

PCI CONSULTATION

Public webinar on 20 November 2025



OVERVIEW OF FOREST MANAGEMENT CONSULTATIONS

Public webinar on 20 November 2025

How to Participate

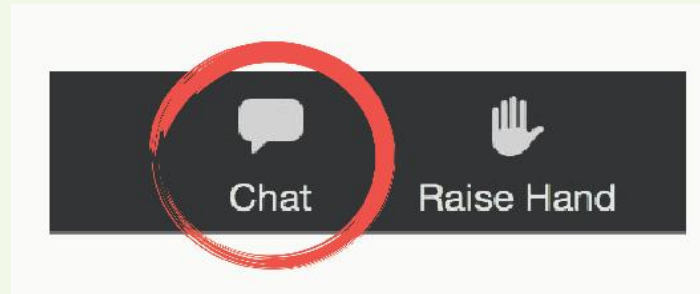
Submit your Questions using the Q&A button- anonymously please!



Ask your **questions** in the **Q&A box** so that we can keep an overview and easily manage them

You can like (👍) a question submitted by other participants- the more likes a question receives, the greater the priority it will become to answer.

How to participate



Submit your comments and discussion using the chat panel.

Please kindly keep this chat
box for **comments and
discussion**

What to expect today

- Overview of the content and proposals in the public consultation and learn how to participate in the consultation
- Raise clarifying questions
- Today's session is public and open to all stakeholders. Presentation is shared on PCI Hub



AGENDA



	Topic	Time	Presenter
1	Overview of consultations	5 min.	Jannicka
2	PCI Revision	5 min.	Diana
3	PCI Consultation: Key proposals	35 min.	Rankeshwarnath
4	Outcome orientation in forest management	10 min.	Arildo
5	How to participate	5 min.	Jannicka
6	Q&A	30 min.	Jannicka

FOREST MANAGEMENT CONSULTATIONS

FSC has launched two related consultations
on:

- Our **Forest Management** standards
- How we develop **Forest Stewardship Standards**

Join us....

Forest Management Standards

PCI Revision

- FSC Principles & Criteria
 - International Generic Indicators
- Other forest management normative documents

Forest Stewardship Standards Revision

- Development and revision of FSC Country Requirements
 - Forest Stewardship Standard content requirements

Public Consultation
October 1 – November 30

What's happening now

TIME TO REVISE
&
TIME TO RETHINK



PCI REVISION

Forest Management Standards

PCI Revision

- FSC Principles & Criteria
- International Generic Indicators
- Other forest management normative documents

Public Consultation
October 1 – November 30

Conceptual Phase

What we did

Consulted with stakeholders and researched extensively resulting in:



Review Report



2 in person workshops

...find all resources and publications available at pci.fsc.org



Three Green Papers
(Climate Change & Biodiversity ; Scope & Applicability and Outcome orientation)



Survey for FSC Members



3 public webinars



General Assembly: 3
side events, 1 Plenary session and 1 Open House

Objectives of this revision

To develop more **user-oriented Forest Stewardship Standards** while maintaining FSC's integrity and delivering greater value and impact for people and forests.



Streamlined



User-oriented



Outcome oriented

Key main topics

1

Social Aspects

- Gender and diversity
- Indigenous Peoples
- Workers' Rights
- Community relations

2

Climate change & biodiversity*

- Understand where climate is included
- Enhance biodiversity

3

Scope & Applicability*

- Applicability of the scope of the P&C (to widen or narrow the scope)
- User-focused approach

4

Outcome Orientation*

- General incorporation into PCI
- Defining intended outcomes of forest stewardship

PCI CONSULTATION: KEY PROPOSALS

Key proposals



User-orientation



**Strengthening:
Social & environmental
requirements, climate
change and biodiversity
conservation**



**Scope &
Applicability**



Outcome orientation



**Streamlining and
clarifying related
documents and
requirements such as:
Annexes, Policy on
Excision, Glossary of
Terms & more**

Streamlining the PCI

DEFINITION

A streamlined structure is defined as a way to improve accessibility, enhance coherence and efficiency while reducing redundancy and complexity of FSC requirements.



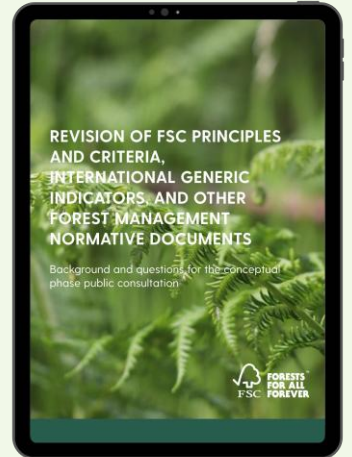
WHAT THIS LOOKS LIKE

- ✓ Thematic overlaps reduced
- ✓ Core concepts (e.g., biodiversity protection) not fragmented across the standard
- ✓ Clear and logical sequence of requirements that follows a natural progression (coherent flow)

STREAMLINING

Reducing redundancy

Maintaining rigor



**Maintaining social &
environmental protection
& values**



Reducing



Annexes



**Instructions for
standard developers**



Complexity



Repetitions



Redundancy

Policy on Excision



Challenge

- Some of the Policy on Excision related requirements are already part of various Standards and Procedures (P&C and IGI or draft country requirements etc.)
- A separate document creates duplications and hence confusion for various users.



Proposal

- Relocating the requirements to other normative document where various users (Certificate Holders, Certification Bodies, and Standard Developers) are actually looking.



Advice Notes & Interpretations



FSC Directive on Forest Management
Evaluation (FSC-DIR-20-007)



Forest Management Interpretations



Revision process aspects

- Streamlining of requirements is necessary to avoid ambiguities and confusion for the users and make the requirements simpler for their coherence.



P&C V.6
IGI V.3



Proposal

- Integrate non-redundant content into PCI and related FM documents
- Withdraw redundant Advice Notes and Interpretations or specific parts of them.
- Keep Advice Notes/Interpretations only when they serve a transitional purpose or where content is not inferring top PCI revision.



Are we ready to restructure and streamline these documents?

