## PEFC Checklist - Sustainable Forest Management (PEFC ST 1003:2018)

### 1 Scope

This checklist covers requirements for sustainable forest management as defined in PEFC ST 1003:2018, *Sustainable Forest Management – Requirements*.

Any inconsistencies between this text and the original referred to document will be overruled by the content and wording of the technical document.

### 2 Checklist

| **PEFC benchmark requirement** | **YES / NO\*** | **Reference to system documentation (including quotation of relevant text)** |
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| Context of the national standard and the organisations applying a PEFC endorsed standard | | |
| 4.1 General  The requirements for sustainable forest management defined by regional, national or sub-national forest management standards shall: | | |
| a) include management and performance requirements that are applicable at the forest management unit level, or at another level as appropriate, to ensure that the intent of all requirements is achieved at the forest management unit level;  Note: An example of a situation where a requirement can be defined as being at another level (e.g. group/regional) is monitoring of forest health. Through monitoring of forest health at regional level, and communicating of results at the FMU level, the objective of the requirement is met without the necessity to carry out the individual monitoring of each forest management unit. | Y | Introduction: In Brazil, there are two FM standards for forest plantations and native. This check list refers to the management of native forests.  3.1  The organization shall be guided by attitudes and actions that ensure compliance with federal, state, and municipal laws and international agreements, treaties, and conventions ratified by the country that are applicable to forest management, as well as applicable requirements for assessing compliance.  The organization shall comply with laws applicable to forest management issues such as protecting nature and the environment, threatened and protected species, rights of ownership, use of land and forest resources and/or land tenure rights by the organization, as well as the legal, customary, and traditional rights of indigenous peoples and traditional and local communities and other affected stakeholders. Laws related to labor, social security, taxes, and workplace health and safety shall be complied with, along with collective and/or individual agreements, collective conventions, and fundamental ILO conventions.  The organization shall protect the forest in order to prevent illegal or unauthorized activities. |
| b) be clear, performance based and auditable; | Y | 3.6.2 d)  The organization shall plan, implement, and maintain an internal auditing program in order to verify compliance with the requirements of this Standard.  Indicator:  d) evidence that the audit process is conducted in an objective and impartial manner. |
| c) apply to activities of all forest operators in the defined forest area who have an impact on achieving compliance with the requirements; | Y | 3  The principles established in this Standard provide a reference for sustainable forest management.  The principles are broken down into criteria, which express the conditions describe the states or dynamics of a forest ecosystem and the social system associated with it.  Compliance with each criterion is determined by assessing compliance with a group of specific indicators, which can be quantitative or qualitative.  In this way, a hierarchy of the principles, criteria, and indicators is defined (see Figure 1) that establishes monitoring and demonstrates good forest management and serves as a reference for assessing the quality of forest management.  A criterion is considered to be implemented when compliance with its respective indicators is demonstrated. A principle is considered to be implemented when all of its respective criteria are confirmed to have been met. Finally, sustainable forest management according to this Standard is considered to be implemented when all the principles are confirmed to have been implemented.  Depending on the location and the final use of the forest management unit, indicators may have a different relative importance, since certain indicators may not be applicable. However, all indicators relevant to that location shall be assessed. |
| d) require record-keeping that provides evidence of compliance with the requirements of the forest management standards; | Y | 3.2.1  Forest operations shall be based on a sustainable forest management plan drafted according to applicable legislation, documented, and updated, which includes management activities or references associates documentation considering different land use, organization size, intensity of management activities, and function of the managed forest area.  Indicators:  a) Evidence that the risks and opportunities related to compliance with the requirements of this Standard are continuously identified and considered in forest management according to the size, intensity of management activities, and scale of operations, considering changes in the current scenario.  b) Existence of a sustainable forest management plan approved by the relevant authority that stimulates diversified production of goods and services in the long term and contains:  - the objectives of the sustainable forest management plan, including those related to maintaining and protecting the social, environmental, and economic functions of the forests.  - management conditions as a function of specific regional and local characteristics.  - management techniques to be applied.  - justification of the economic viability of the management.  - technical justification for defining the intensity of the forest management activities.  - roadway/transport system.  - harvest cycle.  - definition of permitted annual harvest volume and minimum diameter for each species/group of species, according to legal requirements and forest characteristics.  - surveys of the topography and vegetation typologies, as well as the forms and distribution of available water resources, according to the size of the organization and the intensity of forest management activities.  - letters, maps, and/or sketches, according to the intensity of management activities, that show: the borders of the forest management unit and its subdivisions, the resources managed by the organization, the infrastructure, areas of relevant ecological and social interest, locations of local and traditional communities and indigenous peoples.  - the multiannual plan for pre-harvesting, harvesting, and post-harvesting operations in order to minimize the negative effects caused by harvest of the remaining forest.  - plans to prevent, combat, and mitigate damage from fires and other incidents which are appropriate to the risk that these events might occur.  - environmental safeguards that specify how to minimize risks of degradation and damage to forest ecosystems.  - specific measures to protect and preserve wild flora and fauna, particularly rare, threatened, endemic, and protected species.  - pre-harvest inventory that is suitable for the planning, the harvest evaluation, and the forest monitoring.  c) evidence that the sustainable forest management plan was drafted and is monitored by a qualitied professional.  d) evidence that plant species are botanically identified during the pre-harvest inventory by qualified professionals, and that existing official species lists are considered.  e) evidence that the parties responsible for the sustainable forest management plan are clearly defined and identified.  f) evidence that the sustainable forest management plan is revised to incorporate the results of monitoring, when applicable.  g) evidence that a summary of the sustainable forest management plan that is appropriate for the organization's size and intensity of its forest management activities is available to the public and contains information about the overall objectives and principles of forest management. Confidential information, or sensitive information related to the protection of cultural sites or natural resources may be omitted.  h) existence of annual operation plans approved by the relevant authority that specify the forest management operations that will be carried out during the period. The goals of the operational plans shall include the maintenance, conservation, or improvement of biodiversity at the landscape, ecosystem, species, and genetic levels.  i) existence of documented procedures for the following activities in order to ensure that they are carried out as described in the sustainable forest management plan:  - forest inventory and production planning.  - planning of infrastructure, including roadway network, skid trails, and log yards.  - construction and worksite maintenance.  - forestry activities.  - harvesting and transport of forest production.  - preparation for and response to emergencies and respective contingency plans.  j) evidence that the documented procedures are kept up to date. |
