land improvement systems**. If damage has been done, The Organization has clear and convincing evidence, that it was inevitably necessary for the rest of the drainage system to work and will make efforts to repair the damage.

10.10.4 The Organization avoids sediment transfer (using sediment pools, cleaning marshes, extensions of water protection zones, doing excavation during low water levels) to natural water bodies when reconstructing and renewing drainage systems.

- 10.10.5 New trenches to maintain the functionality of the drainage system are only constructed in forest areas unaffected by drainage systems when:
- 1) Neighbouring land owner refuses reconstructing drainage ditches or *management of land improvement systems** - new ditches are constructed to guide water past from other land owner's land;
 - 2) On a *protected natural object** or historical *natural sacred sites**, it is prohibited to reconstruct ditches or manage land improvement systems - new ditches are constructed to guide water past *protected natural object** or historical natural sacred site;
 - 3) Drainage object under reconstruction has been previously designed and/or constructed falsely (water has been guided 'uphill') - new ditches are constructed to eliminate excessive moisture that occurred due to technological mistakes;
 - 4) Excessive moisture is caused by infrastructure object independently from The Organization (e.g. through existing drainage system of a railroad, highway or a quarry);
 - 5) Excessive moisture of neighbouring land or The Organization's land has risen independently from The Organization;
 - 6) Water pumping is stopped in depleted underground oil shale quarry, therefore water accumulated in shafts penetrates the surface and overflows forest land;
 - 7) It is necessary to maintain the usability of existing roads;
 - 8) With new ditches constructed for new roads no extra drainage effect is involved.
- 10.10.6 No reconstruction of current drainage systems or *management of land improvement systems** is carried out in strictly protected forests, except for the purpose of preservation of protection value according to the protection management plan. In the case it has been done, clear and convincing evidence has been presented, that it was inevitably necessary to guide water away from bordering areas.
- 10.10.7 When reconstruction of drainage systems and *management of land improvement systems** and construction and reconstruction of roads occur on *protected natural object**, The Organization engages experts with relevant competence.
- 10.10.8 The drainage effect of reconstruction of drainage systems and ditches, and *management of land improvement systems** does not exceed the drainage effect when the drainage system was first constructed (excluding cases listed in Indicator 10.10.5).

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.

- 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 and High Conservation Values identified in Criteria 9.1 and 9.2.
- 10.11.2. Harvesting practices optimize the use of forest products and merchantable materials.
- 10.11.3. The Organization minimizes the damages to remaining growing trees and residual woody debris during forest *management activities**.
- 10.11.4. During forest *management activities**, constructed or occurred obstructions in water bodies are eliminated when *management activities** cease.

10.11.5 Roads, ditches, bridges, and culverts damaged during harvesting and extraction practices of forest materials, are restored within 12 months from the end of the respective harvesting and extraction operations.

10.11.6 The Organization ensures the quality and compliance with the provisions of Forest Act Law related to fellings, and the implementation of those provisions is controlled.

10.11.7 The Organization has a harvesting guide to comply with Indicator 10.11.1.

10.12. *The Organization shall dispose of waste materials* in an environmentally appropriate manner.**

10.12.1 Collection, clean up, transportation and disposal of all waste materials to place of disposal is done in an environmentally considerate way.

10.12.2 Environmentally hazardous pollutants (oil, fuel, chemical, etc.) are removed in an environmentally considerate way.

G ANNEXES

(Normative section)

Annex A Minimum list of applicable laws, regulations and nationally ratified international treaties, conventions and agreements (Principle 1)

The following is the minimum list of applicable laws, regulations and nationally ratified international treaties, conventions and agreements, in FSC-STD-60-004 (International Generic Indicators). This is not an exhaustive list. If additional legislation exists, CHs shall also comply with it.

Note: The latest versions of those legal acts apply.

Category	Law/ Regulation
1. Legal rights to harvest	
1.1. Land tenure and management rights	<p>Legislation covering land tenure rights, including customary rights as well as management rights, that includes the use of legal methods to obtain tenure rights and management rights. It also covers legal business registration and tax registration, including relevant legally required licenses.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Law of Property Act○ Law of Property Act Implementation Act○ Land Register Act○ Restrictions on Acquisition of Immovables Act○ Value-Added Tax Act○ Land Cadastre Act○ Land Tax Act○ General Part of the Economic Activities Code Act○ Forest Act○ Commercial Code
1.2. Concession licenses	<p>Legislation regulating procedures for issuing forest concession licenses, including the use of legal methods to obtain concession licenses. Bribery, corruption and nepotism are particularly well-known issues that are connected with concession licenses.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Forest Act○ Public Procurement Act○ Procedure for the Sale of Cutting Rights to Standing Crop of State Forest and of Timber○ State Assets Act

Category	Law/ Regulation
1.3. Management and harvesting planning	<p>Any national or sub-national legal requirements for Management Planning, including conducting forest inventories, having a forest management plan and related planning and monitoring, impact assessments, consultation with other entities, as well as approval of these by legally competent authorities.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Forest Survey Guidelines ○ Rules of Forest Management ○ Forest Act ○ The List of Information to be given in a Forest Notification, the form of a Forest Notification and the procedure for submission, registration and processing of a Forest Notification ○ Anti-corruption Act ○ Penal code
1.4. Harvesting permits	<p>National or sub-national laws and regulations regulating procedures for issuing harvesting permits, licenses or other legal documents required for specific harvesting operations. This includes the use of legal methods to obtain the permits. Corruption is a well-known issue that is connected with the issuing of harvesting permits.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Rules of Forest Management ○ Forest Act ○ The List of Information to be given in a Forest Notification, the form of a Forest Notification and the procedure for submission, registration and processing of a Forest Notification
2. Taxes and fees	
2.1. Payment of royalties and harvesting fees	<p>Legislation covering payment of all legally required forest 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 forest products is a well-known issue that is often combined with bribery of officials in charge of controlling the classification.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Law of Property Act ○ Law of Property Act Implementation Act ○ Law of Obligations Act
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 forest (standing stock sales).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Value-Added Tax Act

Category	Law/ Regulation
2.3. Income and profit taxes	<p>Legislation covering income and profit taxes related to profit derived from the sale of forest products and harvesting activities. This category is also related to income from the sale of timber and does not include other taxes generally applicable for companies and is not related to salary payments.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Value-Added Tax Act ○ Income Tax Act
3. Timber harvesting activities	
3.1. Timber harvesting regulations	<p>Any legal 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 shall be preserved during felling, etc. Establishment of skidding or hauling trails, road construction, drainage systems and bridges, etc., shall also be considered as well as the planning and monitoring of harvesting activities. Any legally binding codes for harvesting practices shall be considered.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Land Improvement Act ○ Rules of Forest Management ○ Forest Survey Guidelines ○ Forest Act ○ Climate Act
3.2. Protected sites and species	<p>International, national, and sub national treaties, laws, and regulations related to protected areas, allowable forest uses and activities, and/or rare, threatened, or endangered species, including their habitats and potential habitats.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Convention on Biological Diversity ○ Birds Directive ○ Habitats Directive ○ Nature Conservation Act ○ Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora ○ Forest Act ○ Convention on <i>Wetlands</i>* of International Importance especially as Waterfowl Habitat ○ Heritage Conservation Act

Category	Law/ Regulation
3.3. Environmental requirements	<p>National and sub national laws and regulations related to the identification and/or protection of environmental values 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 <i>retention trees</i>* on the felling site, seasonal limitations of harvesting time, environmental requirements for forest machineries, use of pesticides and other chemicals, biodiversity conservation, air quality, protection and restoration of water quality, operation of recreational equipment, development of non-forestry infrastructure, mineral exploration and extraction, etc.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Building Code ○ An Act to Implement the Building Code and the Planning Act ○ Nature Conservation Act ○ Earth's Crust Act ○ The List of Alien Tree Species permitted to use in Reforestation ○ Forest Act ○ Plant Propagation and Plant Variety Rights Act ○ Plant Protection Act ○ Water Act ○ Climate Act
3.4. Health and safety	<p>Legally required personal protection equipment for persons involved in harvesting activities, implementation of safe felling and transport practices, establishment of protection 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 shall be considered relevant to operations in the forest (not office work, or other activities less related to actual forest operations).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The Occupational Health and Safety Requirements for Working Environment affected by Biological Hazards ○ Fire Safety Act ○ The Occupational Health and Safety Requirements for Working Environment affected by Electromagnetic Fields, Exposure Limits and Implementation Values for Electromagnetic Fields, and the Procedure for Measuring Electromagnetic Fields ○ Occupational Exposure Limits to Chemical Dangers ○ The Occupational Health and Safety Requirements for Working Environment affected by Noise, Exposure Limits for Noise, and the Procedure for Measuring Noise ○ The Occupational Health and Safety Requirements for Working Environment affected by Vibration, Exposure Limits for Vibration, and the Procedure for Measuring Vibration ○ Occupational Health and Safety Act

Category	Law/ Regulation
3.5. Legal employment	<p>Legal 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 income taxes withheld by the employer. Also covered are the observance of minimum working age and minimum age for personnel involved in <i>hazardous work*</i>, legislation against forced and compulsory labor, and <i>discrimination*</i> and freedom of association.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Trade Unions Act ○ <i>Child*</i> Protection Act ○ Gender Equality Act ○ Social Tax Act ○ List of occupational hazards and work prohibited to <i>minors*</i> ○ Employment Contracts Act ○ Employees Disciplinary Liability Act ○ Community-scale Involvement of Employees Act ○ Unemployment Insurance Act ○ Equal Treatment Act
4. Third parties' rights	
4.1. Customary rights	<p>Legislation covering customary rights relevant to forest harvesting activities, including requirements covering the sharing of benefits and indigenous rights.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Law of Property Act ○ Law of Property Act Implementation Act ○ General Part of the Environmental Code Act ○ Forest Act
4.2. Free Prior and Informed Consent	<p>Legislation covering “free prior and informed consent” in connection with the transfer of forest management rights and customary rights to The Organization in charge of the harvesting operation.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Law of Property Act ○ Law of Property Act Implementation Act ○ Law of Obligations Act

