



Development of the FSC National Standard for Latvia.... Reasons for the breakdown!

Authors: Economic Chamber





1. HCV DEFINITION



2. LOCAL COMMUNITY
DEFINITION



3. STANDARD
DEVELOPMENT PROCESS




4. CNRA
DEVELOPMENT
PROCESS FOR LATVIA



Viability

Social and economic
impacts



1. HCV
definition

HCV DEFINITION

HCV3 ENVIRONMENTAL CHAMBER

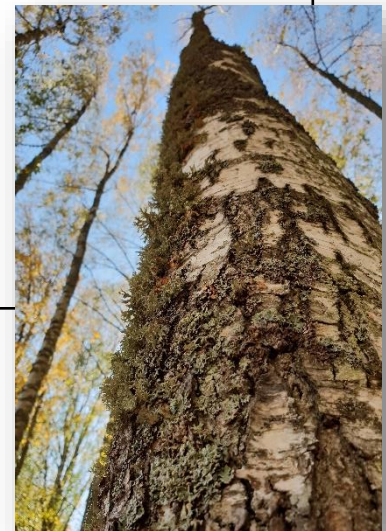
9.1.1 Areas of protected habitats:

- Natura 2000 sites or parts, which established for habitat protection;
- Microreserves established for habitat protection **or habitat areas that correspond to the quality requirements of microreserves according to the indicator 1.3.1;**
- Habitat concentration areas in the management unit defined by the organisation.

HCV3 ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL CHAMBER

9.1.1 Areas of protected habitats:

- Natura 2000 sites or parts, which established for habitat protection;
- **Microreserves established for habitat protection**
- Habitat concentration areas in the management unit defined by the organisation.



Proposal by the Environmental Chamber

Ongoing

DURATION: 03/11/2016. - 02.06.2023.

Habitat distribution and quality determination
– at the latest 31.12.2019.

Nature Census

European Union Cohesion Fund project

NACIONĀLAIS
ATTĪSTĪBAS
PLĀNS 2020



EIROPAS SAVIENĪBA
Kohēzijas fonds

IEGULDĪJUMS TAVĀ NĀKOTNĒ



Preconditions for better biodiversity preservation and ecosystem protection in Latvia