| e) specify “100% PEFC certified”, or another system specific claim, as claim to be used to communicate the origin of products in an area covered by the standard to customers with a PEFC chain of custody;  Note: System specific claims of PEFC endorsed standards and PEFC Council approved abbreviations of such claims and the claim “100% PEFC certified”, and their translations into languages other than English, are published online on the PEFC website www.pefc.org. | Y/N | 3.2.4 d)  A system shall be implemented that permits tracking of the chain of custody for forest products, from their origin to transport and trading.  Indicator:  d) Existence of sales and/or delivery documentation for commercialized goods from the assessed forest management unit that includes the following data  — Client identification  — Supplier identification  — Identification of each product, including common name and scientific (species) name  — Quantity delivered for each product covered by the documentation  — Date document was issued  — Claim for each product from the assessed forest management unit included in the aforementioned documentation  — Code pertaining to the supplier’s forest management unit certification;  PEFC Brazil procedure SG 03.01:  12. Additional requirements for use of PEFC trademarks  The requirements described here are based on PEFC ST 2001 PEFC Trademarks Rules and PEFC certification standards for forest management and chain of custody.  12.1 Only PEFC certified products under an approved certification scope should be claim as such. Sales and/or delivery documents for products commercialized as certified must include at least the following information:  a) the PEFC claim for each certified product. For forest management the declaration is 100% PEFC Certified. Chain of custody includes other claims as defined in this document.  b) the numbering of the certificate of conformity corresponding to the origin (certified organization or forest management unit(s)). |
| f) require that where owners/managers of forests are selling products from areas other than covered by the standard, only products from areas covered by the standard are sold with the claim “100% PEFC-certified” or a system specific claim; | Y/N | 3.2.4 e)  A system shall be implemented that permits tracking of the chain of custody for forest products, from their origin to transport and trading.  Indicator:  e) Evidence that only products from the assessed forest management unit were commercialized with the respective claim.  PEFC Brazil procedure SG 03.01:  12. Additional requirements for use of PEFC trademarks  The requirements described here are based on PEFC ST 2001 PEFC Trademarks Rules and PEFC certification standards for forest management and chain of custody.  12.1 Only PEFC certified products under an approved certification scope should be claim as such. Sales and/or delivery documents for products commercialized as certified must include at least the following information:  a) the PEFC claim for each certified product. For forest management the declaration is 100% PEFC Certified. Chain of custody includes other claims as defined in this document.  b) the numbering of the certificate of conformity corresponding to the origin (certified organization or forest management unit(s)). |
| g) require that claims on the origin of products in an area covered by the standard are only made by forest owners/managers covered by a PEFC recognised certificate issued against the standard; | Y | 3.2.4 e)  A system shall be implemented that permits tracking of the chain of custody for forest products, from their origin to transport and trading.  Indicator:  e) Evidence that only products from the assessed forest management unit were commercialized with the respective declaration. |
| h) specify requirements concerning the information which need to be provided to a PEFC chain of custody certified customer; | Y | 3.2.4 b) and d)  A system shall be implemented that permits tracking of the chain of custody for forest products, from their origin to transport and trading.  Indicators:  b) Existence of procedures to identify, store, separate, and track forest production from the oringin to transport and commercialization.  d) Existence of sales and/or delivery documentation for commercialized goods from the assessed forest management unit that includes the following data  — Client identification  — Supplier identification  — Identification of each product, including common name and scientific (species) name  — Quantity delivered for each product covered by the documentation  — Date document was issued  — Declaration for each product from the assessed forest management unit included in the aforementioned documentation  — Code pertaining to the supplier’s forest management unit certification |
| i) include an overview of applicable legislation, if requirements of this benchmark are not reflected in the regional, national or sub-national standard, because they are already addressed through the legislation. | Y | 3.1.1  The organization shall carry out activities related to establishing and managing its forests in accordance with laws, agreements, treaties, and conventions applicable to forest management.  Indicators:  a) existence of procedures that identify legislation and other regulations applicable to forest management and determine how these obligations apply to the organization.  b) existence of records that prove fulfillment of legislation and of other regulations applicable to the activities carried out in the forest management unit.  c) evidence that the organization respects human rights as defined in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.  d) existence of anti-corruption mechanisms in line with existing legislation, and proof that adequate preventative or corrective measures are implemented, when necessary.  e)evidence that workers are informed of and have their questions answered about the legislation relevant to the activities they carry out. |
| 4.2 Understanding the needs and expectations of affected stakeholders | | |
| The standard requires that the organisation shall determine: | | |
| a) the affected stakeholders that are relevant to the sustainable forest management; | Y | 3.5.1  The organization shall identify and assess the environmental, social, and economic values for stakeholders. Impacts on these values shall be identified and assessed, and measures to avoid, minimize, mitigate, and (when necessary) compensate for these impacts shall be defined and implemented.  Indicators:  a) Evidence that stakeholders affected by forest management are identified and mappe  b) evidence that the environmental, social, and economic values are identified and assessed, considering stakeholder needs and expectations. This assessment should include values that could be affected by the forest management and associated activities, and should be conducted at a detail level and frequency compatible with the scale of the organization and the intensity and risk of management activities.  c) evidence that potential impacts of forest management and associated activities on environmental, social, and economic impacts for stakeholders have been identified and assessed via a participatory process.  d) evidence that measures have been defined and implemented to avoid, minimize, and (when necessary) compensate for negative impacts on the environmental, social, and economic values for stakeholders as a result of forest management and associated activities.  e) Evidence that operational planning includes recommendations to avoid, minimize, and mitigate negative impacts on the environmental, social, and economic values for stakeholders.  f) Evidence of measures to maintain or improve positive impacts on the environmental, social, and economic values for stakeholders. |
