

# Chain of Custody Conceptual Phase: Summary of Public Consultation Feedback

Relevant links: [Full Consultation Report](#) [CoC Revision Material](#)

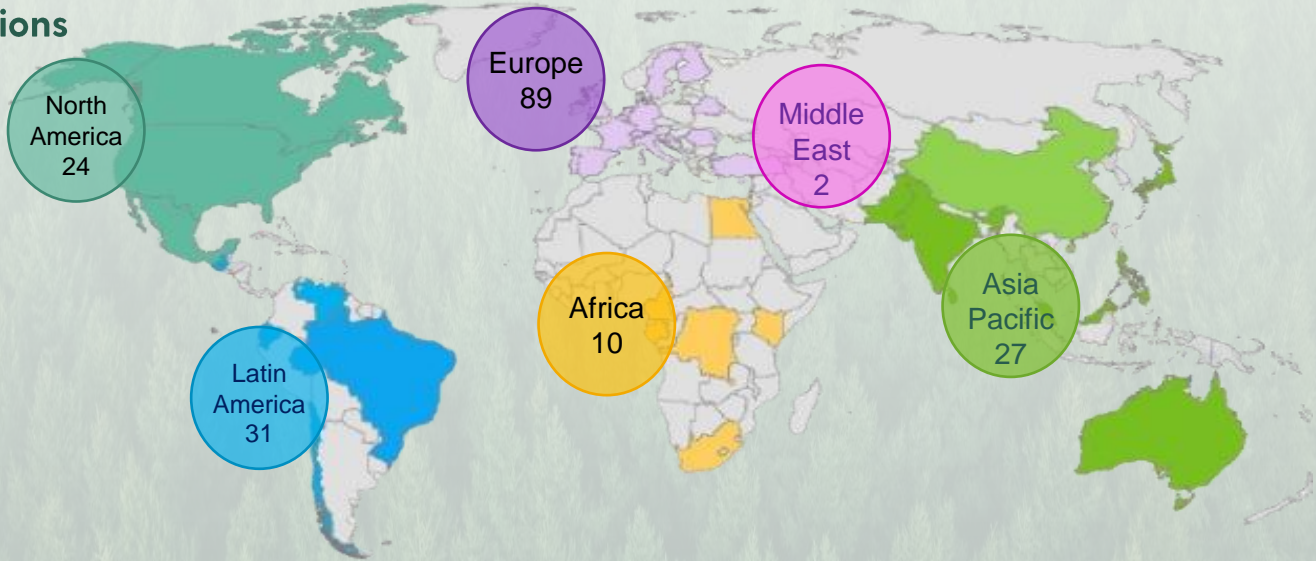
## Revision Process

FSC is revising the chain of custody (CoC) standards in a joint revision process. FSC CoC certification is designed to provide a credible assurance that products which are sold with an FSC claim originate from well-managed forests, controlled sources, reclaimed materials, or a mixture of these.

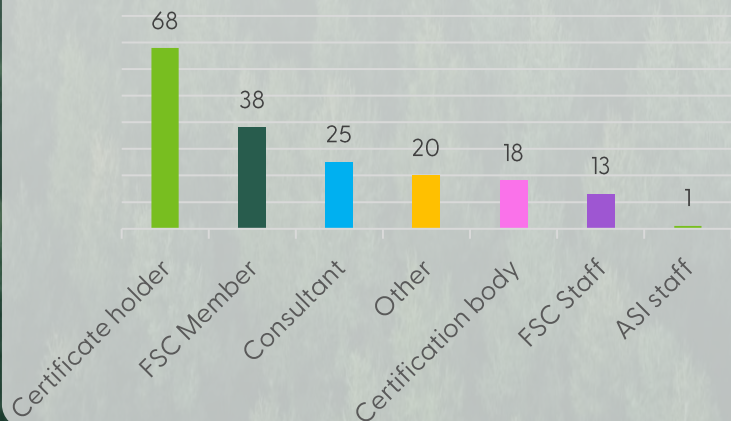
## Consultation Summary

**1** Public Consultation  
 From **16** August until **15** October **2024**  
**4** public webinars with simultaneous translation available in French and Spanish  
 A total of **524** registrations  
**183** participants in the consultation

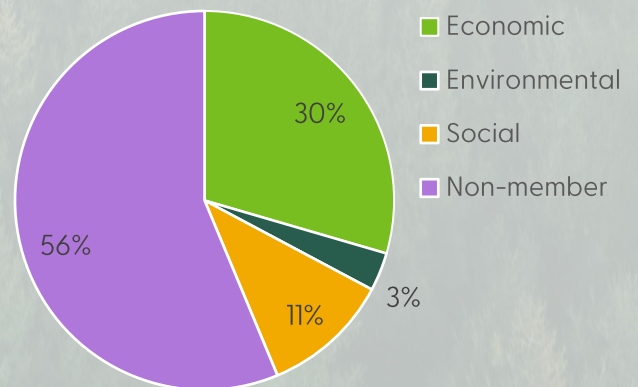
## Regions



## Stakeholder Groups



## FSC Members





## SUMMARY OF FEEDBACK ON KEY TOPICS

### Labour Requirements



General support for changes to existing requirements, and the inclusion of health and safety as a FSC core labour requirement in Section 7 of STD-40-004.

Concern on any lowering of requirements for child labour, and complaints on workers' rights requirements not being all in one section or Annex, with proposed data collection posing data privacy issues.

Request for risk-based and simplified approach.

### Chain of Custody



Numerous requests were made to simplify and streamline the requirements.

Stakeholders showed strong preference for more risk-based approaches.

General positive feedback on the proposals for combining the standards and digitization of the CoC requirements.

Some concerns raised about the proposals on FSC claims, primarily due to the increased complexity of the requirements.

### Group and Multisite



Greater preference was shown for modifying group certification requirements to accommodate organizations classified under Class 2 of the AAF Policy.

Some preference toward regionally adaptable criteria for group certification.

Request for different thresholds for “traders” and “processors”.

### Accreditation Requirement



Significant support for remote and hybrid evaluation options.

Majority supported the new sampling methodology for group/multisite with some concerns for the increase costs for CHs.

Polarized feedback on reducing waiving audit proposal.

### Reclaimed Material & Circularity



Positive feedback on the inclusion of take-back and leasing models in the FSC system. New market opportunity for FSC and alignment with evolving circular business models echoed.

Request for clear and simplified requirements to ensure easy implementation of the circularity models, avoidance of complexities and safeguarding FSC's credibility and integrity.

Polarized opinions on the ‘repair and reuse’ concept. Supporters indicated sustainability promotion, new market opportunities etc., while negative effects such as claim dilution and introduction of more complexities into the FSC system were raised.

General support for the recognition of salvaged wood as a reclaimed material and polarized opinions on the urban waste wood proposal, with calls for robust and clear requirements to avoid integrity risks.