

POLICY TO ADDRESS CONVERSION AND REMEDY FRAMEWORKS INFORMATION WEBINARS

Policy to Address Conversion (FSC-POL-01-007)
And FSC Remedy Framework (FSC-PRO-01-007 & FSC-
PRO-01-004)

6 & 7 June 2023

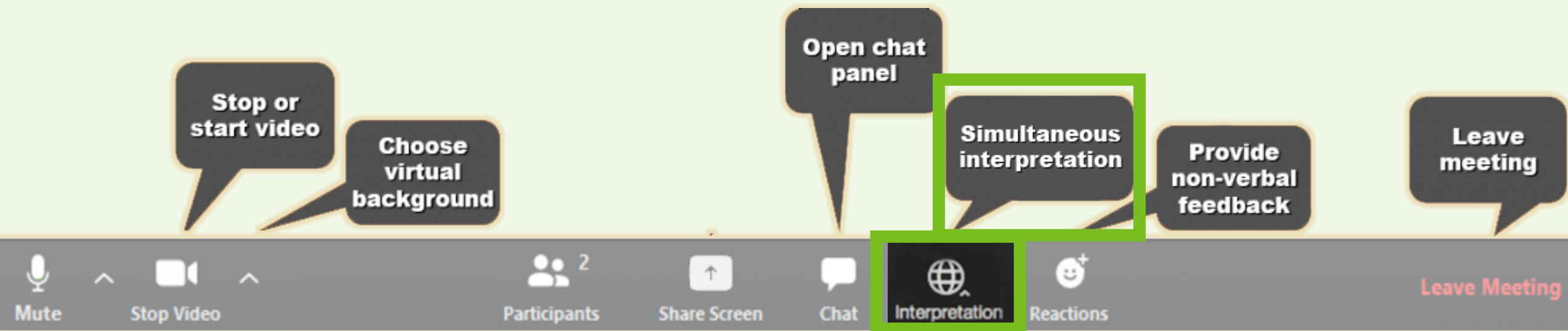


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AGENDA

Welcome & introduction	5 min
1 Background	5 min
2 Policy to Address Conversion	12 min
3 FSC Remedy Framework	13 min
4 Getting ready for the remedy journey	15 min
5 Q&A	40 min

Presenters



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Chief Engagement and Partnerships Officer

1. BACKGROUND



Strengthening FSC's position on conversion

After years of discussion with stakeholders about FSC's position on conversion, FSC has published a package of aligned documents.

**FSC Plantations
Review
– Technical Phase –
Review of FSC
Conversion Policy**

2008 - 2009



MOTION 18



FSC® General Assembly 2014
Seville, Spain, 7–14 September

MOTION 12

WG



FSC® General Assembly 2017
Vancouver, Canada, 8–13 October

MOTION 7

WG

TWG



**FSC®
General
Assembly
2021 -2022**

MOTION 37 & 45

Relevant normative documents

Policy for Association (PfA)

- **Revision** responded to the need to improve the association requirements and the policy's alignment with other policies.
- **Regulates unacceptable activities** for association purposes.
- Took effect on 1 January 2023

Policy to Address Conversion

- **Development** responded to Motion 7/2017.
- **Regulates conversion** from a holistic standpoint in the periods Dec 1994-Dec 2020 and after Dec 2020.
- Takes effect on **1 July 2023**.

Remedy Framework

- **Development** responded to Motion 7/2017 and need to establish a PfA remediation framework.
- **Defines equitable and effective measures for the remedy of harms** caused by PfA violations and conversion after Nov 1994 and until Dec 2020.
- **Two Remedy Frameworks:** (FSC-PRO-01-007 & FSC-PRO-01-004). Both take effect on **1 July 2023**.

Other relevant normative documents

1

FSC-STD-01-001 (V5-3)
FSC Principles and
Criteria for Forest
Stewardship

2

FSC-STD-60-004 (V2-1)
International Generic
Indicators

3

ADV-10-004-01
Scope of application of
FSC Remedy Framework
for outstanding
magnitude or gravity of
harm caused

4

ADV-20-007-22
Advice Note on
requirements for
certificate holders
introduced by the PAC
and M37/2021

