



**ADAPTED STANDARD AND CHECKLIST FOR THE**  
**ASSESSMENT OF**  
**FOREST OR PLANTATION MANAGEMENT**  
**IN UKRAINIAN NORTHERN REGION**

To demonstrate the adherence to the  
Principles and Criteria of

**F S C – Forest Stewardship Council**

**FOREST:**

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**LOCATION:**

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**TYPE OF ASSESSMENT:**

Certification       Surveillance       Renewal       Extension

Rev. 01 June '07: the revision of standard from previous one (July '03 – rev. 0) concerned the complete modification of requirements of principle 9 and review of the others.

Rev. 02 September '07: the revision of standard from previous one (June '07 – rev. 01) concerned the review of requirements of principle 9.

Inspector responsible for the control: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Any comment on this standard can be addressed to ICILA.

This document will be revised in case of significant comments from stakeholders, main modifications of the draft version of FSC national standards , main modifications of national legislation.

History of the document:

- Revision 00 – July 2003
- Revision 01 – June 2007
- Revision 02 – September 2007

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N°	Requirements and Regional Guide	Verifiers	Evaluation
<b>FSC Principle 1 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 FCS PRINCIPLES AND CRITERIA.</b>			
<b>FSC Criterion 1.1 Forest management shall respect all national and local laws and administrative requirements.</b>			
1.1.1	<p><b>The Forest Managers<sup>1</sup> keep an updated record of the national and local legislation of rules and agreements, and any other prerequisite, also regarding taxes that is applicable to the forest management.</b></p> <p>Regional Guidance: note local authorities for monitoring Regional Guidance: attach the record of laws and taxes requirements <sup>1</sup>"Forest Managers" means the legal entity having the right to manage the forest (see 2.1.3).</p>	<p>- Updated record of law requirements and taxes.</p>	
1.1.2	<p><b>Is there a procedure in place to ensure that the record mentioned under 1.1.1. is regularly updated?</b></p>	<p>- updating procedure and control of its application.</p>	
1.1.3	<p><b>Is there a procedure in place to ensure that the record mentioned under 1.1.1 is complete?</b></p>	<p>- updating procedure and control of its application.</p>	
1.1.4	<p><b>Are updated and legible copies of relevant laws, regulations and other requirements available to forest managers?</b></p>	<p>- Monitoring of the availability of law requirements with the concerned parties.</p>	
<b>FSC Criterion 1.2 All applicable and legally prescribed fees, royalties, taxes and other charges shall be paid.</b>			
1.2.1	<p><b>Is there any evidence of lack of respect of the law or of unpaid taxes and fees, related to the forest management?</b></p> <p>Regional Guidance: note local authorities for monitoring</p>	<p>- Consultation with local authorities in charge for the control and the concerned parties. - Documents and procedures demonstrating the respect of legislation. - No evidence, during the audit, of no respect of norms and laws. - Receipts and evidence of all payments regularly done.</p>	

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1.2.2	<b>Are there any pending or historical legal proceedings against forest managers, concerning the prompt payment of fees, royalties and taxes?</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Consultation with local authorities in charge for the control and with the concerned parties.</li> <li>- Documents of Forest Managers regarding legal proceedings.</li> </ul>	
<b>FSC Criterion 1.3</b> <b>In signatory countries, the provisions of all binding international agreements such as CITES, ILO Conventions, ITTO, and Convention on Biological Diversity, shall be respected.</b>			
1.31	<b>Are CITES requirements respected?</b>	<p>The species included in the CITES list present in the forest are protected (see attachment A)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- possible export permits are available</li> <li>- Procedures of control of the requirements of CITES conventions</li> </ul>	
1.3.2	<b>Are there any tools available to forest managers that ensure the continuous respect of CITES requirements?</b>  Regional guidance: note local species included in CITES list Regional Guidance: note national laws that include CITES Conventions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The species included in the CITES list present in the forest are protected (see attachment A)</li> <li>- possible export permits are available</li> <li>- Procedures of control of the requirements of CITES conventions</li> </ul>	
1.3.3	<b>Are provisions of ILO Conventions 29, 87, 97, 98, 100, 105, 111, 131, 138, 141, 142, 143, 155, 169, 182 , the ILO Recommendation 135 and the “Code of practice on safety and health in forestry work (1998)” respected and appropriate tools are implemented in order to ensure their continuous respect?</b> The text of these documents are available form ICILA on request.  Same comment as for 1.3.1  Regional Guidance: note local laws of endorsement of ILO Conventions, Recommendation and Code of Practices	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Procedures of application of the requirements of ILO conventions</li> <li>- Consultation with trade unions and workers’ Representatives</li> <li>- availability and knowledge from forest managers of ILO conventions or related local laws (in order to have confidence of their continual respect)</li> </ul>	

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1.3.4	<p><b>Are provisions of ITTO (International Tropical Timber Organisation) respected and appropriate tools implemented in order to ensure their continuous respect?</b></p> <p><b>Same comment as for 1.3.1</b></p> <p>Regional Guidance: is the country or the region signatory to ITTO? Note laws that include ITTO requirements.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Procedures or documentation of application of ITTO requirements.</li> <li>- availability and knowledge from forest managers of ITTO requirements or related local laws (in order to have confidence of their continual respect)</li> </ul>	
1.3.5	<p><b>Are the requirements of the Convention on Biological Diversity respected and appropriate tools implemented in order to ensure their continuous respect?</b></p> <p><b>Same comment as for 1.3.1</b></p> <p>Regional Guidance: note at regional level all the implications of the Convention on Biodiversity</p> <p>Regional Guidance: note laws that include the Convention on Biodiversity</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Procedures or documentation of the application of the requirements of the Convention on Biodiversity</li> <li>- availability and knowledge from forest managers of the Convention on Biological Diversity requirements or related local laws (in order to have confidence of their continual respect)</li> </ul>	
<p>Criterion 1.4 <b>Conflicts between laws, regulations and the FSC Principles and Criteria shall be evaluated for the purpose of certification, on a case by case basis, by the certifiers and the involved or affected parties.</b></p>			
1.4.1	<p><b>Are there any conflicts between laws/ local regulations and the present standard?</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Consultation with the Forest Managers</li> <li>- Consultation with concerned parties.</li> </ul> <p>Any possible dispute will be evaluated by ICILA in cooperation with the auditors and the concerned parties.</p>	
<p>Criterion 1.5 <b>Forest management areas should be protected from illegal harvesting, settlement and other unauthorised activities.</b></p>			
1.5.1	<p><b>Is the forest protected from illegal harvesting activities, illegal new settlements, road construction, or other activities not approved by forestry managers, public authorities or local communities with use rights on the forest?</b></p> <p>Regional Guidance: note the local authorities</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- documented systems of prevention of illegal activities (e.g. systems of active surveillance);</li> <li>- no evidence of illegal activities under way.</li> <li>- consultation with local authorities and/or NGO's</li> </ul>	
<p>Criterion 1.6 <b>Forest Managers shall demonstrate a long-term commitment to adhere to the FSC Principles and Criteria.</b></p>			

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1.6.1	<b>The forest owner or manager has signed a publicly available document including a long-term commitment to the FSC Principles and Criteria</b>	Presence of a public Policy subscribed by the Direction. - evidence of the comprehension on the part of the Forest Managers of the contents and norms of the Principles and Criteria of the FSC. - evidence that the commitment or public policy is easily available to stakeholders	
1.6.2	<b>The commitment mentioned under a) is available to stakeholders on demand or it is displayed on the company's website.</b>	- Presence of a public Policy subscribed by the Direction. - evidence of the comprehension on the part of the Forest Managers of the contents and norms of the Principles and Criteria of the FSC. - evidence that the commitment or public policy is easily available to stakeholders	
<b>FSC Principle 2 TENURE AND USE RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES            LONG-TERM TENURE AND USE RIGHTS TO THE LAND AND FOREST RESOURCES SHALL BE DEFINED, DOCUMENTED AND LEGALLY ESTABLISHED.</b>			
<b>Criterion 2.1            Clear evidence of long- term use rights to the land (e.g. land title, customary rights, or lease agreements) shall be demonstrated.</b>			
2.1.1	<b>Is there evidence available of clear legal and use rights of the forest owner or manager covering the forest area that is subject to certification?</b>	- Documentation on the legal status of the entities involved in the management and ownership of the forest.	
2.1.2	<b>Does a legal map report the boundaries of the forest area?</b>	- Map of the borders of the forest (to be attached) - physical indication of the borders on site	
2.1.3	<b>Are responsibilities assigned within the legal entity in charge for the forest management?</b>	- Working organization chart. - Procedures.	