**Let us know your answer in the
consultation!**

Key proposals



User-orientation



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change and biodiversity
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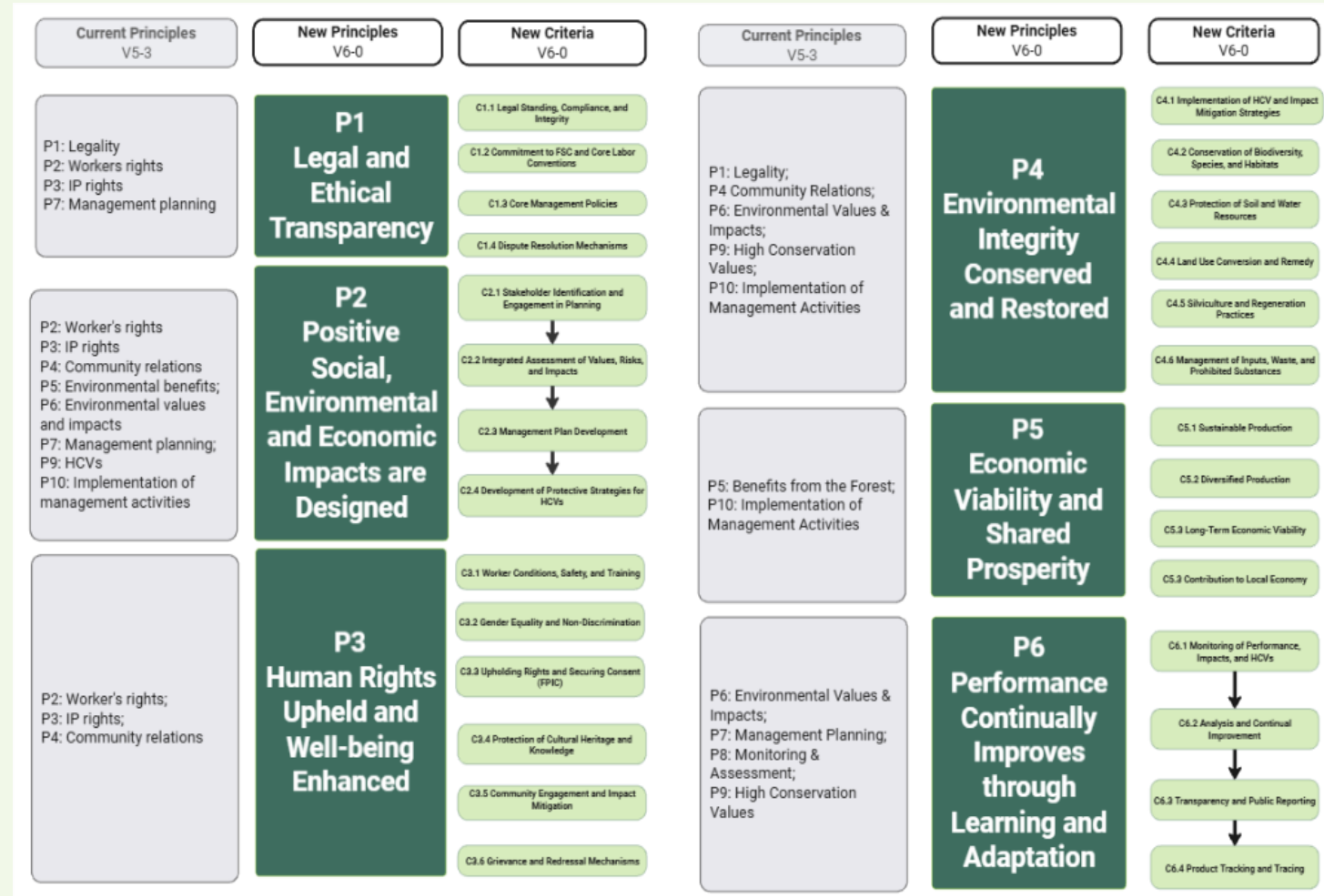
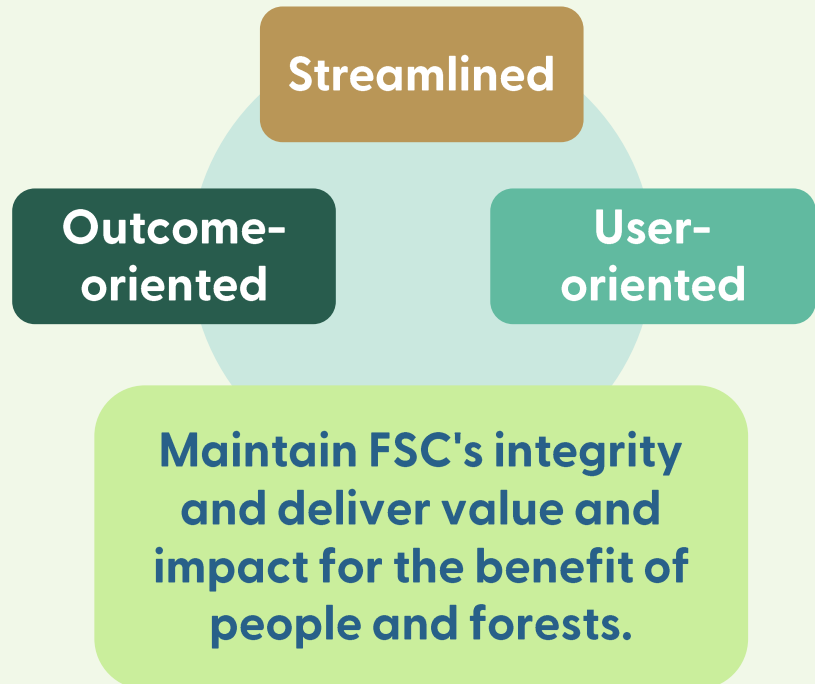
**Scope &
Applicability**



Outcome orientation

Proposed Restructuring of PCI

This hypothetical mock-up proposes a structure that synthesizes the strengths of **several approaches** into a single, cohesive framework.





Should FSC explore restructuring the FSC Principles & Criteria?

**Let us know your answer in the
consultation!**

CORE REQUIREMENTS



Products

- Timber
- Non-timber forest products (NTFPs)