5

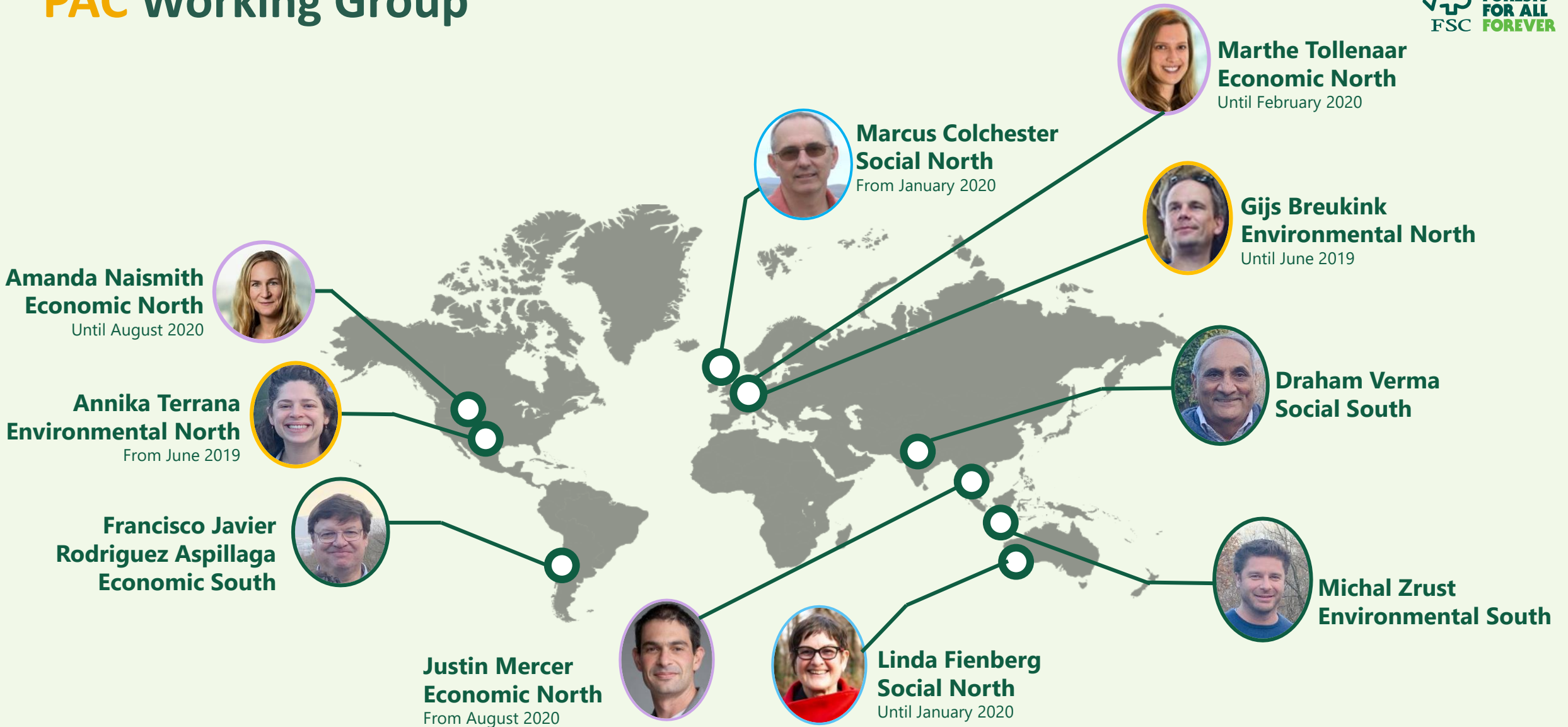
*ADV-20-007-23
Advice note on the
maximum threshold for
a very limited portion of
conversion

*This Advice Note is not yet published.

2. POLICY TO ADDRESS CONVERSION



PAC Working Group



What are the objectives of the PAC?

1. Provide a framework for FSC to develop and contribute towards halting deforestation and conversion and promote conservation, restoration and restitution.
2. Ensure consistent application of the definition and interpretation of conversion throughout FSC's normative framework.
3. Establish a permanent, equitable and effective FSC Remedy Framework for remediation of social and ecological damage of conversion.



