



Forest Stewardship Council®



# Guideline for Standard Developers for addressing risk of unacceptable activities in regard to scale and intensity

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## **Guideline for Standard Developers for addressing risk of unacceptable activities in regard to scale and intensity**

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The Forest Stewardship Council® (FSC) is an independent, not for profit, non-government organization established to support environmentally appropriate, socially beneficial, and economically viable management of the world's forests.

FSC's vision is that the world's forests meet the social, ecological, and economic rights and needs of the present generation without compromising those of future generations.

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## A Objective

The objectives of this guideline are to provide a generic framework for Standard Developers to:

- Address risk of unacceptable activities in regard to scale and intensity;
- Effectively and efficiently manage risk for unacceptable negative impact in the national context;
- Recognize that risk of negative activities is a function of scale, intensity and context. Other words: SIR stands for scale +intensity + context = risk
- Recognize that SIR is primarily related to the impact of management activities and is not directly related to the category of landowner, tenure type nor the size of the Organization or the Management Unit;
- Recognize that risk is the likelihood or probability of an event with negative consequences on economic, environmental and social values, combined with the seriousness of those consequences;\_and
- Recognize, through the analysis and sample indicators in the SIR Matrix, of how SIR applies to each Criterion.

## B Scope

This guideline is intended for use by Standard Development Groups in developing, revising and transferring National Forest Stewardship Standards, and by Certification Bodies in developing Interim National Standards (former 'CB standards'). Collectively, Standard Development Groups and Certification Bodies are referred to as 'Standard Developers'.

NOTE: for simplification, we refer in this guideline to 'national standards'. This term refers both to 'National Forest Stewardship Standards' and 'Interim National Standards'.

## C Effective and validity dates

Approval date	23 March 2016
Publication date	Target: 01 May 2016
Effective date	Target: 01 May 2016
Period of validity	Until 01 May 2020 (or until replaced or withdrawn)

## D References

The following referenced documents are relevant for the application of this document. For references without a version number, the latest edition of the referenced document (including any amendments) applies:

FSC-STD-01-001	Principles & Criteria.
FSC-STD-01-003	SLIMF eligibility criteria.

FSC-STD-60-004	International Generic Indicators.
FSC-STD-60-002	Structure and Content of National Forest Stewardship Standards.
FSC-STD-60-006	Process Requirements for the Development and Maintenance of National Forest Stewardship Standards
FSC-STD-20-007	Forest management evaluations.
FSC-PRO-60-006	Development and Transfer of National Forest Stewardship Standards to the FSC Principles and Criteria Version 5-1.

## E Terms and definitions

For the purpose of this document, the terms and definitions provided in FSC-STD-60-004 *FSC International Generic Indicators*, FSC-STD-01-002 *FSC Glossary of terms*, and the following apply:

**FSC-accredited Certification Body:** enterprise appointed by FSC AC to undertake FSC certification audits of applicants for the FSC Certification Scheme and the surveillance of certified Organizations against the FSC Certification Requirements

(Source: based on *FSC-STD-01-002 FSC Glossary of Terms*).

**FSC-endorsed Standard Development Group:** The body recognized by the FSC to develop trans-national, supra-national, national and/or sub-national standards in its specified territory in accordance with FSC requirements. The Standard Development Group is not required to be an independent legal entity. It may be a committee or working group established for the purpose of standards development either as a function within an FSC Network Partner or separate from it. It may be a separate organization contracted by the FSC Network Partner, FSC Regional Office or FSC Policy and Standards Unit to carry out standards development on its behalf.

(Source: based on *FSC-STD-60-006 Process requirements for the development and maintenance of National Forest Stewardship Standards*).

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

(Source: *FSC-STD-01-002 FSC Glossary of Terms*).

**SIR** means Scale, Intensity and context that determines Risk

**SIR indicator:** A variance of an *indicator* included in a national standard that is applicable to a specific type of Organization or to a level of impact of the management activities, depending on scale, intensity and context that determines risk. SIR indicators are developed based on consensus by Standard Developers, for instance by following the (FSC-GUI-60-002)

**Standard Developers:** FSC-endorsed Standard Development Groups and FSC-accredited Certification Bodies

## **F Guidance**

### **Part I INSTRUCTIONS FOR STANDARDS DEVELOPERS**

#### **1. Introduction**

As a new concept introduced by the Principles and Criteria Version 5-2 (P&C), Scale, Intensity and Risk (SIR) introduces elements that have often been addressed separately and in different ways within the FSC system. The concept of SIR is based on the assumption that these factors determine the likelihood of potential unacceptable negative impacts to economic, environmental and social values and thereby non-compliance with the P&C. More specifically, risk of negative activities is a function of scale, intensity and context:

Risk = scale + intensity + context

The P&C are generally independent of scale and intensity of management activities. All certified Management Units (MU) must be in conformance with all P&C. As a result, some FSC requirements are not adjustable for SIR. For example, compliance with laws is always obligatory across all scales and intensities of management. Likewise, respecting the rights of local communities and Indigenous Peoples is not dependent on SIR, recognizing that the Indigenous Peoples or the local community could also be the manager.

Separately, the concepts of scale and intensity have always been in the P&C, making it clear to forest managers that many of their management decisions should be based on the scale, in both area and time, and the intensity of their activities. The belief was that the smaller the area of the MU, and the lower the intensity and frequency of activities in the forest, the lower the risk or likelihood of potential unacceptable negative impacts from management activities.

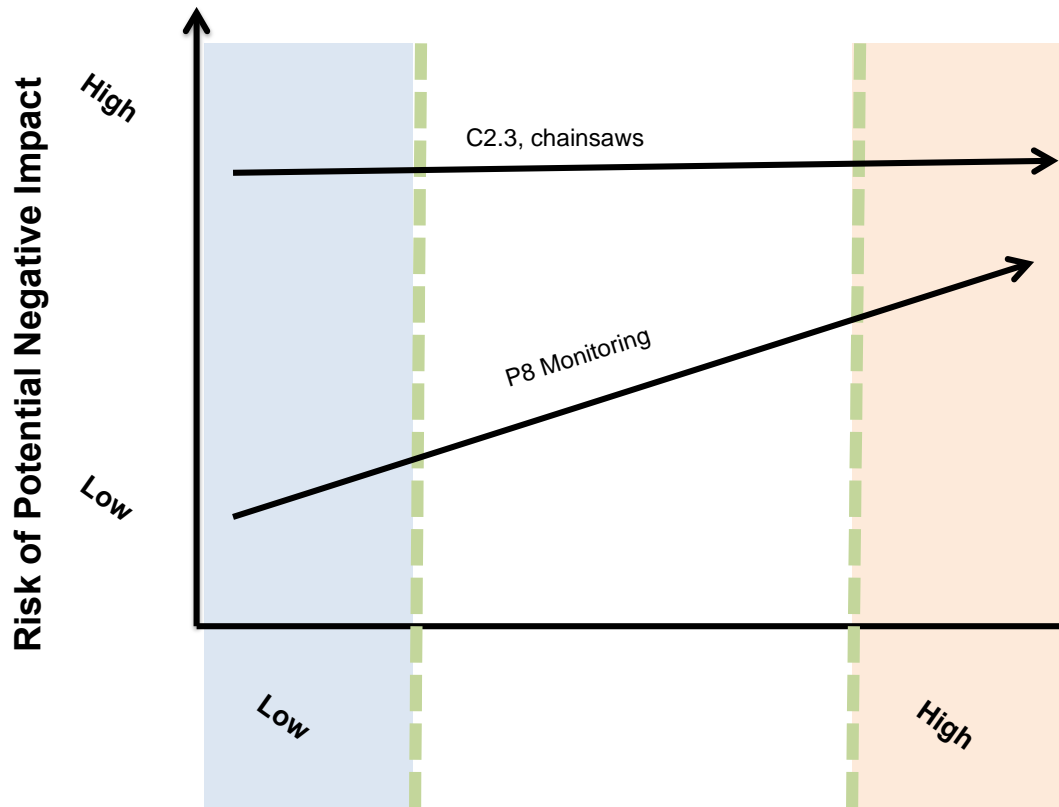
In some jurisdictions standards were developed for small organizations, resulting in Small and Low Intensity Managed Forests (SLIMF) standards. SLIMF standards were based on the assumption that the management activities of these smaller operations would have less potential unacceptable negative impact on social, economic and ecological values. SLIMF implied, for example, that FSC certified activities in MUs smaller than 100 ha were unlikely to have potential unacceptable negative impacts on landscape level values including rare threatened and endangered species or representative sample areas.

However, if these MUs are located within the habitat for a rare species that depends on old growth forests, then timber cutting and road building could in fact have an unacceptable negative impact, regardless of the scale of the Organization or the intensity of its activities.

This means that context is important. The location of the MU in the broader landscape, the specific forest type and condition, the forest management history and the specific activities being implemented are important factors that greatly influence the potential unacceptable negative impact of management activities. Likewise the number of forest dependent communities within and adjacent to the MU, the overall economic impact of the organization to local communities and the degree to which the rights of Indigenous Peoples are recognized also influence the potential unacceptable negative impact of management activities. Figure 1 provides some examples of how these elements interrelate.

To address this, SIR has been introduced into the P&C to be considered at the Criterion level. The SIR approach provides an important opportunity for risk management based

on the potential unacceptable negative impact of management activities. As Figure 1 illustrates, not all activities are proportionate to scale and intensity, but rather are based on the potential unacceptable negative impact of activities. For example, the amount of monitoring required is proportionate to the scale of the Organization and the intensity of the management activities. However, in the case of the use of chainsaws, the size of the Organization and the intensity of its management activities are not relevant. Chainsaws are always dangerous and require the same degree of training, protective equipment, and supervision regardless of scale and intensity.



### Manager's Level of Effort Required to Meet the Standards

Figure 1. Risk of potential negative impact and the level of effort required to meet the standard. Some activities, such as monitoring are proportionate to scale and intensity, while others, such as safe chainsaw use, are independent of scale and intensity

The capability to manage risk may also vary depending on the type and size of the Organization, as well as on the context of its operations. Organizations with greater capacity may be positioned to effectively manage, and reduce, higher levels of risk because of access to newer equipment, greater financial resources, more trained workers, etc. By comparison, small Organizations sometimes do not have the resources and skills to conduct extensive assessments, especially when the risk is low of unacceptable negative impacts from management activities. As a result, the appropriate approach to risk is based on performance outcomes rather than process or systems outcomes.

Finally, the risk of negative impacts from management activities occurs at the global, national, landscape and stand level. At the national scale, different countries have different regulatory frameworks and enforcement regimes. This needs to be taken into account by SDGs when developing standards. As a result, SIR should be seen as an overall approach to reduce the risk of unacceptable negative impact on economic, environmental and social values.

## 2. SIR Indicators

The P&C V5 introduced SIR as a new concept into the FSC system. It applies all through the standard but is explicitly mentioned in Principles 7 & 8 and in the following Criteria: 1.7, 2.3, 4.3, 4.4, 4.5, 5.1, 5.4, 5.5, 6.1, 6.2, 6.3, 6.4, 6.5, 7.1, 7.2, 7.6, 8.5, 9.1, 9.3, 9.4, and 10.9.

Standards Developers are recommended to develop SIR indicators for all of these Criteria where scale, intensity and risk are explicitly mentioned. Standards Developers may also choose to develop additional SIR indicators for other criteria.

SIR indicators must meet the formal requirements for indicators as specified in FSC-STD-60-002 *Structure and Content of National Forest Stewardship Standards* Section 4. SIR indicators should generally be performance oriented, giving preference to in-the-field outcomes over systems or process approaches. However, some process-oriented indicators are necessary to implement the P&C, including by providing information or systems to support good field performance.

