



## Project Name: Group Certification Standard Revision

August 2018 – April 2020

### Objective:

- To revise the Group Certification Standard that will:
  - Align with FSC normative documents and Strategic Plan
  - Address concerns expressed by stakeholders, certificate holders, and certification bodies
  - Consider the inclusion of new mechanisms to improve group certificates
  - Enhance inclusion of stakeholder groups such as smallholders and communities

### Geography & Unique Needs:

- International relevance
- Builds on previous efforts to describe the formalized relationship between group managers and members within a group certification scheme
- GA2017/46 sought to revise the group standard to include stakeholder perspectives and with consideration of

enhanced conditions to communities and small forest owners, integration of new elements such as a formalized role for contractors, and considerations of concepts like risk based or stepwise approaches.

### Activities/Methodology:

- Conducted **global survey** to guide the standard revision
- Established a **Technical Working Group** of seven members
- **Approved work plan and timeline**

### Outcomes

- Under development

### Reference Documents:

- FSC-PRO-01-001 [Development and Revision of FSC Normative Documents](#)
- FSC-STD-30-005 [FSC Standard for Group Entities in Forest Management Groups](#)

## 2019 GOALS

The revision of the standard, with a focused Technical Working Group, will be streamlined

All relevant related issues into one, simply-built standard, will be incorporated

Ensure group certification supports certificate holders, particularly smallholders

**10% accomplished**

## PROJECT LINKS

To collect or provide input to:

- Group Model Type III pilot test
- Forestry Contractors field test
- Forest Management Evaluation Standard revision