



Forest Stewardship Council®



FSC Interim Forest Stewardship Standard for Solomon Islands

FSC-STD-SLB-01-2024 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 connect.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.

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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

(Informative section)

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 International Generic Indicators (IGI) provide the basis for the development of Forest Stewardship Standards (FSS) and Interim Forest Stewardship Standards (IFSS).

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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 granting, maintaining or renewing forest management certification.

A.2 Scope

(Normative section)

This standard shall be applied in the following scope:

| | |
|---|--|
| Geographic region | Solomon Islands |
| Forest types | All forest types (Plantations and natural forests) |
| Ownership types | All types of ownerships, including public, private, and others. |
| Management scale categories (according to section 6 of FSC-STD-60-002) | All categories of Management Units, including special requirements for small or low intensity managed forests (SLIMFs) <i>(Note: see section A.4 for the applicable SLIMF eligibility criteria for this country).</i> |
| Forest products (according to FSC-STD-40-004a) | Rough wood NTFPs not included. |

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 those infrastructural facilities that are part of the Management Unit, as defined by the FSC Principles and Criteria.

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 conformance 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 and other elements in this standard

(Normative section)

Normative elements in the standard are:

Scope, effective date, validity period, Glossary of Terms, Principles, Criteria, indicators, tables and Annexes, unless indicated otherwise.

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

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

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

Verifiers and notes, which are attached to some of the indicators.

Verifiers have been provided for all criteria. Means of verification are not normative. They do not define thresholds for conformity, but rather indicate potential sources of information or evidence that an auditor may find useful in evaluating conformity, such as records, documents, maps, field observations or interviews.

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

Normative elements that have been greyed out are not applicable in the country, but are kept in the standard for transparency.

| SLIMF eligibility criteria | National threshold |
|-----------------------------------|--|
| Small Management Units | Up to 1000 hectares |
| Low intensity Management Units | 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 meters, OR the <i>average</i> annual harvest from the total production forest is less than 5000 m ³ / year during the period of validity of the certificate as verified by harvest reports and surveillance audits. |

Organizations managing Management Units qualifying as SLIMF (small or low-intensity managed forest(s)) shall conform with all indicators in the standard. Where

specific SLIMF indicators exist (marked as e.g., “SLIMF 3.5.1”), these Organizations shall conform with them instead.

Verbal forms for the expression of provisions

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

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

“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 re-quired. The Organization can meet these requirements in an equivalent way provided this can be demonstrated and justified.

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

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

In the text of the sections D and E, the terms for which a definition is provided in the Glossary of Terms (appended as an Annex) 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 EN Structure, Content and Development of Interim National Standards*.

A.5 Interpretations and Disputes

(Normative section)

Interpretation requests regarding Interim Forest Stewardship Standards are submitted directly 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 the FSC dispute resolution procedure (see: FSC-PRO-01-008).

B Context

B.1 General description of the forestry sector

(Informative section)

Solomon Islands is an archipelagic state in Melanesia, east of Papua New Guinea in the south-west Pacific Ocean. With a total land area of 28,446 km², the country comprises about 990 separate islands, with 6 main islands – Guadalcanal, Malaita, Makira, Isabel, Choiseul, and New Georgia – and over 900 smaller islands, some of which are uninhabited. Part of the ‘Ring of Fire’, a seismic belt that fringes the Pacific basin, the country has a complex geography, with the largest islands having composite geology, while others are characterised by volcanic or limestone formations. It has a climate that is predominantly hot, humid, and tropical, with year-round rainfall.

The country has a population of approximately 720,000 (est. 2019) and is growing at an annual average of 2.7% per annum. About 95% of the population is Melanesian, although there are also Polynesian, Micronesian, Chinese and European communities. English is the official language; however, 74 separate languages are spoken, and Pijin is the *lingua franca* for most of the population. The most populous are Guadalcanal, Malaita and Western Provinces, accounting for 39%, 24% and 13% of the population respectively.

Solomon Islands is part of the East Melanesian Islands Biodiversity Hotspot, one of the ‘Global 200’ ecoregions. The East Melanesian Islands qualify as a hotspot due to their high levels of endemism and accelerating levels of habitat loss. In terms of species richness and, especially, endemism, the East Melanesian Islands are considered one of the most biologically important regions on the planet.

Solomon Islands has also been recognised as a ‘Centre of Plant Diversity’ with 4,500 species of plants, of which 3,200 are known to be native or indigenous, including 2,763 species of angiosperms, 22 species of gymnosperms and 367 species of pteridophytes (true ferns and fern allies). Despite this high level of diversity, endemism of plant species is generally low. Sixteen plant species are on the IUCN Red List as threatened.

There are 53 known mammal species, with about 36% (19 species) considered endemic; these include 41 species of bats, 8 species of rats, and 4 species of opossums. Sixteen terrestrial mammalian species have been listed by the IUCN as threatened (14 as ‘vulnerable’ and 2 as ‘endangered’).

Birdlife International has categorised the Solomon Islands as an ‘Endemic Bird Area’ (EBA) with the ‘highest number of restricted-range species in any Endemic Bird Area’ globally (94). Of the 223 known bird species, 82% are endemic. Twenty-six species of birds have been listed by the IUCN as threatened – in addition to 18 listed as ‘vulnerable’, 4 ‘endangered’, 2 ‘critically endangered’ and 2 ‘extinct’.

Eighty species of reptile, including marine turtles, are currently known or identified; one-third of these are endemic, whilst 5 are threatened. There are 9 species of endemic snakes and a total of 21 species of frogs, of which two are threatened. Of the invertebrate fauna found in Solomon Islands, there are 130 known species of butterflies, of which 35 are endemic and 5 are listed as threatened. There are 25 endemic snails and 31 endemic species of cicadas. Moreover, a total of 43 freshwater fish species representing 26 genera and 14 families have been identified so far.

The main threats to the country’s biodiversity have been recognised as logging, inappropriate land use practices, mining and prospecting, over-exploitation of natural resources, population growth, natural disasters, invasive species, pollution, and climate change.

Forests cover approximately 89% of the total land area of Solomon Islands. There are seven main forest types recognised – lowland forest (0-200 m above sea level [asl]), hill forest (200-600 m asl), montane forest (upland rainforest) (above 600m asl),

freshwater swamp (riverine forest), mangrove forest (saline swamp forest), industrial plantation and community woodlots. The total forest area is estimated to include 2.5 million ha of natural forest, 35,600 ha of industrial plantations, and about 1,000 ha of community woodlots. Official estimates are that between 2001 and 2017, a total forest area of about 10,000 ha was lost to deforestation (mainly through the conversion of forest to subsistence agriculture) and a further 416,000 ha were degraded by logging and 201,000 ha by temporary gardening. Most of the disturbance occurred in lowland forests and hill forests.

Official estimates are that about 69% of natural forests are undisturbed, predominantly montane and hill forests. Global Forest Watch estimates that half of the country's intact forest was lost between 2000 and 2020.

The population is geographically dispersed, with 74% living in rural areas and 26% in urban centres. While urbanisation is increasing, the majority of the population is involved in subsistence/cash crop agriculture, with less than a quarter involved in paid work. With a narrow economic base primarily reliant on natural resources such as forestry, fisheries, agriculture and mining, as well as very limited inshore industrial processing, most of the country's revenue derives from exports of raw materials. In 2016 and 2017, around 65% of the country's export earnings came from forestry, mainly through the sale of round logs, which accounts for 20% of all state revenue. In 2017, log exports reached an all-time high of more than 3.4 million m³, continuing a 10-year trend of increasing log export volumes. Log export volumes have since declined from this peak, to 1.6 million m³ in 2022. In contrast, the sustainable rate of harvesting has been estimated at 250,000 m³ per annum (Solomon Islands Forest Management Project, 2006). Approximately 85% of active felling licences are currently operating in already-logged forests.

The Forestry Resources and Timber Utilization Act (FRTUA) along with the supporting document Solomon Islands Code of Logging Practice (2002) are administered by the Ministry of Forestry and Research (MOFR). The MOFR issues felling licences, milling licences, round log export permits and timber products permits. The MOFR has a range of advocacy roles, but is also responsible for the monitoring of all logging operations and the regulation and enforcement of the FRTUA, its regulations, forest policy and the code of logging practice.

In 2020, the Ministry of Forestry and Research published the National Forest Policy, which detailed a framework of strategies aimed at achieving the vision that "forest resources and ecosystems are sustainably and responsibly managed for the benefit and resilience of all Solomon Islanders." The Policy seeks to address a number of issues and constraints identified as threats to Solomon Islands' long-term vision for the forest sector, including outdated legislation and codes of practice, a lack of monitoring and law enforcement, unsustainable forest management and uncertain future wood supply, low investments into the forest sector, a low level of education and community vulnerability and lack of governance.

Sources:

- Government of Solomon Islands Fourth National Report to the Convention on Biological Diversity 2011;
- National Population and Housing Census, Provisional Count, 16 Nov 2020;
- Global Forest Watch, Intact Forest Landscapes²;
- Solomon Islands Government, National Forest Policy Statement 2020;
- Central Bank of Solomon Islands Quarterly Review, December 2022, page 6;
- Solomon Islands Government, Submission for the UNFCCC Technical Assessment 2019

² <https://intactforests.org/world.map.html>, accessed 4 April 2023

B.2 Background information on the standard development

(Informative section)

This standard was developed according to the rules and regulations laid out in FSC-PRO-60-007 V1-2 in the period from June 2018 to January 2020. Two rounds of stakeholder consultations were conducted, with the first round lasting from 5th March until 4th April 2019, and the second round lasting from 6th December 2019 until 12th January 2020.

Note: Further information is available from PSU upon request.

C References

(Informative section)

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

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

Note: When applying this standard, consider relevant 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>).

D **Principles*, Criteria* and Indicators***

(Normative section)

PRINCIPLE* 1: COMPLIANCE WITH LAWS

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

1.1 The Organization* shall be a legally defined entity with clear, documented, and unchallenged legal registration*, with written authorization from the legally competent* authority for specific activities.

1.1.1 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.

Verifiers: Copies of legal registration documents showing issuing authority.

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.

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.

Verifiers: Copies of title or use agreements; Survey documents; 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.

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.

Verifiers: Documentation of applicable legal and regulatory requirements; Evidence of payment of prescribed charges.

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.

Verifiers: Documentation on protection measures; Records of patrols, Field verification of physical measures.

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.

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

Verifiers: Documentation on applicable laws and codes; Copies of regulatory approvals, e.g. licences.

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, that requires proactive and culturally appropriate engagement to identify disputes.

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.

Verifiers: Documented dispute resolution process; Evidence of public availability; records of disputes; Stakeholder verification.

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 A written or verbal declaration not to give or receive bribes (money) or to engage in other forms of corruption is communicated to neighbours and customers.

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, including notification of the Ministry of Forestry and Research or other government agencies in case bribes have been offered by an employee of the Organisation to a Forest Officer or officer of another government agency.

Verifiers: Documented policy with evidence of public availability; Records of action taken if corruption occurs.

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.

Verifiers: Documented policy with evidence of public availability.

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, except as specified in 2.1.1.2.
 - 2.1.1.2 In cases of the employment of persons between the ages of 13 to 15 years in light work, such employment does not interfere with schooling nor be harmful to their health or development. Notably, where children are subject to compulsory education laws, they shall work only outside of school hours during normal daytime 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 regulations.
 - 2.1.1.4 The Organization shall prohibit the 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:
 - 1) Physical and sexual violence;
 - 2) Bonded labour;
 - 3) Withholding of wages /including payment of employment fees and or payment of deposit to commence employment;
 - 4) Restriction of mobility/movement;
 - 5) Retention of passport and identity documents; and/or
 - 6) Threats of denunciation to the authorities.
- 2.1.3 The Organization shall ensure that there is no discrimination in employment and occupation.
 - 2.1.3.1 Employment and occupation practices are non-discriminatory.
- 2.1.4 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.

Verifiers: Documented policies; Employee records, employment contracts or agreements, including collective bargaining agreements; Worker verification.

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 products 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 Women are paid directly and using mutually agreed methods (e.g. direct bank transfer, direct payments for school fees, etc.) to ensure they safely receive and retain their wages.

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 Meetings, management committees and decision-making forums are organized to include relevant workers including women and men, and to facilitate the active participation of both.

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

Verifiers: Documented policies and procedures, records of job advertising and appointment processes, employee records, worker verification.

2.3 The Organization* shall implement health and safety practices to protect workers* from occupational safety and health hazards. These practices shall, proportionate to scale, intensity and risk* of management activities, meet or exceed the recommendations of the ILO Code of Practice on Safety and Health in Forestry Work.

2.3.1 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 Each worker is informed about the health and safety measures corresponding to his/her activity and these meet or exceed the ILO Code of Practice on Safety and Health in Forestry Work.

2.3.2 Workers 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.

SLIMF 2.3.5 Accident level is 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.

Verifiers: Documented health and safety practices, including specifications for PPE use; Training records; Records of PPE provision; Records of worker supervision; Records of accidents; Worker verification; Field verification of health and safety practices, including PPE use.

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.

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 [Not applicable in Solomon Islands] 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.

Verifiers: Evidence of national awards, minimum wages, living wages; Records of wage payments; Worker verification.

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.

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

Verifiers: Training material relevant to worker tasks; Training records; Worker verification.

2.6 *The Organization through *engagement** with *workers** shall have mechanisms for resolving grievances and for providing *fair compensation** to *workers** for loss or damage to property, *occupational diseases**, or *occupational injuries** sustained while working for *The Organization**.**

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

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.

Verifiers: Documented dispute resolution process; Evidence of worker engagement, Records of disputes; Records of compensation payments; Worker verification.

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.

Verifiers: Records of Indigenous Peoples identification process; Records of documentation/mapping of rights, including records of culturally appropriate engagement; Verification from Indigenous Peoples identified.

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 (FPIC) 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.

Verifiers: Records of culturally appropriate engagement; Evidence of Free, Prior and Informed Consent; Verification from Indigenous Peoples involved.

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.

Verifiers: Records of binding agreements.

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

3.4.1 The rights, customs and culture of Indigenous Peoples as defined in 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.

Verifiers: Documented policy commitments; Verification from applicable Indigenous Peoples.

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.

Verifiers: Records of identified sites and evidence of culturally appropriate engagement; Documented protection measures; Evidence of field implementation; Field verification of adherence to protection measures.

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.

Verifiers: Records of use of traditional knowledge and intellectual property; Copies of binding agreements, including evidence of Free, Prior and Informed Consent; Records of compensation.

PRINCIPLE* 4: COMMUNITY RELATIONS

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

4.1 *The Organization shall identify the *local communities** that exist within the *Management Unit** and those that are affected by management activities. *The Organization** shall then, through *engagement** with these *local communities**, identify their rights of *tenure**, their rights of access to and use of *forest** resources and *ecosystem services**, their *customary rights** and *legal** rights and obligations, that apply within the *Management Unit**.**

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

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.

Verifiers: Identification records; Records of culturally appropriate engagement; Verification from communities involved.

