First Meeting of the Multi Stakeholder Committee
India National Platform for Private Sustainability Standards
UN Forum on Sustainable Standards

FSC Certification in India and Government Engagement:
Some Points for Discussion

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Our Mission

The Forest Stewardship Council® (FSC®) shall promote environmentally appropriate, socially beneficial, and economically viable management of the world’s forests.

OUR VISION

Meeting the rights and needs of the present generation without compromising those of future generations

FSC 10 Principles

1. Compliance with Laws
2. Workers’ 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

FSC

Founded in 1993 after the 1992 UN Conference on Sustainable Development, by business representatives, social groups, and environmental organizations

FSC is an independent, non-governmental, not-for-profit, membership organization

FSC provides an internationally recognized global certification scheme to ensure the responsible management of the world’s forests.
What does FSC provide?

• Setting standards for **Responsible** forest management and valuing ecosystem services
  
  – FSC does not issue certificates itself.

• An **accreditation/certification system** to monitor adherence to FSC standards
  
  – Only FSC accredited certification bodies are authorized to evaluate, monitor and issue FSC certificates.

• A product labeling system that rewards **Responsible** forest managers

FSC standards:

FSC certification:
https://ic.fsc.org/en/certification/3-steps-to-certification

FSC accredited certification bodies:
http://www.accreditation-services.com/archives/standards/fsc
### Growth of FSC Certification in India: 2007-2016

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Types of Certification</th>
<th>2007</th>
<th>2016 (as of 5 Dec)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>No of Chain of Custody Certificates (CoC)</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>351</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FSC Certified Forest Management Areas (Ha)</td>
<td>644</td>
<td>508,216*</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Including forest areas managed by the Government, farm forestry/agro forestry areas

**World:**
- FSC Certified Area: 194 million ha (In 83 countries)
- Number of Chain of Custody (CoC): 31,622 (In 162 countries)
- As of 5 Dec 2016. Source: *FSC Facts & Figures*
TEN REASONS TO CHOOSE FSC®

1. WE'RE GOVERNED BY OUR MEMBERS
   We're democratically governed, and over 800 social, economic, and environmental members help us to set the right policies to protect the world's forests.

2. WE HAVE THE HIGHEST STANDARDS
   We set higher standards than any other forest certification scheme, which gives users the best assurance that certified forests are being managed responsibly.

3. WE'RE RESPECTED AND CREDIBLE
   We are the preferred certification scheme for business and the one most widely used by members of the Fortune 500.

4. OUR IMPACT IS FAR-REACHING
   Operating in over 100 markets, we issue more certificates globally than any other forest certification scheme.

5. WE HAVE A POSITIVE IMPACT
   Of any existing forest certification scheme, we provide the highest level of protection for endangered species and natural forests.

6. WE HAVE INFLUENTIAL SUPPORT
   Our membership includes the world's largest and most respected environmental NGOs such as Greenpeace and WWF, both of which are vocal in their support of FSC over others.

7. WE'RE TRANSPARENT
   Every process and decision we make is open to public review and our product claims are independently audited.

8. OUR STANDARDS ARE GLOBALLY CONSISTENT
   Wherever we operate in the world, our standards are based on the same principles and criteria.

9. WE THINK LOCAL
   Every FSC forest certification process is open to local consultation so the people who live there can always have their say.

10. WE'RE RECOGNISED
    FSC is the only forest certification scheme recognised by LEED Green Building Certification and is a member of ISEAL Alliance, the global association for sustainability standards.
Government engagement in promoting FSC Certification in India
Suggestions* to India National Platform for Private Sustainability Standards supported by UNFSS

- Ensure adequate Government incentives to secure and retain the FSC certificates in particular to benefit small holders and small and medium enterprises (SMEs) for market access and increase domestic supply of FSC certified materials.
- Promote capacity building and awareness among the relevant government officials regarding the benefits of forest certification and the linkages with various government initiatives.
- Initiate collaborative programmes at both national and local level (eg. Implementation of sustainable development goals, programmes addressing to the climate change)
- Cooperation and support in the development of FSC National Forest Stewardship Standards in India and associated multi stakeholder consultations

* These are some key points for discussions and not an exclusive list of suggestions.
Thank you!

Forest Stewardship Council®

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