

FSC Standard for Community Forests and SLIMFs in Cameroon APPROVED by FSC IC 01/12/10

1. Preface

1.1 Descriptive statement of FSC:

FSC is an independent, non-governmental, not for profit organization established to promote the responsible management of the world's forests.

It provides standard setting, trademark assurance and accreditation services for companies and organizations interested in responsible forestry. Products carrying the FSC label are independently certified to assure consumers that they come from forests that are managed to meet the social, economic and ecological needs of present and future generations. FSC maintains representation in more than 65 countries.

Forests provide us with clean water, fresh air, and help combat global warming. They also provide food, medicine and important natural resources, such as timber and paper. If managed responsibly, forests and plantations benefit forest people and the global community.

However, in some countries as much as 80% of the timber is harvested illegally. This often involves violation of human rights and felling of protected forests.

For further information, please visit: www.fsc.org / www.fsc-cameroun.org

1.2 Descriptive statement of the National Initiative

1.2.1 Legal statute and management structure

The Forest Stewardship Council National Initiative Cameroon also called the Cameroon Forest Certification Initiative was accredited as Contact Person in 1998. It is a Cameroonian legal association since July, 7th 2006 under association declaration n°000711/RDA/J06/BAPP from Préfet of Mfoundi Division, Centre Region, Republic of Cameroon. As from today, the NI has been growing and is now made up with 28 members as follows:

- Social chamber: 12 members (01 organization);
- Economical Chamber: 08 members (07 organizations);
- Environmental Chamber: 08 members.

22 of these members i.e. 78, 5% are members of the FSC AC.

The FSC NI Cameroon is managed by an Executive **Secretariat composed as follows:**

- President : Pr Roger NGOUFO (Social Chamber)
- Executive Director: Parfait MIMBIMI ESONO (Social Chamber)
- General Secretary : Raymond MENDZANA ME NYA NGA (Environmental Chamber)
- Treasurer : Dr Marie MBOLO (Social Chamber)
- Commissaires aux Comptes : Mlles Mireille ZOA (Environnemental Chamber) et Flavie ZEH ONDO (Social Chamber)

1.2.2 Objectives

The objectives of the FSC National Initiative Cameroon are to:

- create awareness among stakeholders in helping them to understand and adhere to FSC certification process;
- create awareness among economical operators exhorting them to engage to FSC certification;
- Sensitize, educate and train stakeholders on FSC system, its benefits, their roles and responsibilities in the FSC certification process.
- draft national standards and vulgarize them among all stakeholders ;
- promote FSC membership in the country and the region ;
- Communicate Cameroon progress towards sustainable forest management and FSC certification ;
- assist community and council forest to proceed with FSC certification;
- Carry out NI daily activities ;
- train stakeholders on sustainable forest management and forest certification ;
- Facilitate CBs' field work.

3. Context

3.1 General description of the geographical area covered by the standard

The present document is the national standard for the certification of HCV, biodiversity and NTFP in community forests and SLIMFs in Cameroon. Cameroon is a country of the Congo Basin with 475 000 Km². It is covered by diversified vegetation types and ecosystems distributed throughout the country from north to south. This is made up of; forests, savannas and steppes. Cameroon has a forest cover of 17, 5 million ha. As of the time of drafting this standard, more than 100 community forests exist in the country with a total area of about 500 000 ha.

3.2 List of members of the committee that prepared the standard

Facilitation and Chairing

Name	Role	Contact
Dr Marie Mbolo	Facilitation	Tel : +237 77 71 09 61/99 42 22 03 e-mail : noagody@yahoo.com/m.mbolo@fsc.org
Honourable Angéline Ndo	Chairing	Tel : +237 77 71 19 47 e-mail : ndoa@yahoo.fr

Standards Development Group

Environmental	Economic	Social
1. Name: Jean Baptiste Ngodo melingui	1. Name: Eric Kaffo Nzoumwo	1. Name : Pr R. Roger goufo
Organization: The University of Yaoundé I, Faculty of Science	Organization: Individual	Organization: CEW
2. Name: Dieudonné NJIP NTEP	2. Name: Jacques Huleux	2.Name: Dieudonné EDZOA MINKOULOU
Organization: Individual	Organization: Transformation Reef Cameroon	Organization: Trade union for Forest workers
3. Name: Elie Hakizumwami	3. Name: Guy Decolvenaere	3.Name: Marie Flavie Zeh Ondo
Organization: WWF-CARPO	Organization: Groupe Decolvenaere Cameroun	Organization: Individual
4. Name: Raymond MENDZANA	4.Name: Judith Jounda	4.Name: Alfred MEDOU
Organization: Individual	Organization: FIPCAM	Organization: OPFCR
5. Name: Armang ZONGANG	5.Name: Germain Yene	5.Name: Didier TSANGA ADA

3.3 List of key consultants and advisors who assisted the committee:

Name of Expert Team	Members
Community forests managers	1. Abbé Pierre, Copal Manager 2. Janvier Mondoia, BBCF manager 3. Alain MENI OPONO, APECAM Manager
Community forests supporters	1. OPFCR, 2. CERAD 3. Cameroon Ecology
Community forests traders	1. SCNIC 2. CEPFILD

3.4 Associated documentation referenced in the standard. (This would include FSC documents, other FSC-accredited forest stewardship standards, legislation, and other relevant documents):

3.4.1 List of legal and administrative requirements applicable to forest management in Cameroon

3.4.1.1 International Conventions and agreements related to sustainable forest management in the Republic of Cameroon and signed by Cameroon (non exhaustive):

- Convention de RAMSAR du 2 février 1971 relative aux zones humides d'importance internationale ;
- Convention pour la protection du patrimoine mondial, culturel et naturel (adoptée par l'ONU, à Paris, le 16 novembre 1972) ;
- Convention CITES (Convention sur le commerce international des espèces de faune et de flore sauvages menacées d'extinction signée le 3 mars 1973 par 87 Etats ; intégrés au Programme des Nations Unies pour l'Environnement en 1991) ;
- Conventions cadres sur les changements climatiques et sur la diversité biologique définies en 1992 lors de la Conférence des Nations Unies sur l'environnement et le développement de Rio (connues sous le nom de Déclaration de Rio ou Convention du Sommet de la Terre) ;
- Convention de Vienne pour la protection de la couche D'ozone ;
- Convention sur la conservation des espèces migratrices appartenant à la faune sauvage (1979) ;
- Convention de Bamako sur l'interdiction d'importer des déchets dangereux et le contrôle de leurs mouvements transfrontaliers en Afrique (Bamako, 1991);

- Convention relative à la coopération en matière de protection et de mise en valeur du milieu marin et les zones côtières de l'Afrique de l'Ouest et du Centre (Abidjan, 1981) ;
- Convention africaine sur la conservation de la nature et des ressources naturelles (1968) ;
- Accord de coopération et de concertation entre les Etats d'Afrique Centrale sur la conservation de la faune sauvage (1983) ;
- Convention des Nations Unies sur la Lutte contre la Désertification (1994);
- Convention de Bâle sur le contrôle des mouvements transfrontaliers de déchets dangereux et de leur élimination (acceptation 2001);
- Protocole de Kyoto de la Convention cadre des Nations Unies sur les changements climatiques (1997)- acceptation 2002 ;
- Conventions du BIT (Bureau International du Travail) : 49 conventions ratifiées dont 44 en vigueur (liste disponible sur demande).

3.4.1.2 Administrative requirements classified by themes (non exhaustive) :

Forests management:

- Loi n° 94/01 du 20 janvier 1994 portant régime des forêts, de la faune et de la pêche ;
- Ordonnance n°99/001/ du 31 août 1999 complétant certaines dispositions de la loi portant régime des forêts, de la faune et de la pêche (1999) ;
- Décret n° 94/436/PM du 23 août 1995 fixant les modalités d'application du régime des forêts (1995) ;
- Décret n° 2000/092/PM du 27 mars 2000 modifiant le décret n° 94/436/PM du 23 août 1994 fixant l'application du régime des forêts ;
- Décret n° 99/781/PM du 13 octobre 1999 fixant les modalités d'application de l'article 71(1) (nouveau) de la loi portant régime des forêts, de la faune et de la pêche ;
- Décret n° 99/370 du 19 mars 1999 relatif au programme de sécurisation des recettes forestières ;
- Décret n° 96/642/PM du 17 septembre 1996 fixant l'assiette et les modalités de recouvrement des droits de redevances et taxes relatifs à l'activité forestière ;
- Décret fixant le régime de la faune (référence à préciser) ;
- Décret fixant les modalités de réalisation des études d'impact environnemental (2005/0577 du 23 février 2005) ;
- Arrêté fixant les modalités de gestion des revenus issus de l'exploitation forestière et destinés aux communautés villageoises riveraines (conjoint 122 MINEFI-MINAT 1998) ;
- Arrêté n° 0518/MINEF/CAB fixant les modalités d'attribution en priorité aux communautés villageoises riveraines de toute forêt susceptible d'être érigée en forêt communautaire (2001) ;
- Arrêté n° 0315/MINEF fixant les critères de préselection et les procédures de choix des soumissionnaires des titres d'exploitation forestière ;
- Arrêté fixant les différentes catégories d'opérations dont la réalisation est soumise à une étude d'impact environnemental (0069/MINEP du 08 mars 2005) ;
- Arrêté n° 0222/A/MINEF du 25 mai 2002 portant procédures d'élaboration d'approbation, de suivi et de contrôle de la mise en œuvre des plans d'aménagement des forêts de production du domaine forestier permanent ;