Services

- Production
- Conservation
- Ecosystem services



User type

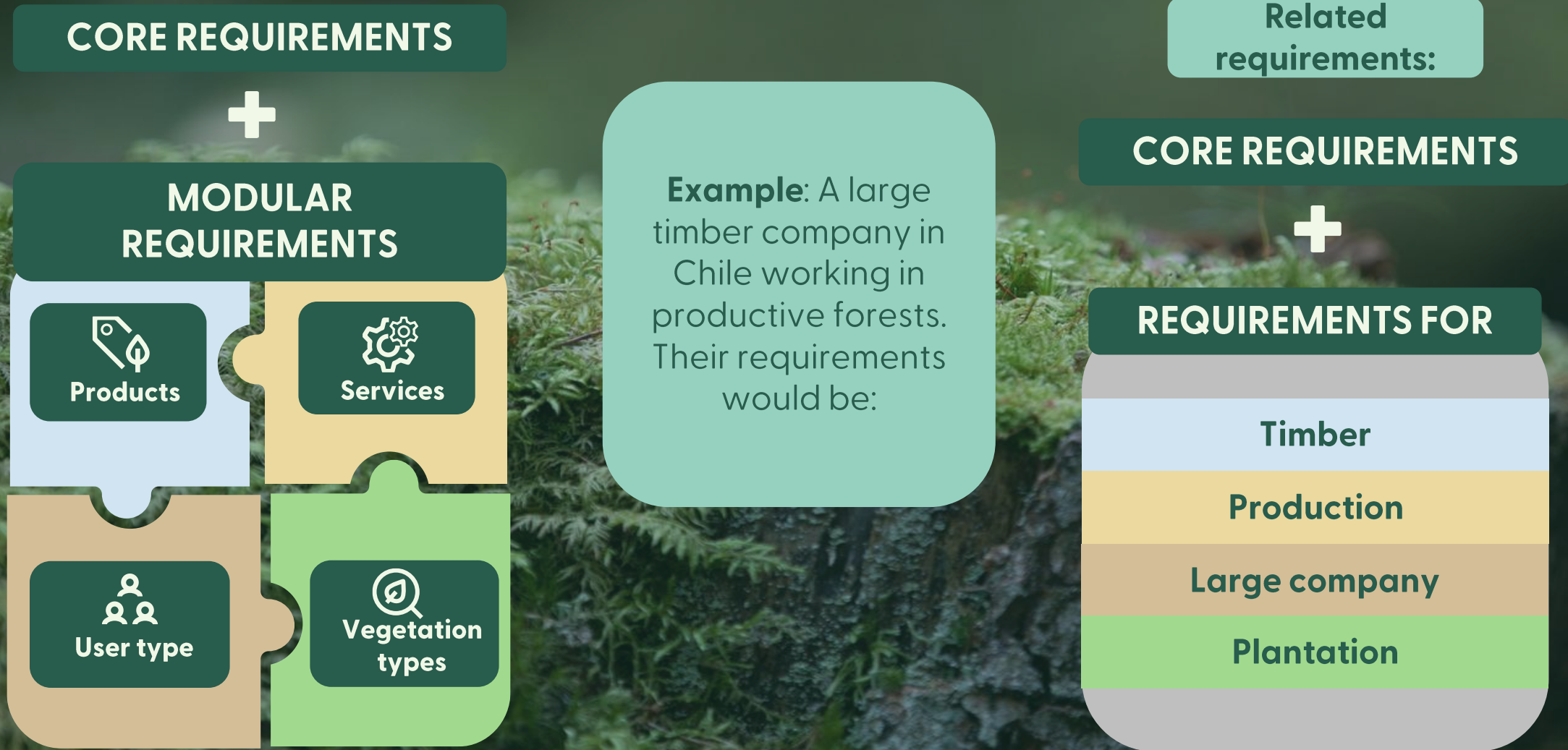
- Organizations
- Large companies
- Small or Low-Intensity Managed Forests (SLIMF)
- Community-managed forests
- Governments



Vegetation types

- Natural forests (e.g. tropical, boreal)
- Plantations
- Other vegetation types

Modular approach example





Should FSC introduce a modular approach into its forest management certification?

Let us know your answer in the consultation!



Key proposals



User-orientation



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**Scope &
Applicability**

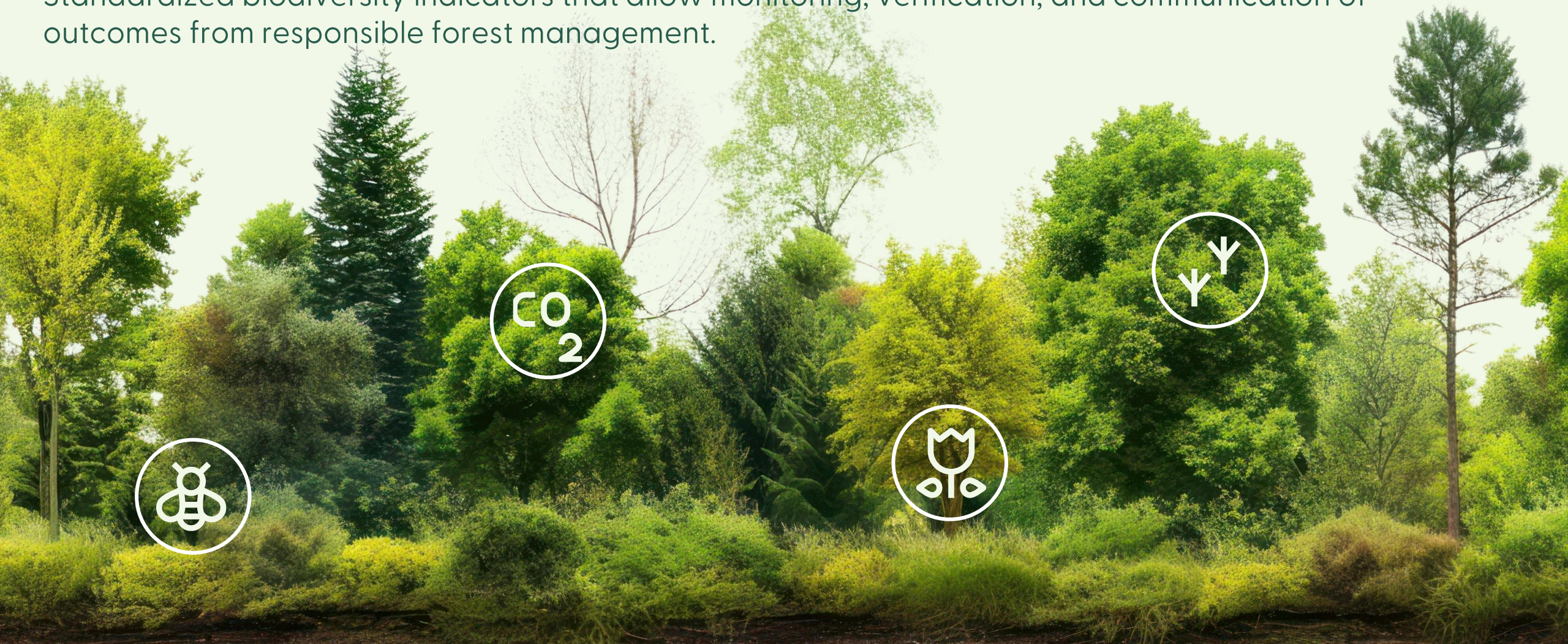


Outcome orientation

Climate and biodiversity

Explicit requirements for climate adaptation, mitigation, resilience.

Standardized biodiversity indicators that allow monitoring, verification, and communication of outcomes from responsible forest management.