Key concepts in the PAC and their effect

Topic	Key concept	Effect on the FSC system
1) Definition of conversion	<p>New definition of conversion to apply from 31 December 2020 onwards:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Lasting change of natural forest cover or High Conservation Value (HCV) areas, induced by human activity. - Gradual forest degradation will qualify as conversion. 	Establishment of a stronger and more comprehensive definition than currently stated in the FSC normative framework.
2) Cut-off date	<p>Land converted (including natural forests and HCV areas) after 2020 will not be eligible for certification.</p> <p>Land converted between 1994-2020 will be eligible for certification after a remedy process for social and environmental harms.</p>	FSC will be able to contribute to remedy of harms caused in the past, while strengthening the position for the future aligning to post-2020 zero deforestation goals called for by the international community.
3) Minimal conversion	5% minimal conversion of a MU is permitted if there is proven conservation and social benefit, and it does not damage HCVs. It is clarified that minimal conversion cannot exceed 5% in total.	<p>Concept of minimal conversion strengthened, and better clarity provided for implementation.</p> <p>Does not create obstacles for conservation and social projects (e.g., community development).</p>

Key concepts in the PAC and their effect

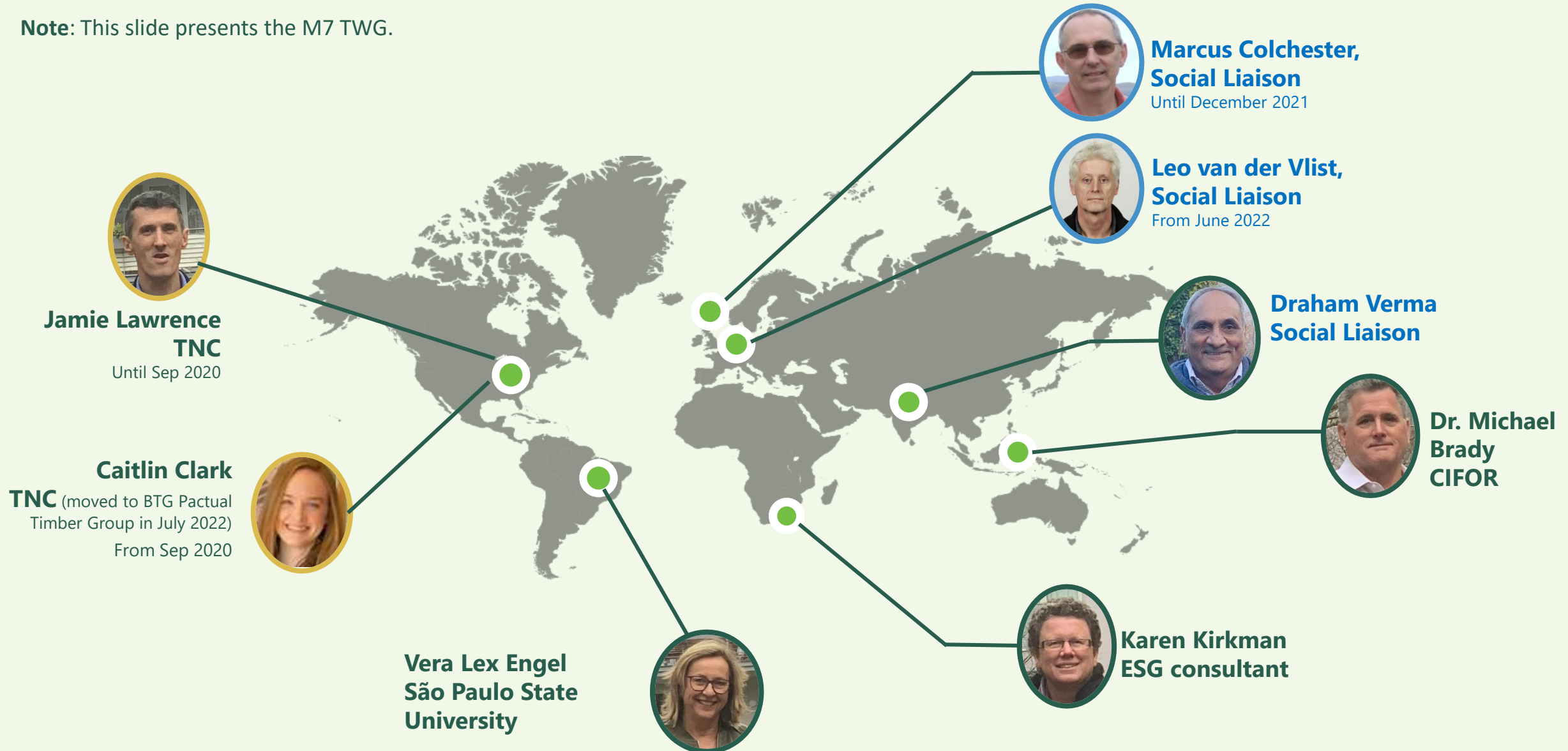
Topic	Key concept/changes	Effect on the FSC system
4) Small-scale dispensation	FSC defines dispensation criteria for small-scale smallholders (less than 50 hectares) for implementation of remedy regardless of whether they were involved in the conversion or not.	Incentivize those small operations to become certified and discourage speculative conversion and unacceptable activities.
5) Model for remediation of harms caused by conversion between 1 December 1994 and 31 December 2020	<p>Level of remedy is related to the level of involvement of the organization.</p> <p>For direct or indirect involvement in conversion full remedy for environmental harms and for all social harms is required.</p> <p>For no involvement in conversion partial environmental remedy and full remedy for priority social harms is required.</p>	FSC will be able to establish a permanent, equitable and effective FSC Remedy Framework.