- Lettre circulaire précisant les conditions de participation aux appels d'offres d'attribution des titres d'exploitation forestière ;
- Arrêté N° 0872/MINEF du 23 octobre 2001 portant classification des essences forestières
- Décision n° 0108/D/MINEF/CAB du 9 février 1998 portant application des normes d'intervention en milieu forestier en République du Cameroun.....
- Décret n° 95-466-PM-du 20 juillet 1995 fixant les modalités d'application du régime de la faune.....
- Arrêté N° 0565/A/MINEF/DFAP/SDF/SRC du 14 août 1998 fixant la liste des animaux des classes A, B et C et répartition d'abattage par type de permis sportif de chasse
- Arrêté n° 1262/A/MINEF/DFAP/CEP/SAN portant additif à l'arrêté n°0565 A/MINEF/DFAP/SDF/SRC fixant la liste des animaux des classes A, B, et C et précisant la réglementation en matière de commerce et circulation des produits de la faune
- Décret n° 95/413/pm du 20 juin 1995 fixant les modalités d'application du régime de la pêche
- Décret n° 2001/546/PM du 30 juillet 2001 modifiant et complétant certaines dispositions du décret n° 95/413/PM du 20 juin 1995 fixant les modalités d'application du régime de la pêche
- Décret N° 99/370/PM DU 19 mars 1999 relatif au programme de sécurisation des recettes forestières
- Arrêté conjoint n° 00122/MINEFI/MINAT/du 29 avril 1998 fixant les modalités d'emploi des revenus provenant de l'exploitation forestière et destinés aux communautés villageoises riveraines

Environnement:

- Loi n° 96/12 du 5 août 1996 cadre relative à la gestion de l'environnement ;
- Décret n° 2005/0577 du 23 février 2005 fixant les modalités de réalisation des études d'impact environnemental ;
- Arrêté du MINEF du 08 mars 2005 fixant les différentes catégories d'opération dont la réalisation est soumise à l'étude d'impact environnemental ;
- Décret portant organisation et fonctionnement du Comité interministériel de l'environnement (2001) ;
- Loi n° 2003/003 du 21 avril 2003 portant protection phytosanitaire.

Water:

- Loi n° 98/005 du 14 avril 1998 portant régime de l'eau ;
- Décret n° 2001/161/PM du 08 mai 2001 fixant les attributions, l'organisation et fonctionnement du Comité National de l'Eau.

Social and Labor:

- Code de travail du Cameroun du 14 août 1992 et ses décrets d'application ;
- Conventions collectives nationales des entreprises d'exploitation, de transformation des produits forestiers et activités annexes du 26 avril 2002.

Taxes:

- Code général des impôts – Edition 2006 et ses décrets/ arrêtés d'application ;
- Loi de finances de la République du Cameroun (2004).

- Loi n° 2006/002 du 25 avril 2006 autorisant le Président de la République à ratifier le Traité relatif à la conservation et la gestion durable des écosystèmes forestiers d'Afrique Centrale.
Arrêté N° 0872/MINEF du 23 octobre 2001 portant classification des essences forestières

- Décision n° 0108/D/MINEF/CAB du 9 février 1998 portant

Land tenure:

- L'ordonnance n° 74-1 du 6 juillet 1974 fixant le régime foncier au Cameroun.

3.4.1.3: List of the multilateral environmental agreements and ILO Conventions

- **CITES** – www.cites.org
- **ILO** – www.ilo.org/ilolex/english/convdisp1.htm
- **ITTA** - www.itta.com
- **Convention on Biological Diversity** - www.biodiv.org/biosafety/protocol.asp

3.4.2 List of ILO Conventions that have an impact on forestry operations and practices:

- 29 Forced Labour Convention, 1930.
- 87 Freedom of Association and Protection of the Right to Organise Conventions, 1948.
- 97 Migration for Employment (Revised) Convention, 1949.
- 98 Right to Organise and Collective Bargaining Convention, 1949.
- 100 Equal Remuneration Convention, 1951.
- 105 Abolition of Forced Labour Convention, 1957.
- 111 Discrimination (Occupation and Employment) Convention, 1958.
- 131 Minimum Wage Fixing Convention, 1970.
- 138 Minimum Age Convention, 1973.
- 141 Rural Workers' Organizations Convention, 1975.
- 142 Human Resources Development Convention, 1975.
- 143 Migrant Workers (Supplementary Provisions) Convention. 1975
- 155 Occupational Safety and Health Convention, 1981.
- 169 Indigenous and Tribal Peoples Convention, 1989.
- 182 Worst Forms of Child Labour Convention, 1999.
- ILO Code of Practice on Safety and Health in Forestry Work (ILO 1998)
- Recommendation 135 Minimum Wage Fixing Recommendation, 1970.
- Conventions number 29, 87, 98, 100, 105, 111, 138 and 182 are Core Standards covered by
- The 1998 ILO Declaration on Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work and its Follow-up.

ILO member states are expected to promote and realize these principles, even if they have not ratified the Conventions. The ILO Code of Practice is not a legal instrument, but it provides authoritative guidance on forest work.

3.5 Terms and definitions (those which are crucial to the standard and are not defined in the FSC Principles and Criteria):

Forest manager: in community forestry in Cameroon, Forest manager is the entity in charge of the management of the community forest. This could be a forest manager of a board of directors in case of a cooperative.

Indigenous People: this term is related to Pygmies Indigenous People. This definition has been adopted by the FSC Sub-Regional Working Group in September 2009.

High Conservation Value Forest definition covering the full scope of the standard

HCV1. Forest areas containing globally, regionally or nationally significant concentrations of biodiversity values (e.g. endemism, endangered species, refugia).

HCV2. Forest areas containing globally, regionally or nationally significant large landscape level forests, contained within, or containing the management unit, where viable populations of most if not all naturally occurring species exist in natural patterns of distribution and abundance.

HCV3. Forest areas that are in or contain rare, threatened or endangered ecosystems.

HCV4. Forest areas that provide basic services of nature in critical situations (e.g. watershed protection, erosion control).

HCV5. Forest areas fundamental to meeting basic needs of local communities (e.g. subsistence, health).

HCV6. Forest areas critical to local communities' traditional cultural identity (areas of cultural, ecological, economic or religious significance identified in cooperation with such local communities).

4: Hierarchical framework

The hierarchical framework implements the basic principles described in the introduction to the FSC Principles and Criteria for Forest Stewardship (February 2000):

4.1 FSC and FSC-accredited certification bodies will not insist on perfection in satisfying the FSC Principles and Criteria;

4.2 Major failures in any individual FSC Principle will normally disqualify a candidate from certification, or will lead to decertification;

4.3 Certification decisions will be guided by the extent to which each FSC Criterion is satisfied, and by the importance and consequences of failures;

PRINCIPLE #1: COMPLIANCE WITH LAWS AND FSC PRINCIPLES	
Forest management shall respect all applicable laws of the country in which they occur, and international treaties and agreements to which the country is a signatory, and comply with all FSC Principles and Criteria.	
1.1 Forest management shall respect all national and local laws and administrative requirements.	
Indicators	Means of verification
1.1.1: The forest manager shall have all laws and regulations to govern community forestry.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Updated records (lists, printed documents, CDs, etc.) of legal provisions and regulations to govern Community Forestry. • Updated records (lists, printed documents, CDs, etc.) of guidelines and national standards (procedure guide) to govern Community Forestry.
1.1.2: The Forest manager, contractors, suppliers (to be defined in the glossary) shall comply and implement laws and regulations governing community forests.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interview with from government forest officers • Activity reports • Interview with Forest manager members • Interview with contractors and suppliers • Field observations • Assessment reports
1.2 All applicable and legally prescribed fees, royalties, taxes and other charges shall be paid.	
1.2.1. When there is a commercial use of resources by third parties in a community forest, he/she shall procure the goods based on sale prices set up by applicable regulations.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contract between two parties • Agreed purchased prices • Sale receipts
1.2.2 In case there is an agreement for progressive increase of prices, there shall be a formal document providing for mandatory requirements.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Document for progressive increase of selling prices • Payment receipts

1.2.3. CF Forest manager shall contribute to the operation of health care units.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Purchasing receipts of drugs and equipment •Document for staff health care •Interview with stakeholders (ramener au P4)
1.3 In signatory countries, the provisions of all binding international agreements such as CITES, ILO Conventions, ITTA, and Convention on Biological Diversity, shall be respected.	
1.3.1: The forest manager shall possess an updated list of all binding international agreements and nominate a responsible for its updating.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Updated records (lists, printed documents, CDs, etc.) of treaties and international conventions ratified by Cameroon in relation to sustainable forest management
1.3.2: all binding international agreements identified in indicator 1.3.1 shall be applied by the forest manager.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • •Field observations •Programmes and reports of activity • Awareness-raising programme and minutes of sensitization meetings •Procedures for the enforcement of requirements related to treaties and international conventions
1.3.3: The forest manager shall possess a list of all locally occurring species that are listed by CITES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Updated list of treaties and international conventions applicable to the Community Forest.
1.3.4. The forest manager shall have copies of national legislation and/or an administrative requirement relating to the implementation of CITES, obligations at the national level, and ensures that these requirements are implemented within his FMU.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Updated list of CITES, administration requirements documented

1.4 Conflicts between laws, regulations and the FSC Principles and Criteria shall be evaluated for the purposes of certification, on a case by case basis, by the certifiers and the involved or affected parties.	
1.4.1 : The Forest manager, in partnership with stakeholders, shall identify conflicts between FSC Principles and Criteria, on the one hand, and treaties, international conventions and national laws on the other hand.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Documentation review •List of identified bones of contention •interviews with administration and stakeholders
1.4.2: The forest administration and FSC National Initiative shall be informed by the Forest manager, if need be, to address the bones of contention.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Correspondence forwarded to the forest administration and FSC NI •Official standpoints of the forest administration about the conflicting issues between FSC PCs and international instruments •Interviews with official of forest administration, FSC NI representatives, and members of the Forest manager
1.5: Forest management areas should be protected from illegal harvesting, settlement and other unauthorized activities.	
1.5.1 Activities carried out shall solely be those provided for by the management instruments (SMP and AOP) of CF.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Action plan • Field visits • SMP (Simplified Management Plan) and AOP (Annual Operation Plan)
1.5.2 There is a monitoring and control plan for activities carried out within the CF by community members partnership with stakeholders.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monitoring plan • Control reports
1.6 Forest managers shall demonstrate a long-term commitment to adhere to the FSC Principles and Criteria.	
1.6.1 : The Forest manager shall state by writing the CF long term commitment to FSC Principles and Criteria and implement FSC PCs.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •CF commitment statement to FSC PCs •Interviews with members of CF Forest manager

