# CSFEP Environmental and Social Safeguards Alignment ANNEX 2 RISK MITIGATION GUIDANCE

This Annex is intended to provide additional guidance to the Challenge Owner (CO) and Independent Assessor (IA) of the Climate Smart Forest Economy Program (CSFEP) Business Initiative (BI) on potential risk mitigation activities for risks identified

* Forest management and indeed any type of land-use activity present both risks and opportunities.
* Where a risk is identified for the Issue Area and is Medium or High the CO should consider risk mitigation, which may vary depending on the severity and likelihood of the risk.
* Whenever risks are identified within a specific sourcing area, that is not already mitigated through existing third-party certifications, the CO should strive to, as part of the overall risk mitigation continually improve their understanding of the particular issue area, associated risks, and possible risk mitigations, through learning and stakeholder engagement, such as exchanges with local practitioners and researchers. References to useful sources of information can be found in table below.
* When using existing standards and safeguard frameworks, cross checking definitions is an important initial step to determine alignment or misalignment in criteria. Adjusting or expanding interpretation of the indicator or looking to a different source of guidance that can provide more appropriate criteria may be required.
* If impacts of risks are considered to be too severe within the existing scope of the project, it may be necessary to fundamentally change the project design, for example the timber source, or it may even be decided that it is not possible to implement the project at all under the auspice of a climate-smart initiative.

# risk assessment Matrix

PURPOSE Risk Assessment Matrix for CO with IA to use as Guidance in completion of Step 3 (Risk Assessment).

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  |  | **Consequence severity** |
|  |  | **Positive Impact** | **Low Severity** | **Low-Med Severity** | **Medium Severity** | **Med-High Severity** | **High Severity** | **Extreme Severity** | **Unknown** |
| **Likelihood of impact** | **Very Unlikely** | Possible Co-Benefit | Low Risk | Low Risk | Low Risk | Low Risk | Low-Med Risk | High Risk | Low-Med Risk |
| **Unlikely** | Possible Co-Benefit | Low Risk | Low Risk | Low-Med Risk | Low-Med Risk | Medium Risk | High Risk | Medium Risk |
| **Moderately Unlikely** | Possible Co-Benefit | Low Risk | Low-Med Risk | Medium Risk | Medium Risk | High Risk | High Risk | High Risk |
| **Likely** | Possible Co-Benefit | Low-Med Risk | Low-Med Risk | Medium Risk | High Risk | High Risk | High Risk | High Risk |
| **Very Likely** | Possible Co-Benefit | Low-Med Risk | Medium Risk | High Risk | High Risk | High Risk | High Risk | High Risk |
| **Unknown** | Possible Co-Benefit | Low-Med Risk | Medium Risk | High Risk | High Risk | High Risk | High Risk | High Risk |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| ISSUE AREAS AND DEFINITION | RISK MITIGATION EXAMPLES (NON-EXCLUSIVE) |
| **GENERIC ISSUES** | *Sources of information to continually improve the overall understanding of the issue area and risk severity and likelihood* * Continual improvement of understanding of the overall country situation (political, societal, economic context) and particular issue areas, such as through
	+ General media (newspapers, blogs)
	+ Corruption Perception Index (CPI) : [https://www.transparency.org/en/cpi/2021](https://foresteurope.org/adaptation-climate-change-sustainable-forest-management-europe/)

Mapping* Environmental Justice Atlas [https://ejatlas.org/](https://ceobs.org/)
* Conflict and Environment Observatory [https://ceobs.org/](https://publications.iadb.org/publications/english/document/Good-Practices-for-Biodiversity-Inclusive-Impact-Assessment-and-Management-Planning.pdf)
* Unidades de Conservaçao no Brazil – mapping of Conservation areas in Brazil https://uc.socioambiental.org/en
* Google maps https://www.google.com/maps

Due diligence screening for supply chain partners* + https://www.reprisk.com/
	+ https://www.refinitiv.com/en/products/world-check-kyc-screening

Specialized media * <https://redd-monitor.org/>
* https://news.mongabay.com/

Project listings* www.reddprojectdatabase.org

[https://reforestation.app/](https://fsc.org/en/newsfeed/high-conservation-value-hcv-guidance-documents-published)* Technical knowledge sources: FAO, CIFOR, CATIE
* Global Local/regional market intelligence
* Remote sensing, drones etc.

*Examples of mitigation which may wholly or partly mitigate risks across issue areas** Safeguarding frameworks, incl. FSC and PEFC certification, Climate, Community & Biodiversity (CCB) Standards, FAO E&S Management, Gold Standard, IFC E&S Performance Standards, UNDP Social and Environmental Standards
* Other evidence which may inform both risk assessment and mitigation include :
	+ Interviews and engagement with local stakeholders including NGOs, community groups, local forestry officials, local FSC or PEFC offices, trade bodies and academics to identify what national or local best practices are and to confirm management is in alignment with those

For Issue Area specific guidance, see below.  |
| **BIODIVERSITY***Biodiversity encompasses a variety of organisms including living animals, plants, fungi, and microorganisms in a specific location, those that frequent or use a location periodically, or the ecosystem services that the location supports.* | *Potential impacts* such as biodiversity loss can be measured in various ways (including, but not limited to, a reduction in the number of different species). *Primary risk drivers* according to the IPBES Global Assessment 2019 include land use change (e.g., intensification of forest harvesting; or mining; or habitat fragmentation); exploitation of species including harvesting, hunting and trade, changes to climate and weather patterns; pollution, invasive species, and indirect drivers such as increasing consumption per capita (Adapted from https://ipbes.net/models-drivers-biodiversity-ecosystem-change). . *Sources of information to continually improve the overall understanding of the issue area and risk severity and likelihood* * [Forest Trends ILAT Risk Home Page - Forest Trends (forest-trends.org)](https://www.forest-trends.org/fptf-ilat-home/)
* [Forest Monitoring, Land Use & Deforestation Trends | Global Forest Watch](https://us)
* [Good Practices for Biodiversity Inclusive Impact Assessment and Management Planning](https://www.prindex.net/documents/604/PRINDEX-Comparative-2020-28July.pdf)
* Biodiversity databases e.g., <https://www.ibat-alliance.org/>
* https://www.gbif.org/what-is-gbif

*Examples of mitigation which may wholly or partly mitigate the risk** FSC and PEFC certification should mitigate risks to biodiversity. For example:
	+ FSC forest certification should ensure compliance with Principle 6: Environmental Values and Impacts (The Organization shall maintain, conserve and/or restore ecosystem services and environmental values of the Management Unit, and shall avoid, repair or mitigate negative environmental impacts); and
	+ FSC Principle 7 The Organization shall have a management plan consistent with its policies and objectives and proportionate to scale, intensity and risks of its management activities. The management plan shall be implemented and kept up to date based on monitoring information in order to promote adaptive management. The associated planning and procedural documentation shall be sufficient to guide staff, inform affected stakeholders and interested stakeholders and to justify management decisions.
* FSC Controlled Wood National Risk Assessment Platform; specifically, the indicators below. Consider any variable or specified risk findings and related control measures
	+ FSC Controlled Wood Category 3, Indicator 3.1. “*HCV 1 Concentrations of biological diversity including endemic species and rare, threatened or endangered species that are significant at global, regional or national levels”.*
* Other safeguarding frameworks, incl. Climate, Community & Biodiversity (CCB) Standards, FAO E&S Management, Gold Standard, IFC E&S Performance Standards, UNDP Social and Environmental Standards,
	+ Forest Management Plans that are in line with national best practice and are implemented (seek advice from stakeholders, see above).
	+ Reduced Impact Logging techniques (such as required by FSC standards)
	+ Incorporating biodiversity at the design stage of landscape approaches to allocating and managing land to achieve social, economic, and environmental objectives in areas where forestry, agriculture, mining, and other productive land uses compete with environmental and biodiversity goals.

