



TRANSACTION VERIFICATION FOR AMAZON TIMBERS IN PERU AND BRAZIL

June 28, 2019

The accreditation body Assurance Services International (ASI) is currently verifying the accuracy of FSC purchase and sales claims

Made by trading partners in Brazil and Peru for three log supply chains. Verified supply chains are related to these wood species from the Amazon region: Cumaru (*Dipterix odorata*), Jatoba (*Hymenaea courbaril*), and Ipe (*Handroanthus* spp.). The certification bodies accredited by ASI will collect all data for this transaction verification from the FSC certificate holders by 28 August.

Transaction verification is the process of comparing and matching all transactions related to a specific product type, group or region over a given time period and is a tool to maintain and protect the integrity of FSC. Transaction verification is applied where risks have been identified through the existing FSC auditing system. All FSC certificate holders can be asked to participate in transaction verification where such risks are identified. Over 1,500 businesses globally have already participated in transaction verification projects since 2018.

After a successful start-up phase, FSC is scaling up the scope of transaction verification to focus on value chains related to charcoal, oak flooring, Paulownia, and Eucalyptus across South America, Asia and Europe. Now FSC is also including Cumaru, Jatoba and Ipe in its scope as these species have been identified as posing a risk for volume mismatches, inaccurate transactions and potential false claims. The transaction verification scope will include forest inventory data, site visits in forest management units - for logs, production sites for decking, wood engineered flooring, as well as sales and purchases with end markets in the US, Europe and Canada.

The transaction verification process starts when ASI approaches certification bodies on a case-by-case basis and requests them to collect relevant transaction data on their clients (FSC certificate holders). ASI will determine the data to be provided (sample size, product types, frequency, duration, etc.). If a business is selected to provide data for transaction verification, the information must be provided by the specific deadlines. Transaction data collected by certification bodies will be shared with ASI for the specific purpose of matching

transactions. The data will only be used for this purpose and ASI follows strict data security measures and complies with GDPR. Once transaction verification has been completed by ASI, all certificate holder data will be deleted. Where mismatches of data are identified, certification bodies will follow up with their clients to resolve any issues, including corrective action requests, if required.

Certification bodies will notify the relevant FSC certificate holders among their clients at the end of June before sending them further instructions about timelines and requirements.

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