

Enabling social and environmental remedy

FSC Remedy Framework

Introduction

The FSC Remedy Framework is a set of permanent and effective measures required for remedying past social and environmental harms caused by:

- **Unacceptable activities** as stipulated by the Policy for Association (PfA).
- **Conversion** of natural forest between 1 December 1994 and 31 December 2020, also known as the cut-off date, as defined in the Policy to Address Conversion (PAC).

It provides the remedy requirements for:

- Conversion of natural forest.
- Unacceptable activities.

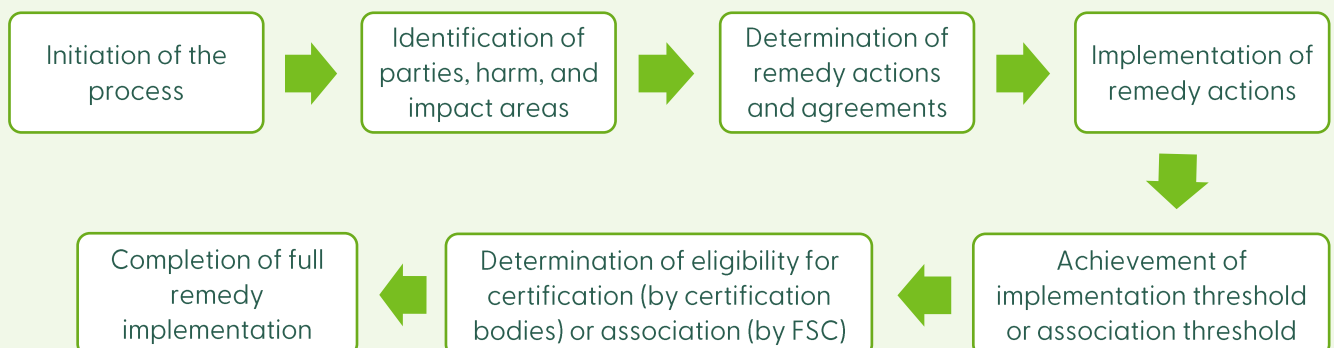
Key features

- Two types of requirements to ensure that site level harms are addressed, as well as system level transformations are made (by corporate groups who wish to associate with FSC) to prevent recurrence.
- Identification of stakeholders and rightsholders.
- Inclusive and participatory dialogue processes leading to identification of baselines and harms, and agreements on remedy actions.
- Best practice justifications of selected remedy actions.
- Key roles in the remedy process for independent, third-party, and/or expert involvement.
- Application of Right to Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC).
- Development of grievance mechanisms compliant with the United Nations Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights.

Expected outcomes

- Enable a **non-judicial approach** to remedy for environmental and social harms.
- **Encourage restoration** and restitution.
- Enable and encourage **more organizations** to yield **positive changes** through remedy.
- Ensure **aligned remedy processes** before organizations enter the FSC system.

Remedy process steps



Two procedure documents and their application

Applicable policy	Context	FSC Remedy Framework FSC-PRO-01-007	FSC Remedy Framework FSC-PRO-01-004
Policy for Association (PfA)	Eligibility for association of corporate group	Remedy for unacceptable activities that occurred before 1 January 2023. - PfA version 2	Remedy for unacceptable activities that occurred after 1 January 2023., - PfA version 3
Policy to Address Conversion (PAC) & Principles and Criteria (V 5-3)	Eligibility for certification of land converted between 1 December 1994 and 31 December 2020	Direct involvement in conversion will require full remedy. Indirect involvement in conversion will require partial remedy.	Not applicable.

Both FSC Remedy Frameworks become effective from 1 July 2023

Specific considerations around conversion

Scenario 1: For natural forest converted prior to 1 December 1994

- No remedy is required for certification and association.

Scenario 2: For natural forest converted between 1 December 1994 and 31 December 2020

- Certification: Remedy required according to FSC-PRO-01-007.
- Association: Remedy required according to FSC-PRO-01-007, if the conversion meets the significant conversion threshold as defined in the FSC Policy for Association version 2.

Scenario 3: For natural forest and High Conservation Value (HCV) areas converted after 31 December 2020

- Certification: Not allowed/possible.
- Association:
 - Between 1 January 2021 and 31 December 2022: Remedy required according to FSC-PRO-01-007, if the conversion meets the significant conversion threshold as defined in the FSC Policy for Association version 2.
 - After 31 December 2022: Remedy required according to FSC-PRO-01-004 for conversion defined in the FSC Policy for Association version 3.