*Examples of globally generic best practice examples*, which underly country-specific approaches, include:* FSC International Generic Indications Principle 7, ANNEX E: Elements of the Management Plan ([https://fsc.org/en/document-centre/documents/resource/262](https://resources.ipmcenters.org/)),
* NNRG’s Guidance for FSC Forest Management Plans (<https://www.nnrg.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/03/Guidance-for-FSC-Forest-Management-Plan.pdf>),
* How FSC Forest Management Differs from Standard Plans ([https://us](http://www.iucnredlist.org/search/map).fsc.org/download.how-fsc-forest-management-differs-from-standard-plans.199.htm); and
* UK Forest Research agency guidance ([https://www.gov.uk/guidance/create-a-woodland-management-plan](https://portals.iucn.org/library/sites/library/files/documents/PAG-024.pdf) ).
* Maps and surveys demonstrating an understanding of biodiversity in the forest source; and monitoring of any changes. Examples can range from
	+ non-expert tools e.g., Forest Integrity Assessment Tool <https://hcvnetwork.org/documents/forest-integrity-assessment-tool-fiat-manual/> ,
	+ quarterly and annual surveys such as described in the FSC International Generic Indications Principle 7, ANNEX F: Conceptual Framework for Planning and Monitoring ([https://fsc.org/en/document-centre/documents/resource/262](https://hcvnetwork.org/workstreams/landscapes-jurisdiction) ).
 |
| **ENDANGERED SPECIES***Endangered species are those considered to be at high- risk or highly likely to become extinct in all or a large portion of their range. (Adapted from ESA 1973)* | *Potential impacts* on endangered species include increasing extinction risk *Primary risk drivers* are linked to those listed above for Biodiversity. *Sources of information to continually improve the overall understanding of the issue area and risk severity and likelihood* * [www.iucnredlist.org/search/map](https://www.iccrom.org/sites/default/files/2018-07/icomos_guidance_on_heritage_impact_assessments_for_cultural_world_heritage_properties.pdf)

*Examples of mitigation which may wholly or partly mitigate the risk** FSC and PEFC forest certification should mitigate the risk to endangered species. For example:
	+ FSC Principle 1 requires compliance with all applicable laws, regulations and nationally ratified international treaties, conventions and agreements. This includes related to protected areas, allowable forest uses and activities, and/or rare, threatened, or endangered species, including their habitats and potential habitats.
	+ FSC Criterion 6.2. 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 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
	+ FSC Principle 7 require elements of a Management Plan to include Measures to conserve and/or restore: Rare and threatened species and habitats
	+ FSC Principle 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
	+ PEFC Criterion 6.3.1.2 requires compliance with all applicable laws including related to protected species.
	+ PEFC Criterion 8.4.3 The standard requires that protected, threatened and endangered plant and animal species shall not be exploited for commercial purposes. Where necessary, measures shall be taken for their protection and, where relevant, to increase their population
* FSC Controlled Wood National Risk Assessment Platform; specifically, the indicators below. Consider any variable or specified risk findings and related control measures
	+ FSC Controlled Wood Category 3, Indicator 3.1. “*HCV 1 Concentrations of biological diversity including endemic species and rare, threatened or endangered species that are significant at global, regional or national levels”.*
* Other safeguarding frameworks, incl. Climate, Community & Biodiversity (CCB) Standards, Gold Standard, FAO E&S Management, IFC E&S Performance Standards
* Other evidence
	+ an assessment of risks specific to RTE species; and mitigation plans for any identified covering responses such as monitoring; set aside of key habitat areas; and maintenance of key habitats.
	+ University study plots and research reports that may have been applied to the region/area/FMU in question
* See also under Biodiversity

*Examples of globally generic best practice examples*, see under Biodiversity. |
| **HABITAT PROTECTION***"The locality in which a plant or animal naturally grows or lives. It can be either the geographical area over which it extends, or the particular location in which a specimen is found." (UNEP & LEAP, unknown)* | *Potential impacts* linked to habitat protection are linked to those listed above for Biodiversity. *Primary risk drivers* are linked to those listed above for Biodiversity.*Sources of information to continually improve the overall understanding of the issue area** [Adapting to Climate Change – IUCN Guidance for protected area managers and planners](https://portals.iucn.org/library/sites/library/files/documents/PAG-024.pdf) [https://portals.iucn.org/library/sites/library/files/documents/PAG-024.pdf](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/)

*Examples of mitigation which may wholly or partly mitigate the risk** FSC and PEFC forest certification should effectively mitigate the risk in many situations. For example:
	+ FSC P&C 6.6. The Organization shall effectively maintain the continued existence of naturally occurring native species and genotypes, and prevent losses of biological diversity, especially through habitat management in the Management Unit. For example, through in national standards thresholds to ensure timber harvest and silvicultural methods that maintain and restore natural forest diversity, composition and structure
	+ PEFC 8.2.2. The standard requires that adequate genetic, species and structural diversity shall be encouraged or maintained to enhance the stability, vitality and resilience of the forests to adverse environmental factors and strengthen natural regulation mechanisms.
* FSC Controlled Wood National Risk Assessment Platform; specifically, the indicators below. Consider any variable or specified risk findings and related control measures
	+ FSC Controlled Wood Category 3, Indicator 3.2 HCV 2 Large landscape-level ecosystems, ecosystem mosaics and Intact Forest Landscapes that are significant at global, regional or national levels
	+ Indicator 3.3. HCV 3 Rare, threatened, or endangered ecosystems, habitats or refugia. Consider any variable or specified risk findings and related control measures
* Other safeguarding frameworks, incl. Climate, Community & Biodiversity (CCB) Standards, Gold Standard, FAO E&S Management, IFC E&S Performance Standards, UNDP Social and Environmental Standards,
* See also under Biodiversity.
* Laws and legislation e.g., protected areas, national parks etc.

