The FSC Interim National Standard of Austria

FSC-STD-AUT-01-2022 EN
Photo credit

From left to right:
Photo 1: Savinja river, Slovenia, ©Milan Reška.
Photo 2: Pile of sawn boards. ©Arturo Escobar.
Photo 3: Worker in a forest operation. ©Arturo Escobar.

NOTE ON THIS ENGLISH VERSION:
This is the official version of the Forest Stewardship Standard that is approved by FSC International, and it is available at fsc.org. Any translation of this version is not an official translation approved by FSC International. If there is any conflict or inconsistency between the approved English version and any translated version, the English version shall prevail.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>The FSC Interim National Standard of Austria</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Status</td>
<td>Approved</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
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The Forest Stewardship Council® (FSC) is an independent, not for profit, non-government organization established to support environmentally appropriate, socially beneficial, and economically viable management of the world's forests.

FSC's vision is that true value of forests is recognized and fully incorporated into society worldwide. FSC is the leading catalyst and defining force for improved forest management and market transformation, shifting the global forest trend toward sustainable use, conservation, restoration, and respect for all.

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1 The transition period is the timeline in which there is a parallel phase-in of the new version and phase-out of the old version of the standard. Six (6) months after the end of the transition period, certificates issued against the old version are considered invalid.
Foreword

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 National Forest Stewardship Standards and Interim National 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.

2 The FSC Principles and Criteria

FSC first published the FSC Principles and Criteria in November 1994 as a performance-based, outcome-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 IGI provide the basis for the development of National Forest Stewardship Standards (NFSS) and Interim National Standards (INS).
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A Preamble

A.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 conformance.

2. FSC accredited certification bodies (CBs) to determine conformity against this standard as the basis for awarding or maintaining forest management certification.

A.2 Scope

(Normative section)

This standard shall be applied in the following scope:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Geographic region</th>
<th>Republic of Austria</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Forest types</td>
<td>All forest types (Plantations and natural forests)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ownership types</td>
<td>All types of ownerships, including public, private, and others.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scale and intensity categories (according to section 6 of FSC-STD-60-002)</td>
<td>All categories of Management Units, including provisions for small and low intensity managed forests (SLIMFs). (Note: see section C for the applicable SLIMF eligibility criteria for this country.)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| Forest products (according to FSC-STD-40-004a) | Rough wood  
NTFPs:  
1) mushrooms  
2) honey  
3) cones and seeds  
4) lichens, mosses and ferns  
5) Christmas trees and twigs  
6) Resins |

A.3 Responsibility for Conformance

(Normative section)

The requirements in this standard cover all of The Organization's management activities that are related to the Management Unit, whether within the Management Unit 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 Management Unit which is being submitted for (re)certification. However, some of the Criteria and indicators apply beyond the boundary of the Management Unit. This would include all facilities and area(s) outside of the Management Unit that contribute to the management objectives of The Organization, as defined by the FSC Principles and Criteria.

Interim National Standards are 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 these person(s) or entities are referred to as ‘The Organization’.

The Organization is responsible for decisions, policies and management activities related to the Management Unit.

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 Management Unit, 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 conformance with the requirements in this standard.

A.4  Note on the use of indicators, annexes and verifiers

(Normative section)

The following elements of this standard are normative:

Scope, effective and validity dates, glossary of terms, principles, criteria and indicators, directives, references, tables and annexes.

Note: normative elements that have been greyed out are not applicable in the country but are kept in the standard for transparency.

The following elements of this standard are provided for guidance only and are not normative:

Verifiers, notes, examples.

Organizations managing Management Units qualifying as SLIMF shall conform with all indicators in the standard, except those indicated as “Not applicable for SLIMF”. Where specific SLIMF indicators exist (marked as e.g. “SLIMF 3.5.1”), The Organizations above shall conform with them instead.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SLIMF eligibility criteria</th>
<th>National threshold</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Small Management Units</td>
<td>Up to 100 hectares</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Low intensity Management Units</td>
<td>The rate of harvesting is less than 20% of the mean annual increment (MAI) within the total production forest area of the unit, AND EITHER the annual harvest from the total production forest area is less than 5000 cubic metres, OR the average annual harvest from the total production forest is less than 5000 m³ / year during the period of validity of the certificate as verified by harvest reports and surveillance audits.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Organizations including NTFPs in their certification scope shall conform with all indicators in the standard. Where specific NTFP indicators exist (marked as e.g. “NTFP 3.5.1”), The Organizations shall conform with them in addition.
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.

“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 document.

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

In section D, the terms at the Principles and Criteria level for which a definition is provided in the Glossary of Terms are formatted in italics and marked with an asterisk*.

This document is subject to the review and revision cycle as described in FSC-PRO-60-007 Structure, Content and Development of Interim National Standards.

A.5 Interpretations and Disputes
(Normative section)

Interpretation requests regarding Interim National Standards shall be submitted to FSC for processing and approval. Approved interpretations are published on the international FSC website (see: INT-STD-60-006_01).

Disputes between stakeholders concerning certification requirements are managed by FSC’s dispute resolution procedure (see: FSC-PRO-01-008).
B  Context

B.1  General description of the forestry sector

(Informative section)

Land and forest use (history) in Austria:

Forestry is a federal matter in the Republic of Austria and is based on the Austrian Forest Act of 1975, last amended in 2002. The area of Austria is 47.6% (approx. 4 million ha) covered by forests. This makes Austria one of the most densely forested countries in Europe. The forest portion takes up 47% of the country's area and is therefore a core element of the landscape. The main tree species are spruce, beech, pine, larch and fir. With 65.7%, the conifers make up the largest group in the entire country. The proportion of deciduous forest is 23.4%. The remaining 10.8% are gaps, bare spots and bushes. An increase is planned in the area of mixed forest types (coniferous and deciduous forest) compared to pure coniferous or deciduous forest types. In the long term, the aim is to improve the ratio of conifers to deciduous trees.

Forest owners in Austria are private individuals and corporations with 3,336,000 hectares and the state (federal forests) with 589,000 hectares. The authority (District Forest Inspection) is responsible for the control and implementation of the Forest Act for all types of forest ownership in Austria. They also support the forest owner in managing their forests. In Austria, nature conservation falls within the competence of nine regional administrative units, the federal states. The federal states oversee the management of the protected areas, the monitoring of generally protected habitats and the implementation of protection programs for species and biotope protection. The federal states also oversee many issues that influence natural resources and the natural balance.

B.2  Background information on the standard development

(Informative section)

For the development of this Interim National Standard, a streamlined process was applied, using the Generic Forest Stewardship Standard (GFSS) developed by FSC International.

The GFSS is based on the International Generic Indicators (IGI), which were developed by FSC International in a broad multi-stakeholder process. The IGI represent the basis for all national forest standards, ensuring international alignment between different national FSC standards.

Essential parts of the standard were therefore predefined and could not be changed or discarded by the Standard Developer. 170 IGIs (77%) were directly adopted while 31 (14%) adapted. 23 (9%) of them were non applicable due to the following reasons:

- Principle 3 is not applicable.
- IFL indicators are not applicable.

A public consultation was held in February and March 2020 with 46 different stakeholder groups consulted.
C References

(Informative section)

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

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

Note: When applying this standard, consider relevant national and international interpretations by inquiring with local FSC representatives (e.g. National Offices or representatives, or FSC’s Performance and Standards 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).
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 Legal registration to carry out all activities within the scope of the certificate is documented and unchallenged.

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

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 Legal tenure to manage and use resources within the scope of the certificate is documented.

NTFP 1.2.1 There are documents on existing usage rights, including the harvesting and processing of non-timber forest products (e.g. hunting lease agreement, mining rights for mineral resources), unless these are anchored in the land register.

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

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

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 undertaken in the Management Unit are carried out in compliance with:

1) Applicable laws and regulations and administrative requirements,
2) Legal and customary rights; and
3) Obligatory codes of practice.
NTFP 1.3.1 All activities including harvesting and processing of non-timber forest products undertaken in the Management Unit are carried out in compliance with:

1) Applicable laws and regulations and administrative requirements,
2) Legal and customary rights; and
3) Obligatory codes of practice.

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

1.3.3 Activities covered by the management plan are designed to comply with all applicable laws.

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 implemented to provide protection from unauthorized or illegal harvesting, hunting, fishing, trapping, collecting, settlement and other unauthorized activities.

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 If illegal or unauthorized activities are detected, measures are implemented to address them.

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

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

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

NTFP 1.5.2 The Organization does not violate the Washington Convention on the Protection of Species (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 culturally appropriate engagement with affected stakeholders.

1.6.2 Disputes related to issues of applicable laws or customary law that can be settled out of court are responded to in a timely manner and are either resolved or are in the dispute resolution process.

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

1) Steps taken to resolve disputes;
2) Outcomes of all dispute resolution processes; and
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.

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

SLIMF 1.7.1 The Organization makes a written or verbal declaration not to give or receive bribes or to engage in other forms of corruption.

1.7.2 The policy meets or exceeds related legislation.

1.7.3 The policy is publicly available at no cost.

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

1.7.5 Corrective measures are implemented if corruption does occur.

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

1.8.2 The policy is publicly available at no cost.
**PRINCIPLE** 2: **WORKERS**’ RIGHTS AND EMPLOYMENT CONDITIONS

The Organization shall maintain or enhance the social and economic wellbeing of workers.

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 shall not use child labour.

2.1.1.1 The Organization shall not employ workers below the age of 15.

2.1.1.2 Employment of persons between 13 and 15 years of age is only allowed:

- in light work in organizations in which only family members of the employer are occupied and
- if such work does not interfere with schooling nor, is harmful to their health or development.
- Children work only outside school hours during normal day-time working hours.


2.1.1.3 No person under the age of 18 is employed in hazardous or heavy work except for the purpose of training within approved national laws and regulation.

2.1.1.4 The Organization shall prohibit worst forms of child labour.

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:

- Physical and sexual violence
- Bonded labour
- Withholding of wages /including payment of employment fees and or payment of deposit to commence employment
- Restriction of mobility/movement
- Retention of passport and identity documents
- Threats of denunciation to the authorities.

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 The Organization shall respect freedom of association and the right to collective bargaining.

2.1.4.1 Workers are able to establish or join worker organizations of their own choosing.

2.1.4.2 The Organization respects the rights of workers to engage in lawful activities related to forming, joining or assisting a workers’ organization, or to refrain from doing the same; and will not discriminate or punish workers for exercising these rights.

2.1.4.3 The Organization negotiates with lawfully established workers’ organizations and/ or duly selected representatives in good faith and with the best efforts to reach a collective bargaining agreement.

2.1.4.4 Collective bargaining agreements are implemented where they exist.

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

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 typically carried out by women (nurseries, silviculture, non-timber forest product harvesting, weighing, packing, etc.) is included in training and health & safety programs to the same extent as work typically carried out by men.

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

2.2.5 All workers are paid directly and using direct bank transfer to ensure they safely receive and retain their wages.

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

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

2.2.8 Composition and decision-making forums are organized to include the active participation of both genders.

2.2.9 Confidential and effective measures are taken for reporting and preventing cases of sexual harassment and discrimination.
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 Health and safety practices are developed and implemented that meet or exceed the ILO Code of Practice on Safety and Health in Forestry Work.

SLIMF 2.3.1 The Organization ensures that forest operational work is designed in such a way that:

- written work orders and risk assessments are available when employing employees and entrepreneurs.
- the accident prevention regulations, laws and ordinances are observed.
- the rescue chain is secured and rescue points are well-known.
- only special fuels are used for two-stroke engines.
- as far as possible tested forestry working materials are used. In the case of non-commercial self-advertisers, the Organization works towards this.
- point to health risks when using spray paints.

NTFP 2.3.1 The Organization ensures that forest operational work during the harvesting and processing of non-timber forest products are designed so that:

- there are written work orders and risk assessments when employing workers.
- the accident prevention regulations, laws and ordinances are observed.
- the rescue chain is secured and rescue points are well-known.
- only special fuels are used for two-stroke engines.
- as far as possible, tested forestry working materials are used. In the case of non-commercial self-advertisers, the Organization works towards this.
- health risks are pointed to when using spray paints.

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

NTFP 2.3.2 Workers harvesting and processing of non-timber forest products, have personal protective equipment appropriate to their assigned tasks.

2.3.3 Use of personal protective equipment is enforced.

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

SLIMF 2.3.4 The use of health and safety measures by workers is checked and known.
2.3.5 The frequency and severity of accidents are consistently low compared to national forest industry averages.

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

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

2.4.2 Wages paid meet or exceed:

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

2.4.3 When no minimum wage levels exist, wages are established through culturally appropriate engagement with workers and/or formal and informal workers organizations.

2.4.4 Wages, salaries and contracts are paid on time.

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 Workers have job specific training consistent with Annex B and supervision to safely and effectively contribute to the implementation of the management plan and all management activities.

NTFP 2.5.1 Workers who harvest and process non-timber forest products receive job-specific training and further training that complies with Annex B, as well as instructions for the safe and efficient implementation of management planning and all management activities.

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

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 The Organization develops dispute resolution procedures with the participation of employees and / or the statutory workforce bodies.