jeb **"Nature Census"**

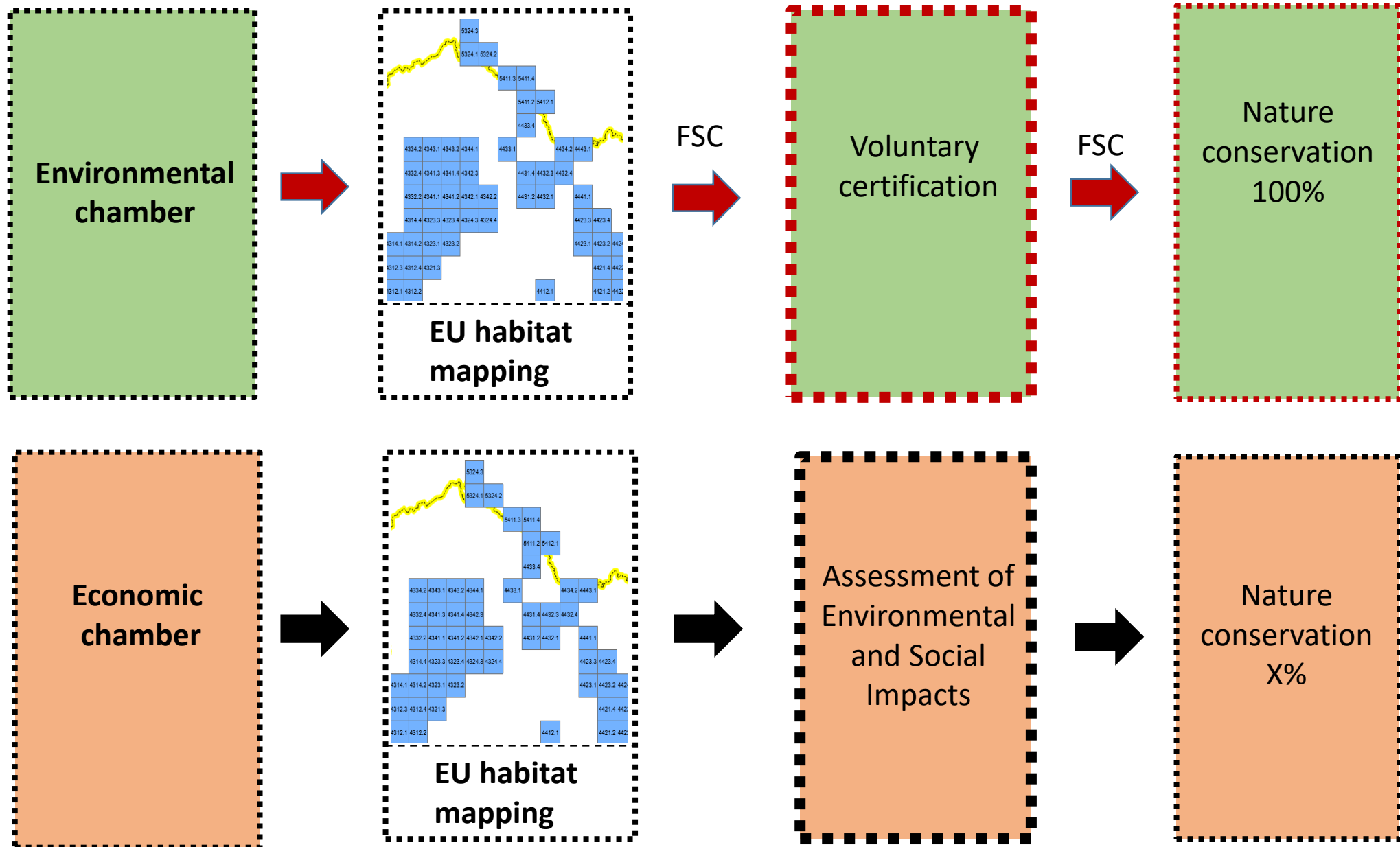
5.4.2.1/16/I/001

Structure, Content and Development of Interim National Standards



Each adapted indicator shall be SMART (Specific, **Measurable**, **Achievable**, Relevant and Tangible), according to Clause 4.4 in *FSC-STD-60-002 Structure and Content of National Forest Stewardship Standards*.

We will not accept indicators and requirements that impossible to measure, achieve and implement at a reasonable cost!



HCV Framework (II)

ENVIRONMENTAL CHAMBER

Description of threats to HCV areas:

1. lack of integration of species protection plans
2. lack of integration of the manual for habitat management
- 3 , 4. implementation of inappropriate forest management practices for species conservation.
5. unidentified habitats

Strategies for maintaining HCV areas

- use of the manual EUROPEAN UNION PROTECTED HABITATS IN LATVIA.
- initiation of establishment of microreserves
- implementation of landscape ecological principles
- using the latest inventory data for habitats and their concentration locations

THE GOAL OF ENVIRONMENTAL CHAMBER

1. The ban of harvesting and pre-commercial thinning from April 1 to June 30
2. The ban of clear felling
3. Reduction of harvesting volumes
4. Power to block any management activity
5. Reducing sites available for commercial production

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL CHAMBER

Description of threats to HCV areas:

- violation of Laws in regards to management of Natura 2000 areas and microreserves.
- violation of voluntary commitments of the organisation.

Strategies for maintaining HCV areas

Program for protection and management of Natura 2000 sites

HCV Framework (I)

ENVIRONMENTAL CHAMBER

Description of engagement, interested stakeholders and affected stakeholders:

- State Forest Service,
- Nature Conservation Agency,
- The Ministry of Environmental Protection and Regional Development,
- **Environmental NGO's,**
- local municipalities.