*Examples of globally generic best practice examples*, see under Biodiversity. |
| **ECOLOGICAL RESILIENCE/ CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION***Avoiding degradation and promoting ecological resilience, which refers to the "amount of disturbance an ecosystem could withstand without changing self- organized processes" (Gunderson 2000) and adaptation refers to "adjustments in ecological systems in response to actual or expected climatic effects or impacts." (UNFCCC)* | *Potential impacts* ecological resilience is linked to those listed above for Biodiversity and also include degradation to ecosystem services and functions. *Primary risk drivers* See Biodiversity.*Sources of information to continually improve the overall understanding of the issue area* * [Care Climate Change Adaptation Good Practice Checklist](http://careclimatechange.org/publications/adaptation-good-practice-checklist/)
* See also under Biodiversity.

*Examples of mitigation which may wholly or partly mitigate the risk** FSC and PEFC forest certification should support risk mitigation. For example:
	+ FSC P&C 6.8 The Organization shall manage the landscape in the Management Unit to maintain and/or restore a varying mosaic of species, sizes, ages, spatial scales and regeneration cycles appropriate for the landscape values in that region, and for enhancing environmental and economic resilience
	+ FSC P&C 10.9 The Organization shall assess risks and implement activities that reduce potential negative impacts from natural hazards proportionate to scale, intensity, and risk; natural hazards also include natural disturbances such as wind and fire, mitigation of the impact of natural hazards should focus in these cases on ensuring resilience as opposed to attempting to control or prevent the natural hazards
* Other safeguarding frameworks, incl. Climate, Community & Biodiversity (CCB) Standards, UNDP Social and Environmental Standards,
* Management plan should be kept up to date based on monitoring information in order to promote adaptive management; to respond to changing climate and related threats.
* Climate adaption plans including maintaining genetic diversity, species diversity; climate change vulnerability analysis and response (e.g., the Vulnerability Sourcebook, EURAC 2014), adapted species composition; and including resilience and climate adaption as objectives in landscape approach
* See also under Biodiversity.

*Examples of globally generic best practice examples*, see under Biodiversity.* As part of adaptive management, species selection may need to change; with suitability changing in response to changing climate, weather patterns, storms and related windthrow, floods, droughts, etc.; as well as likely related changes in pests and diseases.

*Local examples include* * Climate Ready Forestry at Queen Elizabeth Forest Park: https://www.forestresearch.gov.uk/research/climate-change-adaptation/scotlands-climate-ready-forest-network/climate-ready-forestry-at-queen-elizabeth-forest-park/
* European examples Adaptation to Climate Change in Sustainable Forest Management in Europe, Forest Europe, 2021 [https://foresteurope.org/adaptation-climate-change-sustainable-forest-management-europe/](https://worldjusticeproject.org/our-work/research-and-data/wjp-rule-law-index-2021/current-historical-data)
 |
| **CONVERSION/ LOSS IN AREAS OF HIGH CONSERVATION VALUE***Conversion that is often irreversible and bring about "profound change in a natural ecosystem’s species composition, structure, or function" (AFi, 2020) and "involves removing natural forests to meet other land needs, such as plantations, agriculture, pasture for cattle settlements and mining." (QQF, unknown from the AFI framework definitions)* | *Potential impacts* linked to Conversion of HCVs can include a profound and irreversible impact on “. a natural ecosystem’s species composition, structure, or function" (AFi, 2020).ecological resilience are linked to those listed above for Biodiversity and also include degradation to ecosystem services and functions. *Primary risk drivers* See Biodiversity.*Sources of information to continually improve the overall understanding of the issue area* * [Forest Monitoring, Land Use & Deforestation Trends | Global Forest Watch](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/create-a-woodland-management-plan)
* [Forest Trends ILAT Risk Home Page - Forest Trends (forest-trends.org)](https://www.forest-trends.org/fptf-ilat-home/)
* High Conservation Value Guidance for Forest Managers, FSC, 2020 [https://fsc.org/en/newsfeed/high-conservation-value-hcv-guidance-documents-published](https://ejatlas.org/)

*Examples of mitigation which may wholly or partly mitigate the risk** FSC and PEFC forest certification should mitigation the risk of conversion of forests including of forests with HCVs. For example:
	+ FSC P&C 6.9: The Organization shall not convert natural forest to plantations, nor natural forests or plantations on sites directly converted from natural forest to non-forest land use, except when the conversion: a) Affects a very limited portion of the area of the Management Unit, and b) Will produce clear, substantial, additional, secure long-term conservation benefits in the Management Unit, and c) Does not damage or threaten High Conservation Values, nor any sites or resources necessary to maintain or enhance those High Conservation Values.
	+ PEFC P&C 8.1.4 The standard requires that forest conversion shall not occur unless in justified circumstances where the conversion: a) is in compliance with national and regional policy and legislation applicable for land use and forest management and is a result of national or regional land-use planning governed by a governmental or other official authority including consultation with affected stakeholders; and b) entails a small proportion (no greater than 5 %) of forest type within the certified area; and c) does not have negative impacts on ecologically important forest areas, culturally and socially significant areas, or other protected areas; and d) does not destroy areas of significantly high carbon stock; and e) makes a contribution to long-term conservation, economic, and social benefits.
* FSC Controlled Wood National Risk Assessment Platform; specifically, FSC Controlled Wood Category 3. Consider any variable or specified risk findings and related control measures
* Other safeguarding frameworks, incl. Climate, Community & Biodiversity (CCB) Standards, Gold Standard, FAO E&S Management, IFC E&S Performance Standards, WWF Environmental and Social Safeguards
* Climate adaption plans including maintaining genetic diversity, species diversity; climate change vulnerability analysis and response (e.g., the Vulnerability Sourcebook, EURAC 2014), adapted species composition; and including resilience and climate adaption as objectives in landscape approach
* Depending on the scale, intensity and context of the forest management unit; mitigation may include commissioning a desk based HCV Screening (normally at a landscape/jurisdictional level see [https://hcvnetwork.org/workstreams/landscapes-jurisdiction](https://www.globalforestwatch.org/) ); or a full HCV assessment.
* See also under Biodiversity

*Examples of globally generic best practice examples*, see under Biodiversity. |
| **ECOSYSTEM FUNCTION AND SERVICE PROVISION***Includes protecting late succession/old growth forests, protecting against loss of forest complexity (following the mitigation hierarchy of avoid, minimize, and mitigate). Ecosystem Includes 'provisioning' (e.g., food, medicine, wood), function and ‘cultural’ (e.g., recreation, tourism, aesthetic values), and service ‘regulating’ (e.g., air & water quality, erosion control) provisioning services provided by forests. Ecosystem services, such as clean water, food, wood, medicine, and other tangible goods are examples of materials benefits people obtain from forests. Some can be marketed while others are needed for direct consumption.* | *Potential impacts* linked to ecosystem function and service provision are linked to those listed above for Biodiversity and also include impacts on clean water, food, wood, medicine, soil stability, clean air, and recreation, tourism, and aesthetic values. *Primary risk drivers* See Biodiversity. *Examples of mitigation which may wholly or partly mitigate the risk* * FSC and PEFC forest certification should mitigate the risk in most cases. For example
	+ FSC P&C PRINCIPLE 6: Environmental Values and Impacts the Organization shall maintain, conserve and/or restore ecosystem services and environmental values of the Management Unit, and shall avoid, repair or mitigate negative environmental impacts
	+ FSC P&C Principle 7 - elements of the forest management plan should include results of assessments to maintain and/or enhance ecosystem services
	+ FSC P&C 5.2.1 Timber harvesting levels are based on an analysis of current Best Available Information on growth and yield; inventory of the forest; mortality rates; and maintenance of ecosystem functions
* FSC Ecosystem Services Claims
* FSC Guidelines for the Implementation of the Right to FPIC
* FSC Controlled Wood National Risk Assessment Platform; specifically, the indicators below. Consider any variable or specified risk findings and related control measures
	+ FSC Controlled Wood Category 3, Indicator 3.4 *HCV 4 Ecosystem services in critical situations: Basic ecosystem services in critical situations, including protection of water catchments and control of erosion of vulnerable soils and slopes.*
* Other safeguarding frameworks, incl. Climate, Community & Biodiversity (CCB) Standards, FAO E&S Management, Gold Standard, IFC E&S Performance Standards, UNDP Social and Environmental Standards, Verra
* See also under Biodiversity.

