



# Forest Stewardship Council - a global voluntary sustainability standard

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# Agenda

- This is FSC®
- The relationship between voluntary certification and regulation/legislation
- Impacts of FSC certification





**FORESTS<sup>TM</sup>  
FOR ALL  
FOREVER**

- Forest Stewardship Council® (FSC®) was founded in 1994 by companies and non-governmental organisations from 25 countries, inspired by the UN Earth Summit in 1992.
- Our mission: To promote environmentally appropriate, socially beneficial, and economically viable management of the world's forests.
- Our 2050 vision: Resilient Forests Sustain Life on Earth - a new forest paradigm is realised, where the true value of forests is recognised and fully incorporated into society worldwide.

## FSC is:

- A global movement/platform for co-creation of solutions, where members and other partners from diverse interests set the benchmark for forest stewardship.
- A certification system with rules based on the solutions found in the co-creation process, and independent controls of certified forest owners and companies.
- A tool to promote responsible forest management and sourcing, and a label that consumers and customers can use to find products from responsible forestry.



## Our unique governance system



- Our members make decisions regarding FSC:s standards and governance, and elect the Board of Directors .
- Members are companies, environmental and social non-governmental organisations. They are organised in three chambers: economic, environmental, and social.
- Each chamber has 1/3 of the votes. Decisions can only be made when there is a majority in all chambers.
- Membership can be national, international or both

# Our principles & criteria for forest stewardship

- The foundation of the FSC certification system
- A national forest management standard is an adaptation of the global principles & criteria to national forest conditions. It is negotiated by the members, and consulted with a wider set of stakeholders
- National standards must fulfil the principles & criteria to be approved by FSC International

## The 10 global principles

1. Compliance with laws
2. Worker's rights and employment conditions
3. Indigenous peoples' rights
4. Community relations
5. Benefits from the forest
6. Environmental values and impacts
7. Management planning
8. Monitoring and assessment
9. High conservation values
10. Implementation of management activities



# Our standards govern the entire value chain

## Forest Management (FM) standards

Sets the rules for responsible forest management



## Trademark standards

Rules on how to label FSC products

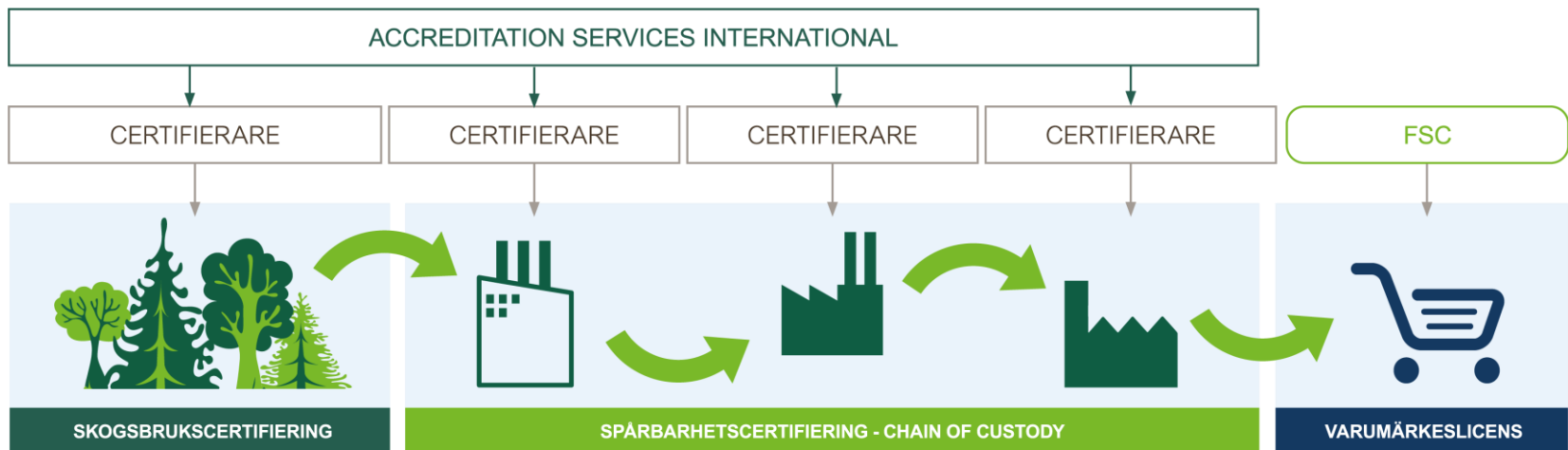
## Chain of Custody (CoC) standards

Tracks the FSC material from forest to consumers



# Our control system

- All FSC certificate holders are controlled at least once a year, and extra controls are carried out when needed
- Independent certification bodies carry out the controls
- Certification bodies are accredited by an independent accreditation body, and they are also annually controlled by the accreditation body
- If the standard is not correctly implemented a minor/major non-conformity is issued, and corrective action is required.
- Stakeholders can make complaints towards FSC certified forest owners and companies





# FSC in numbers

## Certified forest:

- ca. 10% of the forest land managed for wood production globally is FSC certified
- 2/3 of the forest land in Sweden is FSC certified

## Certified raw material:

- 23% of the industrial roundwood was FSC-certified 2019 (Boston Consulting Group)

## Certified producers and retailers:

- 51 000 chain of custody certificates in 125 countries



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# FSC forced to find solutions when others fail...

Examples of topics:

- Pesticides phase-out (Pine weevil)
- Sami vs. forest owner land-use rights
- Protection of Woodland Key Habitats (nyckelbiotoper)



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# Demonstrating impacts - a strategic priority

- Two main sources of evidence: internally generated data and independent scientific studies
- Several initiatives under way to monitor and evaluate impacts, including digitalisation of data, launching standardised audit report format, publishing boundaries of FSC certified forests in a GIS map, collecting independent studies in an impact dashboard



The [impact dashboard](#)



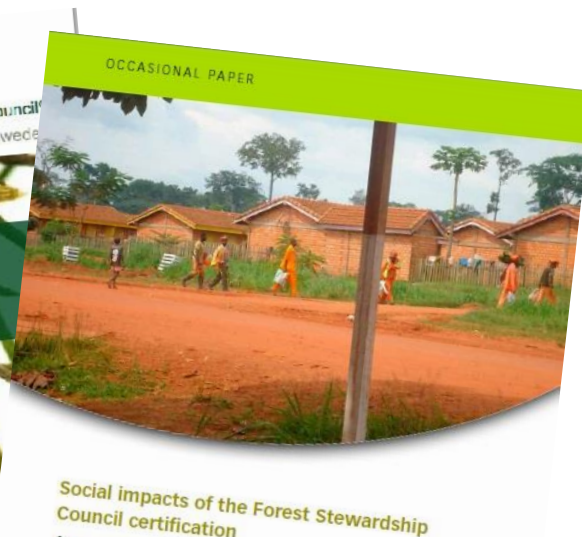
FSC on the [map](#)

# Studying impacts of certification is difficult

- What should be the baseline?
- How do you ensure to measure only the effects of certification?
- Was the scientific studies you are looking at designed to evaluate certification or something else?



# FSC makes a difference





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## What does FSC forest certification contribute to biodiversity conservation in relation to national legislation?

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