In the event of disagreement, the views of the relevant competent national authorities may be taken as a basis.

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL CHAMBER

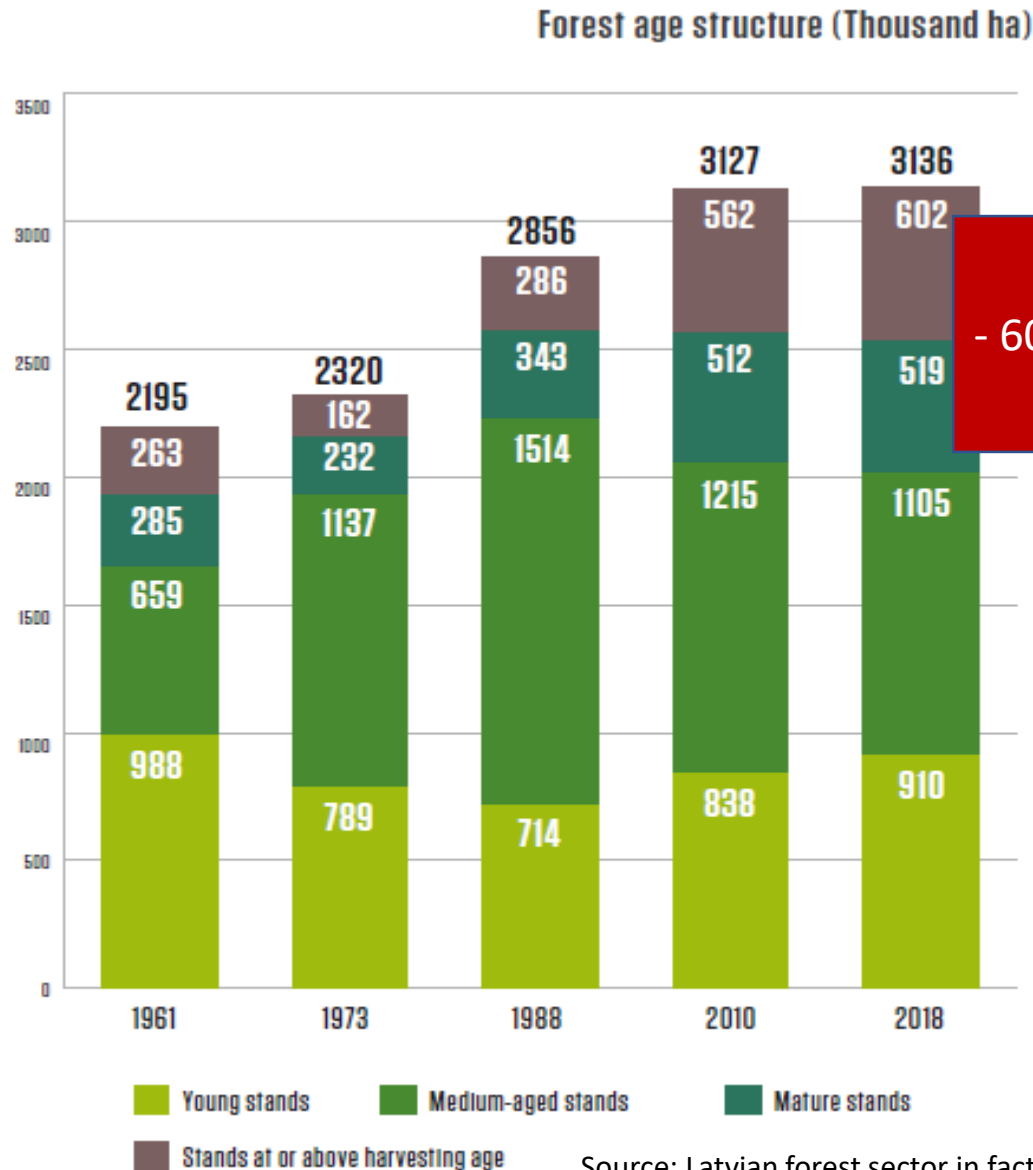
Description of engagement, interested stakeholders and affected stakeholders:

Primary source are state competent authorities:

- State Forest Service,
- Nature Conservation Agency,
- The Ministry of Environmental Protection and Regional Development,
- **The Ministry of Agriculture.**

Other stakeholders such as environmental non-governmental organisations may have professional or personal interests in species diversity, their observations are unlikely to be of the same national, regional or global significance as designated sites. In case of disputes advice shall be sought from the relevant competent authorities.