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2.1.4	<b>Are legal ownership/tenure and the use rights recorded?</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Documentation vouching for legal ownership or the right of management of the forest.</li> <li>- documentation vouching for the responsibilities assignment among the parties (e.g. contracts o rent/lease documents).</li> </ul>	
<b>Criterion 2.2</b> <b>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 control with free and informed consent to other agencies.</b>			
2.2.1	<b>Are legal or customary rights to forestry resources of local communities defined and mapped by Forest Managers?</b>  Regional Guidance: note local communities that have customary tenure or use rights Regional Guidance: for use rights of local people is also understood aesthetic, religious, spiritual or recreational right of local communities that not necessarily depend on forestry resources. In this case forest is considered as a part of local culture or local economy.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Discussion with the concerned parties and with the Forest Managers.</li> <li>- List of local communities/villages; list and references of the representatives of local communities (address, etc.).</li> <li>- Maps</li> <li>- Documentation vouching for the rights of local populations (rights of access/passage, of common use of the land, of collection, etc.)</li> </ul>	
2.2.2	<b>Do formal and written agreements exist between Forest Managers and local people/communities (written in a language both parties understand?)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- agreements and/or contracts</li> <li>- evidence in the planning of the forest management that the rights of local communities are respected</li> <li>- consultation with the concerned parties and communication from representatives of local communities to the audit team of their free and informed consent of the agreements whit the Forest Managers</li> </ul>	

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2.2.3	<p><b>Are rights and duties of managers and local people/communities ,including legal or traditional rights clearly spelled out in the agreement?</b></p> <p>Regional Guidance: identify local laws and codes concerning the rights of local communities.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- agreements and/or contracts</li> <li>- evidence in the planning of the forest management that the rights of local communities are respected</li> <li>- consultation with the concerned parties and communication from representatives of local communities to the audit team of their free and informed consent of the agreements whit the Forest Managers</li> </ul>	
2.2.4	<p><b>May local peoples/communities exercise control over the forest management so that their rights and forestry resources be protected and ensured?</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- consultation of GVI with the concerned parties</li> <li>- no significant disputes between the Forest Managers and the local communities</li> <li>- evidence of the payment of indemnities of the used resources</li> <li>- indication of the protected areas or under a particular management system on main maps</li> </ul>	
2.2.5	<p><b>Are there any procedures available regarding consultation of local communities?</b> <b>Do existing procedures ensure that local communities use rights are protected?</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- presence of formal consultation committees between the Forest Managers and the local communities/populations and their effective working (periodical meetings, records of the meetings, etc.).</li> <li>- evidence that local communities representatives have the authority to exercise such role.</li> </ul>	
2.2.6	<p>Is there evidence of any actions of the forest managers, aimed at ensuring that customary rights to forestry resources are respected?</p> <p>Regional Guidance: note ordinary uses of forestry resources on the part of communities not having legal or acquired rights on forestry resources.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- documentation,</li> <li>- consultation with the concerned parties.</li> </ul>	
<p>Criterion 2.3 <b>Appropriate mechanisms 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.</b></p>			

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2.3.1	<p><b>Do procedures or mechanisms exist for settlement of disputes between forest managers and local communities concerning use and legal rights or other issues freely agreed between all parties ?</b></p> <p>Regional Guidance: note local law.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Consultation with the concerned parties</li> <li>- procedures or legislation</li> <li>- agreements, contracts</li> </ul>	
2.3.2	<p><b>Do these procedures include a rule that in case of a dispute or disagreement regarding the rights of local communities irreversible forestry operations which prejudice such rights (i.e. construction, interruption of roads, demolition of buildings) are halted until the dispute is settled?</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- procedures are documented and available in case of disputes</li> </ul>	
2.3.3	<p><b>Is there evidence of relevant past and/or present disputes concerning the rights of local people to the forest?</b></p> <p>Regional Guidance: note any known dispute concerning the rights of local people on the forest, including those between different communities.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- consultation with local communities</li> <li>- documentation of the application of the procedure to settle disputes (see previous 2.3.2)</li> </ul>	
2.3.4	<p><b>In case conflicts exist, is there evidence that the managers take action to resolve conflicts through consultation, aimed at achieving agreement or consent?</b></p> <p>Ref. ILO Convention 169</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Interviews with representatives of local communities, and workers and their labour organizations or unions.</li> <li>- Records of fora for participation (round tables, committees, hearings etc.)</li> <li>- evidences of application of the procedure of dispute resolution</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Principle 3 INDIGENOUS PEOPLE'S RIGHTS – NOT APPLICABLE</b>  <b>THE LEGAL AND CUSTOMARY RIGHTS OF INDIGENOUS PEOPLE TO OWN; USE AND MANAGE THEIR LANDS; TERRITORIES; AND RESOURCES SHALL BE RECOGNISED AND RESPECTED.</b></p> <p>Principle 3 is a special case of the previous Principle 2 and all the requirements of Principle 2 will be applied also in this Principle with the obligation for the Forest Managers working in or near Indigenous People's lands to pay particular attention to this issue (see attachment 3 for the definition of Indigenous People, as reported by United Nations)</p>			
<p><b>Criterion 3.1</b>  <b>Indigenous people shall control forest management on their lands and territories unless they delegate control with free and informed consent to other agencies.</b></p>			
3.1.1	<p><b>Are all indigenous and migratory communities, living in the vicinity of the forest area to be certified, identified by Forest Managers?</b></p> <p>Regional Guidance: note all communities of Indigenous People, their traditional habits included.  Regional Guidance: note local law about Indigenous People (rights and duties, localization,...)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- documentation, updated list of Indigenous Populations</li> <li>- no evidence of Communities of Indigenous Populations included in the list</li> </ul>	
3.1.2	<p><b>The communities concerned have identified themselves as indigenous or tribal?</b></p> <p>Ref: ILO Convention 169 Article 1</p>		

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3.1.3	<b>Are all the areas in which Indigenous Populations have (or may reasonably claim) rights (of propriety, management) identified and mapped?</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- maps</li> <li>- consultation with the representatives of the communities of Indigenous People</li> <li>- see also point 2.2.1</li> </ul>	
3.1.4	<b>Communities have clear, credible and officially recognised evidence, endorsed by the communities themselves, of collective ownership and control of the lands they customarily own or otherwise occupy or use?</b>  Ref: ILO Convention 169 Article 14-17.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Interviews with local community representatives and indigenous peoples</li> <li>- Maps demonstrating extent of titled lands or recognised territories</li> </ul>	
3.1.5	<b>The indigenous peoples are consulted through appropriate procedures and in particular through their representative institutions?</b> See also point 2.2.3  Ref: ILO Convention 169 Article 6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Interviews with local community representatives and indigenous peoples</li> <li>- existence of procedures</li> <li>- application of procedures</li> </ul>	
3.1.6	<b>Is a list of prescriptions and constraints for the forest management due to Indigenous People's rights available? (may they be considered already included in article 1.1.1?)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- list of prescriptions and constraints</li> <li>- consultation with local communities for non-written indigenous people rights</li> </ul>	
3.1.7	<b>The operations (harvesting, logging, road construction or use of waterways, construction or demolition of buildings,...) realised in the areas identified in the previous points, are communicated to the concerned indigenous communities, giving them details about the social impacts expected (see also 4.4.1) and about eventual benefit-sharing arrangements?</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- consultation with the representatives of the communities of Indigenous People</li> <li>- evidence of the full, free and informed consent expressed by Indigenous People or their representatives</li> <li>- evidence of contracts or written agreements</li> <li>- no relevant disputes</li> <li>- evidence of the agreed indemnities payment for the use of forest resources.</li> </ul>	
3.1.8	<b>Free and informed consent for forest management operations, if delegated by the indigenous peoples through their representative institutions, is freely expressed without coercion or duress?</b>  Ref: ILO Convention 169 Article 7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- records of discussions between forest managers and representative institutions</li> <li>- benefit sharing plans or other signed agreements</li> </ul>	

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<b>Criterion 3.2</b> <b>Forest management shall not threaten or diminish, either directly or indirectly, the resources or tenure rights of Indigenous People.</b>			
3.2.1	<b>Have forest managers disposed documented procedures to prevent any potential threat, direct or in direct, to the resources or rights of Indigenous People, due to forestry management activities on or near their territory? (e.g. damage to water resources and fauna)</b> Regional Guidance: identify and note any possible threats as above described.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- procedures</li> <li>- consultation with the representatives of the communities of Indigenous People</li> <li>- evidence of no threat to the resources or rights of local people</li> </ul>	
3.2.2	<b>Do these procedures include also critical activities assigned by Forest Managers to third parties (e.g. in case of logging activities carried out by third parties along the borders of the Indigenous Peoples territory the border should be demarcated under the supervision of Local Communities)?</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- consultation with the representatives of the communities of Indigenous People</li> <li>- monitoring/control in the field of the application of the procedures</li> <li>- procedures</li> <li>- contracts with third parties</li> </ul>	
3.2.3	<b>Has an appropriate procedure been prepared to record any possible voluntary or accidental, direct or indirect damage to the forest resources of the Indigenous People as well as to indemnify them adequately for the possible loss?</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- evidence of possible indemnity to Indigenous People</li> <li>- evidence of adequate indemnity, accepted by the Indigenous People</li> </ul>	
3.2.4	<b>Cultural and traditional values are respected?</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Interviews with representatives of local communities, and workers and their labour organizations or unions</li> </ul>	
3.2.5	<b>Traditional access for subsistence uses and traditional activities is granted, and is granted the rights of local communities to natural resources pertaining to their land are respected and communities participate in the use, management and conservation of the resources?</b>  Note: it is assumed that traditional uses are on a scale that does not threaten the integrity of the resources or the management objective.  ILO Convention 169	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Interviews with representatives of indigenous and traditional peoples</li> </ul>	
<b>Criterion 3.3</b> <b>Sites of special cultural, ecological, economic or religious significance to indigenous peoples shall be identified in cooperation with such peoples, and recognised and protected by Forest managers.</b>			