PCI and Climate change

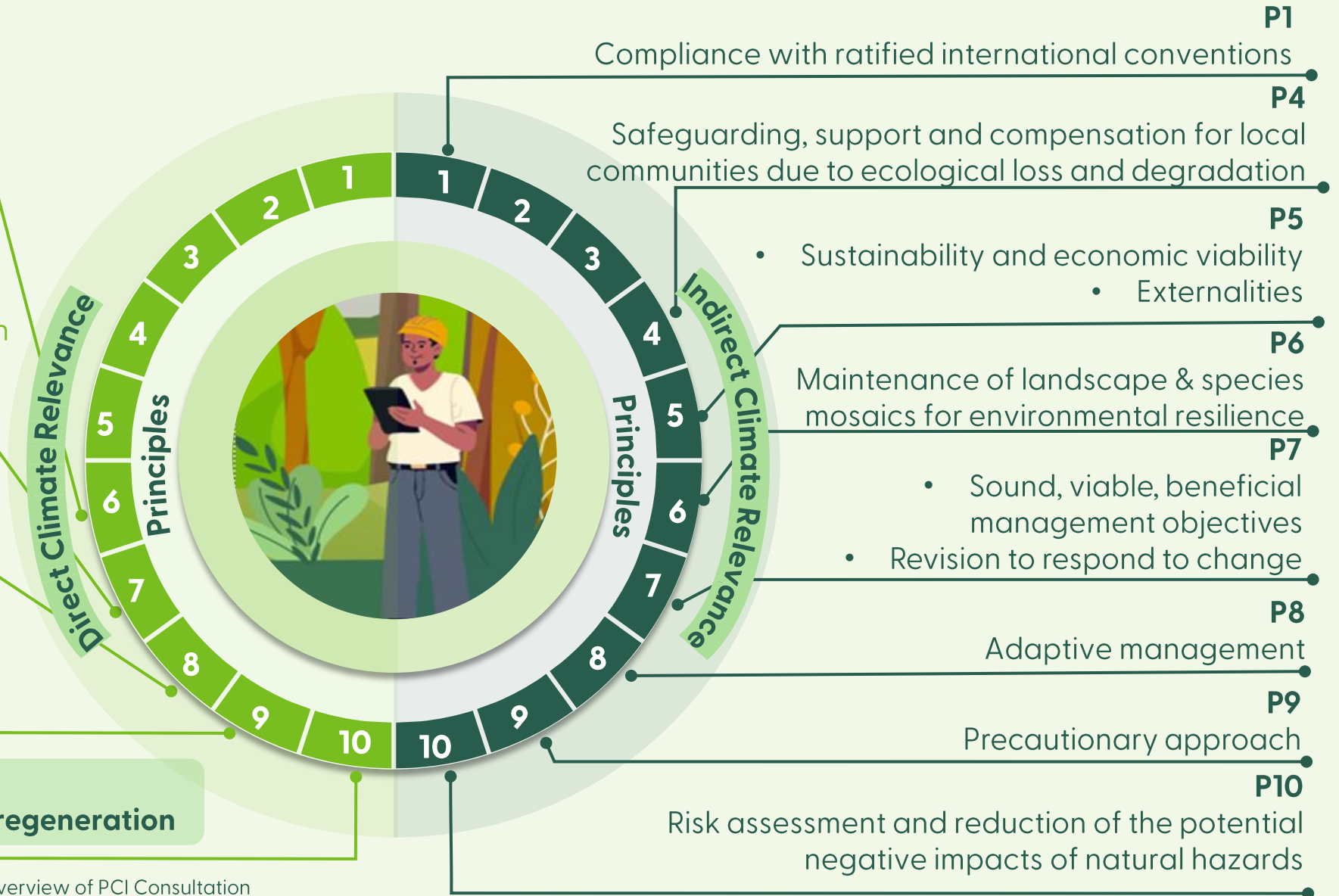
P6 – One minor indication
Environmental values include carbon sequestration and storage

P7 – One minor indication
Verifiable targets include soil carbon

P8 – One minor indication
Monitoring of soil carbon

P9 – Definition-wise indication
Climate refugia (HCV3)
Climate regulation (HCV 4)

P10
Flexibility to use “other species” for regeneration



Climate Change - Consultation



Scope

- Requirements to directly address the climate change adaptation and mitigation



Proposals

- Provisions for climate adaptation and mitigation.
- Facilitate restoration of degraded forests for climate benefits
- Integration of Indigenous Peoples' and local communities' knowledge
- Provisions for collecting and reporting data on climate outcomes.

PCI and Biodiversity Conservation

P1
Compliance with ratified international conventions

P6
Maintaining, conserving,
restoring habitats, landscapes,
and native species

P9
Protection of High Conservation
Values: species, habitats,
ecosystems, ecosystem services

P10
Forestry activities are implemented
environmentally-responsible and favor
less-intensive/invasive alternatives

P2
Job-specific training for effective implementation

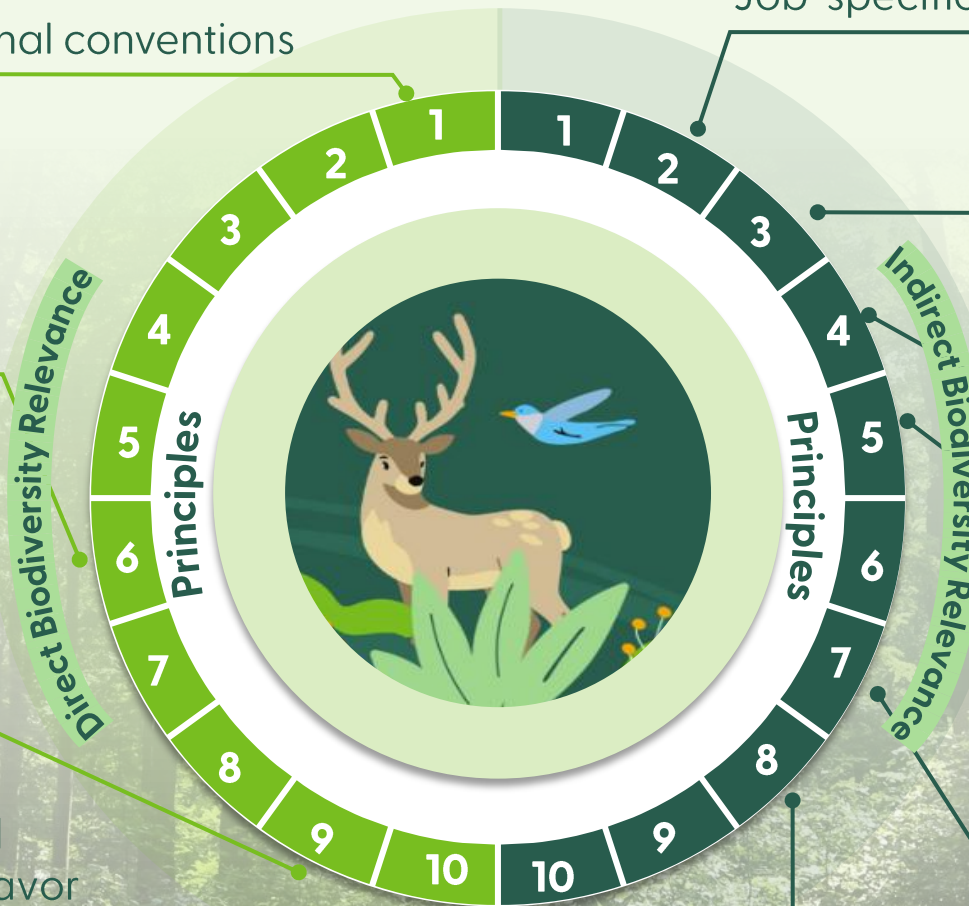
P3
Indigenous Peoples' strong links to
territories and significant sites

P4
Sites of ecological
significance to local people

P5
Sustainable resource use and
maintenance of ecosystem
functions

P7
Environmentally sound planning
and management, with
biodiversity being a core element

P8
Monitoring and assessment of environmental
impacts, including biodiversity values



Biodiversity conservation



Scope

- Reduce redundancies
- Demonstrate outcomes on biodiversity conservation
- Align with global targets



Proposals

- Streamline biodiversity requirements
- Standardize indicators
- Strengthen links between conservation and restoration
- Integrate Indigenous Peoples' and local communities' knowledge



Mandate – Motion 43

- Strengthening identification, protection and monitoring of forest High Conservation Values (1-6)
- Implementation of Motion 43

Forest resilience in PCI – What led to this revision?