Initial results from the mapping (year 2017)



- 60 000 ha

X 3

.... this will affect the forest industry in the *next 10 years!!!!*

To what extent and for what "price" will restrictions be introduced?

Proposals from the economic chamber

To stop using the FSC as a tool for pushing one chamber interests (for example, harvesting ban for 3 month etc.)!

Our proposal is that the HCV3 shall be written as follows:

Areas of protected habitats:

- Natura 2000 sites or parts, which established for habitat protection;
- **Microreserves established for habitat protection** and
- Habitat concentration areas in the management unit defined by the Organisation.



Proposals from the economic chamber

Our proposal is that areas corresponding to the quality requirements of microreserves (at least till the end of the Nature Census project) covered **in the principle 6**:

6.5.2 Representative Sample Areas* of native ecosystems* are protected (protection can include management activities designed to maintain the ecological functionality), **including habitat areas that correspond to the quality requirements of microreserves according to the indicator 1.3.1.** Representative Sample Areas*, **including habitat areas that correspond to the quality requirements of microreserves according to the indicator 1.3.1**, in combination with other components of the conservation areas network* comprise a minimum 10% area of the Management Unit*.





Social and economic
impacts



2. Definition
of Local
Community

DEFINITION OF LOCAL COMMUNITY

ENVIRONMENTAL CHAMBER

Local communities: Communities of any size that are in or adjacent to the Management Unit, **and also those that are close enough to have a significant impact on the economy or the environmental values of the Management Unit.**

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL CHAMBER

Local communities or groups of local people – local municipalities and local people Associations/ Foundations / Churches **that are in the Management unit or may be affected by the management activities.**



P.S. «**local community**» from Riga!



Smiltene and surrounding inhabitants



AS „Latvijas Valsts meži” Austrumvidzemes mežsaimniecībai
"Mežsaimniecība", Silva 18, Launkalnes pagasts, Smiltenes nov., Latvija, LV-4729

The meeting was attended by 4 people

Smiltenes un apkārtnes iedzīvotāju

kolektīva vēstule

Mēs, zemāk parakstījušies Smiltenes un apkārtnes iedzīvotāji, izsakām satraukumu par pēdējo dažu gadu laikā notikušo straujo mežsaimniecības intensifikāciju Smiltenes tuvumā, cērtot arvien lielākas kailcirtes valsts mežos, daudzus gadījumos cērtot jaunas kailcirtes blakus izcirtumiem vai dažus gadus vecām jaunaudzēm.

Īpaši satraucoša situācija tieši pēdējo nedēļu laikā izveidojusies Brantu pagastā pie robežas ar Smiltenes pilsētu, kur turpinās kailcīršu ciršana meža masīvā tiešā pilsētas tuvumā, lai gan šis mežs pilda pilsētas zaļās aizsargjoslas funkcijas, ir ļoti nozīmīgs iedzīvotāju atpūtai, ogošanai, sēņošanai. Mēs – iedzīvotāji – atgādinām, ka AS „Latvijas Valsts meži” ir FSC sertifikāts, kura nosacījumi paredz mežu apsaimniekošanā ņemt vērā gan vides aizsardzības, gan iedzīvotāju intereses. Lūdzam apturēt cirsmu izstrādi Brantu pagastā netālu no Smiltenes robežas, sākt diskusiju par tālāko mežsaimniecisko darbību ar vietējo pašvaldību, iedzīvotājiem, vides aizsardzības sabiedriskām organizācijām, rīkot sabiedrisko apspriešanu par tālākiem meža apsaimniekošanas plāniem Smiltenes tiešā tuvumā.

