

Online, 28 April 2026

# Advice Notes on Intact Forest Landscapes: Implementing Motion 45/2025

FSC International



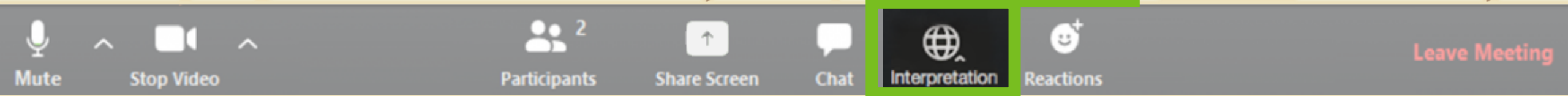
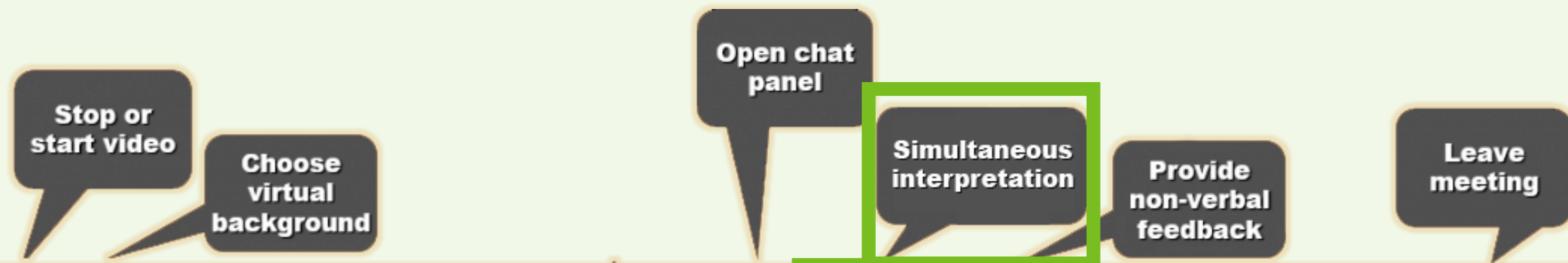
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# Simultaneous Interpretation

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# How to participate

1. **Submit your questions using the Q&A box**
2. **Vote for the questions to be prioritized**

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# AGENDA

| Topic  | Time    | Presenter       |
|--|---------|-----------------|
| <b>1</b> Welcome and Introduction  | 10 mins | Andrea Cornejo  |
| <b>2</b> Motion 45/2025 implementation approach and timeline   | 15 mins | Douglas Muir    |
| <b>3</b> Overview of Advice Note 1 on Indicators for Enhanced HCV 2 Management and Monitoring in IFL   | 30 min  | Franck Trolliet |
| <b>4</b> Q&A Session   | 25 min  | All             |
| <b>5</b> Overview of Advice Note 2 on IFL Indicators For Tropical Natural Forests. Exempt: Brazil, Peru, and the Republic of Congo (voluntary application) | 10 min  | Andrea Cornejo  |
| <b>6</b> Q&A Session   | 15 mins | All             |
| <b>7</b> Final remarks: participate of the public consultation   | 5 mins  | Andrea Cornejo  |

# 1. Welcome and Introduction

# IFL a priority: Members have driven an evolution in the approach to IFL via Motions

## Currently

### **A global 80% default protection threshold for IFLs in the Management Unit**

Exceptions lowering the protection level to +50% under certain conditions are allowed by ADVICE-20-007-18 V3

## Last evolution

**Motion 23 /2020** - *Use landscape-wide approaches adapted to local conditions and strengthen Standard Development Groups (SDGs) to improve protection of Intact Forest Landscapes, passed in October 2022.*

\*M23 pilots will conclude in 2026.

**Motion 45/2025** was approved at the GA in October 2025, bringing a new approach to IFL requirements.

# Motion 45/2025 – Moving beyond fixed thresholds to outcome-based conservation for Intact Forest Landscapes (IFLs)

Centered in **maintaining ecological integrity and socio-cultural values** of the IFL area within the management unit supported by **robust monitoring**, rather than on avoiding logging activities in ‘core areas’

# Decision of the Board to start implementation of Motion 45/2025 (M45)

At the BM 104 (December 2025) the FSC Board of Directors decided:

- M45 will be fully implemented through the ongoing revision of the Principles and Criteria and International Generic Indicators.
- As a first step towards implementation of M45, generic indicators for enhanced HCV 2 management and monitoring in IFLs would be developed by a Technical Working Group.
- These indicators shall become mandatory for areas where M23 indicators and interim IFL thresholds apply.
- M23 pilots will be completed with the approval of corresponding FSS with revised IFL indicators by the Policy and Standards Committee.
- Interim measures complementary to the FSS resulting from M23 will result in Advice Note(s) approved by the Policy and Standards Committee and effective as of 1 July 2026.