Overview of *The FSC Global Strategy 2021–2026*

OUR MISSION

Forest For All Forever

FSC will promote environmentally appropriate, socially beneficial, and economically viable management of the world forests.

OUR 2050 VISION

Resilient Forests Sustain Life on Earth

A new forest paradigm is realized, where the true value of forests is recognized and fully incorporated into society worldwide.



Forest Resilience



Scope

- Help forests adapt and maintain/build resilience against climate change-related hazards



Proposals

- Structural heterogeneity and retention
- Wildfire risk reduction
- Climate-smart remedy/restoration
- Enhancing water and soil resilience





Should FSC further strengthen requirements for measurable biodiversity outcomes and support forest resilience?

**Let us know your answer in the
consultation!**

Social Requirements

Stronger commitments to:



Gender equality
and workers rights
– aligning with
international
regulations



Indigenous
Peoples' rights
(including living in
voluntary isolation)

Papers and webinar material published on PCI
Hub for more detail and background information.



Social aspects – proposals

Gender equality



Proposals

- Include inclusive language in PCI requirements (i.e., specific gender related-indicators)
- Include risk-based approach to gender in PCI requirements (i.e., remedy gender inequalities)
- Require active steps towards inclusion (i.e. inclusive employment, leadership and decision-making).
- Gender-balanced benefit sharing.

Indigenous People Living in Voluntary Isolation

Proposal

- Incorporating safeguards for IPLVI within the PCI.





How can FSC strengthen gender requirements within the PCI?

**Let us know your answer in the
consultation!**

Key proposals



User-orientation



**Strengthening:
Social & environmental
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change and biodiversity
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**Streamlining and
clarifying related
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**Scope &
Applicability**



Outcome orientation

Scope and Applicability

Vegetation types for certification currently include:



Natural forests



Plantations



other (i.e. non-forest) vegetation types*.

*other vegetation types is limited to those land-uses involving growing of trees, but includes, in principles 'non-forest' land-uses as they contribute to the mission of FSC.

Currently handled on a case-by-case basis.

Challenge: Ambiguity around:



Agroforestry
models where
crops are
cultivated
during early
plantation
establishment



Woody agricultural
crops grown
primarily for non-
timber products



Short-rotation
plantations

Scope of Application

Vegetation type

Problem?

- Definitions are not very clear.
- Case-to-case judgement is a reactive model

Proposals

- Threshold based approach when defining vegetation types
- Proactive model with eligibility criteria decision tree to define scope of application of P&C

Urban forest

Proposed solutions

- Recognizing growing role of urban forest and related services in the FSC FM certification scope

Proposals

- Either stick to the current approach (e.g., peri-urban forest, large urban parks >0.5 ha) OR
- Expand the scope of urban forest certification to other classes of urban forests (e.g. small urban parks <0.5 ha)



Do you agree with us improving these definitions and keeping decisions case-by-case?

Let us know your answer in the consultation!

Additional topics



**Intact Forest
Landscapes**

**Maintaining
protection threshold**



GMOs

**Still prohibited, but
updated definition
(includes CRISPR etc.)**



Intact Forest Landscapes (IFL) - Background

FSC certified management units (MUs) overlapping with IFLs to establish a **single global level of protection of the IFL** area within the certified area. The current rule sets a **default protection threshold of 80%** within the MU across all countries and regions with 2 exceptions



Standard Developers (SDs) are allowed to lower it up to 50% (with specific guidelines) following IGI V2



Where there is no FSS based on IGI V2, need basis approvals to lower the threshold up to 50% if certain conditions are met.



IFL - Consultation and Current Status



Scope

- FSC Board of Directors (March 2025): Develop a new strategic approach to IFL protection
- Motion 45/2025: Outcome-based conservation for Intact Forest Landscapes



Proposal

- New approach to the protection of Intact Forest Landscapes



Mandate – Motion 45

- Replacing fixed IFL protection thresholds with outcome-based IFL conservation
- Implementation of Motion 45



GMOs – Consultation

FSC will continue to **PROHIBIT** the use of Genetically Modified Organisms (GMOs).

The **current definition of GMO is proposed to be reviewed and updated** to reflect advancements in technology.



Prevent the use of GMOs in ways that could compromise natural Forest dynamics or ecosystem resilience.

Addressing reputational risks





Do you agree with keeping the threshold approach?

**Let us know your answer in the
consultation!**

Key proposals



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**Scope &
Applicability**



Outcome orientation

Q&A



OUTCOME ORIENTATION: SETTING THE SCENE



OUTCOME ORIENTATION IN THE PCI

FSC Global Strategy 2021-2026

Goal 1.2: Streamline policies
and standards towards
outcome orientation.



