



REVISION OF THE CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT PROCEDURE (CIP)

FSC-PRO-30-011 V1-2

Webinar 16 January 2025

PURPOSE OF THE WEBINAR

1. Informative

Help understand the changes and the rationale behind them

2. Question and feedback

Encourage clarification related questions.

For feedback, please use the consultation platform.

For general enquiries systemdevelopment@fsc.org



AGENDA

1. Why we are revising the CIP.
2. Editorial changes to the CIP.
3. Changes to closure of nonconformities
4. Future structure of FSCs CB standards.
5. CIP revision timeline.



1. Why are we revising the CIP procedure?

Need to align with ISO requirements and the German National Accreditation Body “DAkkS”

Several nonconformities for FSC were issued, to be addressed in the accreditation standards.

Core issues are the following:

Closure of nonconformities

Addressed in FSC-STD-20-001

Also issue with Continuous Improvement Procedure.

Evaluations are done in a consistent manner

Addressed in all FSC accreditation standards.

Certification requirements are separated from accreditation requirements

Needs to be implemented for:

1. Continuous Improvement Procedure
2. Ecosystem Services Procedure
3. Regulatory Module



2. Editorial changes

The Organization instead of "CIP user".

Reference to “The Organization” instead of “CIP user” to align with the normative framework.

Other changes in terminology.

Change in terminology, e.g. Criteria designated as low risk “are not applicable” in case of inactive management units instead of stating “conformity is not required to be demonstrated”.

Editorial changes in the Introduction.

Editorial changes in the Introduction to highlight the FSC requirements for FM certification for SLIMF and CF applying the CIP:

Core Criteria and Action Plan



3. Closure of Nonconformities (1/3)

Relevant requirements from ISO 17065



Nonconformities

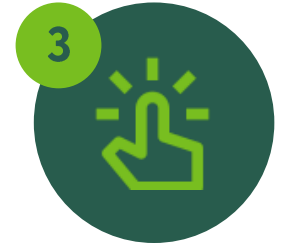
ISO does not distinguish between minor and major and only focuses on corrections and not on the prevention of reoccurrence (corrective action).



For granting certification

The certification body shall only grant certification when:

- Decision to grant has been made;
- the client has fulfilled the certification requirements (Source 7.7.3).



For surveillance

The surveillance shall include the certification decision (Source 7.7.3).

When a nonconformity is identified, CB shall consider and decide upon appropriate action (increased surveillance, scope reduction, suspension, withdrawal) (Source 7.11.1).

3. Closure of Nonconformities (2/3)

Latest draft FSC-STD-20-001 requirements

Definitions

- **Correction:** action to eliminate a nonconformity
- **Corrective action:** action to eliminate the cause of a nonconformity and to prevent recurrence.

Main evaluation

Minor and Major non-conformities:

- Close all nonconformities: corrections and corrective actions before certification is granted



3. Closure of Nonconformities (3/3)

Latest draft FSC-STD-20-001 requirements

Surveillance

Major non-conformities

- Corrections
- Corrective actions

Timeline: CBs get 1 month to develop the non-conformity report

CHs: within three months from receiving the non-conformity report

Surveillance

Minor non-conformities

- Corrections

Same timelines as for major nonconformities

- Corrective actions

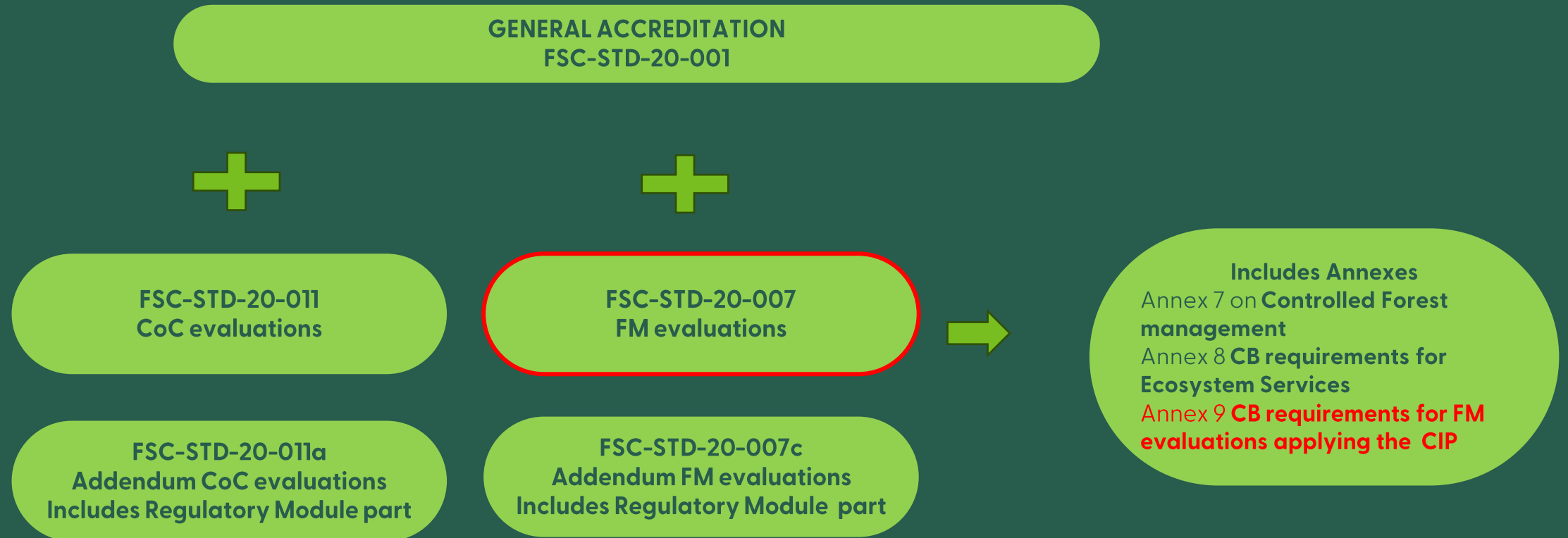
Maximum timeline is until the next surveillance evaluation

Current CIP version allows minor NCs to be corrected within 2 years.



4. Future structure of FSCs CB standards

Certification requirements are separated from accreditation requirements



5. CIP revision timeline

Category	Activity
Process type	A joint accelerated process is applied, resulting in FSC-STD-20-007 V4-1, and FSC-PRO-30-011 V1-2
Objective of revision process	To align with FSC-STD-20-001 and to address DAkkS nonconformities
Timeline	Aligned with FSC-STD-20-001 revision process





Thank you



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