Category	Law/ Regulation
4.3. Indigenous Peoples' rights	<p>Legislation that regulates the rights of Indigenous Peoples as far as it is related to forestry activities. Possible aspects to consider are land tenure, and rights to use certain forest related resources and practice traditional activities, which may involve forest lands.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Law of Property Act ○ Law of Property Act Implementation Act ○ Land Cadastre Act
5. Trade and transport NOTE: This section covers requirements for forest 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> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The Requirements for the Transportation of Timber, the Deed of Delivery and Receipt of Timber and the Conveyance Document, and the Notification Form for the Tax and Customs Board of selling or buying of the Cutting Right or Timber ○ Forest Act ○ The Methods for Measuring of Timber and Wood Chips, and Determining the Volume thereof, and the Requirements set for Measurement Accuracy and for the Documentation of the Results of Measurements
5.2. Trade and transport	<p>All required trading and transport permits shall exist as well as legally required transport documents which accompany the transport of wood from forest operations.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Road Transport Act ○ European Union Timber Regulation ○ The Requirements for the Transportation of Timber, the Deed of Delivery and Receipt of Timber and the Conveyance Document, and the Notification Form for the Tax and Customs Board of selling or buying of the Cutting Right or Timber ○ Forest Act ○ The Methods for Measuring of Timber and Wood Chips, and Determining the Volume thereof, and the Requirements set for Measurement Accuracy and for the Documentation of the Results of Measurements ○ Law of Obligations Act

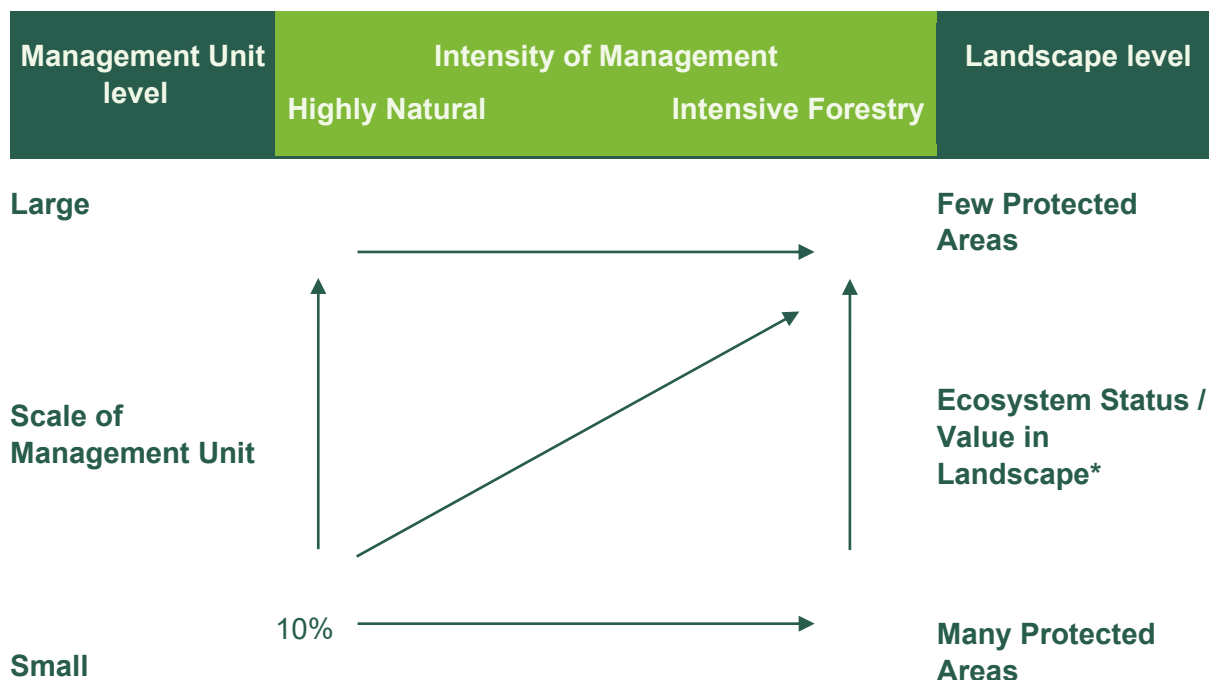
Category	Law/ Regulation
5.3. Offshore trading and transfer pricing	<p>Legislation regulating offshore trading. Offshore trading with related companies placed in tax havens, combined with artificial transfer prices is a well-known way to avoid payment of legally prescribed taxes and fees to the country of harvest and is considered to be an important source of funds that can be used for payment of bribery to the forest operations and personnel involved in the harvesting operation. Many countries have established legislation covering transfer pricing and offshore trading. It should be noted that only transfer pricing and offshore trading, as far as it is legally prohibited in the country, can be included here.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Commercial Code
5.4. Custom regulations	<p>Custom legislation covering areas such as export/import licenses and product classification (codes, quantities, qualities and species).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Customs Act
5.5. CITES	<p>CITES permits (the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora, also known as the Washington Convention).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Act on Ratification of Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora
6. Due diligence / due care	
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> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Forest Act ○ Accounting Act
7. Ecosystem Services	
	<p>Legislation covering ecosystem services rights, including customary rights as well as management rights that include the use of legal methods to make claims and obtain benefits and management rights related to ecosystem services. National and subnational laws and regulations related to the identification, protection and payment for ecosystem services. Also includes legal business registration and tax registration, including relevant legal required licenses for the exploitation, payment, and claims related to ecosystem services (including tourism).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Hunting Act ○ <i>Environmental impact assessment*</i> and Environmental Management System Act ○ Environmental Charges Act ○ Tourism Act

Annex B Requirements for workers' competence (Principle 2)

Relevant responsible workers shall have competence (according to their duties) to:

- 1) Organize forest *management activity** in compliance with applicable law (Criterion 1.5);
- 2) Understand the meaning of the eight ILO Core Labour Conventions (Conventions No. 29, 87, 98, 100, 105, 111, 138, 182) and know Estonian legislations regulating labour laws (Criterion 2.1);
- 3) Recognize and report on instances of sexual harassment and gender *discrimination** (Criterion 2.2);
- 4) Safely handle, use and store hazardous substances (Criterion 2.3);
- 5) Perform their duties safely and use special equipment, if required by the work task (Criterion 2.5);
- 6) Understand the requirements of ILO Convention No. 169 and The United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (Criterion 3.4);
- 7) Identify sites with High Conservation Values in cooperation with stakeholders and implement the necessary measures to protect the sites and to avoid negative impacts on the sites (Criteria 9.1-9.4);
- 8) Carry out social, economic and *environmental impact assessment**s and develop appropriate mitigation measures (Criterion 6.2);
- 9) Carry out activities to maintain and/or to enhance the declared ecosystem services (Criterion 5.1);
- 10) Safely handle, use and store pesticides (Criterion 10.7);
- 11) Organize the cleaning of waste materials which have gotten into the environment (Criterion 10.12).

Annex C Conservation Area Network conceptual diagram (Principle 6)



The diagram shows how the area of the Management Unit included in the Conservation Area Network is generally expected to increase from the 10% minimum as the size, intensity of management, and/or the status and value of ecosystems at the landscape level each increase. The arrows and their direction represent these increases.

The far-right column titled 'Ecosystems Status/Value in the Landscape' signifies the extent to which native ecosystems are protected at the landscape level and the relative requirements for further protection in the Management Unit.

The far-left column titled 'Area of Management Unit' shows that as the Management Unit area increases, the Management Unit will itself be at the landscape level and so will be expected to have a Conservation Area Network containing functional examples of all of the naturally occurring ecosystems for that landscape.

Annex D Elements of the management plan (Principle 7)

- 1) Descriptions of Forest resource, values and risks:
 - i. Forest resource and environmental values and their location (Principles 5 & 6);
 - ii. Social, economic and cultural values (Principles 2-6 & 9);
 - iii. Main social, economic and environmental risks (Principles 2-6 & 9);
 - iv. Ecosystem services for which an FSC promotional claim is used (Criterion 5.1).
- 2) Activities regarding:
 - i. Workers' rights, occupational health and safety, gender equality (Principle 2);
 - ii. Stakeholder engagement (Principles 3, 4, 7 & 9);
 - iii. Planned *management activities** and timelines, silvicultural systems used, typical harvesting methods and equipment, as identified in Principle 10;
 - iv. Indigenous Peoples, community relations, local economic and social development, as identified in Principle 3, Principle 4 and Principle 5;
 - v. Harvesting rate analysis of timber and non-timber forest products (Principle 5).
- 3) Protection and/or restoration measures for High Conservation Values and their effectiveness (if it can be assessed):
 - i. HCV 1 - HCV 6
- 4) Measures to assess, prevent and/or mitigate negative impacts of *management activities** on:
 - i. Environmental values (Principles 6 & 9);
 - ii. Declared ecosystem services (Criterion 5.1);
 - iii. Social Values (Principles 2–5 & 9).
- 5) Monitoring methodology and periodicity of monitoring objects can be found in Annex E ('List of Monitoring Objects').