OUTCOME ORIENTATION: SETTING THE SCENE



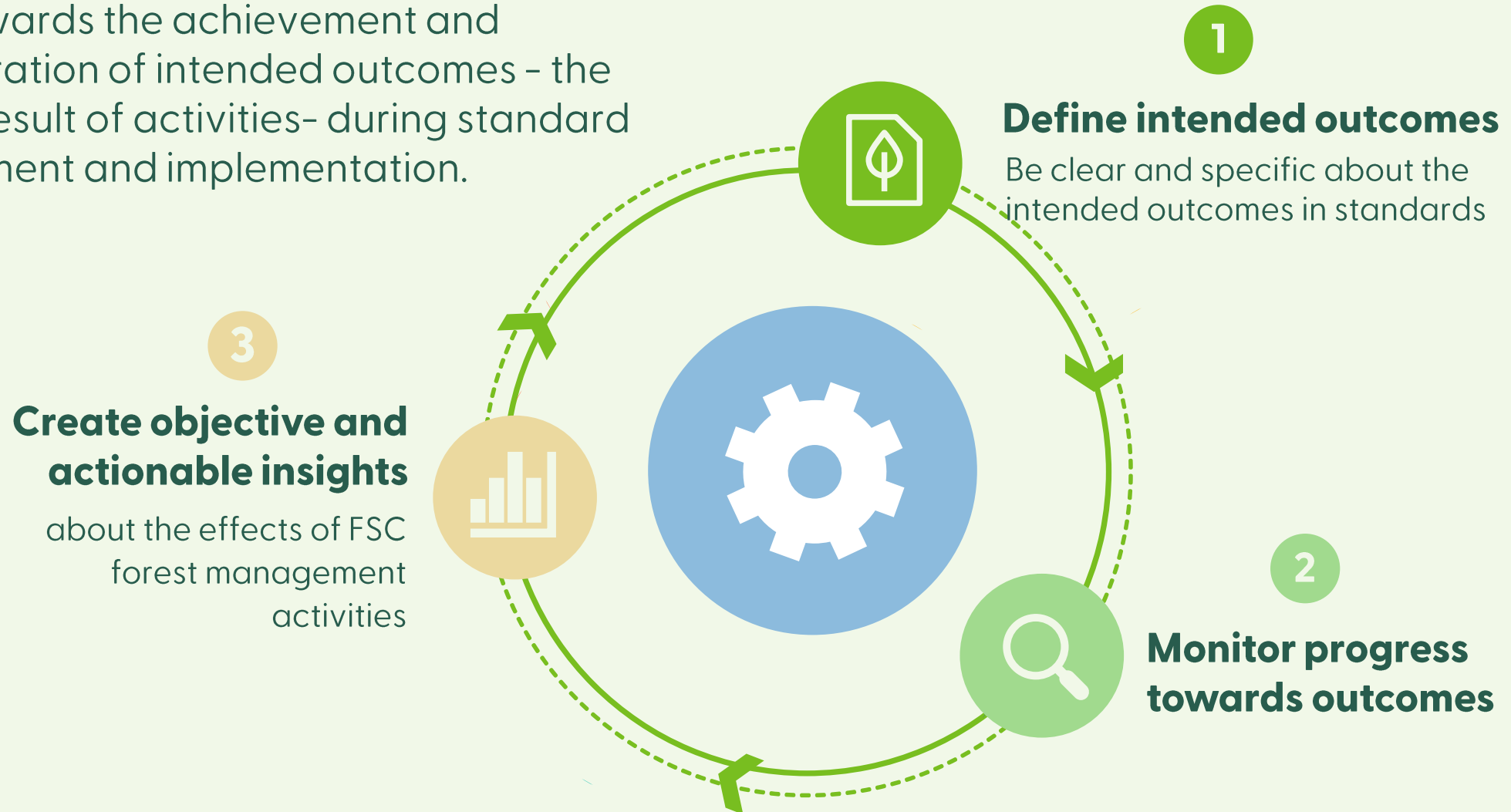
OUTCOME ORIENTATION IN THE PCI

FSC Global Strategy 2021-2026

Goal 1.2: Streamline policies
and standards towards
outcome orientation.

Outcome orientation: **the concept**

Outcome orientation means putting more focus towards the achievement and demonstration of intended outcomes – the desired result of activities– during standard development and implementation.



Outcome orientation: **objectives**

Outcome orientation means putting more focus towards the achievement and demonstration of intended outcomes – the desired result of activities– during standard development and implementation.

3
Create objective and actionable insights
about the effects of FSC
forest management
activities



Fosters the **demonstration** of **positive** outcomes of certification

Fosters the **improvement** of **standards**

Foster the **improvement** of forest management **practises**



Outcome orientation: **why?**

1

FSC Forest Management Standards are predominantly **practise-based**.

They prescribe **what must and must not be done**. They relate to the implementation of **activities**.

They are **not** designed to **quantify** outcomes and **track** progress.

2

FSC monitoring and evaluation system is **not fit** for purpose.

There is a high **number** of sustainability **outcomes** and countries, and lots of variation across them.

The monitoring and evaluation system is **disconnected** from standard development.

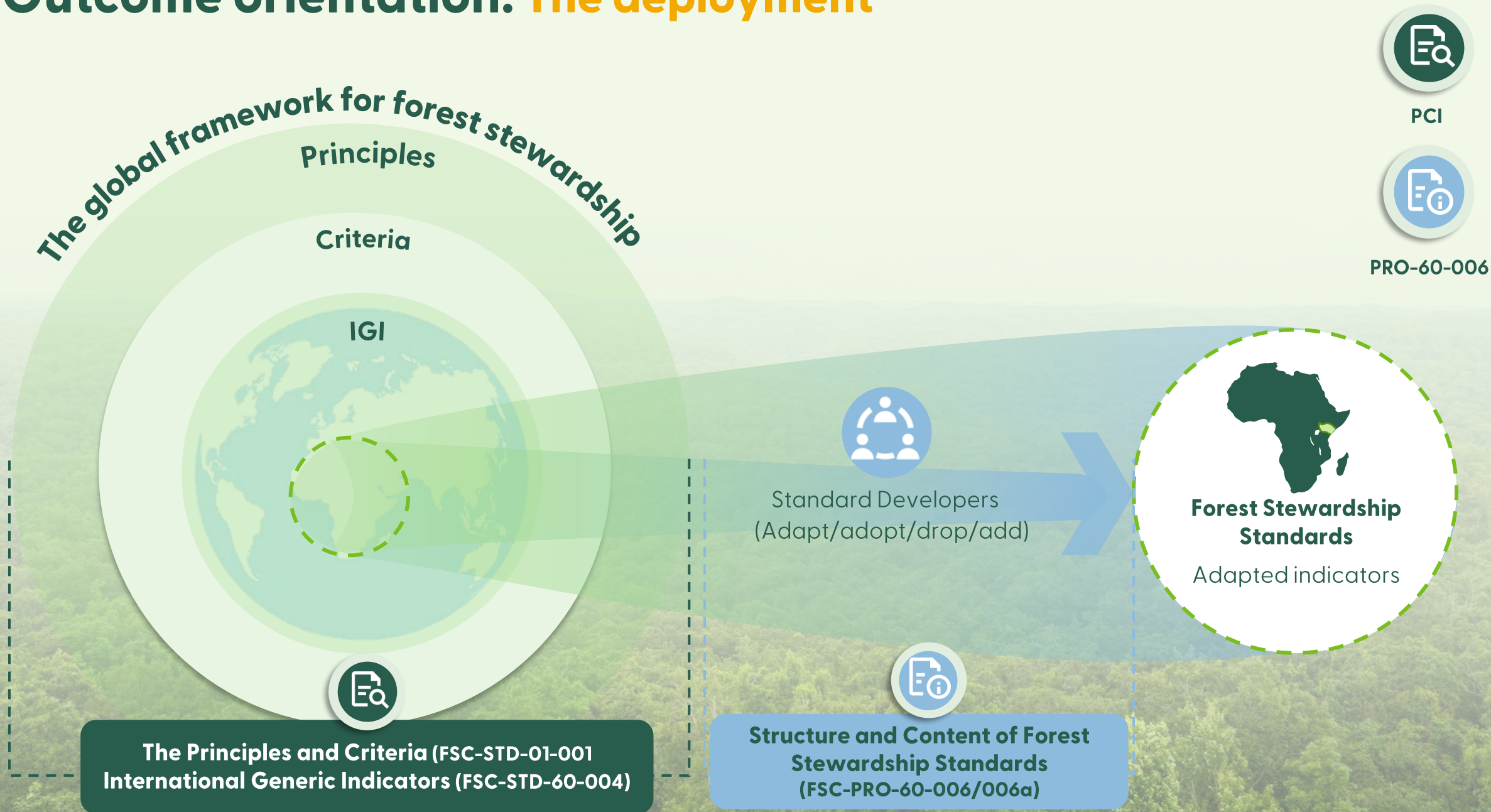
3

Society and markets are **evolving**.