1.6.2. All stakeholders, including contractors and entrepreneurs, shall be informed about the CF commitment to the FSC Principles and Criteria.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Awareness-raising programme and minutes of sensitization meetings • Interviews with stakeholders
PRINCIPLE #2: TENURE AND USE RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES Long-term tenure and use rights to the land and forest resources shall be clearly defined, documented and legally established.	
2.1: Clear evidence of long term use rights to the land (e.g. land title, customary rights, or lease agreements) shall be demonstrated.	
2.1.1: The CF boundaries shall be known and acknowledged to local populations and other stakeholders.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minutes of meetings endorsed and signed by the interested parties • Land surveying certificates • Interviews with forest administration, local communities, and other stakeholders • Rules on traditional land estates
2.1.2: The legal entity in charge of managing the Community Forest shall be legally recognized.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Authorization of the territorial administration • Constitution and incorporation receipt (association, cooperative, CIG, EIG, etc.)
2.1.3: The CF shall hold a legal title for the long term management, issued by the relevant administration.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Management agreement between the forest administration and CF • Land tenure law
2.2: Local communities with legal or customary tenure or use rights shall maintain control, to the extent necessary to protect their rights or resources, over forest operations unless they delegate with free and informed consent to other agencies.	
2.2.1: The Forest manager shall have carried out a multi-resource inventory or commissioned a third party to do it, which shall be updated regularly and in compliance with applicable standards.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Multi-resource inventory standards • Report on multi-resource inventory • Report on HCV inventory • Report on NTFP & timber inventory and uses • Yearly operational plan (activity plan)
2.2.2. Various stakeholders shall be informed about the results of the multi-resource inventory/	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Awareness-raising programme of inventory results and minutes of sensitization meetings • Interviews with stakeholders

<p>2.2.3: Populations' use rights shall be discussed during negotiation meetings and integrated in the simplified management plan.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •List of populations' use rights •Streamlined Management Plan •Meeting minutes •Interviews with populations
<p>2.2.4: Rights and access conditions of populations to natural resources shall be clearly defined, documented and complied with by everybody.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •List of access conditions for various stakeholders to natural resources •Sensitization minutes for access conditions •Traditional land tenure rights •Rights and management requirements for land pertaining to targeted populations •Interviews with populations •Field observations
<p>2.2.5: Local communities and all other stakeholders shall be informed about all the management activities of the Community Forest.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Communication programme for various activities •Minutes of sensitization meetings •Discussions with local communities
<p>2.2.6: Mechanisms for adequate monitoring and assessment for all management activities shall be drafted and implemented by the CF Forest manager in partnership with stakeholders.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Operational discussion frameworks •CF assessment commissions •Interviews with local communities and other stakeholders
<p>2.2.7: Local communities shall take part in the monitoring and assessment of natural resources based on a scheme endorsed by all stakeholders.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Scheme for monitoring and assessing resources •Interviews with stakeholders •Reports of discussion meetings •Assessment commissions' reports

2.3: Appropriate mechanism shall be employed to resolve disputes over tenure claims and use rights. The circumstances and status of any outstanding disputes will be explicitly considered in the certification evaluation. Disputes of substantial magnitude involving a significant number of interests will normally disqualify an operation from being certified	
2.3.1: Forest manager shall favour the establishment of permanent discussion and negotiation frameworks in partnership with relevant administrations.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Minutes on establishment of discussion and negotiation frameworks by stakeholders •Interviews with stakeholders •By-laws for various discussion frameworks
2.3.2: The Forest manager shall identify disputes related to the CF management and table them before the relevant established permanent organs/frameworks.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Updated reports on dispute identification •Reports of discussion meetings •Correspondence between negotiation organs and stakeholders •Interviews with communities and stakeholders
2.3.3: Schemes for dialogue and conflict settlement between stakeholders shall be operational and documented.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Disputes settlement procedures •Minutes of discussion meetings •Minutes of dispute settlement meetings •Publicity of dispute settlement decisions •Interviews with stakeholders
PRINCIPLE #3: INDIGENOUS PEOPLES' RIGHTS	
The legal and customary rights of indigenous peoples to own, use and manage their lands, territories, and resources shall be recognized and respected.	
3.1. Indigenous peoples shall control forest management on their lands and territories unless they delegate control with free and informed consent to other agencies.	
3.1.1. Pygmy indigenous peoples with customary and legal rights to the CF shall be identified and registered.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Census reports of Pygmies indigenous peoples •Maps for locating Pygmies indigenous peoples •Updated list of Pygmies indigenous peoples •Reports on social and economic assessments

<p>3.1.2: Pygmy indigenous peoples shall nominate and/or elect their representatives within the CF Forest manager and various discussion organs established in accordance with 2.3.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Interviews with indigenous peoples •Lists of Pygmy indigenous peoples' representatives at the CF Forest manager and various discussion organs
<p>3.1.3: Pygmy indigenous peoples shall take part in the discussion meetings and decision making organs for the CF management.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Streamlined management plan •Meeting reports and minutes (presence sheets) •Yearly operational plan •Activity report •Interview with stakeholders
<p>3.1.4 : Pygmy indigenous people shall be involved in the CF management activities: planning, implementation and monitoring-assessment</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Activity reports •Streamlined Management Plan •Yearly operational plan •Interviews with indigenous peoples and other stakeholders •Conflict management procedures •Monitoring schemes and commissions
<p>3.1.5: Pygmy Indigenous Peoples shall control the management of their land and resources within the FMU. If Pygmy Indigenous People have delegated this control to other indigenous groups, an evidence of this transfer/delegation shall exist.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •
<p>3.1.6: It shall be set down in writing that the Indigenous Peoples have control of the management of their own territory. If the Indigenous People have delegated this control to other groups, the enterprise shall demonstrate that the Indigenous People concerned have delegated such control with free and prior informed consent.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •

3.2 Forest management shall not threaten or diminish, either directly or indirectly, the resources or tenure rights of indigenous peoples.	
3.2.1: Pygmy indigenous peoples' rights shall be clearly identified, documented and complied with by all stakeholders.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •List of Pygmy indigenous peoples' rights •Documentation review •Written procedures on protection and compliance with Pygmy indigenous peoples' rights •Field observations •Interviews with Pygmy indigenous peoples and other stakeholders •Minutes of conflict management meetings related to the implementation of Pygmy indigenous peoples' rights
3.3 Sites of special cultural, ecological, economic or religious significance to indigenous peoples shall be clearly identified in cooperation with such peoples, and recognized and protected by forest managers.	
3.3.1: Sites with significance for Pygmy indigenous people shall be identified and mapped in a participative manner.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •List of significant sites for Pygmy indigenous peoples •Specific maps for these sites •Inventory reports for these sites •Minutes of meetings for participative mapping •Interviews with Pygmy indigenous peoples and other stakeholders
3.3.2: Sites with significance for Pygmy indigenous people shall be marked up on the filed.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Field observation •Interviews with Pygmy indigenous peoples and other stakeholders •Minutes of boundary marking meetings
3.3.3: Specific measures shall be proposed in the management plan for the protection of sites of great significance for Pygmy indigenous people; if need be, management plan for identified sites shall be elaborated.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Documentation review: Streamlined management plan • Specific management plan for significant sites for Pygmy indigenous peoples

<p>3.3.4: Practical measures shall be implemented to protect the sites which bear significance for the Pygmy indigenous peoples.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Lists of taken measures •Implementation procedures and directives of designed measures •Field observations •Interview with Pygmy indigenous peoples and other stakeholders
<p>3.4 Indigenous peoples shall be compensated for the application of their traditional knowledge regarding the use of forest species or management systems in forest operations. This compensation shall be formally agreed upon with their free and informed consent before forest operations commence.</p>	
<p>3.4.1: The Forest manager shall identify and document all knowledge held by the Pygmies indigenous peoples on forest management in partnership with other stakeholders.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •List of Pygmy indigenous peoples' knowledge and know-how on forest management •Annexes to the Streamlined Management Plan •Yearly operational plan
<p>3.4.2: Pygmies indigenous peoples shall receive fair compensation for the use of their traditional knowledge proportionate to their contribution.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Documentation review on income management •Payment slip of services/contribution rendered by Pygmies indigenous peoples •Pygmies indigenous peoples' service agreements •Interviews with Pygmies indigenous peoples and other partners
<p>PRINCIPLE #4: COMMUNITY RELATIONS AND WORKERS' RIGHTS</p>	
<p>Forest management operations shall maintain or enhance the long-term social and economic well-being of forest workers and local communities.</p>	
<p>4.1 The communities within, or adjacent to, the forest management area should be given opportunities for employment, training, and other services</p>	

<p>4.1.1 : The Forest manager shall ensure, basing on equal skills, that members of the local community shall have priority in carrying out the actions scheduled in the SMP.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ●Activity reports ●Lists of workers ●Streamlined recruitment procedures/guidelines ●Recruitment contracts ●Interviews with community members
<p>4.1.2: The Forest manager shall hold trainings to build the capacities of community members in order to ensure responsible management of the community forest.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ●Training programme ●Training reports ●Training materials ●Training certificates ●Interviews with community members and other stakeholders
<p>4.1.3: Wherein no agreement exist between the community and the contractor, community members shall have priority to employment and trainings, basing on equal skills.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ●Lists of workers ●Activity report ●Interviews ●Recruitment procedures/guidelines and training programme ●Training certificate ●Interviews with community members and other stakeholders
<p>4.1.4: Basing on equal skills, sub-contracting opportunities and activities shall be awarded in priority to community members.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ●Sub-contracting agreements ●Activity reports ●Lists of contractors and entrepreneurs
<p>4.1.5: Any agreement signed between the legal entity and the manager shall be discussed with communities before its signature.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ●Meeting minutes ●Interview with Forest manager and community members ●Interviews with the forest manager
<p>4.2 Forest management should meet or exceed all applicable laws and/or regulations covering health and safety of employees and their families.</p>	
<p>4.2.1: Community members involved in carrying out forest operations on the field shall have personal protective equipments (PPEs) in accordance with the guidelines of the International Labour Bureau.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● By-laws of the legal entity in charge of managing the Community Forest ●Equipment purchase invoices ●Interviews with interested parties ●Field visit

