



Forest Stewardship Council®



# FSC's contribution to biodiversity protection

**John Hontelez, FSC International**

**3<sup>RD</sup> EUROPEAN FOREST WEEK - SILVA2015**



# FSC forest certification in UNECE region

154 Million ha certified – 35 countries -

9,4% of all UNECE forest area – mainly productive forests.

## TOP TEN:

1.	Canada	51 million ha	- 16,4% total forest area
2.	Russia	40	4,9%
3.	USA	13	4,4%
4.	Sweden	12	41,9%
5.	Belarus	7	81,8%
6.	Poland	7	74,2%
7.	Ukraine	3,3	34,2%
8.	Romania	2,5	38,4%
9.	Turkey	2,3	20,8%
10.	Croatia	2	< 100%

***34 million ha. in EU – 21,6%***

**Processing/Trade:  
19.612 CoC CHs in  
45 UNECE-countries**

# FSC biodiversity relevant requirements (P&C V5)

- Principle 1: **Compliance with Laws**, including
  - 3.2. Protected sites and species
  - 3.3. Environmental Requirements
  - 5.5. CITES
  - 7. Ecosystem Services
- Principle 6: The organization shall maintain, conserve and/or restore **ecosystem services** and **environmental values** and shall avoid, repair or mitigate negative environmental impacts - 10 Criteria
- Principle 9: The organization shall maintain and/or enhance the **High Conservation Values** in the Management Unit through applying the precautionary approach - 4 Criteria

# Environmental Values

- Ecosystem functions (including carbon sequestration and storage)
- Biological Diversity
- Water Resources
- Soils
- Atmosphere
- Landscape values (including cultural and spiritual values)

# Ecosystem Services

## ***The benefits people obtain from ecosystems:***

- Food, forest products and water
- Regulating services, such as of floods, drought, land degradation, air quality, climate and disease. Including carbon sequestration and storage
- Supporting services such as soil formation and nutrient cycling
- Cultural services and cultural values, including recreational, spiritual, religious and other non-material benefits.

# High Conservation Values (HCVs)

- Species Diversity
- Landscape-level ecosystems and mosaics
- Ecosystems and habitats
- Critical Ecosystem Services
- Community needs
- Cultural Values

***High Conservation Value Areas:*** Zones and physical spaces which possess and/or are needed for the existence and maintenance of identified HCVs

## Giving Direction: *International Generic Indicators*

- **New:** 204 Indicators supporting 10 Principles and 70 Criteria
- Effective from 1<sup>st</sup> September 2015 – to be transformed into FSC Forest Management Standards within 1 year
- Have character of normative requirements – subject to national, balanced multi-stakeholder interpretation and final FSC approval.
- Application according to “*Scale, Intensity and Risk*”
- One Annex specifically relevant to Ecosystem Services...

*FSC-STD-60-004 V1 – International Generic Indicators*

## “Additional Requirements for Ecosystem Services”

For **promotional claims** regarding maintenance and/or enhancement of ecosystem services, **additional management, monitoring and transparency requirements are obligatory**, to ensure the credibility of claims and demonstration of impacts.

- Specific, additional, indicators, defined for categories:

A. General [ <i>always applicable</i> ]	D. Watershed Services
B. Carbon Sequestration and Storage	E. Soil Conservation
C. Biological Diversity Conservation	F. Recreational Services



# Towards FSC Ecosystem Services Claims

FSC has started work on “*FSC Procedure for Demonstrating the Impact of Forest Stewardship on Ecosystems Services*”, to be finalized Mid 2017

On this basis “FSC Claims” will be possible for the specific ecosystem services just mentioned.

Further tools in development, including through the **ForCES** project [Forest Certification of Ecosystem Services]

**GLOBAL**

- ES Certification model
- Standard development
- Market Analysis & Business models
- Scaling up