| b) the relevant needs and expectations of these stakeholders. | Y |
| 4.3 Determining the scope of the management system | | |
| 4.3.1 The standard requires that the organisation shall determine the boundaries and applicability of the management system to establish its scope. | Y | 3.2.1 b)  Forest operations shall be based on a sustainable forest management plan approved by the relevant authority and other documentation associated with forest management, considering different uses, scales, and functions of the managed forest area.  Indicator:  b) Existence of a sustainable forest management plan approved by the relevant authority that stimulates diversified production of goods and services in the long term and contains:  - the objectives of the sustainable forest management plan, including those related to maintaining and protecting the social, environmental, and economic functions of the forests.  - management conditions as a function of specific regional and local characteristics.  - management techniques to be applied.  - justification of the economic viability of the management.  - technical justification for defining the intensity of the forest management activities.  - roadway/transport system.  - harvest cycle.  - definition of permitted annual harvest volume and minimum diameter for each species/group of species, according to legal requirements and forest characteristics.  - surveys of the topography and vegetation typologies, as well as the forms and distribution of available water resources, according to the size of the organization and the intensity of forest management activities.  - letters, maps, and/or sketches, according to the intensity of management activities, that show: the borders of the forest management unit and its subdivisions, the resources managed by the organization, the infrastructure, areas of relevant ecological and social interest, locations of local and traditional communities and indigenous peoples.  - the multiannual plan for pre-harvesting, harvesting, and post-harvesting operations in order to minimize the negative effects caused by harvest of the remaining forest.  - plans to prevent, combat, and mitigate damage from fires and other incidents which are appropriate to the risk that these events might occur.  - environmental safeguards that specify how to minimize risks of degradation and damage to forest ecosystems.  - specific measures to protect and preserve wild flora and fauna, particularly rare, threatened, endemic, and protected species.  - pre-harvest inventory that is suitable for the planning, the harvest evaluation, and the forest monitoring. |
| 4.3.2 The standard requires that forest management shall comprise the cycle of inventory and planning, implementation, monitoring and evaluation, and shall include an appropriate assessment of the social, environmental and economic impacts of forest management practices. This shall form a basis for a cycle of continuous improvement. | Y | 3.2.1  Forest operations shall be based on a sustainable forest management plan drafted according to applicable legislation, documented, and updated, which includes management activities or references associates documentation considering different land use, organization size, intensity of management activities, and function of the managed forest area.  Indicators:  a) Evidence that the risks and opportunities related to compliance with the requirements of this Standard are continuously identified and considered in forest management according to the size, intensity of management activities, and scale of operations, considering changes in the current scenario.  b) Existence of a sustainable forest management plan approved by the relevant authority that stimulates diversified production of goods and services in the long term and contains:  - the objectives of the sustainable forest management plan, including those related to maintaining and protecting the social, environmental, and economic functions of the forests.  - management conditions as a function of specific regional and local characteristics.  - management techniques to be applied.  - justification of the economic viability of the management.  - technical justification for defining the intensity of the forest management activities.  - roadway/transport system.  - harvest cycle.  - definition of permitted annual harvest volume and minimum diameter for each species/group of species, according to legal requirements and forest characteristics.  - surveys of the topography and vegetation typologies, as well as the forms and distribution of available water resources, according to the size of the organization and the intensity of forest management activities.  - letters, maps, and/or sketches, according to the intensity of management activities, that show: the borders of the forest management unit and its subdivisions, the resources managed by the organization, the infrastructure, areas of relevant ecological and social interest, locations of local and traditional communities and indigenous peoples.  - the multiannual plan for pre-harvesting, harvesting, and post-harvesting operations in order to minimize the negative effects caused by harvest of the remaining forest.  - plans to prevent, combat, and mitigate damage from fires and other incidents which are appropriate to the risk that these events might occur.  - environmental safeguards that specify how to minimize risks of degradation and damage to forest ecosystems.  - specific measures to protect and preserve wild flora and fauna, particularly rare, threatened, endemic, and protected species.  - pre-harvest inventory that is suitable for the planning, the harvest evaluation, and the forest monitoring.  c) evidence that the sustainable forest management plan was drafted and is monitored by a qualitied professional.  d) evidence that plant species are botanically identified during the pre-harvest inventory by qualified professionals, and that existing official species lists are considered.  e) evidence that the parties responsible for the sustainable forest management plan are clearly defined and identified.  f) evidence that the sustainable forest management plan is revised to incorporate the results of monitoring, when applicable.  g) evidence that a summary of the sustainable forest management plan that is appropriate for the organization's size and intensity of its forest management activities is available to the public and contains information about the overall objectives and principles of forest management. Confidential information, or sensitive information related to the protection of cultural sites or natural resources may be omitted.  h) existence of annual operation plans approved by the relevant authority that specify the forest management operations that will be carried out during the period. The goals of the operational plans shall include the maintenance, conservation, or improvement of biodiversity at the landscape, ecosystem, species, and genetic levels.  i) existence of documented procedures for the following activities in order to ensure that they are carried out as described in the sustainable forest management plan:  - forest inventory and production planning.  - planning of infrastructure, including roadway network, skid trails, and log yards.  - construction and worksite maintenance.  - forestry activities.  - harvesting and transport of forest production.  - preparation for and response to emergencies and respective contingency plans.  j) evidence that the documented procedures are kept up to date.  3.3.1  The organization shall identify and assess environmental value and impacts, including defining and implementing measures to avoid, minimize, mitigate, and (when necessary) compensate for these impacts  Indicators:  a) evidence that environmental values present in the forest management unit and surround areas that may be potentially affected by management activities are identified and assessed. This assessment shall be realized at a detail level and frequency compatible with the scale, intensity, and risk of management activities.  b) evidence that the potential impacts from management activities on the identified environmental values have been identified and assessed.  c) evidence that measures have been defined and implemented to maintain or enhance positive impacts on the environmental values.  d) evidence that measures have been defined and implemented to avoid, minimize, and (when necessary) compensate for these impacts on the environmental values.  e) evidence that the documented operational procedures considered recommendations to avoid, minimize, and mitigate negative impacts on environmental values.  3.5.1  The organization shall identify and assess the environmental, social, and economic values for stakeholders. Impacts on these values shall be identified and assessed, and measures to avoid, minimize, mitigate, and (when necessary) compensate for these impacts shall be defined and implemented.  3.6.1  The organization shall conduct monitoring to assess its environmental, social, and economic performance, in accordance with the scale of the organization and its management objectives. |