2.6.2 Workers grievances are identified and responded to and are either resolved or are in the dispute 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 processes including fair compensation; and
3) Unresolved disputes, 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 and occupational disease or injuries.
PRINCIPLE* 3: INDIGENOUS PEOPLES’ RIGHTS

The Organization* shall identify and uphold Indigenous Peoples’ legal* and customary rights* of ownership, use and management of land, territories* and resources affected by management activities.


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.

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

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 Indigenous Peoples, 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 Indigenous Peoples related to management activities, Intact Forest Landscapes and Indigenous cultural landscapes.

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

1) Their legal and customary rights of tenure;
2) Their legal and customary access to, and use rights, of the forest resources, non-timber forest products 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 Indigenous Peoples, governments and/or others;
6) Summary of the means by which the legal and customary rights and contested rights, are addressed by The Organization;
7) The aspirations and goals of Indigenous Peoples related to management activities.

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 Through culturally appropriate engagement Indigenous Peoples are informed when, where and how they can comment on and request modification to management activities to the extent necessary to protect their rights, resources, lands and territories.

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

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

3.2.4 Free, Prior and Informed Consent is granted by Indigenous Peoples prior to management activities that affect their identified rights through a process that includes:
   1) Ensuring Indigenous Peoples know their rights and obligations regarding the resource;
   2) Informing the Indigenous Peoples of the value of the resource, in economic, social and environmental terms;
   3) Informing the Indigenous Peoples of their right to withhold or modify consent to the proposed management activities to the extent necessary to protect their rights, resources, lands and territories; and
   4) Informing the Indigenous Peoples of the current and future planned forest management activities.

3.2.5 Where the process of Free Prior and Informed Consent has not yet resulted in an FPIC agreement, the Organization and the affected Indigenous Peoples are engaged in a mutually agreed FPIC process that is advancing, in good faith and with which the community is satisfied.
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 control over management activities has been granted through
Free Prior and Informed Consent based on culturally appropriate
engagement, the binding agreement contains the duration,
provisions for renegotiation, renewal, termination, economic
conditions and other terms and conditions.

3.3.2 Records of binding agreements are maintained.

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

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

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

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

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

3.5.2 Measures to protect such sites are agreed, documented and
implemented through culturally appropriate engagement with
Indigenous Peoples. When Indigenous Peoples determine that
physical identification of sites in documentation or on maps would
threaten the value or protection of the sites, then other means will be
used.
3.5.3 Wherever sites of special cultural, ecological, economic, religious or spiritual significance are newly observed or discovered, management activities cease immediately in the vicinity until protective measures have been agreed to with the Indigenous Peoples, and as directed by local and national laws.

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

3.6.2 Indigenous Peoples are compensated according to the binding agreement reached through Free, Prior and Informed Consent for the use of traditional knowledge and intellectual property.
**PRINCIPLE** 4: COMMUNITY RELATIONS

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

**Note:** In the sense of this FSC standard for Austria, the political community generally represents the local population.

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.

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

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

4.2.1 Through culturally appropriate engagement local communities are informed of when, where and how they can comment on and request modification to management activities to the extent necessary to protect their rights.

4.2.2 The legal and customary rights of local communities to maintain control over management activities are not violated by The Organization.
4.2.3 Where evidence exists that legal and customary rights of local communities related to management activities have been violated the situation is corrected, if necessary, through culturally appropriate engagement and/or through the dispute resolution process in Criteria 1.6 or 4.6.

4.2.4 When management activities have an impact on the identified rights (4.1), the local communities grant their Free, Prior and Informed Consent before the start of management operations. The Organization makes sure that their contact person(s) are known by the local communities.

4.2.5 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 opportunities are communicated and provided to local communities, local contractors and local suppliers for:

1) Employment,
2) Training, and
3) Other services.

SLIMF 4.3.1 In forest management local workers and service providers are preferred.

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 culturally appropriate engagement with local communities and other relevant organizations.

SLIMF 4.4.1 Opportunities for local social and economic development are identified and implemented.

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.

SLIMF 4.4.2 In forest management, local products and services are preferred.
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 exchanges information with the local population in order to take measures to avoid or mitigate significant negative social, ecological and economic effects of management on the local population.

SLIMF 4.5.1.1 Measures are taken to avoid and mitigate the negative social, ecological and economic effects of management activities on the local population.

SLIMF 4.5.1.2 Upon request, these measures are communicated to the neighbors and the neighboring landowners.

NTFP 4.5.1  The Organization exchanges information with the local population in order to take measures to avoid or mitigate the significant negative social, ecological and economic effects of the management of non-timber forest products on the local population.

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 culturally appropriate engagement with local communities.

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

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

4.6.4  In the event of significant disputes, management activities will be discontinued until the dispute resolution process has been completed.
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 Sites of special cultural, ecological, economic, religious or spiritual significance for which local communities hold legal or customary rights are identified through culturally appropriate engagement and are recognized by The Organization.

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

4.7.3 Whenever sites of special cultural, ecological, economic, religious or spiritual significance are newly observed or discovered, management activities cease immediately in the vicinity until protective measures have been agreed to with the local communities, and as directed by local and national laws.

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

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.

SLIMF 5.1.1 The Organization is aware of the range of resources and ecosystem services that could strengthen and diversify the local economy.

NTFP 5.1.1 The range of resources, non-timber forest products and ecosystem services that could strengthen and diversify the local economy are identified.

5.1.2 The identified products and services are used by the forestry enterprise in accordance with the management objectives and/or made accessible to others in order to strengthen and diversify the local economy.

NTFP 5.1.2 The identified non-timber forest products and ecosystem services are used by The Organization in accordance with the management objectives and/or made accessible to others in order to strengthen and diversify the local economy.

5.1.3 If The Organization markets ecosystem services (as defined by the FSC Ecosystem Services), the applicable requirements of the FSC-PRO-30-006 standard must be met.

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

5.2.1 Timber harvesting levels are based on an analysis of current Best Available Information on growth and yield; inventory of the forest; mortality rates; and maintenance of ecosystem functions.

5.2.2 Based on the timber harvesting level analysis, a maximum allowable annual cut for timber is determined that does not exceed the harvest level that can be permanently sustained including by ensuring that harvest rates do not exceed growth.

5.2.3 Actual annual harvest levels for timber are recorded and the harvest over a defined period does not exceed the allowable cut determined in 5.2.2 for the same defined period.

5.2.4 For extraction of commercially harvested services and non-timber forest products under The Organization’s control a sustainable harvest level is calculated and adhered to. Sustainable harvest levels are based on Best Available Information.
5.3 *The Organization* shall demonstrate that the positive and negative externalities* of operations are included in the *management plan*.

5.3.1 Positive and negative financial costs related to preventing, mitigating or compensating for negative social and environment impacts of management activities are quantified and documented in the management plan for FMU greater than 1000 ha and the cutting rate is greater than 10,000 m3 / year.

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

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, services, processing and value-added facilities are used.

SLIMF 5.4.1 If costs, quality and quantity are at least the same, local products, services, processors and value chains are preferred.

NTFP 5.4.1 If costs, quality and quantity are at least the same, local products, services, processors and value chains for non-timber forest products are preferred.

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

NTFP 5.4.2 If goods, services as well as processing and value creation facilities for the production of non-timber forest products are not available locally, Organizations >1000 ha support their establishment within the scope of their possibilities.

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 are allocated to implement the management plan in order to meet this standard and to ensure long-term economic viability.

5.5.2 Expenditures and investments are made to implement the management plan in order to meet this standard and to ensure long-term economic viability.
**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 is used to identify environmental values within, and, where potentially affected by management activities, outside of the **Management Unit**.

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

**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**.

**SLIMF 6.1.2** The assessment of environmental goods is carried out to the extent and frequency that is necessary to support the fulfillment of the requirements of criteria 6.2, 6.3 and **Principle 8**.

**NTFP 6.1.2** The assessment of environmental goods, which can be impaired by the management of non-timber forest products, is carried out to the extent and frequency necessary to support the fulfillment of the requirements of criteria 6.2, 6.3 and **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 identifies potential present and future impacts of management activities on environmental values, from the stand level to the landscape level.

**SLIMF 6.2.1** The **Organization** assesses the possible effects of its actions on the environment according to 6.1.1 before managing non-timber forest products based on the available information and takes this into account in its planning (see 7.2.1).
NTFP 6.2.1 The Organization assesses the possible effects of its actions on the environment according to 6.1.1 before the management of non-timber forest products based on the available information and takes this into account in its planning (see 7.2.1).

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

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 Management activities are planned and implemented to prevent negative impacts and to protect environmental values.

NTFP 6.3.1 The Organization plans and implements measures in the management of non-timber forest products in such a way that damage to the environment is avoided or minimized.

6.3.2 Management activities prevent negative impacts to environmental values.

NTFP 6.3.2 The Organization refrains from taking any measures in the management of non-timber forest products that are expected to cause significant damage to the environment.

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

NTFP 6.3.3 Where environmental damage occurs as a result of the management of non-timber forest products, measures are adapted to prevent further damage and to remedy or mitigate those that have already occurred.

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 rare and threatened species, and their habitats including CITES species (where applicable) and those listed on national, regional and local lists of rare and threatened species that are present or likely to be present within and adjacent to the Management Unit.

Note: Best Available Information includes the information sources listed in Annex E as well as the relevant national and regional legislation listed in Annex A.
6.4.2 Potential impacts of management activities on rare and threatened species and their conservation status and habitats are identified and management activities are modified to avoid negative impacts.

SLIMF 6.4.2 The management measures have been adapted to avoid negative effects on rare and endangered species and their habitats.

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

SLIMF 6.4.3 In accordance with the SLIMF 6.4.2.1 indicator, the forest operator respects protected areas and supports connectivity by maintaining buffer zones in which rare and endangered species and their habitats exist.

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

SLIMF 6.4.4 Cases of unauthorized hunting, fishing, catching and collecting rare or endangered species are reported to the relevant hunting authorities.

NTFP 6.4.4 Cases of unauthorized hunting, fishing, catching and collecting rare or endangered species are reported to the relevant hunting authorities.

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 Best Available Information (Annex E) is used to identify native ecosystems that exist, or would exist under natural conditions within the Management Unit and in the region.

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

6.5.3 Where Representative Sample Areas do not exist, or where existing sample areas inadequately represent native ecosystems, or are otherwise insufficient, a proportion of the Management Unit is restored to more natural conditions.

6.5.4 The size of the Representative Sample Areas and/or restoration areas is proportionate to the conservation status and value of the ecosystems at the landscape level, the size of the Management Unit and the intensity of forest management.

6.5.5 Representative Sample Areas in combination with other components of the conservation areas network comprise a minimum 10% area of the Management Unit.
**Note:** More details on the possible ways to conform with this indicator are available in interpretation INT-STD-01-001_09 and in the interpretation INT-STD-20-007_45 of the FSC document “Interpretations of the normative framework - Forest Management”.

### 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** Where past management has eliminated plant communities or habitat features, management activities aimed at re-establishing such habitats are implemented.
- **6.6.3** Management maintains, enhances, or restores habitat features associated with native ecosystems, to support the diversity of naturally occurring species and their genetic diversity.
- **6.6.4** The game populations are adjusted so that the rejuvenation of species in the natural forest society is possible without tools:
  - The forest owner explains how he wants to implement this.
  - Bite and peel damage are regularly recorded using recognized methods.
  - The launch planning relates to these results.

**NTFP 6.6.4** The game populations are adjusted so that the rejuvenation of tree species from natural forest society including non-timber forest products is possible without tools.

### 6.7 The Organization* shall protect* or restore* natural watercourses*, water bodies*, riparian zones* and their connectivity*. The Organization* shall avoid negative impacts on water quality and quantity and mitigate and remedy those that occur.

- **6.7.1** The Organization promotes the establishment of continuous planting with tree species from natural forest society along watercourses and open water areas.
- **6.7.2** Where implemented protection measures do not protect watercourses, water bodies, riparian zones and their connectivity, water quantity or water quality from impacts of forest management, restoration activities are implemented.
- **6.7.3** Where natural watercourses, water bodies, riparian zones and their connectivity, water quantity or water quality have been damaged by past activities on land and water by The Organization, restoration activities are implemented.
6.7.4 Where continued degradation exists to watercourses, water bodies, water quantity and water quality caused by previous managers and the activities of third parties, measures are implemented that prevent or mitigate this degradation.

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

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

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

a) Affects a Very Limited portion* of the area of the Management Unit*, and

b) Will produce clear, substantial, additional, secure long-term conservation* 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 to plantations, nor conversion of natural forests to non-forest land use, nor conversion of plantations on sites directly converted from natural forest to non-forest land use, except when the conversion:

1) Affects a very limited portion of the Management Unit, and

2) The conversion will produce clear, substantial, additional, secure, long-term conservation 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* after November 1994 shall not qualify for certification, except where:

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

b) The conversion affected a very limited portion* of the area of the Management Unit* and is producing clear, substantial, additional, secure long-term conservation* benefits in the Management Unit*.

6.10.1 Based on Best Available Information, accurate data is compiled on all conversions since 1994.
6.10.2 Areas converted from natural forest to plantations since November 1994 are not certified, except where:

1) The Organization provides clear and sufficient evidence that it was not directly or indirectly responsible for the conversion; or

2) The conversion is producing clear, substantial, additional, secure, long-term conservation benefits in the Management Unit; and

3) The total area of plantation on sites converted from natural forest since November 1994 is less than 5% of the total area of the Management Unit.
**PRINCIPLE 7: MANAGEMENT PLANNING**

The Organization shall have a management plan consistent with its policies and objectives and proportionate to scale, intensity and risks of its management activities. The management plan shall be implemented and kept up to date based on monitoring information in order to promote adaptive management. The associated planning and procedural documentation shall be sufficient to guide staff, inform affected stakeholders and interested stakeholders and to justify management decisions.