3. FSC REMEDY FRAMEWORK



FSC aligned two processes to develop the Remedy Framework

Note: This slide presents the M7 TWG.



Two versions of the FSC Remedy Framework

PRO-01-007

Remedy under Policy to Address Conversion for conversion 1994-2020 and Policy for Association **V-2**

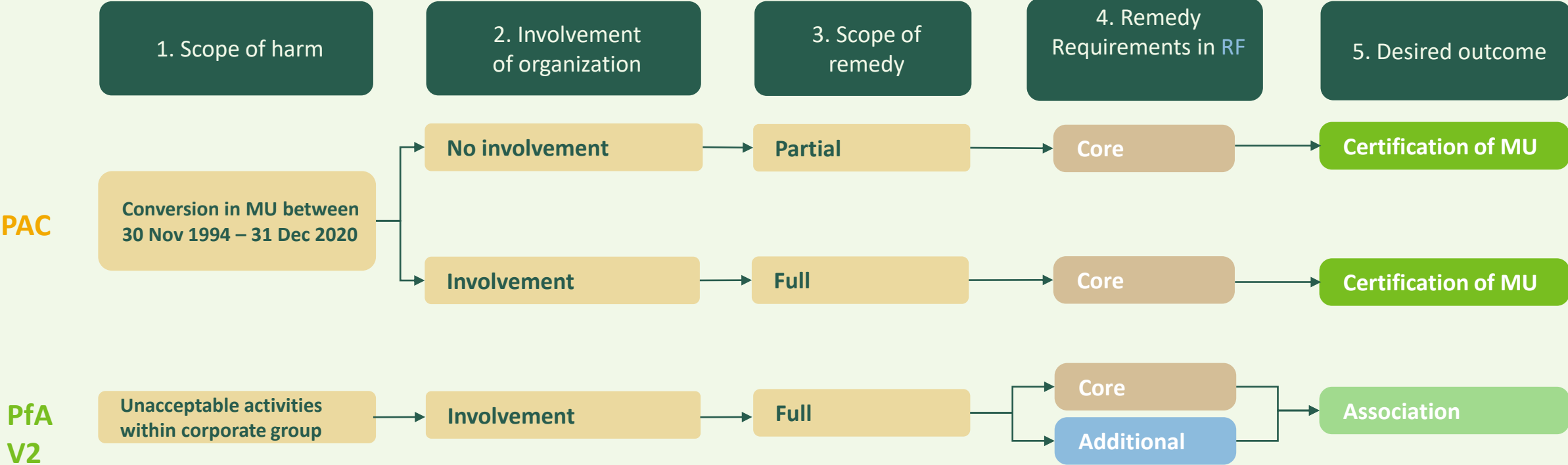
- Conversion remedy: core requirements
- Unacceptable activity remedy: core and additional requirements.