| 5. Leadership | | |
| 5.1 The standard requires that the organisation shall provide a commitment: | | |
| a) to comply with the sustainable forest management standard and other applicable requirements of the certification system; | Y | 3.1.5  The organization shall possess a public commitment to perform sustainable forest management according to the applicable requirements for assessing compliance.  Indicators:  a) Existence of a formal commitment by the organization to perform sustainable forest management and improve it continuously in line with the applicable requirements for assessing compliance.  b) Evidence that the commitment cited in the previous indicator is available to the public. |
| b) to continuously improve the sustainable forest management system. | Y |
| 5.2 The standard requires that this commitment shall be publicly available. | Y |
| 5.3 The standard requires that responsibilities for sustainable forest management shall be clearly defined and assigned. | Y | 3.2.1 e)  Forest operations shall be based on a sustainable forest management plan approved by the relevant authority and other documentation associated with forest management, considering different uses, scales, and functions of the managed forest area.  Indicator:  e) Evidence that the parties responsible for the sustainable forest management plan are clearly defined and identified; |
| 6. Planning | | |
| 6.1 Actions to address risks and opportunities | | |
| 6.1.1 The standard requires that the organisation shall consider risks and opportunities concerning compliance with the requirements for sustainable forest management. Size and scale of the operations of the organisation shall be considered. | Y | 3.2.1 a)  Forest operations shall be based on a sustainable forest management plan approved by the relevant authority and other documentation associated with forest management, considering different uses, scales, and functions of the managed forest area.  Indicator:  a) evidence that the risks and opportunities related to compliance with the requirements of this Standard are continuously identified and considered in forest management according to the size of the organization, the intensity of management activities, considering changes in the current scenario.  3.3.1 a)  The organization shall identify and assess environmental value and impacts, including defining and implementing measures to avoid, minimize, mitigate, and (when necessary) compensate for these impacts  Indicator:  a) Evidence that environmental values present in the forest management unit and surround areas that may be potentially affected by management activities are identified and assessed. This assessment should be realized at a detail level and frequency compatible with the scale, intensity, and risk of management activities.  3.5.1 b)  The organization shall identify and assess the environmental, social, and economic values for stakeholders. Impacts on these values shall be identified and assessed, and measures to avoid, minimize, mitigate, and (when necessary) compensate for these impacts shall be defined and implemented.  Indicator:  b) evidence that the environmental, social, and economic values are identified and assessed, considering stakeholder needs and expectations. This assessment shall include values that could be affected by the forest management and associated activities, and shall be conducted at a detail level and frequency compatible with the scale of the organization and the intensity and risk of management activities.. |
| 6.1.2 The standard requires that inventory and mapping of forest resources shall be established and maintained, adequate to local and national conditions and in correspondence with the requirements described in this international benchmark standard. |  | 3.2.1  Forest operations shall be based on a sustainable forest management plan drafted according to applicable legislation, documented, and updated, which includes management activities or references associates documentation considering different land use, organization size, intensity of management activities, and function of the managed forest area.  Indicators:  a) Evidence that the risks and opportunities related to compliance with the requirements of this Standard are continuously identified and considered in forest management according to the size, intensity of management activities, and scale of operations, considering changes in the current scenario.  b) Existence of a sustainable forest management plan approved by the relevant authority that stimulates diversified production of goods and services in the long term and contains:  - the objectives of the sustainable forest management plan, including those related to maintaining and protecting the social, environmental, and economic functions of the forests.  - management conditions as a function of specific regional and local characteristics.  - management techniques to be applied.  - justification of the economic viability of the management.  - technical justification for defining the intensity of the forest management activities.  - roadway/transport system.  - harvest cycle.  - definition of permitted annual harvest volume and minimum diameter for each species/group of species, according to legal requirements and forest characteristics.  - surveys of the topography and vegetation typologies, as well as the forms and distribution of available water resources, according to the size of the organization and the intensity of forest management activities.  - letters, maps, and/or sketches, according to the intensity of management activities, that show: the borders of the forest management unit and its subdivisions, the resources managed by the organization, the infrastructure, areas of relevant ecological and social interest, locations of local and traditional communities and indigenous peoples.  - the multiannual plan for pre-harvesting, harvesting, and post-harvesting operations in order to minimize the negative effects caused by harvest of the remaining forest.  - plans to prevent, combat, and mitigate damage from fires and other incidents which are appropriate to the risk that these events might occur.  - environmental safeguards that specify how to minimize risks of degradation and damage to forest ecosystems.  - specific measures to protect and preserve wild flora and fauna, particularly rare, threatened, endemic, and protected species.  - pre-harvest inventory that is suitable for the planning, the harvest evaluation, and the forest monitoring.  c) evidence that the sustainable forest management plan was drafted and is monitored by a qualitied professional.  d) evidence that plant species are botanically identified during the pre-harvest inventory by qualified professionals, and that existing official species lists are considered.  e) evidence that the parties responsible for the sustainable forest management plan are clearly defined and identified.  f) evidence that the sustainable forest management plan is revised to incorporate the results of monitoring, when applicable.  g) evidence that a summary of the sustainable forest management plan that is appropriate for the organization's size and intensity of its forest management activities is available to the public and contains information about the overall objectives and principles of forest management. Confidential information, or sensitive information related to the protection of cultural sites or natural resources may be omitted.  h) existence of annual operation plans approved by the relevant authority that specify the forest management operations that will be carried out during the period. The goals of the operational plans shall include the maintenance, conservation, or improvement of biodiversity at the landscape, ecosystem, species, and genetic levels.  i) existence of documented procedures for the following activities in order to ensure that they are carried out as described in the sustainable forest management plan:  - forest inventory and production planning.  - planning of infrastructure, including roadway network, skid trails, and log yards.  - construction and worksite maintenance.  - forestry activities.  - harvesting and transport of forest production.  - preparation for and response to emergencies and respective contingency plans.  j) evidence that the documented procedures are kept up to date. |