## 2. Motion 45/2025 implementation approach and timeline

# Motion 45/2025 implementation in phased rollout

## 1. Interim measures (Advice Notes)- 1<sup>st</sup> half 2026

Development of enhanced requirements for HCV 2 management and monitoring in IFLs for (1) M23 pilot countries (Advice Note 1) and (2) other countries who may voluntarily opt-in to apply (Advice Note 2)

## 2. Regional indicators and monitoring guidance (2<sup>nd</sup> half 2026)

Based on generic indicators developed in Advice Note 1 we will discuss further development of regional indicators and corresponding guidance for the implementation of requirements in key IFL regions.

## 3. Generic indicators incorporated into IGLs through PCI revision (2026-2029)

## 4. New FSS based on new IGLs (post-Jan 2029)

Full implementation will be achieved once FSS standards are updated based on the new version of IGLs.

# Timeline

Current Advice Note  
(ADV-20-007\_18)

- Revised Standards (FSS) Brazil, Canada, Peru and the Republic of Congo
- Enhanced requirements for HCV 2/IFL (AN 1) and for opt-in countries (voluntary application, AN 2)

+50% threshold

Until 30 June 2026

FSS (M23) and AN 1 valid until new standards are effective (after PCI revision)

1 July 2026

New International Generic Indicators (IGI)

1 Jan 2029

New FSS based on new IGI (V3-0)

Post 1 Jan 2029

# So, what you can expect to happen in M23 pilot countries (how M23 and M45 interact?)

From 1 July 2026, M23 pilot countries will work under 2 sets of new IFL requirements coming from:

(1) The corresponding revised FSS derived from the Motion 23 pilot process (NOTE: the M23 concept of maintaining the vast majority of IFL areas at the landscape-level is no longer expected to be addressed)

(2) The Advice Note 1 (ADV-STD-60-004\_02) containing enhanced requirements for management of HCV 2 and their monitoring in IFLs

# 4. Q&A session

# 3. Overview of Advice Note 1

**ADV-STD-60-004\_02 V1-0**

**DEVELOPMENT OF INDICATORS FOR ENHANCED HCV 2  
MANAGEMENT AND MONITORING IN IFL**

# Main ideas and purpose of Motion 45/2025

## Motion 45 - Moving beyond fixed thresholds to outcome-based conservation for Intact Forest Landscapes (IFLs)

1. Shifts **away** from the current **fixed thresholds** for protection of IFLs within certified areas.
2. Calls for maintaining **ecological integrity** and **socio-cultural values** of IFLs.
3. Challenges the binary approach to intactness.
4. Assumes that ecosystem integrity can be preserved and forests can recover.
5. Calls for **robust monitoring** systems.
6. Emphasizes the **role of Indigenous and traditional peoples** in identifying and managing socio-cultural values and Indigenous cultural landscapes.



# Main (new) concepts brought into Advice Note 1

## Critical Landscape Integrity Features\*

Elements, attributes or processes that characterize and/or that are unique to IFLs, large landscape-level ecosystems and their ecological integrity.

Includes elements related to forest structure, species composition, and functional processes.

Includes **bioindicator species**\*: Species whose presence, absence, abundance, or condition provides information on the state of the environment, ecosystem integrity, or environmental change.

# Main (new) concepts brought into Advice Note 1

Critical Landscape  
Integrity Features

**Socio-cultural values\***

Sites, resources, species, ecosystem services, and landscape features that are fundamental to the identities, well-being, cultures, and livelihoods of Indigenous Peoples and traditional peoples.

Includes **cultural keystone species\***: Plant and animal species essential to the cultural identity, subsistence, and practices of Indigenous Peoples and traditional peoples.

# Main (new) concepts brought into Advice Note 1

Critical Landscape  
Integrity Features

Socio-cultural values

**Cultural connectivity\***

Maintenance of landscape conditions that allow Indigenous Peoples and/or traditional peoples to sustain cultural practices, ceremonial activities, and intergenerational knowledge transmission across their traditional territories.

# Main (new) concepts brought into Advice Note 1

Critical Landscape  
Integrity Features

Socio-cultural values

Cultural connectivity

**Sphere of Influence\***

Areas outside the Management Unit where the Organization's decisions and actions interact with those of other stakeholders to shape ecological, social, and economic processes in the landscape.

It also includes decisions and actions by stakeholders that influence what happens in the landscape.

# Main (new) concepts brought into Advice Note 1

Critical Landscape Integrity Features

Socio-cultural values

Cultural connectivity

Sphere of Influence

State\*

Reference state\*

**State** refers to the main characteristics describing the level of intactness of a critical landscape integrity features and socio-cultural value.