PRO-01-004

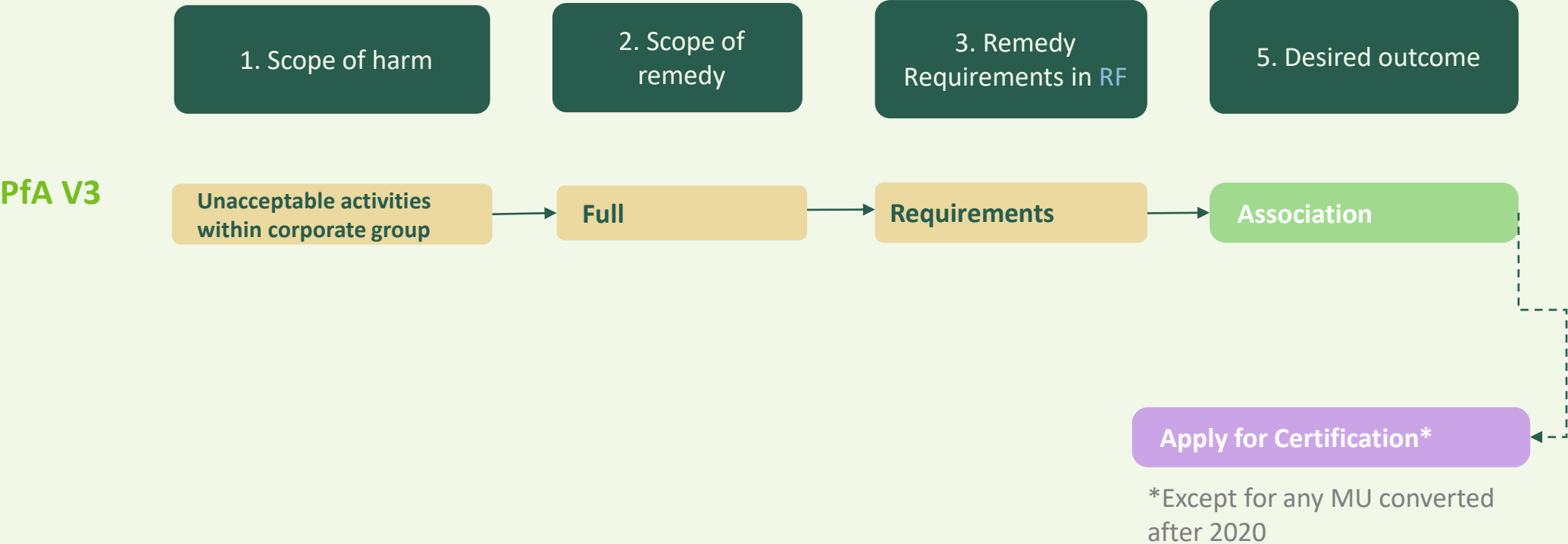
Remedy under Policy for Association **V-3**.

No remedy is possible for management units converted after 2020 to make them eligible for certification.

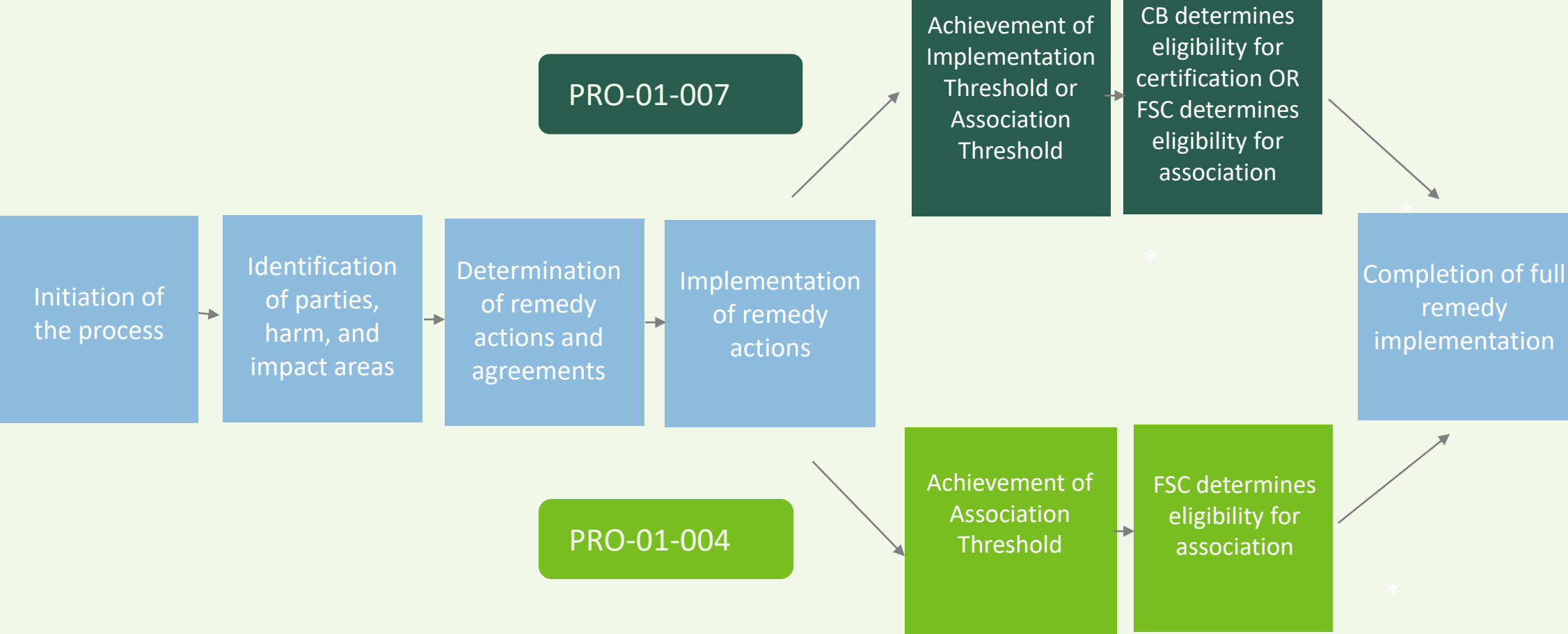
Paths for remedy (FSC-PRO-01-007)