| 6.2 Management plan | | |
| 6.2.1 The standard requires that management plans shall be: | | |
| a) elaborated and periodically updated or continually adjusted; | Y | 3.2.1  Forest operations shall be based on a sustainable forest management plan drafted according to applicable legislation, documented, and updated, which includes management activities or references associates documentation considering different land use, organization size, intensity of management activities, and function of the managed forest area.  Indicators:  a) Evidence that the risks and opportunities related to compliance with the requirements of this Standard are continuously identified and considered in forest management according to the size, intensity of management activities, and scale of operations, considering changes in the current scenario.  b) Existence of a sustainable forest management plan approved by the relevant authority that stimulates diversified production of goods and services in the long term and contains:  - the objectives of the sustainable forest management plan, including those related to maintaining and protecting the social, environmental, and economic functions of the forests.  - management conditions as a function of specific regional and local characteristics.  - management techniques to be applied.  - justification of the economic viability of the management.  - technical justification for defining the intensity of the forest management activities.  - roadway/transport system.  - harvest cycle.  - definition of permitted annual harvest volume and minimum diameter for each species/group of species, according to legal requirements and forest characteristics.  - surveys of the topography and vegetation typologies, as well as the forms and distribution of available water resources, according to the size of the organization and the intensity of forest management activities.  - letters, maps, and/or sketches, according to the intensity of management activities, that show: the borders of the forest management unit and its subdivisions, the resources managed by the organization, the infrastructure, areas of relevant ecological and social interest, locations of local and traditional communities and indigenous peoples.  - the multiannual plan for pre-harvesting, harvesting, and post-harvesting operations in order to minimize the negative effects caused by harvest of the remaining forest.  - plans to prevent, combat, and mitigate damage from fires and other incidents which are appropriate to the risk that these events might occur.  - environmental safeguards that specify how to minimize risks of degradation and damage to forest ecosystems.  - specific measures to protect and preserve wild flora and fauna, particularly rare, threatened, endemic, and protected species.  - pre-harvest inventory that is suitable for the planning, the harvest evaluation, and the forest monitoring. |
| b) appropriate to the size and use of the forest area; | Y |
| c) based on applicable local, national and international legislation as well as existing land-use or other official plans; and | Y |
| d) adequately covering forest resources. | Y |
| 6.2.2 The standard requires that management plans shall take into account the different uses or functions of the managed forest area. | Y | 3.2.1 b)  Forest operations shall be based on a sustainable forest management plan drafted according to applicable legislation, documented, and updated, which includes management activities or references associates documentation considering different land use, organization size, intensity of management activities, and function of the managed forest area.  Indicator:  b) Existence of a sustainable forest management plan approved by the relevant authority that stimulates diversified production of goods and services in the long term and contains:  - the objectives of the sustainable forest management plan, including those related to maintaining and protecting the social, environmental, and economic functions of the forests.  - management conditions as a function of specific regional and local characteristics.  - management techniques to be applied.  - justification of the economic viability of the management.  - technical justification for defining the intensity of the forest management activities.  - roadway/transport system.  - harvest cycle.  - definition of permitted annual harvest volume and minimum diameter for each species/group of species, according to legal requirements and forest characteristics.  - surveys of the topography and vegetation typologies, as well as the forms and distribution of available water resources, according to the size of the organization and the intensity of forest management activities.  - letters, maps, and/or sketches, according to the intensity of management activities, that show: the borders of the forest management unit and its subdivisions, the resources managed by the organization, the infrastructure, areas of relevant ecological and social interest, locations of local and traditional communities and indigenous peoples.  - the multiannual plan for pre-harvesting, harvesting, and post-harvesting operations in order to minimize the negative effects caused by harvest of the remaining forest.  - plans to prevent, combat, and mitigate damage from fires and other incidents which are appropriate to the risk that these events might occur.  - environmental safeguards that specify how to minimize risks of degradation and damage to forest ecosystems.  - specific measures to protect and preserve wild flora and fauna, particularly rare, threatened, endemic, and protected species.  - pre-harvest inventory that is suitable for the planning, the harvest evaluation, and the forest monitoring. |
| 6.2.3 The standard requires that management plans shall include at least a description of the current forest management unit, long-term objectives, and the average annual allowable cut, including its justification. | Y |
| 6.2.4 The standard requires that the annually allowable use of non-wood forest products shall be included in the management plan where forest management covers commercial use of non-wood forest products at a level which can have an impact on their long-term sustainability. | Y |
| 6.2.5 The standard requires that management plans specify ways and means to minimise the risk of degradation and damage to forest ecosystems. | Y |
| 6.2.6 The standard requires that management plans shall take into account the results of scientific research. | Y | 3.4  Implementation of forest management operations shall consider the conservation and maintenance of native ecosystems, water, soils, and the air, and **incorporate research findings.** |
| 6.2.7 The standard requires that a summary of the management plan, appropriate to the scope and scale of forest management, shall be publicly available and shall include information on the general objectives and forest management principles. | Y | 3.2.1 g)  Forest operations shall be based on a sustainable forest management plan drafted according to applicable legislation, documented, and updated, which includes management activities or references associates documentation considering different land use, organization size, intensity of management activities, and function of the managed forest area.  Indicator:  g) Evidence that a summary of the sustainable forest management plan that is appropriate for the scope, organization's size, and intensity of forest management activities is available to the public and contains information about the overall objectives and principles of forest management. Confidential information, or sensitive information related to the protection of cultural sites or natural resources may be omitted. |