*Examples of globally generic best practice examples*, see under Biodiversity.* Ecosulis
* FSC’ Ecosystem Services model
* Biodiversity banks
* PES models such as NSW Australia, Costa Rica
* ASN Amro
 |
| **RESOURCE EFFICIENCY AND POLLUTION PREVENTION***Using limited resources (e.g., wood) in a sustainable, non- wasteful manner while minimizing environment impacts (including pollution) and striving for greater output value with the same or reduced inputs.*  | *Potential impacts* linked to resource use and pollution include increasing unsustainable consumption, and related impacts such as biodiversity loss and degradation in ecosystem functions and services; reduction in habitat and biodiversity affecting ecosystem function and service provision for clean water, food, wood, medicine, soil stability, clean air, and recreation, tourism, and aesthetic values. *Primary risk drivers* See Biodiversity.*Examples of mitigation which may wholly or partly mitigate the risk* * FSC and PEFC forest certification can support mitigation of pollution risks but not resource efficiency outside the forest source.
	+ For example, FSC P&C 10.12.1 Collection, clean up, transportation and disposal of all waste materials is done in an environmentally appropriate way that conserves environmental values
	+ FSC P&C 10.11.2 Harvesting practices optimize the use of forest products and merchantable materials
* Other safeguarding frameworks, incl. FAO E&S Management, Gold Standard, IFC E&S Performance Standards
* IFC Guidance Note 3 Resource Efficiency and Pollution Prevention and Pollution Prevention and Abatement (2006) Guidance Note 3 both available from <https://www.ifc.org/wps/wcm/connect/topics_ext_content/ifc_external_corporate_site/sustainability-at-ifc/policies-standards/performance-standards/ps3>
* For Pesticides
	+ FSC Guide to Integrated Pest, Disease and Weed Management in FSC Certified Forests and Plantations [https://fsc.org/en/document-centre/documents/resource/383](https://www.transparency.org/en/cpi/2021)
	+ ILO Safety and Health in The Use of Agrochemicals: A Guide <https://www.ilo.org/safework/info/instr/WCMS_110196/lang--en/index.htm>
	+ Clearing House of resources on IPM [https://resources.ipmcenters.org/](https://www.globalforestwatch.org/)
 |
| **TENURE SECURITY***Tenure security provides all persons with a degree of security through protected legitimate tenure rights and ensuring that people are not arbitrarily evicted and that their legitimate tenure rights are not otherwise extinguished or infringed." (UN Habitat, 2018).* | *Potential impacts* the effects of tenure insecurity link to habitat and biodiversity loss; ecosystem functions and services; poverty, agricultural production, and food security, and as well as non-economic wellbeing. *Primary risk drivers* range depending on gender, type of ownership (individual, household, and collective). Drivers include beliefs and social and cultural norms, lack of titles/rights recognition, weak law enforcement, armed conflict, land use and rights disputes. Source: CGIAR 2021.*Sources of information to continually improve the overall understanding of the issue area* * [https://landportal.org/book/datasets](https://www.cfr.org/global-conflict-tracker/) The datasets have been drawn from a wide range of international data sources and cover an equally broad spectrum of land-related themes and issues. Use the different filters to begin mining this unique open data collection.
* <https://www.landmarkmap.org/country-profiles/>
* Prindex Comparative Report provides country-level assessments of such perceptions of tenure security, as well as assessments by landowner type. [https://www.prindex.net/documents/604/PRINDEX-Comparative-2020-28July.pdf](https://reforestation.app/)
* The Global Open Data Index (2016) provides additional country-level property rights assessments through a focus on the formal rules and processes of property rights. Importantly, perceived tenure security may serve as a better indicator for tenure security assurances than formal property rights institutions; where formal property rights exist but are not enforced, real tenure security will be low and the threats of expropriation and land grabs high.

*Examples of mitigation which may wholly or partly mitigate the risk* * FSC and PEFC forest certification can mitigate this risk. For example, through
	+ FSC P&C 1.2. The Organization shall demonstrate that the legal status of the Management Unit, including tenure and use rights, and its boundaries, are clearly defined
	+ FSC P&C 1.6. The Organization shall identify, prevent and resolve disputes over issues of statutory or customary law, which can be settled out of court in a timely manner, through engagement with affected stakeholders
	+ FSC P&C 3.1. The Organization shall identify the Indigenous Peoples that exist within the Management Unit or those that are affected by management activities. The Organization shall then, through engagement with these Indigenous Peoples, identify their rights of tenure, their rights of access to and use of forest resources and ecosystem services, their customary rights and legal rights and obligations, that apply within the Management Unit. The Organization shall also identify areas where these rights are contested.
	+ FSC P&C 4.2. The Organization shall identify the local communities that exist within the Management Unit and those that are affected by management activities. The Organization shall then, through engagement with these local communities, identify their rights of tenure, their rights of access to and use of forest resources and ecosystem services, their customary rights and legal rights and obligations, that apply within the Management Unit
* FSC Controlled Wood National Risk Assessment Platform; specifically, the indicators below. Consider any variable or specified risk findings and related control measures
	+ indicator 1.14. FPIC.
	+ indicator 1.15 Indigenous Peoples rights.
* Other safeguarding frameworks, incl. Climate, Community & Biodiversity (CCB) Standards, FAO E&S Management, Gold Standard, IFC E&S Performance Standards, Verra, WWF Environmental and Social Safeguards
* *Other evidence such as :*
	+ Legal tenure is clearly defined*. For example, with concession lease documents, approved by a local regulator; maps showing boundaries clearly marked.*
	+ Identification of local communities and indigenous peoples, who with the forest management organization, has engaged in documenting/mapping of legal and customary rights of tenure and use rights
	+ Free Prior Informed Consent – Records that demonstrate that any control over legal and customary rights have been delegated to third parties such as commercial forest managers has been done through a process of Free Prior Informed Consent. FSC IGI Principle 3.2 provides detailed guidance at an international level of what this should look like.
	+ Benefit sharing: Customary rights for harvesting of timber and Non-Timber Forest Products and related benefit sharing; through for example records showing timely payment of any agreed compensation payments land tenure and use rights should be considered.
	+ Dispute resolution process is documented, publicly available, and records of steps taken, outcomes and any unresolved disputes with justification and plans for resolution kept. Note that where disputes exist of substantial magnitude, duration, or significant number of interests; it may not be possible to mitigate the risk for the land under dispute. Risk mitigation may then include changing the timber sourcing approach to completely avoid sourcing from this land.
 |
| **RISKS AND ACCIDENTS***Potential negative impacts on human health and/or the environment by an action or activity, including accidents that cause harm (including bodily harm) to those directly or indirectly involved in those activities.* | *Potential impacts* worker incidence (both contractors and employees); occupational diseases. *Primary risk drivers* physical risks of the operational site (terrain, climate, biological agents, noise, vibrations, exhaust fumes, powered tools ,heavy loads, . and weather. Note. The forest industry has the highest incidence rate. The most demanding occupations in forestry connect to motor–manual forest harvesting (chainsaw felling and tree processing, skidding with a skidder). Risks also exist in processing sites and transport of timber products. *Sources of information to continually improve the overall understanding of the issue area* * National or regional incident data, usually available through regulatory websites.
* ISO 45001 Occupational health and safety management systems — Requirements with guidance for use
* IFC and EBRD: Workers’ accommodation: processes and standards
* OSHA Safety and Health Program Management Guidelines