«We – the local community – remind LVM that it holds the FSC certificate, which require the forest management to take into account interests of both – the environmental and local community. We request the cessation of harvesting.... Commence active consultation with environmental organizations, local municipality and local community...»

Needs of local community and interested Stakeholders by experience are different!

Engagement with interested and affected stakeholders

The national standard for Latvia requires engagement with interested and/or affected stakeholders.

For example:

7.6.1 The Organisation provides **interested** and **affected stakeholders*** with an opportunity to submit proposals for a management plan, including a monitoring program.

7.6.2 Requirement to develop cooperation with **affected** and **interested stakeholders**....

9.1.3 The Organisation identifying the HCV takes into account the results of affected and **stakeholder consultations**;

9.2.3 Consultations with **affected*** and **interested stakeholders*** in regards to the development of management strategies and actions to maintain HCV...

9.4.2 The monitoring program includes engagement with **affected** and **interested stakeholders**...

- Complaint mechanism described, **etc.**

Proposals from the economic chamber

The national standard shall clearly describe terms:

- local community
- interested stakeholders,
- affected stakeholders.



Principle 4:

The Organization shall contribute to maintaining or enhancing the social and economic wellbeing of **local communities**.

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.**



Transparency

Mutual trust



3. Standard
development
process

The last WG meeting was held on the
December 20, 2018

In the last meeting the working was not able to
reach consensus on the definition of local
community and interested stakeholders

Therefore Mr. Imants Kruze was asked to
reflect both interpretations of the definitions

We don't know what will happen next?

The wording of some indicators previously agreed by all three chambers changed.

Now the latest draft contains some indicators proposed by **the environmental chamber and another wording**, which was compromise between all three chambers.



Example...

The minutes of the meeting:

4.7.1	<p>Vietas, kuras ir īpaši svarīgas to kultūrvēsturiskās, ekoloģiskās, ekonomiskās vai reliģiskās nozīmes dēļ, uz kurām vietējām kopienām* ir likumā noteiktas* vai paražu tiesības*, tiek noteiktas, izmantojot kultūras videi atbilstošu* vietējās kopienas* iesaistīšanu*, un organizācija* atzīst šādas vietas.</p>	<p><i>Darba grupa nevarēja vienoties par vienu formulējumu. Tādēļ uz sabiedrisko apspriešanu tiek virzīti divi atšķirīgi formulējumi. Viens:</i></p> <p>Vietas, kuras to kultūrvēsturiskās, ekoloģiskās, ekonomiskās vai reliģiskās nozīmes dēļ ir iekļautas LR normatīvo aktu noteiktā aizsargājamo objektu sarakstā, organizācija ir apzinājusi.</p> <p><i>Otrs:</i></p> <p>Iesaistot vietējās kopienas tiek noteiktas vietas, kuras ir īpaši svarīgas to kultūrvēsturiskās, ekoloģiskās, ekonomiskās vai reliģiskās nozīmes dēļ.</p>	<p>Vietas, kuras to kultūrvēsturiskās, ekoloģiskās, ekonomiskās vai reliģiskās nozīmes dēļ ir iekļautas LR normatīvo aktu noteiktā aizsargājamo objektu sarakstā, organizācija ir apzinājusi.</p>	<p>Vita Rudzīte (SIA PATA) 2018.05.25:</p> <p>Vietējā kopiena (neliela jauzu grupa), bez visai sabiedrībai nozīmīga pamatojuma, var noteikt kā kultūrvēsturiski, ekoloģiski, ekonomiski vai reliģiski nozīmīgu jebkuru teritoriju vai vietu. Sekojoši tiek būtiski ierobežota saimnieciskā darbība, un nav iespējams plānot ilgtermiņa ražošanas apjomus.</p>	<p>2018.09.06. Priekšlikums daļēji atbalstīts. Jaunā indikatora redakcija paredz, ka uz iesniegumu pamata tiek noteiktas tās vietas (objekti), kuras būtu jāaizsargā pamatojoties uz likumu (piem., kultūrvēsturiskie objekti vai mikrolietumu sugu dzīvotnes), bet tās iepriekš nav noteiktas:</p> <p>Organizācija izvērtē vietējās kopienas priekšlikumus un nosaka vietas, kuras to kultūrvēsturiskās, ekoloģiskās, ekonomiskās vai reliģiskās nozīmes dēļ ir iekļautas LR normatīvo aktu noteiktā aizsargājamo objektu sarakstā.</p> <p>(Pārbaudes dabā laikā vērtēt termina "ekonomika" liederību indikatorā.)</p>
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2018.09.06. The organization evaluates proposals of the **local community** and determines places of cultural, historical, ecological, economic or religious significance, which are included in the list of protected sites in accordance with the laws and regulations of Latvia. (During the field test usefulness of the term 'economy' in this indicator shall be evaluated)