| 6.2.8 The standard requires that the publicly available summary of the management plan may exclude confidential business and personal information and other information made confidential by applicable legislation or for the protection of cultural sites or sensitive natural resource features. | Y |
| 6.3 Compliance requirements | | |
| 6.3.1 Legal compliance | | |
| 6.3.1.1 The standard requires that the organisation shall identify and have access to the legislation applicable to its forest management and determine how these compliance obligations apply to the organisation.  Note: For a country which has signed a FLEGT Voluntary Partnership Agreement (VPA) between the European Union and the producing country, the “legislation applicable to forest management” is defined by the VPA agreement. | Y | 3.1.1 a)  The organization shall carry out the activities related to forest management in accordance with federal, state, and municipal laws and agreements, as well as international agreements and conventions ratified by the country.  Indicators:  a) existence of procedures that identify legislation and other regulations applicable to forest management and determine how these obligations apply to the organization. |
| 6.3.1.2 The standard requires that the organisation shall comply with applicable local, national and international legislation on forest management, including but not limited to forest management practices; nature and environmental protection; protected and endangered species; property, tenure and land-use rights for indigenous peoples, local communities or other affected stakeholders; health, labour and safety issues; anti-corruption and the payment of applicable royalties and taxes. | Y | 3.1.1 b)  The organization shall carry out the activities related to forest management in accordance with federal, state, and municipal laws and agreements, as well as international agreements and conventions ratified by the country.  Indicator:  b) existence of records that prove fulfillment of legislation and of other regulations applicable to the activities carried out in the forest management unit.  3.1.2 - The organization's rights of ownership and of the use of land and forest resources and/or land tenure rights shall be clearly defined, documented, and established for the forest management unit. Similarly, legal, customary, and traditional rights related to the forest management unit shall be identified, recognized, and respected according to current legislation and applicable treaties and international agreements ratified by the country.  3.1.3 a), b) and g)  Laws related to labor, social security, taxes, and workplace health and safety shall be complied with, along with collective and/or individual agreements, collective conventions, and fundamental ILO conventions.  Indicators:  a) evidence that social security/pension for all workers is in compliance with current legislation. when there are pending issues related to social security/pension, the organization shall have a plan to resolve them.  b) evidence that all aspects related to labor legislation are in compliance with current legislation including collective or individual agreements, collective conventions, and regulatory labor standards.  g) evidence that the organization is in compliance in terms of payment of royalties and appliable taxes and tributes. when payments are pending, a plan to pay off the debts shall be made with the creditor or institution. |
| 6.3.1.3 The standard requires that where no anti-corruption legislation exists, the organisation must take alternative anti-corruption measures appropriate to the risk of corruption. | Y | 3.1.1 d)  The organization shall carry out the activities related to forest management in accordance with federal, state, and municipal laws and agreements, as well as international agreements and conventions ratified by the country.  Indicator:  d) existence of anti-corruption mechanisms in line with existing legislation, and proof that adequate preventative or corrective measures are implemented, when necessary. |
| 6.3.1.4 The standard requires that measures shall be implemented to address protection of the forest from unauthorised activities such as illegal logging, illegal land use, illegally initiated fires, and other illegal activities. | Y | 3.1.4 a) and b)  The organization shall, within the scope of its responsibilities, implement measures and assist competent authorities, when applicable, to protect the forest management unit against illegal or unauthorized activities such as extraction of wood or other products, land use, hunting, fishing, fires, etc.  Indicators:  a) existence of mechanisms to protect the forest management unit and control illegal or unauthorized activities there according to the size of the organization and intensity of management activities.  b) existence of records of illegal or unauthorized activities within the forest management unit and measures taken to avoid or minimize such. |
| 6.3.2 Legal, customary and traditional rights related to the forest land | | |
| 6.3.2.1 The standard requires that property rights, tree ownership and land tenure arrangements shall be clearly defined, documented and established for the relevant management unit. Likewise, legal, customary and traditional rights related to the forest land shall be clarified, recognised and respected.  Note: Guidance for the handling of tenure arrangements can be obtained from the FAO Voluntary Guidelines on the Responsible Governance of Tenure of Land, Fisheries and Forests in the Context of National Food Security. | Y | 3.1.2 a), b) and e)  The organization's rights of ownership and of the use of land and forest resources and/or land tenure rights shall be clearly defined, documented, and established for the forest management unit. Similarly, legal, customary, and traditional rights related to the forest management unit shall be identified, recognized, and respected according to current legislation and applicable treaties and international agreements ratified by the country.  Indicators:  a) evidence that the organization's rights of ownership, land use, and use of forest resources and/or land tenure rights are documented and established for the forest management unit according to current legislation.  b) evidence that legal, customary, and traditional rights related to the forest management units are identified, recognized, and respected according to current legislation and applicable treaties and international conventions ratified by the country.  e) evidence that the borders between the forest management unit and neighboring areas are identified, demarcated, and respected. |
| 6.3.2.2 The standard requires that forest practices and operations shall be conducted in recognition of the established framework of legal, customary and traditional rights such as outlined in ILO 169 and the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, which shall not be infringed upon without the free, prior and informed consent of the holders of the rights, including the provision of compensation where applicable. Where the extent of rights is not yet resolved, or is in dispute, there are processes for just and fair resolution. In such cases forest managers shall, in the interim, provide meaningful opportunities for parties to be engaged in forest management decisions whilst respecting the processes and roles and responsibilities laid out in the policies and laws where the certification takes place. | Y |
| 6.3.2.3 The standard requires that forest practices and operations shall respect human rights as defined by the Universal Declaration on Human Rights. | Y | 3.1.1 c)  The organization shall carry out the activities related to forest management in accordance with federal, state, and municipal laws and agreements, as well as international agreements and conventions ratified by the country.  Indicator:  c) Evidence that the organization respects human rights as defined in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights |
