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| **FSC Standards 2010 – Compliance with Laws (Principle 1)** |
| Criterion 1.1 | Forest management shall respect all national and local laws and administrative requirements. |
| Criterion 1.3 | The provisions of all binding international agreements shall be respected such as CITES, ILO Conventions, ITTA, and Convention on Biological Diversity. |
| **Project Indicators to Ensure Compliance to Principle** |
| Theme | Indicator | Reference | Requirement for Verification  |
| Respect Applicable Laws | Knowledge of Laws and History of Compliance | * Relevant legislative and regulatory requirements.
* Training procedures and materials.
 | * Documents showing legal registration of enterprise.
* 5-Yr history of compliance, correction and prevention of any reoccurrence of non-compliance.
* Copies of all applicable laws and other regulatory requirements, and evidence of procedures for training all employees and contractors about relevant codes of practice. (Large Enterprises)
 |
| Respect Binding International Agreements | Knowledge of Agreements and History of Compliance | * Provisions of all binding international agreements.

CITES (the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora) is an international agreement between governments. Its aim is to ensure that international trade in specimens of wild animals and plants does not threaten their survival. | * No substantiated evidence of any non-compliance.
* The forest management enterprise shall list of all locally occurring species that are listed by CITES. (Large Enterprises)
* The forest management enterprise shall have copies of national legislation and/or administrative requirements relating to the implementation of CITES obligations at the national level, and ensures that these requirements are implemented (Large Enterprises)
* Forest managers shall be aware of the national strategies, plans or programmes for the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity in the country in which they operate, and shall demonstrate how the management of the land for which they are responsible contributes to these national obligations. (Large Enterprises)
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| **FSC Standards 2010 – Sites of Special Ecological Significance to Indigenous Peoples (Principle 3.3)** |
| Criterion 3.3.1 | The enterprise shall make systematic efforts, in cooperation with local Indigenous Peoples, to identify and protect areas of cultural, historical, or religious, subsistence, or economic significance to those peoples. |
| Criterion 3.3.6 | Sites of cultural, religious, ecological, or economic significance shall be delineated on maps or marked in the field and shall be known to relevant forest workers. Where such identification of sites would threaten the value or protection of the sites, general descriptions of the areas or site types (e.g. “plant gathering”) shall still be given, and protection must still be ensured. |
| **Project Indicators to Ensure Compliance to Principle** |
| Theme | Indicator | Reference | Requirement for Verification  |
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| **FSC Standards 2010 – Benefits from the Forest (Principle 5)** |
| Criterion 5.1 | Forest management should strive toward economic viability, while taking into account the full environmental, social, and operational costs of production, and ensuring the investments necessary to maintain the ecological productivity of the forest. |
| Criterion 5.3 | Forest management should minimize waste associated with harvesting and onsite processing operations and avoid damage to other forest resources. |
| Criterion 5.5 | Forest management operations shall recognize, maintain, and, where appropriate, enhance the value of forest services and resources such as watersheds and fisheries. |
| Criterion 5.6 | The rate of harvest of forest products shall not exceed levels which can bepermanently sustained |
| **Project Indicators to Ensure Compliance to Principle** |
| Theme | Indicator | Reference | Requirement for Verification  |
| Economic Viability | Budgets and Financial Plans | * Availability of financial resources to follow-through with project plan including environmental protections.
 | * There shall be a budget showing the expected costs and revenues for the forest management enterprise for at least the current financial year.
* The budget shall include costs for all significant activities and necessary investments (including the cost of meeting all social and environmental commitments) identified or implied in the forest
* The costs estimates in the budget shall be reasonable.
* The revenue estimates shall be reasonable, and consistent with the expected rate of harvest of forest products and/or provision of other products or services.
* If the budget shows a deficit for the year, the forest manager shall demonstrate how the shortfall
* The enterprise shall maintain up-to-date accounts which allow the estimates of costs and revenues to be verified over time.
* There shall be a financial plan which estimates the cost and expected revenue from implementing the forest management plan (including social and environmental commitments) over at least the following five-year period. (Large Enterprises)
* The costs and revenue estimates in the financial plan shall be reasonable. (Large Enterprises)
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| Avoid Damage to Other Forest Resources | Minimize Waste, Use of Best Harvesting Practices, Use of Mill Incentives | * Information on best harvesting practices and efficient mill conversion techniques.
 | * Harvesting techniques shall be designed to avoid log breakage, timber degrade and damage to the forest stand.
* Felling debris (branches, tops, etc) shall be used to protect soils on skid trails.
* Harvested and processed wood and/or products processed on-site shall be transported from the forest before any deterioration occurs.
* Removal of unused biomass shall be minimized; branches and bark pieces remain in the forest, as far as possible, and whole tree harvesting shall not practiced.