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3.3.1	<p><b>Are there appropriate procedures to identify, record and map sites of archaeological, religious, historical or cultural interest prior to the commencement of forest management activities?</b>  <b>Are such procedures implemented also in the case the above mentioned activities are assigned to third parties?</b></p> <p>Regional Guidance: note any site of archaeological, historical, religious, cultural interest in the area.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- procedures</li> <li>- maps and registrations documents or historical documents</li> <li>- interviews with the personnel to control the extension of such procedures</li> </ul>	
3.3.2	<p><b>Are there appropriate procedures for the protection and management of the identified sites?</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- procedures</li> <li>- evidence of no unsuitable intervention in sensitive areas</li> </ul>	
3.3.3	<p><b>Do these procedures foresee a full and informed involvement of Indigenous People in the identification and safeguard plans of such sites?</b></p> <p>Regional Guidance: note local laws for the management of such sites and for the communication of their presence to local public authorities.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- consultation with the representatives of the communities of Indigenous People</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Criterion 3.4</b>  <b>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 operation commence.</b></p>			
3.4.1	<p><b>Have Forest Managers taken note of any traditional knowledge of Indigenous People about forest management, silvicultural techniques or the use of particular species?</b></p> <p>Regional Guidance: note any application related to traditional knowledge on the use of local species or particular silvicultural systems.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- registrations</li> </ul>	
3.4.2	<p><b>Are Indigenous People informed and adequately repaid, according to previous agreements, regarding the application of such knowledge and the economic benefits of such applications to the forest management enterprise?</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- registrations</li> <li>- consultation with the representatives of the communities of Indigenous People</li> <li>- economic agreement between the Forest Managers and Indigenous People</li> <li>- evidence of payment</li> <li>-</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Principle 4 COMMUNITY RELATIONS AND WORKER'S RIGHTS</b>  <b>FOREST MANAGEMENT OPERATIONS SHALL MAINTAIN OR ENHANCE THE LONG-TERM SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC WELL-BEING OF FOREST WORKERS AND LOCAL COMMUNITIES.</b></p>			

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<p>Criterion 4.1  <b>The communities within, or adjacent to the forest management area should be given opportunities for employment, training and other services.</b></p> <p>Safe working conditions evaluation highly vary from region to region. In less developed regions it will be much more emphasised that the workers be provided at least with basic needs/services for a safe and healthy work (drinking water, health, etc.); in other regions it will be more important to pay attention not to discriminate workers. In any case it is desirable that forest enterprises put themselves at a higher level, if possible, with respect to the minimum law requirements or to average of local similar enterprises.</p>			
4.1.1	<p><b>Is there any evidence of discrimination against local workers?            Are suitable local workers preferred over non-locals?</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- employment strategies</li> <li>- evidence of local people employment</li> <li>- consultation with local communities</li> <li>- consultation with labour unions and workers</li> </ul>	
4.1.2	<p><b>Are carry out all efforts made to ensure that local communities have access to basic services? (e.g. education, health, drinking water,...)</b></p> <p>Regional Guidance: assess living conditions of local people and their primary needs.</p>	<p>Consultation with the concerned parties</p> <p>a) Monitoring of the implemented measures by Forest Managers (schools, dispensaries, basic services, houses, etc.)</p>	
<p>Criterion 4.2  <b>Forest management should meet or exceed all applicable laws and/or regulations covering health and safety of employees and their families.</b></p>			
4.2.1	<p><b>Is the list of existing laws and regulations (see 1.1.1.) exhaustive also as regards the health and safety of the workers?</b></p> <p>Regional Guidance: state main references and requirements of reference legislation.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• list of existing laws</li> </ul>	
4.2.2	<p><b>Are the existing health and safety laws and codes respected?</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Evidences of fee, legal proceedings</li> <li>• Interview with local control authorities</li> </ul>	

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4.2.3	<b>Are forest managers and employees informed about legal requirements relating to labour issues?</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• interviews with the personnel and Forest Managers</li> <li>• access to legislation</li> </ul>	
4.2.4	<b>Does an exhaustive assessment exist of the risks to workers according to different kind of activities?</b> Ref: ILO Conventions 155, ILO code of Practice on Safety (1988)  Regional Guidance: state local working conditions in similar surroundings areas so to have a minimum reference standard to be considered and possibly enhanced.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Risks evaluation document: control of its completeness</li> <li>- control/monitoring of the working procedures</li> <li>- check of the tools and PPE</li> <li>- control of the safety of working tools</li> <li>- control that all the tools and PPE respect safety norms</li> <li>- control of the assignment of PPE to the workers and the extension/training activities to use them.</li> </ul>	
4.2.5	<b>Is the company taking action to reduce or eliminate work-related health risks for forest workers?</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Risks evaluation document: control of its completeness</li> <li>- control/monitoring of the working procedures</li> </ul>	
4.2.6	<b>Does the company provide workers with personal protective equipment in compliance with legal requirements and compatible with the tasks performed?</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- check of the tools and PPE</li> <li>- control of the safety of working tools</li> </ul>	
4.2.7	<b>Are the company systems efficient in reducing or eliminating work-related health risks?</b>		

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4.2.8	<b>Are measures to reduce risks formally included in contracts with third party enterprises working for the forest enterprise?</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- control of third parties contracts</li> <li>- control of third parties working modalities</li> </ul>	
4.2.9	<b>Are all reasonable efforts made by forest managers in order to ensure healthy and safe living conditions to the employees and their families (e.g. access to drinking water, food, health, basic services, appropriate accommodations)?</b>  Ref: ILO Conventions 155, ILO code of Practice on Safety (1988)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- disciplinary measures for the workers not respecting healthy and safe instructions</li> <li>- control of the healthy/safe living conditions of the employees and their families</li> </ul>	
4.2.10	<b>Is training provided to personnel (direct, third parties or seasonal workers) according to the different tasks,</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- training procedures</li> <li>- training registrations</li> <li>- interviews with employees</li> <li>- training and awareness tools (advertising, leaflets, printed matters, etc.)</li> <li>- see also point 7.3.2</li> </ul>	
4.2.11	<b>b) Does training cover at least the following topics:</b> <b>a) safety working procedure, risks related to each activity and measures to reduce them;</b> <b>b) use of PPE;</b> <b>c) company policies and procedures regarding sustainable forest management;</b> <b>d) minimisation of daily work environmental impact;</b> <b>e) use of low environmental impact substances;</b> <b>f) maintenance of the equipment/tools and reduction of waste;</b> <b>g) other issues related to risks reduction in daily work and environmental impacts.</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- training procedures</li> <li>- training registrations</li> <li>- interviews with employees</li> <li>- training and awareness tools (advertising, leaflets, printed matters, etc.)</li> <li>- see also point 7.3.2</li> </ul>	

N°	Requirements and Regional Guide	Verifiers	Evaluation
4.2.12	<b>Are accidents and dangerous situations that might have lead to accidents recorded and measures implemented to prevent them in the future?</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- registrations</li> <li>- discussion with the Managers and workers</li> <li>- evidence of corrective measures</li> </ul>	
4.2.13	<p><b>Forest Managers have defined, spread and implemented an Employment Policy including at least the following:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) <b>respect of the reference legislation;</b></li> <li>b) <b>non interference with the employees' right to follow principles or practices, or to satisfy needs related to race, status, national origin, religion, invalidity, sex, sexual orientation, trade union or political affiliation;</b></li> <li>c) <b>no discrimination among the employees (gender, ethnic, religious,...);</b></li> <li>d) <b>adequate wage (e.g "same job, same wage", extra pay for overtime) in order to ensure that the paid salary be always sufficient to satisfy primary needs of the workers, including the possibility to provide some discretionary earning;</b></li> <li>e) <b>adequate and sustainable working time, with suitable shift;</b></li> <li>f) <b>no children exploitation;</b></li> <li>g) <b>no use or support to the use of corporal punishment, mental or physical coercion, verbal abuse;</b></li> <li>h) <b>adequate health care to the workers (e.g in case of illness, invalidity, pregnancy, retirement,...).</b></li> </ul> <p><sup>1</sup> such policy may be integrated with 1.5.2  <sup>2</sup> unless, at the moment of employment, it is preferred to employ workers coming from local communities (4.1.1).</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- discussion with the workers, trade union, concerned parties;</li> <li>- employment contracts appraisal;</li> <li>- working conditions inspection;</li> <li>- discussion with the managers;</li> <li>- For foreign employees: visa, staying and working permit.</li> <li>- Insurance (Civil Liability Ins.) covering possible damages to people and goods.</li> </ul>	

Criterion 4.3  
**The rights of workers to organise and voluntarily negotiate with their employers shall be guaranteed as outlined in Conventions 87 and 89 of the International Labour Organisation (ILO).**  
 See 1.1.2

Criterion 4.4  
**Management planning and operations shall incorporate the results of evaluations of social impact.**

4.4.1	<p><b>Have Forest Managers drawn up an evaluation of the social impact (in line with size and present criticalities) of the activities they manage which:</b></p> <p>i) identifies the involved social groups;  j) involves the consultation with such groups;  k) identifies the most important social impacts (positive or negative) on such groups;  l) identifies appropriate measures to minimise negative impacts on such groups and to enhance positive effects;  m) foresees periodic monitoring of such groups to evaluate the effectiveness of such measures;</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Registrations</li> <li>• Consultation with the concerned parties</li> <li>• Results and conclusions of the evaluation of the social impact</li> <li>• Documentation of social impact minimising measures</li> <li>• Documentation of the monitoring of the effectiveness of such measures</li> </ul>	
4.4.2	<p><b>The results of such evaluation are included in the Management Plan (Principle 7)?</b></p>		
<p>Criterion 4.5  <b>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. Regular communication will generate trust through transparency of actions, facilitate exchange of information and opinions.</b></p>			
4.5.1	<p><b>Are procedures implemented to record and reply to complaints and requests from local people?</b></p> <p>Regional Guidance: verify if local legislation and magistrature are able to perform properly such task.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- procedures</li> <li>- documentation on the past application of the procedures</li> <li>- consultation with the concerned parties</li> </ul>	
4.5.2	<p><b>Do procedures exist to provide compensation to individuals or local people whose legal or customary rights, property or life have been damaged?</b></p> <p>Regional Guidance: verify if local legislation and magistrature are able to perform properly such task.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- procedures</li> <li>- documentation on the past application of the procedures</li> <li>- consultation with the concerned parties</li> </ul>	
<p>Principle 5 <b>BENEFITS FROM THE FOREST</b>  <b>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.</b></p>			
<p>Criterion 5.1  <b>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.</b></p>			
5.1.1	<p><b>Is there an income statement for the present fiscal year available, presenting expected costs and revenues?</b></p> <p>Local Guidance: note local legislation for the drawing up of the budget forecast, income statement and financial statement for the enterprise to be assessed.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- annual budget, income statement and ownership</li> <li>- budget of previous years</li> </ul>	