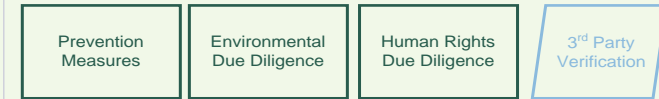
Path for remedy (FSC-PRO-01-004)



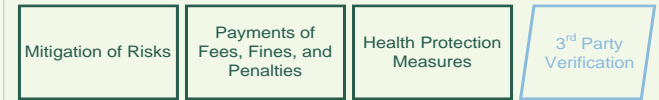
Basic outline of the Remedy Framework



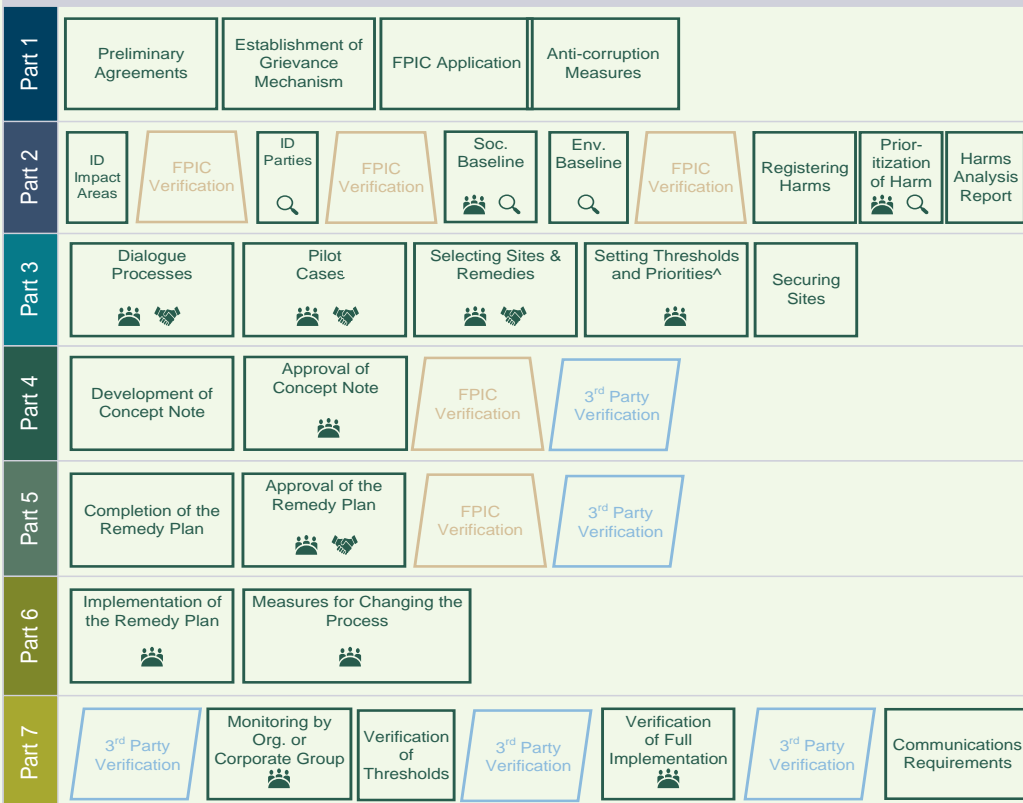
Chapter 1



Chapter 2



Chapter 3



Key concepts in the Remedy Framework



- Identification of relevant stakeholders and differentiation between rights holders and other stakeholders.
- Application of Free, Prior, Informed Consent (FPIC) for affected rights holders.
- Dialogue processes.
- Agreements at key points.
- Best practice justifications of selected remedy actions
- Independent/third-party/expert involvement.
- Actual sites prioritized.
- For conversion remedy 20% reserved as protection area*.