*Examples of mitigation which may wholly or partly mitigate the risk* * FSC or PEFC forest certification can help mitigate this risk for example
	+ FSC P&C 1. Compliance with laws related to health and safety in forest operations
	+ FSC P&C 2.3. The Organization shall implement health and safety practices to protect workers from occupational safety and health hazards. These practices shall, proportionate to scale, intensity and risk of management activities, meet or exceed the recommendations of the ILO Code of Practice on Safety and Health in Forestry Work.
	+ FSC Principle 7 – elements of the management plan shall include a description of the approach to managing occupational health and safety
* Other safeguarding frameworks, incl. Climate, Community & Biodiversity (CCB) Standards, FAO E&S Management, Gold Standard, FAO E&S Management, IFC E&S Performance Standards, Verra, WWF Environmental and Social Safeguards.
 |
| **ECONOMIC LIVELIHOOD IMPACTS INCL POVERTY REDUCTION***Includes any relevant combination of 1) local employment/ income/ poverty reduction; 2) household level income/ poverty reduction; 3) ensuring no economic exploitation of developing countries for their natural resources; 4) minimizing risks of economic dependence, especially where a project may lack longevity* |  *Potential impacts* are linked to poverty and related employment/housing/food security, education, healthcare, and physical security. *Primary risk drivers* at a country level economic livelihoods can be driven by trade, infrastructure development, employment, and resilience to the impact of internal and external shocks including the impact of climate change, desertification, and land degradation. At a local level, labor and working conditions, inclusion and equity or the lack of can affect economic livelihoods; and are linked closely to several other issue areas including tenure security, and community participation.*Examples of mitigation which may wholly or partly mitigate the risk* * FSC and PEFC forest certification can help mitigate risk for example through compliance with
	+ FSC P&C 2.4. The Organization shall pay wages that meet or exceed minimum forest industry standards or other recognized forest industry wage agreements or living wages, where these are higher than the legal minimum wages. When none of these exist, The Organization shall through engagement with workers develop mechanisms for determining living wages
* FSC P&C 9. The Organization shall maintain and/or enhance the High Conservation Values in the Management Unit through applying the precautionary approach, where High Conservation Value 5 means Community needs. Sites and resources fundamental for satisfying the basic necessities of local communities or Indigenous Peoples (for livelihoods, health, nutrition, water, etc.), identified through engagement with these communities or Indigenous PeoplesFSC Controlled Wood National Risk Assessment Platform; specifically, the indicators below. Consider any variable or specified risk findings and related control measures
	+ FSC Controlled Wood Category 3, Indicator 3.5 HCV 5 Local People’s basic needs: Sites and resources fundamental for satisfying the basic necessities of local communities or indigenous peoples (for livelihoods, health, nutrition, water, etc...), identified through engagement with these communities or indigenous peoples. Consider any variable or specified risk findings and related control measures
* Other safeguarding frameworks, incl. CCBA, FAO E&S Management, Gold Standard, IFC E&S Performance Standards, UNDP Social and Environmental Standards, Verra, WWF Environmental and Social Safeguards
* Other evidence such as :
	+ The forest manager can demonstrate within their management plan that the forest is economically viable.
	+ The forest manager uses local processing e.g., local sawmills and manufacturing where possible (i.e., where cost, quality and capacity are at least equivalent).
	+ Evidence that any sites within the forest with economic significance to indigenous people and communities are identified and protected; or FPIC processes followed.
	+ See labor and worker conditions for mitigation related to wages
	+ FPIC processes to ensure local populations receive a share of the benefits of forest management. This can include the construction and operation of schools and/or hospitals, which increase access to education and health care - two elements that contribute to the alleviation of poverty.
 |
| **WELL-BEING (NON- ECONOMIC)***Wellbeing is reflected in a state of overall physical, mental, and social security, optimism, and positive outlook (not merely the absence of disease or infirmity) and is not adequately encompassed in economic indicators alone. (Adapted from WHO 2012)* | *Examples of mitigation which may wholly or partly mitigate the risk* See Tenure security, where mitigation actions may overlap. * FSC and PEFC forest certification can help reduce the risk related to non-economic well-being for example through compliance with
	+ FSC P&C 2 The Organization shall maintain or enhance the social and economic wellbeing of workers
	+ FSC P&C 3: The Organization shall identify and uphold Indigenous Peoples’ legal and customary rights of ownership, use and management of land, territories and resources affected by management activities.
	+ FSC P&C 4 The Organization shall contribute to maintaining or enhancing the social and economic wellbeing of local communities
	+ FSC P&C 9. The Organization shall maintain and/or enhance the High Conservation Values in the Management Unit through applying the precautionary approach, where High Conservation Value 5 means Community needs. Sites and resources fundamental for satisfying the basic necessities of local communities or Indigenous Peoples (for livelihoods, health, nutrition, water, etc.), identified through engagement with these communities or Indigenous Peoples.
* FSC Controlled Wood National Risk Assessment Platform; specifically, the indicators below. Consider any variable or specified risk findings and related control measures
	+ Indicator 1.14. Free Prior Informed Consent
	+ indicator 1.15 Indigenous Peoples rights.
* Other safeguarding frameworks, incl. CCBA, FAO E&S Management, Gold Standard, IFC E&S Performance Standards, Verra, WWF Environmental and Social Safeguards
* Other evidence such as :
* Documentation of opportunities that benefit the local community and indigenous people are identified, and implemented.
* Engagement with indigenous peoples and communities; to understand their perceived non-economic wellbeing. Approaches include the use of the Global Person Generated Index; Individualized measures allow participants to define what is relevant to their quality of life before rating against the identified areas of life; to identify the gap between the desired levels of areas of life perceived to be important and the perceived achieved levels in these areas.