4.2 *The Organization shall recognize and *uphold** the *legal** and *customary rights** of *local communities** to maintain control over management activities within or related to the *Management Unit** to the extent necessary to protect their rights, resources, *lands and territories**. Delegation by *traditional peoples** of control over management activities to third parties requires *Free, Prior and Informed Consent**.**

4.2.1 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 Free, Prior and Informed Consent is granted by traditional peoples prior to management activities that affect their identified rights through a process that includes:

- 1) Ensuring the traditional peoples know their rights and obligations regarding the resource;
- 2) Informing the traditional peoples of the value of the resource, in economic, social and environmental terms;
- 3) Informing the traditional peoples of their right to withhold or modify consent to the proposed management activities to the extent necessary to protect their rights and resources from impacts of management actions; and
- 4) Informing the traditional peoples of the current and future planned forest management activities.

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 traditional peoples are engaged in a mutually-agreed FPIC process that is advancing, in good faith and with which the community is satisfied.

Verifiers: Records of culturally appropriate engagement; Records of identified rights; Evidence of Free, Prior and Informed Consent; Verification from communities involved.

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 Preference is given to local people and services.

Verifiers: Records of employment; Records of contractor and supplier engagement processes; Training records.

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 Local products and services are used.

Verifiers: Records of culturally appropriate engagement; Records of projects and activities identified and implemented.

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

SLIMF 4.5.1.1 Measures are implemented to avoid and mitigate negative social, environmental and economic impacts of management activities on affected communities.

SLIMF 4.5.1.2 Upon request, these measures are communicated to neighbours and adjacent landowners.

Verifiers: Records of culturally appropriate engagement; Records of potential impacts identified, and mitigation measures proposed; Records of implementation; Field verification of implementation.

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 Operations cease in areas while disputes exist of:

- 1) Substantial magnitude;
- 2) Substantial duration; or
- 3) Involving a significant number of interests.

Verifiers: Documented dispute resolution process and evidence of public availability; Records of grievances and resolution processes followed.

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.

Verifiers: Records of sites identified, protection measures specified and evidence of culturally appropriate engagement; Records of implementation of protection measures; Field verification of implementation.

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

4.8.1 Traditional knowledge and intellectual property of traditional peoples 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 Traditional peoples are compensated according to the binding agreement reached through Free, Prior and Informed Consent for the use of traditional knowledge and intellectual property.

Verifiers: Records of use of traditional knowledge and intellectual property; Copies of binding agreements, including evidence of Free, Prior and Informed Consent; Records of compensation.

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.

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

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

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

Verifiers: Records of resources and services identified, and processes adopted to make them available for production or use.

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.

Note: Best available information includes, but is not limited to:

- 1) Production data/records;
- 2) forest inventory data/records;
- 3) growth and yield from its own permanent sample plot; or
- 4) growth and yield from published scientific literature at local/regional level.

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.

Note: Best available information includes, but is not limited to:

- 1) Production data/records;
- 2) forest inventory data/records;
- 3) growth and yield from its own permanent sample plot; or
- 4) growth and yield from published scientific literature at local/regional level.

Verifiers: Records of processes used to determine harvesting levels and supporting data/records.

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

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

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

Verifiers: Documentation of costs and benefits.

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 Local goods, services, processing, and value-added facilities are used where they exist.

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

Verifiers: Records of evaluation of local supply options.

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.

SLIMF 5.5.1 Sufficient funds are allocated to implement the management plan in order to meet this standard and to strive towards 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.

Verifiers: Operating budgets; Records of expenditures.

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.

Note: Best available information includes, but is not limited to:

- 1) Representative Sample Areas showing environmental values in their natural condition;
- 2) Field surveys;
- 3) Databases relevant to the environmental values;
- 4) Consultation with local and regional experts; or
- 5) Culturally appropriate engagement with Indigenous Peoples, local communities and affected stakeholders and interested stakeholders.

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 Assessments of environmental values are conducted with a level of detail and frequency.

Verifiers: Records of assessment process and descriptions of values identified.

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 Prior to implementing site-disturbing activities, an assessment is conducted to identify possible adverse impacts from planned management activities.

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

Verifiers: Records of impact assessment process and description of potential impacts identified.

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.

6.3.2 Management activities prevent negative impacts to environmental values.

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.

Verifiers: Documented protection measures; Operational plans for management activities; Records of implementation of protection measures; Field verification of implementation of measures.

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, but is not limited to:

- 1) Mapping or other assessment, including surveys and consultation of database records, of rare and threatened species and their habitat known or likely to occur in the Management Unit that may be negatively affected by management activities, including an assessment of known and likely locations and habitat locations.
- 2) A review of the assessment of rare and threatened species undertaken by a locally knowledgeable expert independent of The Organization.
- 3) Pre-harvest surveys and/or habitat assessments.
- 4) An assessment of the adequacy and currency of Best Available Information in identifying species, impacts and management response, and further information that may need to be acquired.
- 5) Consultation with relevant expert or knowledgeable stakeholders.

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 Management activities are designed or modified to avoid negative impacts to rare and threatened 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.

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

SLIMF 6.4.4 A system is in place to prevent hunting, fishing, trapping and collection of rare or threatened species

Verifiers: Records of identification processes for species and habitats; Descriptions of species and habitats identified; Records of process for identifying potential impacts and descriptions of those impacts identified; Documented protection measures; Operational plans for management activities; Maps of protected areas; Records of implementation of protection measures; Field verification of implementation of protection measures.

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 is used to identify native ecosystems that exist, or would exist under natural conditions, within the Management Unit.

Note: Best Available Information includes, but is not limited to: Forest ecosystem and vegetation mapping.

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.

Verifiers: Records of identification process for native ecosystems, descriptions of ecosystems identified. Records of process for designation of representative areas to be protected, maps of protected areas. Field verification of protection of representative sample areas.

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

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

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

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

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

Verifiers: Documented measures to maintain or re-establish habitat features. Documented measures to manage and control hunting, fishing, trapping and collecting activities. Records of implementation of measures. Field verification of implementation of measures.

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 Protection measures are implemented to protect natural watercourses, water bodies, riparian zones and their connectivity, including water quantity and water quality. Such measures, include, but are not limited to:

- 1) Buffer zones and other measures to protect natural watercourses and waterbodies, their connectivity, in-stream habitat, and fish, invertebrates, and other aquatic species;
- 2) Measures to protect native vegetation in riparian zones of watercourses and water bodies, including feeding, breeding, or cover habitat for terrestrial and aquatic species, and needed inputs of wood and leaf litter into aquatic areas;
- 3) Measures to prevent negative changes in water quantity and quality, including through maintaining stream shading sufficient to protect against temperature changes beyond natural limits;
- 4) Measures to maintain natural hydrological patterns and stream flows;
- 5) Measures to prevent impacts from road location, construction, maintenance and use;
- 6) Measures to prevent sedimentation of water bodies and soil erosion from harvesting, roads, and other activities; and
- 7) Measures to prevent negative impacts from chemicals or fertilizers.

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.

Verifiers: Documented measures to protect, restore or mitigate degradation of natural watercourses, water bodies, riparian zones and their connectivity; Records of implementation of measures; Field verification of implementation of measures.

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.

Verifiers: Management unit maps; Harvest plans; Regeneration procedures.

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

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

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

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

Verifiers: Records of forest establishment; Satellite and photographic imagery of historical land use.

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

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

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

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

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

Verifiers: Records of forest establishment; Satellite and photographic imagery of historical land use.

- 6.11 **Management Units*** shall not qualify for certification if they contain **natural forests*** or **High Conservation Value*** areas converted after 31 December 2020, except where the **conversion***:
- a) **Affected a very limited portion*** of the **Management Unit***, and
 - b) **Is producing clear, substantial, additional*, secure long-term* conservation* and social benefits in the Management Unit*, and**
 - c) **Did not threaten High Conservation Values*, nor any sites or resources necessary to maintain or enhance those High Conservation Values*.**
- 6.11.1 Based on Best Available Information, accurate data is compiled on all conversions of natural forests and High Conservation Value Areas after 31 December 2020 within the Management Unit.
- 6.11.2 Areas where natural forests or High Conservation Value Areas have been converted after 31 December 2020 are not certified, except where the conversion:
- 1) Affected a very limited portion of the Management Unit, and
 - 2) is producing clear, substantial, additional, secure long-term conservation and social benefits in the Management Unit, and
 - 3) did not threaten High Conservation Values, nor any sites or resources necessary to maintain or enhance those High Conservation Values.

PRINCIPLE* 7: MANAGEMENT PLANNING

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

7.1 **The Organization*** shall, proportionate to **scale, intensity and risk*** of its management activities, set policies (visions and values) and **objectives*** for management, which are environmentally sound, socially beneficial and economically viable. Summaries of these policies and **objectives*** shall be incorporated into the **management plan***, and publicized.

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

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

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

Verifiers: Documented policies and management activities; Management plan and evidence of publicization.

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.

7.2.2 The management plan addresses the elements listed in Annex E and is implemented.

Verifiers: Management plan and associated documents.

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.

Verifiers: Management plan with documented targets for specified management objectives.

7.4 The Organization* shall update and revise periodically the management planning and procedural documentation to incorporate the results of monitoring and evaluation, stakeholder engagement* or new scientific and technical information, as well as to respond to changing environmental, social and economic circumstances.

7.4.1 The management plan is revised and updated periodically consistent with Annex F to incorporate:

- 1) Monitoring results, including results of certification audits;
- 2) Evaluation results;
- 3) Stakeholder engagement results;
- 4) New scientific and technical information, and
- 5) Changing environmental, social, or economic circumstances.

Verifiers: Records of revision and updating of management plan.

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

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.

Verifiers: Management plan summary, including evidence of public availability.

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

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

- 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 Culturally appropriate engagement is completed with affected stakeholders and Indigenous Peoples to ensure that their concerns are addressed in the development and implementation of management and monitoring activities.

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.

Verifiers: Records of culturally appropriate engagement processes undertaken.

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, management objectives and achievement of verifiable targets.

Verifiers: Documented monitoring procedures; Records of implementation of prescribed monitoring activities.

8.2 *The Organization** shall *monitor** and evaluate the environmental and social impacts of the activities carried out in the *Management Unit**, and changes in its environmental condition.

8.2.1 The social and environmental impacts of management activities are monitored consistent with Annex G.

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

Verifiers: Monitoring records.

8.3 *The Organization** shall analyse 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.

Verifiers: Evidence of analysis of monitoring records; Records of non-conformities; Evidence of adaptive management.

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

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

Verifiers: Documented summary of monitoring results and evidence of public availability.

8.5 The Organization* shall have and implement a tracking and tracing system proportionate to the *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.

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.

Verifiers: Documented tracking and tracing system; Records of sales; Sales documents.

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 consistent with Annex I 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.

Note: Best Available Information includes, but is not limited to:

- 1) High Conservation Value surveys of the Management Unit;
- 2) Relevant databases and maps;
- 3) Consultation with relevant local and regional experts;
- 4) Other available sources; and/or
- 5) Review of the results by knowledgeable expert(s) independent of The Organization.

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

Verifiers: Records of the HCV assessment process, including records of associated culturally appropriate engagement.

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.

Note: Best Available Information includes, but is not limited to:

- 1) High Conservation Value surveys of the Management Unit;
- 2) Relevant databases and maps;
- 3) Consultation with relevant local and regional experts;
- 4) Other available sources; and/or
- 5) Review of the results by knowledgeable expert(s) independent of The Organization.

9.2.2 Management strategies and actions are developed consistent with Annex I 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 Management strategies are developed to protect core areas.

9.2.5 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 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.

Verifiers: Records of process to identify threats to HCVs; Description of potential threats identified; Documented management strategies to maintain and/or enhance HCVs, Records of associated stakeholder engagement.

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 Core areas are protected consistent with Criterion 9.2.

9.3.4 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.

Verifiers: Documented procedures for implementation of management measures; Operational plans and maps; Records of implementation of management measures; Field verification of implementation of management measures.

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.

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

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

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.

Verifiers: Documented monitoring procedures; Monitoring records, including records of associated stakeholder engagement; Field verification of monitoring activities.

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.

Verifiers: Documented regeneration procedures; Field verification of regeneration activities and measures.

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 Species chosen for regeneration are ecologically well-adapted to the site, are native species and are of local provenance, unless clear and convincing justification is provided for using non-local genotypes or non-native species. This rationale may include:

- 1) Growth rates not meeting management objectives;
- 2) Yields not being viable for the local species;
- 3) Native species and/or local genotypes becoming extinct;
- 4) Native species and/or local genotypes not being resistant to disease and pests;
- 5) Site stresses, such as water;
- 6) Afforestation of degraded agriculture and range lands;
- 7) Climate change adaptation; or
- 8) Capacity to stock carbon.

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

Verifiers: Documented policies and procedures for species choice; Field verification of procedure implementation.

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.

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.

Verifiers: Documented policies and procedures for species choice; Plans and procedures for control of invasive species; Field verification of procedure implementation.

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

10.4.1 Genetically modified organisms are not used.

Verifiers: Documented policies and procedures; Records of genetic material introduced into the Management Unit.

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.

Verifiers: Documented silvicultural procedures; Field verification of implementation of procedures.

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 The use of fertilizers is minimized or avoided.

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 When fertilizers are used, environmental values are protected, including through implementation of measures to prevent damage. Measures include, where applicable, buffer zones that exclude the use of fertilizers around rare plant communities, riparian zones, watercourses and water bodies.

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

Verifiers: Documented policies and procedures on fertilizer use; Records of fertilizer use; Field verification of procedure implementation.

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 Prior to using chemical pesticides, the requirements of the Environmental and Social Risk Assessment framework for Organizations (FSC-POL-30-001 V3-0 FSC Pesticides Policy clause 4.12) are met.

10.7.3 Affected rights holders and affected and interested stakeholders are provided with an opportunity for engagement in the development of the Environmental and Social Risk Assessment in a culturally appropriate manner.

10.7.4 The Environmental and Social Risk Assessment is reviewed and, if necessary, revised within the certificate cycle.

10.7.5 A decision process and rationale are in place to select the pest, weed or disease control option that demonstrates least social and environmental damages, more effectiveness and equal or greater social and environmental benefits.

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

10.7.7 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 clean-up following accidental spillages.

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

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

- 10.7.10 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.

Verifiers: Documented policy and procedures for integrated pest management; Documented policies and procedures on chemical use; Records of chemical use; Field verification of procedure implementation.

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 Use of biological control agents complies with internationally accepted scientific protocols, including the FAO Code of Conduct for the Import and Release of Exotic Biological Control and any national regulations, where these exist.

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.

Verifiers: Documented policy and procedures for biological control agents; Documented policies and procedures on use of biological control agents; Records of biological control agent use; Field verification of procedure implementation.

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

10.9.2 Management activities mitigate these impacts.

SLIMF 10.9.2 Where capacity and resources allow, management activities mitigate potential unacceptable negative impacts of natural hazards. If capacity or resources do not allow, the Organization or manager communicates with government or relevant local Organizations about mitigation capacity and possibilities.

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.

SLIMF 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 The Organization's management activities.

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

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

Verifiers: Documented assessment of potential natural hazards and associated impacts on infrastructure, forest resources and communities; Assessment of risks and opportunities to mitigate impacts and specification of appropriate management measures; Records of implementation of management measures; Field verification of management measure implementation.

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

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

Verifiers: Documented procedures and mitigation measures; Operational plans and maps; Records of implementation of procedures and mitigation measures; Field verification of management measure implementation.