<p>4.2.2: Incomes from CF management shall be used to improve community healthcare infrastructure.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ●Streamlined Management Plan ●Community development plan ●Activity report ●Field observations ●Interviews with interested parties
<p>4.3 The rights of workers to organize and voluntarily negotiate with their employers shall be guaranteed as outlined in Conventions 87 and 98 of the International Labour Organisation (ILO).</p>	
<p>4.3.1: Community members hired by the third party freely negotiate with their employer as per requirements of 87 and 98 ILO conventions.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ●Presence of employee representatives ●Complaint and expectation directories ●Interviews with Forest manager and employees ●Agreement with a third party
<p>4.4 Management planning and operations shall incorporate the results of evaluations of social impact. Consultations shall be maintained with people and groups directly affected by management operations.</p>	
<p>4.4.1: The drafting of the Streamlined Management Plan shall take into account the results of the social assessment.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ●Streamlined EIA (Environmental Impact Assessment) documents with at least the following issues: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. a list of negative or positive impacts on environment; 2. a list of proactive or corrective measures taken to minimise or improve potential identified impacts. ●Streamlined Management Plan ●Interview with Forest manager and community members
<p>4.4.2: Social impacts identified by communities and other stakeholders shall be taken into account in the Streamlined Management Plan and operational plans.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ●Streamlined Management Plan ●Operational plans ●Lists of social impacts ●Interviews with CF managers
<p>4.4.3: Discussion meetings between all stakeholders prior to the development of the Streamlined Management Plan and during implementation shall be held.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ●Meeting minutes or reports ●Streamlined Management Plan ●Interviews with members of the Community Forest, other community members, and other stakeholders ●Attendance list
<p>4.4.4: The Streamlined Management Plan shall include the recommendations of discussion meetings.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ●Meeting minutes or reports

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ●Streamlined Management Plan ●Interviews with members of the Community Forest, other community members, and other stakeholders
4.4.5: A permanent monitoring scheme for SMP provisions shall be established and operational.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ●Monitoring reports ●Yearly operational plan ●Monitoring committee ●Interview with stakeholders
4.5 Appropriate mechanisms shall be employed for resolving grievances and for providing fair compensation in the case of loss or damage affecting the legal or customary rights, property, resources, or livelihoods of local peoples. Measures shall be taken to avoid such loss or damage.	
4.5.1: The by-laws shall provide for operational schemes for addressing disputes between community members on the management of the Community Forest.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ●By-laws ●Dispute settlement procedures and schemes
4.5.2: Permanent discussion and negotiation organs between stakeholders established as per requirement 2.3 shall be used to address conflicts and damages impacting on the legal and/or traditional rights of community members.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ●By-laws ●Reports of meetings of discussion organs ●List of mediation and conflict settlement schemes
4.5.3: Compensations shall be negotiated and agreed upon in favour of the interests of community members, using the legal compensation scheme as floor.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ●Contracts on compensation procedures for community members ●Compensation meeting minutes ●Interviews with stakeholders ●Applicable compensation scheme
4.5.4: All conflicts between stakeholders shall be settled in a commonly agreed manner.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ●Minutes of dispute settlement meetings ●Interviews with stakeholders
PRINCIPLE #5: BENEFITS FROM THE FOREST	
Forest management operations shall encourage the efficient use of the forest's multiple products and services to ensure economic viability and a wide range of environmental and social benefits.	
5.1 Forest management should strive toward economic viability, while taking into account the full environmental, social, and operational costs of production, and ensuring the investments necessary to maintain the ecological productivity of the forest.	

<p>5.1.1: Yearly programming and budgeting shall include all products sourced from the forest (timber, NTFPs, environmental services)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Review of management documentation: Streamlined management plan and annexures, yearly operational plans, specific management plans for specific issues •Budgets and balance sheets of previous years •Financial report
<p>5.1.2: Expected incomes shall be based on realist assumptions.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Review of yearly operational plan •Review of provisional budget (costs and incomes related to the social and environmental issues)
<p>5.1.3: The operation shall be carried out in accordance with provisions of the Streamlined Management Plan.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Review of operational plans regarding the objectives of the Streamlined Management Plan, environmental management plan, and other specific management plans •Field checks
<p>5.2 Forest management and marketing operations should encourage the optimal use and local processing of the forest's diversity of products.</p>	
<p>5.2.1: Timber products (timber, firewood, building materials, sawn timber, charcoal, etc.) shall be valued.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Management documents: Streamlined management plan, yearly operational plan, and others •Field observations: Logging sites, parks for trading timber products •Value adding/upgrading techniques
<p>5.2.2: NTFPs shall be identified, their domestication as well as their value adding process shall be taken into account in the Streamlined Management Plan.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •NTFP list •Action plan for NTFP upgrading •Nurseries and experiment sites •Activity report •Streamlined Management Plan •Field observations: logging sites •Professional body for NTFP use and upgrading
<p>5.2.3: Community members shall be sensitized about the NTFP value and the legal conditions for their trade.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Minutes of sensitization meetings

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Reports and sensitization materials on the legal framework on NTFP trade
5.2.4: Forest products (timber and non timber) shall be processed locally.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Management documents: Streamlined management plan, yearly operational plan, and others •Home-made processing facility •Field observations: logging sites and on-site processing facilities
5.3 Forest management should minimize waste associated with harvesting and on-site processing operations and avoid damage to other forest resources.	
5.3.1: Logging and processing techniques used shall avoid resource losses and wastes.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Harvesting and processing procedures and techniques •Field observations •Activity reports •Monitoring report
5.3.2: Measures shall be taken to minimize adverse impacts of timber logging on forest resources (young stems, NTFPs, environmental services, and others).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Reduced impact logging (RIL) techniques •Training reports on RIL •RIL procedures •NTFP harvesting techniques
5.3.3: Waste from timber logging shall be used for other purposes.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •List of products derived from timber wastes •Field observations •Recycling units for logging wastes •Interview with Forest manager, community members, officials of forest administration •Assessment reports

5.4 Forest management should strive to strengthen and diversify the local economy, avoiding dependence on a single forest product.	
5.4.1: The Forest manager shall actively search for markets for a range of timber and non timber products.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •List of timber and non timber products that are traded and promoted •Economic balance sheet •Interviews with members of Forest manager •Opportunities for NTFPs on local, national and international markets
5.4.2: High value NTFP supply networks shall be established.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Organization procedures for the collection and trading of NTFPs •Forest managers for used NTFPs •Small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs)
5.5 Forest management operations shall recognize, maintain, and, where appropriate, enhance the value of forest services and resources such as watersheds and fisheries.	
5.5.1: Standards for forest operations shall be complied with.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Documents on standards for forest operations •Training programmes and reports for foresters on standards for operations •Interviews with community members and other stakeholders •Field observations
5.5.2: Procedures/guidelines that ban or regulate the use of chemicals in logging sites shall be drafted and implemented.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Regulatory procedures for chemical use •Field observations •Interviews with interested parties
5.5.3: Sensitization programme for environment-friendly silvicultural and fish-farming techniques shall be developed and implemented.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •List of silvicultural technicians and fish farmers •Reports of sensitization and training of silvicultural and fish farmers on environment-friendly techniques •Field observations

<p>5.5.4: Forest management operations shall have no significant negative impact on the forest's services and resources (including, for example, municipal watersheds, upstream and downstream commercial and recreational fisheries, landscape quality, contributions to regional biodiversity, recreation and tourism) are recognised in the forest management plan for the enterprise).</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •
<p>5.5.5: Ecotourism shall be promoted where possible.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Yearly operational plan •Ecotourism circuit •Sign boards and access conditions to tourist sites and circuits •Field observation •Guest registers •Incomes from ecotourism activities •Interviews with partners
<p>5.6 The rate of harvest of forest products shall not exceed levels which can be permanently sustained.</p>	
<p>5.6.1 For timber logging, the number of trees provided for by the yearly logging certificate shall be complied with.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Field observations •Yearly operational plans •Yearly activity report •Forest control reports •Interviews with Forest manager, forest administration, and other partners
<p>5.6.2: Logging techniques shall optimize the timber usable volume.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Field observation at logging sites •Training reports and certificates for directional felling
<p>5.6.3: The greatest portion of the felled tree shall be extracted.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Field observations: logging sites •RIL-related training reports and certificates •Recycling techniques for logging wastes
<p>5.6.4: NTFP harvesting techniques shall favour regeneration and comply with allowed quantities/quotas.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Field observations: logging areas •Training reports and certificates for Reduced Impact Logging techniques •Forest control reports •Activity report •Interviews with Forest manager, forest

PRINCIPLE #6: ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT Forest management shall conserve biological diversity and its associated values, water resources, soils, and unique and fragile ecosystems and landscapes, and, by so doing, maintain the ecological functions and the integrity of the forest.

6.1 Assessment of environmental impacts shall be completed --appropriate to the scale, intensity of forest management and the uniqueness of the affected resources --and adequately integrated into management systems. Assessments shall include landscape level considerations as well as the impacts of on-site processing facilities. Environmental impacts shall be assessed prior to commencement of site-disturbing operations.

