



FOCUS FORESTS LANDSCAPE DIALOGUES – COORDINATION AND LOGISTICS

FSC is exploring landscape approaches for forests with extraordinary social and environmental values. In exploring this, landscape dialogues are being organized in 2022, in close collaboration with a consortium of academic researchers lead by Professor Claude Garcia. These dialogues look at a specific identified landscape and bring stakeholders in that landscape together to analyse the different uses of the landscape, including its biodiversity and socio-economic use. The dialogues will be facilitated by a team of 4 researchers. The methodology is based on economic models and game theory. Further information can be obtained [here](#) and [here](#).

This information sheet explains how these dialogues are organized



1. THE PURPOSE OF THE DIALOGUE

The dialogue aims to bring different stakeholders together to develop a landscape analysis and explore different management options that ensure socially and environmentally responsible use of forest landscapes. Participants will identify where different landscape uses including conservation, ecosystem services, extraction and restoration could best be developed in the specific landscape and explore the roles FSC and FSC certification could play, both in- and outside of certified forest management units. The result is expected to be a landscape analysis, which identifies what use of the landscape is best where. Such an analysis can be part of certification decisions FSC would take, which is a development that will be subject of discussion at the FSC GA in October 2022.



2. THE LANDSCAPE

A landscape dialogue is organized in a specific and identified tropical or boreal landscape. A landscape can be proposed by FSC members and stakeholders. Usually, such a landscape would have multiple uses, and different stakeholders connected to these. Because the dialogues are part of a pilot project, the selected landscapes serve as field tests for the dialogue approach, and they will be evaluated in the FSC General Assembly of members in October 2022, to identify the use of landscape approaches within FSCs scheme. The first tropical landscape that is proposed and selected, is in Gabon.



3. PARTICIPANTS IN THE DIALOGUE

A landscape dialogue can have a maximum of 40 participants. After selection of the landscape, FSC's Network Partner in the country and other collaborative partners will propose an initial list of 20 key invitees, based on their role in the landscape. In compiling the list of invitees, special attention is given to different governmental levels, social and environmental stakeholders, community and Indigenous peoples in the landscape and political structures and customary representatives. The 20 initial invitees are asked to nominate one other invitee each, connected to the identified landscape and a valuable representant of stakeholders in that landscape, who should be invited too. In this way, we hope to invite a representative group of stakeholders present at the dialogue, including representatives that FSC may not know but are important for the landscape. There will be an equal balance between social, environmental, and economic stakeholders in participants invited.



4. WHAT PARTICIPATION IN THE DIALOGUE MEANS

By participating in a landscape dialogue, stakeholders engage in a collaborative process discussing the different interests of the stakeholders in the landscape, biodiversity, social interests, and landscape use. The dialogue will last 4 days, and participants are asked to engage and attend all 4 days; a partial engagement is not possible. To allow for informal exchanges beyond workshop hours, all participants and organizers will stay overnight in the same location. Participants are invited for the cause of the full dialogue, and costs for travel and accommodation for social and environmental participants will be covered by FSC. Economic and governmental participants can contact FSC if reimbursement is needed.



5. OBSERVING THE DIALOGUE

It is not possible for observers to be present during the dialogue.



6. FEEDBACK AND EVALUATION

At the end of the 4-day dialogue, all participants will be asked to provide feedback on the dialogue and how this was helpful or not, lessons learned and other observations. This will be through a recorded session available for FSC members and staff. Direct, confidential, and personal feedback is also possible, both during and at the end of the dialogue. Feedback allows FSC members to evaluate the outcomes of the dialogue and measure whether the objectives for the dialogue were met. The recording of the landscape dialogue evaluation will be discussed in the Focus Forests Advisory Group¹ and turned into learnings for future dialogues.



7. SAFETY

To ensure health safety for participants, all required COVID-19 protective measures will be taken based on recommendations by the international, national, and local authorities. This might involve physical distancing, wearing masks, frequently washing hands, ensuring proper ventilation, regular disinfection of shared

¹ The Focus Forest Advisory group is an FSC members group advising the FSC Board of Directors on developments in Focus Forests, consisting of 6 members from FSC's 3 chambers (economic, environmental, social). Each chamber has a representative from North and from South in the group.