10.11 *The Organization* shall manage activities associated with harvesting and extraction of timber and non-timber forest products* so that environmental values* are conserved, merchantable waste is reduced, and damage to other products and services is avoided.*

10.11.1 Harvesting and extraction practices for timber and non-timber forest products are implemented in a manner that conserves environmental values as identified in Criterion 6.1 and High Conservation Values identified in Criteria 9.1 and 9.2 and in accordance with the Solomon Islands Code of Logging Practice.

10.11.2 Harvesting practices optimize the use of forest products and merchantable materials and prevent high grading.

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

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

Verifiers: Documented harvesting and extraction procedures; Operational plans and maps; Records of implementation of procedures; Field verification of management measure implementation.

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

10.12.1 Collection, clean up, transportation and disposal of all waste materials is done in an environmentally appropriate way that conserves environmental values as identified in Criterion 6.1 and applicable law.

Verifiers: Documented waste management procedures; Records of implementation of procedures; Field verification of management measure implementation.

E Annexes

(Normative section)

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

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

| 1. Legal rights to harvest | |
|---------------------------------------|---|
| 1.1 Land tenure and management rights | <p>Applicable laws and regulations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Constitution of Solomon Islands - Art. 110, s. 144; Sch. 3. Available at: http://extwprlegs1.fao.org/docs/pdf/sol132844.pdf• The Customs Recognition Act 2000 (not yet in force). Available at: https://www.ecolex.org/details/legislation/customs-recognition-act-no-7-of-2000-lex-faoc074602/• Land and Titles Act - Cap. 133 - http://thereddesk.org/uuid/node/918c589a-5e93-43c2-834c882401c4b975• Forest Resources and Timber Utilisation Act (Cap. 40) - ss 3, 5–6. Available at: http://thereddesk.org/sites/default/files/forest_resources_and_timber_utilisation_act_of_1969.pdf• Forest Resources and Timber (Prescribed Forms) Regulations 1978. Available at: https://www.ecolex.org/details/legislation/forest-resources-and-timber-utilisation-prescribed-formsregulations-lex-faoc121261/• Forest Resources and Timber (Prescribed Forms) (Amendment) Regulations 2005. Available at: https://www.ecolex.org/details/legislation/forest-resources-and-timber-utilisation-prescribed-formsregulations-lex-faoc121261/• Forest Resources and Timber Utilisation (Felling Licences) Regulations 2005. Available at: http://www.paclii.org/sb/legis/sub_leg/fratuafatulr2005987/• Forest Resources and Timber Utilisation (Felling Licences) (Amendment) Regulations 2014. Available at: http://extwprlegs1.fao.org/docs/pdf/sol153638.pdf• Forest Resources and Timber Utilisation (Protected Species) Regulations 2012. Available at: http://extwprlegs1.fao.org/docs/pdf/sol148111.pdf• Forest Resources and Timber Utilisation (Fees) (Amendment) Regulations 2005. Available at: http://extwprlegs1.fao.org/docs/pdf/sol137587.pdf• Customary Land Records Act, 1994 (Cap 132). Available at: http://thereddesk.org/sites/default/files/customary_land_records_act_1994.pdf• Business Names Act, 2014. Available at: http://www.parliament.gov.pg/uploads/acts/14A_08.pdf• Companies Act, 2009. Available at: http://www.parliament.gov.pg/uploads/acts/14A_08.pdf |

| | |
|--|---|
| 1.2 Concession licenses | <p>Not applicable (N/A)</p> <p>NOTE: Forest concession have been described as a contract between a forest owner and another party permitting the harvesting and/or managing of specified resources from a given forest area. Forest concessions can involve both types of contract, granting concessionaires harvesting or use rights, while requiring them to undertake forest management activities, reforestation and/or environmental protection (FAO 2011, 2001). However, when speaking of forest resource rights concessions, the usage has become somewhat more restricted so that it is more normal to talk of concessions between States (as owners of resource rights) and other actors (including individuals, communities and corporations) as users of these resources.</p> <p>In the case of the Solomon Islands, the customary land owners hold the forest resource rights. For harvesting on customary land by a private company, a Form 4 Standard Logging Agreement must be in place with the customary land owners prior to issuing a felling licence. While the term 'concession' is used in the context of the Solomon Islands and Standard Logging Agreements, this risk assessment considers that it is more appropriate to restrict the definition to States only. Standard Logging Agreements are correctly addressed in 1.1 (Land tenure and management rights).</p> |
| 1.3 Management and harvesting planning | <p>Applicable laws and regulations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Forest Resources and Timber Utilisation (Felling Licences) Regulations 2005. Available at: http://www.paclii.org/sb/legis/sub_leg/fratuafatulr2005987/ • Forest Resources and Timber Utilisation (Felling Licences) (Amendment) Regulations 2014. Available at: http://extwprlegs1.fao.org/docs/pdf/sol153638.pdf • The Environment Act 1998 (No. 8 of 1998). Available at: http://www.paclii.org/sb/legis/num_act/ea1998159/ • The Revised Solomon Islands Code of Logging Practice (May 2002) - http://thereddesk.org/uuid/node/0d5ab960-8697-4d98-88d6-f4cf8baab73f |
| 1.4 Harvesting permits | <p>Applicable laws and regulations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Forest Resources and Timber Utilisation Act 1970 [Rev. Edition 1996] [Cap 40]. Available at: http://thereddesk.org/sites/default/files/forest_resources_and_timber_utilisation_act_of_1969.pdf 40 Timber Risk Profile – Solomon Islands • Forest Resources and Timber Utilisation (Felling Licences) Regulations 2005. Available at: http://www.paclii.org/sb/legis/sub_leg/fratuafatulr2005987/ • Forest Resources and Timber Utilisation (Felling Licences) (Amendment) Regulations 2014. Available at: http://extwprlegs1.fao.org/docs/pdf/sol153638.pdf |

| | |
|--|---|
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Forest Resources and Timber (Prescribed Forms) Regulations 1978. Available at: https://www.ecolex.org/details/legislation/forest-resources-and-timber-utilisation-prescribed-formsregulations-lex-faac121261/ • Forest Resources and Timber (Prescribed Forms) (Amendment) Regulations 2005. Available at: https://www.ecolex.org/details/legislation/forest-resources-and-timber-utilisation-prescribed-formsregulations-lex-faac121261/ • Forest Resources and Timber Utilisation (Fees) (Amendment) Regulations 2005. Available at: http://extwprlegs1.fao.org/docs/pdf/sol137587.pdf • Timber (Levy and Mill Licensing) Regulations 1970 (Cap 40). Available at: https://www.ecolex.org/details/legislation/timber-levy-and-mill-licensing-regulations-lexfaoc137486/?q=levy+and+mill • Timber (Levy and Mill Licensing) (Amendment) Regulations 2005 (L.N. No. 83 of 2005). Available at: https://www.ecolex.org/details/legislation/timber-levy-and-mill-licensing-amendment-regulations-lno-83-of-2005-lex-faac137488/?q=levy+and+mill • Legal Notice 114 – Forest Resource and timber Utilisation (Timber Licensing and Tree Felling) regulation 2007. Available at: https://www.ecolex.org/details/legislation/forest-resources-and-timber-utilisation-timber-licensing-and-tree-felling-regulations-si-no-21-of-2007-lex-faac136340/ |
| 2. Taxes and fees | |
| 2.1 Payment of royalties and harvesting fees | <p>Applicable laws and regulations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Forest Resources and Timber Utilisation Act 1970 [Rev. Edition 1996] [Cap 40]. Available at: http://thereddesk.org/sites/default/files/forest_resources_and_timber_utilisation_act_of_1969.pdf • Forest Resources and Timber Utilisation (Fees) (Amendment) Regulations 2005. Available at: http://extwprlegs1.fao.org/docs/pdf/sol137587.pdf • Forest Resources and Timber (Prescribed Forms) Regulations 1978. Available at: https://www.ecolex.org/details/legislation/forest-resources-and-timber-utilisation-prescribed-formsregulations-lex-faac121261/ • Forest Resources and Timber (Prescribed Forms) (Amendment) Regulations 2005. Available at: https://www.ecolex.org/details/legislation/forest-resources-and-timber-utilisation-prescribed-formsregulations-lex-faac121261/ |
| 2.2 Value added taxes and other sales taxes | <p>Not Applicable.</p> <p>Timber products are not eligible for VAT or other sales taxes. Timber and wood-products are not included in the 'Schedule' of prescribed goods and services eligible for VAT, as per the Sales Tax Act (2004) available at: http://www.paclii.org/sb/legis/consol_act/sta114/</p> |

| | |
|--|---|
| 2.3 Income and profit taxes | <p>Applicable laws and regulations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Income Tax Act (Cap 123). Available at: http://www.ird.gov.sb/Resource.aspx?ID=107 |
| 3. Timber harvesting activities | |
| 3.1 Protected sites and species | <p>Applicable laws and regulations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Protected Areas Act 2010. Available at: https://www.ecolex.org/details/legislation/protected-areasact-2010-act-no-4-of-2010-lex-faac094186/ Protected Areas Regulations 2012 (L.N. No. 12 of 2012). Available at: http://thereddesk.org/sites/default/files/protected_areas_regulations_2012.pdf Forest Resources and Timber Utilisation Act [Cap. 40]. Available at: http://thereddesk.org/sites/default/files/forest_resources_and_timber_utilisation_act_of_1969.pdf Forest Resources and Timber Utilisation (Protected Species) (Amendment) Regulations 2012. Legal Notice 133. Available at: http://extwprlegs1.fao.org/docs/pdf/sol148110.pdf Forest Resources and Timber Utilisation (Protected Species) Regulations 2012. Available at: http://extwprlegs1.fao.org/docs/pdf/sol148111.pdf Forest Resources and Timber Utilisation (Felling Licences) Regulations 2005. Available at: http://www.paclii.org/sb/legis/sub_leg/fratuafatulr2005987/ Timber (Levy and Mill Licensing) (Amendment) Regulations 2005 (L.N. No. 83 of 2005). Available at: https://www.ecolex.org/details/legislation/timber-levy-and-mill-licensing-amendment-regulations-inno-83-of-2005-lex-faac137488/?q=levy+and+mill Wildlife Protection and Management Act 1998. Available at: https://www.ecolex.org/details/legislation/wildlife-protection-and-management-act-1998-act-no-10-of-1998-lex-faac060396/ Wildlife Protection and Management Regulations 2008 (L.N. No. 78 of 2008). Available at: https://www.ecolex.org/details/legislation/wildlife-protection-and-management-regulations-2008-inno-78-of-2008-lex-faac148447/ Wildlife Protection and Management (Amendment) Act 2017. Available at: http://www.parliament.gov.sb/files/legislation/Acts/2017/Wildlife%20Protection%20and%20Management%20(Amendment)%20Act%202017.pdf |

| | |
|---------------------------------------|--|
| <p>3.2 Environmental requirements</p> | <p>Applicable laws and regulations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Environment Act 1998 - ss. 16 – 19, ss. 17(4) and 19(c)), s. 18, ss. 22 – 24, Sch. 2(8)(b), s. 15 - http://www.paclii.org/sb/legis/num_act/ea1998159/ • Environment Regulations 2008 - http://theredddesk.org/uuid/node/507107c2-e1ee-4f2b-83bb0f98a4409e98 • River Waters Act (Cap 135). Available at: https://www.ecolex.org/details/legislation/river-waters-actcap-135-lex-faoc041484/ • Forest Resources and Timber Utilisation (Felling Licences) Regulations 2005. Available at: http://www.paclii.org/sb/legis/sub_leg/fratuafatulr2005987/ |
| <p>3.3 Health and safety</p> | <p>Applicable laws and regulations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Safety at Work Act 1982 (No. 3 of 1982) Revised 1996 edition. Available at: http://www.paclii.org/sb/legis/consol_act/sawa173/ • Forest Resources and Timber Utilisation Act (Cap. 40) - ss 3, 5–6. Available at: http://theredddesk.org/sites/default/files/forest_resources_and_timber_utilisation_act_of_1969.pdf |
| <p>3.4 Legal employment</p> | <p>Applicable laws and regulations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Labour Act: http://www.paclii.org/sb/legis/consol_act/la84/ • Employment Act 1996 edition (Cap 72). Available at: http://www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/---ed_protect/---protrav/---ilo_aids/documents/legaldocument/wcms_179315.pdf • Constitution of Solomon Islands - Art. 6; 110, s. 144; Sch. 3. Available at: http://extwprlegs1.fao.org/docs/pdf/sol132844.pdf • Workmen’s Compensation Act – 1982 (Cap 78) 1996 Edition. Available at: http://www.labour.gov.sb/labour-laws/. Specifically: http://www.labour.gov.sb/download/1260/ • Immigration Act 2012, No.3 of 2012, enacted March 9, 2012. Available at: http://www.paclii.org/sb/legis/num_act/ia2012138/ • Penal Code – Art 141, 143, 144, 145, 251; 256. Available at: https://www.ilo.org/dyn/natlex/docs/ELECTRONIC/68888/67465/F308930764/SLB68888.pdf and http://www.parliament.gov.sb/files/legislation/10th_Parliament/Acts/2016/Penal%20Code%20(Amdt)%20(Sexual%20Offences)%20Act%202016.pdf • Solomon Islands National Provident Fund (Amendment) Act 1993 (Act No. 1 of 1993). Available at: http://www.parliament.gov.sb/files/legislation/Acts/1993/The%20Solomon%20Islands%20National%20Provident%20Fund%20%28Amendment%29%20Act%201993.pdf and Solomon Islands National Provident Fund Act (1973). http://www.paclii.org/sb/legis/consol_act/sinpfa421.rtf • Trade Union Act (Cap 76) 1998 Edition - Art 60 (Freedom of association of employees). Available at: http://www.paclii.org/sb/legis/consol_act/tua150/ |

| 4. Third parties' rights | |
|---|--|
| 4.1 Customary rights | <p>Applicable laws and regulations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Land and Titles Act - s. 239(1), 241, 240 - http://thereddesk.org/uuid/node/918c589a-5e93-43c2-834c-882401c4b975 • Forest Resources and Timber Utilisation Act - s. 43, 71, 60 - http://thereddesk.org/uuid/node/918c589a-5e93-43c2-834c-882401c4b975 |
| 4.2 Free Prior and Informed Consent | <p>Applicable laws and regulations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Forest Resources and Timber Utilisation Act (Cap. 40). Available at: http://thereddesk.org/sites/default/files/forest_resources_and_timber_utilisation_act_of_1969.pdf • Customary Land Records Act, 1994 (Cap 132). Available at: http://thereddesk.org/sites/default/files/customary_land_records_act_1994.pdf |
| 4.3 Indigenous Peoples' rights | <p>Applicable laws and regulations</p> <p>Within Annex, Indigenous/traditional peoples' rights are considered to overlap with 1.1: Land tenure and management rights; 1.13 Customary rights and 1.14: Free prior and informed consent. Therefore, please refer to these indicators.</p> |
| 5. Trade and transport | |
| NOTE: This section covers requirements for forest management operations as well as processing and trade. | |
| 5.1 Classification of species, quantities, qualities | <p>Applicable laws and regulations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Forest Resources and Timber Utilisation Act 1970 [Rev. Edition 1996] [Cap 40]. Available at: http://thereddesk.org/sites/default/files/forest_resources_and_timber_utilisation_act_of_1969.pdf • Forest Resources and Timber Utilisation (Felling Licences) Regulations 2005. Available at: http://www.paclii.org/sb/legis/sub_leg/fratuafatutr2005987/ • Timber (Levy and Mill Licensing) Regulations 1970 (Cap 40). Available at: https://www.ecolex.org/details/legislation/timber-levy-and-mill-licensing-regulations-lexfaoc137486/?q=levy+and+mill • Timber (Levy and Mill Licensing) (Amendment) Regulations 2005 (L.N. No. 83 of 2005). Available at: https://www.ecolex.org/details/legislation/timber-levy-and-mill-licensing-amendment-regulations-inno-83-of-2005-lex-faoc137488/?q=levy+and+mill |
| 5.2 Trade and transport | <p>Not applicable.</p> <p>There is no legislation covering trade and transport of wood from forest operations</p> |