**Reference state** refers to the state (i.e., condition) that reflects high integrity / high intactness and is representative of the natural undisturbed state.

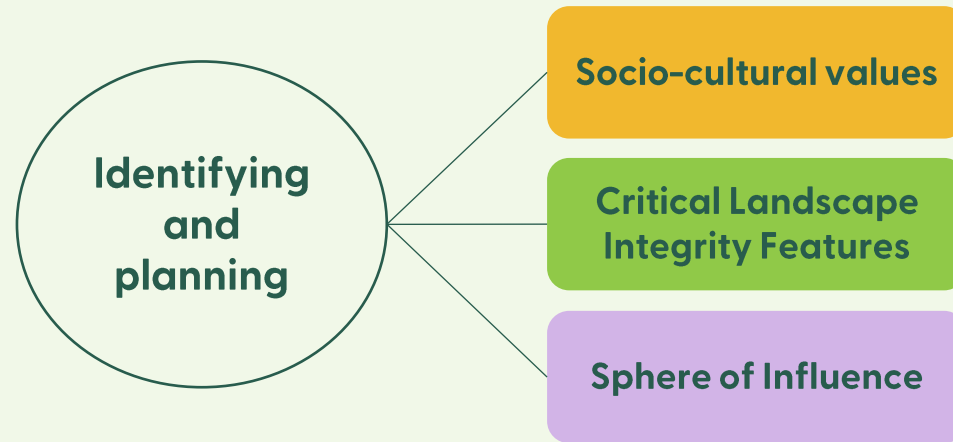
# Advice Note 1 requirements

Identifying  
and  
planning

Managing

Monitoring

# Advice Note 1 requirements



1. Identify IFL and share of IFL maps with IPs/TPs.
2. Identify **Critical Landscape Integrity Features**.
3. Identify **Indigenous cultural landscapes** and **socio-cultural values**.
4. Include measures to prevent degradation of the two above in the **Management Plan**.

# Advice Note 1 requirements



5. Ensure the Critical Landscape Integrity Features can **recover** to a level similar to their **reference state**.
6. Distribution of operations over the MU and over time to ensure that the **cumulative impacts** do not compromise the capacity for recovery of those features and values.
7. **No industrial activity** where features and values **cannot sustain** any disturbance.
8. Prevent **unauthorized access** to roads.
9. Ensure the socio-cultural values can **recover** to a level similar to their **reference state**.
10. Immediate **cessation** of activities when socio-cultural values are newly discovered.
11. Regenerate **vegetation** cover using native species.
12. **Restoration** to accelerate recovery.

# Advice Note 1 requirements



13. + 14. Establish a robust **monitoring program** for the features and values:
  - a. Standardized and replicable data collection,
  - b. Spatially-replicated: in undisturbed control areas and areas impacted by forest operations.
15. Monitor the **state** of the **features** and **values**.
16. Monitor the **state** of **bioindicator**, **keystone** and **cultural keystone species**.
17. Monitor the state of tree cover (spatial extent of disturbances, natural regeneration and recovery, forest connectivity, changes in access and mobility of IPs/ TPs).
18. Management plan reflects the insights gained from monitoring activities.

# 4. Q&A session

# 5. Overview of Advice Note 2



**ADV-STD-20-007\_18 V4**

**(Voluntary) IFL INDICATORS FOR TROPICAL NATURAL FORESTS. EXEMPT: BRAZIL, PERU, AND THE REPUBLIC OF CONGO**

# What is the purpose of the Advice Note 2?

To give the opportunity to other countries\* (apart from the four M23 pilot countries) to early adopt M45 indicators while having a reduced IFL % in place.

\*these countries can be called: OPT-IN COUNTRIES

# When can an organization opt-in to Advice Note 2?

For a non-pilot tropical/subtropical country with IFL: Is the % threshold for IFL protection in the scope of AN 2?

**Yes 50-55%**  
*(If Option 1 is adopted)*

**Yes 50-80%**  
*(If Option 2 is adopted)*

**No**

Does the Organization wish to implement and apply the enhanced HCV 2/IFL management and monitoring requirements from Advice Note 1?

**Yes**

Organization can voluntarily apply (opt-in to) Advice Note 2.

**No**

FSS/IFSS apply (and +50% or 80% threshold depending on case).