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.

7.1.1 Public forest companies and private forest companies from 100 ha have defined a company policy (vision and values) that contributes to the implementation of this standard. This is publicly accessible at public forestry companies.

SLIMF 7.1.1 Organizations of less than 100 ha can explain their mission statement orally.

NTFP 7.1.1 A mission statement and goals for the management of non-timber forest products that help to meet the requirements of this standard are defined.

7.1.2 Specific operational management objectives that address the requirements of this standard are defined.

SLIMF 7.1.2 The Organization can explain orally its management objectives that help to meet the requirements of this standard.

NTFP 7.1.2 The Organization sets management goals for non-timber forest products that help to meet the requirements of this standard.

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

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 management actions, procedures, strategies and measures to achieve the management objectives (see 6.2.1, 8.1.1, 10.2).

7.2.2 The management plan addresses the elements listed in Annex F / G / H, and is implemented.

NTFP 7.2.2 The management plan for non-timber forest products according to 7.2.1 includes the contents of the “Checklist Management” from Appendix F / G / H, which apply to the forest operation.
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 Verifiable targets, and the frequency that they are assessed, are established for monitoring the progress towards each management objective.

NTFP 7.3.1 The forestry enterprise has verifiable parameters or data in order to be able to control and evaluate the achievement of the management goals for non-timber forest products (see 7.1.1) accordingly. It defines the frequency of the test.

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 forest operation regularly checks operational planning and control instruments and adjusts them as necessary.

7.4.2 The revision of operational planning and governance tools will include the results of the assessment of past practices, stakeholders' advice, as well as the results of new scientific research and needs arising from changes in the ecological, social and economic conditions.

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 provides a generally understandable summary of the management plan with a corresponding overview map free of charge. Confidential information is excluded.

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 The Organization ensures that affected stakeholders have the opportunity to participate in the development of the following instruments:

1) Procedure for dealing with written complaints (1.6.4)
2) Identification of rights (4.1.1, 4.1.3, 4.5.1, 4.5.2, 4.7.2)
3) Exchange with the local population (4.4.1)
4) Identification and management of High Conservation Values (9.1.2, 9.2.2, 9.4.2)
7.6.2 Culturally appropriate engagement is used to:

1) Determine appropriate representatives and contact points (including where appropriate, local institutions, organizations and authorities); 

2) Determine mutually agreed communication channels allowing for information to flow in both directions; 

3) Ensure all actors (women, youth, elderly, minorities) are represented and engaged equitably; 

4) Ensure all meetings, all points discussed and all agreements reached are recorded; 

5) Ensure the content of meeting records is approved; and 

6) Ensure the results of all culturally appropriate engagement activities are shared with those involved.

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

SLIMF 7.6.3 The stakeholders affected by the management activities are included in an up-to-date list of interested parties.

7.6.4 On request, interested stakeholders are provided with an opportunity for engagement in monitoring and planning processes of management activities that affect their interests.
PRINCIPLE 8: MONITORING AND ASSESSMENT

The Organization shall demonstrate that, progress towards achieving the management objectives, the impacts of management activities and the condition of the Management Unit, are monitored and evaluated proportionate to the scale, intensity and risk of management activities, in order to implement adaptive management.

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.

8.1.1 Procedures are documented and executed for monitoring the implementation of the management plan including its policies and management objectives and achievement of verifiable targets.

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 impacts of management activities on the environment and High Conservation Values as well as on social aspects are observed in accordance with the "Checklist Monitoring" (see Appendix F / G / H).

NTFP 8.2.1 The impact of management activities of non-timber forest products on the environment and special protection values as well as on social aspects are observed in accordance with the "Checklist Monitoring" (see Appendix F / G / H).

8.2.2 Changes in environmental conditions are monitored consistent with Annex F / G / H.

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 Adaptive management procedures are implemented so that monitoring results feed into periodic updates to the planning process and the resulting management plan.

8.3.2 If monitoring results show non-conformities with the FSC Standard then management objectives, verifiable targets and/or 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.

8.4.1 The Organization provides a generally understandable summary of the results of the monitoring according to 8.2, if necessary, with map material, free of charge on request. Confidential information is excluded.
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 A system is implemented to track and trace all products that are marketed as FSC certified. As part of that:

1) Transaction verification is supported by providing FSC transaction data, as requested by the certification body;
2) Fibre testing is supported by surrendering samples and specimens of materials and information about species composition for verification, as requested by the certification body.

NTFP 8.5.1 (Honey only) It is demonstrated based on best available information or pollen analysis that at least 50% of the collected pollen originates from within the FSC certified MU before the honey can be sold with FSC claim: FSC 100%.

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

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

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 address of purchaser;
2) The date of sale;
3) Common and scientific species name;
4) Product description;
5) The volume (or quantity) sold;
6) Certificate code; and
7) The FSC Claim “FSC 100%” identifying products sold as FSC certified.
**PRINCIPLE 9: HIGH CONSERVATION VALUES**

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 An assessment is completed using Best Available Information that records the location and status of High Conservation Value Categories 1-6, as defined in Criterion 9.1; the High Conservation Value Areas they rely upon, and their condition.

9.1.2 [Not applicable in Austria] This assessment includes identification of Intact Forest Landscapes, as of January 1, 2017.

9.1.3 The assessment uses results from culturally appropriate engagement with affected rights holders and affected and interested stakeholders with an interest in the conservation of the High Conservation Values.

SLIMF 9.1.3 Affected and interested stakeholders are involved in the identification and assessment of occurrences of strictly protected species (HCV1).
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 Management strategies and actions are developed to maintain and/or enhance the identified High Conservation Values and to maintain associated High Conservation Value Areas prior to implementing potentially harmful management activities.

9.2.3 Affected rights holders, affected and interested stakeholders and experts are engaged in the development of management strategies and actions to maintain and/or enhance the identified High Conservation Values.

9.2.4 [Not applicable in Austria] Management strategies are developed to protect core areas.

9.2.5 [Not applicable in Austria] The vast majority of each Intact Forest Landscape is designated as core area.

9.2.6 The strategies developed are effective to maintain and/or enhance the High Conservation Values.

9.2.7 [Not applicable in Austria] Management strategies allow limited industrial activity within core areas only if all effects of industrial activity including fragmentation:

1) Are restricted to a very limited portion of the core area;
2) Do not reduce the core area below 50,000 ha, and
3) Will produce clear, substantial, additional, long-term conservation and social benefits.

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.

9.3.2 The strategies and actions prevent damage and avoid risks to High Conservation Values, even when the scientific information is incomplete or inconclusive, and when the vulnerability and sensitivity of High Conservation Values are uncertain.

9.3.3 [Not applicable in Austria] Core areas are protected consistent with Criterion 9.2.

9.3.4 [Not applicable in Austria] Limited industrial activity in core areas is consistent with Indicator 9.2.7.
9.3.5 Activities that harm High Conservation Values cease immediately and actions 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.

9.4.1 A program of periodic monitoring assesses:

1) Implementation of strategies;
2) The status of High Conservation Values, including High Conservation Value Areas on which they depend; and
3) The effectiveness of the management strategies and actions for the protection of High Conservation Values, to fully maintain and/or enhance the High Conservation Values.

SLIMF 9.4.1 The Organization supports the responsible government agencies in monitoring the special protection values.

9.4.2 The monitoring program includes engagement with affected rights holders, affected and interested stakeholders and experts.

SLIMF 9.4.2 If The Organization conducts its own surveys on the state of the High Conservation Values and corresponding areas, it gives affected and interested stakeholders the opportunity to participate.

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 Management strategies and actions are adapted when monitoring or other new information show that these strategies and actions are insufficient to ensure the maintenance and/or enhancement of 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 that:

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

10.1.2 Regeneration activities are implemented in a manner that:

1) For harvest of existing plantations, regenerate to the vegetation cover that existed prior to the harvest or to more natural conditions using ecologically well-adapted species;
2) For harvest of natural forests, regenerate to pre-harvest or to more natural conditions; or
3) For harvest of degraded natural forests, regenerate to more natural conditions.

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 Forest regeneration strategies are oriented towards the tree species composition, dynamics and structure of the natural forest association and use only species adapted to the site.

NTFP 10.2.1 Species selected for the production and rejuvenation of non-timber forest products are ecologically well adapted to the location, are native species and come from the region unless there are clear and convincing reasons for the use of non-local genotypes or non-native species.

10.2.2 Species chosen for regeneration are consistent with the regeneration objectives and with the 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 invasive impacts can be controlled.
NTFP 10.3.1 Non-native species are only used for the production of non-timber forest products if direct experience and / or the results of scientific research prove that invasive effects can be controlled.

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 Management activities are implemented, preferably in cooperation with separate regulatory bodies where these exist, with an aim to control the invasive impacts of alien species that were not introduced by The Organization.

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

Note: This usually includes:

1) The use of natural succession and differentiation processes in forest development and the priority of natural regeneration.

2) Measures for forest edge design, preservation of open land structures in the forest, preservation of pioneer trees and a diverse layer of shrubs and herbs.

3) The extensive avoidance of clear cuts; except under special local or structural conditions. The Organization undertakes to justify and document such exceptions.

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 Fertilization and liming for the purpose of increasing yield are avoided and buffer zones excluding fertilizer application around rare plant communities, riparian zones, watercourses and water bodies are established.

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

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

10.6.4 Fertilization and liming for the purpose of increasing yield are avoided.
10.6.5 Damage to environmental values resulting from fertilizer use 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 chemical pesticide applications, and result in non-use or overall reductions in applications.

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

10.7.3 Records of pesticide usage are maintained, including trade name, active ingredient, quantity of active ingredient used, period of use, location and area of use and reason for use.

10.7.4 The use of pesticides complies with the ILO document “Safety in the use of chemicals at work” regarding requirements for the transport, storage, handling, application and emergency procedures for cleanup following accidental spillages.

10.7.5 If pesticides are used, application methods minimize quantities used, while achieving effective results, and provide effective protection to surrounding landscapes.

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) The selected pesticide, application method, timing and pattern of use offers the least risk to humans and non-target species; and

2) 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 use of biological control agents is minimized, monitored and controlled.

10.8.2 The use of biological control agents corresponds to the internationally recognized scientific protocols and national legislation.

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 knows the natural hazards typical of its Organization.

10.9.2 Management activities mitigate these impacts.

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

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

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 When developing, maintaining and using the infrastructure, appropriate measures are taken to protect the remaining stock, natural regeneration, soil, water and wild animals and plants.

Note: This usually includes:

1) Establishment of a long-term detailed development network, which ensures that as little forest floor as possible is used. The distance between back alleys is never less than 20 m.

2) The avoidance of extensive traffic and interventions in the mineral soil.

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

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

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 Work orders and business contracts also contain regulations for minimizing negative effects on the environment for harvest and delivery measures (see indicators 6.2.1, 6.3.1, 6.7.5)
10.11.2 Harvesting processes optimize the use of forest products and marketable materials from the forest.

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

*Note:* This usually includes:

1) a biotope and dead wood concept with specific targets and measures such as biotope trees to be protected during management measures.

2) the extensive avoidance of using non-plywood (<7 cm).

10.11.4 The Organization has taken measures to minimize felling and logging damage, damage to the felled trunk, damage to the natural regeneration, watercourses and the soil.

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

10.12.1 In order to protect the environment, the forest company carries out waste disposal in accordance with the locally applicable regulations. Waste also includes tree shelters, growth aids and wire mesh that are no longer in use.
### Annexes
(Normative section)

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

A constantly updated list of the applicable legal provisions for Austria (federal and state level as well as international conventions and EU law) can be viewed in the federal legal information system: [https://www.ris.bka.gv.at](https://www.ris.bka.gv.at)

**Note:** This is not intended to be an exhaustive list of applicable legislation. If any additional legislation applies, The Organization shall also comply with it.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>1. Legal rights to harvest</th>
<th>Normative document</th>
<th>Sources</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.1 Land tenure and management rights</td>
<td>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 licences.</td>
<td>Bundesgesetz vom 26. November 1969, mit den Bestimmungen über landwirtschaftliche Pachtverträge getroffen werden (Landpachtgesetz)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>StF: BGBl. Nr. 149/1955</td>
<td>Land- und forstwirtschaftliches Vermögen (§§ 29 bis 50 BewG 1955)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.3 Management and harvesting planning</td>
<td>Any national or subnational 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.</td>
<td>Bundesgesetz vom 3. Juli 1975, mit dem das Forstwesen geregelt wird (Forstgesetz 1975) StF: BGBl. Nr. 440/1975 (NR: GP XIII RV 1266 AB 1677 S. 150. BR: 1392 AB 1425 S. 344.)</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
1.4 Harvesting permits

<table>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>National or sub-national laws and regulations regulating procedures for issuing harvesting permits, licences 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.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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<tr>
<th>1.4 Erntegenehmigungen</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Nationale oder subnationale Gesetze und Vorschriften, die Verfahren zur Ausstellung von Erntegenehmigungen, Lizenzen oder anderen rechtlichen Dokumenten regeln, die für bestimmte Erntevorgänge erforderlich sind. Dazu gehört auch die Anwendung legaler Methoden, um die Genehmigungen zu erhalten. Korruption ist ein bekanntes Problem, das mit der Erteilung von Erntegenehmigungen verbunden ist.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## 2. Taxes and fees

### 2.1 Payment of royalties and harvesting fees

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.