The indicator was accepted by all three chambers!

21.12.2018



SDG nespēja vienoties par vienu indikatora redakciju. Tādēļ palikušas divas redakcijas. (Nav skaidra termina "ekonomika" lietderība indikatorā.) Viena:

Organizācija izvērtē vietējās kopienas* priekšlikumus un nosaka vietas, kuras to kultūrvēsturiskās, ekoloģiskās, ekonomiskās vai reliģiskās nozīmes dēļ ir iekļautas LR normatīvo aktu noteiktā aizsargājamo objektu sarakstā.

Un otra:

Organizācija izvērtē vietējās kopienas* priekšlikumus un nosaka vietas, kuras ir īpaši svarīgas to kultūrvēsturiskās, ekoloģiskās, ekonomiskās vai reliģiskās nozīmes dēļ.



The WG was unable to agree on one indicator version. Therefore two editions left. (The need for term "economy" is not clear in the indicator.)

One:

The Organization evaluates proposals of the **local community** and determines places of cultural, historical, ecological, economic or religious significance, which are included in the list of protected sites in accordance with the laws and regulations of Latvia.

And the other:

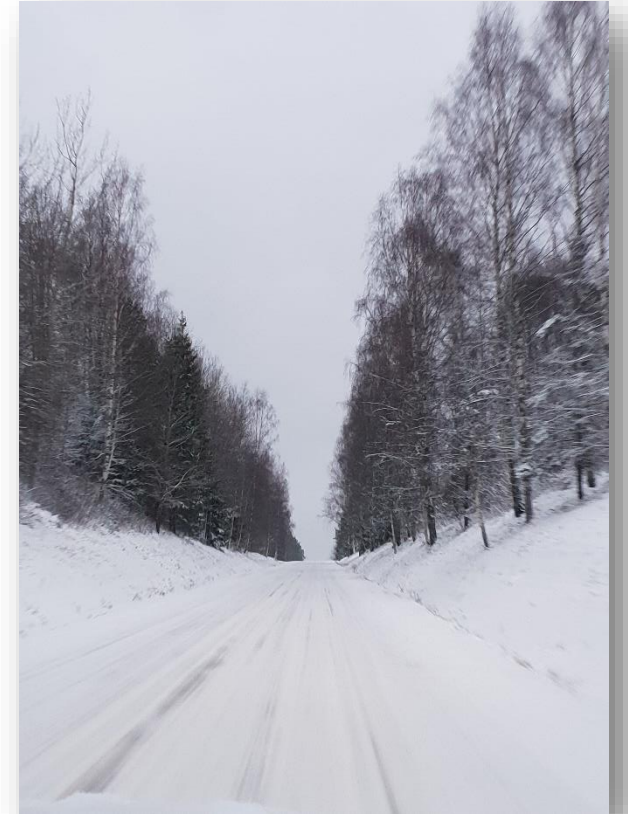
The Organization evaluates proposals of **local community** and determines places of special cultural, ecological, economic or religious significance.