  |
| **LABOR AND WORKING CONDITIONS***"Working conditions cover a broad range of topics and issues, from working time (hours of work, rest periods, and work schedules) to remuneration, as well as the physical conditions and mental demands that exist in the workplace." (ILO, unknown)* | *Sources of information to continually improve the overall understanding of the issue area* * + OHCHR: A Guide for Business How to Develop a Human Rights Policy
	+ United Nations Global Compact and OHCHR: A Guide for Integrating Human Rights into Business Management
	+ How to Do Business with Respect for Human Rights: A Guidance Tool for Companies, Global Compact Network Netherlands, Business & Human Rights Initiative
* Complaints
	+ The ACAS Statutory Code of Practice: Discipline and Grievance Procedures
	+ OHCHR: Access to Remedy for Business-Related Human Rights Abuses
	+ Australian Human Rights Commission: Good practice guidelines for internal complaint processes
* Child labor
	+ ILO: Guidelines for Developing Child Labour Monitoring Processes
	+ ILO-IOE: Child Labour Guidance Tool for Business Impact:
	+ Operational Procedures for Remediation of Child Labor in Industrial Contexts
	+ IFC: Good Practice Note in the Workplace and Supply Chain Addressing Child Labor

*Examples of mitigation which may wholly or partly mitigate the risk* * FSC and PEFC forest certification can help reduce the risk related to non-economic well-being for example through compliance with
	+ FSC P&C 2 The Organization shall maintain or enhance the social and economic wellbeing of workers
* FSC Controlled Wood National Risk Assessment Platform; specifically, the indicators below. Consider any variable or specified risk findings and related control measures
	+ FSC Controlled Wood Category 2 indicator *2.2. Labor rights are upheld including rights as specified in ILO Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work*
	+ FSC Controlled Wood Category 1, indicator 1.11 Health and safety.
* SA8000 certification
* Other safeguarding frameworks, incl. CCBA, FAO E&S Management, Gold Standard, IFC E&S Performance Standards, Verra, WWF Environmental and Social Safeguards
* Freedom of association
	+ Evidence of implementation of any collective bargaining
* Discrimination: systems are implemented that promote equalityand prevent discrimination based on characteristics such as race, color, gender, religion, political opinion, national extraction, social origin, marital status, caring responsibilities including parenthood. Practical examples of activities for supporting equity and inclusion of workers include
	+ mentoring and leadership targeted at women,
	+ training available to all workers,
	+ flexible working policies and practices,
	+ paternity pay and leave,
	+ records that pay is the same regardless of the above characteristics including gender
	+ meetings, management committees and decision-making forums are organized to include active participation,
	+ confidential and effective mechanisms exist for reporting and eliminating cases of discrimination based on gender, marital status, parenthood or sexual orientation.
* Wages
	+ Evidence that wages are paid in a timely manner
	+ Promotion of equality in employment practices, training, employment contracts. See FSC IGI 2.2. for examples.
* Child labor
	+ a written statement which explicitly mentions a commitment to not employ underage workers and to support the education and best interests of children;
	+ a system to manage the risk of child labor; incl process for checking documents on hiring;
	+ maintaining a worker list, & at least annual monitoring. For upstream sourcing require suppliers to mirror the policy and systems;
	+ conduct Due Diligence checks at least annually.
	+ Note that some under<18s may be employed in lower risk roles such as office cleaning and administration. Local knowledge should be used to understand where this is legal and reflects best practice including hazard and risk assessment.
* Forced Labor
	+ clear employee contracts & workers having access to their identity documents/passport and physical ability to leave work/accommodation
 |
| **FOOD SECURITY***“All people, at all times, have physical, social, and economic access to sufficient, safe, and nutritious food that meets their food preferences and dietary needs for an active and healthy life." (United Nations’ Committee on World Food Security)* | *Sources of information to continually improve the overall understanding of the issue area and risk severity and likelihood* * Economist’s Global Food Security Index (GFSI)
* FAO Guidance

*Examples of mitigation which may wholly or partly mitigate the risk* * FSC and PEFC forest certification can help reduce the risk related to non-economic well-being for example through compliance with
	+ FSC P&C 2 The Organization shall maintain or enhance the social and economic wellbeing of workers
	+ FSC P&C 3: The Organization shall identify and uphold Indigenous Peoples’ legal and customary rights of ownership, use and management of land, territories and resources affected by management activities.
	+ FSC P&C 4 The Organization shall contribute to maintaining or enhancing the social and economic wellbeing of local communities
	+ FSC P&C 9. The Organization shall maintain and/or enhance the High Conservation Values in the Management Unit through applying the precautionary approach, where High Conservation Value 5 means Community needs. Sites and resources fundamental for satisfying the basic necessities of local communities or Indigenous Peoples (for livelihoods, health, nutrition, water, etc.), identified through engagement with these communities or Indigenous Peoples.
* FSC Controlled Wood National Risk Assessment Platform; specifically, the indicators below. Consider any variable or specified risk findings and related control measures
	+ FSC Controlled Wood Category 3, Indicator 3.5 HCV 5 Local People’s basic needs: Sites and resources fundamental for satisfying the basic necessities of local communities or indigenous peoples (for livelihoods, health, nutrition, water, etc...), identified through engagement with these communities or indigenous peoples. Consider any variable or specified risk findings and related control measures
* Safeguarding frameworks including CCBA, FAO E&S Management, Gold Standard
* Other evidence such as
	+ Adaptive approaches to agricultural production, including planning and systems which seek to ensure sensitive elements of food production are managed considering eternal threats. E.g., water planning and irrigation systems
	+ Engaging in landscape level approaches, where food security is set out as an objective of the initiative.
	+ Culturally appropriate training and support in the development of new livelihood enterprises and sustainable agricultural practices, including the distribution of seedlings to encourage crop diversification, with fruit plants and traditional crops to benefit local communities and indigenous peoples and improve food security
 |
| **ILLICIT ACTIVITIES***A range of illegal, unlawful, fraudulent, or improper and**unethical activities.* | *Sources of information to continually improve the overall understanding of the issue area and risk severity and likelihood* * Forest Trends has developed a Global Illegal Logging and Associated Trade Risk Assessment Tool (ILAT Risk) that provides publicly available data on global timber sales as well as key indicators of risk at the country-level (including governance and harvest risk, conflict risk, and illegal forest product export risk, based on national export restrictions). Forest Trends’ webpage allows actors to search for and visualize risk categorizations as well as wood product export and import (including re-export and re-import) data for specific countries. (Source: CSFE report)
* Note that a variety of countries have regulation to prohibit the placing of illegally harvested timber on the market; and in such countries it is important that the supply chain actors can demonstrate legal compliance. Examples include the EU Timber Regulation, UK Timber Regulation, the US Lacey Act in the US, and the Australian Illegal Logging Prohibition Act 2012. See <https://www.euflegt.efi.int> for more information.
* Corruption Perception Index (CPI): <https://www.transparency.org/en/cpi/2021>,
* Armed conflict risk www.CFR.org/global-conflict-tracker), [https://www.cfr.org/global-conflict-tracker/?category=usConflictStatus](https://fsc.org/en/document-centre/documents/resource/383?category=usConflictStatus)
* Environmental Defender Killings, <https://www.globalwitness.org/en/campaigns/environmental-activists/last-line-defence>
* Trade sanctions (EU, UN), e.g. [https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=OJ:L:2021:219I:TOC](https://fsc.org/en/document-centre/documents/resource/262?uri=OJ:L:2021:219I:TOC)
* Rule of Law Index Score, [https://worldjusticeproject.org/our-work/research-and-data/wjp-rule-law-index-2021/current-historical-data](https://landportal.org/book/datasets)
* EUTR CA Expert Conclusions on Country,
* Fragile states score, <https://fragilestatesindex.org/>