Bundesgesetz vom 3. Juli 1975, mit dem das Forstwesen geregelt wird (Forstgesetz 1975)

StF: BGBl. Nr. 440/1975
(NR: GP XIII RV 1266 AB 1677 S. 150. BR: 1392 AB 1425 S. 344.)

### 2.2 Value added taxes and other sales taxes

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).


StF: BGBl. Nr. 663/1994
(idF BGBl. Nr. 819/1994 (DFB) (NR: GP XVIII RV 1715 AB 1823 S. 172. BR: AB 4861 S. 589.))
### 3. Timber harvesting activities

#### 3.1 Timber harvesting regulations

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Wachsender Wald (Verkauf von stehendem Bestand).</th>
<th>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.</th>
<th>Bundesgesetz vom 7. Juli 1988 über die Besteuerung des Einkommens natürlicher Personen (Einkommensteuergesetz 1988 – EStG 1988) StF: BGBl. Nr. 400/1988 (NR: GP XVII RV 621 AB 673 S. 70. BR: 3534 AB 3547 S. 505.)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2.3 Income and profit taxes 2.3 Steuern vom Einkommen und vom Ertrag</td>
<td>Gesetzgebung, die Einkommens- und Gewinnsteuern in Bezug auf den Gewinn aus dem Verkauf von Forstprodukten und Erntetätigkeiten abdeckt. Diese Kategorie bezieht sich auch auf Einkommen aus dem Verkauf von Holz und beinhaltet keine anderen Steuern, die allgemein für Unternehmen gelten, und bezieht sich nicht auf Gehaltszahlungen.</td>
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<tr>
<td>3.1 Vorschriften für die Holzernte</td>
<td>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</td>
<td>Verordnung (EU) Nr. 995/2010 des Europäischen Parlaments und des Rates vom 20. Oktober 2010 über die Verpflichtungen von Marktteilnehmern, die Holz und Holzerzeugnisse in Verkehr bringen Text von Bedeutung für den EWR Bundesgesetz vom 3. Juli 1975, mit dem das Forstwesen geregelt wird (Forstgesetz 1975) StF: BGBl. Nr. 440/1975 (NR: GP XIII RV 1266 AB 1677 S. 150. BR: 1392 AB 1425 S. 344.)</td>
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<tr>
<td>harvesting practices shall be considered.</td>
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</table>
| 3.2 Protected sites and species | 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. | Verordnung des Bundesministers für Land- und Forstwirtschaft vom 12. Juli 1977 über die Behandlung und Nutzung der Schutzwälder (Schutzwaldverordnung) StF: BGBl. Nr. 398/1977
Verordnung des Bundesministers für Land- und Forstwirtschaft, Umwelt und Wasserwirtschaft über den Schutz des Waldes vor Forstschädlingen (Forstschutzverordnung) StF: BGBl. II Nr. 19/2003
110. Bundesgesetz mit dem das Forstliches Vermehrungsgutgesetz 2002 erlassen wird und das Düngemittelgesetz 1994, das | |
| 3.2 Schutzgebiete und geschützte Arten | Internationale, nationale und subnationale Verträge, Gesetze und Vorschriften in Bezug auf Schutzgebiete, zulässige Waldnutzungen und -aktivitäten und/oder seltene, bedrohte oder gefährdete Arten, einschließlich ihrer Lebensräume und potenziellen Lebensräume. | |
### 3.3 Environmental requirements

#### National and subnational 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 watercourses, open areas and breeding sites), maintenance of retention trees 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.

#### Kundmachung des Bundeskanzleramtes vom 1. Juli 1956 über die Ratifizierung beziehungsweise den Beitritt weiterer Staaten zur Internationalen Pflanzenschutzkonvention
StF: BGBl. Nr. 138/1956

#### Bundesgesetz zur Einhaltung von Höchstmengen von Treibhausgasemissionen und zur Erarbeitung von wirksamen Maßnahmen zum Klimaschutz (Klimaschutzgesetz – KSG)

#### Bundesgesetz zum Schutz vor Immissionen durch Luftschadstoffe (Immissionsschutzgesetz - Luft, IG-L)
StF: BGBl. I Nr. 115/1997 (NR: GP XX RV 608 AB 681 S. 74. BR: AB 5454 S. 627.)
| 3.4 Health and safety | 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). |

| Gesundheit und Sicherheit | Gesetzlich vorgeschriebene persönliche Schutz Ausrüstung für Personen, die an Erntetätigkeiten beteiligt sind, Umsetzung sicherer Fäll- und Transportpraktiken, Einrichtung von Schutz Zonen um Erntestätten, Sicherheitsanforderungen |


<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>3.5 Legal employment</th>
<th>3.5 Gesetzliche Beschäftigung</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>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</td>
<td>Arbeits- und Sozialgerichtsgesetz (ASGG)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>ArbeitsnehmerSchutzverordnung (AAV)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Bundesgesetz vom 7. März 1985 über die Arbeits- und Sozialgerichtsbarkeit</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Bundesgesetz über Sicherheit und Gesundheitsschutz bei der Arbeit</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Bundesgesetz über die Beschäftigung von Kindern und Jugendlichen 1987 - KJBG</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Stiftung der Gemeinschaft der Industrie und Wirtschaftsvereine (GewG)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Verordnung der Bundesministerin für Frauen und Öffentlichen Dienst über das Controlling der Personalkapazitäten</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Third parties’ rights</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>--------------------------</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>4.1 Customary rights</strong></td>
<td>Legislation covering customary rights relevant to forest harvesting activities, including requirements covering the sharing of benefits and indigenous rights.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>4.1 Gewohnheitsrechte</strong></td>
<td>Gesetzgebung, die Gewohnheitsrechte in Bezug auf die Holzerntetätigkeiten abdeckt, einschließlich der Anforderungen, die den</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Verordnung des Bundesministers für Land- und Forstwirtschaft vom 22. April 1976 über die Kennzeichnung von Benützungsbeschränkungen im Wald (Forstliche Kennzeichnungsverordnung)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>StF: BGBI. Nr. 179/1976</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Bundesgesetz vom 3. Juli 1975, mit dem das</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| 4.2 Free Prior and Informed Consent | 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. | Verordnung des Bundesministers für Land- und Forstwirtschaft vom 22. April 1976 über die Kennzeichnung von Benützungsbeschränkungen im Wald (Forstliche Kennzeichnungsverordnung)  
StF: BGBl. Nr. 179/1976  
Bundesgesetz vom 3. Juli 1975, mit dem das Forstwesen geregelt wird (Forstgesetz 1975)  
StF: BGBl. Nr. 440/1975  
(NR: GP XIII RV 1266 AB 1677 S. 150. BR: 1392 AB 1425 S. 344.)  
Verordnung des Bundesministers für Land- und Forstwirtschaft, Umwelt und Wasserwirtschaft über die Staatsprüfung für den leitenden Forstdienst (Forstliche Staatsprüfungsverordnung)  
StF: BGBl. II Nr. 69/2007 |
| 4.3 Indigenous Peoples' rights | Legislation that regulates the rights of Indigenous Peoples as far as it is related to forestry activities. Possible aspects to consider: | Nicht anwendbar. |
| Vorteilsausgleich und indigene Rechte betreffen. | Forstwesen geregelt wird (Forstgesetz 1975)  
StF: BGBl. Nr. 440/1975  
(NR: GP XIII RV 1266 AB 1677 S. 150. BR: 1392 AB 1425 S. 344.)  
Verordnung des Bundesministers für Land- und Forstwirtschaft, Umwelt und Wasserwirtschaft über die Staatsprüfung für den leitenden Forstdienst (Forstliche Staatsprüfungsverordnung)  
StF: BGBl. II Nr. 69/2007 |
| 4.2 Freie vorherige und informierte Zustimmung |

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.

Gesetzgebung zur "freien vorherigen und informierten Zustimmung" im Zusammenhang mit der Übertragung von Waldbewirtschaftungsrechten und Gewohnheitsrechten an die Organization, die mit der Holzernte beauftragt ist.
consider are land tenure, and rights to use certain forest related resources and practice traditional activities, which may involve forest lands.

Gesetzgebung, die die Rechte indigener Völker regelt, soweit sie sich auf forstwirtschaftliche Aktivitäten bezieht. Mögliche Aspekte, die zu berücksichtigen sind, sind Landbesitz und Rechte zur Nutzung bestimmter waldbezogener Ressourcen und zur Ausübung traditioneller Aktivitäten, die Wald-Land einbeziehen können.

5. Trade and transport

| 5.1 Classification of species, quantities, qualities | 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. | Verordnung des Bundesministers für Land- und Forstwirtschaft, Umwelt und Wasserwirtschaft über das Kriterium der Unerheblichkeit beim Handel mit Exemplaren von wildlebenden Tier- und Pflanzenarten (Artenhandel- Unerheblichkeitsverordnung – ArtHUV)

StF: BGBl. II Nr. 113/2010

Bundesgesetz über die Überwachung des Handels mit Exemplaren wildlebender Tier- und Pflanzenarten (Artenhandelsgesetz 2009 – ArtHG 2009)

StF: BGBl. I Nr. 16/2010 (NR: GP XXIV RV 318 AB 348 S. 41. BR: AB 8195 S. 777.)

[CELEX-Nr.: 32008L0099]

Bundesgesetz über die Überwachung des Handels mit Holz (Holzhandelsüberwachungsgesetz – HolzHÜG) |
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>5.2 Trade and transport</th>
<th>All required trading and transport permits shall exist as well as legally required transport documents which accompany the transport of wood from forest operations.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5.2 Handel und Transport</td>
<td>Es müssen alle erforderlichen Handels- und Transportgenehmigungen sowie die gesetzlich vorgeschriebenen Transportdokumente</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Verordnung des Bundesministers für Land- und Forstwirtschaft, Umwelt und Wasserwirtschaft über die Kennzeichnung von Exemplaren wildlebender Tierarten (Arten – Kennzeichnungsverordnung 2013 – ArtKV )

StF: BGBl. I Nr. 178/2013
(NR: GP XXIV RV 2442 AB 2526 S. 216. BR: AB 9105 S. 823.)

Verordnung des Bundesministers für Land- und Forstwirtschaft, Umwelt und Wasserwirtschaft über das Kriterium der Unerheblichkeit beim Handel mit Exemplaren von wildlebenden Tier- und Pflanzenarten (Artenhandel- Unerheblichkeitsverordnung – ArtHUV)
vorhanden sein, die den Transport von Holz aus Forstbetrieben begleiten.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Verordnung/Erlass</th>
<th>StF:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>vorhanden sein, die den Transport von Holz aus Forstbetrieben begleiten.</td>
<td>BGBl. II Nr. 113/2010</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bundesgesetz über die Überwachung des Handels mit Exemplaren wildlebender Tier- und Pflanzenarten (Artenhandelsgesetz 2009 – ArthG 2009)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>StF: BGBl. I Nr. 16/2010 (NR: GP XXIV RV 318 AB 348 S. 41. BR: AB 8195 S. 777.)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>[CELEX-Nr.: 32008L0099]</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bundesgesetz über die Überwachung des Handels mit Holz (Holzhandelsüberwachungsgesetz – HolzHÜG)</td>
<td>BGBl. I Nr. 178/2013</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>StF: BGBl. I Nr. 178/2013 (NR: GP XXIV RV 2442 AB 2526 S. 216. BR: AB 9105 S. 823.)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>StF: BGBl. II Nr. 263/2007</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Verordnung des Bundesministers für Inneres, mit der bestimmte Arten von Reisedokumenten, die von anderen als Vertragsstaaten ausgestellt werden, als nicht für die Erfüllung der Passpflicht geeignete Reisedokumente bezeichnet werden</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>StF: BGBl. II Nr. 263/2007</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Verordnung des Bundesministers für Wirtschaft, Familie und Jugend über die Angabe und Definition der Benützungsarten und Nutzungen im</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.3 Offshore trading and transfer pricing</td>
<td>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.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>---</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.3 Offshore-Handel und Verrechnungspreise</td>
<td>Verordnung des Bundesministers für Wirtschaft, Familie und Jugend, mit der die Verrechnungspreise für Kleinwasserkraft sowie für sonstigen Ökostrom für das Kalenderjahr 2011 bestimmt werden (Verrechnungspreis-Verordnung 2011)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>StF: BGBl. II Nr. 116/2010</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Bundesgesetz über die Einrichtung und Organization des Bundesamts zur Korruptionsprävention und Korruptionsbekämpfung</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>StF: BGBl. I Nr. 72/2009 (NR: GP XXIV RV 219 AB 300 S. 29. BR: 8137 AB 8152 S. 774.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Verordnung der Finanzmarktaufsichtsbehörde (FMA) über weitere Fälle eines erhöhten Geldwäscherei- oder Terrorismusfinanzierungsrisikos (Geldwäscherei- und Terrorismusfinanzierungsrisiko-Verordnung 2016 – GTV 2016)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>StF: BGBl. II Nr. 422/2015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Bundesgesetz zur Verhinderung der Geldwäscherei und Terrorismusfinanzierung im Finanzmarkt (Finanzmarkt-Geldwäschegesetz – FM-GwG)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>StF: BGBl. I Nr. 118/2016 (NR: GP XXV RV 1335 AB 1391 S. 158. BR: 9671 AB 9690 S. 863.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>[CELEX-Nr.: 32015L0849]</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Verrechnungspreise und Offshore-Handel, soweit sie im Land gesetzlich verboten sind, hier einbezogen werden können.