5.1.2	<b>Are annual budget forecasts in line with the harvest of forest product (5.6) and relative market values?</b>	- annual budget	
5.1.3	<b>Does the budget include the payment of taxes (see 1.1.1) or rent and costs associated with social and environmental commitments identified by Principles 4 and 6 and by the activities mentioned in the Management Plan?</b>	- annual budget	
5.1.4	<b>Does the income statement include resources different from timber (tourism, non-wood products such as mushroom, honey, ...)?</b>	- annual budget	
<b>Criterion 5.2 Forest management and marketing operations should encourage the optimal use and local processing of the forest's diversity of products.</b>			
5.2.1	<b>Do Forest Managers promote on-site wood processing by encouraging the creation of local enterprises or destining part of their products (also non-wood products) to local enterprises or users?</b>	- Information on the clients - discussion with local communities	
<b>Criterion 5.3 Forest management should minimise waste associated with harvesting and no-site processing operations and avoid damage to other forest resources.</b>			
5.3.1	<b>Does purchasing and maintenance of processing machineries take into account minimisation of timber waste?</b>	- evaluation of recent purchase of machineries	
5.3.2	<b>Are procedures implemented to reduce timber waste during logging operations and not to damage other forest resources ?</b>	- procedures - evaluation in the field of the implemented harvesting techniques aimed at avoiding damage to the forest resource. Consider log extraction, timing of log transport and processing in order to avoid degradation and depreciation, protection of natural regeneration and the residual stand during harvesting and other forest operations	
<b>Criterion 5.4 Forest management should strive to strengthen and diversify the local economy, avoiding dependence on a single forest product.</b>			
5.4.1	<b>Have all forest products and services that the territory may offer been identified and assessed (including less known plant species, non-wood products, tourism, other)?</b>  Local Guidance: note possible forest' products or other services provided by the forest territory with a value for local economy. Evaluate and assess dimension and importance of the watershed/watersheds within the forest.	- documented research - evaluation in the field - discussion with the Forest Managers - discussion with the concerned parties	

<b>Criterion 5.5</b> <b>Forest management operations shall recognise, maintain and, where appropriate, enhance the value of forest services and resources such as watersheds and fisheries.</b>		
5.5.1	<b>Is the downstream use of waterways and related requirements known to forest managers?</b>  Local Guidance: note any presence of dam and regional/national agreements on water management.	- discussion with the Forest Managers - discussion with the public authorities
5.5.2	<b>Is there clear evidence that forest management practices do not have negative impacts on forest resources and related services?</b>  Local Guidance: note eventual legislation related to forest management. (see Criterion 5.6).	- discussion with the Forest Managers
<b>Criterion 5.6</b> <b>The rate of harvest of forest products shall not exceed levels which can be permanently sustained.</b>		
5.6.1	<b>Are the silvicultural systems adopted by forest management stated and described in the Management Plan or other related documentation?</b>	- Management Plan
5.6.2	<b>Is the expected level of harvesting on an annual basis and in the long term stated?</b>  Local Guidance: note eventual law provisions on harvesting frequency, rate and modality of harvesting.	- Management Plan
5.6.3	<b>Is there evidence that the planned level of harvesting during the validity period of the forest management plan does not exceed the planned increase for that period, (except for particular and temporary silvicultural circumstances or damage due to unforeseen events?)</b>	- Management Plan - information from the inventory on quantity and distribution - growing and harvesting models
5.6.4	<b>Is the present state of the forest (growth rate, abundance, age and size distribution, quality of the main species) presented clearly and in line with updated and reliable data (inventory, research, studies)?</b>  Regional Guidance: report data on the state of the forest in the region for comparison.	- forest inventories, research - guide lines, national or regional legislation, - reported data on the Management Plan - see also 7.1b
<b>Principle 6 ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT</b> <b>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.</b>		

<b>Criterion 6.1</b> <b>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. Information from descriptions of forest resources, detailed in 7.1b should be used in assessment of impacts. Assessments of impacts should be used in creating environmental safeguards, detailed in 7.1f.</b>		
6.1.1	<b>Does the company have a procedure to ensure that before undertaking any site-disturbing management activity its environmental impacts are evaluated?</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- procedures</li> <li>- evidence of the applications of the procedures</li> <li>- evidence that the Management Plan take into the right consideration the results of such evaluation</li> </ul>
6.1.2	<b>Is there evidence that the impacts' evaluation is taken into account in the planning process and implementation of the related activities, according to the existing procedure?</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- evaluations results and modalities of activities implementation</li> <li>- evidence that the Management Plan take into the right consideration the results of such evaluation</li> </ul>
<b>Criterion 6.2a</b> <b>Safeguards shall exist which protect rare, threatened and endangered species and their habitats (e.g. nesting and feeding areas).</b>		
6.2a.1	<b>Has the presence of rare, threatened and endangered animal and vegetable species been detected?</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Discussions with the concerned parties (environmentalist organisations, biologists, ecc.)</li> <li>- studies and historical data on rare or endangered animal species</li> <li>-</li> </ul>
6.2a.2	<b>Has the habitat of rare, threatened and endangered animal and vegetal species been mapped (nesting, reproduction and feeding areas)?</b>  Regional Guidance: report rare, endangered, threatened animal species living in the area.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Discussions with the concerned parties (environmentalist organisations, biologists, ecc.)</li> <li>- studies and historical data on rare or endangered animal species</li> </ul>
6.2a.3	<b>Have measures been implemented in order to safeguard such species and habitat?</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Management Plan and related documents (see 7.1g)</li> <li>- procedures</li> </ul>
<b>Criterion 6.2b</b> <b>Conservation zones and protection areas shall be established, appropriate to the scale and intensity of forest management and the uniqueness of the affected resources.</b> <b>Inappropriate hunting, fishing, trapping and collecting shall be controlled.</b>		

6.2b.1	<p><b>Have relevant areas in terms of biodiversity been mapped (wet areas, swamps, areas of exceptional interest, ...) in the region?</b></p> <p>Regional Guidance: report regional protected areas and related local legislation.</p>	<p>- consultation with the concerned parties (biologists and Environmental Associations)</p> <p>- maps</p> <p>- field visit</p>	
6.2b.2	<p><b>Have measures been implemented in the forestry activities in order to protect such areas?</b></p>		
6.2b.3	<p><b>Has a suitable area, (according to the importance of the forest in terms of area, typology, environmental and biodiversity values), been devoted to conservation, where the conservation and enhancement of biodiversity represent the major management objective?</b> (An area of at least 10% of the forest area and representing different ecosystems may be considered suitable).</p>	<p>- consultation with the concerned parties (biologists and Environmental Associations)</p> <p>- maps</p> <p>- field visit</p>	
6.2b.4	<p><b>Is at least half of this area destined to free evolution and fully protected from any human and commercial activity?</b></p>	<p>- maps</p> <p>- field visit</p>	
6.2b.5	<p><b>Do biological corridors exist among different safeguarded areas/ecosystems allowing the movement of animals and growth/spread of tree species?</b></p>	<p>- maps</p> <p>- field visit</p>	
6.2b.6	<p><b>Has a number of trees been identified and safeguarded with such a distribution to ensure biodiversity? for example:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• trees with exceptional high size, age or shape;</li> <li>• trees with hollows and nests;</li> <li>• trees with cultural relevance;</li> <li>• tree and shrub species with particular showy flowering and/or visible chromatic variation;</li> <li>• tree/shrub species providing feeding for wild life (fruits, seeds, leaf, ...).</li> </ul>	<p>- maps</p> <p>- field visit</p> <p>- consultation with the concerned parties</p>	
6.2b.7	<p><b>Are measures implemented for controlling hunting, fishing, trapping of animals and collecting of plants/flowers/fruit and any other activity related to the flora and fauna, including all possible actions to safeguard endangered or rare animal or vegetable species from hunting, trapping and collecting activities?</b></p> <p>Regional Guidance: report legislation regarding control and restrictions on hunting, fishing and collecting. Report protected animal and vegetable species in the area.</p>	<p>- documentation, registration</p> <p>- Management Plan</p>	
<p><b>Criterion 6.3</b>  <b>Ecological functions and values shall be maintained intact, enhanced or restored, including:</b>  <b>Forest regeneration and succession</b>  <b>Genetic, species and ecosystem diversity</b>  <b>Natural cycle that affect the productivity of the forest ecosystem.</b></p>			