Standards Developers are recommended to have three variances of indicators for each SIR Criterion:

- Low potential impact indicators, for management activities with low potential unacceptable negative impacts; and
- Standard potential impact indicators for management activities with standard (“non-low”) potential unacceptable negative impacts.
- High potential impact indicators, for management activities with high potential unacceptable negative impacts. Refer to Annex 1 for additional information about Large Scale Forestry Operations.

Even if theoretically possible, Standard Developers are not recommended to develop more than three SIR variances for indicators, as this could become difficult to manage. SIR indicators should be included in the body of national standards and shall include measurable thresholds for each category.

## 3. Managing for Risk across the FSC Network

While the application of SIR is new with the P&C, FSC manages risk throughout the global system. For example, the P&C are based on the precautionary approach, three chambers govern the FSC, Controlled Wood includes a risk assessment and ASI ensures global consistency. The following table provides examples of how risk is addressed throughout the global FSC system.

Part of the FSC Network	How is Risk Addressed?
FSC International Centre	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• P&amp;C</li> <li>• Chamber Balance</li> <li>• Precautionary Approach</li> </ul>



<b>Part of the FSC Network</b>	<b>How is Risk Addressed?</b>
Policy and Standards Unit	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Developed International Generic Indicators</li> <li>• Transfer Procedure</li> </ul>
Standard Development Groups	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chamber Balance</li> <li>• IGI</li> <li>• Local expertise</li> </ul>
Certificate Holder	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Staff has expertise</li> <li>• Follows National Forest Stewardship Standards</li> <li>• Organization has management rights</li> </ul>
Certification Body	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provides third party evaluation</li> <li>• Adheres to FSC dispute resolution process</li> </ul>
Accreditation Services International	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ensures global consistency</li> <li>• Adheres to FSC dispute resolution process</li> </ul>

That risk is managed across the FSC network is important for Standard Developers and managers to understand because while SIR is new to the P&C, managing risk is a fundamental part of the FSC.

## **Part II DEFINITION OF SCALE, INTENSITY AND CONTEXT THAT DETERMINES RISK**

### **4. What is Scale?**

In the FSC forest certification 'scale' usually refers to the size or extent of the MU. This is typically measured in hectares based on the physical size of the MU.

Scale can also refer to parts of the MU over which operational activities take place such as road building, harvesting or the application of pesticides. An activity with a small or low spatial scale affects only a small proportion of the MU each year. An activity with a small or low temporal scale occurs for a short period of time or only at long intervals. Standards Developers are encouraged to define thresholds for these aspects of scale at the national or regional level.

### **5. What is Intensity?**

Until recently, FSC has defined intensity based on the level of harvest within the MU. While this has facilitated straightforward thresholds for the development of SLIMF standards, it has not addressed the full scope of the intensity of management activities.

Intensity is a measure of the force, severity or strength of the impact of a management activity on environmental, social or economic values. In the context of forest management, intensity is generally linked to site disturbing activities, such as harvesting machinery, soil preparation, use of pesticides, etc.

Management activities with high intensity often have high direct or indirect impacts on environmental, social or economic values. An activity with a low intensity is expected to have less of an impact on a particular value, or on values in general. Standards

Developers are encouraged to define thresholds for intensity at the national or regional level.

## 6. What is risk?

Risk refers to the likelihood or probability of an event with negative consequences, and also the seriousness of those consequences. Within the FSC system, risk refers especially to the probability of an unacceptable negative impact, caused by any activity in the MU, sufficiently serious to result in non-compliance at the Criterion level. Risk is an inherent in forest management generally. The key is to identify risk with potential unacceptable negative impacts in the context that determines risk. Figure 2 provides examples of this. Note that these examples are context dependent and should not be interpreted in absolute terms.

For SDGs, national standards should make clear that the assessment of risk should take into account the inherent vulnerability, resilience and sensitivity to disturbance of each value, as well as the proximity of management activities to high ecological, social or economic values. The identification of uncertainties and the adequacy of data and information used in making a risk determination should also be considered. Where significant uncertainties exist, risk determinations should be guided by the precautionary principle. Standards Developers are encouraged to define thresholds and methodologies for determining risk at the national or regional level.

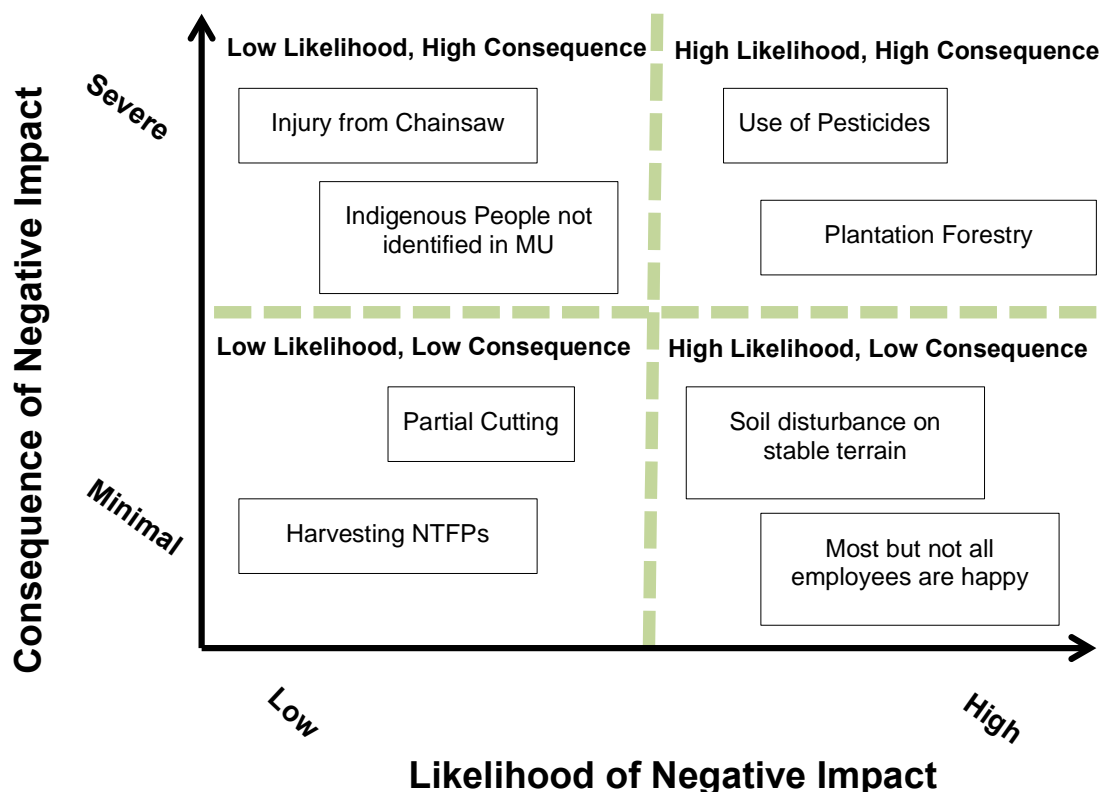


Figure 2. An activity's risk is based on the likelihood of negative impacts combined with the consequence of negative impacts in the particular context. This means that the higher the probability of negative impact, the greater the risk. Likewise, this

means that the more severe the potential consequence, the greater the risk. This highlights the importance of risk assessments to determine the potential unacceptable negative impact of management activities in each special context of the national standard.

## **Part III DEVELOPING SIR INDICATORS**

### **7. The Application of SIR**

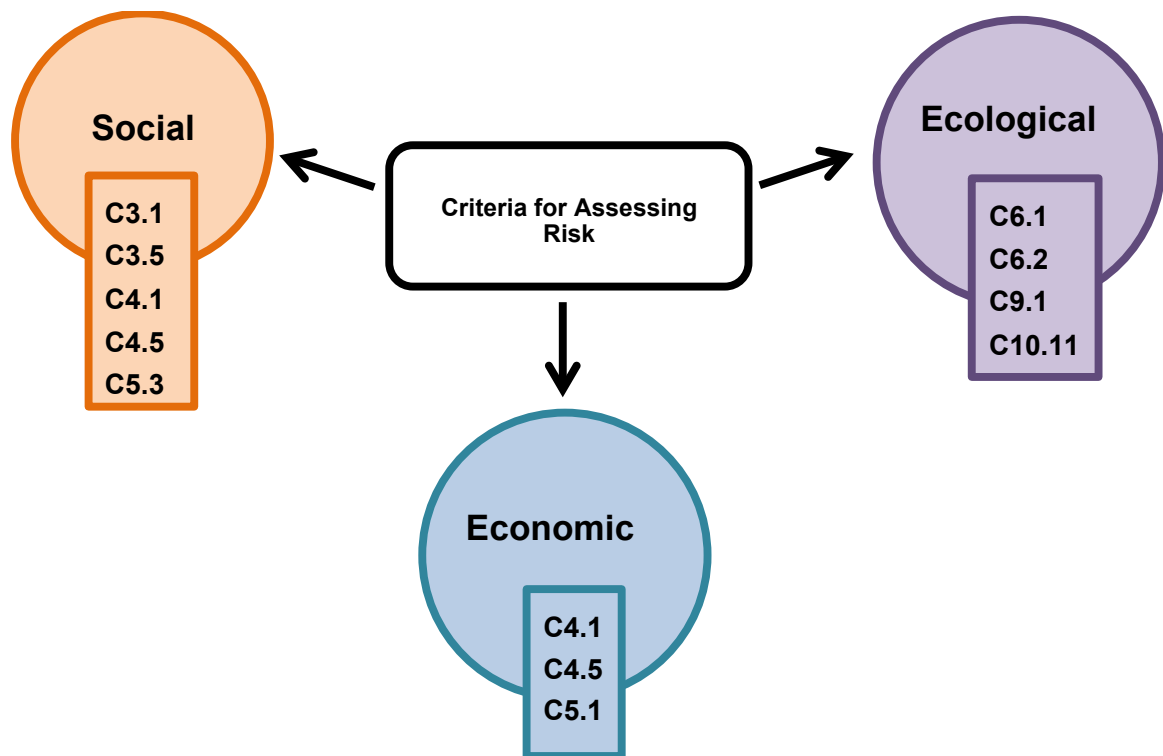
Risk is proportional to the potential unacceptable negative impact of management activities on economic, environmental and cultural values. Taken together, SIR is particularly applicable in cases where management activities could reasonably be intensified, or may reasonably be reduced, based on the risk of unacceptable negative impacts.

For example, road building always carries risks of erosion and damage to water quality and quantity. The consequence from unacceptable negative impacts from management activities increases with proximity to domestic use water intakes or spawning habitat for fish. As a result, the forest manager building roads close to sensitive ecosystems and habitats will need to do more extensive terrain stability mapping, budget for better construction methods and ensure increased monitoring during the rainy season in order to reduce the risk of unacceptable negative impacts.

The application of SIR requires that risk be determined potential unacceptable negative impact of management activities. This means large scale does not mean high risk in all cases. For example, the relative proportion of a conservation area required is dependent on the ecological and cultural values within and adjacent to the MU. This is because the risk of unacceptable negative impact from management activities increases with the abundance of values. The higher the occurrence of rare and endangered species, the more conservation areas representing high quality habitat are required. Likewise, the more fragmented the landscape within and adjacent to the MU, the more conservation areas representing high quality habitat are required.

The application of SIR provides Standard Developers with the opportunity to define the type of evidence required to demonstrate conformance with the P&C based on the potential for unacceptable negative impacts on social, economic or environmental values. The scale and intensity of management activities and the environmental and cultural context of the MU can affect this potential unacceptable negative impact. These factors, both internal and external to the Organization, contribute to the risk of unacceptable negative impacts to environmental, economic or social values.

Forest managers assess risk on a daily basis, either formally or informally, in their planning, operations and monitoring. The FSC P&C require the assessment of risk of unacceptable impacts to ecological, social and economic values through several criteria, as illustrated in Figure 3.



### Criteria used for Assessing Risk of Management Activities

Figure 3: Conceptual diagram showing where the risk of potential unacceptable negative impact of management activities may be determined under different Criteria. Forest managers may choose to use these criteria or develop their own approach, based on regional, national or company specific best practices.