* Strategic and tactical/ operational harvest planning and harvest operations shall be carried out in accordance with national best practice guidelines. (Large Enterprises)
* Large scale maps shall be developed for all compartments prior to harvesting, identifying compartment boundaries, protected areas, extraction routes and depots within the compartment, and storage sites for consumer and production wastes. (Large Enterprises)
* Timber harvest operations shall be carried out in strict compliance with such maps. (Large Enterprises)
* Defensible targets shall be set, monitored and achieved for the level of waste to be left on site. NB: Targets for wood waste may vary between stands and forest types, and shall be dependent on a number of factors, including stand age, extent of decay in standing and down trees, and objectives for coarse woody debris. In most cases, the volume of on-site waste and breakage (excluding decay) will not exceed 5% of net stand volume. (Large Enterprises)
* The system for paying field workers and contractors shall include incentives and disincentives which take account not only production but also the quality of work and the minimization of damage to the forest. (Large Enterprises)
* In the case of on-site processing facilities (e.g. saw milling) the conversion rate of timber to processed product shall be in line with best practice for the type of equipment in use. (Large Enterprises)
* The enterprise shall implement a formal, documented system of Reduced Impact Logging (RIL) consistent with international guidelines such as the *FAO Model Code of Forest Harvesting.* (Large Tropical Forest)
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| **E**nhance Value of Forest Services and Resources | Municipal watersheds, upstream and downstream commercial and recreational fisheries, landscape quality, contributions to regional biodiversity, recreation and tourism | * Identification and Protection
 | * The full range of forest services and resources (including, for example, municipal watersheds, upstream and downstream commercial and recreational fisheries, landscape quality, and the forest's contribution to regional biodiversity, recreation and tourism) shall be identified in the forest management plan (or equivalent documentation) for the enterprise. (Large Enterprises)
* The management plan (or equivalent documentation) shall include a qualitative and/or quantitative evaluation of the value of such resources, accompanied by maps if appropriate. (Large Enterprises)
* The management plan (or equivalent documentation) shall specify appropriate measures to maintain and/or enhance the value of each identified forest service or resource. (Large Enterprises)
* Forest management operations shall have no significant negative impact on the forest's services and resources (including, for example, municipal watersheds, upstream and downstream commercial and recreational fisheries, landscape quality, contributions to regional biodiversity, recreation and tourism) are recognised in the forest management plan for the enterprise). (For Small and Low Intensity Managed Forests)
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| Sustainable Harvest Rate | Allowable Cut | * Restrictions and record keeping
 | * The enterprise shall have a clear methodology to determine the allowable cut.
* The allowable cut shall not jeopardize the forest's productive potential or potential to maintain its environmental or social services in the medium to long term.
* The enterprise shall keep clear, accurate and up-to-date records of harvested volumes of all commercial timber species, and of the commercial harvest of any non-timber forest products.
* The harvesting of NTFPs shall not exceed estimated replenishment rates over the long term.
* The expected level of harvesting on an annual basis over the next five years, and in the long term (over more than one rotation) shall be clearly stated. (Large Enterprises)
* The expected level of harvesting shall be clearly justified in terms of the permanently sustainable yield of the forest products on which the management plan is based. (Large Enterprises)
* All assumptions regarding regeneration, growth, abundance, quality and size distribution of the main commercial species shall be explicit and are in line with the best available data for the locality from relevant research and/or inventories. (Large Enterprises)
* Data on growth, regeneration and volumes harvested and/or thinned shall be reported regularly and analysed in comparison with predicted volumes and growth data. (Large Enterprises)
* Harvest levels shall not exceed growth levels for the resources being harvested and the cycle proposed. (For Small and Low Intensity Managed Forests)
* When stock levels and growth are not well known (e.g. for certain NTFP species) the forest operation shall use conservative harvesting levels. (For Small and Low Intensity Managed Forests)
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| **FSC Standards 2010 – Environmental Impact (Principle 6)** |
| Criterion 6.1 | Assessment of environmental impacts shall be completed -- appropriate to the scale, intensity of forest management and the uniqueness of the affected resources -- and adequately integrated into management systems. Assessments shall include landscape level considerations as well as the impacts of on-site processing facilities. Environmental impacts shall be assessed prior to commencement of site-disturbing operations. |
| Criterion 6.2 | Safeguards shall exist which protect rare, threatened and endangered species and their habitats (e.g., nesting and feeding areas). Conservation zones and protection areas shall be established, appropriate to the scale and intensity of forest management and the uniqueness of the affected resources. Inappropriate hunting, fishing, trapping and collecting shall be controlled. |
| Criterion 6.3 | Ecological functions and values shall be maintained intact, enhanced, or restored, including:a) Forest regeneration and succession.b) Genetic, species, and ecosystem diversity.c) Natural cycles that affect the productivity of the forest ecosystem**.** |
| Criterion 6.4 | Representative samples of existing ecosystems within the landscape shall be protected in their natural state and recorded on maps, appropriate to the scale and intensity of operations and the uniqueness of the affected resources. |