*Examples of mitigation which may wholly or partly mitigate the risk* * FSC and PEFC forest certification can help reduce the risk related to non-economic well-being for example through compliance with for example FSC P&C 1 The Organization shall comply with all applicable laws, regulations and nationally ratified international treaties, conventions and agreements including
	+ FSC P&C 1.1. The Organization shall be a legally defined entity with clear, documented and unchallenged legal registration, with written authorization from the legally competent authority for specific activities.
	+ FSC P&C 1.2 The Organization shall demonstrate that the legal status of the Management Unit, including tenure and use rights, and its boundaries, are clearly defined.
	+ FSC P&C 1.3. The Organization shall have legal rights to operate in the Management Unit, which fit the legal status of The Organization and of the Management Unit and shall comply with the associated legal obligations in applicable national and local laws and regulations and administrative requirements. The legal rights shall provide for harvest of products and/or supply of ecosystem services from within the Management Unit. The Organization shall pay the legally prescribed charges associated with such rights and obligations
	+ FSC P&C 1.4. The Organization shall develop and implement measures, and/or shall engage with regulatory agencies, to systematically protect the Management Unit from unauthorized or illegal resource use, settlement and other illegal activities
	+ FSC P&C 1.5. The Organization shall comply with the applicable national laws, local laws, ratified international conventions and obligatory codes of practice, relating to the transportation and trade of forest products within and from the Management Unit, and/or up to the point of first sale.
	+ FSC P&C 1.6 The Organization shall identify, prevent and resolve disputes over issues of statutory or customary law, which can be settled out of court in a timely manner, through engagement with affected stakeholders
	+ FSC P&C 1.7. The Organization shall publicize a commitment not to offer or receive bribes in money or any other form of corruption, and shall comply with anti-corruption legislation where this exists. In the absence of anticorruption legislation, The Organization shall implement other anticorruption measures proportionate to the scale and intensity of management activities and the risk of corruption.
* FSC Controlled Wood National Risk Assessment Platform; specifically, FSC Controlled Wood Category 1. Consider any variable or specified risk findings and related control measures
* Other safeguarding frameworks, incl. CCBA, Verra
* Other3rd party legality verification such as Preferred by Nature LegalSource, SCS LegalHarvest
* Other 3rd party evidence demonstrating the forest source, such as wood fibre testing
* Documents required for a given country will vary and should be determined on a case by case basis. Publicly available guidance can also be found in forestry standards
* Also see tenure security, which is a fundamental element of mitigating risk of illegality
* Other documentary evidence including the below (Source: PAS 2021)
	+ Evidence of legal authority to harvest: Concession license and/or harvesting/felling permit (issued/approved by the appropriate authority),
	+ Evidence of compliance with applicable management planning requirements: Approved management plan or equivalent documentation, as required by local authorities
	+ Specification of applicable harvesting restrictions Government or industry documentation specifying legal restrictions on harvesting, e.g., diameter limits, species restrictions and volume restrictions
	+ Evidence that timber is harvested from authorized areas, e.g., not from protected areas where harvest is not allowed: Management plans, including maps and/or records showing the area in which harvesting has taken place
	+ Evidence of timber sales: Bill of ladings, sales contracts, invoices, and purchase orders
	+ Evidence of payment of royalties or other fees, i.e., Fees on harvesting rights, Official records confirming payments,
	+ Evidence of compliance with applicable provisions and requirements of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES): An up-to-date list of tree species in the forest management unit that are listed in Appendices I to III of the CITES, and/or national permits for harvest, trade, export and import of any CITES listed species, if applicable
	+ Evidence of compliance with requirements in relation to transportation of timber: Copies of log lists, removal permits, transport, or sales permits with specification of species and volumes as applicable
 |
| **EQUITY AND INCLUSION***Fair and inclusive responsibilities, access to opportunities, and benefits, independent of gender, societal status, physical ability, or other distinguishing characteristics.* | *Potential impacts* are linked to poverty alleviation and related employment/housing/food security, education, healthcare, as well as economic wellbeing and non-economic wellbeing. . *Primary risk drivers* Equity and inclusion is closely linked to tenure security and governance. *Examples of mitigation which may wholly or partly mitigate the risk* * FSC and PEFC forest certification can help mitigate the risk for example
	+ FSC P&C 2 The Organization shall maintain or enhance the social and economic wellbeing of workers including
	+ FSC P&C 2.2. The Organization shall promote gender equality in employment practices, training opportunities, awarding of contracts, processes of engagement and management activities.
	+ FSC P&C 2.6. The Organization through engagement with workers shall have mechanisms for resolving grievances and for providing fair compensation to workers for loss or damage to property, occupational diseases, or occupational injuries sustained while working for The Organization.
	+ FSC P&C 3.2. Indigenous peoples control of resources and Free Prior and Informed Consent
	+ FSC P&C 3.6. Indigenous peoples traditional knowledge, intellectual property and Free Prior and Informed Consent
	+ FSC P&C 4.2. Communities control of resources and Free Prior Informed Consent
	+ FSC P&C 4.8 Communities and traditional knowledge, intellectual property and Free Prior and Informed Consent
* FSC Guidelines for the Implementation of the Right to FPIC
* Other safeguarding frameworks, incl. CCBA, FAO E&S Management, Gold Standard, IFC E&S Performance Standards, WWF Environmental and Social Safeguards
* Other mitigation can include
	+ Documentary evidence such as FPIC agreements, setting out equitable sharing of benefits and anti-discrimination measures to ensure equal access to benefits
 |
| **COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT/ PARTICIPATION/ LEADERSHIP***Ample and sufficient participation opportunity through rural and Indigenous representatives are self-chosen and with their own procedures and activities continually affirm their right to maintain their own decision-making. (Adapted from UN, 2014)* | *Potential impacts* are linked to poverty alleviation and related employment/housing/food security, education, healthcare, as well as economic wellbeing and non-economic wellbeing.*Primary risk drivers* Closely linked to tenure security and governance. *Examples of mitigation which may wholly or partly mitigate the risk* * FSC and PEFC forest certification can help mitigation including
	+ FSC P&C 3.2. Indigenous peoples control of resources and Free Prior and Informed Consent
	+ FSC P&C 4.2. Communities control of resources and Free Prior Informed Consent
* FSC Controlled Wood National Risk Assessment Platform; specifically, the indicators below. Consider any variable or specified risk findings and related control measures
	+ *indicator 2.3. Rights of indigenous peoples and traditional peoples are obeyed*. Consider any variable or specified risk findings and related control measures