## 8. SIR Matrix

The SIR Matrix provides a detailed analysis of each criterion that contains SIR and is intended to provide Standard Developers with the guidance required to adopt, adapt or drop indicators for management activities that have different levels of unacceptable negative impact. The sample indicators provided are for illustrative purposes only, and not intended to be normative. Informed by this Guidance, Standards Developers are supposed to adapt the suggested sample indicators and develop indicators to fit the national context.

The SIR Matrix may be used by Standard Developers to determine the nature of risk in the national context.

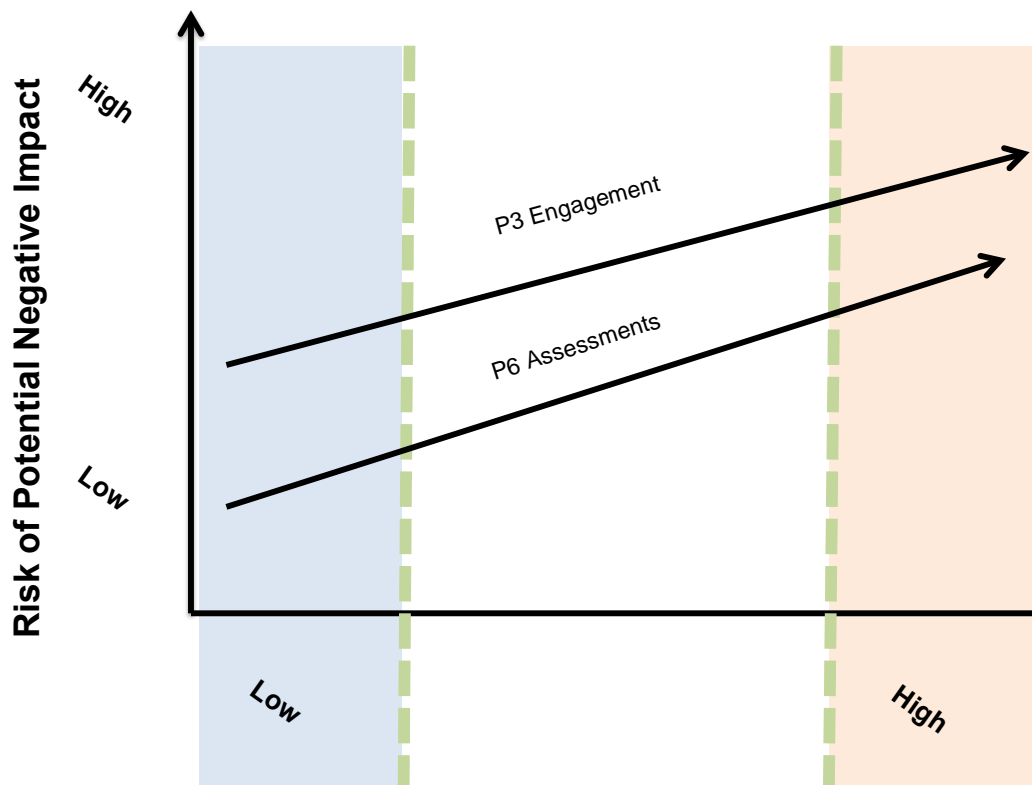
Standard Developers should consider what type of land ownerships exist in the country when applying SIR. For example, the level of risk could be influenced by whether the MU is on private or public land. In addition, Standard Developers should consider the Organizations' capacity to meet the requirements of the Principles and Criteria.

Standard Developers can assess SIR at the national and regional level for each criterion that includes SIR and develop appropriate indicators. Standard Developers may also choose to apply this approach to other criteria that do not include SIR, for example to reduce the administrative and bureaucratic burden for activities with low potential unacceptable negative impact.

The SIR Matrix contains several default assumptions:

- Activities with low potential unacceptable negative impact will require a reduced administrative burden to demonstrate conformance. This includes a reduced requirement for documenting engagement, conducting and documenting certain assessments, developing complex management plans and conducting and documenting monitoring.
- Sample indicators for activities with low potential unacceptable negative impact are identified with the letter 'L' as follows: L1.7.1;
- Activities with standard potential unacceptable negative impact will be required to meet the requirements listed in the IGI, or as adapted in national standards through the transfer process;
- Activities with high potential unacceptable negative impact will be required to demonstrate their compliance with a higher level of effort. Sample indicators for activities with high potential impact are identified with the letter 'H' as follows: H1.7.1.

These assumptions are summarized in Figure 4.



### Manager's Level of Effort Required to Meet the Standards

Figure 4. As the risk of potential unacceptable negative impact increases, so too does the manager's level of effort required to meet the standards. For example, the greater the concentration of ecological values, the more effort is required by the manager to do assessments of these values. Likewise, the presence of Indigenous People within and adjacent to the MU increases the level of engagement required.

The SIR indicators should be developed in line with the following considerations:

Regarding engagement:

- Activities with low potential unacceptable negative impact mean that the Organization can reduce requirements for stakeholder engagement to demonstrate conformance. This means that they should generally be required to understand the interests and concerns of neighbours and adjacent landowners without the need for extensive consultation. This may be extended to potentially affected stakeholders that are not adjacent neighbours, for example in MUs located upstream from water users.
- Activities with high potential unacceptable negative impact mean that the Organization has increased requirements to demonstrate conformance and frame engagement with local communities and Indigenous Peoples with a consultation strategy that sets out, for example, the scope of their activities, the expected outcomes, the target audience, and the link to the dispute resolution process.

Regarding policies, procedures and assessments:

- Activities with low potential unacceptable negative impact mean that the Organization has reduced requirements to demonstrate conformance and may verbally communicate policies and procedures. Likewise, some assessments may be completed using experience, observations and local experts. Group Managers may also have an important role to play in developing procedures and policies and for conducting certain assessments.
- Activities with high potential unacceptable negative impact mean that the Organization has increased requirements to demonstrate conformance and may be required to complete assessments with extensive fieldwork and professional expertise. Likewise social and economic decisions should be supported by social science and market research.

In this SIR Matrix, “Main SIR Element(s)” summarizes which element of the Criterion SIR influences. “Relevant Impact Factor” explains how scale, intensity and risk need to be considered when developing indicators. ‘Addressing SIR summarizes the intent of each SIR Criterion and provides sample indicators for activities with low and high potential unacceptable negative impact on ecological, social and economic values. This column includes the IGI that are subject to scale, intensity and risk. Informed by this Guidance, Standards Developers are supposed to adapt the suggested sample indicators and develop indicators to fit the national context. Standards Developers can develop two or three variations for each SIR Criterion following the suggestions provided for management activities with low or high potential unacceptable negative impact. Those IGIs not included in this column are assumed to be independent of scale, intensity and risk, and so should be complied with by all Organizations.

The term ‘assessment / engagement default applies’ is used throughout the SIR Matrix to indicate to Standard Developers that variations of the indicator should be developed for activities with low potential unacceptable negative impact.

P	Criterion and indicators	Main SIR elements	Relevant Impact Factor	Addressing SIR
1	<p>1.7: <i>The Organization* shall*</i> publicize a commitment not to offer or receive bribes in money or any other form of corruption, and <i>shall*</i> comply with anti-corruption legislation where this exists. In the absence of anti-corruption legislation, <i>The Organization* shall*</i> implement other anti-corruption measures proportionate to the <i>scale*</i> and <i>intensity*</i> of management activities and the <i>risk*</i> of corruption.</p> <p>1.7.1 A policy is implemented that includes a commitment not to offer or receive bribes of any description.</p>	<p>Scale and intensity refer to management activities while risk refers to the probability of corruption.</p> <p>Together they relate to the anti-corruption measures to be implemented.</p>	<p>1. <b>Scale:</b> not relevant to identify the corruption risk, but it is relevant for defining the scope of anti-corruption measures and how to implement them.</p> <p>2. <b>Intensity:</b> not relevant (sufficiently addressed by scale).</p> <p>3. <b>Risk:</b> main impact factor. Not dependent on The Organization – the risk of corruption is</p>	<p>The corruption level in forestry for the country needs to be defined by the Standard Developers. If consensus cannot be reached, the Transparency International Corruption Perceptions Index (<a href="http://cpi.transparency.org/cpi2013/results/">http://cpi.transparency.org/cpi2013/results/</a>) should be considered:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• &lt; 50: a country would be considered high risk.</li> <li>• &gt; 50: a country would be considered low risk.</li> </ul> <p>The higher the risk of corruption in a country, and the larger The Organization, the more efforts The Organization must demonstrate in developing and enforcing their anti-corruption measures.</p> <p>Some countries have anti-corruption legislation, but not effective enforcement. The risk should be evaluated on outcome based country enforcement indicators, not on whether the legislation itself is in place if it is simply ignored, widely flouted or rarely enforced. Where corruption is endemic, legislation alone is insufficient and enforcement can be politically constrained. In addition, corruption is not simply country-specific, but may be part of an Organizations culture.</p>

P	Criterion and indicators	Main SIR elements	Relevant Impact Factor	Addressing SIR
	<p>1.7.2 The policy meets or exceeds related legislation.</p> <p>1.7.3 The policy is publicly available* at no cost.</p> <p>1.7.4 Bribery, coercion and other acts of corruption do not occur.</p> <p>1.7.5 Corrective measures are implemented if corruption does occur.</p>		country specific, and only relevant in the absence of anti-corruption legislation.	<p>1.7.1, 1.7.2 and 1.7.3: Organizations with management activities with low potential unacceptable negative impact should identify the points in the operations with the highest risk of corruption (access to permits, illegal harvesting, etc.) and implement measures to minimize the possibility of corruption occurring. They should demonstrate that they are not involved in corruption activities (not giving money, not accepting money) and make a policy statement, written or otherwise.</p> <p>1.7.5: Organizations with management activities with low potential unacceptable negative impact should apply adaptive management if corruption does occur. For example, by having internal meetings with employees to inform them about specific corruption cases and the measures to be taken to avoid corruption.</p> <p>Examples of SIR indicators for Organizations with low potential unacceptable negative impact activities: L 1.7.1: A written or verbal declaration not to give or receive bribes (money) is communicated to neighbours and clients.</p> <p>Examples of SIR indicators for organizations with high potential unacceptable negative impact activities: H 1.7.5: Procedures are implemented to conduct internal audits of compliance with the Policy if corruption does occur.</p>
2	2.3: <i>The Organization* shall* implement health and safety practices to protect workers* from occupational</i>	Scale, intensity and risk refer to management activities.	1. <b>Scale:</b> irrelevant as all workers must be protected from occupational safety &	All Organizations that perform high potential unacceptable negative impact activities, such as operating power saws, must comply with high impact indicators. Likewise, Organizations that only perform low potential unacceptable negative impact activities, such as