Indicators	Means of verification
<p>6.1.1: A brief environmental assessment of the impacts of forest operations shall be carried out in compliance with applicable rules and validated or under validation by the appropriate administration.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Streamlined EIA (Environmental Impact Assessment) documents with at least the following issues: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3. a list of negative or positive impacts on environment; 4. a list of proactive or corrective measures taken to minimise or improve potential identified impacts. •Receipt of validation of EIA documents •Certificate of environmental friendliness
<p>6.1.2: Assessment of environmental impacts and the development of a minimization plan of adverse impacts shall be carried out in collaboration with local stakeholders.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Interviews with stakeholders •Minutes of stakeholders' consultation Potential complaints written by local populations and related to EIA procedures
<p>6.1.3: Identified measures and mitigation actions proposed in the EIA document shall be taken into consideration the various management documents.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Streamlined Management Plan •Yearly operational plan •Procedures
<p>6.1.4: The Forest manager and other involved stakeholders show evidence of having a sound knowledge of potential negative or positive impacts of their activities on the environment.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Minutes of presentation meetings of the environmental management plan for interested parties •Interview with the Forest manager and other stakeholders involved in the EIA processes Environmental Management Plan

<p>6.1.5: Measures provided for minimization, correction and improvement of identified impacts shall be implemented.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Streamlined Management Plan •Yearly operational plan •Reports of activities •Field observations <p>Consultation of all stakeholders involved in CF management</p>
<p>6.1.6: For group certification including a great number of members, the group representative shall demonstrate that clear guidelines on environmental impact assessment were distributed to all group members.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Documentation on guidelines on environmental impact assessments •Interviews with the group manager and group members •Reports for with group members' meetings •Form for group application
<p>6.2 Safeguards shall exist which protect rare, threatened and endangered species and their habitats (e.g., nesting and feeding areas). Conservation zones and protection areas shall be established, appropriate to the scale and intensity of forest management and the uniqueness of the affected resources. Inappropriate hunting, fishing, trapping and collecting shall be controlled.</p>	
<p>6.2.1: The Forest manager shall have collected information on lists of rare, threatened, vulnerable, and endangered species at the national/regional level, as well as their habitats.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Lists of species considered to be rare, threatened, vulnerable or endangered at the national and regional levels (annexes I, II, III CITES, MINFOF, IUCN, MINEP, and COMIFAC lists.....) •Interviews with forest manager •Field observation
<p>6.2. 2: The Forest manager shall use collected information to monitor and assess the presence of registered species as well as their habitats within the community forest.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Participative maps on distribution of rare, threatened, vulnerable, or endangered species •Monitoring and assessment reports of identified species •Reports of wildlife inventories •Micro-zoning map •Indications of wildlife presence
<p>6.2.3: The Forest manager shall have discussed with local populations to know the types of native wildlife or plant</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Reports or minutes of discussion meetings

<p>species that shall be protected, in addition to those enlisted in national/regional lists.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Lists of identified species ● Discussion with interested parties
<p>6.2.4: In agreement with local populations, the Forest manager shall implement measures to protect identified species and erect their habitats as conservation areas.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The zoning plan shall include habitats of rare, threatened, vulnerable, and endangered as conservation areas ● Documentation on protection measures ● Field observations ● Interviews with forest manager ● Micro-zoning map ● Interviews with involved players
<p>6.2.5: In close collaboration with involved players, the Forest manager shall implement sensitization, monitoring/control, and punitive measures to prevent unsustainable hunting, fishing, trapping and collecting, and implement these measures.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Consultation with forest manager (description of measures by members seating on forest manager) ● Interview with involved players ● Documentation on monitoring and control measures ● Field observations ● Reports or minutes of sensitization meetings ● Monitoring-assessment reports ● Punishment procedures
<p>6.2.6: The Forest manager shall support husbandry of other animal species and fish farming activities, as well as bee-hiving in order to diversify sources of animal proteins.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Agreed plan of action about support and related budget ● Reports on sensitization and capacity building workshops in targeted in areas ● Interview with involved players ● Field observations

<p>6.3 Ecological functions and values shall be maintained intact, enhanced, or restored, including:</p> <p>a) Forest regeneration and succession. b) Genetic, species, and ecosystem diversity. c) Natural cycles that affect the productivity of the forest ecosystem.</p>	
<p>6.3.1: The Community Forest management shall maintain or enhance native plant population.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Sylvicultural programme aiming at: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● planting more local plants species in vegetation gaps and fallows ● planting local species ● creating nurseries ● respecting AMD ● protecting young stems ● protecting seedlings of harvested species ● NTFP domestication programme ● Field observations
<p>6.3.2: Community Forest management minimises negative impacts on wildlife populations and their habitats.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Interview with involved players ● Monitoring-assessment reports ● Wildlife management plan ● Activity reports ● Post-harvesting field-observations
<p>6.3.3: Forest operations shall have minimal or no negative impacts on the soil.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Field observation
<p>6.3.4: There are protection/mitigation measures against large and high-intensity wildfire, and they are implemented by all involved stakeholders.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Presence of maintained networks of firebreaks/green belts ● Maps of these networks ● Consultation with local communities ● Sensitization reports and materials (sign boards, posters, etc.) ● Field observation ● Hydrocarbon safe storing and usage methods
<p>6.3.5: Buffer zones shall be maintained or restored in sensitive areas such as water courses including non-perennial streams, springs, wells, wetlands etc and steep slopes. Logging in such areas shall be restricted</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Field observations ● Road network map ● Map for fragile sites

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Sensitization reports and materials (sign boards, posters, etc.) •The Streamlined Management Plan containing guidelines from “ Forest operation Standards” •Interview with local communities
6.4 Representative samples of existing ecosystems within the landscape shall be protected in their natural state and recorded on maps, appropriate to the scale and intensity of operations and the uniqueness of the affected resources.	
6.4.1: In agreement with involved players, representative samples of CF unique ecosystems shall be identified, recorded on maps/sketches and excluded from the harvesting plots.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Interview with involved players •Reports or minutes of discussion meetings •Participative maps for distribution of identified samples •Field observations • Documentation on protection measures •Marking areas on the field
6.5 Written guidelines shall be prepared and implemented to: control erosion; minimize forest damage during harvesting, road construction, and all other mechanical disturbances; and protect water resources.	
6.5.1: There shall be evidence that all forest management operations are planned and implemented to minimize damage to soil (compaction, erosion).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Interviews with Forest manager and those implementing forest operations •Planning documents of forest operations •Interview with local communities and other stakeholders •Field observations •Activity reports •Forest operations standards
6.5.2: The Forest manager and those implementing forest operations shall be knowledgeable in forest operations standards.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reports and minutes of training and sensitization sessions on the implementation of “forest operation standards” • Field observations • Interview with interested parties
6.5.3: Procedures implemented shall minimise the destruction of the forest resource.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Procedures to minimise the negative impact

	<p>or improve the positive impact on the forest resource</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Field observations • Interview with various stakeholders
<p>6.6 Management systems shall promote the development and adoption of environmentally friendly non-chemical methods of pest management and strive to avoid the use of chemical pesticides. World Health Organization Type 1A and 1B and chlorinated hydrocarbon pesticides; pesticides that are persistent, toxic or whose derivatives remain biologically active and accumulate in the food chain beyond their intended use; as well as any pesticides banned by international agreement, shall be prohibited. If chemicals are used, proper equipment and training shall be provided to minimize health and environmental risks.</p>	
<p>6.6.1: No chemical on the list of “FSC Highly Hazardous Pesticides” shall be used, except based on FSC special derogation.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • List of used chemicals • FSC derogation policy and process • FSC’s derogation documentation • Field observations • Interview with Forest manager, local populations, and other stakeholders
<p>6.6.2: The forest operation shall seek to minimize the use of all chemicals such as pesticides, wood preservatives, and herbicides, etc.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Procedure guides and list of used chemicals • Field observation • Interview with Forest manager and other interested parties

<p>6.6.3: Forest workers shall have proper Personal Protective Equipments (PPEs) and training in safe use of chemicals.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ●Interview with involved players ●Observation of Personal Protective Equipments ●Reports or minutes of training sessions
<p>6.7 Chemicals, containers, liquid and solid non-organic wastes including fuel and oil shall be disposed of in an environmentally appropriate manner at off-site locations.</p>	
<p>6.7.1: Equipments for the collection of on-site wastes as well as their transportation from site are available.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ●Field observations (equipments, storehouses, logging sites) ●Lists of various equipments ●Scheme for maintenance and procurement of equipments ●Waste management protocol
<p>6.7.2: The Forest manager and forest workers shall be trained and sensitized about applicable methods of collection, transport, and processing of solid and liquid organic and inorganic wastes (chemicals, containers).</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Reports or minutes of training and sensitization meetings ●Sensitization procedures ●Waste management procedures ●Field observations ●Interviews with interested parties
<p>6.8 Use of biological control agents shall be documented, minimized, monitored and strictly controlled in accordance with national laws and internationally accepted scientific protocols. Use of genetically-modified organisms shall be prohibited.</p>	
<p>6.8.1: Where need be, biological pest management shall be used in compliance with national and international laws.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ●Field observations ● Documentation on the use of biological pest management ●List of biological agents used ●Interview with Forest manager, local communities and users of biological agents
<p>6.8.2: The enterprise shall implement a system to minimise its use of biological control agents</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ●

<p>6.8.3: If biological control agents are used, comprehensive records of use shall be maintained by the forest manager, and the impacts of such use shall be systematically monitored.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ●Manual of procedures for the use of biological pest within the CF ●Field observations ●Monitoring reports ●Interview with the forest manager, local communities and users of biological agents
<p>6.8.4: The Forest manager and staff members shall be trained and sensitized about the use of biological pest management, and provided with legally-compliant personal protective equipments.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ●Reports or minutes of training and sensitization sessions ●Training and sensitization materials ●Field observations ●Interviews with interested parties
<p>6.8.5: Activities requiring the use of biological pest management agents shall be documented and monitored.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ●Activity reports ●Monitoring reports
<p>6.8.6: The Forest manager shall take measures to identify and promote local knowledge and know-how about biological pest management.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ●Reports or minutes of consultation meetings ●Investigation reports for the identification of local knowledge and know-how ●Lists of local knowledge and know-how on biological pest management ●Activity reports
<p>6.8.7: GMOs shall not be used for production or research.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ●Activity reports ●Field observations ●Interviews with CF management stakeholders
<p>6.9 The use of exotic species shall be carefully controlled and actively monitored to avoid adverse ecological impacts.</p>	
<p>6.9.1: Procedures for the voluntary introduction of exotic wildlife and plant in the CF shall be developed and implemented.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ●List of exotic plant and wildlife species introduced into the CF ●Consultation with local experts ●Sylvicultural programme ●Forest operations standards ●Interviews with CF management stakeholders