Annex E List of Monitoring Objects (Principle 8)

- 1) Forest resource and its changes (Principle 5)
- 2) Environmental impact of Forest *Management activity**:
 - i. Forest regeneration volume and results (Criteria 10.1 & 10.2);
 - ii. Selection harvesting and thinning volumes (Criterion 10.5);
 - iii. Clear-fell harvesting and single-tree selection harvesting volumes (Criterion 10.5);
 - iv. Used volumes of fertilizers, pesticides and biological control agents and their results (Criteria 10.6-10.8);
 - v. Results of collecting waste materials (Criterion 10.12).
- 3) Social impact of Forest *Management activity**:
 - i. Compliance with legislation (Criteria 1.4-1.5);
 - ii. Solving disputes (Criteria 1.6, 2.6 & 4.6);
 - iii. Compliance with workers' rights (Criteria 2.1 & 2.4);
 - iv. Compliance with gender equality, sexual harassment and gender *discrimination** requirements (Criterion 2.2);
 - v. Compliance with occupational health and safety requirements (Criterion 2.3);
 - vi. Workers' training (Criterion 2.5);
 - vii. Relationships with Indigenous Peoples and local communities (Criteria 3.2, 3.3 & 4.2, 4.3, 4.4);
 - viii. Enabling the use of High Conservation Values HCV 5 and HCV 6, state or extent of HCV 5 and 6 and their changes;
 - ix. Stock volume of non-timber forest products collected by The Organization (Criterion 5.1).
- 4) The impact of *Management activities** to the environmental state and changes to the state:
 - i. Volume of and changes to the declared ecosystem services (Criterion 5.1);
 - ii. State and/or volume of environmental values and their changes (Criteria 6.3-6.8);
 - iii. State and/or volume of High Conservation Values HCV 1 to HCV 6 and their changes (Criterion 6.4)
 - iv. Replacement of natural forests with plantations and the status of plantations established after 1994 (Criterion 6.10);
 - v. Volumes of and reasons for deforestation (Criterion 6.9)
 - vi. Performance of measures to improve High Conservation Values HCV 1 to HCV 6.

Annex F High Conservation Values framework (Principle 9)

General note for all HCVs:

The Organization shall identify the locations of HCVs in its forests and take these into consideration in planning *management activities**. Special attention shall be paid to areas where *management activities** are restricted for ecological, social, economic and cultural reasons, e.g. areas in the vicinity of settlements, recreational areas, *natural sacred sites**, etc.

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.

National description (HCV 1)

- 1) Sites of occurrence and habitats of the protected species of categories I and II;
- 2) Species listed under the categories Regionally Extinct (RE), Critically Endangered (CR), Endangered (EN) and Vulnerable (VU) in the Red Data Book of Estonia;
- 3) Forest *Key habitats**;
- 4) *Woodland habitats under the Habitats Directive**;
- 5) Conservation zones established for the protection of species and habitats;
- 6) Management and movement restrictions imposed for the protection of species.

Best available information* for the identification of HCV1

- Lists of Estonian protected species published in Riigi Teataja: <https://www.riigiteataja.ee/akt/13360504> and the corresponding map layers in EELIS (Estonian Nature Information System)
- The Estonian portal of eElurikkus (eBiodiversity), including link to the current species list of the Red Data Book: <https://elurikkus.ee/lists/speciesListItem/list/drt101459479>; the occurrences of some red listed species can be found on the EELIS data layer for the species without protected status
- Guidelines for the selection of forest *key habitats** and the corresponding map layers in EELIS: <https://www.riigiteataja.ee/akt/737272>
- Woodland habitats of the EU Habitats Directive according to the field mapping guidelines on the website of Estonian Ministry of the Environment, and the corresponding map layer in EELIS: <https://kliimaministeerium.ee/media/1929/download>
- Map layers for conservation zones and limited movement areas in EELIS
- Expert assessments on regional nature values, expert data bases, engagement of knowledgeable experts (can be requested from the Environmental Board; additional data on the red list species can be requested e.g. from the Nature Observations Database (Loodusvaatluste andmebaas) at <http://lva.eelis.ee> and the eBiodiversity database at <http://elurikkus.ee/>)

Description of stakeholders (HCV 1)

- State Forest Management Centre
- Ministry of Environment
- Ministry of Rural Affairs

-
- Environmental Board
 - Environmental Agency
 - Interest groups of forest industry and forest owners
 - Forest owners
 - Estonian Ornithological Society (BirdLife Estonia)
 - Environmental NGOs
 - Experts and research institutes

Description of *culturally appropriate** engagement for identifying HCVs:

- Appropriate engagement measures (e.g. consulting, hearing, request for information) are in place for identifying HCVs with *Affected Rights Holders** and affected and interested stakeholders.

Threats to HCV 1 in the country:

- Land use changes and overgrowth of open areas
 - *Fragmentation** and loss of habitats
 - Disturbance of nesting of birds
 - Intensive forest management in sensitive habitats
 - Ditching and road construction
 - Plantations
 - Use of fertilizers
 - Excavation and use of mineral resources
 - Invasive species
 - Excavation and use of mineral resources
 - Climate change induced changes in vegetation.
-

STRATEGIES FOR MAINTAINING HCV 1

- 1) Putting in place measures to maintain the existing protected areas and to identify areas with potential values to be protected. Development of *management activities** in a manner that does not impair the conservation values or characteristics of existing protected areas or habitats.
- 2) Using the corresponding data layers of EELIS, compose a list of the protected species of categories I and II, threatened and rare species, which occur in the Management Unit or the immediate bordering area. In the case of protected species, the restrictions set out in laws must be followed. As a rule, the Environmental Board does not impose management conditions on those red list species which are not protected species as this is not required by laws. The Organization can ask the Environmental Board or a knowledgeable expert to draw up conditions for *management activities** concerning the Estonian red list species under the categories Regionally Extinct (RE), Critically Endangered (CR), Endangered (EN) and Vulnerable (VU) the occurrence of which is known according to EELIS.
- 3) If timber is transported through land parcels outside the felling area or non-forest areas, damage to protected or red list species must also be prevented in these areas.
- 4) If knowledgeable experts present to The Organization exact and reliable data on the presence of protected species and *key habitat** characteristics which have not been entered into an EELIS registry, The Organization shall secure protection measures also for these sites (consulting with the Environmental Board or knowledgeable experts, where necessary).

MONITORING HCV 1

- 1) The implementation of developed measures and planned *management activities** is monitored with sufficient accuracy and frequency to assess their implementation in accordance with the requirements of the standard.
- 2) Forestry methods are developed accordingly when necessary.
- 3) Relevant authorities are cooperated with to ensure that appropriate protection is provided for these species and habitats.

Note on HCV 1:

Using the corresponding database of EELIS, identify and list Category I and Category II protected, endangered, and rare species occurring within the Management Unit or its immediate border zone. For protected species, it is essential to comply with the restrictions set by relevant legislation. Generally, non-protected species (Red Book species) do not have specific management conditions imposed by the Environmental Board (KeA), as there is no legal obligation for that. However, The Organization can request management conditions for Red Book categories such as "Extinct in Estonia," "Critically Endangered," "Endangered," and "Vulnerable" based on the information available in EELIS from the Environmental Board or recognised experts.

For cutting in the *woodland habitats under the Habitats Directive**, the Environmental Board can impose restrictions on *management activities** if the habitat in question is a conservation objective of a protected area. Considering that new mappings could have taken place, there can be other valuable habitats. It is therefore recommended to check if the parcels where cuttings are planned, constitute suitable habitats and apply conservation measures where necessary.

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.**

National description (HCV 2)

- 1) Protected areas (nature reserves, limited-conservation areas, *key habitats**, areas protected at the municipal level + proposed protected areas).
- 2) The thematic plans of *green infrastructure** and *valuable landscapes**.
- 3) Areas of international importance (Natura, Ramsar, Helcom, IBA, biosphere reserve).

***Best available information** for the identification of HCV2**

- Protected areas:
https://register.keskkonnaportaал.ee/register/search?objectType=PROTECTED_NATURE_OBJECT&status=kinnitatud
- The thematic plans of *green infrastructure** and *valuable landscapes**. Websites of counties and municipalities. The county thematic plans can be found at <https://maakonnaplaneering.ee/maakonna-planeeringud>, including defined areas in county thematic plan annexes.
- Areas of international importance: https://keskkonnaportaал.ee/register/search?objectType=INTERNATIONALLY_IMPORTANT_AREA&status=kinnitatud

Description of stakeholders (HCV 2)

- State Forest Management Centre
- Ministry of Environment
- Ministry of Rural Affairs
- Environmental Board
- Environmental Agency
- Interest groups of forest industry and forest owners
- Forest owners
- Estonian Ornithological Society (BirdLife Estonia)
- Environmental NGOs
- Experts and research institutes

Description of *culturally appropriate engagement for identifying HCVs:**

- Appropriate engagement measures (e.g. consulting, hearing, request for information) are in place for identifying HCVs with *Affected Rights Holders** and affected and interested stakeholders.

Threats to HCV 2 in the country:

- Land use changes and overgrowth of open areas
- *Fragmentation** and loss of habitats
- Disturbance of nesting of birds
- Intensive forest management in sensitive habitats
- Ditching and road construction
- Plantations
- Use of fertilizers
- Excavation and use of mineral resources
- Invasive species
- Climate change induced changes in vegetation.

STRATEGIES FOR MAINTAINING HCV 2

- 1) For protected areas with a valid conservation management plan, guidance from this document is followed.
- 2) The activities of Organization do not significantly impair the natural conditions of these areas (deforestation, regeneration with tree species that do not naturally occur in the site, the proportion of clear cuts).
- 3) Necessary activities to restore/enhance HCV2, are identified and implemented (e.g. leaving areas for natural regeneration, forest management with species protection objectives, designation of additional green corridors or core areas for species conservation in areas which are not protected by the state, conversion of cultivated monospecies stands on fertile soils into mixed stands etc).

MONITORING HCV2

- 1) The implemented measures and planned forestry activities are monitored with sufficient accuracy and frequency to assess their conformance with the standard's requirements.
- 2) Forestry methods are developed accordingly when necessary.

Note on HCV 2:

Estonia does not have a thematic plan of protected areas yet but considering the relatively small total area of the country and location of larger forest areas, appropriate precautionary measures can be applied based on protected areas, the thematic plan of green networks and *valuable landscapes**, areas of international importance and forestry grant areas.