LEGEND

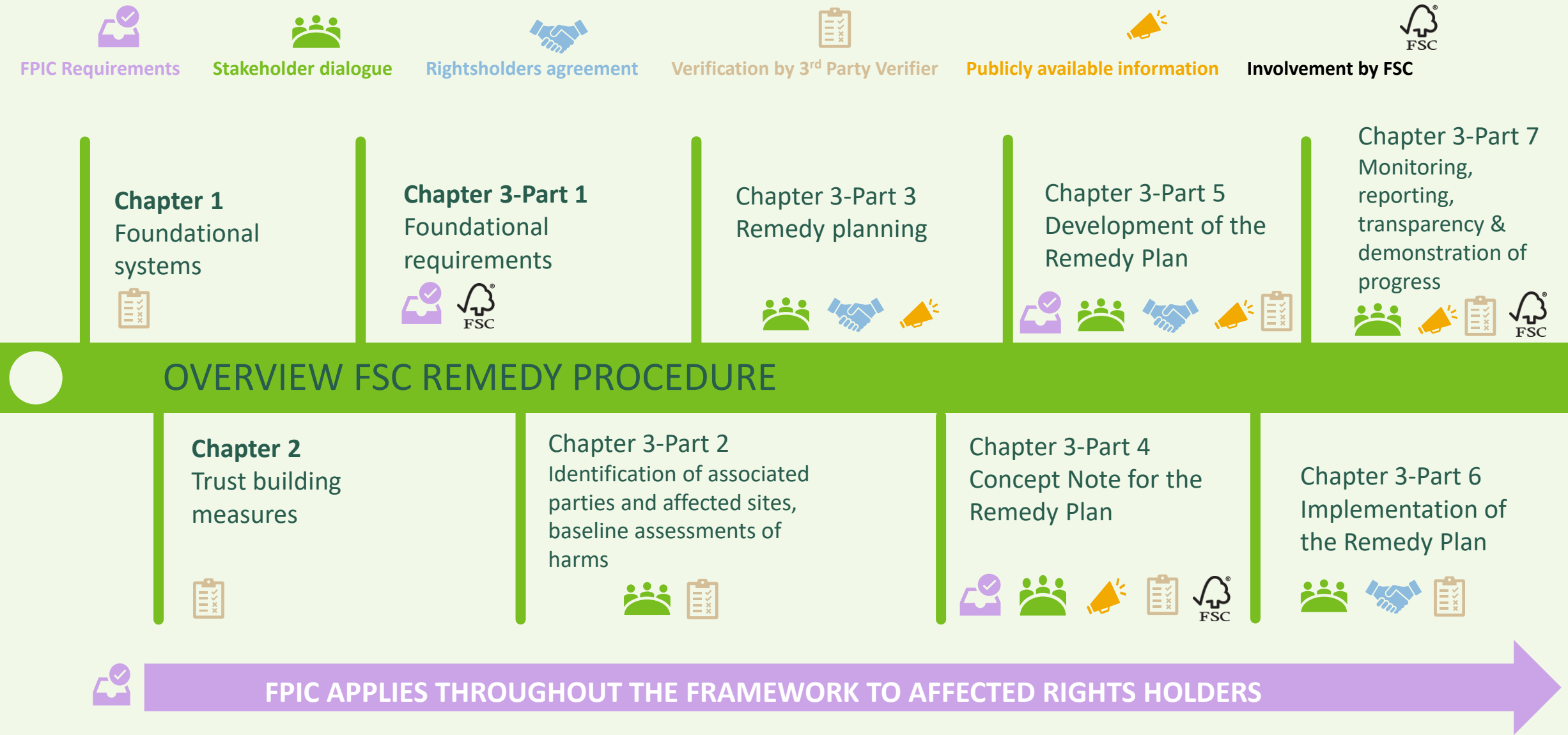
Involvement of the Independent Assessor

Dialogue point

Agreement point

*Only applies to FSC-PRO-01-007

Remedy Framework steps



4. GETTING READY FOR THE REMEDY JOURNEY

Salem Jones



Coming soon: Navigation tools to support the remedy journey

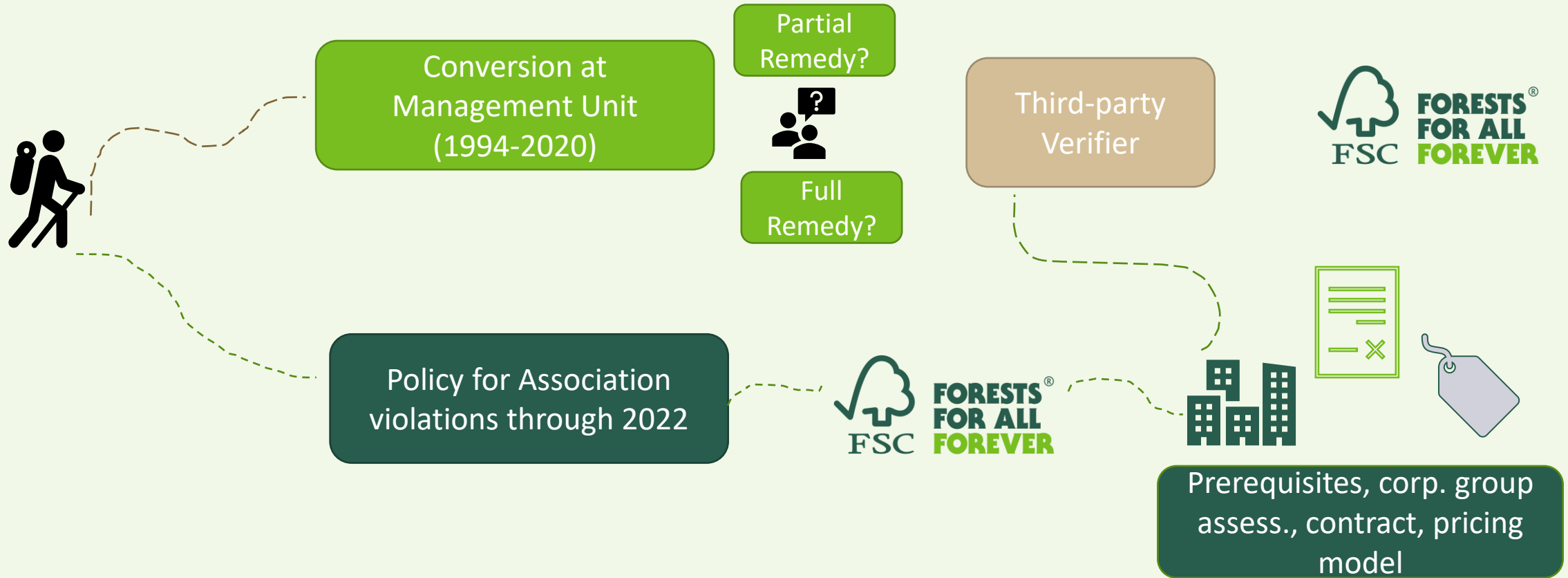


The following will be published by the effective date of the Remedy Framework:

- Summary of **Corporate Group** assessment
- Summary of **Independent Assessor** selection
- Summary of **Third-party Verifier** selection

For more information on the Remedy Framework and its application, please visit the FSC website

Where do I start my remedy journey?



For Remedy Framework related questions, contact: remedy@fsc.org

The future is data: Monitoring & evaluation



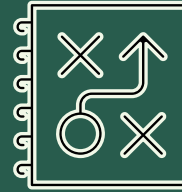
QUALITY ASSURANCE

Performance of Assessors
and Verifiers
Reporting data
Continuous learning
systems
Training



CASE STUDIES

Academic research
Research projects
Second-party reports



BUILDING BEST PRACTICE

Case studies
Verification reports
Academic research



IMPACTS & OUTCOMES

Defining measurable
indicators
Templates, digital/ hand-
held reporting
Data processing
Existing FSC systems
Certification outcomes

*Arrows indicate an integrated and interdependent monitoring and evaluation program

5. QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS



Thank you



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