New wording included without approval of all working group.

The WG could not reach agreement about term **local community and affected stakeholders**.

Proposals from the economic chamber

- Further coordination and facilitation work of the SDG to undertake independent person... Aidas Pivoriunas?
- Preconditions:
 - Latvian language remains as official working language.
 - FSC International provides interpretations.





Social and economic
impacts

Transparency

Mutual trust



LEGAL

ILLEGAL

4. CNRA
development
process for
LATVIA

CNRA DEVELOPMENT PROCESS FOR LATVIA

1. The first definition elaborated by the National Forest Management Standard Working Group (FSC-STD-LVA V1-0 D2-5 EN); **the definition was accepted nationally by all three chambers** – environmental, social and economic.
2. The second definition elaborated **by NEPCon**, ignoring issues raised by the economic and social chamber. **Four of the experts represented only 1 chamber, namely environmental:**

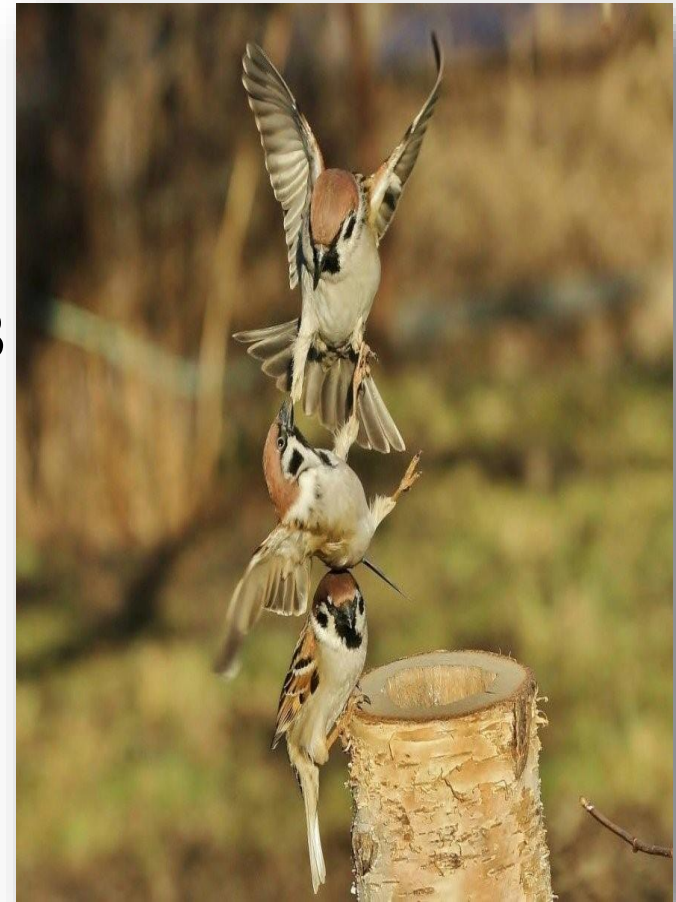
Experts consulted

	Name	Organization	Area of expertise (category/sub-category)
1.	Sandra Ikauniece	Nature Conservation Agency (Public institution)	Forest habitat expert
2.	Viesturs Larmanis	Latvian Fund for Nature (NGO)	<u>Expert, biologist</u>
3.	Janis Rozitis	Pasaules Dabas fonds (NGO)	Forest policy expert <u></u>
4.	Viesturs Kerus	Latvian Ornithological Society (NGO)	Ornithology expert, forest policy expert

Source: FSC-CNRA-LV V1-1 EN

Proposals from the economic chamber

- The risk mitigation measures proposed by NEPCon impossible to implement at a reasonable cost!!!
- **Therefore, we propose revision of the CNRA category 3 based on the chambers balanced working group.**
- Results of the EU habitat mapping include in the FSC documentation only after the project finalized.





Thank You!