<p>6.9.2: The Forest manager shall ensure that introduced species are not found in the natural forest, conservation areas, buffer areas, and other sensitive sites, etc.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ●Documentation on monitoring of protection areas ●Field observations
<p>6.9.3: In partnership with local populations, the Forest manager shall establish a list of introduced wildlife and plant species.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ●Lists of introduced wildlife and plant species ●Reports of sensitization meetings ●Training session reports ●Field observations
<p>6.9.4: Where exotic species are planted, the sites shall be chosen appropriately and regularly monitored to ensure that no adverse ecological impacts result.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ●Field observations ●Zoning map ●Reports on experts' consultation on the topic ●Report of activities for various sites ●Monitoring reports
<p>6.9.5: Introduction of wildlife species shall not take place without prior authorization of relevant administrations.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ●Authorization of introduction signed by relevant authorities ●Consultation with local experts ●Reports on experts' consultation on the topic ●Monitoring reports of introduced species ●Lists of introduced wildlife species ●Field observations
<p>6.9.6: In partnership with involved players, the Forest manager shall control accidental introductions of exotic species and assess their ecological impacts.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ●Monitoring committee's reports ●Lists of accidentally-introduced exotic species ●Map for their distribution within the CF ●Reports on experts' consultation on the topic
<p>6.9.7: Local populations shall be trained and sensitized about the consequences of the introduction of exotic wildlife and plant species</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ●Reports or minutes of training and sensitization sessions ●Interviews with CF management stakeholders ●Training and sensitization materials

<p>6.10 Forest conversion to plantations or non-forest land uses shall not occur, except in circumstances where conversion:</p> <p>a) entails a very limited portion of the forest management unit; and</p> <p>b) does not occur on high conservation value forest areas; and</p> <p>c) will enable clear, substantial, additional, secure, long term conservation benefits across the forest management unit.</p>	
<p>Indicator 6.10.1 The forest manager shall clearly identify any parts of the FMU that are scheduled for conversion from natural or semi-natural forest to plantation or non-forest use, over the next five year period.</p> <p>Note: for areas previously converted, see Criterion 10.9.</p> <p>Indicator 6.10.2 The areas scheduled for conversion:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - shall not include any High Conservation Value Forest areas (see Principle 9), AND - EITHER total less than 5% of the total area of the FMU and shall enable clear, substantial, additional, secure, long-term conservation benefits across the forest management unit, - OR shall be converted in order to restore the land securely and in the long term to a pre-existing "High Conversation Value" habitat. <p>Indicator 6.10.3 The forest manager shall have all necessary approvals for the conversion, in line with national requirements.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Direct observation of HCV sites in the field and on sketch maps/maps •Management and monitoring procedures of HCVs <p>Major</p>

PRINCIPLE #7: MANAGEMENT PLAN

A management plan --appropriate to the scale and intensity of the operations --shall be written, implemented, and kept up to date. The long term objectives of management, and the means of achieving them, shall be clearly stated.

7.1 The management plan and supporting documents shall provide:

- a) Management objectives.
- b) Description of the forest resources to be managed, environmental limitations, land use and ownership status, socio-economic conditions, and a profile of adjacent lands.
- c) Description of silvicultural and/or other management system, based on the ecology of the forest in question and information gathered through resource inventories.
- d) Rationale for rate of annual harvest and species selection.
- e) Provisions for monitoring of forest growth and dynamics.
- f) Environmental safeguards based on environmental assessments.
- g) Plans for the identification and protection of rare, threatened and endangered species.
- h) Maps describing the forest resource base including protected areas, planned management activities and land ownership.
- i) Description and justification of harvesting techniques and equipment to be used.

7.1.1: The Streamlined Management Plan shall be developed in compliance with applicable guidelines and regulations and approved by the forest administration.

- Streamlined Management Plan
- Approval certificate of streamlined management plan

7.1.2: Objectives of forest management are clearly stated and described in the Streamlined Management Plan.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ●Streamlined Management Plan
7.1.3 : The Streamlined Management Plan shall include the agreement/convention duration, the location, socio-economic conditions, and sketch maps /maps showing forest boundaries, block divisions, protected areas (including HCVs sites etc and planned operations).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ●Streamlined Management Plan ●Maps/ sketch maps ●Operational plans ●HCV process reports ●Social and economic assessment reports
7.1.4: Results of forest resource inventories shall be available.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ●Inventory report
7.1.5: Measures for forest protection as well as penalties for trespassing shall be clearly described and implemented in partnership with relevant administration.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ●List of forest protection measures ●Penalty/sanction scheme ●Interviews with community members, forest administration and other stakeholders ●Field observations
7.1.6: The Streamlined management plan and/or supporting documents shall include among others: 7.1.6.1: a description of the forest resources to be managed, 7.1.6.2: environmental limitations, 7.1.6.3: Land use and ownership status and 7.1.6.4 a profile of adjacent lands.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Streamlined management plan ●Inventory report ●“Normes d’intervention en milieu forestier” ●EIA report ●Soci-economical study report ●Maps of FC compartments
7.1.7: The Streamlined management plan and/or supporting documents shall provide a clear rationale for rate of annual harvest and species selection.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ●Streamlined management plan ●Annual Harvesting inventories data
7.1.8: The Streamlined management plan and/or supporting documents shall describe the provisions for monitoring of forest growth and dynamics.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ●Streamlined management plan ●Maps of FC compartments
7.1.9: The Streamlined management plan and/or supporting documents shall specify environmental safeguards based on environmental assessments.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ●EIA report data ●Streamlined management plan
7.1.10: The Streamlined management plan and/or supporting documents shall include plans for the identification and protection of rare, threatened, endemic and endangered species.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ●Streamlined management plan ●HCV process report ●Lists of rare, threatened, endemic and endangered species

7.1.11: Maps describing the forest resource base including protected areas, planned management activities, at appropriate scales for their respective purposes are available.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ●Streamlined management plan ●Maps of FC compartments
7.1.12: The Streamlined management plan and/or supporting documents shall include specific consideration of the presence of any High Conservation Value areas within the CF, and describe the specific measures that will be taken to maintain or enhance these values within the CF.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ●HCV process report indicating management strategies and measures for identified HCV ●Streamlined management plan ●List of HCV sites or attributes
7.1.13: The management plan and/or supporting documents shall include a description and justification of harvesting techniques and equipment to be used.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ●List of harvesting techniques ●List of equipment to be used and usage place
7.1.14: Logging activities and NTFP harvesting as well as upgrading of other services shall be described in management documents.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ●Streamlined Management Plan ●Yearly operational plan
7.2: The management plan shall be periodically revised to incorporate the results of monitoring or new scientific and technical information, as well as to respond to changing environmental, social and economic circumstances.	
7.2.1: A five-year action plan shall be developed and include new data sourced from field experience and, if possible, research results; plus the other elements listed in 7.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Five-year action plan ● Yearly operational plan ● Procedure guide for community forest management
7.2.2: The Streamlined Management Plan shall be revised periodically and the updated version shall be approved by the forest administration.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Procedure guide for community forest management
7.3: Forest workers shall receive adequate training and supervision to ensure proper implementation of the management plan.	
7.3.1: The five-year action plan and yearly operational plans shall include training activities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ●Five-year action plan and operational plan ●Yearly operational plans ●Training programmes
7.3.2: The Forest Manager shall develop a policy of continuous training for each member of the community involved in the implementation the SMP <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Refresher classes, skill upgrading of community members in various positions shall be ensured. b. Community members involved in the implementation of the SMP shall be imparted with fundamental knowledge on other areas of forest management. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ●Policy document of continous training ●Certificates of participation ●Training sessions reports ●Pictures of the training workshops ●Attendance lists ●Press releases Interviews with cooncerned

<p>7.3.3 Managers and supervisors (including those employed by contractors) shall have education, training or experience to a level to ensure that they are able to plan, organize and supervise forestry operations in accordance with enterprise's plans, policies and procedures.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ●CV of Managers and supervisors (including those employed by contractors) ●Certificates attesting that managers and supervisors (including those employed by contractors) have been trained ●Interviews with concerned ●Training sessions reports
<p>7.3.4 The work of all contractors and their workers shall be supervised by the manager of the CF to ensure they implement their tasks effectively and safely. The quality of the work SHALL BE monitored by the manager.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ●Policy document of continuous training ●Monitoring reports of contractors' work ●Interviews with concerned
<p>7.3.5. The manager of the CF shall implement a documented system to identify the skills and training needs of its community members (including contractors or self-employed), and provides or supports an appropriate ongoing training programme for its employees to meet these needs.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ●List of training needs ●Training program related to identified training needs ●Training materials ●List of trainees supported by the CF management
<p>7.3.6 There shall be up-to-date records showing training and education records of all employees.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ●Training program related to identified training needs ●Training materials ●List of trainees supported by the CF management
<p>7.3.7: Planned training sessions shall be effectively implemented.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ●Training session reports ●Training programmes ●Training certificates ●Interview with community members and other stakeholders

7.4 While respecting the confidentiality of information, forest managers shall make publicly available a summary of the primary elements of the management plan, including those listed in Criterion 7.1.

7.4.1: All the community members shall be informed about the content of the Streamlined Management Plan.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ●Information meeting reports and minutes ●Abridged version of the Streamlined Management Plan ●Interviews with community members
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7.4.2: A public summary of the Streamlined management plan mentioning elements named in Criterion 7.1 shall be available for public consultation and on request.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ●Public summary of the SMP ●Interviews with stakeholders
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PRINCIPLE #8: MONITORING AND ASSESSMENT
Monitoring shall be conducted --appropriate to the scale and intensity of forest management --to assess the condition of the forest, yields of forest products, chain of custody, management activities and their social and environmental impacts.