| 6. Due diligence / due care | 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. | Bundesgesetz über die Überwachung des Handels mit Holz (Holzhandelsüberwachungsgesetz – HolzHÜG) StF: BGBl. I Nr. 178/2013 (NR: GP XXIV RV 2442 AB 2526 S. 216. BR: AB 9105 S. 823.) |
### 7. Ecosystem Services

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>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).</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
Ökosystemdienstleistungen (einschließlich Tourismus).
Annex B  Training requirements for workers (Principle 2)

Employees are able to properly perform the work they perform. This is guaranteed through training and further education measures and includes:

1) Implement forest activities to comply with applicable legal requirements (Criterion 1.5);
2) Understand the content, meaning and applicability of the eight ILO Core Labour Conventions (Criterion 2.1);
3) Recognize and report on instances of sexual harassment and gender discrimination (Criterion 2.2);
4) Safely handle and dispose of hazardous substances to ensure that use does not pose health risks (Criterion 2.3);
5) Carry out their responsibilities for particularly dangerous jobs or jobs entailing a special responsibility (Criterion 2.5);
6) Identify where Indigenous Peoples have legal and customary rights related to management activities (Criterion 3.2);
7) Identify and implement applicable elements of UNDRIP and ILO Convention 169 (Criterion 3.4);
8) Identify sites of special cultural, ecological, economic, religious or spiritual significance to Indigenous Peoples and implement the necessary measures to protect them before the start of forest management activities to avoid negative impacts (Criterion 3.5 and Criterion 4.7);
9) Identify where local communities have legal and customary rights related to management activities (Criterion 4.2);
10) Carry out social, economic and environmental impact assessments and develop appropriate mitigation measures (Criterion 4.5);
11) Implement activities related to the maintenance and/or enhancement of ecosystem services, when FSC Ecosystem Services Claims are used (Criterion 5.1);
12) Handle, apply and store pesticides (Criterion 10.7); and
13) Implement procedures for cleaning up spills of waste materials (Criterion 10.12).
Annex C  Additional Requirements for Ecosystem Services (Principle 5)

Note: Ecosystem services requirements from this Annex have been transferred into Part II of FSC-PRO-30-006 in the Version 2-0 revision of this Standard.

Organizations shall conform with the applicable requirements of Parts I, II, III, and IV of FSC-PRO-30-006 when they want to demonstrate the positive impact of their forest management on ecosystem services, and use FSC ecosystem services claims. Standard Developers are no longer required to incorporate these requirements into their national standards.
Annex D  List of rare and endangered species for Austria

A list of Austria's endangered wild animals can be found at the following sources:

Global Biodiversity Information Facility (GBIF Austria)
www.gbif.at

Biodiversity-Clearing House Mechanism (B-CHM)
www.biologischevielfalt.at

Umweltbundesamt (Rote Liste Arten)
https://www.umweltbundesamt.at/umweltthemen/naturschutz/artenschutz

IUCN: International Union for Conservation of Nature
www.iucnredlist.org
## Annex E  Best available information (Principle 6)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source</th>
<th>Restrictions on management measures</th>
<th>Information on monitoring by</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Conservation</td>
<td>Official mapping available for forestry, concrete information on occurrences of strictly protected species from experts directly to the forestry company</td>
<td>Recommendations of the competent specialist authorities or experts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Protected biotopes/</td>
<td>Publicly available official mapping and information on legally protected habitats in forestry operations, local knowledge of management</td>
<td>Recommendations of the competent specialist authorities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Protected habitats</td>
<td>Regulations on designated nature reserves in the forest holding, present mapping of FFH-LRT in forestry</td>
<td>Catalogue of prohibitions of the Protected Area Ordinance, Observance of protection objectives and recommendations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Landscape</td>
<td>Ordinance on designated landscape conservation areas in forestry operations</td>
<td>Catalogue of prohibitions of the Protected Area Ordinance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ground</td>
<td>Publicly available soil mapping, operational forest site mapping, Ordinance on the Designation of Soil Protection Forest</td>
<td>Observance of the recommendations of site mapping prohibitions and prohibitions of the Ordinance on the Designation of Soil Protection Forests</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Climate</td>
<td>Operational forest site mapping, publicly available forest function map</td>
<td>Observance of the recommendations from the location and function mapping</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Water balance</td>
<td>Ordinance on designated water conservation areas</td>
<td>Catalogue of prohibitions of the Water Authority</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Protection Area Ordinance
### Annex F/G/H Elements of the management plan and monitoring system
(Principles 7 and 8)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subject of the regulation (related indicators)</th>
<th>7.2.1 Management Tools: Examples (written form only)</th>
<th>8.2.1 Monitoring: Examples of knowledge and data sources</th>
<th>Revision</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A. Social</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Complaints and conciliation procedures (1.6.1 to 1.6.5)</td>
<td>- Appeal - Complaint folder (also digital)</td>
<td>- Processes recorded in-house (notes, minutes, correspondence, etc.)</td>
<td>as needed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Workers' rights (2.1.1 to 2.1.3)</td>
<td>- No more than 7.2.1</td>
<td>- Processes recorded in-house (notes, minutes, correspondence, etc.)</td>
<td>as needed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gender equality, sexual harassment and discrimination (2.2.1 to 2.2.4)</td>
<td>- Service and operating instructions (in-house or e.g. those of the general administration) - Rules.</td>
<td>- Processes recorded in-house (notes, minutes, correspondence, etc.)</td>
<td>as needed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Occupational safety, health and safety; Personnel concept (2.3.1 ff.)</td>
<td>- Risk assessments - UVV training - Safety trainers - For business use: General Terms and Conditions/Business Contracts - Employment contracts</td>
<td>- Accident and disease statistics - Occupational medical examinations - Safety training - Access to occupational safety and safety specialists - Control of personal protective equipment by the organization</td>
<td>as needed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Collective wage/minimum wage (2.4.1, 2.4.2)</td>
<td>- Employment contracts - Terms and Conditions and Business Contracts</td>
<td>- Wage documents - Business contracts</td>
<td>as needed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Qualification of those working in the forest (2.5.1 ff.)</td>
<td>- Personnel concept - Employment contracts - Terms and Conditions and Business Contracts - Training/training programmes - Offers for self-promoters (e.g. MS courses)</td>
<td>- Tender/procurement documents or business contracts - Dates Training/Training/MS Courses, etc. - Acceptance protocols</td>
<td>at least one year</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Subject of the regulation (related indicators)</td>
<td>7.2.1 Management Tools: Examples (written form only)</td>
<td>8.2.1 Monitoring: Examples of knowledge and data sources</td>
<td>Revision</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-----------------------------------------------</td>
<td>------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>-------------------------------------------------</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Local population; information, exchange; Engagement if necessary (4.1.2; 4.1.3; 4.2.1; 4.4.1; 4.5.1; 4.5.2; 4.7.2)</td>
<td>- Recognized contract contractor certificates</td>
<td>- Internally documented operations, e.g. by Appointments/Calendar entries - Correspondence - Notes, agreements, etc.</td>
<td>as needed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Information from affected and interested stakeholder, engagement (1.6.4; 1.6.8; 2.2.10; 4.1.3; 6.6.10; 7.5.1; 7.6.1 to 7.6.4; 8.4.1; 9.1.2; 9.2.2; 9.4.2)</td>
<td>- List of interest groups - Service and operating instructions/rules of procedure - If necessary, institutionalized forms of engagement (e.g. advisory councils, committees, etc.)</td>
<td>- Internally documented operations, e.g. by Appointments/Calendar entries - Correspondence - Notes, agreements, etc.</td>
<td>as needed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Protection of cultural, ecological, economic religious or spiritual sites (4.7.1-4.7.3)</td>
<td>- Assignments - Terms and Conditions/Business Contracts</td>
<td>- Acceptance protocols for forestry work (including contractors) - Captured need for action</td>
<td>as needed</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### B. Ecological

<p>| Information about the environment (6.1.1) | - Forest Management Plan [Forsteinrichtung] - Other in-house regulations for the implementation of nature conservation requirements (e.g. natura2000 management plans) | - Inventory - Diverse data bases of the individual environmental administrations | Forest Management Plan [Forsteinrichtung] |
| Effects of forest management on the environment | - Forest Management Plan [Forsteinrichtung] | - Monitoring by official and possibly non-official nature | Forest Management |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subject of the regulation (related indicators)</th>
<th>7.2.1 Management Tools: Examples (written form only)</th>
<th>8.2.1 Monitoring: Examples of knowledge and data sources</th>
<th>Revision</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>and HCV1 to HCV4 (6.2.1; 6.3.1-6.3.3; 6.4.1; 6.7.1 to 6.7.5; 6.8.3; 6.8.4; 9.1.1; 9.2.3; 9.3.1; 9.4.1; 9.4.4; 10.10)</td>
<td>- Other in-house regulations for the implementation of nature conservation requirements (e.g. natura2000 management plans) - Work orders/business contracts</td>
<td>conservation or other specialist authorities (e.g. water) - Natura2000 Management Plans - Landscape planning - Any own surveys - Acceptance protocols for forestry work</td>
<td>Plan [Forsteinrichtung]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Protected areas; legally protected biotopes and species; Principle 9 - Forests (HCV) (6.4.1; 9.1.1; 9.2.1; 9.2.3; 9.3.1; 9.4.1; 9.4.4; 10.3.7)</td>
<td>- Forest Management Plan [Forsteinrichtung] - Other in-house regulations for the implementation of nature conservation requirements (e.g. natura2000 management plans) - annual economic planning - internal regulations - Work orders/business contracts</td>
<td>Monitoring by official and possibly non-official nature conservation or other specialist authorities (e.g. water) - Natura2000 Management Plans - Any own surveys - Acceptance protocols for forestry work</td>
<td>Forest Management Plan [Forsteinrichtung] or as needed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Natural forest development areas (6.5.1. ff)</td>
<td>- Forest Management Plan [Forsteinrichtung] - (determination of areas; no use of wood)</td>
<td>- Inventory</td>
<td>Forest Management Plan [Forsteinrichtung]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wild damage (bite/peel) (6.6.1.)</td>
<td>- Applicable local/regional game monitoring procedure - if necessary, additional indicator sample plot concept</td>
<td>- Results from the country procedure - As a result, evaluations of the indicator sample plot according to individual requirements</td>
<td>according to the procedure or as required</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Biotope and dead wood (6.6.5 to 6.6.9)</td>
<td>- in-house biotope and top wood concept - (if necessary, by taking over a land concept or other forestry holdings)</td>
<td>- Inventory - Post harvesting protocols for forestry work</td>
<td>Forest Management Plan [Forsteinrichtung]</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| Protection of waters and shore zones (6.7.1 ff.) | - Forest infrastructure development guidelines  
- Regulations on timber storage  
- Work orders/contractors | - Acceptance protocols for forestry work  
- Water authorities | In case of violations |
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>C. Forest use/forestry (economic)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Illegal or unauthorized activities in the forest (1.4.1-1.4.3)</td>
<td>- no more than 7.2.1</td>
<td>- Transactions recorded internally (notification to competent authorities, notes, minutes, correspondence, etc.).</td>
<td>as needed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Human resource planning, Working capacity/volume of work (2.3.10-2.3.12)</td>
<td>- Staffing concept according to indicator</td>
<td>- Human resource department (if applicable)</td>
<td>as needed</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| The use of local processing, local services and local value added manufacturing (4.3.1; 4.4.3 ff; 5.4) | - Service and operating instructions  
- Rules  
- Procurement guidelines | - Recorded corresponding operations; e.g. orders, information, contracts | as needed |
| Annual allowable cut (5.2.1 ff) | - Forest Management Plan [Forsteinrichtung] | - Inventory  
- Continuous comparison between actual values versus target ("retention controlists") | - Forest Management Plan [Forsteinrichtung] |
| Forest development, forest regeneration and silviculture | - Forestry and forest development concepts  
- Forest Management Plan [Forsteinrichtung] | - Inventory  
| - Use and treatment of non-native tree species (10.3.1 to 10.3.7) | - Silviculture and forest development concepts  
- Forest Management Plan [Forsteinrichtung]  
- Annual economic planning (forest regeneration) | - Inventory Forest Management Plan [Forsteinrichtung]  
- Rejuvenation success | - Forest Management Plan [Forsteinrichtung] |
| - Invasiveness of non-native tree species (10.3.8-10.3.10) | - Silviculture and forest development concepts - Forest Management Plan [Forsteinrichtung] | - No own surveys - Consideration of results and publications of research institutes | - Forest Management Plan [Forsteinrichtung] |
| - Compensation Forest Liming (10.6.1-10.6.3) | - Corresponding “liming concept” of the forestry administrations/ research institutes | - Monitoring of forestry testing facilities - Measures-related surveys, if applicable | - action-related |
| - Ordered "pesticide" use (10.7.1 ff.) | - not applicable, as scheduled not permitted | - Documentation according to the Plant Protection Act | - action-related |
| - Precaution with regard to calamities or procedures for calamities (10.9.1 ff) | - BFW publications [Bundesforschungszentrum für Wald] - Fact sheet for beetle calamity - Concepts of the State Forestry Administrations | - Inventory - Forest Management Plan [Forsteinrichtung] - if necessary, earlier revision of monitoring and management plan revision due to calamities. | - according to calamities |
| - Infrastructure/skid trail infrastructure; Reduced impact logging methods (10.10; 10.11) | - Infrastructure/skid trail infrastructure (own or third party) - Work orders - Terms and Conditions/Business Contracts | - Post harvesting protocols - Forest infrastructure maps, if any, recorded in maps | - as needed |
Annex I  Framework for High Conservation Values - HCV - in Austria (Principle 9)

The objective of this High Conservation Value (HCV) Framework is to provide nationally specific interpretations of HCVs and Best Available Information for addressing HCVs.