Society is demanding **more transparency** and **accountability**.

The number of legislation and frameworks requiring **data** and evidence of impacts **increases**.

Outcome orientation: The deployment





OUTCOME ORIENTATION: SETTING THE SCENE



OUTCOME ORIENTATION IN THE PCI

FSC Global Strategy 2021-2026

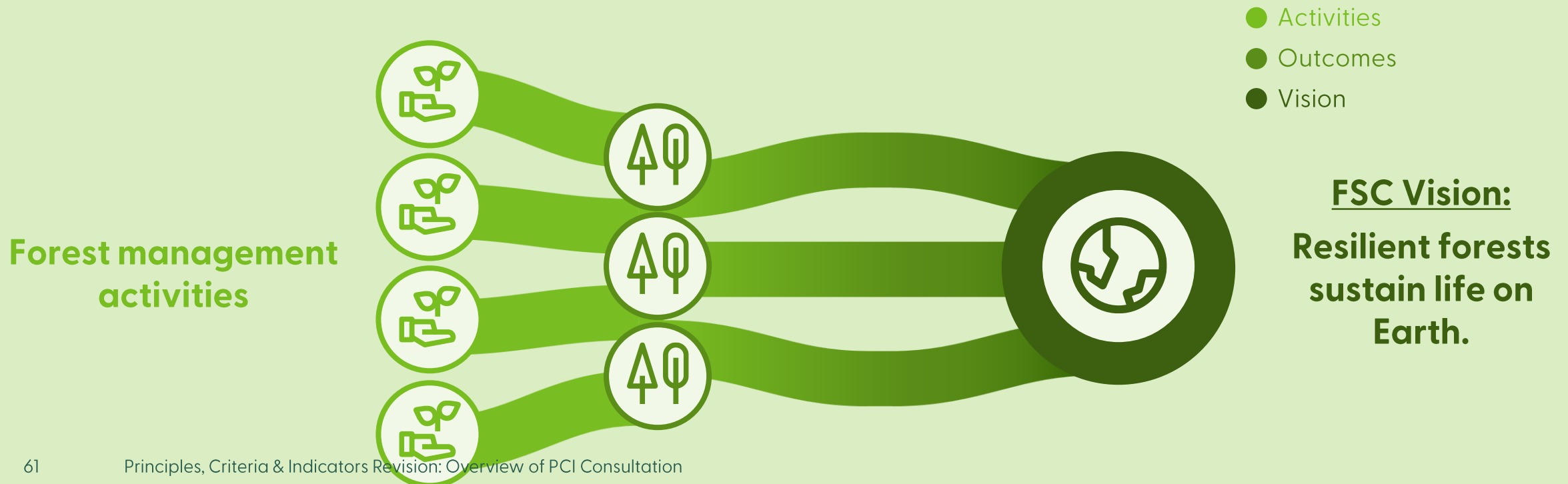
Goal 1.2: Streamline policies
and standards towards
outcome orientation.

Outcome orientation in the PCI

The PCI revision offers the opportunity to define **forest stewardship** in terms of **desired results**.

What should be the global set of intended outcomes of forest stewardship?

Using a Theory of Change approach to define the causal chain of forest stewardship



Using intended outcomes to design the PCI

Proposal #1

We use intended outcomes to **formulate** the Principles and Criteria.

Benefits

1. Shorter sentences with clarity about desired results.
2. Less complex and technical language.
3. Standards more readable and easier to understand.

Example

Current formulation

Principle 2. The Organization shall maintain or enhance the social and economic wellbeing of workers.

2.2 The Organization shall promote gender equality in employment practices, training opportunities, awarding of contracts, processes of engagement and management activities.

Proposed formulation

Principle 2. The social and economic wellbeing of workers is safeguarded.

2.2 Workers have equal access to employment opportunities, fair treatment, and no discrimination, regardless of their gender.

Using intended outcomes to design the PCI

Proposal #2

We **structure** the PCI around the intended outcomes defined in the causal chain.

Benefits

Increases coherence and consistency across the whole PCI.

Designing the Principles:

- Each Principle would refer to a precise outcome.
- The scope of the current Principles would not be much affected (e.g. Principles 2, 3, 4).

1. Makes the global set of main outcomes of forest stewardship more prominent.

2. Facilitates the subsequent development of Criteria / intermediate intended outcomes.

Using intended outcomes to design the PCI

Proposal #2

We **structure** the PCI around the intended outcomes defined in the causal chain.

Benefits

Increase coherence and consistency across the whole PCI.

Designing the Criteria:

- Each Criterion would refer to a **single** and **clear** (intermediate) intended **outcome**.
- Each Criterion would be **coherent with** and **contribute to** the **Principle** / main intended outcomes.

1. Increases consistency across Criteria.
2. Increases coherency between Criteria and Principles.
3. Increases clarity and focus of the scope of each Criterion.
4. Alignment with PRO-60-006 and the implementation of outcome-oriented FSS.



Using intended outcomes to design the PCI

Proposal #2

We **structure** the PCI around the intended outcomes defined in the causal chain.

Benefits

Increases coherence and consistency across the whole PCI.

Designing the IGI:

IGI would be:

- Binary (Y/N), field usable verifiers – the certification requirements.
- Specifying **activities** clearly contributing to achieve the Criteria / intermediate intended outcomes.
- This does not move away from the current IGI but act as a safeguard to ensure that forest management activities deliver on outcomes.

1. Stays consistency with the current IGI and assurance system.
2. Focuses on activities that are clearly contributing to outcomes. Could allow reducing burden from IGI not contributing to results.
3. Contributes to balancing the need to measure progress towards outcomes and burden.



✓ What Outcome Orientation is

✗ What Outcome Orientation is NOT

Outcome orientation...

Aims to:

- make clear and explicit what intended outcomes of forest stewardship are, and
- quantify progress against them.

Draws focus on a few key intended outcomes.

Aims to generate insights about the effectiveness of forest management requirements to progress towards intended outcomes.

Aims to benefit:

- all FSC stakeholders to better demonstrate positive outcomes of FSC certification.
- certificate holders and standard developers to better understand the effects of forest management requirements / activities on sustainability outcomes.

Aims to foster improvements in forest management standards over time and will generate benefits for the FSC system gradually.