AN 2 does not apply. The FSS/IFSS IFL requirements continue to apply

# Advice Note 2 in summary...



## 1. **Advice Note 1 applies**

Organizations must comply with Advice Note 1 requirements for Enhanced HCV 2 Management and IFL Monitoring

## 2. **30% Protection threshold**

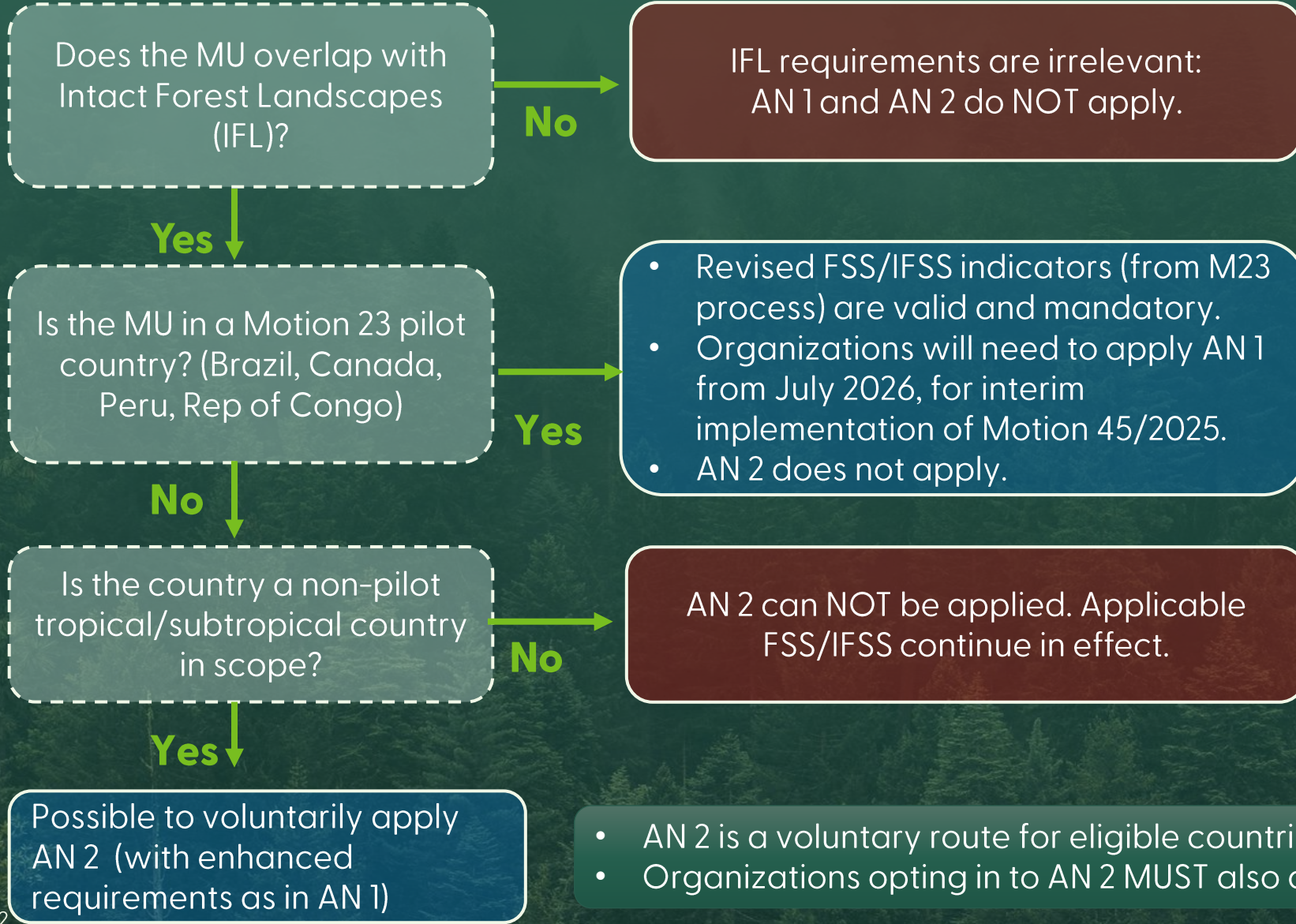
30% minimum protection threshold for IFL core areas within the MU would apply, replacing the higher threshold in the applicable FSS/IFSS.

## 3. **Sphere of Influence (SOI) measures**

Implementation of management measures in the SOI to maintain/enhance the protection and/or integrity of the surrounding IFL in coordination with others including IP, traditional peoples and local communities.

Organizations must (a) identify, (b) designate, and (c) monitor management measures in its SOI.

# When Advice Note 1 and Advice Note 2 applies and to whom?



- AN 1 sets enhanced HCV 2/IFL management and monitoring requirements.
- Applies in M23 pilot countries (mandatory) and other eligible countries via AN 2.
- It is the first-step in implementing Motion 45/2025

# 6. Q&A session

# Participate in the public consultations:



**For each indicator:**

1. Select your level of agreement (**scale 1–5**)
2. Add comments to explain your answer

If you select **partial or no agreement (1–3)**:

1. Follow-up questions (**a–f**) should be answered
2. Please provide justification

These responses are **very important** to improve the requirements.

# Thank you



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