6.3.1	<b>Does the implemented silvicultural system correspond to the ecology of forest and the wider area where the forest is located?</b>	- discussion with the Forest Managers - discussion with the local foresters and the concerned parties	
6.3.2	<b>Is natural regeneration preferred to artificial regeneration by using small clearfelling areas?</b>  Regional guidance: indicate local legislation related to harvesting modalities and assess traditional harvesting systems.	- discussion with the Forest Managers - discussion with local biologists and the concerned parties to identify traditional local harvesting system	
6.3.3	<b>Does the silvicultural system and its implementation favour the natural dynamics of the ecosystem through the development of mixed and multilayer forest formations?</b>	- discussion with the Forest Managers - discussion with local foresters and the concerned parties	
6.3.3.a	<b>Does forest management foresee a minimum of 20% broadleaves species? Are there any measures implemented to diversify species composition?</b>		
6.3.4	<b>Is Biodiversity protected by preserving marginal habitats, as streamside vegetation, swamps, natural pasturelands, mountain vegetation?</b>	- field visit - maps	
6.3.5	<b>Do new planted trees belong to clones that have been previously tested to avoid negative impacts on the local biodiversity?</b>	- field visit - registrations	
6.3.6	<b>Have some standing and fallen dead wood habitats been retained taking into account safety and mobility needs and the reduction of phyto pathology risks?</b>	- field visit - tree selection and harvesting procedures	
6.3.7	<b>Are anthropic interventions, different from forest management, negatively affecting natural forest evolution, limited and controlled (e.g. recreational and sport infrastructures, pasture lands, ...)?</b>	- consultation with the concerned parties - management procedures	
<b>Criterion 6.4</b> <b>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.</b>			
	<b>For the protection and recording of representative samples of existing ecosystems in the landscape, refer to Criterion 6.2.</b>		
6.4.1	<b>Has the forest manager identified and documented the occurrence of natural habitats related to forest protection?</b>	- maps - field visit	
<b>Criterion 6.5°</b> <b>Written guidelines shall be prepared and implemented to: control erosion; minimise damage during road construction, and all other mechanical disturbances.</b>			

6.5a.1	<b>Is there a map reporting existing, closed or planned roads and tracks?</b>	- maps - field visit	
6.5a.2	<b>Are roads built and planned respecting the forest, sensitive areas, water ways and soil erosion?</b>  <b>Are the following prerequisites taken into account:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• road planning and construction is limited to those that are strictly necessary and justified ;</li> <li>• roads are fitted to the topography of the territory minimising environmental and visual impact;</li> <li>• roads destined to the temporary use should be constructed so to be naturally absorbed from the forest, once performed their task;</li> <li>• roads cannot cross protected areas; exceptions must be justified</li> <li>• soil erosion and degradation risks must be mitigated by avoiding road construction on steep slopes, fragile soil and by providing appropriate systems for water drainage control and management;</li> <li>• roads must be constructed far away from rivers and waterways and narrow valleys;</li> <li>• <b>seasonal/regular maintenance of roads is provided.</b></li> </ul>	- maps - field visit	
6.5a.3	<b>Are procedures and policies for the design and building of new roads previously communicated to contractors?</b>	- contracts with contractors - field visit - discussion with the workers	
<b>Criterion 6.5b</b> <b>Written guidelines shall be prepared and implemented to: protect water resources and minimise forest damage during harvesting..</b>			
6.5b.1	<b>Are there written procedures to prevent and mitigate damage to forest during harvesting operations, such as:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Harvesting machineries (e.g tractors) should reduce to minimum passage into the forest, crossing water ways only where stream crossings are present;</li> <li>• waste from harvesting activities should not be discharged into streams, but left on the site in order to allow the recycle of nutrients;</li> <li>• harvesting should not take place in areas subject to soil erosion, where the forest (trees and roots) play an important role in stabilizing slope and stream sides;</li> <li>• harvesting should not damages to residual standing trees and regeneration.</li> </ul>	- procedures - visit to harvesting area	
6.5b.2	<b>Harvesting and transport machinery are selected to (avoid) prevent damage to soil, residual standing trees and natural regeneration?</b>	- evaluation of the new purchased machineries	

6.5b.3	<b>Has personnel in charge of harvesting operations been trained on the above mentioned procedures as well as on safety conditions for themselves and the others (also in case of outsourcing) and provided with tools?</b>	- interviews to the personnel - training record	
<b>Criterion 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.</b>			
6.6a.1	<b>Does a procedure exist and is it implemented to record the use of synthetic chemical products used in the forest (pesticides, fertilizers, lubricant oils,...)?</b>	- procedures	
6.6a.2	<b>Do these records include at least:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• name of the product and related explanatory file;</li> <li>• location and extent of the treated area;</li> <li>• method of application;</li> <li>• initial and final day of application;</li> <li>• global quantity of product used.</li> </ul>	- Registrations	
6.6a.3	<b>Are chemicals used only when strictly necessary and where no alternative at reasonable cost is available?</b>		
6.6a.4	<b>In case chemicals are used, does a procedure exist to record non-chemical alternatives considered and rejected and the reasons of the choice?</b>	- documented procedure - registrations	
6.6a.5	<b>Are chemicals used only in minimum quantities following methodologies suggested by the producer?</b>	- informative cards provided by the producer	
6.6a.6	<b>Is storage of chemicals (including fuel) mitigating (avoiding) risks of spills and leaks?</b>	- inspection of chemicals storing areas	
<b>Criterion 6.6b World health Organisation 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.</b>			
6.6b.1	<b>Are such chemicals stored in the certification area?</b>	- storing areas - discussions with the Forest Managers and warehousemen	
<b>Criterion 6.6c If chemicals are used, proper equipment and training shall be provided to minimise health and environmental risks.</b>			
6.6c.1	<b>Are chemicals applied (see 6.6a.2.d) under weather conditions that increase the risks for the forest ecosystem? (e.g. during rainy season, with frozen snow, during droughts)?</b>	- registration	

6.6c.2	<b>Is the person in charge for the application of such products trained and provided with appropriate PPE?</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- interviews with personnel</li> <li>- documents qualifying the personnel</li> </ul>	
<b>Criterion 6.7</b> <b>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.</b>			
6.7.1	<b>Are lubricants only replaced in ad hoc areas (possibly not into the forest) and not discharged in the environment?</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- inspection to ad hoc areas and means</li> <li>- planning and registration of service card/record</li> </ul>	
6.7.2	<b>Are means of transport periodically serviced?</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Programs of maintenance</li> <li>- Record of maintenance</li> </ul>	
6.7.3	<b>Have areas and means for waste collection and disposal been detected?</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- area inspection and methods of waste collection and discharge</li> <li>- no evidence of unauthorised waste discharge</li> </ul>	
<b>Criterion 6.8</b> <b>Use of biological control agents shall be documented, minimised, monitored and strictly controlled in accordance with national laws and internationally accepted scientific protocols. Use of genetically modified organism shall be prohibited.</b>			
6.8.1	<b>Is there a procedure to control, limit and record the use of biological control agents?</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- procedures</li> <li>- registrations</li> <li>- monitoring procedures/policies of pests and disease</li> </ul>	
6.8.2	<b>Is there any evidence of GMO use?</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- no evidence of any use of GMO</li> </ul>	
In areas affected by Chernobyl disaster (1986), a strict and severe control, monitoring and evaluation should be carried out from official/specialised institutions, both on wood and non-wood products.			
6.8.3	<b>Forest products, in areas affected by Chernobyl disaster, should be systematically and rigorously controlled and monitored, according to the allowed radioactivity limits.</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- current legislation (national and international) on radioactivity limits</li> <li>- laboratories references</li> </ul>	
6.8.4	<b>Wood lots and more relevant forest products should be, at least once a year, submitted to a full set of analysis, beyond the ones already carried out on Cesium 137. Analysis' results should be available for the annual FSC evaluation's mission.</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- analysis' results</li> <li>- laboratories' report</li> </ul>	
<b>Criterion 6.9</b> <b>The use of exotic species shall be carefully controlled and actively monitored to avoid adverse ecological impacts.</b>			

6.9.1	<b>Is the use of exotic species recorded and justified?</b> Regional Guidance: indicate which are the possible exotic species in the area.	- registration documents - interviews with local biologists for the identification of acceptable/suitable "exotic species"	
6.9.2	<b>Is the environmental impact of the exotic species that are used in forest management assessed?</b>	- research, monitoring of dynamics	
Criterion 6.10 <b>The use of exotic species shall be carefully controlled and actively monitored to avoid adverse ecological impacts.</b>			
6.10.1	<b>Is the use of exotic species recorded and justified?</b> Regional Guidance: indicate which are the possible exotic species in the area.	- registration documents - interviews with local biologists for the identification of acceptable/suitable "exotic species"	
6.102	<b>Is the environmental impact of the exotic species introduction assessed?</b>	- research, monitoring of dynamics	
Criterion 6.11 <b>Forest conversion to plantations or non-forest land use shall not occur, except in circumstances where conversion:</b> a) entails a very limited portion of the forest management unit and b) does not occur on high conservation value forest areas; c) will enable clear, substantial, additional, secure, long term conservation benefits across the forest management unit.			
6.11.1	<b>Forest conversion to plantation or non-forest land uses does not occur, unless conversion:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• entails a very limited portion of the forest management unit;</li> <li>• does not involve areas belonging to high conservation value forest area;</li> <li>• brings clear, major additional, sure, long term benefits from the naturalistic view point to the whole of the forest management unit.</li> </ul>	- no evidence of any conversion or conversion plans - evaluation of the proportion <u>converted area/total forest surface</u> (taking into account the features of the forest area) - Studies, research and ad hoc evaluation in case of forest conversion.	