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

National description (HCV 3)

- 1) Sites of occurrence and habitats of the protected species of categories I and II;
- 2) Forest *Key habitats**;
- 3) *Woodland habitats under the Habitats Directive**;
- 4) Conservation zones established for the protection of species and habitats;
- 5) Protected areas (nature reserves, limited-conservation areas, *key habitats**, areas protected at the municipal level + proposed protected areas).

Best available information* for the identification of HCV3

- Protected areas:
https://keskkonnaportaal.ee/register/search?objectType=PROTECTED_NATURE_OBJECT&status=kinnitatud
- Lists of Estonian protected species published in Riigi Teataja: <https://www.riigiteataja.ee/akt/13360504> and the corresponding map layers in EELIS The Estonian portal of eElurikkus (eBiodiversity), including link to the current species list of the Red Data Book: <https://elurikkus.ee/lists/speciesListItem/list/drt101459479>; the occurrences of some red listed species can be found on the EELIS data layer for the species without protected status
- Guidelines for the selection of woodland forest *key habitats** and the corresponding map layers in EELIS: <https://www.riigiteataja.ee/akt/737272>
- Woodland habitats of the EU Habitats Directive according to the field mapping guidelines on the website of Estonian Ministry of the Environment, and the corresponding map layer in EELIS: <https://kliimaministeerium.ee/media/1929/download>

Description of stakeholders (HCV 3)

- State Forest Management Centre
- Ministry of Environment
- Ministry of Rural Affairs
- Environmental Board
- Environmental Agency
- Interest groups of forest industry and forest owners
- Forest owners
- Estonian Ornithological Society (BirdLife Estonia)
- Environmental NGOs
- Experts and research institutes.

Description of *culturally appropriate** engagement for identifying HCVs:

- Appropriate engagement measures (e.g. consulting, hearing, request for information) are in place for identifying HCVs with *Affected Rights Holders** and affected and interested stakeholders.

Threats to HCV 3 in the country:

As covered by HCV 1 and HCV 2 in Estonia.

STRATEGIES FOR MAINTAINING HCV 3

As covered by HCV 1 and HCV 2 in Estonia.

MONITORING HCV 3

As covered by HCV 1 and HCV 2 in Estonia.

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.

National description (HCV 4)

- 1) Water bodies and catchment areas with restrictions regarding the protection of water bodies and aquifers, including protection zones along shores and banks
- 2) Soils that are under restrictions necessary for their protection
- 3) Other possible ecosystem services which are not covered under HCV 5 or HCV 6.

Best available information* for the identification of HCV4

- Appropriate data layers of EELIS or Estonian Land Board: <https://eelis.ee/default.aspx?id=1402865319&state=1;-164545161;est;eelisand>
- Information on slopes steeper than 40 degrees can be found on topographic maps (Land Board, WMS application) or in the relief models of the Land Board. <http://geoportaal.maaamet.ee/est/Andmed-ja-kaardid/Topograafilised-andmed/Korgusandmed/Korgusmodelid-p508.html>

Description of stakeholders (HCV 4)

- State Forest Management Centre
- Ministry of Environment
- Ministry of Rural Affairs
- Environmental Board
- Environmental Agency
- Local communities
- Interest groups of forest industry and forest owners
- Forest owners
- Estonian Ornithological Society (BirdLife Estonia)
- Environmental NGOs
- Experts and research institutes.

Description of *culturally appropriate** engagement for identifying HCVs:

- Appropriate engagement measures (e.g. consulting, hearing, request for information) are in place for identifying HCVs with *Affected Rights Holders** and affected and interested stakeholders.

Threats to HCV 4 in the country:

- Storage and transportation of fuels and oils
- Ditching
- Use of chemicals

-
- Use of fertilizers
 - -Sand and gravel extraction.

STRATEGIES FOR MAINTAINING HCV 4

- 1) The thematic layer of slopes is composed on the basis of the water and soil protection data layers of EELIS and Land Board. This spacial tool provides an overview of the respective ecosystem services at the Management Unit and also of the measures to be taken to protect and/or enhance their natural function.

MONITORING HCV 4

- 1) The implementation of HCV 4 protection measures in accordance with the standard and *management activities** is monitored and impacts on HCV 4 are assessed.
 - 2) Forestry methods are developed accordingly when necessary.
 - 3) Relevant authorities are cooperated with to ensure, that appropriate protection is provided for these species and habitats
 - 4) The monitoring of nitrate sensitive areas is being conducted by Environmental Agency four times a year, based on the nitrate sensitive groundwater monitoring program.
-

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.

National description (HCV 5)

- 1) The local community is considered a residential community of any size that is in or adjacent to the Management Unit. The Community needs are related to sites which are of special cultural, ecological, economic, religious or spiritual significance, and for which these local communities hold legal or customary rights.

Best available information* for the identification of HCV5

The necessities of communities are identified through engagement with the local communities or Indigenous Peoples. Local municipalities and umbrella organizations are of assistance in both identifying the presence and the needs of the local community.

Description of stakeholders (HCV 5)

- State Forest Management Centre
- Ministry of Environment
- Ministry of Rural Affairs
- Environmental Board
- Environmental Agency
- Interest groups of forest industry and forest owners
- Forest owners
- Local communities, including both organized (NGO) and unorganized communities
- Estonian Ornithological Society (BirdLife Estonia)
- Environmental NGOs
- -Experts and research institutes
- Municipal governments.

Description of *culturally appropriate engagement for identifying HCVs:**

Appropriate engagement measures (e.g. consulting, hearing, request for information) are in place for identifying HCVs with *Affected Rights Holders** and affected and interested stakeholders.

Threats to HCV 5 in the country:

- *Fragmentation** and loss of habitats
- Adverse effects of recreational use
- -Climate change induced changes in vegetation

STRATEGIES FOR MAINTAINING HCV 5

- 1) The Organization engages the representatives of local communities or Indigenous Peoples who will ensure exchange of information with members of the local communities or Indigenous Peoples.
- 2) In collaboration with *Affected Rights Holders** and affected and interested stakeholders, local communities, and/or Indigenous Peoples, the significant sites and resources essential for meeting their primary needs are mapped and identified.
- 3) Where possible, The Organization takes into consideration the interests and necessities of the local community or Indigenous Peoples in carrying out its *management activities**, recording their proposals and solutions to matters in dispute.

MONITORING HCV 5

The engagement of local communities or Indigenous Peoples is assessed on a regular basis in cooperation with *Affected Rights Holders** and affected and interested stakeholders. Local communities or Indigenous Peoples are given the opportunity to contribute to the drafting of monitoring measures, including frequency and intensity of the monitoring.

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.

National description (HCV 6)

*Cultural monuments**, *Indigenous cultural landscapes**, protected nature monuments and sites of activities related to the forest, such as historical tracks and passages, resting sites, swinging and festival grounds, *natural sacred sites** and funeral sites and other tradition-related sites (e.g. South-Estonian cross-trees, wooded meadows) which are critical for the continuation of traditional life-style using traditional practices.

Best available information* for the identification of HCV6

- *Cultural monuments** (e.g. <https://register.muinas.ee/public.php>, <https://geoportaal.maaamet.ee/est/Kaardiserver-p2.html>)
- Protected natural monuments (<https://eelis.ee/default.aspx?id=1402865319&state=1;-164545161;est;eelisand>)
- Cultural heritage objects and *natural sacred sites** (<https://geoportaal.maaamet.ee/est/Kaardiserver-p2.html>)
- Other values are identified through engagement with the local communities or Indigenous Peoples.

Description of stakeholders (HCV 6)

- State Forest Management Centre
- Ministry of Environment
- Ministry of Rural Affairs
- Environmental Board
- Environmental Agency
- Interest groups of forest industry and forest owners
- Local communities
- Estonian Ornithological Society (BirdLife Estonia)
- Environmental NGOs
- Experts and research institutes
- Ministry of Culture
- National Heritage Board.

Description of *culturally appropriate engagement for identifying HCVs:**

Appropriate engagement measures (e.g. consulting, hearing, request for information) are in place for identifying HCVs with *Affected Rights Holders** and affected and interested stakeholders.

Threats to HCV 6 in the country:

- *Fragmentation** and loss of habitats
- Adverse effects of recreational use
- Climate change induced changes in vegetation
- Loss of undiscovered and uninventoried relic sites and areas

STRATEGIES FOR MAINTAINING HCV 6

- 1) Active and effective communication with local *Affected Rights Holders** and affected and interested stakeholders to obtain information about certain cultural heritage sites.
- 2) Effective planning of forestry related management by using management plan and other required sources.

MONITORING HCV 6

The engagement of local communities or Indigenous Peoples is assessed on a regular basis in cooperation with *Affected Rights Holders** and affected and interested stakeholders. The relevant data and maps of relic sites and areas are kept on record. A special layer of *Natural sacred sites** has been added to Land Board Geoportal, regularly maintained by National Heritage Board in cooperation with respective NGO-s. There is a national natural sacred site inventory plan in place in addition to voluntary inventory carried out by respective NGOs.

Note on HCV 6:

While agreeing possible uses of values that are critical for local communities or Indigenous Peoples, solutions must be found which satisfy their needs without compromising legal requirements or causing silvicultural or economic damage to The Organization.

Annex G Dispute Resolution

The dispute resolution procedures are as follows:

- 1) The Organization registers the disputes and the initiator of a dispute is notified about the receipt of the dispute within five working days and the resolution procedure is explained to the initiator.
- 2) The initiator of the dispute shall be responded to no later than within thirty calendar days from the calendar day following the registration of the dispute.
- 3) An initial assessment shall be carried out by The Organization as soon as possible, to determine whether the evidence presented when the dispute was initiated, was truthful and whether it was relevant in the current situation; and to determine if a dispute is of substantial magnitude.
- 4) If the initial assessment reveals that the evidence is truthful and relevant, and that it is a dispute of substantial magnitude, the circumstances that evoked the dispute shall be assessed.
- 5) The Organization can engage stakeholders and government bodies (e.g. Environmental Board, Environmental Inspectorate) in the assessment when necessary.
- 6) After the assessment, new measures shall be developed by The Organization or existing measures shall be supplemented to avoid the recurrence of similar disputes.
- 7) The dispute initiator shall be informed of the progress and outcome of the dispute resolution process and it is tried in a reasonable manner to reach a satisfactory agreement between the dispute initiator and The Organization.