| | |
|---|---|
| 5.3 Offshore trading and transfer pricing | <p>Applicable laws and regulations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sales Tax Act 2004 (Cap 125). (No. 1 of 2004). Available at: http://www.paclii.org/sb/legis/consol_act/sta114/ • Exchange Control Act 1976. Available at: http://www.cbsi.com.sb/wpcontent/uploads/2016/06/exchange-control-act.pdf |
| 5.4 Custom regulations | <p>Applicable laws and regulations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Customs and Excise Act [Cap 121]. Available at: http://www.paclii.org/sb/legis/consol_act/caea199/ • Customs and Excise (Amendment) (No. 2) Act 2012 (No 8 of 2012): Available at: http://www.ird.gov.sb/Resource.aspx?ID=175 • Forest Resources and Timber Utilisation (Protected Species) (Amendment) Regulations 2012. Legal Notice 133. Available at: http://extwprlegs1.fao.org/docs/pdf/sol148110.pdf • Forest Resources and Timber Utilisation (Protected Species) Regulations 2012. Available at: http://extwprlegs1.fao.org/docs/pdf/sol148111.pdf • Wildlife Protection and Management Act 1998: https://www.ecolex.org/details/legislation/wildlifeprotection-and-management-act-1998-act-no-10-of-1998-lex-faac060396/ |
| 5.5 CITES | <p>Applicable laws and regulations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wildlife Protection and Management Act 1998: https://www.ecolex.org/details/legislation/wildlifeprotection-and-management-act-1998-act-no-10-of-1998-lex-faac060396/ • Wildlife Protection and Management Regulations 2008 (L.N. No. 78 of 2008): https://www.ecolex.org/details/legislation/wildlife-protection-and-management-regulations-2008-Inno-78-of-2008-lex-faac148447/ • Wildlife Protection and Management (Amendment) Act 2017. Available at: http://www.parliament.gov.sb/files/legislation/Acts/2017/Wildlife%20Protection%20and%20Management%20(Amendment)%20Act%202017.pdf |
| 6. Due diligence / due care | |
| 6.1 Due diligence / due care procedures | <p>Applicable laws and regulations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Forest Resources and Timber Utilisation Act 1970 [Rev. Edition 1996] [Cap 40]. Available at: http://theredddesk.org/sites/default/files/forest_resources_and_timber_utilisation_act_of_1969.pdf |

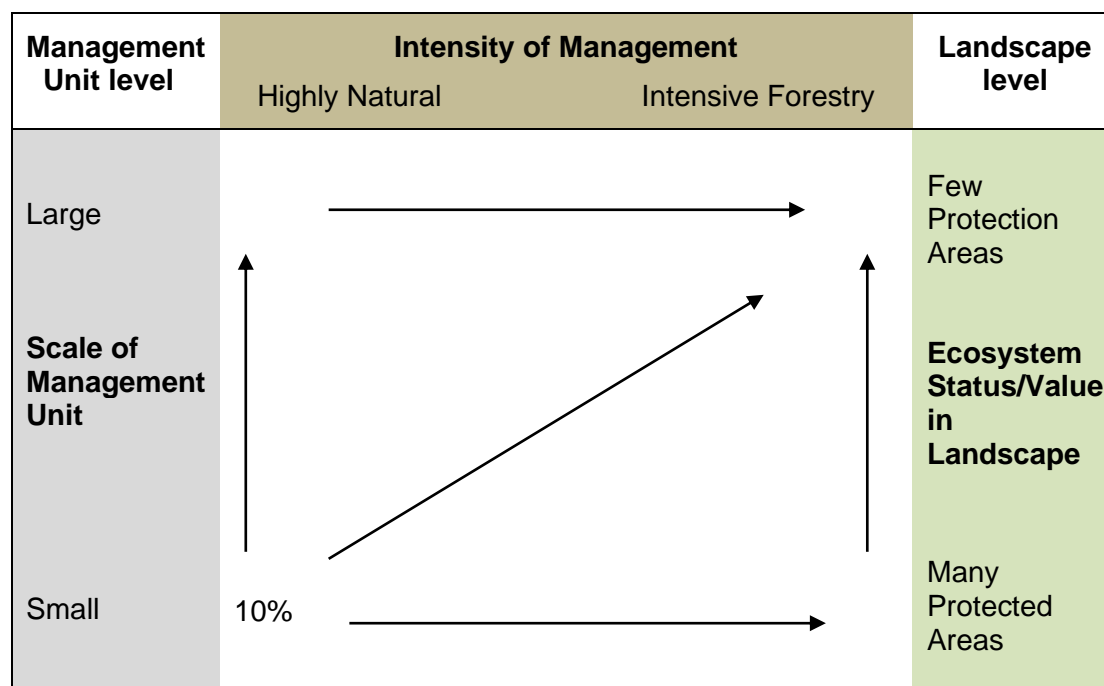
| 7. Ecosystem Services | |
|------------------------|---|
| 7.1 Ecosystem Services | <p>Applicable laws and regulations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Solomon Islands Visitors Bureau Act 1996 <p>http://www.parliament.gov.sb/files/legislation/Acts/1996/The%20Solomon%20Islands%20Visitors%20Bureau%20ACT%201996.pdf</p> <p>NOTE: Also see other relevant laws and regulations mentioned above.</p> |

Annex B Training requirements for workers (Principle 2)

Workers shall be able to:

- 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 Conservation Area Network conceptual diagram (Principle 6)



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

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

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

Annex D List of rare and threatened species in Solomon Islands (Principle 6)

A list of rare and threatened species in Solomon Islands can be found at the following sources:

- IUCN: International Union for Conservation of Nature www.iucnredlist.org
- Solomon Islands Environment Data Portal: <https://solomonislands-data.sprep.org/dataset/iucn-red-list-data-solomon-islands>

Annex E Elements of the management plan (Principle 7)

- 1) The results of assessments, including:
 - i. Natural resources and environmental values, as identified in Principle 6 and Principle 9;
 - ii. Social, economic and cultural resources and condition, as identified in Principle 6, Principle 2 to Principle 5 and Principle 9;
 - iii. Intact Forest Landscapes and core areas, as identified in Principle 9;
 - iv. Indigenous cultural landscapes, as identified with affected rights holders in Principle 3 & Principle 9;
 - v. Major social and environmental risks in the area, as identified in Principle 6, Principle 2 to Principle 5 and Principle 9; and
 - vi. The maintenance and/or enhancement of ecosystem services for which promotional claims are made as identified in Criterion 5.1.
- 2) Programs and activities regarding:
 - i. Workers' rights, occupational health and safety, gender equality, as identified in Principle 2;
 - ii. Indigenous Peoples, community relations, local economic and social development, as identified in Principle 3, Principle 4 and Principle 5;
 - iii. Stakeholder engagement and the resolution of disputes and grievances, as identified in Principle 1, Principle 2 and Principle 7;
 - iv. Planned management activities and timelines, silvicultural systems used, typical harvesting methods and equipment, as identified in Principle 10;
 - v. The rationale for harvesting rates of timber and other natural resources, as identified in Principle 5.
- 3) Measures to conserve and/or restore:
 - i. Rare and threatened species and habitats;
 - ii. Water bodies and riparian zones;
 - iii. Landscape connectivity, including wildlife corridors;
 - iv. Ecosystem services when FSC ecosystem services claims are used as identified in Criterion 5.1;
 - v. Representative Sample Areas, as identified in Principle 6; and
 - vi. High Conservation Values, as identified in Principle 9.
- 4) Measures to assess, prevent, and mitigate negative impacts of management activities on:
 - i. Environmental values, as identified in Principle 6 and Principle 9;
 - ii. Ecosystem services when FSC ecosystem services claims are used as identified in Criterion 5.1;
 - iii. Social Values and Indigenous cultural landscapes, as identified in Principle 2 to Principle 5 and Principle 9; and
 - iv. Intact Forest Landscapes and core areas, as identified in Principle 9.

- 5) A description of the monitoring program, as identified in Principle 8, including:
- i. Growth and yield, as identified in Principle 5;
 - ii. Ecosystem services when FSC ecosystem services claims are used as identified in Criterion 5.1;
 - iii. Environmental values, as identified in Principle 6;
 - iv. Operational impacts, as identified in Principle 10;
 - v. High Conservation Values, as identified in Principle 9;
 - vi. Monitoring systems based on stakeholder engagement planned or in place, as identified in Principle 2 to Principle 5 and Principle 7;
 - vii. Maps describing the natural resources and land use zoning on the Management Unit;
 - viii. Description of the methodology to assess and monitor any development and land use options allowed in Intact Forest Landscapes and core areas including their effectiveness in implementing the precautionary approach;
 - ix. Description of the methodology to assess and monitor any development and land use options allowed in Indigenous cultural landscapes including their effectiveness in implementing the precautionary approach; and
 - x. Global Forest Watch map, or more accurate national or regional map, describing the natural resources and land use zoning on the Management Unit, including the Intact Forest Landscapes core areas.

Annex F Conceptual framework for planning and monitoring (Principle 7)

| Sample Management Plan Document Note: These will vary with SIR and jurisdiction | Management Plan Revision Periodicity | Element Being Monitored (Partial List) | Monitoring Periodicity | Who Monitors This Element? Note: These will vary with SIR and jurisdiction | FSC Principle/ Criterion |
|---|--------------------------------------|--|---|--|--------------------------|
| Site Plan (harvest Plan) | Annual | Roads | When in the field and annually | Operational staff | P10 |
| | | Retention patches | Annually sample | Operational staff | P6, P10 |
| | | Rare Threatened and Endangered species | Annually | Consulting Biologist | P6 |
| | | Annual harvest levels | Annually | Woodlands Manager | C5.2 |
| | | Insect disease outbreaks | Annually, sample | Consulting Biologist / Ministry of Forests | |
| Budgeting | Annual | Expenditures | Annually | Chief Financial Officer | P5 |
| | | Contribution to local economy | Quarterly | General Manager | P5 |
| Engagement Plan | Annual | Employment statistics | Annually | General Manager | P3, P4 |
| | | Social Agreements | Annually, or as agreed in Engagement Plan | Social Coordinator | P3, P4 |
| | | Grievances | Ongoing | Human Resources Manager | P2, P3, P4 |

| Sample Management Plan Document Note: These will vary with SIR and jurisdiction | Management Plan Revision Periodicity | Element Being Monitored (Partial List) | Monitoring Periodicity | Who Monitors This Element? Note: These will vary with SIR and jurisdiction | FSC Principle/ Criterion |
|--|---|---|--------------------------------------|---|---------------------------------|
| 5-Year management plan | 5 years | Wildlife populations | To be determined | Ministry of Environment | P6 |
| | | Coarse Woody Debris | Annually | Ministry of Forests | P10 |
| | | Free growing / regeneration | Annually, sample | | |
| Sustainable Forestry management plan | 10 years | Age class distribution Size class distribution | Ten years | Ministry of Environment | P6 |
| | | 10 year Allowable Annual Cut | Annually, ten years | Ministry of Forests / Woodlands manager | C5.2 |
| Ecosystem Services Certification Document | 5 years | Prior to validation and verification | Prior to validation and verification | General Manager | FSC-PRO-30-006 |

Annex G Monitoring requirements (Principle 8)

- 1) Monitoring in 8.2.1 is sufficient to identify and describe the environmental impacts of management activities, including where applicable:
 - i. The results of regeneration activities (Criterion 10.1);
 - ii. The use of ecologically well adapted species for regeneration (Criterion 10.2);
 - iii. Invasiveness or other adverse impacts associated with any alien species within and outside the Management Unit (Criterion 10.3);
 - iv. The use of genetically modified organisms to confirm that they are not being used (Criterion 10.4);
 - v. The results of silvicultural activities (Criterion 10.5);
 - vi. Adverse impacts to environmental values from fertilizers (Criterion 10.6);
 - vii. Adverse impacts from the use of pesticides (Criterion 10.7);
 - viii. Adverse impacts from the use of biological control agents (Criterion 10.8);
 - ix. The impacts from natural hazards (Criterion 10.9);
 - x. The impacts of infrastructural development, transport activities and silviculture to rare and threatened species, habitats, ecosystems, landscape values, water and soils (Criterion 10.10);
 - xi. The impacts of harvesting and extraction of timber on non-timber forest products, environmental values, merchantable wood waste and other products and services (Criterion 10.11); and
 - xii. Environmentally appropriate disposal of waste materials (Criterion 10.12).

- 2) Monitoring in 8.2.1 is sufficient to identify and describe social impacts of management activities, including where applicable:
 - i. Evidence of illegal or unauthorized activities (Criterion 1.4);
 - ii. Compliance with applicable laws, local laws, ratified international conventions and obligatory codes of practice (Criterion 1.5);
 - iii. Resolution of disputes and grievances (Criterion 1.6, Criterion 2.6, Criterion 4.6);
 - iv. Programs and activities regarding workers' rights (Criterion 2.1);
 - v. Gender equality, sexual harassment and gender discrimination (Criterion 2.2);
 - vi. Programs and activities regarding occupational health and safety (Criterion 2.3);
 - vii. Payment of wages (Criterion 2.4);
 - viii. Workers' training (Criterion 2.5);
 - ix. Where pesticides are used, the health of workers exposed to pesticides (Criterion 2.5 and Criterion 10.7);
 - x. The identification of Indigenous Peoples and local communities and their legal and customary rights (Criterion 3.1 and Criterion 4.1);

- xi. Full implementation of the terms in binding agreements (Criterion 3.2 and Criterion 4.2);
 - xii. Indigenous Peoples and community relations (Criterion 3.2, Criterion 3.3 and Criterion 4.2);
 - xiii. Protection of sites of special cultural, ecological, economic, religious or spiritual significance to Indigenous Peoples and local communities (Criterion 3.5 and Criterion 4.7);
 - xiv. The persistence of Indigenous cultural landscapes and associated values of significance to Indigenous Peoples (Criterion 3.1, Criterion 3.5);
 - xv. The use of traditional knowledge and intellectual property (Criterion 3.6 and Criterion 4.8);
 - xvi. Local economic and social development (Criterion 4.2, Criterion 4.3, Criterion 4.4, Criterion 4.5);
 - xvii. The production of diversified benefits and/or products (Criterion 5.1);
 - xviii. The maintenance and/or enhancement of ecosystem services (Criterion 5.1);
 - xix. Activities to maintain or enhance ecosystem services (Criterion 5.1);
 - xx. Actual compared to projected annual harvests of timber and non-timber forest products (Criterion 5.2);
 - xxi. The use of local processing, local services and local value added manufacturing (Criterion 5.4);
 - xxii. Long term economic viability (Criterion 5.5); and
 - xxiii. High Conservation Values 5 and 6 identified in Criterion 9.1.
- 3) Monitoring procedures in 8.2.2 are sufficient to identify and describe changes in environmental conditions including where applicable:
- i. The maintenance and/or enhancement of ecosystem services (Criterion 5.2) (when The Organization uses FSC ecosystem services claims);
 - ii. Environmental values and ecosystem functions including carbon sequestration and storage (Criterion 6.1); including the effectiveness of actions identified and implemented to prevent, mitigate and repair negative impacts to environmental values (Criterion 6.3);
 - iii. Rare and threatened species, and the effectiveness of actions implemented to protect them and their habitats (Criterion 6.4);
 - iv. Representative sample areas and the effectiveness of actions implemented to conserve and/or restore them (Criterion 6.5);
 - v. Naturally occurring native species and biological diversity and the effectiveness of actions implemented to conserve and/or restore them (Criterion 6.6);
 - vi. Water courses, water bodies, water quantity and water quality and the effectiveness of actions implemented to conserve and/or restore them (Criterion 6.7);
 - vii. Landscape values and the effectiveness of actions implemented to maintain and/or restore them (Criterion 6.8);

- viii. Conversion of natural forest to plantations or conversion to non-forest (Criterion 6.9);
- ix. The status of plantations established after 1994 (Criterion 6.10);
and
- x. High Conservation Values 1 to 4 identified in Criterion 9.1 and the effectiveness of actions implemented to maintain and/or enhance them.