P	Criterion and indicators	Main SIR elements	Relevant Impact Factor	Addressing SIR
	<p>safety and health hazards. These practices <i>shall</i><sup>*</sup>, proportionate to <i>scale, intensity and risk</i><sup>*</sup> of management activities, meet or exceed the recommendations of the ILO Code of Practice on Safety and Health in Forestry Work.</p> <p>2.3.1 Health and safety practices are developed and implemented that meet or exceed the ILO Code of Practice on Safety and Health in Forestry Work.</p> <p>2.3.2 <i>Workers</i><sup>*</sup> have personal protective equipment appropriate to their assigned tasks.</p> <p>2.3.3 Use of personal protective equipment is enforced.</p> <p>2.3.4 Records are kept on health and safety practices including accident rates and lost time to accidents.</p> <p>2.3.5 The frequency and severity of accidents are consistently low</p>	<p>Together they relate to health and safety practices.</p>	<p>health hazards regardless of the scale of the Organisation.</p> <p>2. <b>Intensity</b>: relevant factor, relative to the risk of the activity being carried out.</p> <p>3. <b>Risk</b>: main impact factor. The level of protection necessary is relative to the risk of the activity being undertaken and the likelihood of injury.</p>	<p>harvesting NTFPs, would only need to comply with low impact indicators.</p> <p>2.3.1: Organizations with low potential unacceptable negative impact activities: Policies and procedures can be verbally communicated.</p> <p>2.3.4: Organizations with low potential unacceptable negative impact activities should know the information and be able to communicate it to the Certification Body but may not have to record or keep written records.</p> <p>2.3.5: Organizations with low potential unacceptable negative impact activities would not be in charge of comparing the frequency and severity of accidents with national forest industry averages. The Certification Body and / or the Group Manager would do this.</p> <p>2.3.6: Organizations with low potential unacceptable negative impact activities: Policies and procedures can be verbally communicated consistent with L2.3.1.</p> <p>Examples of SIR indicators for Organizations with low potential unacceptable negative impact activities:</p> <p>L 2.3.1: Each worker is informed about the health and safety measures corresponding to his/her activity.</p> <p>L 2.3.4: The use of health and safety measures by workers is checked and known.</p> <p>L 2.3.4: The number and type of work accidents is known.</p> <p>Examples of SIR indicators for organizations with high potential unacceptable negative impact activities:</p>

P	Criterion and indicators	Main SIR elements	Relevant Impact Factor	Addressing SIR
	<p>compared to national <i>forest*</i> industry averages.</p> <p>2.3.6 The health and safety practices are reviewed and revised as required after major incidents or accidents.</p>			<p>H2.3.5: Where national forest industry averages are not known, regional or national accident frequency and severity data is gathered.</p>
4	<p>4.3: <i>The Organization* shall* provide reasonable* opportunities for employment, training and other services to local communities*</i>, contractors and suppliers proportionate to <i>scale*</i> and <i>intensity*</i> of its management activities.</p> <p>4.3.1 <i>Reasonable*</i> opportunities are communicated and provided to <i>local communities*</i>, local contractors and local suppliers for:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Employment,</li> <li>2) Training, and</li> <li>3) Other services.</li> </ol>	<p>Scale and intensity refer to management activities.</p> <p>Together they relate to the provision of reasonable opportunities.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Scale:</b> main impact factor.</li> <li>2. <b>Intensity:</b> relevant factor.</li> <li>3. <b>Risk:</b> not mentioned.</li> </ol>	<p>The scale of The Organization is relevant to the capacity and the degree of social responsibility to provide opportunities. Intensity refers here to the regularity with which an Organization uses employees, contractors, suppliers and therefore the logic in providing employment and training opportunities to them.</p> <p>If a small scale Organization needs to regularly employ or contract it may be more worthwhile providing training opportunities in order to develop a local workforce, but if a small scale Organization rarely employs/contracts, it is probably not worth providing training opportunities.</p> <p>Organizations with high potential unacceptable negative impact activities are expected to provide employment to local contractors and communities, and to provide training where capacity does not already exist. However, some public administrations are quite big but cannot give preference for employment to local people because of procurement limitations.</p> <p>Examples of SIR indicators for Organizations with low potential unacceptable negative impact activities:</p> <p>L4.3.1: Preference is given to local people and services, or, in the case of group certification, to group members.</p>

P	Criterion and indicators	Main SIR elements	Relevant Impact Factor	Addressing SIR
				<p>Examples of SIR indicators for Organizations with high potential unacceptable negative impact activities:</p> <p>H4.3.1: Local communities and contractors are provided with employment, training.</p> <p>H4.3.2: Local suppliers provide services</p> <p>H4.3.3: Training and employment provided to local communities and contractors is monitored.</p> <p>H4.3.4: Services provided by local suppliers are tracked.</p>
4	<p>4.4: <i>The Organization* shall* implement additional activities, through engagement* with local communities*, that contribute to their social and economic development, proportionate to the scale*, intensity* and socio-economic impact of its management activities.</i></p> <p>4.4.1 Opportunities for local social and economic development are identified through culturally appropriate * engagement* with local communities* and other relevant organizations.</p> <p>4.4.2 Projects and additional activities are implemented and/or supported that contribute to local social and economic benefit and are proportionate to the</p>	<p>Scale and intensity and socio-economic impact refer to management activities.</p> <p>Together they relate to the implementation of additional activities.</p>	<p>1. <b>Scale:</b> main impact factor, related to the socio-economic impact.</p> <p>2. <b>Intensity:</b> relevant factor, related to the socio-economic impact.</p> <p>3. <b>Risk:</b> not mentioned.</p>	<p>4.4.1: Organizations with low potential unacceptable negative impact activities, such as those with small scale and low socio-economic impact activities have fewer responsibilities for stakeholder engagement and should generally be required to understand the interests and concerns of neighbours and adjacent landowners without formal consultation or engagement processes. This should be extended to potentially affected stakeholders that are not neighbours, for example, water users that are downstream from the Management Unit.</p> <p>Organizations with high potential unacceptable negative impact activities are expected to demonstrate, through engagement with local communities and other relevant organizations, that all reasonable social and economic development opportunities have been identified and that these are being implemented.</p> <p>4.4.2: Organizations with low potential unacceptable negative impact activities generally have a low socio-economic impact. These Organizations can contribute socially by supporting local environmental education or cultural events. They should use local markets for their products and services.</p>

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	socio-economic impact of management activities.			<p>Examples of SIR indicators for organizations with low potential unacceptable negative impact activities: L4.4.1: Opportunities for local social and economic development are identified and implemented.</p> <p>Examples of SIR indicators for organizations with high potential unacceptable negative impact activities: H4.4.1: A socio-economic strategy is implemented with relevant organizations to identify opportunities for local social and economic development. H4.4.2: Local social and economic development opportunities are monitored and corrective measures are taken if records show that these opportunities are diminishing.</p>
4	<p>4.5: <i>The Organization*</i>, through <i>engagement*</i> with <i>local communities*</i>, <i>shall*</i> take action to identify, avoid and mitigate significant negative social, environmental and economic impacts of its management activities on affected communities. The action taken <i>shall*</i> be proportionate to the <i>scale, intensity and risk*</i> of those activities and negative impacts.</p> <p>4.5.1 Through <i>culturally appropriate*</i> <i>engagement*</i> with <i>local communities*</i>,</p>	Scale, intensity refer to the management activities of The Organization. Risk refers to the probability of negative impacts of these management activities on affected communities.	<p>1. <b>Scale:</b> relevant factor.</p> <p>2. <b>Intensity:</b> relevant factor.</p> <p>3. <b>Risk:</b> main factor, function of scale and intensity.</p>	<p>4.5.1: Organizations with low potential unacceptable negative impact activities should meet reduced requirements for stakeholder engagement.</p> <p>Standards Developers should determine the scope of the process required to identify potential <i>significant*</i> negative social, environmental and economic impacts of its management activities on affected communities.</p> <p>The results of the social, environmental and economic impact assessment should be presented to neighbours and community members for comment before operations are carried out.</p> <p>The actions to be implemented to avoid and mitigate significant negative social, environmental and economic impacts should be developed in participation with affected communities.</p>

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	<p>measures are implemented to identify, avoid and mitigate <i>significant*</i> negative social, environmental and economic impacts of management activities.</p>	<p>Scale, intensity and risk relate to the mitigation of negative impacts on affected communities.</p>		<p>Organizations with high potential unacceptable negative impact activities are expected to develop a local community engagement strategy to identify the potential social and economic impacts of their operations. This strategy should identify, for example, the local communities, community members to be involved, the methodology and timeline for engagement and linkage to the dispute resolution process. In some cases, large-scale forestry operations would be expected to provide adequate funds to ensure that local communities can be meaningfully involved. However, this needs to be understood in the context that people cannot be forced to participate.</p> <p>Examples of SIR indicators for organizations with low potential unacceptable negative impact activities:</p> <p>L4.5.1: Measures are implemented to avoid and mitigate negative social, environmental and economic impacts of management activities on affected communities.</p> <p>L4.5.2: Upon request, these measures are communicated to neighbours and adjacent landowners.</p> <p>Examples of SIR indicators for organizations with high potential unacceptable negative impact activities:</p> <p>H4.5.1: A social impact strategy is implemented with local communities to identify, avoid and mitigate significant negative social, environmental and economic impacts of its management activities.</p> <p>H4.5.2: The negative social, environmental and economic impacts of management activities are monitored and corrective measures</p>

P	Criterion and indicators	Main SIR elements	Relevant Impact Factor	Addressing SIR
				are taken if records show that these negative impacts are not avoided or mitigated.
5	<p>5.1: The Organization* shall* identify, produce, or enable the production of, diversified benefits and/or products, based on the range of resources and ecosystem services* existing in the Management Unit* in order to strengthen and diversify the local economy proportionate to the scale* and intensity* of management activities.</p> <p>5.1.1 The range of resources and ecosystem services* that could strengthen and diversify the local economy are identified.</p> <p>5.1.2 Consistent with management objectives*, the identified benefits and products are produced by The Organization* and/or made available for others to produce, to strengthen and diversify the local economy.</p> <p>5.1.3 When The Organization* makes FSC promotional claims regarding the maintenance and/or enhancement of ecosystem services*, Annex C is</p>	<p>Scale and intensity refer to the management activities of The Organization while risk is not mentioned.</p> <p>Scale and intensity relate to the production of diversified benefits and/or products.</p>	<p>1. <b>Scale:</b> main impact factor. Large Organizations have more options to diversify benefits and/or products.</p> <p>2. <b>Intensity:</b> is relevant in so far as different management regimes deliver different varieties of benefits.</p> <p>3. <b>Risk:</b> not mentioned.</p>	<p>5.1.1: For Organizations with low potential unacceptable negative impact activities, the range of resources and <i>ecosystem services*</i> that could strengthen and diversify the local economy can be identified based on current knowledge without completing additional assessments.</p> <p>The identification of HCV 4 and HCV 5 in Criterion 9.1 could support the identification of important values for communities and help to meet the requirement of this indicator.</p> <p>Organizations with high potential unacceptable negative impact activities are expected to identify, produce and / or enable the production of a wide range of products. Business plans and marketing strategies would demonstrate that effective measures are in place to identify customers and business opportunities.</p> <p>Engagement with local communities and local contractors would demonstrate that effective measures have been put in place to allow for the production of products that the Organization does not produce. This may require the development of an engagement strategy. This strategy should identify, for example, the local communities, community members to be involved, the methodology and timeline for engagement and linkage to the dispute resolution process. In some cases, large-scale forestry operations would be expected to provide adequate funds to ensure that local communities can be meaningfully involved.</p> <p>5.1.2: Organizations with low potential unacceptable negative impact activities, consistent with management objectives, should consider the production of all identified benefits and products to</p>

P	Criterion and indicators	Main SIR elements	Relevant Impact Factor	Addressing SIR
	followed regarding additional requirements.			<p>increase economic viability and reduce dependence on a single product, or to make these available for others to produce in order to strengthen and diversify the local economy.</p> <p>Organizations with high potential unacceptable negative impact activities would be expected to demonstrate through sales records and agreements with local communities and contractors that the range of identified resources and ecosystem services have been produced or made available for production.</p> <p>5.1.3: When the Organization makes FSC promotional claims regarding the provision of ecosystem services, Annex C of the IGI standard is followed regarding additional requirements.</p> <p>Organizations with low potential unacceptable negative impact activities should focus the efforts, for the conservation areas network, on high value habitats such as those for rare and threatened species as well as small, site-level habitat features and processes. These Organizations will only make a small contribution towards sufficiency of a broader conservation area network.</p> <p>Requirements for review by knowledgeable experts could be satisfied by reference to pre-existing studies or other available information.</p> <p>Examples of SIR indicators for Organizations with low potential unacceptable negative impact activities:</p> <p>L5.1.2: Consistent with management objectives, and within the limits of tenure rights and capacity, products and services identified in 5.1.1 are considered for production, to strengthen and diversify the local economy.</p>