This National HCV Framework is to be used by accredited Certification bodies and certificate holders.

The HCV interpretations and Best Available Information provided in this Framework are not necessarily exhaustive; additional examples of HCV occurrences may exist and shall be identified at the forest management unit scale.

The national or regional interpretations of the HCV categories and elements apply to all certificate holders, wherever occurrences of those HCVs may exist. Conversely, the Best Available Information for addressing those HCV interpretations may vary, depending on whether the certificate holder is a SLIMF or non-SLIMF, as indicated in the Framework.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>HCV category</th>
<th>HCV 1 – biological diversity</th>
<th>HCV 2 – Landscape-level ecosystems and mosaics</th>
<th>HCV 3 – Ecosystems and habitats</th>
<th>HCV 4 – Essential Ecosystem Services</th>
<th>HCV 5 – Needs of local communities</th>
<th>HCV 6 – Cultural Values</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Definition</td>
<td>On a global, regional or national level significant concentrations of biodiversity, including endemic species and rare, endangered or endangered species.</td>
<td>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.</td>
<td>Rare, endangered or endangered ecosystems, habitats and refugia.</td>
<td>Basic ecosystem in important areas, e.g., protection of water sockets and protection against erosion of sensitive soils and slopes.</td>
<td>Locations and resources to meet the basic needs of local communities and Indigenous Peoples (for their livelihood, health, nutrition, water, etc.); identified with the participation of the resident communities/indigenous population.</td>
<td>Sites, resources, habitats and landscapes of global or national cultural, archaeological or historical importance and/or of crucial cultural, ecological, economic or religious/sacral importance for the traditional culture of the local population.</td>
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</table>

1. Description the best available information to identify HCVs in Austria

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<tr>
<td>Biodiversity-Clearing House Mechanism</td>
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<tr>
<td>HCV category</td>
<td>HCV 1 – biological diversity</td>
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<tr>
<td>(B-CHM)</td>
<td><a href="http://www.biologischevielfalt.at">www.biologischevielfalt.at</a></td>
<td>Other data portals with protected area maps, e.g. <a href="http://www.geoland.at">www.geoland.at</a></td>
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<td>- Data collections in connection with the INSPIRE-RL implementation (federal and state)</td>
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<p>|                |                             | Other data portals with protected area maps, e.g. <a href="http://www.geoland.at">www.geoland.at</a> | Other data portals with protected area maps, e.g. <a href="http://www.geoland.at">www.geoland.at</a> | Other data portals with protected area maps, e.g. <a href="http://www.geoland.at">www.geoland.at</a> | Other data portals with protected area maps, e.g. <a href="http://www.geoland.at">www.geoland.at</a> | Other data portals with protected area maps, e.g. <a href="http://www.geoland.at">www.geoland.at</a> |
|                |                             | - Data portals of the federal states <a href="https://biodiversityatlas.at/">https://biodiversityatlas.at/</a> | - Data portals of the federal states <a href="https://biodiversityatlas.at/">https://biodiversityatlas.at/</a> | - Data portals of the federal states <a href="https://biodiversityatlas.at/">https://biodiversityatlas.at/</a> | - Data portals of the federal states <a href="https://biodiversityatlas.at/">https://biodiversityatlas.at/</a> | - Data portals of the federal states <a href="https://biodiversityatlas.at/">https://biodiversityatlas.at/</a> |
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<table>
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<tr>
<th>2. Interested parties and affected stakeholder representatives</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>- Specialist agencies of the federal states and the federal government (Federal Environment Agency)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Nature conservation organizations, NGOs such as WWF, BirdLife, Association for the Study of the Flora of Austria and others</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Universities</td>
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<tr>
<td>- Biodiversity Council</td>
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<tr>
<td>- National Biodiversity Commission</td>
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<tr>
<td>- Land user representative (LK)</td>
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<tr>
<td>- Tourism associations</td>
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<tr>
<td>- Fishing associations</td>
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<tr>
<td>- Hunting associations regional experts (on specific occurrences)</td>
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<tr>
<td>- Municipalities and cities</td>
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<tr>
<td>- Municipalities and cities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Specialist agencies for the preservation of monuments and archaeology at the state level and in the municipalities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Regional and local experts (to specific deposits)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### 3. Examples of HCVs in Austria

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Intact Forest Landscapes:</strong></th>
<th><strong>In Austria, these are the following protected areas (excluding national parks):</strong></th>
<th><strong>In Austria, these are forests that are mapped as forests with a protection function of the highest value (value number 3) according to the forest development plan. Site protection forests (forests in special locations) within the meaning of the Austrian Forest Act are:</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| According to www.globalforestwatch.org no IFL according to FSC’s definition exist. For large landscape-level ecosystems and ecosystem mosaics: In Austria, these are the established national parks, classified as IUCN category I and II:  
- NP Hohe Tauern  
- NP Neusiedler See - Seewinkel  
- NP Donau-Auen  
- NP Kalkalpen  
- NP Thayatal  
- NP Gesäuse | Nature reserves, wilderness areas and core zones of the biosphere parks, and the protected habitats defined according to the nature conservation laws of the federal states. Furthermore, these are the protected forests defined in accordance with the Forestry Act, provided that they are used to protect or promote certain species, forest societies or protected habitats. List of priority habitat types in Austria:  
- LRT 91G0: Pannonian forests with stem oaks and hornbeams  
- LRT 91H0: Pannonische Flaumeichenwälder | Site protection forests (forests in special locations) within the meaning of the Austrian Forest Act are:  
- Forests on flying sand or air-earth soils.  
- Forests on sites prone to karstification or at high risk of erosion.  
- Forests in rocky, shallow or rugged areas, when their reforestation is only possible under difficult conditions.  
- Forests on slopes where dangerous slippages are to be feared. |

- Cultural facilities  
- Archaeological sites  
- Historic traffic routes in the forest
### 4. Areas with special occurrences of HCVs

| All regions, see Waldentwicklungsplan: www.waldentwicklungsplan.at | - NP Hohe Tauern  
- NP Neusiedler See - Seewinkel  
- NP Donau-Auen  
- NP Kalkalpen  
- NP Thayatal  
- NP Gesäuse | All regions, see Waldentwicklungsplan: www.waldentwicklungsplan.at | All regions, see Waldentwicklungsplan: www.waldentwicklungsplan.at | All regions, see Waldentwicklungsplan: www.waldentwicklungsplan.at |

### 5. Data and maps for the HCVs in Austria

| Waldentwicklungsplan: www.waldentwicklungsplan.at  
- Other data portals with protected area maps, e.g. www.geoland.at  
Waldentwicklungsplan: www.waldentwicklungsplan.at  
Inventory of forest companies | Schutzgebietskarten: www.umweltbundesamt.at/umweltsituation/natur-schutz/sg/  
Waldentwicklungsplan: www.waldentwicklungsplan.at  
Inventory of forest companies | Waldentwicklungsplan: www.waldentwicklungsplan.at  
Inventory of forest companies  
- Other data portals with protected area maps, e.g. www.geoland.at  
- Federal Monuments Office: bda.gv.at/denkmalverzeichnis  
https://bda.gv.at/denkmalverzeichnis |
### 6. Threats to HCV areas in Austria

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Threats</th>
<th>Details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Loss of suitable habitats</td>
<td>- Unsuitable forest management</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Unsuitable forest management</td>
<td>- Construction</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Disorders</td>
<td>- Natural hazards</td>
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<tr>
<td>- Construction</td>
<td>- Disturbance</td>
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<tr>
<td>- Construction</td>
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<tr>
<td>- Unsuitable forest management</td>
<td>- Natural hazards</td>
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<td>- Construction</td>
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<td>- Construction</td>
<td>- Construction</td>
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<tr>
<td>- Natural hazards</td>
<td>- Disturbance</td>
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<tr>
<td>- Unadjusted management</td>
<td>- Construction</td>
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<td>- Disturbance</td>
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<td>- Construction</td>
<td>- Construction</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

- Geodata portal of the countries: [http://www.geoland.at/](http://www.geoland.at/)
- Search for data via the Open Data Portal of the Federal Ministry for Digitization and Business Location: [www.data.gv.at](http://www.data.gv.at)
- For natural monuments: [www.umweltbundesamt.at](http://www.umweltbundesamt.at)
### 7. Strategies

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>- (Nature-)reserves</th>
<th>- Specific and adapted management according to the respective NP management plans, laws and directives (see <a href="https://www.ris.bka.gv.at">https://www.ris.bka.gv.at</a>)</th>
<th>- Nature Reserves</th>
<th>- Adapted management</th>
<th>- Adjusted management (e.g. avoidance of clear fellings, single-stemmed economy)</th>
<th>- No buildings that affect cultural values</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>- Implementation of FFH- and Bird Protection Directives</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

### 8. Monitoring

Examples of Relevant Stakeholders and Experts

This is a list of stakeholder and expert organizations likely to be especially relevant to HCV assessments, strategies, and/or monitoring, either in general, or for particular HCV categories or elements. The list is not exhaustive, may need to change over time, and can be updated by standards developers. Where additional stakeholders and experts are relevant to specific management units, they should also be identified and considered by managers.

Environmental Stakeholders:
- Birdlife – Austria
- European Wilderness Society
- Friends of Nature (Naturfreunde)
- WWF – Austria
- Lower Austrian Conservation Society

Social Stakeholders and Community Development Organizations:
- TBD

Other Expert Organizations – Environmental:
- Austrian Herpetological Society
- University of Vienna

Other Expert Organizations – Archaeological and Historical:
- Austrian Archaeological Institute
- University of Innsbruck
- University of Vienna, Vienna Institute for Archaeological Science (VIAS) and Institute of Prehistoric and Historic Archaeology (UHA)

Other Expert Organizations – Social:
- TBD

Government Agencies:
- Federal Environment Agency
- Federal Ministry for Sustainability and Tourism (formerly Ministry for Agriculture and Forestry, Environment, and Water Management), including:
  - Torrent and Avalanche Control Department
- Federal Forest Office, including:
  - Austrian Research Centre for Forests (BFW), including:
    - Department of Natural Hazards, Snow and Avalanches Unit and Water Balance in Alpine Catchments Unit
Annex J  Glossary of terms

Normative definitions for terms are given in FSC-STD-01-002 FSC Glossary of Terms apply. This glossary includes internationally accepted definitions whenever possible. 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.

The term ‘based on’ means that a definition was adapted from an existing definition as provided in an international source. 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.

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

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

- Local communities
- Indigenous Peoples
- Workers
- Forest dwellers
- Neighbors
- Downstream landowners
- Local processors
- Local businesses
- Tenure and use rights holders, including landowners
- Organizations authorized or known to act on behalf of affected stakeholders, for example social and environmental NGOs, labor unions, etc. (Source: FSC-STD-01-001 V5-2).

Affected Rights Holder: 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.

Affirmative action: A policy or a program that seeks to redress past discrimination through active measures to ensure equal opportunity, as in education and employment (Source: FSC report on generic criteria and indicators based on ILO Core Conventions principles, 2017).
**Alien species**: A species, subspecies or lower taxon, introduced outside its natural past or present distribution; includes any part, gametes, seeds, eggs, or propagules of such species that might survive and subsequently reproduce (Source: Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), Invasive Alien Species Programme. Glossary of Terms as provided on CBD website).

**Applicable law**: Means applicable to The Organization as a legal person or business enterprise in or for the benefit of the Management Unit and those laws which affect the implementation of the FSC Principles and Criteria. This includes any combination of statutory law (Parliamentary-approved) and case law (court interpretations), subsidiary regulations, associated administrative procedures, and the national constitution (if present) which invariably takes legal precedence over all other legal instruments (Source: FSC-STD-01-001 V5-2).

**Aquifer**: A formation, group of formations, or part of a formation that contains sufficient saturated permeable material to yield significant quantities of water to wells and springs for that unit to have economic value as a source of water in that region. (Source: Gratzfeld, J. 2003. Extractive Industries in Arid and Semi-Arid Zones. World Conservation Union (IUCN)).

**Best Available Information**: Data, facts, documents, expert opinions, and results of field surveys or consultations with stakeholders that are most credible, accurate, complete, and/or pertinent and that can be obtained through reasonable effort and cost, subject to the scale and intensity of the management activities and the Precautionary Approach.