Annex H High Conservation Values Framework (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.

Specific sections of this Framework are also applicable to National and Centralized National Risk Assessments for Controlled Wood, and to Certification Bodies and Certificate Holders seeking certification under FSC-STD-30-010 and FSC-STD-40-005. The applicable sections are: The Interpretations and Best Available Information for each HCV category; and the Best Available Information for Assessments for each HCV category.

Overarching Best Available Information

The following table shows the types of overarching Best Available Information (BAI) that is applicable for assessments for all HCVs, specific categories of HCV, or specific HCV elements. The purpose of listing this overarching BAI here is to avoid having to list it repetitively for each HCV in the following sections. BAI that is more specific to individual HCV Interpretations is included alongside those Interpretations in the following sections.

A. Overarching Best Available Information for HCV Identification and Assessments

| Best Available Information for Identifying and Assessing Regional or National HCV Interpretations in the Solomon Islands | | BAI >SLIMF | BAI SLIMF |
|--|--|------------|-----------|
| All HCV Categories: All Elements | 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. High Conservation Value surveys of the Management Unit; Relevant databases and maps; Culturally appropriate engagement with Indigenous Peoples, affected rights holders, affected and interested stakeholders, and relevant local and regional experts; FSC Guidance on Free Prior and Informed Consent (2012) (or subsequent versions when approved); review of the results by knowledgeable expert(s) independent of The Organization. | X | X |

| Best Available Information for Identifying and Assessing Regional or National HCV Interpretations in the Solomon Islands | | BAI >SLIMF | BAI SLIMF |
|---|---|----------------------|------------------|
| HCV 2: Element 1, IFLs | Global Forest Watch Intact Forest Landscapes maps (2017) www.globalforestwatch.org , or other maps based on a more recent and accurate Intact Forest Landscapes inventory using a refined methodology. | X | X |
| HCV 5: Element 1, Values fundamental to local communities | Culturally appropriate engagement with local communities. Note that this shall be the primary BAI for these elements. | X | X |
| HCV 5: Element 2, Values fundamental to Indigenous Peoples | Culturally appropriate engagement with Indigenous Peoples. Note that this shall be the primary BAI for these elements. | X | X |
| HCV 6: Element 2, Values important to local communities | Culturally appropriate engagement with local communities. Note that this shall be the primary BAI for these elements. | X | X |
| HCV 6: Element 3, Values important to Indigenous Peoples | Culturally appropriate engagement with Indigenous Peoples. Note this shall be the primary BAI for these elements. | X | X |

B. Overarching Best Available Information for Development of Management Strategies

The following table shows the types of overarching Best Available Information (BAI) that is applicable for the development of management strategies all HCVs, specific categories of HCVs, or specific HCV elements. The purpose of listing this overarching BAI here is to avoid having to list it repetitively for each HCV in the following sections. BAI that is more specific to individual HCV Interpretations is included alongside those Interpretations in the following sections.

| Best Available Information for Developing Management Strategies for Regional or National HCV Interpretations | | BAI >SLIMF | BAI SLIMF |
|---|--|----------------------|------------------|
| All HCV Categories, All Elements | <p>Identification of threats, using: 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.</p> <p>Engagement with Indigenous Peoples, affected rights holders, affected and interested stakeholders, and experts.</p> | X | X |
| HCV 5: Element 1, Values fundamental to local communities | Culturally appropriate engagement with local communities. Note this shall be the primary BAI for these elements. Note the “fundamentality” of the resource should be determined in collaboration with the local communities . | X | X |
| HCV 5: Element 2, Values fundamental to Indigenous Peoples | Culturally appropriate engagement with Indigenous Peoples. Note that this shall be the primary BAI for these elements. Note that the “fundamentality” of the resource should also be determined in collaboration with the Indigenous peoples. | X | X |
| HCV 6: Element 2, Values important to local communities | Culturally appropriate engagement with local communities. Note that this shall be the primary BAI for these elements. Note that “critical... importance” should be understood as an outcome of engagement with the local communities. | X | X |
| HCV 6: Element 3, Values important to Indigenous Peoples | Culturally appropriate engagement with Indigenous Peoples. Note this shall be the primary BAI for these elements. Note that “critical... importance” should be understood as an outcome of engagement with the Indigenous Peoples. | X | X |

C. Overarching Best Available Information for Development of Monitoring Methodologies

The following table shows the types of overarching Best Available Information (BAI) that is applicable for the monitoring all HCVs, specific categories of HCVs, or specific HCV elements. The purpose of listing this overarching BAI here is to avoid having to list it repetitively for each HCV in the following sections. BAI that is more specific to individual HCV Interpretations is included alongside those Interpretations in the following sections.

| Best Available Information for Monitoring Regional or National HCV Interpretations | | BAI >SLIMF | BAI SLIMF |
|--|---|------------|-----------|
| All Categories, Elements | HCV All Engagement with rights-holders, consistent with Criteria 3.5, 4.5 and 4.7; Culturally appropriate engagement with Indigenous Peoples and affected and interested stakeholders; Information on engaging with representatives of the Indigenous Peoples and/or local communities; Monitoring conducted by the Indigenous Peoples and/or local communities; Engagement with experts. | X | X |

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

A. Interpretations of HCV 1, for HCV Identification

(See also the Overarching BAI, Section A.)

Element 1: Concentrations of biological diversity that are significant at global, regional, or national levels:

| National or regional interpretations of this HCV element: | Best Available Information for identifying occurrences of this interpretation: | BAI >SLIMF | BAI SLIMF |
|--|--|----------------------|--|
| Protected areas, including: nature reserves; forest reserves; natural parks; nature monuments; resource management areas; closed or controlled areas; World Heritage Sites; lands with conservation deeds; marine protected areas with mangroves or forest components; sites protected under the Forestry Act; areas protected by Indigenous Peoples and local communities, including Community Conservation Areas, areas covered by community based resource management agreements, and Tabu sites. (Per MECDM, 2018; FSC PNG & WWF PNG, 2006; MECDM, 2014) | For lists and maps of some areas, see Protected Areas (References). For World Heritage sites, see UNESCO (2018). For additional areas under community and Indigenous protection, consult with local communities and Indigenous Peoples. See also the Ministry of Forestry and Provincial Governments. | X | X |
| Forests proposed as protected areas, including but not limited to: Mt. Maetambe-South Choiseul Forests Complex, South Lauru Mangrove Reserve, Sirebe, Vuri, and Kibongava on Choiseul; the Southern fjords and NW archipelago/peninsula on Isabel; Bauro Highlands on Makira; the NW portion of Kia; Marovo Lagoon; the Teanu and Tinakula Islands Biodiversity Reserves; Mt Popomanaseu and other high peaks of Guadalcanal, Isabel, Rendova, Malaita and New Georgia; Ridge-to-Reef networks, including on Choiseul/Lauru, Isabel, and Kolombangara; any parts of Kolombangara Crater to Vila River Catchment not already protected. (Per WWF, 2005; SA, 2017; Menazza et al, 2011; Peterson et al, 2012; MECDM, 2014; Filardi et al, 2007; WWF, 2009) | Indigenous Peoples and local communities. The Natural Resources Development Foundation. WWF, Solomon Islands. Melanesian Geo. OceansWatch, Solomon Islands. WWF (2009). Lipsett-Moore et al (2010). Peterson et al (2012) (including Figures 16, 19, 20). Kool et al (2012). Lees et al (1991). Lees (1990). | X | Indigenous Peoples and local communities only. |
| Forests adjacent to protected areas and proposed protected areas, including: 1 km buffers; forests that provide habitats for the same biodiversity; and forest that provide | | | |

| National or regional interpretations of this HCV element: | Best Available Information for identifying occurrences of this interpretation: | BAI >SLIMF | BAI SLIMF |
|--|---|------------|-----------|
| habitat connectivity or other supporting values. | | | |
| Key Biodiversity Areas (KBAs) and Important Bird Areas (IBAs). | For lists and maps, see Key Biodiversity Areas and Important Bird Areas (References). | X | X |
| Centers of plant diversity, e.g.: Mt Balbi to Southern Coast, and Mt Takuan-Tonolei Harbor, both on Bougainville. (Per WWF, 2018) (Note that the Solomon Islands as a whole are also recognised as a global Center of Plant Diversity, per WWF, 2005.) | For the Bougainville centers, see Davis et al (1995), cited in WWF (2018) | X | |
| Critical temporal concentrations of biodiversity, e.g.: fish spawning sites including mangrove forests, and high and low water refuges in woodlands, wetlands, and floodplains. (Per FSC PNG & WWF PNG, 2006) | | | |
| Other concentrations of biodiversity, e.g.: unlogged lowland forests; remnant natural forests in degraded landscapes; mangroves, streams, and swamps (for both fresh and saltwater fish diversity). (Per SA, 2011; SA, 2017; Pollard et al, 2014; Daemeter, 2017; WWF, 2005) | | | |

Element 2: Concentrations of endemic species that are significant at global, regional, or national levels:

| National or regional interpretations of this HCV element: | Best Available Information for identifying occurrences of this interpretation: | BAI >SLIMF | BAI SLIMF |
|--|---|------------|-----------|
| Known hotspots for endemic flora or fauna, e.g.: lowland and lower montane forests up to c.1,500 m on islands in the Solomon Group EBA; old growth forests on Nende/Ndeni; Bauro Highlands of Makira-Ulawa; Mt Maetambe region; central caldera forests and montane forests above 400m on Kolombangara; Mt Popomanaseu region; forests on Rennell Island; ebony forests on ultra basic soils in SE Choiseul; and Marovo Lagoon, Tetapare Island, and portions of Vangunu, Gatokae, Rendova, and Hele Islands. (Per Birdlife, 2018a; Mongabay, 2017a and 2017b; | For descriptions of the relevant portions of Vangunu, Gatokae, Rendova, and Hele Islands, see UNESCO (2008b). | X | |

| National or regional interpretations of this HCV element: | Best Available Information for identifying occurrences of this interpretation: | BAI >SLIMF | BAI SLIMF |
|---|--|------------|-----------|
| UNESCO, 2008a and 2008b; Filardi, 2007; WWF, 2005; SA, 2011; World Heritage) | | | |
| Other significant concentrations of endemic plant or animal species, e.g.: forest areas with three breeding pairs or five plants, of at least one species endemic to Solomon Islands; forest areas with a species endemic to the Solomon Islands that is data deficient, endangered, or critically endangered. (Per FSC PNG & WWF PNG, 2006) (Note that endemics in the Solomon Islands include birds, bats and other mammals, lizards, frogs, snails, and insects (per WWF, 2005). | For lists of endemic animal species, see IUCN Red List. Some examples of endemic and near-endemic mammal and bird species are also provided in WWF (2018). | X | X |
| Pending field surveys or other analyses, natural forests in the Solomon Islands should be considered HCV 1 for endemics, per the precautionary approach and gaps among existing assessments. (Per SA, 2011; FSC PNG & WWF PNG, 2006; Daemeter, 2017; MECDM, 2014; others) | | | |

Element 3: Concentrations of rare, threatened, or endangered species that are significant at global, regional, or national levels:

| National or regional interpretations of this HCV element: | Best Available Information for identifying occurrences of this interpretation: | BAI >SLIMF | BAI SLIMF |
|---|--|------------|-----------|
| Significant occurrences of terrestrial and freshwater plant or animal species listed by the IUCN Red List as Vulnerable, Endangered, Critically Endangered, or Near Threatened. Including occurrences of: any Critically Endangered species, more than 1% of a listed species' population, several or more listed species, and/or sites important for the long-term survival of species susceptible to logging impacts. (Per FSC PNG & WWF PNG, 2006; others) | IUCN Red List. | X | X |
| Forests with CITES listed animal or plant species, including forests with: at least three breeding pairs of CITES Annex I animals, at least five trees/ha of CITES Annex I trees, or five small plants or shrubs/ha of CITES Annex I plants. (Per FSC PNG & WWF PNG, 2006) | CITES (see References) | X | X |

| National or regional interpretations of this HCV element: | Best Available Information for identifying occurrences of this interpretation: | BAI >SLIMF | BAI SLIMF |
|--|--|------------|-----------|
| Alliance for Zero Extinction (AZE) sites, i.e.: Ghizo, Makira, Mount Makarakomburu, Nendö and Tömotu Neo, Vanikolo. | Alliance for Zero Extinction (References) | X | X |
| Pending field surveys, natural forests in the Solomon Islands should be considered HCV 1 for RTE species, per the precautionary approach and gaps among existing assessments. (Per SA, 2011; FSC PNG & WWF PNG, 2006; Daemeter, 2017; MECDM, 2014; others) | | | |

B. Assessments for HCV 1

(See also the Overarching BAI, Section A.)