| Criterion 6.5 | Written guidelines shall be prepared and implemented to: control erosion; minimize forest damage during harvesting, road construction, and all other mechanical disturbances; and protect water resources. |
| 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. World Health Organization Type 1A and 1B and chlorinated hydrocarbon pesticides; pesticides that are persistent, toxic or whose derivatives remain biologically active and accumulate in the food chain beyond their intended use; as well as any pesticides banned by international agreement, shall be prohibited. If chemicals are used, proper equipment and training shall be provided to minimize health and environmental risks. |
| Criterion 6.7 | Chemicals, containers, liquid and solid non-organic wastes including fuel and oil shall be disposed of in an environmentally appropriate manner at off-site locations. |
| Criterion 6.8 | Use of biological control agents shall be documented, minimized, monitored and strictly controlled in accordance with national laws and internationally accepted scientific protocols. Use of genetically modified organisms shall be prohibited. |
| Criterion 6.9 | The use of exotic species shall be carefully controlled and actively monitored to avoid adverse ecological impacts. |
| Criterion 6.10 | Forest conversion to plantations or non-forest land uses shall not occur, except in circumstances where conversion:a) entails a very limited portion of the forest management unit; andb) does not occur on high conservation value forest areas; andc) will enable clear, substantial, additional, secure, long term conservation benefits across the forest management unit. |
| **Project Indicators to Ensure Compliance to Principle** |
| Theme | Indicator | Reference | Requirement for Verification  |
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| **FSC Standards 2010 – Management Plan (Principle 7)** |
| Criterion 7.1 | The management plan and supporting documents shall include:b) Description of the forest resources to be managed, environmental limitations, land use and ownership status, socio-economic conditions, and a profile of adjacent lands.c) Description of silvicultural and/or other management system, based on the ecology of the forest in question and information gathered through resource inventories.d) Rationale for rate of annual harvest and species selection.e) Provisions for monitoring of forest growth and dynamics.f) Environmental safeguards based on environmental assessments.g) Plans for the identification and protection of rare, threatened and endangered |
| Criterion 7.2 | The management plan shall be periodically revised to incorporate the results of monitoring or new scientific and technical information, as well as to respond to changing environmental, social and economic circumstances. |
| Criterion 7.3 | Forest workers shall receive adequate training and supervision to ensure proper implementation of the management plan. |
| Criterion 7.4 | While respecting the confidentiality of information, forest managers shall make publicly available a summary of the primary elements of the management plan, including those listed in Criterion 7.1. |
| **Project Indicators to Ensure Compliance to Principle** |
| Theme | Indicator | Reference | Requirement for Verification  |
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| **FSC Standards 2010 – Monitoring (Principle 8)** |
| Criterion 8.1 | The frequency and intensity of monitoring should be determined by the scale and intensity of forest management operations as well as the relative complexity and fragility of the affected environment. Monitoring procedures should be consistent and replicable over time to allow comparison of results and assessment of change. |
| Criterion 8.2 | Forest management should include the research and data collection needed to monitor, at a minimum, the following indicators:a) Yield of all forest products harvested.b) Growth rates, regeneration and condition of the forest.c) Composition and observed changes in the flora and fauna.d) Environmental and social impacts of harvesting and other operations.e) Costs, productivity, and efficiency of forest management. |
| Criterion 8.4 | The results of monitoring shall be incorporated into the implementation and revision of the management plan. |
| Criterion 8.5 | While respecting the confidentiality of information, forest managers shall make publicly available a summary of the results of monitoring indicators, including those listed in Criterion 8.2. |
| **Project Indicators to Ensure Compliance to Principle** |
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| **FSC Standards 2010 – Maintenance of High Conservation Value Forests (Principle 9)** |
| Criterion 9.1 | Assessment to determine the presence of the attributes consistent with High Conservation Value Forests will be completed, appropriate to scale and intensity of forest management. |
| Criterion 9.2 | The consultative portion of the certification process must place emphasis on the identified conservation attributes, and options for the maintenance thereof. |
| Criterion 9.3 | The management plan shall include and implement specific measures that ensure the maintenance and/or enhancement of the applicable conservation attributes consistent with the precautionary approach. These measures shall be specifically included in the publicly available management plan summary. |
| Criterion 9.4 | Annual monitoring shall be conducted to assess the effectiveness of the measures employed to maintain or enhance the applicable conservation attributes. |
| **Project Indicators to Ensure Compliance to Principle** |
| Theme | Indicator | Reference | Requirement for Verification  |
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| **FSC Standards 2010 – Plantations (Principle 10)** |
| Principle | 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 world's needs for forest products, they should complement the management of, reduce pressures on, and promote the restoration and conservation of natural forests. |
| **Project Indicators to Ensure Compliance to Principle** |
| Theme | Indicator | Reference | Requirement for Verification  |
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