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				<p>Examples of SIR indicators for Organizations with high potential unacceptable negative impact activities:</p> <p>H5.1. 1 The range of resources and ecosystem services* that could strengthen and diversify the local economy are identified through engagement with local communities, assessments and / or through market research</p> <p>H5.1.2: Consistent with management objectives, and within the limits of tenure rights and capacity, products and services identified in 5.1.1 are produced or made available for production.</p>
5	<p>5.4 The Organization* shall* use local processing, local services, and local value adding to meet the requirements of The Organization* where these are available, proportionate to scale, intensity and risk*. If these are not locally available, The Organization* shall* make reasonable* attempts to help establish these services.</p> <p>5.4.1 Where cost, quality and capacity of non-local and local options are at least equivalent, local goods, services, processing and value-added facilities are used.</p> <p>5.4.2 Reasonable* attempts are made to establish and encourage capacity where local goods, services, processing and value-added facilities are not available.</p>	<p>Scale, intensity and risk refer to The Organization and relates to the use of local processing and services.</p>	<p>1. <b>Scale:</b> main impact factor.</p> <p>2. <b>Intensity:</b> relevant factor.</p> <p>3. <b>Risk:</b> depends on the local economy. If the local economy is well developed and well-functioning there is less need to preference local processing and services.</p>	<p>Scale refers to The Organization's capacity and social responsibility to establish local services if not already available. Intensity can be interpreted as frequency of use of local services, as in Criteria 4.3.</p> <p>All Organizations shall use local processing, local services, and local value adding where these are available, but Organizations with low impact activities need not establish these services if they are not already available.</p> <p>Organizations with high potential unacceptable negative impact activities should be required to demonstrate that they are actively developing capacity for local goods, services, processing and value-added facilities are used. Additionally, market research and engagement with local communities and companies would demonstrate that local opportunities are being developed. This may require the development of an engagement strategy.</p> <p>This strategy should identify, for example, the local communities, community members and businesses to be involved, the methodology and timeline for engagement and linkage to the dispute resolution process. In some cases, large-scale forestry operations would be expected to provide adequate funds to ensure that local communities can be meaningfully involved.</p>



P	Criterion and indicators	Main SIR elements	Relevant Impact Factor	Addressing SIR
				<p>Examples of SIR indicators for Organizations with potential unacceptable negative potential impact activities:</p> <p>L5.4.1: Local goods, services, processing and value-added facilities are used where they already exist</p> <p>L5.4.2: Drop</p> <p>Examples of SIR indicators for organizations with potential unacceptable negative potential impact activities:</p> <p>H5.4.2: Market research and engagement are used to identify opportunities to develop local goods, services, processing and value-added facilities.</p> <p>H5.4.3: Budgets demonstrate investment in capacity building for local goods, services, processing and value-added facilities.</p>
5	<p>5.5: The Organization* shall* demonstrate through its planning and expenditures proportionate to scale, intensity and risk*, its commitment to long-term economic viability*.</p> <p>5.5.1 Sufficient funds are allocated to implement the management plan* in order to meet this standard and to ensure long-term* economic viability*.</p> <p>5.5.2 Expenditures and investments are made to implement the management plan* in order to meet</p>	<p>Scale, intensity and risk refer to The Organization and relate to its planning and expenditures.</p>	<p>1. <b>Scale:</b> main impact factor together with intensity.</p> <p>2. <b>Intensity:</b> main impact factor together with scale.</p> <p>3. <b>Risk:</b> relevant impact factor. The capital investment in areas of high social and environmental risk shall be reflected in</p>	<p>5.5.1 and 5.5.2: Organizations with low potential unacceptable negative impact activities should be able to demonstrate a balance between revenue and expenditures without the need for budgets and financial statements. Receipts for expenditures and sales should be collected when possible.</p> <p>Organizations with high potential unacceptable negative impact activities should demonstrate that social, economic and environmental commitments are accounted for in comprehensive budgets. Expenditures should demonstrate that financial commitments are implemented.</p> <p>Examples of SIR indicators for Organizations with high potential unacceptable negative impact activities:</p>

P	Criterion and indicators	Main SIR elements	Relevant Impact Factor	Addressing SIR
	this standard and to ensure long-term* economic viability*.		the budget and expenditures.	H5.5.1 Budgets and associated financial planning documents demonstrate that social, economic and environmental commitments are accounted for.
6	6.1: The Organization* shall* assess <i>environmental values*</i> in the <i>Management Unit*</i> and those values outside the <i>Management Unit*</i> potentially affected by management activities. This assessment shall* be undertaken with a level of detail, scale and frequency that is proportionate to the <i>scale, intensity and risk*</i> of management activities, and is sufficient for the purpose of deciding the necessary <i>conservation*</i> measures, and for detecting and monitoring possible negative impacts of those activities.	Scale, intensity and risk refer to the management activities of The Organization and relates to assessment of the environmental values.	<p>1. <b>Scale:</b> relevant impact factor.</p> <p>2. <b>Intensity:</b> relevant factor.</p> <p>3. <b>Risk:</b> Main factor. It refers to the social, economic and environmental values in the context of the Management Unit.</p>	<p>6.1.1: Organizations with low potential unacceptable negative impact activities operate in MUs where social, economic and environmental values are unlikely to be affected by management activities. Organizations with low potential unacceptable negative impact activities could use for 'Best Available Information' (BAI) what the manager knows and observes, and what s/he learns from neighbours and other local stakeholders, together with existing assessments and mapping. Additionally, the Group Manager could provide some of this information.</p> <p>6.1.2: For Organizations with low potential unacceptable negative impact activities, assessments of environmental values can be based on what the manager knows and observes, and what s/he learns from neighbours and other local stakeholders, together with existing assessments and mapping. For these Organizations there is no need to conduct additional assessments of environmental</p>

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	<p>6.1.1 <i>Best Available Information</i>* is used to identify <i>environmental values</i>* within, and, where potentially affected by management activities, outside of the <i>Management Unit</i>*.</p> <p>6.1.2 Assessments of <i>environmental values</i>* are conducted with a level of detail and frequency so that:</p> <p>1) Impacts of management activities on the identified <i>environmental values</i>* can be assessed as per <i>Criterion</i>* 6.2;</p> <p>2) <i>Risks</i>* to <i>environmental values</i>* can be identified as per <i>Criterion</i>* 6.2;</p> <p>3) Necessary <i>conservation</i>* measures to protect values can be identified as per <i>Criterion</i>* 6.3; and,</p> <p>4) Monitoring of impacts or environmental changes can be conducted as per <i>Principle</i>* 8.</p>			<p>values beyond those that already exist. In addition, 6.1.2 1) to 4) can be addressed in the respective Criteria.</p> <p>Standards Developers may define 'Best Available Information' (BAI) differently for low, standard and high potential impact organizations.</p>
6	<p>6.2: Prior to the start of site-disturbing activities, <i>The Organization</i>* shall identify and assess the <i>scale, intensity and risk</i>* of potential impacts of management activities on the identified <i>environmental values</i>*.</p>	<p>In this Criterion scale, intensity and risk are NOT mentioned as impact factors, but as variables that need to be</p>	<p>Even though SIR is not mentioned as in the rest of Criteria, it can still be applied in relation to the environmental impact assessment process.</p>	<p>This Criterion is central to establishing requirements for the environmental impact assessment based on the scale intensity and risk of management activities of the Organization. Standard Developers shall determine the methodology to be used by the Organization for completing environmental impact assessments. Organizations with high impact potential activities will need complete a more comprehensive environmental impact</p>

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	<p>6.2.1 An <i>environmental impact assessment</i>* identifies potential present and future impacts of management activities on <i>environmental values</i>*, from the stand level to the landscape level.</p> <p>6.2.2 The <i>environmental impact assessment</i>* identifies and assesses the impacts of the management activities prior to the start of site-disturbing activities.</p>	<p>determined. Here the concept of scale, intensity and risk is different than in all other Criteria mentioning scale, intensity and risk</p>		<p>assessment. Organizations with low potential unacceptable negative impact activities shall complete a reduced scope environmental impact assessment.</p> <p>6.2.1: Organizations with low potential unacceptable negative impact activities could use the existing FSC tools for streamlined social and environmental impact assessments (<a href="#">FSC Website</a>).</p> <p>Organizations with high potential unacceptable negative impact potential activities conduct an environmental impact assessment in full compliance with national definitions and address all elements of environmental values. At a minimum, this environmental impact assessment will provide sufficient information to meet the requirements of Criterion 6.2.</p> <p>These environmental impact assessments could also determine the level of potential impact for each of the Criteria that include SIR.</p> <p>This is important because while an Organization may be required to complete a standard environmental impact assessment, the results may show that the Organization’s management activities have low potential impact for certain SIR Criteria.</p> <p>Likewise, an Organization that completes a reduced scope environmental impact assessment may learn that the Organization’s management activities have standard or high potential impact for certain SIR Criteria.</p>
6	<p>6.3: The Organization* shall* identify and implement effective actions to prevent negative impacts of management activities on the environmental values*, and to mitigate</p>	<p>Scale, intensity and risk refer to the potential negative impact of management activities (as in</p>	<p>1. <b>Scale:</b> relevant in terms of the impact (C6.2) and level of effort required (C6.3).</p>	<p>In this Criterion, ‘proportionate to scale, intensity and risk’ means that the higher the levels of potential and actual negative impacts of management activities (as identified in Criterion 6.2) the greater the need there is for prevention, mitigation and repair.</p>

P	Criterion and indicators	Main SIR elements	Relevant Impact Factor	Addressing SIR
	<p>and repair those that occur, proportionate to the scale, intensity and risk* of these impacts</p> <p>6.3.1 Management activities are planned and implemented to prevent negative impacts and to protect <i>environmental values*</i>.</p> <p>6.3.2 Management activities prevent negative impacts to <i>environmental values*</i>.</p> <p>6.3.3 Where negative impacts to <i>environmental values*</i> occur, measures are adopted to prevent further damage, and negative impacts are <i>mitigated*</i> and/or <i>repaired*</i>..</p>	<p>6.2) and relates to the measures for prevention and mitigation of these impacts.</p>	<p>2. <b>Intensity:</b> relevant in terms of the impact (C6.2) and level of effort required (C6.3).</p> <p>3. <b>Risk:</b> relevant in terms of the impact (C6.2).</p>	<p>This potential unacceptable negative impact is not entirely determined by the scale and intensity of the operation. If there is a probability of impact from management activities then this impact must be addressed, regardless of the scale or intensity of the Organization.</p> <p>As a result, no SIR variations are needed for the indicators of the Criterion.</p>
6	<p>6.4: The Organization* shall* protect rare species* and threatened species* and their habitats* in the Management Unit* through conservation zones*, protection areas*, connectivity* and/or (where necessary) other direct measures for their survival and viability. These measures shall* be proportionate to the scale, intensity and risk* of management activities and to the conservation* status and</p>	<p>Scale, intensity and risk refer to the management activities of The Organization and together with the conservation status of rare and threatened species and their habitats in the</p>	<p>1. <b>Scale:</b> relevant factor, sufficiently addressed by risk.</p> <p>2. <b>Intensity:</b> relevant factor, sufficiently addressed by risk.</p> <p>3. <b>Risk:</b> main impact factor, linked to the</p>	<p>Fundamental to this Criterion is whether or not the Management Unit contains rare or threatened species. If No then C6.4 would not apply.</p> <p>If Yes, then the correspondent C6.4 indicators would apply depending on the scale and intensity of the management activities. In addition to this, the conservation status and ecological requirements of the RTEs will influence the level of effort required for their protection and / or survival. This is because the more rare or threatened the species is, the greater is the likelihood that management activities will have a greater consequence.</p>