**Lead: FSC IC Ecosystem Services Program**

- CIFOR
- UNEP



**Vietnam**

45,000 ha  
2 pilot sites

- **Soil**
- **Water**
- **REDD+**

**Lead: SNV**

- MARD
- RECOFTC



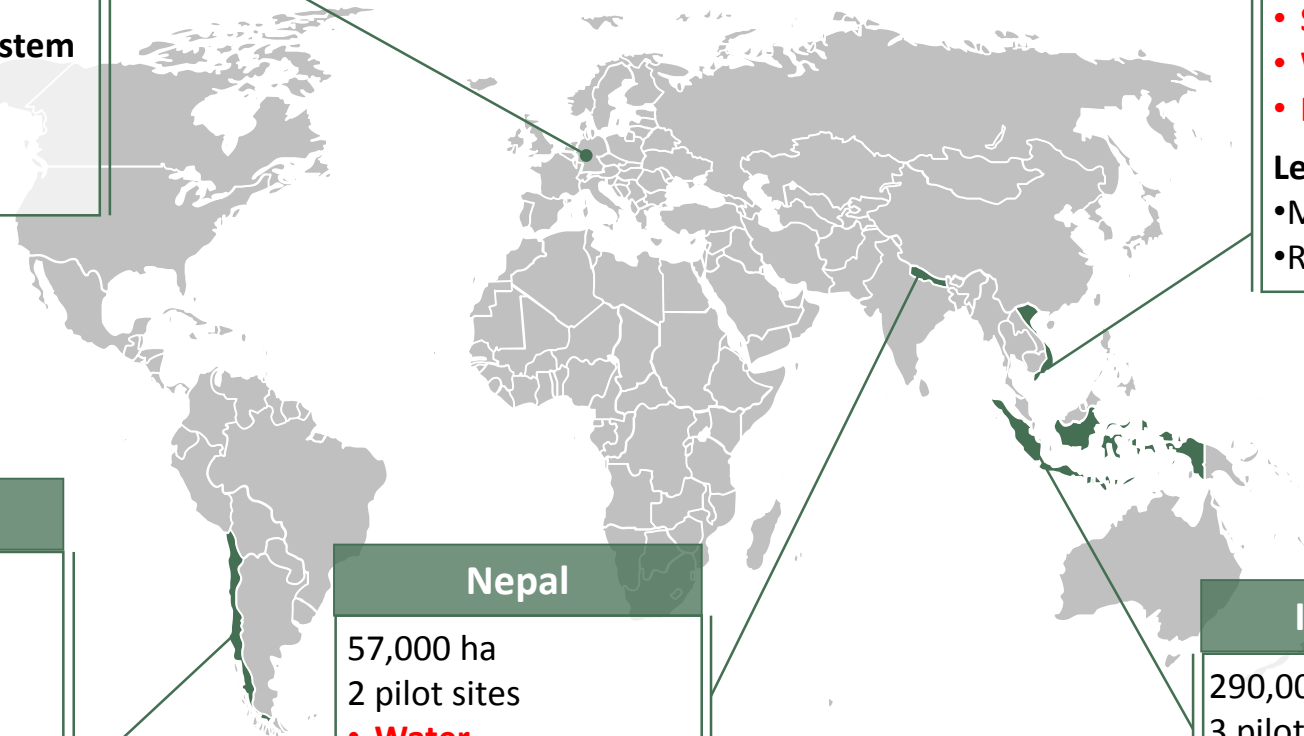
**Chile**

320,000 ha  
3 pilot sites

- **Water**
- **NTFPs**
- **Protected areas**

**Lead: FSC Chile**

- Astorga Consultants
- Bosques Cautin
- Fundación Pumalin
- GFA
- INFOR



**Nepal**

57,000 ha  
2 pilot sites

- **Water**
- **Ecotourism**
- **REDD+**

**Lead: ANSAB**

- FECOFUN
- National Trust for Nature Conservation
- Relief International



**Indonesia**

290,000 ha  
3 pilot sites

- **Water**
- **Ecotourism**
- **REDD+**

**Lead: WWF Indonesia**

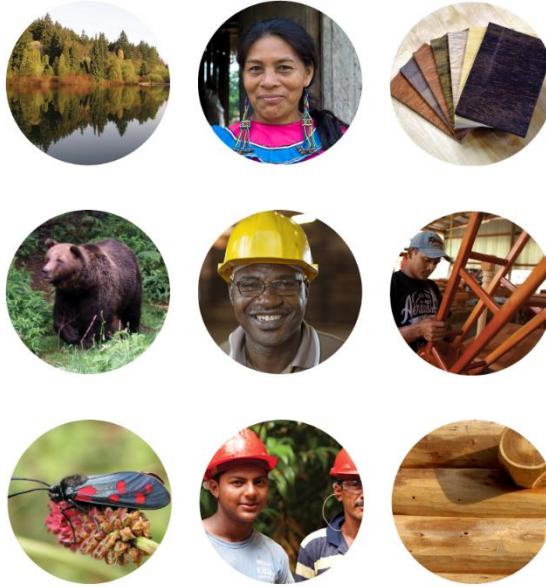
- LEI
- Ministry of Forestry

## Conclusions:

- FSC certification already is an important tool for protection of biodiversity and maintenance of ES in forests
- From 2016 the new FSC national standards will strengthen that function even more
- From 2017 FSC Ecosystem Claims will become a reliable tool for public and private entities interested in sponsoring forest ecosystem service maintenance/enhancement by specific, FSC certified forest management units.

<sup>1</sup> Ecosystem Marketplace 2014

<sup>2</sup> FSC Global Market Survey 2014



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