| 6.3.3 Fundamental ILO conventions | | |
| 6.3.3.1 The standard requires that forest practices and operations shall comply with fundamental ILO conventions.  Note: In countries where the fundamental ILO conventions have been ratified, the requirements of 6.3.3.1 apply. In countries where a fundamental convention has not been ratified and its content is not covered by applicable legislation, specific requirements shall be included in the forest management standard. | Y | 3.1.3 c)  Laws related to labor, social security, taxes, and workplace health and safety shall be complied with, along with collective and/or individual agreements, collective conventions, and fundamental ILO conventions.  Indicator:  c) Evidence of compliance with fundamental ILO conventions, as well as other ILO conventions ratified by the country.  NOTE When conflicts exist between legislation and fundamental conventions (causing compliance with a convention to lead to illegality in forest management), legislation shall prevail. |
| 6.3.4 Health, safety and working conditions | | |
| 6.3.4.1 The standard requires that forest operations shall be planned, organised and performed in a manner that enables health and accident risks to be identified and all reasonable measures to be applied to protect workers from work-related risks. Workers shall be informed about the risks involved with their work and about preventive measures. | Y | 3.1.3 j)  Laws related to labor, social security, taxes, and workplace health and safety shall be complied with, along with collective and/or individual agreements, collective conventions, and fundamental ILO conventions.  Indicator:  j) existence of a workplace health and safety program in line with legal requirements, implemented in such a way that risks to health and accidents can be identified and measures can be implemented to protect workers from work-related risks.  3.2.5  The organization shall ensure that workers, and forest owners (when applicable) are trained and updated with regard to sustainable forest management as a prerequisite for planning and for the forest management practices described in this Standard.  Indicators:  a) existence of an ongoing training program for management, workers, and forest owners (when applicable) with relation to forest management, including:  - objectives and goals of the sustainable forest management plan.  - procedures and guidance related to the various requirements of this Standard, including environmental and social issues related to forest management.  - safe working practices and guidelines related to the risks involved in work and preventative measures.  - cautions related to areas of relevant ecological and social interest.  b) existence of records of trainings held according to the established program in order to ensure that the management plan and its procedures and guidelines are correctly understood and carried out. |
| 6.3.4.2 The standard requires that working conditions shall be safe, and guidance and training in safe working practices shall be provided to all those assigned to a task in forest operations. Working hours and leave shall comply with national laws or applicable collective agreements.  Note: Guidance for specifying national standards can be obtained from the ILO Code of Good Practice: Safety and Health in Forestry Work. | Y |
| 6.3.4.3 The standard requires that wages of local and migrant forest workers as well as of contractors and other operators operating in PEFC-certified areas shall meet or exceed at least legal, industry minimum standards or, where applicable, collective bargaining agreements.  Note: Where wages are below the living wage of a country, steps should be taken to attain increased wages towards a living wage level over time in addition to increases for inflation. | Y | 3.1.3 d), e) and f)  Laws related to labor, social security, taxes, and workplace health and safety shall be complied with, along with collective and/or individual agreements, collective conventions, and fundamental ILO conventions.  Indicators:  d) evidence that the organization promotes equal opportunities without discrimination, including a workplace free of harassment and promotion of gender equality.  e) existence of effective mechanisms to report and eradicate cases of harassment and discrimination that include confidentiality in order to avoid problems and potential penalties to affected parties.  f) evidence that worker wages meet or exceed the legal minimum or existing base salary in the region, and collective bargaining agreements. |
| 6.3.4.4 The standard requires that the organisation is committed to equal opportunities, non-discrimination and freedom from workplace harassment. Gender equality shall be promoted. | Y |
| 7. Support | | |
| 7.1 Resources | | |
| 7.1.1 The standard requires that the organisation shall determine and provide the resources needed for the establishment, implementation, maintenance and continual improvement of the sustainable forest management system. | Y | 3.2.3  The organization shall determine and provide the resources needed to develop, implement, maintain, and continuously improve oversight of its sustainable forest management system.  Indicators:  a) evidence that the organization conducted an economic feasibility study for its sustainable forest management plan, considering data from the forest sampling inventory, the species and products utilized, the timeline for carrying out the sustainable forest management plan, among other aspects.  b) evidence that the budget in each new annual operating plan (AOP) is compatible with the underlying data that led to its approval, and that beyond the operating costs of forest management, it also includes necessary investments and compliance with environmental and social commitments.  c) evidence that the organization has the human resources necessary to carry out the activities in each new annual operating plan (AOP), as well as to comply with its social and environmental commitments.  d) evidence that the economic feasibility of the forest management is periodically reevaluated, considering the possibilities of new species and new markets, as well as revenues from other economic activities related to all the relevant forest goods and services, when applicable. |
| 7.2 Competence |  |  |
| 7.2.1 The standard requires that forest managers, contractors, employees and forest owners shall be provided with sufficient information and kept up-to-date through continuous training in relation to sustainable forest management, as a precondition for all management planning and practices described in this benchmark. | Y | 3.2.5  The organization shall ensure that workers, and forest owners (when applicable) are trained and updated with regard to sustainable forest management as a prerequisite for planning and for the forest management practices described in this Standard.  Indicators:  a) existence of an ongoing training program for management, workers, and forest owners (when applicable) with relation to forest management, including:  - objectives and goals of the sustainable forest management plan.  - procedures and guidance related to the various requirements of this Standard, including environmental and social issues related to forest management.  - safe working practices and guidelines related to the risks involved in work and preventative measures.  - cautions related to areas of relevant ecological and social interest.  b) existence of records of trainings held according to the established program in order to ensure that the management plan and its procedures and guidelines are correctly understood and carried out. |
| 7.3 Communication |  |  |
| 7.3.1 The standard requires that effective communication and consultation with local communities, indigenous peoples and other stakeholders relating to sustainable forest management shall be provided. | Y | 3.5.3 Criterion 5.3  The organization shall maintain effective communication and consultation with local and traditional communities, indigenous peoples, and other stakeholders related to forest management which also make it possible to resolve complaints, conflicts, and litigation.  Indicators:  a) existence of communication channels and procedures that allow effective dialog and consultation with local and traditional communities, indigenous peoples, and other stakeholders related to forest management. |