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	<p>ecological requirements of the rare and threatened species*. The Organization* shall* take into account the geographic range and ecological requirements of rare and threatened species* beyond the boundary of the Management Unit*, when determining the measures to be taken inside the Management Unit*.</p> <p>6.4.1 Best Available Information* is used to identify rare and threatened species*, and their habitats*, including CITES species (where applicable) and those listed on national, regional and local lists of rare and threatened species* that are present or likely to be present within and adjacent to the Management Unit*.</p> <p>6.4.2 Potential impacts of management activities on rare and threatened species* and their conservation* status and habitats* are identified and management activities are modified to avoid negative impacts.</p> <p>6.4.3 The rare and threatened species* and their habitats* are protected,</p>	<p>Management Unit relate to the measures for their protection and / or survival.</p>	<p>presence of rare and threatened species (RTEs) and their habitats, their conservation status and their ecological requirements.</p>	<p>6.4.1: Organizations with low potential unacceptable negative impact activities can use for ‘Best Available Information’ what the manager knows and observes, and what s/he learns from neighbours and other local stakeholders, together with existing assessments and mapping.</p> <p>For Organizations with high potential unacceptable negative impact activities, existing information on rare and threatened species may be insufficient because inadequate research has been conducted within or adjacent to the management unit. In these cases the organization should be expected to conduct fieldwork to identify rare and threatened species and their habitats. Additionally, research may be required to understand the threats to these species and what steps can be taken to ensure their survival.</p> <p>Standards Developers may define ‘Best Available Information’ (BAI) differently for low, standard and high potential impact organizations.</p> <p>6.4.3: ‘Proportionate to scale, intensity and risk’ means that the higher the levels of potential and actual unacceptable negative impacts of management activities the greater the level of effort for protection and recovery if required.</p> <p>Organizations with low potential unacceptable negative impact activities could schedule management activities to avoid disturbance during known nesting or fruiting seasons. They could also use reduced impact harvesting methods to protect nesting and breeding sites. Conservation zones and protection areas could also have an important role in RTEs protection. Mitigation measures should be designed for the needs of the species and habitats in question.</p> <p>Organizations with high potential unacceptable negative impact activities could demonstrate collaboration with other relevant</p>

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	<p>including through the provision of conservation zones*, protection areas*, connectivity*, and other direct means for their survival and viability, such as species' recovery programs.</p> <p>6.4.4 Hunting, fishing, trapping and collection of rare or threatened species* is prevented.</p>			<p>organizations such as government agencies and NGOs to implement sufficient provisions</p> <p>6.4.4: Organizations with low potential unacceptable negative impact activities should not fish, trap or collect RTEs. They should also inform their neighbours not to do this either, while respecting the traditional practices of local communities' and Indigenous Peoples.</p> <p>Organizations with high potential unacceptable negative impact activities should develop public awareness and enforcement strategies to ensure that staff, contractors and others do not fish, trap or collect RTEs, while respecting the traditional practices of local communities and Indigenous People</p> <p>Examples of SIR indicators for organizations with low potential unacceptable negative impact activities:</p> <p>L6.4.1: Best Available Information* is used to identify rare and threatened species*, and their habitats*.</p> <p>L6.4.2: Management activities are modified to avoid negative impacts to rare and threatened species*, and their habitats*.</p> <p>L6.4.4 Hunting, fishing, trapping and collection of rare or threatened species* is prevented</p> <p>Examples of SIR indicators for organizations with high potential unacceptable negative impact activities:</p> <p>H6.4.1. In addition to Best Available Information, research is conducted in collaboration with relevant organizations to identify rare and threatened species*, and their habitats*, including CITES species (where applicable) and those listed on national, regional</p>



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				<p>and local lists of rare and threatened species* that are present or likely to be present within and adjacent to the Management Unit*.</p> <p>H6.4.3 In collaboration with relevant organizations, the rare and threatened species* and their habitats* are protected, including through the provision of conservation zones*, protection areas*, connectivity*, and other direct means for their survival and viability, such as species' recovery programs</p> <p>H6.4.4 Hunting, fishing, trapping and collection of rare or threatened species* is prevented including through implementing a public awareness program and, in collaboration with relevant organizations, enforcing sufficient measures.</p>
6	<p>6.5: The Organization* shall* identify and protect representative sample areas of native ecosystems* and/or restore them to more natural conditions*. Where representative sample areas do not exist, The Organization shall* restore a proportion of the Management Unit* to more natural conditions*. The size of the areas and the measures taken for their protection or restoration shall* be proportionate to the conservation* status and value of the ecosystems* at the landscape* level, and the scale, intensity and risk* of management activities.</p>	<p>Scale, intensity and risk refer to the management activities of The Organization and relates to the size of the areas and the measures required for their protection or restoration.</p>	<p>1. <b>Scale:</b> main impact factor together with intensity and risk.</p> <p>2. <b>Intensity:</b> main impact factor together with scale and risk.</p> <p>3. <b>Risk:</b> main impact factor, linked to the conservation status of the ecosystems at the landscape level and the value of the ecosystems at the landscape level.</p>	<p>The degree of protection and / or restoration required is determined by the conservation status and value of the ecosystem as well as the scale, intensity and risk of management activities in the Management Unit as a whole.</p> <p>The magnitude of the protection and restoration efforts, including the size, design and connectivity of sample areas, should be proportionate to the scale, intensity and risks of management activities and impacts. This means that reduced provisions may be appropriate for small management units that are located in forests with higher levels of existing protection.</p> <p>Standards Developers may define 'Best Available Information' (BAI) differently for low, standard and high potential impact organizations.</p> <p>6.5.1: Organizations with low potential unacceptable negative impact activities can use for 'Best Available Information' what the manager knows and observes, and what s/he learns from neighbours or stakeholders, together with existing assessments and mapping.</p>



P	Criterion and indicators	Main SIR elements	Relevant Impact Factor	Addressing SIR
	<p>6.5.1 Best Available Information* is used to identify native ecosystems* that exist, or would exist under natural conditions*, within the Management Unit*.</p> <p>6.5.2 Representative Sample Areas* of native ecosystems* are protected, where they exist.</p> <p>6.5.3 Where Representative Sample Areas* do not exist, or where existing sample areas inadequately represent native ecosystems*, or are otherwise insufficient, a proportion of the Management Unit* is restored* to more natural conditions*.</p> <p>6.5.4 The size of the Representative Sample Areas* and/or restoration* areas is proportionate to the conservation* status and value of the ecosystems* at the landscape* level, the size of the Management Unit* and the intensity* of forest* management.</p> <p>6.5.5 Representative Sample Areas* in combination with other components of the conservation areas network*</p>			<p>6.5.4: As indicated in Annex D of the IGI standard, the more at risk the conservation status of the ecosystems potentially affected by the management activities, the larger the size of the conservation areas required and the greater the efforts required for their protection.</p> <p>Likewise, the higher the value of the ecosystems potentially affected by the management activities, the greater the size of the conservation areas required and the efforts for their protection, recognizing that conservation areas are just one way to protect ecosystems potentially affected by the management activities.</p> <p>6.5.5: Organizations with low potential impact activities may establish smaller or fewer representative samples. For more information, refer to Annex D in the IGI standard.</p>

P	Criterion and indicators	Main SIR elements	Relevant Impact Factor	Addressing SIR
	comprise a minimum 10% area of the Management Unit*.			
7	<p>7.1: <i>The Organization* shall*</i>, proportionate to <i>scale, intensity and risk*</i> of its management activities, set policies (visions and values) and <i>objectives*</i> for management, which are environmentally sound, socially beneficial and economically viable. Summaries of these policies and <i>objectives* shall*</i> be incorporated into the <i>management plan*</i>, and publicized.</p> <p>7.1.1 Policies (vision and values) that contribute to meeting the requirements of this standard are defined.</p> <p>7.1.2 Specific, operational <i>management objectives*</i> that address the requirements of this standard are defined.</p> <p>7.1.3 Summaries of the defined policies and <i>management objectives*</i> are included in the <i>management plan*</i> and publicized.</p>	Scale, intensity and risk refer to the management activities of The Organization and relates to setting policies and objectives.	<p>1. <b>Scale:</b> main impact factor together with intensity.</p> <p>2. <b>Intensity:</b> main impact factor together with scale.</p> <p>3. <b>Risk:</b> relevant factor, linked to the social, economic and environmental context of the Management Unit.</p>	<p>7.1.1 and 7.1.2: Organizations with low potential unacceptable negative impact activities may establish policies and operational management objectives in a greatly simplified format, as defined by Standard Developers, recognizing that national and regional legal requirements will need to be met.</p> <p>7.1.3: Organizations with low potential impact activities may publicize the policies and operational management objectives verbally.</p>
7	7.2: The Organization* shall* have and implement a management plan* for the	Scale, intensity and risk refer to the management	1. <b>Scale:</b> main impact factor together with intensity.	7.2.1 and 7.2.2: Standards Developers should use Annex E of the IGI standard and apply scale, intensity and risk to its content, by defining which of the listed aspects should be used by

P	Criterion and indicators	Main SIR elements	Relevant Impact Factor	Addressing SIR
	<p>Management Unit* which is fully consistent with the policies and objectives* as established according to Criterion 7.1. The management plan* shall* describe the natural resources that exist in the Management Unit* and explain how the plan will meet the FSC certification requirements. The management plan* shall* cover forest* management planning and social management planning proportionate to scale, intensity and risk* of the planned activities.</p> <p>7.2.1 The <i>management plan*</i> includes management actions, procedures, strategies and measures to achieve the <i>management objectives*</i>.</p> <p>7.2.2 The <i>management plan*</i> addresses the elements listed in Annex E, and is implemented.</p>	<p>activities of The Organization and relates to the content of the management plan.</p>	<p>2. <b>Intensity:</b> main impact factor together with scale.</p> <p>3. <b>Risk:</b> relevant factor, linked to the social, economic and environmental context of the Management Unit.</p>	<p>Organizations with low potential unacceptable negative impact activities.</p> <p>Organizations with low potential unacceptable negative impact activities may establish management actions, procedures, strategies and measures to achieve the <i>management objectives*</i> in a greatly simplified format, as defined by Standard Developers, recognizing that national and regional legal requirements shall be met in all cases.</p> <p>Examples of SIR indicators for organizations with low potential unacceptable negative impact activities:</p> <p>L7.2.1: Policies (vision and values), management actions, procedures, strategies and measures to achieve the <i>management objectives</i> of this standard are described.</p>
7	<p>7.6: <i>The Organization* shall*</i>, proportionate to <i>scale, intensity and risk*</i> of management activities, proactively and transparently engage <i>affected stakeholders*</i> in its management planning and monitoring</p>	<p>Scale, intensity and risk refer to the management activities of The Organization and relates to the engagement of</p>	<p>1. <b>Scale:</b> main impact factor together with intensity.</p>	<p>Standard Developers shall develop culturally appropriate engagement processes for the Criteria specified in Indicator 7.6.1, following the requirements of Indicator 7.6.2, with variations according to the target group if deemed necessary</p>