<b>Principle 7 MANAGEMENT PLAN</b> <b>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 STATED.</b>		
<b>Criterion 7.1°</b> <b>The Management Plan and supporting documents shall provide management objectives.</b>		
7.1a.1	<b>Are the stated forest management objectives in line with the present situation of forest areas and the available resources?</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Management Plan</li> <li>- Presence of financial tools supporting forest planning and management</li> </ul>
7.1a.2	<b>Has a long term management plan been developed for the forest?</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Evidence that the Forest Planning cover a longer period than the average harvesting rotation.</li> <li>- No evidence of any activity or plan against a long term forest management</li> </ul>
<b>Criterion 7.1b</b> <b>The Management Plan and supporting documents shall provide a description of the forest resources to be managed and environmental limitations.</b>		
7.1b.1	<b>Have the borders of the areas under management been defined, in line with the legal property of the forest, as identified art principle 2.1?</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- documents, maps</li> </ul>
7.1b.2	<b>Is there a description of the characteristics of the areas under management in line with to the scale and intensity of the planned management interventions?</b> (e.g. geographic location and topography, land morphology, water resources, rainfalls, geology, pedology, infrastructures and road systems, specific composition of forest areas and their management system, ...)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- documents, maps</li> </ul>
7.1b.3	<b>Is there a thematic map (forest destination map) where major destinations for each forest unit is assigned? (e.g. forest with a protective, productive or recreational destination, areas with an historical, social, cultural or landscape destination, ...)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- documents, maps</li> </ul>
7.1b.4	<b>Is there a description of areas under special management (e.g. protected biotopes, integral reserves, seed forests, wildlife areas, parks, wildlife corridors, marginal areas close to biotopies to be protected,...) based on the features of the different areas described previously?</b>  Note any management' constraint restrictions for some areas, due to local regulations.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- documents, maps</li> </ul>
7.1b.5	<b>Are areas previously under harvesting mapped, including unplanned or extraordinary uses?</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- documents, maps</li> </ul>
7.1b.6	<b>Does a forest inventory exist with a timber resources' survey, adequately detailed and rigorous to justify the planned harvesting for the full rotation and ensure that yields are permanently sustainable/renewable in successive rotation?</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- forest inventory</li> <li>- see also 5.6</li> </ul>

<b>Criterion 7.1c</b> <b>The management Plan and supporting documents shall provide a description of land use and ownership status, socio-economic conditions and a profile of adjacent lands.</b>		
7.1c.1	<b>Is there a description of land use and ownership status, including a brief summary of previous use and ownership status?</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Land use map (Managed forest surface, forest/pasture/grassland/unproductive land/etc.)</li> <li>- see also 2.2, 3.1, 3.3, 3.4</li> </ul>
<b>Criterion 7.1d</b> <b>The Management Plan and the supporting documents shall provide the description of the applied silvicultural system or other management systems, based on the ecological characteristics of the forest and on the information get from the forest inventory, as well as rationale for rate of annual harvest and species selection.</b>		
7.1d.1	<b>Are the adopted silvicultural model and management system stated and justified according to forest ecology and optimisation of the products and services provided by the forest?</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Management Plan,</li> <li>- Harvesting Plan</li> <li>- documented M&amp;E system</li> <li>- discussion with the Forest Manager</li> </ul>
7.1d.2	<b>Are documented procedures related to the implementation of the adopted silvicultural models available? (e.g. methodologies for identification and marking of trees or areas designated to harvesting, seed production, biodiversity conservation; methodologies to ensure natural regeneration, ...)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- procedures</li> <li>- field visit</li> <li>- see also 5.6</li> </ul>
<b>Criterion 7.1e</b> <b>The Management Plan and supporting documents shall provide provisions for monitoring of forest growth and dynamics.</b>		
7.1e.1	<b>Are procedures for the monitoring of the forest natural regeneration documented and implemented?</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- procedures</li> </ul>
<b>Criterion 7.1f</b> <b>The Management Plan and supporting documents shall provide: plans for the identification and protection of rare, threatened and endangered species.</b>		
7.1f.1	<b>Has the need for prevention and control system of catastrophic events been assessed? (e.g. forest fires or floods)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- discussion with the Managers</li> <li>- documentation</li> <li>- data on fires and flood; catastrophic events in the area</li> </ul>
7.1f.2	<b>In areas subject to fire or where fire acts as an ecological factor has a fire management system been developed? (such plan could rely on: collaboration with the fire brigade or local authorities; fire detection systems; alarm and contingency plans; reduction in known or likely primer sources; cooperation methods with local or nearby communities; system to safeguard infrastructures, people, archaeological/historical sites; set up of fire squads, intervention plans for fire squads; implementation of fire-barriers, reduction of inflammables; system to discourage arson, ...).</b>  Identification of local practices of arson and effective methods to discourage or fight against it..	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>n) fire prevention and management plan</li> <li>o) discussion with local authorities in charge of prevention/fight/management of forest fires</li> </ul>

7.1f.3	<b>Has a prevention/management plan been drawn up in areas subject to insect invasions or damage from phytopathologies?</b>	- documentation - registration of historical events	
<b>Criterion 7.1g</b> <b>The Management Plan and supporting documents shall provide: maps describing the forest resource base including protected areas, planned management activities and land ownership.</b>			
7.1g.1	<b>Are there clear and accessible maps reporting management and infrastructural activities in the short and medium term?</b>	p) Maps q) see also 2.2.1, 3.3.1, 1.7b	
<b>Criterion 7.2</b> <b>The Management Plan shall 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.</b>			
7.2.1	<b>Is there a planned system for the regular review and updating of the Management Plan, including all data from monitoring or external surveys on the area under management or similar areas?</b>	- Procedures - discussion with the Managers	
7.2.2	<b>Is an extraordinary review of the Management Plan envisaged in case of major changes in the forest area?</b>	- Procedures - discussion with the Managers	
<b>Criterion 7.3</b> <b>Forest workers shall receive adequate training and supervision to ensure proper implementation of the management plan.</b>			
7.3.1	<b>Are there detailed job descriptions with clearly described roles and responsibilities of forestry workers?</b>	- job description, roles and responsibilities, documentation, - consultation with employees	
7.3.2	<b>Are workers and the contracting forest enterprises aware of the contents of the Forest Management Plan as regards their job?</b>	- training record and and/or assignment of the procedures of competence, - discussion with employees and forest enterprises	
7.3.3	<b>Have forestry workers received training according to their roles and/or responsibilities?</b>	- training procedures, - training records - curriculum, training record. - consultation with employees	

7.3.4	<b>Do Forest Managers provide detailed information to contractors regarding specific intervention directives on the environment where they operate and on the preventive or emergency measures to be adopted according to their activities?</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Documents (machineries' information card, law provisions, etc.), discussion with the Manager and the forest enterprises, visit to the forest yard.</li> <li>- safety plan</li> <li>- Monitoring and evaluation of the procedures about safe working conditions</li> </ul>	
7.3.5	<b>Is there a system in place that monitors compliance of forest workers and contractors with all procedures, safety requirements and forest management plan requirements?</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>control/monitoring procedures</li> <li>- registration of interventions in the case of non respect of the procedures</li> <li>- discussion with the forest workers and Managers</li> </ul>	
7.3.6	Is the procedure mentioned above being implemented?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- control/monitoring procedures</li> <li>- registration of interventions in the case of non respect of the procedures</li> <li>- discussion with the forest workers and Managers</li> </ul>	
7.3.7	<b>Have Forest Managers implemented a monitoring system of any third party enterprise working on behalf the forest enterprise? Does such monitoring include employees salary (see 4.2.5) and procedures concerning the enterprise?</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Control/monitoring procedures</li> <li>- control/monitoring registrations</li> </ul>	
<b>Criterion 7.4</b> <b>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.</b>			
7.4.1	<b>Is a summary of the Management Plan available for the involved parties, upon justified request (in the respect of the privacy rules and requirements)?</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- availability of information</li> <li>- see also 9.3.2</li> </ul>	
7.4.2	<b>Does the public summary management plan include the required elements of Criterion 7.1?</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- availability of information</li> </ul>	

<b>Principle 8 MONITORING AND ASSESSMENT</b> <b>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.</b>			
<b>Criterion 8.1</b> <b>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.</b>			
8.1.1	<b>Are there systems in place for the monitoring of the environmental impact of planned and implemented operations?</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Such procedures may be reported on the Management Plan or on the attached documents</li> </ul>	
8.1.2	<b>Are the frequency and the object of monitoring determined and justified based on the scale and intensity of forest management operations as well as the complexity and fragility (vulnerability) of the involved environment?</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Monitoring procedures</li> <li>- Monitoring results</li> </ul>	
8.1.3	<b>Are monitoring procedures consistent and replicable over time to allow comparison of results and assessment of changes under way?</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Monitoring procedures</li> <li>- Monitoring results</li> </ul>	
<b>Criterion 8.2°</b> <b>Forest management should include the research and data collection needed to monitor: yield of all forest products harvested.</b>			
8.2a.1	<b>Are quantities, origin and features of harvested forest products recorded?</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- records of wood production</li> </ul>	
<b>Criterion 8.2b</b> <b>Forest management should include the research and data collection needed to monitor: growth rates, regeneration and condition of the forest.</b>			
8.2b.1	<b>If reliable information on growth rates and regeneration of some species is not available, is there an appropriate programme to gather detailed information for future planning?</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- reliable data on growth rate and regeneration</li> <li>- planning and methodology of collecting information</li> </ul>	
8.2b.2	<b>Are forest conditions regularly monitored? (e.g. presence of pests and diseases, features of the forest, spreading of exotic species, soil erosion and compaction, versant/slopes stability, frequency and seriousness of fires, biodiversity indicators, other dendrometric and silvicultural characteristics ...)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Monitoring procedures</li> <li>- collected data</li> <li>- consistency of the choice of the parameters to be monitored according to the size and intensity of the interventions of forest management as well as the complexity and weakness of the considered environment (see 8.1.2)</li> </ul>	