Is part of a broader monitoring and evaluation system that will continue to collect data and evaluate the impact of FSC centrally, build on and complement the insights gained.

Does not aim to raise the bar of certification. The performances to be achieved by certificate holders for certification should not increase because of outcome orientation.

Does not imply that monitoring and data collection should be done on every aspect of forest management.

Is not data centric. It does not aim to collect data for the sake of collecting data without clarity on what we want to learn from them.

Is not FSC-centric. It does not aim to only serve FSC International for communication purposes at a global scale.

Is not a one-off solution that will ensure all positive impacts of FSC are generated and demonstrated on the short-term.

Is not an attempt to transfer all monitoring activities and associated burden to FSC stakeholders.



Do you agree with using intended outcomes to formulate and design the PCI?

Let us know your answer in the consultation!

PARTICIPATE!

Get involved

Multiple touchpoints and ways to get directly involved



Consultative Forums

Open to all interested stakeholders with relevant expertise

Indigenous Peoples

Smallholders

Non-timber Forest Products

Intact Forest Landscapes

Forest Managers

Apply!

Experts

Indigenous Peoples

Climate & Biodiversity

Certification Bodies

Youth Representative

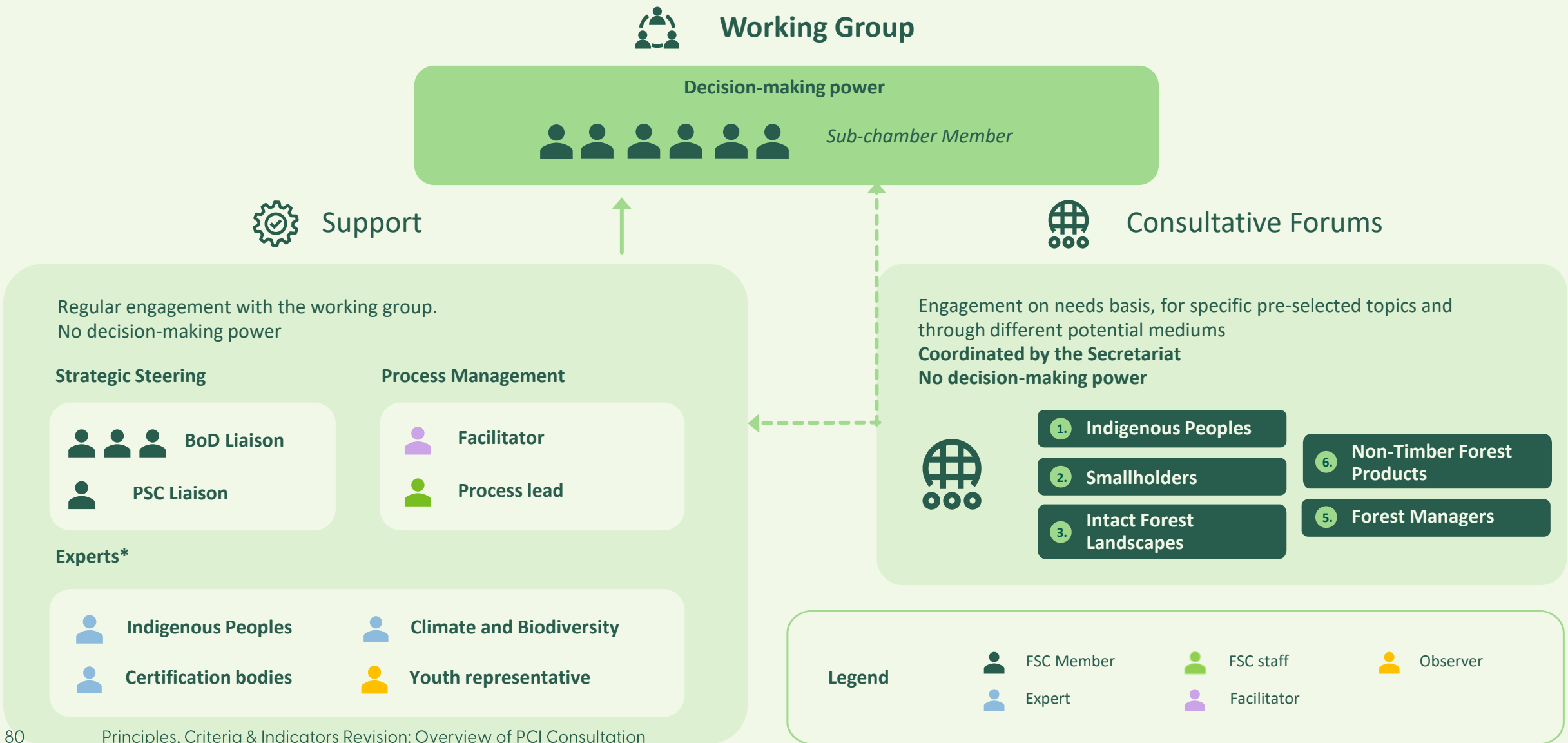
Apply!

Working Group

- **FSC Members only**
- Sub-chamber balanced (Environmental, Economic & Social and North+ South)
- Decision making power

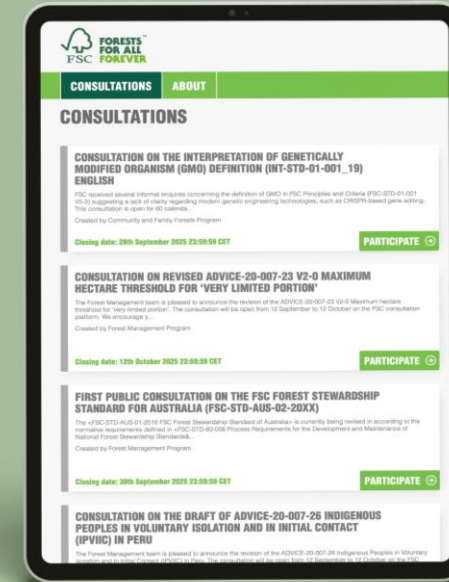
Apply!

Working group & Consultative Forum structure



How to participate

Questions on FSC Consultation Platform



All can register for platform and participate

Your voice matters



Stakeholder
input directly
shapes
standards



FSC values
diversity of
perspectives



International
standards to
reflect
international
and
chamber-
balanced
opinions



We will
share
consultation
report by
April 2026 to
show how
feedback
heard

Where to find more information



Supporting material & tools

-  **PCI Hub at pci.fsc.org**
-  **Green papers**
-  **Background material**
-  **Consultation material**
-  **Questions and explanation**
-  **Consultation Overview**
-  **Upcoming webinars**
-  **FSC General Assembly**

Stay informed: PCI Revision Hub at pci.fsc.org



**Let's hear
from you
once more**

**Principles, Criteria and Indicators
(PCI) Revision Consultation
Webinar Feedback**



How to reach us

forestmanagement@fsc.org

Q&A