8.1 The frequency and intensity of monitoring should be determined by the scale and intensity of forest management operations as well as the relative complexity and fragility of the affected environment. Monitoring procedures should be consistent and replicable over time to allow comparison of results and assessment of change.

8.1.1: Monitoring protocols and planning shall be clearly defined.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ●Yearly operational plan ●Monitoring procedures ●Yearly activity report ●Report of activity and operation monitoring ●List of monitored activities
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8.1.2: Monitoring of impacts and harvesting intensity on timber and non timber resources (including others) shall be carried out by the Forest manager in partnership with stakeholders.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ●List of harvested forest resources ●Monitoring form for every resource ●Monitoring reports ●Activity report
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8.2 Forest management should include the research and data collection needed to monitor, at a minimum, the following indicators:

- a) Yield of all forest products harvested.
- b) Growth rates, regeneration and condition of the forest.
- c) Composition and observed changes in the flora and fauna.
- d) Environmental and social impacts of harvesting and other operations.
- e) Costs, productivity, and efficiency of forest management.

<p>8.2.1: Harvest data shall be regularly compared with forecast made in the Streamlined Management Plan or operational plan.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ●Management activity account ●Activity reports ●Interviews with Forest manager members and forest administration
<p>8.2.2: The yearly activity report shall include the progress of the implementation of forest management and observations on the forest state.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ●Yearly activity report ●Monitoring report of forest operations ●Field observations
<p>8.2.3: Permanent sampling plots shall be established for the monitoring of growth and regeneration parameters. Needs indicator for (c) fauna and flora, (d) Environmental and social and (e) Costs, productivity etc. See FSC-GUI-60-004 for examples.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ●Monitoring sheet for forest growth and regeneration ●Monitoring reports for permanent sampling plots
<p>8.2.4: The forest enterprise shall collect and maintain data on the quantity of each forest product harvested within the FMU updated on at least an annual basis.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ●Statistical annual data on harvested products within the CF: timber, NTFP, wildlife, crops, ...
<p>8.2.5: The forest manager shall keep notes of the presence of any notable species of flora or fauna, sufficient to identify significant trends over time.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ●
<p>8.2.6: The data collected during pre- and post- harvest inventory shall be sufficient to identify any significant environmental impacts of harvesting.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ●
<p>8.2.7: The data collected during pre- and post- harvest inventory shall be sufficient to provide a reasonable estimate of species composition, stocking, growth rates, regeneration and presence of commercially significant pests or diseases over the FMU as a whole.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ●
<p>8.2.8: There shall be participative data on the distribution of harvestable, threatened, rare or endemic plant species shall be available.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ●Streamlined management plan ●Annual Operational plans ●Maps ●Interviews with communities
<p>8.2.9: Participative and/or classical maps or updated data on the distribution of threatened, rare or endemic animal species shall be available.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ●Streamlined management plan ●Maps ●Interviews with communities

8.2.10: The monitoring-assessment of basic socio-economic indicators shall be documented (population, habitat)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ●Socio-economical monitoring or assesement reports ●Population data of interested communities
8.3 Documentation shall be provided by the forest manager to enable monitoring and certifying organizations to trace each forest product from its origin, a process known as the "chain of custody."	
8.3.1: All harvested forest (timber, NTFPs and others) products within the Community Forest shall be labelled and associated with documents enabling tracking.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Source certificate 2. Consignment note 3. Field notebook 4. Processing notebook 5. Invoices 6. Specification sheets
8.3.2: Documents on forest products shall be signed by the forest administration.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ●Chain of custody documents ●Interviews with Forest manager, forest administration, and other partners
8.4 The results of monitoring shall be incorporated into the implementation and revision of the management plan.	
8.4.1: Monitoring and research results, as well as new scientific and technical data shall be integrated in the management documents.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ●Streamlined Management Plan ●Five-year action plans ●Yearly operational plans
8.5 While respecting the confidentiality of information, forest managers shall make publicly available a summary of the results of monitoring indicators, including those listed in Criterion 8.2.	
8.5.1: All the community members shall be informed about monitoring results.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ●Information meeting reports and minutes ●Interviews with community members and other stakeholders ●Assessment reports

PRINCIPLE #9: MAINTENANCE OF HIGH CONSERVATION VALUE FORESTS

Management activities in high conservation value forests shall maintain or enhance the attributes which define such forests. Decisions regarding high conservation value forests shall always be considered in the context of a precautionary approach.

9.1 Assessment to determine the presence of the attributes consistent with High Conservation Value Forests will be completed, appropriate to scale and intensity of forest management.

9.1.1: High Conservation Values within the Community Forest shall be identified/defined in partnership with all

- Interviews with Forest manager and other

stakeholders.	<p>stakeholders</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ●Social and economic assessment reports / participative maps ●Streamlined Management Plan ●Minutes of discussion and validation meetings ●Other supplementary HCV-related studies
9.1.2: Identified HCV shall be included the management documentation.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ●Streamlined Management Plan ●Yearly operational plan ●Procedure guide
9.1.3: Forest manager shall document and file information collected and used for HCV identification/definition.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ●SMP ●Activity reports ●Assessment reports ●Archiving system/records
9.2 The consultative portion of the certification process must place emphasis on the identified conservation attributes, and options for the maintenance thereof.	
9.2.1: The stakeholders' consultation shall identify HCV attributes and propose strategies for minimizing threats, maintenance and improvement of these HCV attributes.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Minutes of discussion meetings ● HCV monitoring report ●Activity reports ●Procedure guides/documents ●Interview with stakeholders
9.2.2 : Best management practices shall be identified, implemented and monitored to maintain HCVs through the consultaiton process	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ●SMP ●Procedure guides and other standards ●Supplementary documentation ● Activity reports ●Field observations
9.3 The management plan shall include and implement specific measures that ensure the maintenance and/or enhancement of the applicable conservation attributes consistent with the precautionary approach. These measures shall be specifically included in the publicly available management plan summary.	

<p>9.3.1: Each specific measure for the maintenance and improvement of HCV attributes shall be described in the management documentation.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Streamlined Management Plan ● Yearly operational plan ● Other reports on HCV process
<p>9.3.2 Specific measures for HCV management shall be described in the public summary of the management plan.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Streamlined Management Plan ● Yearly operational plan ● Other reports on HCV process ● SMP public summary
<p>9.3.3: The stakeholders who were consulted during the HCV identification process shall endorse the plan proposed for HCV management.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Interview with stakeholders ● Stakeholders' consultation reports ● Written agreements for acceptance of HCV management plan
<p>9.3.4 : Based on local conditions, resources and science, and management operations, management schemes included in the Streamlined Management Plan shall ensure short – and medium – term maintenance/improvement of identified HCVs.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Activity reports ● Field observations ● SMP ● Monitoring report
<p>9.3.5: Forest workers and all those carrying out forest activities shall be informed about the HCV identification process as well as the HCV location.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Posters and maps ● HCV paper ● Interviews with forest manager and workers ● Various communication materials
<p>9.3.6: Forest workers and all those who carry out forest activities shall undergo training on implementation measures for HCV maintenance.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Training materials ● Training reports ● Training certificate
<p>9.3.7: Forest workers and all those who carry out activities within the forest shall understand the significance of identified HCV and protect them.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Field observations ● Interview with forest workers and all those who are in charge of HCV management ● HCV upgrading by involved players

9.4 Annual monitoring shall be conducted to assess the effectiveness of the measures employed to maintain or enhance the applicable conservation attributes.

<p>9.4.1: In partnership with involved players, the Forest manager shall develop monitoring procedures for identified HCVs.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Procedure guide for CF ●Field observations ●Activity reports ●Monitoring-assessment reports ●Interview with forest workers and all those who are in charge of CF management ●Activity reports
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<p>9.4.2: Monitoring procedures shall be systematically implemented, at least once a year or after forest operation.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Procedure guide for CF ●Field observations ●Activity reports ●Monitoring-assessment reports ●Interview with forest workers and all those who are in charge of CF management
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<p>9.4.3: Monitoring results shall show that attributes of identified HCVs are maintained or upgraded.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Procedure guide for CF ●Field observations ●Activity reports ●Monitoring-assessment reports ●Interview with forest workers and all those who are in charge of CF management
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<p>9.4.4: Monitoring results shall be used for the revision of management documentation.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ●Revised management documents
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<p>9.4.5. Monitoring results shall be communicated to various players, if possible, sensitized.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ●Restitution meeting minutes ●Information materials ●Interviews with stakeholders
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Glossary, list of Laws and Regulations and any other appendixes referred to in the text.

List of the multilateral environmental agreements and ILO Conventions

CITES – www.cites.org

ILO – www.ilo.org/ilolex/english/convdisp1.htm

ITTA - www.itta.com

Convention on Biological Diversity - www.biodiv.org/biosafety/protocol.asp

List of ILO Conventions that have an impact on forestry operations and practices:

29 Forced Labour Convention, 1930

87 Freedom of Association and Protection of the Right to Organise Conventions, 1948

97 Migrations for Employment (Revised) Convention, 1949

98 Right to Organise and Collective Bargaining Convention, 1949.

100 Equal Remuneration Convention, 1951.

105 Abolition of Forced Labour Convention, 1957.

111 Discrimination (Occupation and Employment) Convention, 1958.

131 Minimum Wage Fixing Convention, 1970.

138 Minimum Age Convention, 1973.

141 Rural Workers' Organizations Convention, 1975.

142 Human Resources Development Convention, 1975.

143 Migrant Workers (Supplementary Provisions) Convention. 1975

155 Occupational Safety and Health Convention, 1981.

169 Indigenous and Tribal Peoples Convention, 1989.

182 Worst Forms of Child Labour Convention, 1999.

ILO Code of Practice on Safety and Health in Forestry Work (ILO 1998)

Recommendation 135 Minimum Wage Fixing Recommendation, 1970.