<b>Criterion 8.2c</b> Forest management should include the research and data collection needed to monitor: the composition and observed changes in the flora and fauna.		
8.2c.1	<b>Are sensitive areas and habitats (identified at 6.2) monitored to ensure the safeguard requirements are respected?</b>	Monitoring procedures and data
8.2c.2	<b>Are the effects of forestry operations on size and other characteristics of animal and plant species present in the area monitored (as refers to quantity, distribution, behaviour, mortality rate, ...)?</b>	Monitoring procedures and data Consistency, in the choice of the parameters to be monitored, of the scale and intensity of the interventions of forest management and of characteristics of the monitored flora and fauna (rarity, endangering risk, indicative species, etc.). (see 8.1.2)
<b>Criterion 8.2d</b> Forest management should include the research and data collection needed to monitor: environmental and social impacts of harvesting and other operations.		
8.2d.1	<b>Are regular meetings held with local communities representatives where any issue regarding the impacts (social, environmental or economic) are recorded and managed?</b>	Registrations of the meetings with local people See also 4.4.1
8.2d.2	<b>Is there a monitoring system for any impact on local communities of forest activities (e.g. water quality, presence of wildlife, new roads, ...)?</b>	Discussion with local people Monitoring procedures, collected data
8.2d.3	<b>Is the impact of forest operation monitored on cultural-recreational forest's functions, if any?</b>	Monitoring procedures, collected data
<b>Criterion 8.2e</b> Forest management should include the research and data collection needed to monitor: costs, productivity and efficiency of forest management.		
8.2e.1	<b>Are there mechanisms in place to evaluate the productivity and effectiveness of forest management?</b>	- Income statement and budget (see 5.1) - possible use of management index

<b>Criterion 8.3</b>		
<b>Documentation shall be provided by the Forest Manager to enable monitoring and certifying organisations to trace each forest product from its origin, a process known as the “chain of custody”.</b>		
8.3.1	<b>Is the forest of origin of certified forest products identified? (This may be achieved through physical marking of any timber, physical or temporal separation of activities concerning certified timber, system of paper control or a combination of all these).</b>	- documented procedures - Registration appraisal in the field
8.3.2	<b>Invoices issued for certified timber sales include at least:</b> r) the name and contact details of the client s) the origin of certified timber and the moment when the buyer acquires control of the certified timber t) the date of sale u) the quantity v) the specifications (species, dimensions, quality) w) the registration code of the certificate (when possible).	- registrations
8.3.3	<b>Are there records of the sales of certified products including at least the above mentioned data (8.3.2.)?</b>	- registrations
<b>Criterion 8.4</b>		
<b>The results of monitoring shall be incorporated into the implementation and revision of the management plan.</b>		
8.4.1	<b>Is there evidence that information gathered during the monitoring process is taken into account during Management Plan review?</b>	Documented procedures Management Plan
<b>Criterion 8.5</b>		
<b>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.</b>		
8.5.1	<b>Is a summary of monitoring activities available for the involved parties upon justified request (in the respect of the privacy rules and requirements)?</b>	- information availability
8.5.2	<b>Does the public summary of the monitoring results include the elements listed in Criterion 8.2?</b>	

<p><b>Principle 9 – MAINTENANCE OF HIGH CONSERVATION VALUE FORESTS</b>  <b>MANAGEMENT ACTIVITIES IN HIGH CONSERVATION VALUE FORESTS SHALL MAINTAIN OR ENHANCE THE ATTRIBUTES THAT DEFINE SUCH FORESTS. DECISIONS REGARDING HIGH CONSERVATION VALUE FORESTS SHALL ALWAYS BE CONSIDERED IN THE CONTEXT OF PRECAUTIONARY APPROACH.</b></p> <p>High conservation value forests are those that possess one or more of the following attributes:</p> <p>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;</p> <p>b) forest areas that are in or contain rare threatened or endangered ecosystems;</p> <p>c) forest areas that provide basic services of nature in critical situations (e.g. watershed protection, erosion control)</p> <p>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).</p>	
<p><b>Criterion 9.1</b>  <b>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?</b></p>	

9.1.1	<p><b>Has the presence of high conservation value forests been assessed?</b></p> <p><b>This indicator does not reflect the requirements of the criterion. The Criterion refers to the identification of HCV attributes, and the assessment the company has performed to determine their existence.</b></p> <p>There are recognized and documented forest representing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Protected natural habitats according to national law or representing another rare or disappearing types of ecosystems (nature reserves, ecological sites)</li> <li>• Mainstays of valuable species of plants and animals (among others – endemic, protected, endangered (NATURA 2000, nature reserves</li> <li>• Presenting features testifying the high level of naturality</li> <li>• Being the model examples of natural processes (as spontaneous fluctuation and natural tree stands dynamic, spontaneous succession</li> <li>• Particularly important for maintenance of genetic</li> <li>• Having essential cultural, historical and religious significance for local societies or another public groups</li> <li>• Forests with particularly valuable landscape</li> <li>• This requirement must be applied to all forests undergoing assessment. HCVFs possess one or more the following attributes:  Forest areas containing globally, regionally or nationally significant concentrations of</li> </ul> <p>Evaluation results biodiversity values and/or large landscape level forests where viable populations of most/all naturally occurring species exist in natural patterns of distribution and abundance;</p>	Evaluation results	
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9.1.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Rare, threatened or endangered ecosystems;</li> <li>• Forests that provide basic ecological services in critical situations (e.g. water quality or flow, protection against erosion or natural disasters such as cyclones or hurricanes, pollinators);</li> <li>• Forests fundamental to meeting basic economic or biophysiological needs of local communities or critical to local community cultural identity.</li> </ul> <p>Regional Guidance: note in the area any forest might be considered of high conservation value, according to the above mentioned definition</p>	Evaluation results	
9.1.2	<b>Have the features that attribute to the forest the definition of “high conservation value” been detected?</b>	Evaluation results Field visit	
9.1.3	<b>Any identified HCVF is mapped?</b>	Maps Field visit	
<b>Criterion 9.2</b> <b>The consultative portion of the certification process must place emphasis on the identified conservation attributes, and options for the maintenance thereof.</b>			
9.2.1	<b>The owner/manager has determined management prescriptions for the HCVF in consultation with (and acceptable to) conservation organizations, regulatory authorities and other local and national stakeholders?</b>	Evaluation results Field visit Stakeholders consultation results	
9.2.2	<b>Stakeholder consultations on HCVF was focused on the high conservation attributes, and options for their maintenance and enhancement.</b>  Guidance: Specific management prescriptions for HCVF may be related with: excluding from use, limited use, particular ways of carrying out of forest operations		
<b>Criterion 9.3</b> <b>The Management Plan shall include and implement specific measures that ensure the maintenance and/or enhancement of the applicable conservation attributes consistent with precautionary approach. These measures shall be specifically included in the publicly available management plan summary.</b>			
9.3.1	<b>Are specific measures in place aimed at maintaining or enhancing the applicable high conservation attributes?</b>	Documented and justified management strategies Management plans.	

9.3.2	<b>Are the detailed specific protection measures implemented for areas identified as “high conservation value”?</b>	Documented and justified management strategies Evidence of the implementation	
9.3.3	<b>When an HCVF has been identified for biological values, forest management:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• maintains natural patterns of distribution and abundance of species,</li> <li>• maintains natural evolutionary and ecological processes (biotic and abiotic, including disturbance),</li> <li>• avoids fragmentation, and sets aside core areas for strict protection?</li> </ul>	Evidence of the implementation	
9.3.4	<b>Are such protection measures included in the publicly available management plan summary?</b>	Evidence of the summary of the Management Plan, available to the public. See also 7.4.1	
<b>Criterion 9.4</b> Annual monitoring shall be conducted to assess the effectiveness of the measures employed to maintain or enhance the applicable conservation attributes.			
9.4.1	<b>Monitoring indicators and frequency (at least annually) are defined to monitor effectiveness of each measure employed (see point 9.3.1) to maintain or enhance the applicable conservation attributes</b>	Monitoring Plan Gathered data	
9.4.2	<b>Records of monitoring are kept and used, to adapt future management</b>	Gathered data Evidences of analysis of the data	

<b>Principle 10 - PLANTATIONS</b> PLANTATIONS SHALL BE PLANNED AND MANAGED IN ACCORDANCE WITH PRINCIPLES AND CRITERIA 1-9, AND PRINCIPLE 10 AND ITS CRITERIA. WHILE PLANTATIONS CAN PROVIDE AN ARRAY OF SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC BENEFITS, AND CAN CONTRIBUTE TO SATISFYING THE WORLDS’ NEEDS FOR FOREST PRODUCTS, THEY SHOULD COMPLEMENT THE AMANGEMENT OF REDUCE PRESSURES ON AND PROMOTE THE RESTORATION AND CONSERVATION OF NATURAL FORESTS.			
<b>Criterion 10.1</b> The management objectives of the plantation, including natural forest conservation and restoration objectives shall be explicitly stated in the management plan and demonstrated in the implementation of the plan.			
10.1.2	<b>Is there a programme including specific goals, responsibilities, resources and strategies to achieve management objectives implemented through the Management Plan or other related document?</b>	Management Programme or other similar document Field visit	
10.1.1	<b>Are conservation and restoration of natural forests included within the objectives of the management of the plantation?</b>	Management Plan of the plantation and related documents	