National or regionally appropriate methodologies and Best Available Information for assessments for HCV 1:

| National or regional methodologies for assessing occurrences of the HCV 1 interpretations: | Best Available Information for assessing occurrences of these interpretations: | BAI >SLIMF | BAI SLIMF |
|--|---|------------|-----------|
| For protected areas: confirm whether policies and practices effectively protect the forest and its HCVs, including by excluding logging, mining, and other industrial activity where such exclusions are consistent with the protected area's mandate. (Per MECDM, 2014; Mongabay, 2013) | | | |
| For Community Conservation Areas, Tabu, and other areas protected by local communities and Indigenous Peoples | Indigenous Peoples and local communities, including but not limited to: Trust Boards for Community Conservation Areas; community chiefs; councils of chiefs. (See also HCV 6) | X | X |
| For the Kolombangara Forest Reserve | See the Kolombangara Island Biodiversity Conservation Assn. | X | X |
| For the Sirebe, Vuir, and Kobongava proposed protected areas on Choiseul | For basic information on the areas, see WWF (2009) and WWF Solomon Islands | X | |

| National or regional methodologies for assessing occurrences of the HCV 1 interpretations: | Best Available Information for assessing occurrences of these interpretations: | BAI >SLIMF | BAI SLIMF |
|--|--|------------|-----------|
| For Biodiversity Hotspots | For a basic description of the Hotspot, its values and threats, see CEPF (2012) | X | |
| For KBAs and IBAs | For summary descriptions of their values and threats, see the links at Key Biodiversity Areas (References) and Important Bird Areas (References). See also Appendix 2 of CEPF (2012). | X | |
| For Endemic Bird Areas and RTE birds | For summary descriptions of some bird species, their status, ranges, and threats, see Endemic Bird Areas (References). | X | |
| For RTE species | Field surveys by experts are required for all natural forest management units, given the inadequacy of existing information on species' presence. Surveys may focus on mammals, birds, frogs, reptiles, and higher order vascular plants. Consult experts on the species' conservation needs and best practices. (Per FSC PNG & WWF PNG, 2006; SA, 2011) | X | |
| For plant species identification | See www.pngplants.org for identification keys for species found both in the Solomon Islands and in PNG. | X | X |
| For freshwater fish | See Boseto et al (2007), regarding the sustainability of fishing practices for spawning and juvenile fish. | X | |
| For Santa Cruz and Choiseul Islands | For partial information on RTE species on the islands, see Pierce (2014), WWF (2009), and Boseto et al (2007) | X | |
| For Bauro Highlands, Mt. Maetambe region, central caldera of Kolombangara, and Mt. Popomanaseu region; and Marovo Lagoon, Tetapare Island, and | For basic descriptions of the areas and their endemic species values, see UNESCO (2008a and 2008b). | X | |

| National or regional methodologies for assessing occurrences of the HCV 1 interpretations: | Best Available Information for assessing occurrences of these interpretations: | BAI >SLIMF | BAI SLIMF |
|--|--|------------|-----------|
| portions of Vangunu, Gatokae, Rendova, and Hele Islands. | | | |
| For additional guidance in identifying and assessing other examples of HCV 1 that may exist in the management unit, consider: FSC (2020a) and HCVRN (2013) (e.g., Chapter 2, Best Practice Considerations for HCV Assessments, and Chapter 3.1, Identification of HCV 1) | | | |

C. Strategies for Maintaining and Enhancing HCV 1

(See also the Overarching BAI, Section B.)

Management strategies for HCV 1:

| National or regional strategies for maintaining and/or enhancing the HCV 1 interpretations: | Best Information Available for management strategies for these interpretations: | BAI >SLIMF | BAI SLIMF |
|---|---|------------|-----------|
| For all HCV 1 Interpretations: Protection zones, harvest prescriptions, and/or other strategies to protect threatened, endangered, endemic species, or other concentrations of biological diversity and the ecological communities and habitats upon which they depend, sufficient to prevent reductions in the extent, integrity, quality, and viability of the habitats and species occurrences. | | | |
| For all HCV 1: Where enhancement is identified as the objective, measures to develop, expand, and/or restore habitats for such species. | | | |
| For protected areas and proposed protected areas: Adopt management plans; strengthen existing management plans and their implementation as needed to exclude logging, mining, and other industrial activity not consistent with the areas' mandates as protected areas; and secure recognition under the Protected Areas Act where relevant/appropriate. (MECDM, 2014; Mongabay, 2013; Filardi et al, 2007) | | | |
| In forests adjacent to protected areas: Provide buffer zones, with no harvest or other activity in the first 500m and careful RIL logging at most in the next 500m. In West Rennell, additional habitat protections may be needed for endemic birds in East Rennell that require landscape level conservation. (Per UNESCO, 2018). | | | |
| For any threatened or endangered tree species, including CITES, IUCN, or nationally listed species: Mark and protect trees from harvest, and control for illegal harvest. | | | |
| For endemic and rare, threatened, or endangered (RTE) wildlife: Implement no hunting and fishing policies, including for employees and contractors, except for sustainable levels of traditional harvest by | | | |

| National or regional strategies for maintaining and/or enhancing the HCV 1 interpretations: | Best Available Information for management strategies for these interpretations: | BAI >SLIMF | BAI SLIMF |
|--|---|------------|-----------|
| local communities and Indigenous Peoples; adopt controls to prevent poaching and overharvest; help educate employees, contractors, and local communities about wildlife values and sustainable harvest and fishing practices. (Per SA, 2017; Boseto et al, 2007; others) | | | |
| For endemic and RTE wildlife: Establish and demarcate reserves and conservation zones; protect habitats from logging, mining, and other operations, except where RIL logging is approved by experts as consistent with maintaining or enhancing habitat and population levels at the site; adopt restorative management plans per the Wildlife Act; work with local communities to protect sites from agricultural and NTFP harvest practices that may damage habitats, and to provide alternative sites. (Per FSC PNG & WWF PNG, 2006; SA, 2011; Daemeter, 2017; MECDM, 2014; Boseto et al, 2007) | | | |
| For endemic and RTE wildlife: Adopt controls to prevent and minimize the introduction of invasive exotic predators (e.g., cats, dogs) and other species (e.g., cane toad, feral pigs, rats, African giant snail), including by: adopting employee and contractor policies; limiting disturbance and openings along forest edges; educating employees, contractors, and local communities about the harm caused by exotics. (Per SA, 2017; Dekker, 2010; MECDM, 2014; WWF, 2009) | | | |

D. Monitoring for HCV 1

(See also the Overarching BAI, Section C.)

Methodologies and Best Available Information for monitoring programs for HCV 1:

| National or regional methodologies for monitoring occurrences of the HCV 1 interpretations: | Best Available Information for monitoring occurrences of these interpretations: | BAI >SLIMF | BAI SLIMF |
|---|---|------------|-----------|
| For endemic and RTE wildlife: Monitor hunting and consumption of forest animals by employees, contractors, and local communities. (Per SA, 2017) | | | |
| For monitoring of potential impacts and of potential illegal or unauthorized activities in the forest: Consider collaborative monitoring with Indigenous Peoples. | | | |
| For additional guidance, consider: FSC (2020a) and HCVRN (2014) (e.g., Part 3). | | | |

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.

A. Interpretations of HCV 2, for HCV Identification

(See also the Overarching BAI, Section A.)

Element 1: Intact forest landscapes:

| National or regional interpretations of this HCV element: | Best Available Information for identifying occurrences of this interpretation: | BAI >SLIMF | BAI SLIMF |
|---|--|------------|-----------|
| Intact Forest Landscapes (IFLs). | IFL maps for 2017; see Global Forest Watch. | X | X |

Element 2: Large landscape-level ecosystems that are significant at global, regional or national levels, and that contain viable populations of the great majority of the naturally occurring species in natural patterns of distribution and abundance:

| National or regional interpretations of this HCV element: | Best Available Information for identifying occurrences of this interpretation: | BAI >SLIMF | BAI SLIMF |
|---|--|------------|-----------|
| Native forests that, in the context of the Solomon Islands, are relatively large, relatively unaffected by industrial forest management, and have successional stages, forest structures, and species composition that are similar in distribution and abundance to native forests that have experienced minimal human disturbance (traditional Indigenous management regimes notwithstanding). | Mapping and other data on forest cover, age, succession, structure, species composition, habitat connectivity, anthropogenic disturbance, roadless areas, wilderness | X | |
| Other forests recognized as being regionally significant at the bioregion or larger scale in formally recognized reports or peer-reviewed journals, due to the unusual landscape-scale biodiversity values provided by size and condition of the forest relative to regional forest land cover and land use trends | | | |

Element 3: Ecosystem mosaics that are significant at global, regional or national levels, and that contain viable populations of the great majority of the naturally occurring species in natural patterns of distribution and abundance:

| National or regional interpretations of this HCV element: | Best Available Information for identifying occurrences of this interpretation: | BAI >SLIMF | BAI SLIMF |
|---|---|------------|-----------|
| Ridge-to-Reef ecosystems, including but not limited to those containing mangrove, freshwater swamp, and freshwater stream components, including on Choiseul/Lauru, Isabel, and Kolombangara. (Per FSC PNG & WWF PNG, 2006; SA, 2017; CEPF, 2012; Lipsett-Moore, 2010; Peterson et al, 2012; Kool et al, 2010) (Note some Ridge-to-Reef areas are also proposed as HCV 1.) | | | |
| Other areas important as biological connectivity corridors, e.g., forests that provide habitat connectivity between larger forest areas, protected areas, biodiversity concentrations, and/or refugia. | Mapping and other data on forest cover, age, succession, structure, species composition, habitat connectivity, anthropogenic disturbance, IFLs, protected areas, etc. | X | |
| Other forest ecosystems forming a landscape-level mosaic with other vegetation types used by a diversity of species, e.g., forest “islands” within floodplains. (Per FSC PNG & WWF PNG, 2006) | | | |

B. Assessments for HCV 2

(See also the Overarching BAI, Section A.)

National or regionally appropriate methodologies and Best Available Information for assessments for HCV 2:

| National or regional methodologies for assessing occurrences of the HCV 2 interpretations: | Best Available Information for assessing occurrences of these interpretations : | BAI >SLIMF | BAI SLIMF |
|---|---|------------|-----------|
| For guidance in assessing Intact Forest Landscapes, consider: Annex H of FSC (2017) and FSC (2020b). | | | |
| For additional guidance in identifying and assessing other examples of HCV 2 that may exist in the management unit, consider: FSC (2020a) and HCVRN (2013) (e.g., Chapter 2, Best Practice Considerations for HCV Assessments, and Chapter 3.2, Identification of HCV 2). | | | |

C: Strategies for Maintaining and Enhancing HCV 2

(See also the Overarching BAI, Section B.)

Management strategies for HCV 2:

| National or regional strategies for maintaining and/or enhancing the HCV 2 interpretations: | Best Available Information for management strategies for these interpretations: | BAI >SLIMF | BAI SLIMF |
|--|---|------------|-----------|
| For all HCV 2: Strategies that fully maintain the extent and intactness of the forest ecosystems and the viability of their biodiversity concentrations, including plant and animal indicator species, keystone species, and/or guilds associated with large intact natural forest ecosystems. Examples include protection zones and set-aside areas, with any commercial activity in areas that are not set-aside being limited to low-intensity operations that fully maintain forest structure, composition, regeneration, and disturbance patterns at all times. | | | |
| For all HCV 2: Where enhancement is identified as the objective, measures to restore and reconnect forest ecosystems, their intactness, and habitats that support natural biological diversity are in place. | | | |
| For IFLs: The core area of each Intact Forest Landscape within the Management Unit is protected, comprising at least 80% of the Intact Forest Landscapes within the Management Unit. See also Annex H of FSC (2017). | | | |

D. Monitoring for HCV 2

(See also the Overarching BAI, Section C.)

Methodologies and Best Available Information for monitoring programs for HCV 2:

| National or regional methodologies for monitoring occurrences of the HCV 2 interpretations: | Best Available Information for monitoring occurrences of these interpretations: | BAI >SLIMF | BAI SLIMF |
|---|---|------------|-----------|
| For guidance in monitoring IFLs, consider: FSC (2020b). | | | |
| For additional guidance, consider: FSC (2020a) and HCVRN (2014) (e.g., Part 3). | | | |

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

A. Interpretations of HCV 3, for HCV Identification

(See also the Overarching BAI, Section A.)

Element 1: Rare, threatened, or endangered ecosystems:

| National or regional interpretations of this HCV element: | Best Available Information for identifying occurrences of this interpretation: | BAI >SLIMF | BAI SLIMF |
|---|--|------------|-----------|
| Unlogged lowland and coastal forests; primary or old growth forests; other rainforest and lowland forest; lower montane forests; mangroves and swamp forests; forests on karst or ultrabasic soils. (Per FSC PNG & WWF PNG, 2006; WWF, 2005; MECDM, 2014; Pollard et al, 2014; Dekker, 2010; Mongabay, 2017b) | | | |
| Natural forest remnants in degraded landscapes, including mature forests, remaining primary forests, and relatively undisturbed forest fragments. (Per SA, 2011; Daemeter, 2017) | | | |
| Forests vulnerable to climate change or isolation on mountaintops, e.g., high montane forests and other forests in areas of low relief or in fragmented landscapes. (Per FSC PNG & WWF PNG, 2006; WWF, 2005) | | | |
| UNESCO Biosphere Reserves or Ecosystems on the IUCN Red List, if any are designated in the future. (Note none currently designated). | UNESCO Biosphere Reserves and IUCN Red List of Ecosystems (References) | X | |

Element 2: Rare, threatened, or endangered habitats:

| National or regional interpretations of this HCV element: | Best Available Information for identifying occurrences of this interpretation: | BAI >SLIMF | BAI SLIMF |
|--|--|------------|-----------|
| Forest types and habitats now very limited in extent. | | | |
| Other habitats and habitat features that are vulnerable and/or important to HCV 1 biodiversity or species. | | | |

| National or regional interpretations of this HCV element: | Best Available Information for identifying occurrences of this interpretation: | BAI >SLIMF | BAI SLIMF |
|--|--|------------|-----------|
| Other rare, threatened, or endangered habitats | | | |
| (Note the RTE ecosystems listed above are also likely to be RTE habitats.) | | | |

Element 3: Refugia:

| National or regional interpretations of this HCV element: | Best Available Information for identifying occurrences of this interpretation: | BAI >SLIMF | BAI SLIMF |
|--|--|------------|-----------|
| Isolated areas 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. | | | |
| (Note that protected areas listed at HCV 1 may also be refugia) | | | |

B. Assessments for HCV 3

(See also the Overarching BAI, Section A.)

National or regionally appropriate methodologies and Best Available Information for assessments for HCV 3:

| National or regional methodologies for assessing occurrences of the HCV 3 interpretations: | Best Available Information for assessing occurrences of these interpretations: | BAI >SLIMF | BAI SLIMF |
|--|--|------------|-----------|
| For guidance in identifying and assessing other examples of HCV 3 that may exist in the management unit, consider: FSC (2020a) and HCVRN (2013) (e.g., Chapter 2, Best Practice Considerations for HCV Assessments, and Chapter 3.3, Identification of HCV 3). | | | |

C: Strategies for Maintaining and Enhancing HCV 3

(See also the Overarching BAI, Section B.)