P	Criterion and indicators	Main SIR elements	Relevant Impact Factor	Addressing SIR
	<p>processes, and <i>shall</i>* engage <i>interested stakeholders</i>* on request.</p> <p>7.6.1 <i>Culturally appropriate engagement</i>* is used to ensure that <i>affected stakeholders</i>* are proactively and transparently engaged in the following processes:</p> <p>1) <i>Dispute</i>* resolution processes (<i>Criterion</i>* 1.6, <i>Criterion</i>* 2.6, <i>Criterion</i>* 4.6);</p> <p>2) Definition of <i>Living wages</i>* (<i>Criterion</i>* 2.4);</p> <p>3) Identification of rights (<i>Criterion</i>* 3.1, <i>Criterion</i>* 4.1), sites (<i>Criterion</i>* 3.5, <i>Criterion</i>* 4.7) and impacts (<i>Criterion</i>* 4.5);</p> <p>4) <i>Local communities</i>** socio-economic development activities (<i>Criterion</i>* 4.4); and</p> <p>5) <i>High Conservation Value</i>* assessment, management and monitoring (<i>Criterion</i>* 9.1, <i>Criterion</i>* 9.2, <i>Criterion</i>* 9.4).</p>	<p>stakeholders in management planning and monitoring.</p>	<p>2. <b>Intensity</b>: main impact factor together with scale.</p> <p>3. <b>Risk</b>: refers to the interests of affected stakeholders and interested stakeholders.</p>	<p>7.6.1, 7.6.3 and 7.6.4: Organizations with low potential unacceptable negative impact activities have fewer responsibilities for stakeholder engagement and should generally be required to understand the interests and concerns of neighbours and adjacent landowners. This should be extended to potentially affected stakeholders that are not neighbours, for example waterusers downstream of the Management Units.</p> <p>Organizations with low potential unacceptable negative impact activities may use greatly simplified methods to engage with neighbours and affected stakeholders on management planning and monitoring processes. This may include having greatly reduced responsibilities with regards to interested stakeholders.</p> <p>Organizations with high potential unacceptable negative impact activities are expected to implement proactive engagement procedures. These may include the development of an engagement strategy. This strategy should identify, for example, the local communities, community members and organizations to be involved, the methodology and timeline for engagement and linkage to the dispute resolution process. In some cases, large-scale forestry operations would be expected to provide adequate funds to ensure that local communities can be meaningfully involved.</p> <p>Examples of SIR indicators for Organizations with low potential unacceptable negative impact activities:</p> <p>L7.6.1: Culturally appropriate engagement is used to ensure that affected stakeholders help meet the requirements of elements 1) to 5)</p> <p>L7.6.3: Culturally appropriate engagement for monitoring and planning processes of management activities is completed so that</p>

P	Criterion and indicators	Main SIR elements	Relevant Impact Factor	Addressing SIR
	<p>7.6.2 Culturally appropriate* engagement* is used to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Determine appropriate representatives and contact points (including where appropriate, local institutions, organizations and authorities);</li> <li>2) Determine mutually agreed communication channels allowing for information to flow in both directions;</li> <li>3) Ensure all actors (women, youth, elderly, minorities) are represented and engaged equitably;</li> <li>4) Ensure all meetings, all points discussed and all agreements reached are recorded;</li> <li>5) Ensure the content of meeting records is approved; and</li> <li>6) Ensure the results of all <i>culturally appropriate* engagement*</i> activities are shared with those involved.</li> </ol> <p>7.6.3 <i>Affected stakeholders*</i> are provided with an opportunity for <i>culturally appropriate* engagement*</i> in monitoring and planning processes of</p>			<p>the concerns and interests of affected stakeholders and Indigenous Peoples guide the development of management activities. .</p> <p>Examples of SIR indicators for Organizations with high potential unacceptable negative impact activities:</p> <p>H7.6.1: An engagement strategy is implemented to ensure that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) A dispute resolution is developed and agreed to,</li> <li>b) Affected stakeholders are identified and sufficiently involved in the planning process; and</li> <li>c) Interested stakeholders sufficiently involved in the planning process</li> </ol>

P	Criterion and indicators	Main SIR elements	Relevant Impact Factor	Addressing SIR
	<p>management activities that affect their interests.</p> <p>7.6.4 On request, <i>interested stakeholders*</i> are provided with an opportunity for <i>engagement*</i> in monitoring and planning</p>			
8	<p>8.2: The Organization* shall monitor and evaluate the environmental and social impacts of the activities carried out in the Management Unit*, and changes in its environmental condition.</p> <p>8.2.1 The social and environmental impacts of management activities are monitored* consistent with Annex G.</p> <p>8.2.2 Changes in environmental conditions are monitored* consistent with Annex G.</p>	<p>Scale, intensity and risk are mentioned in Principle 8, but not in all its Criteria.</p> <p>In Criterion 8.2 the concept of scale, intensity and risk should be applied referred to the management activities of The Organization, and related to the monitoring and evaluation.</p>	<p>1. <b>Scale:</b> main impact factor together with intensity.</p> <p>2. <b>Intensity:</b> main impact factor together with scale.</p> <p>3. <b>Risk:</b> is inherent to the management activity, and is sufficiently addressed by scale and the intensity.</p>	<p>SIR is mentioned in Principle 8. Therefore all Criteria are subject to SIR.</p> <p>8.2.1 and 8.2.2: Organizations with low potential unacceptable negative impact activities could use the existing FSC tools for streamlined monitoring (<a href="#">FSC Website</a>).</p> <p>Standards Developers should use Annex G of the IGI standard and define which of the listed aspects should be used by Organizations with low potential impacts.</p> <p>Suggested Alternative(s)</p> <p>Organizations with low potential unacceptable negative impact activities are expected to monitor those activities which can be observed or where information can be gathered from existing sources. Group Managers may also have a role in developing monitoring procedures, gathering monitoring data, and preparing summaries of monitoring results.</p> <p>Organizations with high potential unacceptable negative impact activities are expected to set up and implement monitoring programs that measure the effectiveness of all of their management activities including those that require gathering their own data.</p>
8	<p>8.5: The Organization* shall* have and implement a tracking and tracing system proportionate to scale, intensity</p>	<p>Scale, intensity and risk refer to the management</p>	<p>1. <b>Scale:</b> relevant factor, together with intensity.</p>	<p>8.5.1 to 8.5.3: Organizations with low potential unacceptable negative impact activities should keep sales invoices that can be used to demonstrate that a tracking system is in place.</p>

P	Criterion and indicators	Main SIR elements	Relevant Impact Factor	Addressing SIR
	<p>and risk* of its management activities, for demonstrating the source and volume in proportion to projected output for each year, of all products from the Management Unit* that are marketed as FSC certified.</p> <p>8.5.1 A system is implemented to track and trace all products that are marketed as FSC certified.</p> <p>8.5.2 Information about all products sold is compiled and documented, including:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Common and scientific species name;</li> <li>2) Product name or description;</li> <li>3) Volume (or quantity) of product;</li> <li>4) Information to trace the material to the source of origin logging block;</li> <li>5) Logging date;</li> <li>6) If basic processing activities take place in the forest, the date and volume produced; and</li> <li>7) Whether or not the material was sold as FSC certified.</li> </ol>	<p>activities of The Organization and relates to tracking and tracing.</p>	<p>2. <b>Intensity:</b> main impact factor. If nothing is sold in any given year, tracking and tracing is irrelevant.</p> <p>3. <b>Risk:</b> refers to the risk that logs from uncertified forests enter into certified batches of logs, and is sufficiently addressed by scale and intensity.</p>	<p>Organizations with high potential unacceptable negative impact activities should have inventory control systems sufficient to track all harvested material from the cut block or coupe to the forest gate.</p>

P	Criterion and indicators	Main SIR elements	Relevant Impact Factor	Addressing SIR
	<p>8.5.3 Sales invoices or similar documentation are kept for a minimum of five years for all products sold with an FSC claim, which identify at a minimum, the following information:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Name and address of purchaser;</li> <li>2) The date of sale;</li> <li>3) Common and scientific species name;</li> <li>4) Product description;</li> <li>5) The volume (or quantity) sold;</li> <li>6) Certificate code; and</li> <li>7) The FSC Claim “FSC 100%” identifying products sold as FSC certified.</li> </ol>			
9	<p>9.1: <i>The Organization*</i>, through <i>engagement*</i> with <i>affected stakeholders*</i>, <i>interested stakeholders*</i> and other means and sources, shall assess and record the presence and status of the following <i>High Conservation Values*</i> in the <i>Management Unit*</i>, proportionate to the <i>scale, intensity and risk*</i> of impacts of management activities, and</p>	<p>Scale, intensity and risk refer to the impacts of management activities and, together with the likelihood of the occurrence of High Conservation Values, relates to</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Scale:</b> main impact factor together with intensity &amp; risk.</li> <li>2. <b>Intensity:</b> main impact factor together with scale &amp; risk.</li> <li>3. <b>Risk:</b> main impact factor, linked to the</li> </ol>	<p>For High Conservation Values, the intensity of assessments should take account of the likelihood of identifying HCVs. If local expert and stakeholder opinion has clear consensus about which HCVs are believed to be present, and especially if the danger of negative impacts of management is minimal, then it should not be necessary to carry out detailed and costly surveys at an early stage.</p> <p>For example, if rare or threatened ecosystems are known to be present, if they are not believed to be at risk, and if these areas are assigned to full protection, then detailed biological surveys are not always immediately necessary. Engagement should be based on</p>



P	Criterion and indicators	Main SIR elements	Relevant Impact Factor	Addressing SIR
	<p>likelihood of the occurrence of the <i>High Conservation Values</i>*.</p> <p>9.1.1 An assessment is completed using <i>Best Available Information</i>* that records the location and status of <i>High Conservation Value</i>* Categories 1-6, as defined in <i>Criterion</i>* 9.1; the <i>High Conservation Value Areas</i>* they rely upon, and their condition.</p> <p>9.1.2 The assessment uses results from culturally appropriate* engagement* with affected* and interested stakeholders* with an interest in the conservation* of the High Conservation Values*.</p>	<p>the assessment of HCVs.</p>	<p>likelihood of the occurrence of the High Conservation Values.</p>	<p>the strategy established to meet the engagement requirements of other Criteria</p> <p>9.1.1 and 9.1.2: For Organizations with low potential unacceptable negative impact activities assessments of High Conservation Values can be based on what the manager knows and observes, and what s/he learns from neighbours and other local stakeholders, together with existing assessments and mapping. For low potential impact Organizations there is no need to conduct additional assessments of High Conservation Values beyond those that already exist.</p> <p>Organizations with low potential unacceptable negative impact activities could use 'Best Available Information' that the manager knows and observes, and what s/he learns from neighbours or stakeholders, together with existing assessments and mapping.</p> <p>Organizations with low potential unacceptable negative activities could use existing FSC tools for HCV assessment (<a href="#">FSC Website</a>).</p> <p>Organizations with high potential unacceptable negative impact activities are expected to implement comprehensive HCV assessments. Best Available information should include independent research to fill in gaps in existing information.</p>
9	<p>9.3: <i>The Organization</i>* shall* implement strategies and actions that maintain and/or enhance the identified <i>High Conservation Values</i>*. These strategies and actions shall* implement</p>	<p>Scale, intensity and risk refer to the management activities and relates to the</p>	<p>1. <b>Scale</b>: main impact factor together with intensity &amp; risk.</p>	<p>The FSC definition of 'precautionary approach' is to be used for applying this Criterion. Any threat to a High Conservation Value is considered to be a threat of severe or irreversible damage, and The Organization will take explicit and effective measures to prevent the damage and avoid risks.</p>