Note: If a satisfactory agreement is not reached, a Conformity Assessment Body (CAB) and / or FSC Estonia can be involved in the dispute resolution process.

- 8) Information about the dispute and its settlement (documents, correspondence, documentation on implemented measures and other data) shall be provided upon request to the CAB and to the Accreditation Services International (ASI), which monitors the former.
- 9) Information relating to the dispute and its settlement shall be retained for five years from the dispute's resolution date.

Annex H Conventions ratified by the Republic of Estonia and other ILO conventions associated with forest management to conform with the Estonian FSC Forest Stewardship Standard (Principles 2 & 3)

No.	Title	Adopted	Ratified
29	Convention Concerning <i>Forced or compulsory labour</i> *	1930	1995
87	Convention Concerning Freedom of Association and Protection of the Right to Organise	1948	1993
98	Convention concerning the Application of the Principles of the Right to Organise and to Bargain Collectively	1949	1993
100	Convention concerning Equal Remuneration for Men and Women Workers for Work of Equal Value	1951	1996
105	Convention Concerning the Abolition of Forced Labour	1957	1995
111	Convention concerning <i>Discrimination</i> * in Respect of <i>employment and occupation</i> * or <i>Discrimination</i> * (<i>employment and occupation</i> *) Convention	1958	2005
135	Convention Concerning Protection and Facilities to be Afforded to Workers' Representatives in the Undertaking	1971	1995
138	Minimum Age Convention	1973	2008
144	Convention concerning Tripartite Consultations to Promote the Implementation of International Labour Standards	1976	1993
169	Indigenous and Tribal Peoples Convention	1989	
182	Convention concerning the Prohibition and Immediate Action for the Elimination of the Worst Forms of <i>Child</i> * Labour	1999	2001

Annex I Personal protective equipment (PPE) appropriate for forestry operations (Principle 2)

Parts of the body to be protected:	Feet	Legs	Trunk, arms, legs	Hands	Head	Eyes/ face	Ears
Personal protective equipment normally appropriate:	Safety footwear	Safety trousers	Close-fitting high visibility clothing	Gloves	Helmet	Visor/ goggles	Ear muffs
Operation:							
Reforestation maintenance and fellings							
Chain-saw	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Clearing saw working in forest under 3 m			X	X		X	X
Clearing saw working in forest over 3 m			X	X	X	X	X
Pesticide application							
To comply with requirements specified for the particular substance and application technique.							
Harvesting with machines and extraction							
Harvester, forwarder and tractor adjusted for extraction							X ¹
Using a horse for extraction	X	X	X	X	X		

Notes: ¹When the noise level is over 85 dB at the workplace

Based on: Safety and health in forestry work (International Labour Office, Geneva, 1998), p. 37.

Annex J Glossary of Terms

This glossary includes internationally accepted definitions whenever possible when defining terms. These sources include, for instance, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), the Convention on Biological Diversity (1992), the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment (2005) as well as definitions from online glossaries as provided on the websites of the World Conservation Union (IUCN), the International Labour Organization (ILO) and the Invasive Alien Species Programme of the Convention on Biological Diversity. When other sources have been used, they are referenced accordingly.

Words used in the International Generic Indicators, if not defined in this Glossary of Terms or other normative FSC documents, are used as defined in the Shorter Oxford English Dictionary or the Concise Oxford Dictionary.

The phrase 'based on' means that a definition was adapted from an existing definition as provided in an international source.

There are specific terms in this standard, which had to be developed (or modified), based on the consensus-based opinion of the *SDG**. For those terms, the sources have been referred to as *SDG**.

The terms that have been adapted for the Estonian context, consider the terms used in Estonian legislation.

Active ingredient (toimeaine): Part of the product that provides the pesticidal action (Source: FAO International Code of Conduct on Pesticide Management).

Adaptive management (kohanduv majandamine): 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).

Additionality (täiendav):

- **Additionality outside the Management Unit:** Conservation and/or restoration outcomes over and above those already achieved or planned to be achieved, and that would not have been achieved without the support and/or intervention of The Organization.

Projects must either be new (i.e., not already being implemented or planned), amended or extended so that conservation and/or restoration outcomes are enhanced beyond what would have been achieved, or planned or funded to be achieved without The Organization planning to remedy for historical conversion.

- **Additionality inside the Management Unit:** Conservation and/or restoration outcomes above and beyond those required by the applicable FSC standards.

Affected Rights Holder (asjaomaste õiguste omaja): Persons and groups, including Indigenous Peoples, traditional peoples and local communities with legal or customary rights whose free, prior and informed consent is required to determine management decisions.

Affected stakeholder (asjaomane sidusrühm): 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 neighbourhood of the Management Unit. The following are examples of affected stakeholders:

- Local communities
- Indigenous Peoples
- Workers
- Forest dwellers

- Neighbours
- 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, labour unions, etc.

(Source: FSC-STD-01-001 V5-2).

Alien species (võõrliik): 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 (kohaldatavad õigusaktid): 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 V5-2).

Area with key habitat features (vääriselupaiga tunnustega ala): area where *key habitat features** are represented, but the site is not listed in a register (Source: *SDG**).

Aquifer (põhjaveekiht): 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 (parim kättesaadav teave): Data, facts, documents, expert opinions, and results of field surveys and 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 (siduv kokkulepe): 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.

Biodiversity/Biological diversity/Natural diversity (elurikkus e bioloogiline mitmekesisus e looduslik mitmekesisus): 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 (biotõrjevahendid): 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).

Calculated optimal harvest area (arvestuslank): Calculated optimal harvest area is the optimum area for felling trees within one year by main tree species. The purpose of calculated optimal harvest area is to distribute the volume of renewal cutting so, that it ensures sustainability, taking into account the age structure and maturity criteria of stands (Source: *SDG**).

Chemical pesticide (sünteesiline pestitsiid): Synthetically produced pesticide (Source: FSC-POL-30-001 V3-0).

CITES (CITES): The Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora, also known as the Washington Convention.

Codes of practice (juhend): A set of rules, tutorials, guidelines, and tips established by The Organization that The Organization uses to determine obligations and rights for itself (Source: *SDG**).

Collecting ditch (piirdekraav): Drainage ditch with significant drainage effect at the edge of the bog, which is built to prevent further spreading of the bog (Source: *SDG**).

Collective bargaining (kollektiivlääbirääkimised): a voluntary negotiation process between employers or employers' organization and workers' organization, with a view to the regulation of terms and conditions of employment by means of collective agreements (ILO Convention 98, Article 4).

Communities (kogukonnad): People who define themselves as a community for the common interest (source: *SDG**).

Confidential information (konfidentsiaalne teave): 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 (vastuolu printsiipide ja kriteeriumide ning õigusaktide vahel): 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 V5-2).

Connectivity (sidusus): 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 behavioural 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 (kaitse): *Management activity** 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: Based on FSC-STD-01-001 V5-2).

Conservation zones and protection areas (kaitstavad alad ja kaitsealad): 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 V5-2).

Conservation Areas Network (kaitsealade võrgustik): Those portions of the Management Unit for which conservation is the primary and, in some circumstances, exclusive objective; such areas are *protected natural objects**, representative sample areas, connectivity areas, limited management zones of shores and banks and High Conservation Value Areas.

Conversion (maakasutuse muutmine/muutus): A lasting change of natural forest cover or High Conservation Value areas, induced by human activity. This may be characterized by significant loss of species diversity, habitat diversity, structural complexity, ecosystem functionality or livelihoods and cultural values. The definition of conversion covers gradual forest *degradation** as well as rapid forest transformation (Source: FSC-POL-01-007 V1-0).

- **Induced by human activity (inimtekkeline):** In contrast to drastic changes caused by natural calamities like hurricanes or volcanic eruptions. It also applies in cases of naturally ignited fires where human activities (e.g. draining of peatlands) have significantly increased the risk of fire.
- **Lasting change of natural forest cover (loodusliku metsakatte püsiv muutus):** Permanent or long-term change of natural forest cover. Temporary changes of forest cover or structure (e.g. harvesting followed by regeneration in accordance with the FSC normative framework) is not considered conversion.
- **Lasting change of High Conservation Value (HCV) areas (kõrge kaitseväärtusega ala püsiv muutus):** Permanent or longterm change of any of the High Conservation Values. Temporary changes of HCV areas that do not negatively and permanently impact the values (e.g. harvesting followed by regeneration in accordance with Principle 9) is not considered a lasting change.
- **Significant loss of species diversity (liigilise mitmekesisuse märkimisväärne vähenemine):** Loss of species is considered significant where rare species and threatened species or other locally important, keystone and/or flagship species are lost, whether in terms of numbers of individuals or in terms of number of species. This refers to both displacement and extinction.

NOTE: The establishment of ancillary infrastructure necessary to implement the objectives of responsible forest management (e.g. forest roads, skid trails, log landings, fire protection, etc.) is not considered conversion.

Conversion Threshold (maakasutuse muutmise kriitiline määr): The point at which *degradation** and/or clearing has occurred to an extent where recovery to natural forest conditions and/or High Conservation Value Areas is unlikely to be achieved without direct intervention (Source: FSC-POL-01-007 V1-0).

NOTE: Examples of direct intervention include but are not limited to removal of exotic species, physical protection of existing remnant native vegetation, re-wetting of drained soils, reintroduction of appropriate native species, and reintroduction of High Conservation Value species where suitable habitat remains or is re-established.