<b>Criterion 10.2°</b> the design and layout of plantations should promote the protection, restoration and conservation of natural forests and not increase pressures on natural forests.		
10.2a.1	Does planation layout and design protect remaining natural forests?	Management Plan
10.2a.2	Does plantation layout and design contribute to the restoration and conservation of natural forests?	Management Plan
<b>Criterion 10.2b</b> Wildlife corridors, streamside zones and a mosaic of stands of different ages and rotation periods shall be used in the layout of the plantation, consistent with the scale of the operation. The scale and the layout of plantation blocks shall be consistent with patterns of forest stands found within the natural landscape.		
10.2b.1	Are there documented procedures ensuring that: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• where there are corridors of natural vegetation by streamsid es or in gullies these are protected from planting and harvesting operations, and developed into “streamsid es reserved areas”;</li> <li>• adjoining periodically flooded areas are incorporated into the “streamsid es reserved areas”;</li> <li>• corridors for wildlife are preserved from harvesting and planting operations, or are they planned/designed in the case they do not exist?</li> </ul>	- documented procedures -site inspection
10.2b.2	Are high conservation value landscape and environment preserved, if any of them present in the plantation area? (monumental trees, springs, small wet areas, dry-stone walls, votive chapels, ...)	- Site inspection - consultation with the Forest Managers and the concerned parties
10.2b.3	Is there a management plan ensuring within the plantation scheme a mosaic of different age plantation units, with different rotation consistent with the conditions of the forest areas that are not disturbed?	- Management Plan - site inspection
10.2b.4	Does the scale and layout of the plantation correspond to patterns of forest stands found within the natural landscape?	
<b>Criterion 10.3</b> Diversity in the composition of plantations is preferred, so as to enhance economic, ecological and social stability. Such diversity may include the size and spatial distribution of management units within the landscape, number and genetic composition of species, age classes and structures.		
10.3.1	Have Forest Managers considered the possibility to introduce in the plantations local tree species that are rare or species that interest local communities?	- evidence of the importance given to the use of important or rare species for local communities.

10.3.2	<p><b>Is no more than 75% of the managed plantation taken up by a single tree species, unless this is consistent with the natural distribution pattern for the species in the concerned area?</b></p> <p>Regional Guidance: indicate the distribution of the planted species, naturally present in the area.</p>	- Management Plan	
10.3.3	<p><b>Is the plantation layout and composition enhancing economic, ecological and social stability?</b></p>	- Management Plan	
<p><b>Criterion 10.4</b>  <b>The selection of species for planting shall be based on their overall suitability for the site and their appropriateness to the management objectives. In order to enhance the conservation of biological diversity, native species are preferred over exotic species in the establishment of plantations and the restoration of degraded ecosystems. Exotic species, which shall be used only when their performance is greater than that of native species shall be carefully monitored to detect unusual mortality, disease, or insect outbreaks and adverse ecological impacts</b></p>			
10.4.1	<p><b>Is there a clear justification of species and genotypes choice selected for the plantation that takes into account the objectives of the plantation, the climate, the geology and typology of the sites?</b></p>	Justification of choices done (documents, discussion with the Forest Managers, discussions with biologists and local Environmental Associations)	
10.4.2	<p><b>When an exotic species is used, have the best alternative native species been identified and reasons of this choice explicitly justified?</b></p>	Justification of choices done (documents, discussion with the Forest Managers, discussions with biologists and local Environmental Associations)	
10.4.3	<p><b>When exotic species are used, have appropriate studies previously been carried out to avoid that:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the selected species become invasive in the area;</li> <li>• the selected species may introduce phytopathogen factors in the area.</li> </ul>	Studies	
10.4.4	<p><b>Is a protocol of intervention available for the eradication of the exotic species in the case of invasion in natural environment?</b></p>	Intervention Plan	
10.4.5	<p><b>Is there a monitoring plan in place aimed at detecting unusual mortality, disease, insects outbreaks and adverse ecological impacts?</b></p>	Intervention Plan	
<p><b>Criterion 10.5</b>  <b>A proportion of the overall forest management area, appropriate to the scale of the plantation and to be determined in regional standards shall be managed so as to restore the site to a natural forest cover.</b></p>			

10.5.1	<b>In line with criterion 6.2, is at least the 10% of the plantation area managed to have as a major objective the conservation and enhancement of biodiversity and natural characteristics.</b>	Maps Site evaluation Management Plan or other similar document	
10.5.2	<b>In line with criterion 6.2, is at least the 5% of the plantation area managed to restore in the area a portion of natural forest?</b>	Maps Site evaluation Management Plan or other similar document	
10.5.3	<b>Are such areas principally destined to become forestry vegetation belts, such as wind breaks (microclimate mitigation) and/or tampon belt for control of the running off of soil nutrients to water ways?</b>	Maps Site evaluation Management Plan or other similar document	
<b>Criterion 10.6</b> <b>Measures shall be taken to maintain or improve soil structure, fertility and biological activity. The techniques and rate of harvesting, road trail construction and maintenance, and the choice of species shall not result in long term soil degradation or adverse impacts on water quality, quantity or substantial deviation from stream course drainage patterns.</b>			
10.6.1	<b>Is the irrigation system implemented through appropriate techniques that maximise the saving of water resources and minimise risk of soil erosion as well as changes in the natural water drainage system?</b>	Management Plan Site inspection Discussion with the Managers	
10.6.2	<b>Are procedures for the reforestation after harvesting designed to ensure as soon as possible a new forest tree cover to protect bare soil?</b>	Procedures Site inspection	
10.6.3	<b>Are forest operations and techniques, the rate of harvesting, and road construction and maintenance adapted to the local conditions in order to avoid soil degradation or adverse impacts on water quality?</b>		
10.6.4	<b>Does the choice of species guarantee that no negative effects on soil and water resources will be observed in the future?</b>		
<b>Criterion 10.7</b> <b>Measures shall be taken to prevent and minimise outbreaks of pests, diseases, fire and invasive plant introductions. Integrated pest management shall form an essential part of the management plan, with primary reliance on prevention and biological control methods rather than chemical pesticides and fertilizers. Plantation management should make every effort to move away from chemical pesticides and fertilizers, including their use in nurseries. The use of chemicals is also covered in Criteria 6.6 and 6.7.</b>			
10.7.1	<b>Is the use of fertilizers and chemicals minimised ?</b>	Management Plan Site inspection Discussion with the Managers	

10.7.2	<b>Is the natural grass cover of forest tracks and the constitution of a natural shrubs layer under plantation encouraged, according to productive and management needs?</b>	Management Plan Site inspection	
10.7.3	<b>Has an integrated pest management strategy been designed and implemented?</b>	Planning and management documents <u>see</u> 6.6 for further norms concerning the use of chemicals	
10.7.4	<b>Has the need of having an Emergency Plan against Fires and invasive species been appraised (see7.1)?</b>	Documents Emergency Plan MEETING AND DISCUSSION WITH THE CONCERNED PARTIES TO EVALUATE THE FREQUENCE AND SERIOUSNESS OF FIRES IN THE AREA	
<b>Criterion 10.8</b> <b>Appropriate to the scale and diversity of the operation, monitoring of plantations shall include regular assessment of potential on-site and off-site ecological and social impacts, (e.g. natural regeneration, effects on water resources and soil fertility, and impacts on local welfare and social-being), in addition to those elements addressed in principles 8, 6 and 4. No species should be planted on a large scale until local trials and/or experience have shown that they are ecologically well-adapted to the site are not invasive and do not have significant negative ecological impacts on other ecosystems. Special attention will be paid to social issues of land acquisition for plantations, especially the protection of local rights of ownership, use or access.</b>			
10.8.1	<b>Are large scale plantations of species that have not been shown to be suitable for the area on the basis of studies or previous experiences carried out in the same area, absent?</b>	Monitoring documents, studies carried out by experts Management Plan	
10.8.2	<b>Is there a plantation monitoring plan in place that includes regular assessment of potential environmental and social impacts (on and off-site) available?</b>		
10.8.3	<b>Plantations have not been established in areas with sensitive or rare ecosystems, in totally protected areas, in areas where a plantation may have negative impacts on water resources or on the welfare of local communities.</b>	MANAGEMENT PLAN Meeting and discussion with local biologists	
10.8.4	<b>For any new plantation placed where indigenous people live, is an evaluation previously carried out on social impacts that such activity may generate?</b>	Social impact evaluation	

<b>Criterion 10.9</b>			
<b>Plantations established in areas converted from natural forests after November 1994 normally shall not qualify for certification. Certification may be allowed in circumstances where sufficient evidence is submitted to the certification body that the manager/owner is not responsible directly or indirectly for such conversion.</b>			
10.9.1	<b>The conversion of natural forest areas (also if crossed by fire) into plantation is forbidden.</b>	x) y)	no evidence of recent conversion from natural forest to plantation no evidence of such activities planning
10.9.2	<b>Are there evidences that plantation is established on land converted from natural forest before November 1<sup>st</sup> 1994, unless there is clear evidence that the current owner/manager were not directly or indirectly responsible for the conversion.</b>	z) aa)	Evidence of the previous land use Starting date of the plantation