P	Criterion and indicators	Main SIR elements	Relevant Impact Factor	Addressing SIR
	<p>the <i>precautionary approach</i>* and be proportionate to the <i>scale, intensity and risk</i>* of management activities.</p> <p>9.3.1 The <i>High Conservation Values</i>* and the <i>High Conservation Value Areas</i>* on which they depend are maintained and/or enhanced, including by implementing the strategies developed.</p> <p>9.3.2 The strategies and actions prevent damage and avoid risks to <i>High Conservation Values</i>*, even when the scientific information is incomplete or inconclusive, and when the vulnerability and sensitivity of <i>High Conservation Values</i>* are uncertain.</p> <p>9.3.3 Activities that harm <i>High Conservation Values</i>* cease immediately and actions are taken to <i>restore</i>* and protect the <i>High Conservation Values</i>*.</p>	<p>maintenance and enhancement of HCVs.</p>	<p>2. <b>Intensity</b>: main impact factor together with scale &amp; risk.</p> <p>3. <b>Risk</b>: main impact factor, linked to the presence of HCVs.</p> <p><b>Are there HCVs in the MU?</b></p> <p>If No: Criterion 9.3 (and 9.2 and 9.4) wouldn't apply</p> <p>If Yes: Apply the correspondent indicators depending on the scale and intensity of the management activities, which would classify The Organization as having low, standard or high impact. In addition to this, the precautionary approach should be always applied.</p>	<p>In the case of doubt about the presence of High Conservation Values, The Organization should take measures to resolve the doubts, and to set appropriate management strategies, actions and monitoring. These measures are required even when the scientific information is incomplete or inconclusive, acknowledging that scientific information is never complete.</p> <p>Decisions should be based on the reasonable probability of the occurrence of High Conservation Values, according to the best available information.</p> <p>9.3.1, 9.3.2 and 9.3.3: Organizations with potential unacceptable negative potential impact activities could use the existing FSC tools for HCV assessment (<a href="#">FSC Website</a>).</p>
9	<p>9.4: <i>The Organization</i>* shall demonstrate that periodic monitoring is carried out to assess changes in the</p>	<p>Scale, intensity and risk refer to the management</p>	<p>1. <b>Scale</b>: main impact factor together with intensity &amp; risk.</p>	<p>This Criterion recognizes that the frequency of monitoring depends on the specific situation, for example:</p>

P	Criterion and indicators	Main SIR elements	Relevant Impact Factor	Addressing SIR
	<p>status of <i>High Conservation Values</i>*, and <i>shall</i>* adapt its management strategies to ensure their effective <i>protection</i>*. The monitoring shall be proportionate to the <i>scale, intensity and risk</i>* of management activities, and shall include <i>engagement</i>* with <i>affected stakeholders</i>*, <i>interested stakeholders</i>* and experts.</p> <p>9.4.1 A program of periodic monitoring assesses:</p> <p>1) Implementation of strategies;</p> <p>2) The status of High Conservation Values*, including High Conservation Value Areas* on which they depend; and</p> <p>3) The effectiveness of the management strategies and actions for the <i>protection</i>* of <i>High Conservation Values</i>*, to fully maintain and/or enhance the <i>High Conservation Values</i>*.</p> <p>9.4.2 The monitoring program includes <i>engagement</i>* with <i>affected</i>* and <i>interested stakeholders</i>* and experts.</p>	<p>activities and relates to periodic monitoring.</p>	<p>2. <b>Intensity</b>: main impact factor together with scale &amp; risk.</p> <p>3. <b>Risk</b>: main impact factor, linked to the potential impact of the management activities.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The nature of the High Conservation Values (for example, the ecology and particular attributes);</li> <li>• Options for the management of the High Conservation Values; and</li> <li>• Scale, intensity and risk of impacts of management activities.</li> </ul> <p>This could require regular or sporadic monitoring. This could range from daily monitoring during management activities, to monitoring that is monthly, annually or less frequent.</p> <p>9.4.1 and 9.4.2: Organizations with low potential unacceptable negative impact activities: Monitoring of High Conservation Values can be based on what the manager knows and observes, and what s/he learns from neighbours and other local stakeholders, together with existing monitoring and mapping.</p> <p>Organizations with low potential unacceptable negative impact activities could use the existing FSC tools for monitoring (<a href="#">FSC Website</a>).</p> <p>Organizations with high potential unacceptable negative impact activities are expected to set up and implement monitoring programs that measure the effectiveness of all of their management activities including those that require gathering their own data.</p>

P	Criterion and indicators	Main SIR elements	Relevant Impact Factor	Addressing SIR
	<p>9.4.3 The monitoring program has sufficient scope, detail and frequency to detect changes in <i>High Conservation Values*</i>, relative to the initial assessment and status identified for each <i>High Conservation Value*</i>.</p> <p>9.4.4 Management strategies and actions are adapted when monitoring or other new information show that these strategies and actions are insufficient to ensure the maintenance and/or enhancement of <i>High Conservation Values*</i>.</p>			
10	<p>10.9: <i>The Organization* shall* assess risks* and implement activities that reduce potential negative impacts from natural hazards proportionate to scale, intensity, and risk*</i>.</p> <p>10.9.1 Potential negative impacts of <i>natural hazards* on infrastructure*, forest* resources and communities in the Management Unit* are assessed.</i></p> <p>10.9.2 Management activities mitigate these impacts.</p>	<p>Scale, intensity and risk refer to The Organization and relates to the risk assessment and to activities that can reduce potential negative impacts from natural hazards.</p>	<p>1. <b>Scale:</b> main impact factor, together with intensity.</p> <p>2. <b>Intensity:</b> main impact factor, together with scale.</p> <p>3. <b>Risk:</b> relevant factor. Depends on the susceptibility of the Management Unit to natural hazards, as well as to the scale of</p>	<p>The intent of this Criterion is to reduce and mitigate the risk that more intensive forest management will increase the frequency and intensity of disturbances like landslides, pests, or fire, and / or reduce the forests' natural resilience to such disturbances.</p> <p>The higher the risk of potential unacceptable negative impacts from natural hazards the more detailed, comprehensive and frequent should be the activities implemented by The Organization to reduce the potential unacceptable negative impacts of natural hazards.</p> <p>10.9.1 and 10.9.3: Risk assessment of the potential natural hazards (Indicator 10.9.1) and the identification of the management activities that influence the natural hazards (Indicator 10.9.3) depend on the scale and intensity of the management activities.</p> <p>For Organizations with low potential unacceptable negative impact activities the assessment of whether management activities will</p>

P	Criterion and indicators	Main SIR elements	Relevant Impact Factor	Addressing SIR
	<p>10.9.3 The <i>risk</i>* for management activities to increase the frequency, distribution or severity of <i>natural hazards</i>* is identified for those <i>hazards</i>* that may be influenced by management.</p> <p>10.9.4 Management activities are modified and/or measures are developed and implemented that reduce the identified <i>risks</i>*.</p>		the management activities.	<p>increase the frequency and intensity of disturbances like landslides, pests, or fire, and / or reduce the forests' natural resilience to such disturbances can be based on what the manager knows and observes, and what s/he learns from neighbours and other local stakeholders, together with existing assessments.</p> <p>For Organizations with high potential unacceptable negative impact activities the assessment of whether management activities will increase the frequency and intensity of disturbances like landslides, pests, or fire, and / or reduce the forests' natural resilience to such disturbances should be based on best available information including independent research where sufficient information does not exist.</p> <p>10.9.2 and 10.9.4: Activities that reduce potential unacceptable negative impacts from natural hazards (Indicator 10.9.2) and reduce identified risks (Indicator 10.9.4) should be implemented dependent on the scale and intensity of the management activities.</p> <p>Organizations with low potential unacceptable negative impact activities could apply some of these measures: create and maintain fire breaks and reservoir ponds to prevent fire damage; apply silvicultural regimes that avoid unstable stand boundaries and prevent storm damage and windthrow; controlled burning for pest control; preserve natural patterns of drainage and wetlands to prevent flood damage; etc.</p> <p>Examples of SIR indicators for Organizations with low potential unacceptable negative impact activities: L10.9.1: Drop</p>

P	Criterion and indicators	Main SIR elements	Relevant Impact Factor	Addressing SIR
				L10.9.2 Where capacity and resources allow, management activities mitigate potential unacceptable negative impacts of natural hazards. If capacity or resources do not allow, the Organization or manager communicates with government or relevant local Organizations about mitigation capacity and possibilities.

## **DEVELOPMENT OF INDICATORS FOR LARGE-SCALE FOREST OPERATIONS (LSFO)**

Based on Motion 20:2011 *Landscape Level Impacts in Big Operations*, FSC International conducted a *Study on the Impacts of Large-Scale Forestry Operations in Global North and South* (finalized in August, 2014). The study confirmed that LSFO might have exceptional impacts in certain conditions and therefore it may be justifiable to develop specific indicators to ensure their full compliance with the FSC Principles and Criteria.

According to different settings of national forest sectors, LSFO may or may not exist in a particular country. Consequently, as a first step Standard Developers are requested to conduct a baseline analysis to identify whether this type of operations are present in the national context. If the baseline analysis confirms presence, Standard Developers are then, in a second step, requested to develop specific indicators during transfer or development of National Standards.

The need to develop specific indicators is linked to potential impact and/or influence forest operations and corresponding organisations might have on environmental resources and affected stakeholders. The greater impact and/or influence might be, the higher the need to develop specific indicators that prevent potentially adverse outcomes of forest operations. For example, forest operations and corresponding organizations may have:

- A dominating role in the local and regional economy,
- The political and/or economic power to influence the local and regional dynamics, or
- Cumulatively large or landscape scale environmental and/or social impacts.

For forest operations that meet any of the abovementioned aspects, there may be a need to develop specific indicators. This need may be also confirmed by comments and complaints from local and regional stakeholders.

### **How to identify LFOS in the national context?**

'Large' may refer to the area of natural forest or plantation; the volume of timber extracted or processed; the value of production; or the magnitude of impact of management activities. Standard Developers are recommended to consider the following parameters for identification of LSFO in the national context:

- An area equal or greater than xxxx ha of forest or xxxx ha of plantation (either in individual operations or collectively under one ownership or in one landscape),
- *Management Unit* occupies equal or greater than xx% of the land base of a district or municipality,
- number of affected communities,
- equal or greater than xxxx employees (directly employed or through contractors, including seasonal workers),
- annual sales equal or greater than USD xxxx million,
- annual production volume equal or greater than xxxx qm.

Any forest operation that meets one or more of the above mentioned parameters may be defined as LSFO in the national context. Standard Developers are requested to

identify meaningful thresholds based on their expertise and in consultation with national stakeholders.

### How to develop specific indicators for LSFO?

If the baseline analysis confirms presence of LSFO, Standard Developers are recommended to consider the following when developing specific indicators:

- 1) **EIA before certification by registered experts:** Adverse environmental and social impacts should be prevented or mitigated before damage has occurred. Consider requiring that organisations hire registered experts to conduct environmental and social impact assessments prior to being certified.
- 2) **Defining economic, social and environmental net benefits:** Short-term economic benefits should not overrule adverse long-term social and environmental impacts. Consider developing indicators and corresponding guidance for forest management planning that balance economic benefit with long-term social and environmental impacts. Social and environmental net-benefits have to be greater than losses and the beneficiaries have to be the same as the ones who face the possible loss.
- 3) **Historic perspective to land use rights:** In countries where land claims are a major and historical issue, consider developing indicators and corresponding guidance that require the identification of indigenous and local rights (Chile case: Indigenous people's lands were allocated to LSFO during the dictatorship in 1970ies, now certified by FSC).
- 4) **Raise awareness of rights:** Affected stakeholders may not be aware of their rights expressed in FSC National Standards and the forest management plan. Consider developing indicators and corresponding guidance that require to proactively inform Indigenous Peoples and affected stakeholders about forest management plans, planned forest operations and the rights FSC National Standards offer to them - using meaningful language and easy-to-reach communication channels.
- 5) **Develop a stakeholder strategy and empower affected stakeholders:** Consider developing indicators and corresponding guidance that require development and maintenance of a community and stakeholders' relationship strategy, including:
  - a. Development of a national or regional stakeholder database,
  - b. Establishment of a permanent national or regional consultation platform to ensure constant and systematic feedback,
  - c. Support the capacity of Indigenous Peoples and affected stakeholders to:
    - i. Give feedback and report their observations,
    - ii. Participate in forest management planning,
    - iii. Get employed in forest management operations,
    - iv. Participate in monitoring.
- 6) **Publish maps of management units:** Consider developing indicators that require publishing the entire forest management plan with maps (excluding confidential information or information that might negatively affect third parties rights) and the time schedule of management operations.



*References*

Unda, A. & Lem, T. 2014. FSC Motion 20: Study on the Impacts of Large-Scale Forestry Operations in Global North and South. Submitted to FSC membership at 27 Aug 2014

Motion 20, General Assembly 2011

Results of group work of "Quality of Certification side event", General Assembly 2014



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