Management strategies for HCV 3:

| National or regional strategies for maintaining and/or enhancing the HCV 3 interpretations: | Best Available Information for management strategies for these interpretations: | BAI >SLIMF | BAI SLIMF |
|--|---|------------|-----------|
| For all HCV 3: Strategies that fully maintain the extent and integrity of rare or threatened ecosystems, habitats, or refugia. | | | |
| For all HCV 3: Where enhancement is identified as the objective, measures to restore and/or develop rare or threatened ecosystems, habitats, or refugia are in place. | | | |
| For all HCV 3: Exclude logging, road construction, and other operations, except for low intensity RIL that does not significantly impact ecosystems and habitats, that does not reduce irreplaceable values (e.g., isolation of refugia), and that does not increase the likelihood of indirect impacts (e.g., by providing access to invasive species or subsequent commercial activity). (Per FSC PNG & WWF PNG, 2006; others) | | | |
| For all HCV 3: Adopt measures to prevent unauthorized or illegal logging by other companies or their contractors, e.g., improved boundary demarcations, patrols, and collaborative monitoring with local communities and Indigenous Peoples. (Per SA, 2017) | | | |
| For all HCV 3: Adopt measures to address threats from invasive exotic species, poaching, and unsustainable harvest of wildlife, fish, and NTFPs, e.g., the strategies for endemic and RTE species at HCV 1. (Per WWF, 2005; others) | | | |
| For all HCV 3: Where threatened, protect forest areas from commercial mining and intensive agriculture (e.g., oil palm). (Per WWF, 2005; CEPF, 2012; Menazza et al, 2011; Peterson et al, 2012; MECDM, 2014; others) | | | |
| For all HCV3: where encroachment of clearings for subsistence agriculture is a threat, work with local communities to identify and adopt solutions, e.g., identifying more suitable areas for forest gardens, limiting the intensity and impact of farming practices, supporting alternative food sources where the encroachment is driven less by traditional practices and more by food | | | |

| National or regional strategies for maintaining and/or enhancing the HCV 3 interpretations: | Best Available Information for management strategies for these interpretations: | BAI >SLIMF | BAI SLIMF |
|---|---|------------|-----------|
| insecurity, etc. (Per WWF, 2018; Furusawa, 2014; others) | | | |
| In unlogged lowland and coastal forests, primary or old growth forests, mangroves and swamp forests, and forests on karst or ultrabasic soils: Per the precautionary principle, and the rarity and/or threatened status of these HCVs, they should generally be protected from logging, road construction, and other forestry operations. (Per FSC PNG & WWF PNG, 2006; others) | | | |

D. Monitoring for HCV 3

(See also the Overarching BAI, Section C.)

Methodologies and Best Available Information for monitoring programs for HCV 3:

| National or regional methodologies for monitoring occurrences of the HCV 3 interpretations: | Best Available Information for monitoring occurrences of these interpretations: | BAI >SLIMF | BAI SLIMF |
|---|---|------------|-----------|
| For monitoring guidance, consider: FSC (2020a) and HCVRN (2014) (e.g., Part 3). | | | |

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.

A. Interpretations of HCV 4, for HCV Identification

(See also the Overarching BAI, Section A.)

Element 1: Water catchments in critical situations:

| National or regional interpretations of this HCV element: | Best Available Information for identifying occurrences of this interpretation: | BAI >SLIMF | BAI SLIMF |
|--|--|------------|-----------|
| Watersheds, streams, rivers, and other water sources, including their riparian corridors and buffers, relied upon by Indigenous Peoples or local communities for drinking water, irrigation, or other daily uses. (See also HCV 5.) (Per SA, 2011; SA, 2017; others) | | | |
| Forests that comprise more than 25% of a watershed critical for collection of potable water and/or regulating water flow to urban areas. | | | |
| Rivers, streams, swamps, and mangroves, including their riparian corridors and buffers, critical to spawning or juvenile fish (e.g., snappers, some reef fish) or reef ecosystems. (Per WWF, 2005; SA, 2017; MECDM, 2014) | | | |

Element 2: Control of erosion of vulnerable soils and slopes in critical situations:

| National or regional interpretations of this HCV element: | Best Available Information for identifying occurrences of this interpretation: | BAI >SLIMF | BAI SLIMF |
|--|--|------------|-----------|
| Forests in landslide and flood prone areas, including those with runouts likely to affect populated areas. | | | |
| Forest areas on slopes of 30° or greater. (Per FSC PNG & WWF PNG, 2006; SA, 2011) | | | |
| Soils vulnerable to compaction, in critical situations, e.g., riverine forests/freshwater swamps, e.g., Lauvi Lagoon on Guadalcanal and West-Central Makira. (Per WWF, 2005) | | | |

Element 3: Other ecosystem services in critical situations:

| National or regional interpretations of this HCV element: | Best Available Information for identifying occurrences of this interpretation: | BAI >SLIMF | BAI SLIMF |
|--|--|------------|-----------|
| Forest types susceptible to fire, e.g., monsoon forest, swamp and peat forest, plantations. (Per FSC PNG & WWF PNG, 2006) | | | |
| Provision of fisheries, other food sources, wood sources, and storm, wave, and saltwater intrusion buffering by mangrove forests. (MECDM, 2014) | | | |
| Provision of food, water, and shelter to local communities and Indigenous Peoples. (See HCV 5) | | | |
| Low-impact tourism in locales where communities and Indigenous Peoples have few other opportunities for ecologically sustainable revenue generation. | | | |

B. Assessments for HCV 4

(See also the Overarching BAI, Section A.)

National or regionally appropriate methodologies and Best Available Information for assessments for HCV 4:

| National or regional methodologies for assessing occurrences of the HCV 4 interpretations: | Best Available Information for assessing occurrences of these interpretations: | BAI >SLIMF | BAI SLIMF |
|---|--|------------|-----------|
| For guidance in identifying and assessing other examples of HCV 4 that may exist in the management unit, consider: FSC (2020a) and HCVRN (2013) (e.g., Chapter 2, Best Practice Considerations for HCV Assessments, and Chapter 3.4, Identification of HCV 4). Consider also the FSC Ecosystem Services Procedure (FSC, 2017b). | | | |

C: Strategies for Maintaining and Enhancing HCV 4

(See also the Overarching BAI, Section B.)

Management strategies for HCV 4:

| National or regional strategies for maintaining and/or enhancing the HCV 4 interpretations: | Best Available Information for management strategies for these interpretations: | BAI >SLIMF | BAI SLIMF |
|---|---|------------|-----------|
| For water catchments of importance to local communities located within or downstream of the Management Unit, and areas within the unit that are particularly unstable or susceptible to erosion: Protection zones, harvest prescriptions, chemical use restrictions, and/or prescriptions for road construction and maintenance, to protect water catchments and upstream and upslope areas. Where enhancement is identified as the objective, measures to restore water quality and quantity are in place. | | | |
| For climate regulation: Strategies to maintain or enhance carbon sequestration and storage are in place. | | | |
| For water sources for local communities, Indigenous Peoples, or urban areas: Logging should be excluded. For other water catchments designated as HCV, logging and other activities are limited to RIL practices, to protect water quality and aquifer recharge. (Per FSC PNG & WWF PNG, 2006; MECDM, 2014) | | | |
| For slopes and soils vulnerable to erosion or compaction: Harvest does not utilize wheeled or ground based skidding, or high lead or skyline cable logging. (Per FSC PNG & WWF PNG, 2006) | | | |
| For flood-prone rivers (e.g., in floodplains): Consider designating wider buffer zones, to ensure the presence of riparian vegetation when river channels shift. (Per Daemeter, 2017) | | | |
| For mangroves: Consider the recommendations of the MESCAL and MARSH projects. (Per MECDM, 2014) | | | |
| For forests susceptible to fire: Work with local communities to educate about fire risks and minimize ignition risks. In plantations, a fire break buffer zone is also provided. (Per FSC PNG & WWF PNG, 2006) | | | |

D. Monitoring for HCV 4

(See also the Overarching BAI, Section C.)

Methodologies and Best Available Information for monitoring programs for HCV 4:

| National or regional methodologies for monitoring occurrences of the HCV 4 interpretations: | Best Available Information for monitoring occurrences of these interpretations: | BAI >SLIMF | BAI SLIMF |
|--|---|------------|-----------|
| For critical water catchments, and soils vulnerable to erosion or compaction: Monitoring programs include monitoring of downstream sedimentation and potential impacts to water sources and fish populations. (Per WWF, 2005; MECDM, 2014) | | | |
| For water quality and quantity, soils, and other ecosystem services: See Annex D of FSC (2017b) for basic factors to consider monitoring. | | | |
| For additional guidance, consider: FSC (2020a) and HCVRN (2014) (e.g., Part 3). | | | |

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.

A. Interpretations of HCV 5, for HCV Identification

(See also the Overarching BAI, Section A.)

Element 1: Sites and resources fundamental for satisfying the basic necessities of local communities (for livelihoods, health, nutrition, water, etc.):

| National or regional interpretations of this HCV element: | Best Available Information for identifying occurrences of this interpretation: | BAI >SLIMF | BAI SLIMF |
|---|---|------------|-----------|
| Sources of water for drinking, other daily use, or irrigation; growing areas and plants used for subsistence or traditional medicine; hunting grounds and fisheries for subsistence; sources for sustainable levels of harvest of fuelwood or building materials; other sites and resources used at sustainable levels to satisfy basic needs. (Not inclusive of poaching, wildlife hunting for non-local trade, recreational hunting, or unsustainable harvest levels, or extensive, unsustainable gardening practices, e.g., overly short rotations or conversion of other HCV sites.) (Per Furusawa et al, 2014; Boseto et al, 2007) | Primary BAI: Culturally appropriate engagement with the local communities. (Supplemental BAI may include databases, maps, and community development organizations and professionals.) | X | X |

Element 2: Sites and resources fundamental for satisfying the basic necessities of Indigenous Peoples (for livelihoods, health, nutrition, water, etc.):

| National or regional interpretations of this HCV element: | Best Available Information for identifying occurrences of this interpretation: | BAI >SLIMF | BAI SLIMF |
|--|--|------------|-----------|
| Watersheds, rivers, streams, and other sources of water for drinking, other daily use, or irrigation, including wells, bores, springs, and dip holes adjacent to rivers. (per FSC PNG & WWF PNG, 2006; SA, 2011; Daemeter, 2017) | Primary BAI: Culturally appropriate engagement with the Indigenous Peoples. | X | X |
| Hunting grounds and wildlife, and fisheries and fish, for subsistence. (Not inclusive of poaching, wildlife hunting for non-local trade, recreational hunting, or unsustainable harvest levels.) (per FSC PNG & WWF PNG, 2006; SA, 2011; Boseto et al, 2007) | Primary BAI: Culturally appropriate engagement with the Indigenous Peoples. | X | X |
| Gardening sites, and other growing areas and plants used for traditional subsistence or | Primary BAI: Culturally | X | X |

| National or regional interpretations of this HCV element: | Best Available Information for identifying occurrences of this interpretation: | BAI >SLIMF | BAI SLIMF |
|---|--|------------|-----------|
| <p>traditional medicinal use. (Not inclusive of unsustainable crop rotations or overly intensive or extensive gardening in other sensitive HCV sites.) Examples of medicinal plants include but are not limited to: coconut oil, ylang-ylang, heartleaf hempvine, tropical almond, betel nut, great morinda, mile-a-minute vine, milky pine bark, oesai leaf, paw paw. (per FSC PNG & WWF PNG, 2006; WWF, 2005; Menazza et al, 2011; Pollard et al, 2014; Furusawa et al, 2014; Daemeter, 2017; Boseto et al, 2007)</p> | <p>appropriate engagement with the Indigenous Peoples. (For examples of relevant plants, consider also Henderson et al (1988) and Furusawa et al (2014).)</p> | | |
| <p>Other sites and resources from which Indigenous People satisfy basic needs, including but not limited to: sources for sustainable levels of harvest of fuelwood (from secondary forests), canoe trees, and building materials, e.g., sago palm leaves, rattan, white beech, mangroves, vitex, fluegge tree, <i>Securinega flexuosa</i>, arecoid palm, bamboo. (per FSC PNG & WWF PNG, 2006; SA, 2011; Pollard et al, 2014; Furusawa et al, 2014; Dekker, 2010; MECDM, 2014)</p> | <p>Primary BAI: Culturally appropriate engagement with the Indigenous Peoples. (For examples of relevant tree species, consider also Furusawa et al (2014).)</p> | X | X |
| <p>Sites and resources for sustainable levels of NTFP cultivation, harvest, and related revenue generation by Indigenous Peoples, e.g., rattan and rattan products, ngali nuts, honey, handicrafts, coconut oil biodiesel, kava, dried fruits, sandalwood, plantation timbers, low-impact eco-tourism, carbon-offsets. (per WWF, 2005; Mongabay, 2017a)</p> | <p>Primary BAI: Culturally appropriate engagement with the Indigenous Peoples. (For eco-tourism opportunities, see also the Ministry of Tourism.)</p> | X | X |

B. Assessments for HCV 5

(See also the Overarching BAI, Section A.)

National or regionally appropriate methodologies and Best Available Information for assessments for HCV 5:

| National or regional methodologies for assessing occurrences of the HCV 5 interpretations: | Best Available Information for assessing occurrences of these interpretations: | BAI >SLIMF | BAI SLIMF |
|--|--|------------|-----------|
| For all HCV 5 Interpretations: Use culturally appropriate engagement, per the Overarching BAI, Section A. | The local communities and Indigenous Peoples. | X | X |
| For all HCV 5: Consider participatory mapping with local communities and Indigenous Peoples. | | | |
| For all HCV 5: Assessments also consider whether specific levels and practices of hunting, fishing, NTFP harvest, and other forest utilization are sustaining the resource, and also avoiding harm to biodiversity and other HCVs. | | | |
| For additional guidance on assessing HCV 5, consider: FSC (2020a) and HCVRN (2013) (e.g., Chapter 2, Best Practice Considerations for HCV Assessments, and Chapter 3.5, Identification of HCV 5). | | | |

C: Strategies for Maintaining and Enhancing HCV 5

(See also the Overarching BAI, Section B.)

Management strategies for HCV 5:

| National or regional strategies for maintaining and/or enhancing the HCV 5 interpretations: | Best Available Information for management strategies for these interpretations: | BAI >SLIMF | BAI SLIMF |
|---|---|------------|-----------|
| For all HCV 5 Interpretations: Strategies to protect the community's and/or Indigenous Peoples' needs in relation to the Management Unit are developed in cooperation with representatives and members of local communities and Indigenous Peoples. | The local communities and Indigenous Peoples, per the Overarching BAI. | X | X |
| For all HCV 5: Strategies may include protection of specific sites, reserve areas, designation of buffer zones, etc. HCV occurrences should generally be mapped and also marked in the field | | | |

| National or regional strategies for maintaining and/or enhancing the HCV 5 interpretations: | Best Available Information for management strategies for these interpretations: | BAI >SLIMF | BAI SLIMF |
|--|---|------------|-----------|
| prior to any nearby timber harvest or other operations. Operational plan mapping or other methods may be used in lieu of field marks to protect the secrecy of medicinal plant sites or other secret sites. (Per FSC PNG & WWF PNG, 2006; SA, 2011; SA, 2017) | | | |
| For all HCV 5: Strategies do not include maintaining specific levels or practices of hunting, fishing, gardening, NTFP harvest, or other forest utilization that do not sustain the resource or that harm biodiversity or other HCVs. Where gardening or other practices threaten riparian forests or other HCV occurrences, work with local communities and Indigenous Peoples to identify and support more sustainable management practices or alternative sites (see also the strategies for HCV 3). (Per Boseto et al, 2007; others) | | | |
| For all HCV 5: For sites and resources related to Indigenous Peoples, strategies will need to be based on FPIC and engagement, and not assume that existing practices in the Solomon Islands consistently recognize or respect Indigenous Peoples' rights. (Per Minority Rights, 2018; Mongabay, 2017a and 2017b) | | | |
| For medicinal tree species in harvest areas: Consider notifying and providing access to Indigenous Peoples and local communities, to harvest seeds or medicinal material, prior to logging. (Per SA, 2011) | | | |
| For canoe trees: Harvest may be conducted with or on behalf of Indigenous Peoples or members of local communities. (Per SA, 2011) | | | |

D. Monitoring for HCV 5

(See also the Overarching BAI, Section C.)