* FSC Guidelines for the Implementation of the Right to FPIC which provide detailed guidance to support involvement, participation and leadership of indigenous peoples and communities. Note that particular attention should be paid to the rights and special needs of indigenous elders, women, youth, children and persons with disabilities.
* Other safeguarding frameworks, incl. CCBA, FAO E&S Management, Gold Standard, IFC E&S Performance Standards, UNDP Social and Environmental Standards, Verra, WWF Environmental and Social Safeguards
 |
| **CULTURAL HERITAGE ALIGNMENT** *Cultural heritage is both a product and a process that provides societies with a wealth of resources that are inherited from the past, created in the present and bestowed for the benefit of future generations. Most importantly, it includes not only tangible but also natural and intangible heritage.” (UNESCO, unknown).*  | *Examples of mitigation which may wholly or partly mitigate the risk** FSC and PEFC forest certification can help mitigate this for example through
	+ FSC P&C 9. The Organization shall maintain and/or enhance the High Conservation Values in the Management Unit through applying the precautionary approach; where High Conservation Value 6 means HCV 6 – Cultural values. Sites, resources, habitats and landscapes of global or national cultural, archaeological or historical significance, and/or of critical cultural, ecological, economic or religious/sacred importance for the traditional cultures of local communities or Indigenous Peoples, identified through engagement with these local communities or Indigenous Peoples.
* FSC Controlled Wood National Risk Assessment Platform; specifically, the indicators below. Consider any variable or specified risk findings and related control measures
	+ FSC Controlled Wood Category 3, Indicator 3.5 HCV 6 Cultural values: Sites, resources, habitats and landscapes of global or national cultural, archaeological or historical significance, and/or of critical cultural, ecological, economic or religious/ sacred importance for the traditional cultures of local communities or indigenous peoples, identified through engagement with these local communities or indigenous peoples.
* Other safeguarding frameworks, incl. CCBA, FAO E&S Management, Gold Standard, Verra, WWF Environmental and Social Safeguards
* [Guidance on Heritage Impact Assessments for Cultural World Heritage Properties A publication of the International Council on Monuments and Site](https://fsc.org/en/document-centre/documents/resource/262)
* Other examples including documentation of a process to identify with indigenous people and local communities’ sites of cultural significance; and collaboratively and in a culturally appropriate way to agree, document and implement measures to protect the site**.**
 |
| **INDIRECT IMPACTS (OTHER STAKEHOLDERS)** | *Examples of mitigation which may wholly or partly mitigate the risk* * FSC and PEFC certification
* Other safeguarding frameworks, incl. CCBA, FAO E&S Management, IFC E&S Performance Standards, Verra,
 |
| **NET GHG EMISSIONS***Maximize net greenhouse gas emission reductions,**including through lowering GHG emissions (transfer of**gases to the atmosphere) and increasing carbon sinks**(Stored carbon in various pools).* | *Examples of mitigation which may wholly or partly mitigate the risk* * Safeguarding frameworks, incl. CCBA, FAO E&S Management, Gold Standard, UNDP Social and Environmental Standards, Verra
* 3S Carbon modelling developed in collaborations with CSFEP
 |
| **NET FOREST LOSS** *Minimizing net forest loss includes minimizing reversals**and leakage. Calculating reversals depends on**allowable/expected disturbance levels, agreed timelines,**and geographic scale of assessment. Leakage is displaced**activities that occur outside of the intervention area but**are a result of intervention activities (i.e., reducing**harvests in one jurisdiction can lead to increased**harvesting in an adjacent jurisdiction to compensate for**the reduced supply).* | *Sources of information to continually improve the overall understanding of the issue area and risk severity and likelihood* Global Forest Watch (GFW), a World Resources Institute (WRI) initiative established in 1997, identifies areas of tree cover loss and gain at a 30 x 30-meter resolution. Importantly, GFW employs different methodologies for tree cover loss and gain where tree loss data do not distinguish between permanent deforestation and tree cover loss due to natural disturbances or sustainable harvest practices. Further, forest degradation is not captured with in the GFW assessments; there may be important losses to forest understories that go unobserved when canopy covers remain constant. While GFW forest loss indicators can be an important tool for approximating initial risk of net forest loss in a project area, actors with the ability to perform more nuanced, community-specific analyses should do so, especially when the intervention area may fall within an area of high reported net forest loss. Source: CSFE report. FAO Global Forest Resources Assessment (FRA) provides essential information for understanding the extent of forest resources, their condition, management and uses- The latest of these assessments, FRA 2020, examines the status of, and trends in, more than 60 forest-related variables in 236 countries and territories in the period 1990–2020. FRA data provides important information about net forest loss and gain in different countries.*Examples of mitigation which may wholly or partly mitigate the risk* * FSC and PEFC forest certification should mitigation the risk of conversion of forests including of forests with HCVs. For example:
	+ FSC P&C 6.9: The Organization shall not convert natural forest to plantations, nor natural forests or plantations on sites directly converted from natural forest to non-forest land use, except when the conversion: a) Affects a very limited portion of the area of the Management Unit, and b) Will produce clear, substantial, additional, secure long-term conservation benefits in the Management Unit, and c) Does not damage or threaten High Conservation Values, nor any sites or resources necessary to maintain or enhance those High Conservation Values.
	+ PEFC P&C 8.1.4 The standard requires that forest conversion shall not occur unless in justified circumstances where the conversion: a) is in compliance with national and regional policy and legislation applicable for land use and forest management and is a result of national or regional land-use planning governed by a governmental or other official authority including consultation with affected stakeholders; and b) entails a small proportion (no greater than 5 %) of forest type within the certified area; and c) does not have negative impacts on ecologically important forest areas, culturally and socially significant areas, or other protected areas; and d) does not destroy areas of significantly high carbon stock; and e) makes a contribution to long-term conservation, economic, and social benefits.
* FSC Controlled Wood National Risk Assessment Platform; specifically, FSC Controlled Wood Category 6 Wood harvested from areas being converted from forests and other wooded ecosystems to plantations or non- forest uses. Consider any variable or specified risk findings and related control measures
* Documents required for a given country will vary and should be determined on a case by case basis. Publicly available guidance can also be found in forestry standards
* Also see tenure security, which is a fundamental element of mitigating risk forest loss
	+ Evidence that timber is harvested from authorized areas, e.g., not from areas where harvest is not allowed: Management plans, including maps and/or records showing the area in which harvesting has taken place
 |