Critical (esmatähtis): The concept of criticality or fundamentality in Principal 9 and High Conservation Values 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 V5-2).

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

Cultural monument (mälestis): an immovable or movable property, part of an immovable or movable property, a collection of objects, an area of land or a complex of buildings of cultural value which is under national protection (Source: [Heritage Protection Act](#)).

Culturally appropriate [mechanisms] (kultuuriliselt sobivad (viisid)): 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 (tavaõigus): 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 (tavadele tuginevad õigused (tavaõiguslikud õigused)): 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).

Degradation (degradeerumine / seisundi halvenemine): Changes within a natural forest or High Conservation Value area that significantly and negatively affect its species composition, structure and/or function, and reduces the ecosystem's capacity to supply products, support biodiversity and/or deliver ecosystem services (Source: FSC-POL-01-007 V1-0).

Direct involvement (otsene seotus): Situations in which the associated organization or individual is first-hand responsible for the unacceptable activities (Source: FSC-POL-01-004 V2-0).

Discrimination (diskrimineerimine): includes- a) any distinction, exclusion or preference made on the basis of race, colour, sex, religion, political opinion, national extraction, social origin, sexual orientation, which has the effect of nullifying or impairing equality of opportunity or treatment in employment or occupation; b) such other distinction, exclusion or preference which has the effect of nullifying or impairing equality of opportunity or treatment in employment or occupation as may be determined by the Member concerned after consultation with representative employers' and workers' organization where such exist, and with other appropriate bodies (adapted from ILO Convention 111, Article1). 'Sexual orientation' was added to the definition provided in Convention 111, as it has been identified as an additional type of discrimination which may occur.

Dispute (vaidlus): for the purpose of the IGI, 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 (pikaajaline vaidlus): 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 (oluline vaidlus): A dispute, that in accordance with Annex G The Organization has determined, has at least one of the following circumstances:

- Affects the legal rights of stakeholders;
- 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 or stakeholders (Source: adapted by the *SDG**).

Ecologically valuable fallen dead wood (ökoloogiliselt väärtuslik lamapuit): The ecological value of fallen dead wood is increased by a larger diameter, the diversity of species (both broad-leaved trees (especially aspens) and conifers), age (both old, decaying and fresher trunks) and burns; the value is reduced by mechanical damage to the trunks during felling and during the preparation of the ground. Branches are not considered ecologically valuable fallen dead wood (Source: *SDG**).

Economic viability (majanduslik elujõulisus): 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 (ökosüsteem): 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 (ökosüsteemi funktsioon): 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 (ökosüsteemiteenused): 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).

Emergency (hädaolukord): A situation that requires immediate action to control the sudden invasion or infestation of a pest, which threatens either long-term stability of the ecosystem, human well-being or economic viability.

Events that happen cyclically and scenarios which are predicted through planning, monitoring or the application of an integrated pest management system cannot be considered an emergency .

For the purpose of the FSC Pesticides Policy, emergency situations require immediate action and cannot feasibly be controlled by a less hazardous alternative. (Source: FSC-POL-30-001 V3-0).

Employment and occupation (töö ja kutseala): includes access to vocational training, access to employment and to particular occupations, and terms and conditions of employment (ILO Convention 111, Article 1.3).

Engaging / engagement (kaasamine/kaasatus): The process by which The Organization communicates, consults and/or provides for the participation of relevant stakeholders ensuring that their interests, rights and opportunities are considered in the establishment, implementation and updating of the management plan and other relevant activities. Engagement must be guided by the following principles:

- Determine appropriate representatives of stakeholders;
- Determine mutually agreed communication channels allowing for information to flow in both directions;
- Ensure all participants are represented and engaged equitably;

- Ensure all meetings, all points discussed, and all agreements reached (both verbal and non-verbal) are recorded or ensure that they are otherwise verifiable
- Ensure the content of meeting records is approved; and
- Ensure the results of all engagement activities are shared with those involved;
- Communication takes place in a manner appropriate to the Estonian cultural space.

(Source: Based on Indicator 7.6.1; FSC-STD-01-001 V5-2).

Environmental harm (keskkonnakahju): Any impact on the environment values as a result of human activity that has the effect of degrading the environment, whether temporarily or permanently (Source: FSC-POL-01-007 V1-0).

Environmental impact assessment (EIA) (keskkonnamõju hindamine, KMH): 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, FSC-STD-01-001 V5-2).

Environmental values (keskkonnaväärtused): Elements of the biophysical and anthropogenic environment. The actual worth attributed to these elements depends on human and societal perceptions. In terms of FSC, the following set of elements are considered:

- ecosystem functions;
- biological diversity;
- water;
- soil;
- air

(Source: based on FSC-STD-01-001 V5-2).

Equivalent (samaväärne): For ecological equivalence, the same specific type of natural forest or High Conservation Value is restored or conserved as was destroyed. For social remedy, equivalence shall be based on an independent assessment and agreement on remedy through Free, Prior, Informed Consent (FPIC) with the *Affected Rights Holders** of the nature, quality, and quantity of all social harms as well as the ongoing future benefits these would have provided. Equivalence shall entail provision of the best means possible to ensure future community wellbeing. (Source: FSC-POL-01-007 V1-0)

Externalities (välismõju): 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 V5-2).

Fair compensation (õiglane hüvitis): 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 (väetis): Mineral or organic substances, most commonly N, P₂O₅ and K₂O, which are applied to soil for the purpose of enhancing plant growth.

Fibre testing (for wooden matter) ((puitmaterjali) kiutest): a suite of wood identification technologies used to identify the family, genus, species and origin of solid wood and fibre based products.

Forced or compulsory labour (sunniviisiline või kohustuslik töö): work or service exacted from any person under the menace of any penalty and for which the said person has not offered himself/ herself voluntarily (ILO Convention 29, Article 2.1)

Forest (mets): A tract of land dominated by trees (Source: FSC-STD-01-001 V5-2. 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).

Forest resource (metsaressurss): forest stock, species and age distribution of trees in the forests (Source: *SDG**).

Fragmentation (killustumine): The process of dividing habitats into smaller patches, which results in the loss of original habitat, loss in connectivity, reduction in patch size, and increasing isolation of patches. Fragmentation is considered to be one of the single most important factors leading to loss of native species, especially in forested landscapes, and one of the primary causes of the present extinction crisis. In reference to *Intact Forest Landscapes**, the fragmentation of concern is understood to be that caused by human industrial activities. (SOURCE: Adapted from: Gerald E. Heilman, Jr. James R. Strittholt Nicholas C. Slosser Dominick A. Dellasala, *BioScience* (2002) 52 (5): 411-422.)

Free, Prior, and Informed Consent (FPIC) (vaba, eelnev ja teadlik nõusolek): 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).

FSC Transaction (FSC-tehing): Purchase or sale of products with FSC claims on sales documents (Source: ADV-40-004-14).

Gender equality (sooline võrdõiguslikkus): 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 (geneetiliselt muundatud organism (GMO)): 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 (genotüüp): The genetic constitution of an organism (Source: FSC-STD-01-001 V5-2).

Good faith (heauskne): A process of engagement where the parties make every effort to reach an agreement, conduct genuine and constructive negotiations, avoid delays in negotiations, respect agreements concluded and under development, and give sufficient time to discuss and settle disputes (adapted from Motion 40:2017).

Green infrastructure (rohevõrgustik): A system of natural and semi-natural habitats that consists of core areas and green corridors connecting them, that ensures the preservation of the different types of ecosystems and landscapes, and balances the effects of settlement and economic activity (Source: *SDG**).

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

Hazardous work (in the context of *Child* labour*) (ohtlik töö (laste töö kontekstis)): any work which is likely to jeopardize children's physical, mental or moral health, should not be undertaken by anyone

under the age of 18 years. Hazardous *Child** labour is work in dangerous, or unhealthy conditions that could result in a *Child** being killed or injured/maimed (often permanently) and/or made ill (often permanently) as a consequence of poor safety and health standards and working arrangements. In determining the type of hazard *Child** labour referred to under (Article 3(d) of the Convention No 182, and in identifying where they exist, consideration should be given, inter alia, to

- Work which exposes children to physical, psychological or sexual abuse;
- Work underground, under water at dangerous heights or in confined spaces;
- Work with dangerous machinery, equipment and tools, or which involves the manual handling or transport of heavy loads;
- Work in unhealthy environment which may, for examples, expose children to hazardous substances, agents or processes, or to temperatures, noise levels, or vibrations damaging to their health;
- Work under particularly difficult conditions such as work for long hours or during the night or work where the *Child** is unreasonably confined to the premises of the employer (ILO, 2011: IPEC Mainstreaming *Child** labour concerns in education sector plans and Programmes, Geneva, 2011& ILO Handbook on Hazardous *Child** labour, 2011).

Heavy work (in the context of *Child labour) (raske töö (laste töö kontekstis)):** refers to work that is likely to be harmful or dangerous to children's health (Source: FSC report on generic criteria and indicators based on ILO Core Conventions principles, 2017).

High Conservation Value (HCV) (kõrge kaitseväärtus (KKV)): 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 V5-2).

High Conservation Value Areas (kõrge kaitseväärtusega alad): Areas with identified High Conservation Values and/or are needed for the existence and maintenance of identified High Conservation Values.

Hybridization (ristamine): combining genetic information (germ cells) of different individuals with different genotypes, resulting in the offspring – crossbreeds - carrying the characteristics and attributes of two or more different individuals. Crossing can be intra-species or inter-species and inter-family. The (heterozygous) specimens obtained from hybridizing of genetically different parents are called hybrids.