Methodologies and Best Available Information for monitoring programs for HCV 5:

| National or regional methodologies for monitoring occurrences of the HCV 5 interpretations: | Best Available Information for monitoring occurrences of these interpretations: | BAI >SLIMF | BAI SLIMF |
|--|--|----------------------|------------------|
| Monitoring conducted by the local communities and the Indigenous Peoples, or using methodologies otherwise developed in cooperation with the communities and the Indigenous Peoples through culturally appropriate engagement. | | | |

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.

A. Interpretations of HCV 6, for HCV Identification

(See also the Overarching BAI, Section A.

Element 1: Sites, resources, habitats and landscapes of global or national cultural, archaeological or historical significance:

| National or regional interpretations of this HCV element: | Best Available Information for identifying occurrences of this interpretation: | BAI >SLIMF | BAI SLIMF |
|--|--|------------|-----------|
| Internationally or nationally important cultural, archaeological, or historical sites, resources, habitats, or landscapes, e.g., World War II relics. (Per Daemeter, 2017; SA, 2011) | | | |

Element 2: Sites, resources, habitats and landscapes of critical cultural, ecological, economic or religious/sacred importance for the traditional cultures of local communities:

| National or regional interpretations of this HCV element: | Best Available Information for identifying occurrences of this interpretation: | BAI >SLIMF | BAI SLIMF |
|---|--|------------|-----------|
| Sites, resources, habitats, or landscapes of cultural, ecological, economic, or religious/sacred importance to local communities. | Primary BAI: Culturally appropriate engagement with the local communities. (Supplemental BAI may include databases, maps, and experts, e.g., community development organizations.) | X | X |

Element 3: Sites, resources, habitats and landscapes of critical cultural, ecological, economic or religious/sacred importance for the traditional cultures of Indigenous Peoples:

| National or regional interpretations of this HCV element: | Best Available Information for identifying occurrences of this interpretation: | BAI >SLIMF | BAI SLIMF |
|--|--|------------|-----------|
| Burial sites, Tambu sites, Kastom sites, Hope, altar stones, skull houses, and other shrines and sacred sites, and plants, animals, and sites used for traditional ceremonies. (Per Pollard et al, 2014; Furusawa et al, 2014; Daemeter, 2017; FSC PNG & WWF PNG, 2006; WWF, 2005; SA, 2011; Walter et al, 2014) | Culturally appropriate engagement with the Indigenous Peoples. | X | X |
| Shrines, stone terraces, stone or coral faced platforms, walls, historical village sites, and other archaeological sites, including those which demark traditional territories and land use rights for Indigenous Peoples. (Per Walter et al, 2014; others) | Culturally appropriate engagement with the Indigenous Peoples. | X | X |
| Other sites, resources, habitats, or landscapes of cultural, ecological, economic, or religious/sacred importance to Indigenous Peoples. | Culturally appropriate engagement with the Indigenous Peoples. | X | X |

B. Assessments for HCV 6

(See also the Overarching BAI, Section A.)

National or regionally appropriate methodologies and Best Available Information for assessments for HCV 6:

| National or regional methodologies for assessing occurrences of the HCV 6 interpretations: | Best Available Information for assessing occurrences of these interpretations: | BAI >SLIMF | BAI SLIMF |
|---|--|------------|-----------|
| For all HCV 6: | The local communities and Indigenous Peoples. | X | X |
| For burial sites, Tambu sites, Kastom sites, Hope, altar stones, skull houses, and other shrine and sacred sites: Prior to timber harvest and other potentially site-disturbing operations, sites are first surveyed in cooperation with Indigenous Peoples. (SA, 2011) | | | |

| National or regional methodologies for assessing occurrences of the HCV 6 interpretations: | Best Available Information for assessing occurrences of these interpretations: | BAI >SLIMF | BAI SLIMF |
|---|--|------------|-----------|
| For guidance in identifying and assessing more specific examples of HCV 6 that may exist in the management unit, consider: FSC (2020a) and HCVRN (2013) (e.g., Chapter 3.6, Identification of HCV 6). | | | |

C: Strategies for Maintaining and Enhancing HCV 6

(See also the Overarching BAI, Section B.)

Management strategies for HCV 6:

| National or regional strategies for maintaining and/or enhancing the HCV 6 interpretations: | Best Available Information for management strategies for these interpretations: | BAI >SLIMF | BAI SLIMF |
|--|---|------------|-----------|
| For all HCV 6: Strategies may include protection of specific sites, reserve areas, designation of buffer zones, etc. HCV occurrences should generally be mapped and also marked in the field prior to any nearby timber harvest or other operations. (Per FSC PNG & WWF PNG, 2006; SA, 2011; Daemeter, 2017) | | | |
| For HCV occurrences related to Indigenous Peoples and/or local communities: Strategies to protect the cultural values are developed in cooperation with representatives and members of the local communities and the Indigenous Peoples. | The local communities and Indigenous Peoples | X | X |
| For sites and resources related to Indigenous Peoples: Strategies will need to be based on FPIC and engagement, and not assume that existing practices in the Solomon Islands consistently recognize or respect Indigenous Peoples' rights. (Per Minority Rights, 2018; Mongabay, 2017a and 2017b) | | | |
| For burial sites, Tambu sites, Kastom sites, Hope, altar stones, skull houses, and other shrine and sacred sites: In addition to buffer zones, strategies generally include maintaining the secrecy of the sites' locations, to prevent looting, destruction by rivals, and to protect site character. Operational plan mapping or other methods may be used in lieu of field marks as | | | |

| National or regional strategies for maintaining and/or enhancing the HCV 6 interpretations: | Best Available Information for management strategies for these interpretations: | BAI >SLIMF | BAI SLIMF |
|---|--|----------------------|------------------|
| necessary to protect the secrecy of site locations. (Per SA, 2011; Walter et al, 2014) | | | |
| For HCV occurrences identified due to global or national significance: Strategies are based on Best Available Information, and considered effective for maintaining and/or enhancing the HCV. | | | |

D. Monitoring for HCV 6

(See also the Overarching BAI, Section C.)

Methodologies and Best Available Information for monitoring programs for HCV 6:

| National or regional methodologies for monitoring occurrences of the HCV 6 interpretations: | Best Available Information for monitoring occurrences of these interpretations: | BAI >SLIMF | BAI SLIMF |
|---|--|----------------------|------------------|
| For HCV occurrences related to local communities: Monitoring conducted by the local communities, or using methodologies otherwise developed in cooperation with the communities through culturally appropriate engagement. | Local traditional communities. | X | X |
| For HCV occurrences related to Indigenous Peoples: Monitoring conducted by the Indigenous Peoples, or using methodologies otherwise developed in cooperation with the Indigenous Peoples through culturally appropriate engagement. | Indigenous Peoples | X | X |
| For additional guidance, consider: FSC (2020a) and HCVRN (2014) (e.g., Part 3) | | | |

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:

- Environmental Concerns Action Network Solomon Islands (ECANSI) – inc. re. forestry, biodiversity, and conservation
- Greenpeace
- Hanuato'o Conservation
- Honiara Beautification Council
- Kolombangara Island Biodiversity Conservation Association (KBIC) – inc. re. biodiversity, protected areas
- Natural Resources Development Foundation – inc. re. proposed protected areas, community-based conservation
- Nature Conservancy, Indo-Pacific Division
- OceansWatch
- Solomon Islands Community Conservation Partnership (SICCP) – inc. re. carbon credits projects, priority conservation sites, Western Province sites
- Western Solomons Conservation
- Wildlife Conservation Society
- WWF Western Melanesia Programme Office and South Pacific Programme Office (Fiji)

Indigenous Peoples Organizations:

- Aoke Langalanga Apex Association
- Councils of Chiefs, e.g. Kolombangara Island Chief Council, Isabel Council of Chiefs, Dunde Council of Elders, etc.
- Indigenous Peoples Biodiversity and Rights Network
- Luru Indigenous Natural Resources
- Luru Land Conference of Tribal Communities – inc. re. Indigenous rights and resources on Choiseul Is.
- Network of the Indigenous Peoples, Solomons
- Tetepare Descendants Association – inc. re. ecotourism and sustainable mangement
- Tribal Associations, e.g., Leanabako Tribe Assn
- Environmental Concerns Action Network of Solomon Islands (ECANSI) – inc. re. communities and rights.

Social Stakeholders and Community Development Organizations:

- Community Sector Programme – inc. re. community development
- Environmental Concerns Action Network of Solomon Islands (ECANSI)
- Kindu Resource Management
- Makira Community Conservation Foundation – inc. re. community resource management, NTFPs, eco-tourism
- Marovo Island Nature, Biodiversity, and Livelihood Trust
- Natural Resources Development Foundation – inc. re. community based conservation
- Residential Advisors, Local Communities
- Roviana Conservation Foundation
- Solomon Islands Community Conservation Partnership – inc. re. community based conservation
- Solomon Islands Development Trust
- Tetepare Descendants Association – inc. re. ecotourism and sustainable management

Other Expert Organizations – Environmental:

- American Museum of Natural History – inc. re. birds
- Ecological Solutions, Solomon Islands (ESSI) – inc. re. experts and consultants in ecology, biology, biodiversity surveys, community resources, and conservation assessments and project management
- Gesneriaceae Research Centre – inc. re. African violet distribution
- National University, Solomon Islands
- Sweden Museum of Natural History – inc. re. insects
- University of South Pacific, Solomon Islands
- University of Queensland – inc. re. amphibians, other biodiversity
- For additional expert consultants for onsite assessments, see Appendix 6 in FSC PNG & WWF PNG (2006)

Other Expert Organizations – Social:

- Australian National University – inc. re. archaeology/anthropology
- Ecological Solutions, Solomon Islands (ESSI) – inc. re. experts and consultants in ecology, biology, biodiversity surveys, community resources, and conservation assessments and project management
- National Museum, Solomon Islands – inc. re. archaeology/anthropology
- Melanesian Geo – inc. re. community education
- Peter Shephard, University of Auckland, New Zealand – inc. re. archaeology/anthropology
- Richard Walter, University of Otago, New Zealand – inc. re. archaeology/anthropology
- University of South Pacific, Solomon Islands

- For additional expert consultants for onsite assessments, see Appendix 6 in FSC PNG & WWF PNG (2006)

Government Agencies:

- Environment and Conservation Division (ECD) of the MEDCM
- Landowners' Advocacy and Legal Support Unit (LALASU) of the Public Solicitor Office (PSO)
- Ministry of Environment, Climate Change, Disaster Management and Meteorology (MECDM)
- Ministry of Forestry, Solomon Islands – inc. re. plant species diversity
- Ministry of Tourism – inc. re. eco-tourism opportunities.
- Provincial governments – inc. re. provincial ordinances

References

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Annex I 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
- Neighbours
- Downstream landowners
- Local processors
- Local businesses
- Tenure and use rights holders, including landowners
- Organizations authorized or known to act on behalf of affected stakeholders, for example social and environmental NGOs, labour unions, etc.
- (Source: FSC-STD-01-001 V5-2).

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

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

This list should be adapted or expanded by Standard Developers.

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.

(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).

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. Strittholt 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-commission 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 (Gerning 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:

- **HCV1:** Species Diversity. Concentrations of biological diversity including endemic species, and rare, threatened or endangered species, that are significant at global, regional or national levels.
- **HCV 2:** Landscape-level ecosystems and mosaics. Intact Forest Landscapes, large landscape-level ecosystems and ecosystem mosaics that are significant at global, regional or national levels, and that contain viable populations of the great majority of the naturally occurring species in natural patterns of distribution and abundance.
- **HCV 3:** Ecosystems and habitats. Rare, threatened, or endangered ecosystems, habitats or refugia.
- **HCV 4:** Critical ecosystem services. Basic ecosystem services in critical situations, including protection of water catchments and control of erosion of vulnerable soils and slopes.
- **HCV 5:** Community needs. Sites and resources fundamental for satisfying the basic necessities of local communities or Indigenous Peoples (for example for livelihoods, health, nutrition, water), identified through engagement with these communities or Indigenous Peoples.
- **HCV 6:** Cultural values. Sites, resources, habitats and landscapes of global or national cultural, archaeological or historical significance, and/or of critical cultural, ecological, economic or religious/sacred importance for the traditional cultures of local communities or Indigenous Peoples, identified through engagement with these local communities or Indigenous Peoples.
- (Source: based on FSC-STD-01-001 V5-2).

High Conservation Value Areas: 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.

NOTE: The adoption of the term Indigenous cultural landscapes is voluntary by Standard Development Groups. Standard Development Groups may choose not to use it. Through Free Prior an Informed Consent Indigenous Peoples may choose to use different terminology

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

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

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

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

Internationally accepted scientific protocol: 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 (subsidiary regulations, decrees, orders, etc.). 'Legal' also includes rule-based decisions made by legally competent agencies where such decisions flow directly and logically from the laws and regulations. Decisions made by legally competent agencies may not be legal if they do not flow directly and logically from the laws and regulations and if they are not rule-based but use administrative discretion (Source: FSC-STD-01-001 V5-2).

Legally competent: 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 Convention 138, Article 7).

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).

Objective: The basic purpose laid down by The Organization for the forest enterprise, including the decision of policy and the choice of means for attaining the purpose (Source: Based on F.C. Osmaston. 1968. The Management of Forests. Hafner, New York; and D.R. Johnston, A.J. Grayson and R.T. Bradley. 1967. Forest Planning. Faber & Faber, London).

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

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).

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

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

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, molluscicides, larvaecides, fungicides and herbicides (Source: FSC-POL-30-001 FSC Pesticides Policy (2005)).

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

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

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 the Precautionary Principle of the Wingspread Conference, 23–25 January 1998).

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

Principle: An essential rule or element; in FSC's case, of forest stewardship (Source: FSC-STD-01-001 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 (Source: Collins English Dictionary, 2003 Edition).

Rare species: Species that are uncommon or scarce, but not classified as threatened. These species are located in geographically restricted areas or specific habitats, or are scantily scattered on a large scale. They are approximately equivalent to the IUCN (2001) category of Near Threatened (NT), including species that are close to qualifying for, or are likely to qualify for, a threatened category in the near future. They are also approximately equivalent to imperiled species (Source: Based on IUCN. (2001). IUCN Red List Categories and Criteria: Version 3.1. IUCN Species Survival Commission. IUCN. Gland, Switzerland and Cambridge, UK).

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

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 Area Networks – Making it Happen. Washington D.C.: IUCN-WCPA National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and The Nature Conservancy.).

Restore / Restoration: These words are used in different senses according to the context and in everyday speech. In some cases 'restore' means to repair the damage done to environmental values that resulted from management activities or other causes. In other cases 'restore' means the formation of more natural conditions in sites which have been heavily degraded or converted to other land uses. In the Principles and Criteria, the word 'restore' is not used to imply the recreation of any particular

previous, pre-historic, pre-industrial or other pre-existing ecosystem (Source: FSC-STD-01-001 V5-2).

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

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

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

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

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

Workers: All employed persons including public employees as well as ‘self-employed’ persons. This includes part-time and seasonal employees, of all ranks and categories, including labourers, 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).



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