**Binding Agreement**: A deal or pact, written or not, which is compulsory to its signatories and enforceable by law. Parties involved in the agreement do so freely and accept it voluntarily.

**Biological diversity**: The variability among living organisms from all sources including, inter alia, terrestrial, marine and other aquatic ecosystems and the ecological complexes of which they are a part; this includes diversity within species, between species and of ecosystems (Source: Convention on Biological Diversity 1992, Article 2).

**Biological control agents**: Organisms used to eliminate or regulate the population of other organisms (Source: Based on FSC-STD-01-001 V4-0 and World Conservation Union (IUCN). Glossary definitions as provided on IUCN website).

**Child**: any person under the age of 18 (ILO Convention 182, Article 2).

**Collective bargaining**: 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).

**Confidential information**: Private facts, data and content that, if made publicly available, might put at risk The Organization, its business interests or its relationships with stakeholders, clients and competitors.

**Conflicts between the Principles and Criteria and laws**: Situations where it is not possible to comply with the Principles and Criteria and a law at the same time (Source: FSC-STD-01-001 V5-2).
**Connectivity**: A measure of how connected or spatially continuous a corridor, network, or matrix is. The fewer gaps, the higher the connectivity. Related to the structural connectivity concept; functional or behavioral connectivity refers to how connected an area is for a process, such as an animal moving through different types of landscape elements. Aquatic connectivity deals with the accessibility and transport of materials and organisms, through groundwater and surface water, between different patches of aquatic ecosystems of all kinds. (Source: Based on R.T.T. Forman. 1995. Land Mosaics. The Ecology of Landscapes and Regions. Cambridge University Press, 632pp).

**Conservation/Protection**: These words are used interchangeably when referring to management activities designed to maintain the identified environmental or cultural values in existence long-term. Management activities may range from zero or minimal interventions to a specified range of appropriate interventions and activities designed to maintain, or compatible with maintaining, these identified values (Source: FSC-STD-01-001 V5-2).

**Conservation Areas Network**: Those portions of the Management Unit for which conservation is the primary and, in some circumstances, exclusive objective; such areas include representative sample areas, conservation zones, protection areas, connectivity areas and High Conservation Value Areas.

**Conservation zones and protection areas**: Defined areas that are designated and managed primarily to safeguard species, habitats, ecosystems, natural features or other site-specific values because of their natural environmental or cultural values, or for purposes of monitoring, evaluation or research, not necessarily excluding other management activities. For the purposes of the Principles and Criteria, these terms are used interchangeably, without implying that one always has a higher degree of conservation or protection than the other. The term ‘protected area’ is not used for these areas, because this term implies legal or official status, covered by national regulations in many countries. In the context of the Principles and Criteria, management of these areas should involve active conservation, not passive protection' (Source: FSC-STD-01-001 V5-2).

**Core area**: The portion of each Intact Forest Landscape designated to contain the most important cultural and ecological values. Core areas are managed to exclude industrial activity. Core Areas meet or exceed the definition of Intact Forest Landscape.

**Critical**: The concept of criticality or fundamentality in Principal 9 and HCVs relates to irreplaceability and to cases where loss or major damage to this HCV would cause serious prejudice or suffering to affected stakeholders. An ecosystem service is considered to be critical (HCV 4) where a disruption of that service is likely to cause, or poses a threat of, severe negative impacts on the welfare, health or survival of local communities, on the environment, on HCVs, or on the functioning of significant infrastructure (roads, dams, buildings etc.). The notion of criticality here refers to the importance and risk for natural resources and environmental and socio-economic values (Source: FSC-STD-01-001 V5-2).

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

**Culturally appropriate** [mechanisms]: Means/approaches for outreach to target groups that are in harmony with the customs, values, sensitivities, and ways of life of the target audience.
**Customary law:** Interrelated sets of customary rights may be recognized as customary law. In some jurisdictions, customary law is equivalent to statutory law, within its defined area of competence and may replace the statutory law for defined ethnic or other social groups. In some jurisdictions customary law complements statutory law and is applied in specified circumstances (Source: Based on N.L. Peluso and P. Vandergeest. 2001. Genealogies of the political forest and customary rights in Indonesia, Malaysia and Thailand, Journal of Asian Studies 60(3):761–812).

**Customary rights:** Rights which result from a long series of habitual or customary actions, constantly repeated, which have, by such repetition and by uninterrupted acquiescence, acquired the force of a law within a geographical or sociological unit (Source: FSC-STD-01-001 V5-2).

**Discrimination:** 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:** 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:** 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:** A complaint that has resulted in a complaint procedure due to a violation of applicable law or the current Austrian FSC standard and in which a considerable number of interests are affected and/or attracts national attention and has not yet been clarified after six months is achieved. **Due consideration:** To give such weight or significance to a particular factor as under the circumstances it seems to merit, and this involves discretion (Black’s Law Dictionary, 1979).

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

**Eco-regional:** Large unit of land or water containing a geographically distinct assemblage of species, natural communities, and environmental conditions (Source: WWF Global 200. http://wwf.panda.org/about_our_earth/ecoregions/about/what_is_an_ecoregion/).

**Ecosystem:** A dynamic complex of plant, animal and micro-organism communities and their non-living environment interacting as a functional unit (Source: Convention on Biological Diversity 1992, Article 2).
**Ecosystem function**: An intrinsic ecosystem characteristic related to the set of conditions and processes whereby an ecosystem maintains its integrity (such as primary productivity, food chain, biogeochemical cycles). Ecosystem functions include such processes as decomposition, production, nutrient cycling, and fluxes of nutrients and energy. For FSC purposes, this definition includes ecological and evolutionary processes such as gene flow and disturbance regimes, regeneration cycles and ecological seral development (succession) stages. (Source: Based on R. Hassan, R. Scholes and N. Ash. 2005. Ecosystems and Human Well-being: Synthesis. The Millennium Ecosystem Assessment Series. Island Press, Washington DC; and R.F. Noss. 1990. Indicators for monitoring biodiversity: a hierarchical approach. Conservation Biology 4(4):355–364).

**Ecosystem services**: The benefits people obtain from ecosystems. These include:
- provisioning services such as food, forest products and water;
- regulating services such as regulation of floods, drought, land degradation, air quality, climate and disease;
- supporting services such as soil formation and nutrient cycling; and
- cultural services and cultural values such as recreational, spiritual, religious and other non-material benefits.

**Employment and Occupation**: 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**: The process by which The Organization communicates, consults and/or provides for the participation of interested and/or affected stakeholders ensuring that their concerns, desires, expectations, needs, rights and opportunities are considered in the establishment, implementation and updating of the management plan (Source: FSC-STD-01-001 V5-2).

**Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA)**: Systematic process used to identify potential environmental and social impacts of proposed projects, to evaluate alternative approaches, and to design and incorporate appropriate prevention, mitigation, management and monitoring measures (Source: based on Environmental impact assessment, guidelines for FAO field projects. Food and agriculture organization of the United Nations (FAO). Rome.-STD-01-001 V5-2).

**Environmental values**: The following set of elements of the biophysical and human environment:
- ecosystem functions (including carbon sequestration and storage);
- biological diversity;
- water resources;
- soils;
- atmosphere;
- landscape values (including cultural and spiritual values).

The actual worth attributed to these elements depends on human and societal perceptions (Source: FSC-STD-01-001 V5-2).
**Equal remuneration for men and women workers for work of equal value:** refers to rates of remuneration established without discrimination based on sex (ILO Convention 100, Article 1b).

**Externalities:** The positive and negative impacts of activities on stakeholders that are not directly involved in those activities, or on a natural resource or the environment, which do not usually enter standard cost accounting systems, such that the market prices of the products of those activities do not reflect the full costs or benefits (Source: FSC-STD-01-001 V5-2).

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

**Fertilizer:** Mineral or organic substances, most commonly N, P2O5 and K2O, which are applied to soil for the purpose of enhancing plant growth.

**Fibre Testing:** a suite of wood identification technologies used to identify the family, genus, species and origin of solid wood and fibre based products.

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

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

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

**Fragmentation:** 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. Stritholt Nicholas C. Slosser Dominick A. Dellasala, BioScience (2002) 52 (5): 411-422.)

**Free, Prior, and Informed Consent (FPIC):** A legal condition whereby a person or community can be said to have given consent to an action prior to its commencement, based upon a clear appreciation and understanding of the facts, implications and future consequences of that action, and the possession of all relevant facts at the time when consent is given. Free, prior and informed consent includes the right to grant, modify, withhold or withdraw approval (Source: Based on the Preliminary working paper on the principle of Free, Prior and Informed Consent of Indigenous Peoples (…) (E/CN.4/Sub.2/AC.4/2004/4 8 July 2004) of the 22nd Session of the United Nations Commission on Human Rights, Sub-committee on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights, Working Group on Indigenous Populations, 19–23 July 2004).
**FSC Transaction:** Purchase or sale of products with FSC claims on sales documents (Source: ADV-40-004-14).

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

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

**Genotype:** The genetic constitution of an organism (Source: FSC-STD-01-001 V5-2).

**Good faith:** 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).

**Good Faith in negotiation:** The Organization (employer) and workers’ organizations make every effort to reach an agreement, conduct genuine and constructive negotiations, avoid unjustified delays in negotiations, respect agreements concluded and give sufficient time to discuss and settle collective disputes (Gernig B, Odero A, Guido H (2000), Collective Bargaining: ILO Standards and the Principles of the Supervisory Bodies. International Labour Office, Geneva).

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

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

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

- Old commercial and non-commercial trees whose age noticeably exceeds the average age of the main canopy;
- Trees with special ecological value;
- Vertical and horizontal complexity;
- Standing dead trees;
- Dead fallen wood;
- Forest openings attributable to natural disturbances;
- Nesting sites;
- Small wetlands, bogs, fens;
- Ponds;
- Areas for procreation;
- Areas for feeding and shelter, including seasonal cycles of breeding;
- Areas for migration;
- Areas for hibernation.
Hazardous work (in the context of child labour): 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): 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): Any of the following 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, 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:** Zones and physical spaces which possess and/or are needed for the existence and maintenance of identified High Conservation Values.

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

**ILO Core (Fundamental) Conventions:** 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 Organise Convention, 1948 (No. 87)
- Right to Organise 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).

**ILO Committee on Freedom of Association:** a Governing Body Committee set up in 1951, for the purpose of examining complaints about violations of freedom of association, whether or not the country concerned had ratified the relevant conventions. Is composed of an independent chairperson and three representatives each of governments, employers, and workers. If it decides to receive the case, it establishes the facts in dialogue with the government concerned. If it finds that there has been a violation of freedom of association standards or principles, it issues a report through the Governing Body and makes recommendations on how the situation could be remedied. Governments are subsequently requested to report on the implementation of its recommendations (Source: FSC report on generic criteria and indicators based on ILO Core Conventions principles, 2017).
ILO Declaration on Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work and its Follow-up, adopted by the International Labour conference at its Eighty-sixth Session, Geneva, 18th June 1998 (Annex revised 15 June 2010): is a resolute reaffirmation of ILO principles (art 2) which declares that all Members, even if they have not ratified the Conventions in question, have an obligation, arising from the very fact of membership in the organization, to respect, to promote and to realize, in good faith and in accordance with the Constitution, the principles concerning the fundamental rights which are the subject of those Conventions, namely:

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

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

**Indigenous cultural landscapes:** 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:** 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;
**Industrial activity:** Industrial forest and resource management activities such as road building, mining, dams, urban development and timber harvesting.

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

**Intact Forest Landscape:** a territory within today's global extent of forest cover which contains forest and non-forest ecosystems minimally influenced by human economic activity, with an area of at least 500 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).

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

**Intensity:** A measure of the force, severity or strength of a management activity or other occurrence affecting the nature of the activity's impacts (Source: FSC-STD-01-001 V5-2).

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

- Conservation organizations, for example environmental NGOs;
- Labor (rights) organizations, for example labor unions;
- Human rights organizations, for example social NGOs;
- Local development projects;
- Local governments;
- National government departments functioning in the region;
- FSC National Offices;
- Experts on particular issues, for example High Conservation Values.
  (Source: FSC-STD-01-001 V5-2).

**Internationally accepted scientific protocol:** A predefined science-based procedure which is either published by an international scientific network or union, or referenced frequently in the international scientific literature (Source: FSC-STD-01-001 V5-2).

**Invasive species:** Species that are rapidly expanding outside of their native range. Invasive species can alter ecological relationships among native species and can affect ecosystem function and human health (Source: Based on World Conservation Union (IUCN). Glossary definitions as provided on IUCN website).

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

**Landscape:** A geographical mosaic composed of interacting ecosystems resulting from the influence of geological, topographical, soil, climatic, biotic and human interactions in a given area (Source: Based on World Conservation Union (IUCN). Glossary definitions as provided on IUCN website).
**Landscape values:** Landscape values can be visualized as layers of human perceptions overlaid on the physical landscape. Some landscape values, like economic, recreation, subsistence value or visual quality are closely related to physical landscape attributes. Other landscape values such as intrinsic or spiritual value are more symbolic in character and are influenced more by individual perception or social construction than physical landscape attributes (Source: Based on website of the Landscape Value Institute).

**Legal:** In accordance with primary legislation (national or local laws) or secondary legislation (subsidary 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:** Mandated in law to perform a certain function (Source: FSC-STD-01-001 V5-2).