ILO (ILO): International Labour Organization

ILO Core (Fundamental) Conventions (ILO peamised töökonventsioonid): these are labour standards that cover fundamental principles and rights at work: freedom of association and the effective recognition of the right to *collective bargaining** ; the elimination of all forms of *forced or compulsory labour**; the effective abolition of *Child** labour; and the elimination of *discrimination** in respect of *employment and occupation**. The eight Fundamental Conventions are:

- Freedom of Association and Protection of the Right to Organize Convention, 1948 (No. 87)
- Right to Organize and *Collective bargaining** Convention, 1949 (No. 98)
- Forced Labour Convention, 1930 (No. 29)
- Abolition of Forced Labour Convention, 1957 (No. 105)
- Minimum Age Convention, 1973 (No. 138)
- Worst Forms of *Child** Labour Convention, 1999 (No. 182)
- Equal Remuneration Convention, 1951 (No. 100)
- *Discrimination** (*employment and occupation**) Convention, 1958 (No. 111)

(Source: FSC report on generic criteria and indicators based on ILO Core Conventions principles, 2017.)

Indicator (indikaator): 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 cultural landscapes (põlised kultuurimaastikud): Indigenous cultural landscapes are living landscapes to which Indigenous Peoples attribute environmental, social, cultural and economic value because of their enduring relationship with the land, water, fauna, flora and spirits and their present and future importance to their cultural identity. An Indigenous cultural landscape is characterized by features that have been maintained through long-term interactions based on land-care knowledge, and adaptive livelihood practices. They are landscapes over which Indigenous Peoples exercise responsibility for stewardship.

Indigenous Peoples (põlisrahvad): 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).

Indirect involvement (kaudne seotus): Situations in which the associated organization or individual, with a minimum ownership or voting power of 51%, is involved as a parent or sister company, subsidiary, shareholder or Board of Directors to an organization directly involved in unacceptable activities. Indirect involvement also includes activities performed by subcontractors when acting on behalf of the associated organization or individual (Source: FSC-POL-01-004 V2-0).

Infrastructure (taristu): 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 (puutumatu metsamaastik): 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 km² (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).

Integrated pest management (IPM) (integreeritud taimekaitse): Careful consideration of all available pest control techniques and subsequent integration of appropriate measures that discourage the development of pest populations, encourage beneficial populations and keep pesticides and other interventions to levels that are economically justified and reduce or minimize risks to human and animal health and/or the environment. IPM emphasizes the growth of a healthy forest with the least possible disruption to ecosystems and encourages natural pest control mechanisms (Source: Based on FAO International Code of Conduct on Pesticide Management).

Intellectual property (intellektuaalomand): 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)).

Intensity (intensiivsus): 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 V5-2).

Interested stakeholder (huvitatud sidusrühm): 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;
- Labour (rights) organizations, for example labour 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 V5-2)

Internationally accepted scientific protocol (rahvusvaheliselt tunnustatud teadusprotokoll): 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 V5-2).

Invasive species (invasiivsed liigid): 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 website).

Key habitat (vääriselupaik): A key habitat is an area where the probability of the occurrence of narrowly adapted, endangered, vulnerable or rare species is high. Key habitats, their assessment and their protection are regulated by the [Forest Act](#) and [Regulation No. 2 of the Minister of the Environment of 4 January 2007](#). Key habitats can be seen in the public service of [the forest register](#) and [the environmental register](#). (Sources: Forest Act; *SDG**)

Key habitat features (vääriselupaiga tunnused): Forest landscape characteristics and structure, including:

- Old trees that are significantly older than the average age of trees in the main tree stand;
- Trees with special ecological value (provide specific habitats);
- A diverse forest stand structure (e.g. many tree stands, occurrence of gaps in stands and windfallen roots etc);
- Upstanding dried trees;
- Fallen dead wood;
- Open fields caused by natural disturbances;
- Permanent nesting sites;
- *Wetlands**, raised bogs, poor fens and fens that have not been drained;
- Permanent breeding sites;
- Feeding and shelter sites, including during breeding period.

Labor organisations (tööorganisatsioon): Formal and informal workers 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.

Land unit (maaüksus): A land unit is a defined part of the land or water area of a Management Unit. A unit of land may not be registered in the cadastre meaning that it may not be a cadastral unit.

Lands and territories (maa-alad ja territooriumid): 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 (maastik): 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 (maastikuväärtused): 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).

Large Management Unit (suur majandamisüksus): Management Unit larger than 100 ha in area (Source: *SDG**).

Legal (seadusest tulenev / seaduslik / õiguslik / juriidiline): 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 V5-2).

Legally competent (õiguslikult pädev): Mandated in law to perform a certain function (Source: FSC-STD-01-001 V5-2).

Legal registration (õiguslik registreerimine): 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 V5-2).

Legal status (õiguslik seisund): 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 V5-2).

Living wage (elatusmiinimum): 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 (kohalikud kogukonnad): 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 V5-2).

Local economy (kohalik majandus): For the purposes of this standard, the whole of Estonia is considered as local and thus differs from the regional economy, which means any specifically defined smaller region (Source: *SDG**).

Local laws (kohaliku tasandi õigusaktid): 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 V5-2).

Long-term (pikaajaline): The time-scale of The Organization 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 activity (metsamajandustegevus): forest regeneration, felling, land improvement, road construction (Source: *SDG**).

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

Management of land improvement systems (maaparandushoiutööd): These jobs are mowing of grass and fine bush on land improvement system, felling of woody vegetation on land improvement system, removing current impedances on land improvement system, restoring the depth and bottom width of an aqueduct, cleaning and maintaining drainage system of sediments, cleaning culvert and governor of sediments, maintaining culvert ends, maintaining the environmental facilities of the land improvement system, restoring, replacing or adding facilities of the land improvement system without substantially changing the general parameters of land improvement system (Source: Requirements for Land Improvement Jobs)

Management plan (metsamajandamiskava): 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 V5-2).

Management Unit (metsamajandamisüksus): 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.

Minor (also, *Child*) (alaealine, ka: laps): A person who is less than 18 years old (Source: Act on the General Part of the Civil Code of Estonia. 2002).

Monitoring (seire): 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.

National laws (riigi õigusaktid): 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 V5-2).

Native species (pärismaised liigid): 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 (looduslähedased tingimused): 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 favour 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 V5-2).

Natural forest (loodusmets): 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 savannah.

The description of natural forests and their principal characteristics and key elements may be further defined in FSC Forest Stewardship Standards, with appropriate descriptions or examples.

'Natural forest' does not include land which is not dominated by trees, was previously not forest, and which does not yet contain many of the characteristics and elements of native ecosystems. Young regeneration may be considered as natural forest after some years of ecological progression. FSC Forest Stewardship Standards may indicate when such areas may be excised from the Management Unit, should be restored towards more natural conditions, or may be converted to other land uses.

FSC has not developed quantitative thresholds between different categories of forests in terms of area, density, height, etc. FSC Forest Stewardship Standards may provide such thresholds and other guidelines, with appropriate descriptions or examples.

Pending such guidance, areas dominated by trees, mainly of native species, may be considered as natural forest.

Thresholds and guidelines may cover areas such as:

- Other vegetation types and non-forest communities and ecosystems included in the Management Unit, including grassland, bushland, *wetlands**, and open woodlands;
- Very young pioneer or colonizing regeneration in a primary succession on new open sites or abandoned farmland, which does not yet contain many of the principal characteristics and key elements of native ecosystems. This may be considered as natural forest through ecological progression after the passage of years;
- Young natural regeneration growing in natural forest areas may be considered as natural forest, even after logging, clear-felling or other disturbances, since many of the principal characteristics and key elements of native ecosystems remain, above-ground and below-ground;
- Areas where deforestation and forest *degradation** have been so severe that they are no longer 'dominated by trees' may be considered as non-forest, when they have very few of the principal above-ground and below-ground characteristics and key elements of natural forests. Such extreme *degradation** is typically the result of combinations of repeated and excessively heavy logging, grazing, farming, fuelwood collection, hunting, fire, erosion, mining, settlements, infrastructure, etc.

FSC Forest Stewardship Standards may help to decide when such areas should be excised from the Management Unit, should be restored towards more natural conditions, or may be converted to other land uses.

(Source: FSC-STD-01-001 V5-2).

Natural hazards (looduslikud ohutegurid): 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, storm, wild game, Heterobasidion etc.

Natural sacred sites (looduslikud pühapaigad): Natural sacred places are places and landscapes with a natural appearance that relate to folklore, archaeological, historical, ethnological or other data referring to sacrifice, healing, prayer, or other religious activities. These can be individual trees, groups of trees and forests, springs, rivers, streams or other bodies of water, different landscape forms such as hills, valleys, banks, rocks, various places of sacrifice, etc. Natural sacred sites also include crossed trees associated with historical burial traditions (source: "Estonian Natural Sites. Research and Preservation" Development Plan 2015-2020, Ministry of Culture).

Non-forest land-use (mittemetsamaa): Land-use system, where the land is not dominated by trees.

Non-timber forest products (NTFP) (mittepuidulised metsasaadused e muud metsasaadused): All products other than timber derived from the Management Unit (Source: FSC-STD-01-001 V5-2).

Objective (eesmärk): 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 (kohustuslik tegevusjuhis): A manual or handbook or other source of technical instruction which The Organization must implement by law (Source: FSC-STD-01-001 V5-2).

Occupational accident (tööõnnetus): 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 (kutsehaigus): Any disease caused by the work environment hazard or the nature of the work (Source: Occupational Health and Safety Act).

Occupational injuries (tööga seotud vigastused): 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 (organism): Any biological entity capable of replication or of transferring genetic material (Source: Council Directive 90/220/EEC).

Peatland (soo): 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 colour (Source: Aguilar, L. 2001. About Fishermen, Fisherwomen, Oceans and tides. IUCN. San Jose (Costa Rica)).