Conventions number 29, 87, 98, 100, 105, 111, 138 and 182 are Core Standards covered by the 1998

ILO Declaration on Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work and its Follow-up, ILO member states are expected to promote and realize these principles, even if they have not ratified the Conventions.

The ILO Code of Practice is not a legal instrument, but it provides authoritative guidance on forest work.

FSC Glossary of terms:

Words in this document are used as defined in most standard English language dictionaries. The precise meaning and local interpretation of certain phrases (such as local communities) should be decided in the local context by forest managers and certifiers. In this document, the words below are understood as follows:

Biological diversity: The variability among living organisms from all sources including, inter alia, terrestrial, marine and other aquatic ecosystems and the ecological complexes of which they are a part; this includes diversity within species, between species and of ecosystems. (See Convention on Biological Diversity, 1992)

Biological diversity values: The intrinsic, ecological, genetic, social, economic, scientific, educational, cultural, recreational and aesthetic values of biological diversity and its components. (See Convention on Biological Diversity, 1992)

Biological control agents: Living organisms used to eliminate or regulate the population of other living organisms.

Chain of custody: The channel through which products are distributed from their origin in the forest to their end-use.

Chemicals: The range of fertilizers, insecticides, fungicides, and hormones which are used in forest management.

Criterion (pl. Criteria): A means of judging whether or not a Principle (of forest stewardship) has been fulfilled.

Customary rights: Rights which result from a long series of habitual or customary actions, constantly repeated, which have, by such repetition and by uninterrupted acquiescence, acquired the force of a law within a geographical or sociological unit.

Dispute: Umbrella term for any of the following:

Appeal: request by a party subject to a decision for reconsideration of any adverse decision made by the FSC with regard to the FSC Certification Scheme and/ or the FSC Accreditation Program (adapted from ISO/IEC 17011:2004 (E)).

(Informal) Complaint: initial expression of dissatisfaction by any person or organization, to FSC, relating to the activities of the FSC Certification Scheme and/ or the FSC Accreditation program (adapted from ISO/IEC 17011:2004 (E)).

Formal Complaint: formal expression of dissatisfaction by any person or organization, to FSC, relating to the activities of the FSC Certification Scheme and/ or the FSC Accreditation program, where a response is expected (adapted from ISO/IEC 17011:2004 (E)).

FSC Source: FSC-STD-01-005 V1-0

Ecosystem: A community of all plants and animals and their physical environment, functioning together as an interdependent unit.

Endangered species: Any species which is in danger of extinction throughout all or a significant portion of its range.

Exotic species: An introduced species not native or endemic to the area in question.

Forest integrity: The composition, dynamics, functions and structural attributes of a natural forest.

Forest management/manager: The people responsible for the operational management of the forest resource and of the enterprise, as well as the management system and structure, and the planning and field operations.

Forest Management Unit (FMU): A clearly defined forest area with mapped boundaries, managed by a single managerial body to a set of explicit objectives which are expressed in a self-contained multi-year management plan.

FSC Source: FSC-STD-20-011 V1-1

Forest Stewardship Standard: The normative document which specifies the requirements with which a forest management enterprise must conform in order to obtain certification.

FSC Source: FSC-STD-20-002 V2-1

FSC certified product: FSC certified material that is eligible to carry an FSC label and to be promoted with the FSC trademarks.

FSC Source: FSC-STD-40-004 V2-0

FSC Forest Stewardship Standard: The FSC Principles and Criteria together with the addition of indicators that are adapted to regional (trans-national, supra-national), national and/or sub-national conditions in order to be implemented at the forest management unit (FMU) level.

FSC Source: FSC-STD-60-006 V1-2

Genetically modified organisms (GMOs): Biological organisms which have been induced by various means to consist of genetic structural changes

Illegally harvested wood: Wood that has been harvested in violation of any and all laws applicable to harvesting in that location or jurisdiction including the acquisition of the harvesting rights from the rightful owner; the harvesting methods used and the payment of all relevant fees and royalties

FSC Source: FSC-STD-20-012 V1-1

Indicator: A quantitative or qualitative variable which can be measured or described, and which provides a means of judging whether a forest management unit complies with the requirements of an FSC Criterion. Indicators and the associated thresholds thereby define the requirements for responsible forest management at the level of the forest management unit and are the primary basis of forest evaluation.

FSC Source: FSC-STD-20-002 V2-1

Indigenous lands and territories: The total environment of the lands, air, water, sea, sea-ice, flora and fauna, and other resources which indigenous peoples have traditionally owned or otherwise occupied or used. (Draft Declaration of the Rights of Indigenous Peoples: Part VI)

Indigenous peoples: "The existing descendants of the peoples who inhabited the present territory of a country wholly or partially at the time when persons of a different culture or ethnic origin arrived there from other parts of the world, overcame them and, by conquest, settlement, or other means reduced them to a non-dominant or colonial situation; who today live more in conformity with their particular social, economic and cultural customs and traditions than with the institutions of the country of which they now form a part, under State structure which incorporates mainly the national, social and cultural characteristics of other segments of the population which are predominant." (Working definition adopted by the UN Working Group on Indigenous Peoples)

High Conservation Value Forests: High Conservation Value Forests are those that possess one or more of the following attributes:

- a) Forest areas containing globally, regionally or nationally significant:
 - concentrations of biodiversity values (e.g. endemism, endangered species, refugia); and/or
 - Large landscape level forests, contained within, or containing the management unit, where viable populations of most if not all naturally occurring species exist in natural patterns of distribution and abundance.
- b) Forest areas that are in or contain rare, threatened or endangered ecosystems.
- c) Forest areas that provide basic services of nature in critical situations (e.g. watershed protection, erosion control).
- d) Forest areas fundamental to meeting basic needs of local communities (e.g. subsistence, health) and/or critical to local communities' traditional cultural identity (areas of cultural, ecological, economic or religious significance identified in cooperation with such local communities).

Local laws: Includes all legal norms given by organisms of government whose jurisdiction is less than the national level, such as departmental, municipal and customary norms. FSC Source: FSC-STD-01-001

Long term: The time-scale of the forest owner or manager as manifested by the objectives of the management plan, the rate of harvesting, and the commitment to maintain permanent forest cover. The length of time involved will vary according to the context and ecological conditions, and will be a function of how long it

takes a given ecosystem to recover its natural structure and composition following harvesting or disturbance, or to produce mature or primary conditions. FSC Source: FSC-STD-01-001

Means of verification: A potential source of information or evidence that allows an auditor to evaluate compliance with an indicator. FSC Source: FSC-STD-20-002 V2-1

Native species: A species that occurs naturally in the region; endemic to the area. FSC Source: FSC-STD-01-001

Natural cycles: Nutrient and mineral cycling as a result of interactions between soils, water, plants, and animals in forest environments that affect the ecological productivity of a given site. FSC Source: FSC-STD-01-001

Natural Forest: Forest areas where many of the principal characteristics and key elements of native ecosystems such as complexity, structure and diversity are present, as defined by FSC approved national and regional standards of forest management. FSC Source: FSC-STD-01-001

Non-compliance Any failure to meet the threshold requirement(s) of an indicator. FSC Source: FSC-STD-20-002 V2-1

Non-timber forest products

All forest products except timber, including other materials obtained from trees such as resins and leaves, as well as any other plant and animal products. FSC Source: FSC-STD-01-001

Pest: Organisms, which are harmful or perceived as harmful and as prejudicing the achievement of management goals. Some pests, especially introduced exotics, may also pose serious ecological threats, and suppression may be recommended. They include animal pests, plant weeds, pathogenic fungi and other micro-organisms. FSC Source: FSC-POL-30-001

Pesticide: Any substance or preparation prepared or used in protecting plants or wood or other plant products from pests; in controlling pests; or in rendering such pests harmless. (This definition includes insecticides, rodenticides, acaricides, molluscicides, larvaecides, fungicides and herbicides). FSC Source: FSC-POL-30-001

Plantation: Forest areas lacking most of the principal characteristics and key elements of native ecosystems as defined by FSC-approved national and regional standards of forest stewardship, which result from the human activities of planting, sowing or intensive silvicultural treatments. FSC Source: FSC-STD-01-001

Principle: An essential rule or element; in FSC's case, of forest stewardship. FSC Source: FSC-STD-01-001

Procedure: A specified way to carry out an activity or process. Procedures can be documented or not. FSC Source: FSC-STD-20-011 V1-1

Silviculture: The art of producing and tending a forest by manipulating its establishment, composition and growth to best fulfil the objectives of the owner. This may, or may not, include timber production. FSC Source: FSC-STD-01-001

Site (in the context of chain of custody): A single functional unit of an organisation or a combination of units situated at one locality, which is geographically distinct from other units of the same organisation or the associated network. FSC Source: FSC-STD-40-003 V1-0

SLIMF (small or low intensity managed forest): A forest management unit which meets specific FSC requirements related to size and/or intensity. FSC Source: FSC-STD-20-012 V1-1

Stakeholder: Any individual or group whose interests are affected by the way in which a forest is managed. FSC Source: FSC-STD-30-010 V2-0

Tenure: Socially defined agreements held by individuals or groups, recognized by legal statutes or customary practice, regarding the "bundle of rights and duties" of ownership, holding, access and/or usage of a particular land unit or the associated resources there within (such as individual trees, plant species, water, minerals, etc). FSC Source: FSC-STD-01-001

Threatened species: Any species which is likely to become endangered within the foreseeable future throughout all or a significant portion of its range FSC Source: FSC-STD-01-001

Use rights: Rights for the use of forest resources that can be defined by local custom, mutual agreements, or prescribed by other entities holding access rights. These rights may restrict the use of particular resources to specific levels of consumption or particular harvesting techniques.

Very limited portion: The area affected shall not exceed 0.5% of the area of the FMU in any one year, nor affect a total of more than 5% of the area of the FMU. FSC Source: FSC-STD-30-010 V2-0