**Legal registration:** National or local legal license or set of permissions to operate as an enterprise, with rights to buy and sell products and/or services commercially. The license or permissions can apply to an individual, a privately-owned enterprise or a publicly-owned corporate entity. The rights to buy and sell products and/or services do not carry the obligation to do so, so legal registration applies also to Organizations operating a Management Unit without sales of products or services; for example, for unpriced recreation or for conservation of biodiversity or habitat (Source: FSC-STD-01-001 V5-2).

**Legal status:** The way in which the Management Unit is classified according to law. In terms of tenure, it means the category of tenure, such as communal land or leasehold or freehold or State land or government land, etc. If the Management Unit is being converted from one category to another (for example, from State land to communal indigenous land) the status includes the current position in the transition process. In terms of administration, legal status could mean that the land is owned by the nation as a whole, is administered on behalf of the nation by a government department, and is leased by a government Ministry to a private sector operator through a concession (Source: FSC-STD-01-001 V5-2).

**Light work:** national laws* or regulations may permit the employment or work of persons 13 to 15 years of age on light work which is- a) not likely to be harmful to their health or development; and b) not such as to prejudice their attendance at school, their participation in vocational orientation or training programmes approved by the competent authority or their capacity to benefit from the instruction received (ILO Convention138, Article7).

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

**Local communities:** Communities of any size that are in or adjacent to the Management Unit, and also those that are close enough to have a significant impact on the economy or the environmental values of the Management Unit or to have their economies, rights or environments significantly affected by the management activities or the biophysical aspects of the Management Unit (Source: FSC-STD-01-001 V5-2).
**Local laws:** The whole suite of primary and secondary laws (acts, ordinances, statutes, decrees) which is limited in application to a particular geographic district within a national territory, as well as secondary regulations, and tertiary administrative procedures (rules / requirements) that derive their authority directly and explicitly from these primary and secondary laws. Laws derive authority ultimately from the Westphalian concept of sovereignty of the Nation State (Source: FSC-STD-01-001 V5-2).

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

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

**Management plan:** The collection of documents, reports, records and maps that describe, justify and regulate the activities carried out by any manager, staff or organization within or in relation to the Management Unit, including statements of objectives and policies (Source: FSC-STD-01-001 V5-2).

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

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

- all facilities and area(s) within or adjacent to this spatial area or areas under legal title or management control of, or operated by or on behalf of The Organization, for the purpose of contributing to the management objectives; and
- all facilities and area(s) outside, and not adjacent to this spatial area or areas and operated by or on behalf of The Organization, solely for the purpose of contributing to the management objectives. (Source: FSC-STD-01-001 V5-2).

**Managerial control:** Responsibility of the kind defined for corporate directors of commercial enterprises in national commercial law, and treated by FSC as applicable also to public sector organizations (Source: FSC-STD-01-001 V5-2).

**Minimum age (of employment):** is not less than the age of finishing compulsory education, and which in any case, should not be less than 15 years. However, a country, whose economy and educational facilities are insufficiently developed, may initially specify a minimum age of 14 years. National laws may also permit the employment of 13-15 year olds in light work which is neither prejudicial to school attendance, nor harmful to a child’s health or development. The ages 12-13 can apply for light work in countries that specify a minimum age of 14 (ILO Convention 138, Article 2).
National laws: The whole suite of primary and secondary laws (acts, ordinances, statutes, decrees), which is applicable to a national territory, as well as secondary regulations, and tertiary administrative procedures (rules / requirements) that derive their authority directly and explicitly from these primary and secondary laws (Source: FSC-STD-01-001 V5-2).

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

Natural conditions/native ecosystem: For the purposes of the Principles and Criteria and any applications of restoration techniques, terms such as ‘more natural conditions’, ‘native ecosystem’ provide for managing sites to favor or restore native species and associations of native species that are typical of the locality, and for managing these associations and other environmental values so that they form ecosystems typical of the locality. Further guidelines may be provided in FSC Forest Stewardship Standards (Source: FSC-STD-01-001 V5-2).

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

‘Natural forest’ includes the following categories:

- Forest affected by harvesting or other disturbances, in which trees are being or have been regenerated by a combination of natural and artificial regeneration with species typical of natural forests in that site, and where many of the above-ground and below-ground characteristics of the natural forest are still present. In boreal and north temperate forests which are naturally composed of only one or few tree species, a combination of natural and artificial regeneration to regenerate forest of the same native species, with most of the principal characteristics and key elements of native ecosystems of that site, is not by itself considered as conversion to plantations;
- Natural forests which are maintained by traditional silvicultural practices including natural or assisted natural regeneration;
- Well-developed secondary or colonizing forest of native species which has regenerated in non-forest areas;
- The definition of ‘natural forest’ may include areas described as wooded ecosystems, woodland and 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: disturbances that can present risks to social and environmental values in the Management Unit but that may also comprise important ecosystem functions; examples include drought, flood, fire, landslide, storm, avalanche, etc.

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


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

Occupational accident: An occurrence arising out of, or in the course of, work which results in fatal or non-fatal injury (Source: International Labour Organization (ILO). Bureau of Library and Information Services. ILO Thesaurus as provided on ILO website).
**Occupational disease**: Any disease contracted as a result of an exposure to risk factors arising from work activity (Source: International Labour Organization (ILO). Bureau of Library and Information Services. ILO Thesaurus as provided on ILO website).

**Occupational injuries**: Any personal injury, disease or death resulting from an occupational accident (Source: International Labour Organization (ILO). Bureau of Library and Information Services. ILO Thesaurus as provided on ILO website).


**The Organization**: The person or entity holding or applying for certification and therefore responsible for demonstrating compliance with the requirements upon which FSC certification is based (Source: FSC-STD-01-001 V5-2).

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

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

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

- Areas which would initially have complied with this definition of ‘plantation’ but which, after the passage of years, contain many or most of the principal characteristics and key elements of native ecosystems, may be classified as natural forests.
- Plantations managed to restore and enhance biological and habitat diversity, structural complexity and ecosystem functionality may, after the passage of years, be classified as natural forests.
- Boreal and north temperate forests which are naturally composed of only one or few tree species, in which a combination of natural and artificial regeneration is used to regenerate forest of the same native species, with most of the principal characteristics and key elements of native ecosystems of that site, may be considered as natural forest, and this regeneration is not by itself considered as conversion to plantations. (Source: FSC-STD-01-001 V5-2).

**Precautionary approach**: An approach requiring that when the available information indicates that management activities pose a threat of severe or irreversible damage to the environment or a threat to human welfare, The Organization will take explicit and effective measures to prevent the damage and avoid the risks to welfare, even when the scientific information is incomplete or inconclusive, and when the vulnerability and sensitivity of environmental values are uncertain (Source: Based on Principle 15 of Rio
Declaration on Environment and Development, 1992, and Wingspread Statement on

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

**Principle**: An essential rule or element; in FSC’s case, of forest stewardship (Source:
FSC-STD-01-001 V5-2).

**Protection**: See definition of Conservation.

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

**Publicly available**: In a manner accessible to or observable by people generally

**Rare species**: Species that are uncommon or scarce, but not classified as threatened.
These species are located in geographically restricted areas or specific habitats, or
are scantily scattered on a large scale. They are approximately equivalent to the IUCN
(2001) category of Near Threatened (NT), including species that are close to qualifying
for, or are likely to qualify for, a threatened category in the near future. They are also
approximately equivalent to imperiled species (Source: Based on IUCN. (2001). IUCN
IUCN. Gland, Switzerland and Cambridge, UK).

**Ratified**: The process by which an international law, convention or agreement
(including multilateral environmental agreement) is legally approved by a national
legislature or equivalent legal mechanism, such that the international law, convention
or agreement becomes automatically part of national law or sets in motion the
development of national law to give the same legal effect (Source: FSC-STD-01-001
V5-2).

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

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

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

**Remuneration**: includes the ordinary, basic or minimum wage or salary and any
additional emoluments whatsoever payable directly or indirectly, whether in cash or in
kind, by the employer to the worker and arising out of the workers employment (ILO
Convention 100, Article1a).

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

**Resilience**: The ability of a system to maintain key functions and processes in the face
of stresses or pressures by either resisting or adapting to change. Resilience can be
applied to both ecological systems and social systems (Source: IUCN World
Commission on Protected Areas (IUCN-WCPA). 2008. Establishing Marine Protected
and Atmospheric Administration and The Nature Conservancy.).
**Restore / Restoration**: These words are used in different senses according to the context and in everyday speech. In some cases ‘restore’ means to repair the damage done to environmental values that resulted from management activities or other causes. In other cases ‘restore’ means the formation of more natural conditions in sites which have been heavily degraded or converted to other land uses. In the Principles and Criteria, the word ‘restore’ is not used to imply the recreation of any particular previous, pre-historic, pre-industrial or other pre-existing ecosystem (Source: FSC-STD-01-001 V5-2).

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.

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

**Risk**: The probability of an unacceptable negative impact arising from any activity in the Management Unit combined with its seriousness in terms of consequences (Source: FSC-STD-01-001 V5-2).

**Scale**: A measure of the extent to which a management activity or event affects an environmental value or a management unit, in time or space. An activity with a small or low spatial scale affects only a small proportion of the forest each year, an activity with a small or low temporal scale occurs only at long intervals (Source: FSC-STD-01-001 V5-2).

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

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

- A designation, classification or recognized conservation status, assigned by an international agency such as IUCN or Birdlife International;
- A designation by national or regional authorities, or by a responsible national conservation organization, on the basis of its concentration of biodiversity;
- A voluntary recognition by the manager, owner or Organization, on the basis of available information, or of the known or suspected presence of a significant biodiversity concentration, even when not officially designated by other agencies.

Any one of these forms will justify designation as HCVs 1, 2 and 6. Many regions of the world have received recognition for their biodiversity importance, measured in many different ways. Existing maps and classifications of priority areas for biodiversity
conservation play an essential role in identifying the potential presence of HCVs 1, 2 and 6 (Source: FSC-STD-01-001 V5-2).

**Silviculture**: The art and science of controlling the establishment, growth, composition, health and quality of forests and woodlands to meet the targeted diverse needs and values of landowners and society on a sustainable basis (Source: Nieuwenhuis, M. 2000. Terminology of Forest Management. IUFRO World Series Vol. 9. IUFRO 4.04.07 SilvaPlan and SilvaVoc).

**Stakeholder**: See definitions for ‘affected stakeholder’ and ‘interested stakeholder’.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

**Traditional peoples**: Traditional peoples are social groups or peoples who do not self-identify as indigenous and who affirm rights to their lands, forests and other resources based on long established custom or traditional occupation and use (Source: Forest Peoples Programme (Marcus Colchester, 7 October 2009)).

**Transaction verification**: 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: FSC-STD-40-004 V3-0).

**Uphold**: To acknowledge, respect, sustain and support (Source: FSC-STD-01-001 V5-2).
Use rights: Rights for the use of resources of the Management Unit that can be defined by local custom, mutual agreements, or prescribed by other entities holding access rights. These rights may restrict the use of particular resources to specific levels of consumption or particular harvesting techniques (Source: FSC-STD-01-001 V5-2).

Vast majority: 80% of the total area of Intact Forest Landscapes within the Management Unit as of January 1, 2017. The vast majority also meets or exceeds the minimum definition of Intact Forest Landscape.

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

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

Very limited portion of core area: The area affected shall not exceed 0.5% of the area of the core area in any one year, nor affect a total of more than 5% of the area of the core area.

Waste materials: unusable or unwanted substances or by-products, such as:
- Hazardous waste, including chemical waste and batteries;
- Containers;
- Motor and other fuels and oils;
- Rubbish including metals, plastics and paper; and
- Abandoned buildings, machinery and equipment.

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

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

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

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

Under the Ramsar Convention, wetlands can include tidal mudflats, natural ponds, marshes, potholes, wet meadows, bogs, peatlands, freshwater swamps, mangroves, lakes, rivers and even some coral reefs (Source: IUCN, No Date, IUCN Definitions – English).
**Workers:** All employed persons including public employees as well as ‘self-employed’ persons. This includes part-time and seasonal employees, of all ranks and categories, including laborers, administrators, supervisors, executives, contractor employees as well as self-employed contractors and sub-contractors (Source: ILO Convention 155, Occupational Safety and Health Convention, 1981).

**Workers’ organization:** any organization of workers for furthering and defending the interest of workers (adapted from ILO Convention 87, Article 10). It is important to note that rules and guidance on composition of workers’ organization vary from country to country, especially in relation to those who are considered as rank and file members, as well those who are deemed to have power to “hire and fire”. Workers’ organizations tend to separate association between those who can “hire and fire” and those who cannot (Source: FSC report on generic criteria and indicators based on ILO Core Conventions principles, 2017).

**Worst forms of child labour:** comprises a) all forms of slavery or practices similar to slavery, such as the sale and trafficking of children, debt bondage and serfdom and forced labour, including forced or compulsory recruitment of children for use in armed conflict; b) the use, procuring or offering of a child for prostitution, for the production of pornography or for pornographic performance; c) the use, procuring or offering of a child for illicit activities, in particular for production and trafficking of drugs as defined in the relevant international treaties; d) work which, by its nature or the circumstances in which it is carried out, is likely to harm the health, safety or morals of children (ILO Convention 182, Article 3).