Pest (kahjur): Any species, strain or biotype of plant, animal or pathogenic agent injurious to plants and plant products, materials or environments and includes vectors of parasites or pathogens of human and animal disease and animals causing public health nuisance (Source: FSC-POL-30-001 V3-0).

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

Plantation (istandik): In Estonia plantations are:

- 1) Same aged forest, established on non-woodland by planting or sowing trees with regular distances, and managed in a way that, after 20 years of cultivation, many or most of the essential characteristics and essential elements of natural ecosystems are not contained; or
- 2) Area planted with trees not intended for the production of timber (e.g. cultivation of Christmas trees);
- 3) Area that has been declared as a plantation by The Organization.

In Estonia plantations are not:

- 1) regeneration of forests, if, after 20 years of cultivation, the forest contains many or most of the essential characteristics and essential elements of natural ecosystems;
- 2) forests planted to restore quarries;
- 3) seed orchards established to stock cultivating material.

(Source: *SDG**)

Precautionary approach (ettevaatusprintsip): An approach that avoids severe or irreversible damage to the environmental values or a threat to human life/health, even when the scientific information is incomplete or inconclusive (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] (raie-eelne (seisund)): The diversity, composition, and structure of the forest or plantation prior to felling timber and appurtenant activities such as road building.

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

Proportionate (vastavuses): A 1:1 ratio: The area to be restored or conserved is the same as the area of natural forest and/or High Conservation Value destroyed (Source: FSC-POL-01-007 V1-0).

Protection: See definition of Conservation.

Protection area: See definition of Conservation Zone.

Protected natural object (kaitstav loodusobjekt (KLO)): 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**. In the context of the Principles and Criteria, management of these areas should involve active conservation, not passive protection' (Source: based on Nature Conservation Act and FSC-STD-01-001 V5-2).

Public interest (avalik huvi): A broader application than that of an individual's or a group's interests for the creation or preservation of a public good that is not used for private consumption or for business, but which is accessible to everyone. Public interest may overlap with private interests, but also contrast and conflict (source: Stockholm Environment Institute, SEI Tallinn, Dictionary of Sustainable Development).

Publicly available (avalikustatud): Accessible or observable for people free of charge (e.g. in the Internet, at the office of The Organization). (Source: *SDG**).

Rare species (haruldased liigid): Near-threat (NT) species and species, that are likely to be categorized as endangered species (EN) in the near future (e.g. first sighting of a species in Estonia), listed in the Estonian Red List. (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 (ratifitseerimine): 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 V5-2).

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

Refugia (refuugium ehk pelgupaik): 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).

Remedy (heastama): To correct or return something as near as possible to its original state or condition (Source: Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights. UN. 2011).

- **For environmental harms:** this includes actions taken to remedy deforestation, conversion *degradation**, or other harms to natural forest and High Conservation Value areas. Environmental remedy actions may include but are not limited to: conservation of standing forests, habitats, ecosystems and species; restoration and protection of degraded ecosystems.
- **For social harms:** this includes providing redress for identified social harms through agreements made during an FPIC-based process with the *Affected Rights Holders**, and facilitating a transition to the position before such harms occurred; or developing alternative measures to ameliorate harms by providing gains recognized by the affected stakeholders as equivalent to the harms, through consultation and agreement. Remedy may be achieved through a combination of apologies, restitution, rehabilitation, financial or non-financial compensation, satisfaction, punitive sanctions, injunctions, and guarantees of non-repetition (Source: FSC-POL-01-007 V1-0).

Repair ((kahjuliku mõju) kõrvaldamine): Process of assisting the recovery of environmental values and human health (Source: FSC-POL-30-001).

Representative Sample Areas (esinduslikud näidisalad): 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.

Representative sample areas are selected in order of preference:

- 1) Forest *key habitats**
- 2) Forest habitats of the Habitats Directive
- 3) The oldest and most natural forests of the Management Unit
- 4) Forests with critical High Conservation Values

(Source: *SDG**)

Resilience (taastuvus): 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.).

Restitution (ennistamine): Measures agreed with affected stakeholders to restore lands, properties or damaged natural resources to their original owners in their original condition. Where such lands, properties or natural resources cannot be returned or restored, measures are agreed on to provide alternatives of

equivalent quality and extent. Restitution to *Affected Rights Holders** is agreed on through an FPIC-based process (Source: FSC-POL-01-007 V1-0).

Restore / Restoration (taastama / taastamine): 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 V5-2).

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.

Retention trees (säilikpuud): Living tree that is necessary to ensure the biological diversity (Source: Based on Forest Act)

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

Risk (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 V5-2).

Scale (ulatus): 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 V5-2).

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

SDG (STR) (standardi töörühm): Standard Development Group

Secondary species (kaaspuuliik): tree species growing alongside with the dominant tree species in the stand.

Significant (oluline): 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 V5-2).

Silviculture (metsakasvatus): 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).

Small-scale smallholder (väikemetsamajandaja): Any person that is depending on the land for most of their livelihood; and/or employs labour mostly from family or neighbouring communities and has land-use rights on a Management Unit of less than 50 hectares. Standard developers may define this to less than 50 hectares (Source: FSC-POL-01-007 V1-0).

Small Management Unit (väike majandamisüksus): Management Unit smaller than 100 ha in area (Source: SDG*).

Stakeholder (sidusrühm): See definitions for 'affected stakeholder' and 'interested stakeholder'.

Social harms (sotsiaalne kahju): Negative impacts on persons or communities, perpetrated by individuals, corporations or states, which include, but may go beyond, criminal acts by legal persons. Such harms include negative impacts on persons' or groups' rights, livelihoods and well-being, such as property (including forests, lands, waters), health, food security, healthy environment, cultural repertoire and happiness, as well as physical injury, detention, dispossession and expulsion (Source: FSC-POL-01-007 V1-0).

- **Ongoing social harms (jätkuv sotsiaalne kahju):** social harms which have not been remedied.
- **Priority social harms (prioriteetne sotsiaalne kahju):** social harms prioritized by an FPIC-based process with affected rights-holders or identified in consultation with affected stakeholders (Source: FSC-PRO-01-007 V1-0).

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

Tenure (valdus/valdusõigus): 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).

Thalwegs (voolunõvad): Generally, ditches up to 60 cm deep, whose function is to collect or to guide surface water from the road profile or the surface water that accumulates behind the road's or ride's track bed (Source: SDG*).

The Organization (organisatsioon): Legal personality, physical person or entity (including group certificate holder) 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 V5-2).

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

Threatened species (ohustatud liigid): Extinct, critically endangered, endangered, and vulnerable species in Estonia, listed in the Estonian Red List.

Timber harvesting level (raiemah): The actual harvest quantity executed on the Management Unit, tracked by either volume or area metrics.

Timely manner (mõistliku aja jooksul): As promptly as circumstances reasonably allow; not intentionally postponed by The Organization.

Traditional knowledge (traditsioonilised teadmised): 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).

Transaction verification (tehingukontroll): Verification by certification bodies and/or Accreditation Services International (ASI) that FSC output claims made by certificate holders are accurate and match with the FSC input claims of their trading partners (Source: FSCSTD-40-004 cV3-0).

Trench dredging (vagukraavitus): temporary dredging, generally up to 40 cm deep, for the removal of surface water, with the aim of solving the current state of excessive moisture on areas (as a rule used on renewal cutting areas) or on large areas with storm damage. *Trench dredging** is done as perpendicular to the ground as possible to avoid permanent effects of forest drainage. *Trench dredging** is not normally a part of maintenance and restoration in the course of subsequent reconstruction work (Source: *SDG**).

Uphold (toetama): To acknowledge, respect, sustain and support (Source: FSC-STD-01-001 V5-2).

Use rights (kasutusõigused): 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 V5-2).

Valuable landscape (väärtuslik maastik): A landscape having cultural-historical, aesthetic, natural, recreational and identity values. The aim to determine valuable landscapes in a plan is to preserve traditional settlement and land use patterns, landscape and biological diversity and ecological balance in the area (Source: *SDG**).

Verifiable targets (kontrollitavad sihtmärgid): 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 (väga väike osa): The affected area shall not exceed 5% of the Management Unit, irrespective of whether the conversion activities have taken place prior to or after The Organization is awarded with FSC Forest Management certification (Source: FSC-POL-01-007 V1-0).

Waste materials (jätmed): 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, glass, plastics and paper; and
- Out of use machinery and equipment.

Water bodies (veekogud): Seasonal, temporary, and permanent streams, rivers, ponds, lakes, oxbow lakes, and springs (Source: *SDG**).

Wetlands (märgalad): 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).

From the wetland types named in the Ramsar Convention in Estonia there are, natural ponds, flooded meadows, bogs, lakes and rivers (Source: Based on IUCN, No Date, IUCN Definitions – English).

Wet forests (märjad metsad): Forests that belong to fern, meadowsweet, sedge-meadowsweet, sedge, puzzlegrass, marsh, fen, poor fen or raised bog habitat type and are not affected by drainage.

Woodland habitats under the Habitats Directive (loodusdirektiivi metsaelupaigad): Places in nature listed in Annex I in Council of Europe's Directive 92/43/EEC (21 May 1992) corresponding to the description of endangered forest habitat types.

Descriptions and instructions for inventory have been compiled by J.Paal and A.Palo. Additional information: Paal, J. (2007). The Habitats Handbook of the Habitats Directive. Tallinn; Inventory guides https://www.envir.ee/sites/default/files/metsainventeerimine_juhend_2011_2605_lopp.pdf and <https://www.envir.ee/sites/default/files/metsadeinventeerimisepildijuhend.pdf>

Workers (töötajad): All employed persons in The Organization including seasonal employees, laborers, boards members and chief executive officers (Source: *SDG**).



FSC International Center gGmbH – Policy and Performance Unit

Adenauerallee 134

53113 Bonn

Germany

Phone: +49 -(0)228 -36766 -0

Fax: +49 -(0)228 -36766 -65

Email : country_requirements@fsc.org