| 7.4 Complaints |  |  |
| 7.4.1 The standard requires that appropriate mechanisms are in place for resolving complaints and disputes relating to forest management operations, land use rights and work conditions. | Y | 3.5.3 Criterion 5.3  The organization shall maintain effective communication and consultation with local and traditional communities, indigenous peoples, and other stakeholders related to forest management which also make it possible to resolve complaints, conflicts, and litigation.  Indicators:  b) existence of appropriate mechanisms to resolve complaints, conflicts, and litigation related to forest management operations and associated activities. evidence that mediation or conciliation was sought to resolve such issues, when applicable.  3.1.2 Criterion 1.2  The organization's rights of ownership and of the use of land and forest resources and/or land tenure rights shall be clearly defined, documented, and established for the forest management unit. Similarly, legal, customary, and traditional rights related to the forest management unit shall be identified, recognized, and respected according to current legislation and applicable treaties and international agreements ratified by the country.  Indicators:  f) existence of suitable mechanisms to communicate and refer complaints, conflicts, and litigation related to the organization's rights of ownership, use of land and forest resources, and/or land tenure rights.  3.1.3 Criterion 1.3  Laws related to labor, social security, taxes, and workplace health and safety shall be complied with, along with collective and/or individual agreements, collective conventions, and fundamental ILO conventions.  Indicators:  h) existence of appropriate mechanisms to resolve complaints, conflicts, and litigation related to working conditions, labor and social security/pension issues, and labor-related taxes. |
| 7.5 Documented Information |  |  |
| 7.5.1 The standard requires that the organisation’s management system shall include documented information required by the standard and determined by the organisation as being necessary for the effectiveness of the sustainable forest management system. | Y | 3.2.1 Criterion  Forest operations shall be based on a sustainable forest management plan approved by the relevant authority and other documentation associated with forest management, considering different uses, scales, and functions of the managed forest area.  Indicators:  b) Existence of a sustainable forest management plan approved by the relevant authority that stimulates diversified production of goods and services in the long term and contains:  - the objectives of the sustainable forest management plan, including those related to maintaining and protecting the social, environmental, and economic functions of the forests.  - management conditions as a function of specific regional and local characteristics.  - management techniques to be applied.  - justification of the economic viability of the management.  - technical justification for defining the intensity of the forest management activities.  - roadway/transport system.  - harvest cycle.  - definition of permitted annual harvest volume and minimum diameter for each species/group of species, according to legal requirements and forest characteristics.  - surveys of the topography and vegetation typologies, as well as the forms and distribution of available water resources, according to the size of the organization and the intensity of forest management activities.  - letters, maps, and/or sketches, according to the intensity of management activities, that show: the borders of the forest management unit and its subdivisions, the resources managed by the organization, the infrastructure, areas of relevant ecological and social interest, locations of local and traditional communities and indigenous peoples.  - the multiannual plan for pre-harvesting, harvesting, and post-harvesting operations in order to minimize the negative effects caused by harvest of the remaining forest.  - plans to prevent, combat, and mitigate damage from fires and other incidents which are appropriate to the risk that these events might occur.  - environmental safeguards that specify how to minimize risks of degradation and damage to forest ecosystems.  - specific measures to protect and preserve wild flora and fauna, particularly rare, threatened, endemic, and protected species.  - pre-harvest inventory that is suitable for the planning, the harvest evaluation, and the forest monitoring.  f) evidence that the sustainable forest management plan is revised to incorporate the results of monitoring, when applicable.  g) evidence that a summary of the sustainable forest management plan that is appropriate for the organization's size and intensity of its forest management activities is available to the public and contains information about the overall objectives and principles of forest management. Confidential information, or sensitive information related to the protection of cultural sites or natural resources may be omitted.  i) existence of documented procedures for the following activities in order to ensure that they are carried out as described in the sustainable forest management plan:  - forest inventory and production planning.  - planning of infrastructure, including roadway network, skid trails, and log yards.  - construction and worksite maintenance.  - forestry activities.  - harvesting and transport of forest production.  - preparation for and response to emergencies and respective contingency plans.  j) evidence that the documented procedures are kept up to date. |
| 7.5.2 The standard requires that the documented information is relevant, and updated as appropriate, to the activities of the organisation. | Y |
| 8. Operation | | |
| 8.1 Criterion 1: Maintenance or appropriate enhancement of forest resources and their contribution to the global carbon cycle | | |
| 8.1.1 The standard requires that management shall aim to maintain or increase forests and their ecosystem services and maintain or enhance the economic, ecological, cultural and social values of forest resources. | Y | 3.2 - Forest management planning shall focus on the health and vitality of forest ecosystems in order to maintain and expand the economic, ecological, cultural, and social value of the forest. Forests shall be managed so that this activity helps preserve renewable natural resources. The criteria and indicators to be met are described in items 3.2.1 to 3.2.5  3.3 - The organization shall manage the forest in order to minimize negative effects from management activities on environmental value. Native ecosystems, areas of ecological and social interest, and biodiversity shall be maintained or improved. The criteria and indicators to be met are described in items 3.3.1 to 3.3.5. |
| 8.1.2 The standard requires that the quantity and quality of the forest resources and the capacity of the forest to store and sequester carbon shall be safeguarded in the medium and long term by balancing harvesting and growth rates, using appropriate silvicultural measures and preferring techniques that minimise adverse impacts on forest resources. | Y | 3.2.2 Criterion 2.2  The organization shall adopt strategies oriented toward sustainable use and management of forest resources.  Indicators:  d) evidence that the harvesting intensity of wood and non-wood forest products that are commercially utilized by the organization do not exceed the long-term replacement rates and allow natural regeneration to guarantee the quality and quantity of the forest resources over the long term, according to the plan.  ….  3.3.2 Criterion 3.2  The integrity of native ecosystems and biodiversity shall be maintained or improved. Degraded areas within a forest management unit shall be recovered or restored, according to current legislation.  Indicators:  a) evidence that the species diversity, typical vegetation, and ecosystem where the forest management unit is located are recognized.  b) existence of measures to maintain or improve biodiversity.  …  f) evidence of activities to recover degraded areas identified in the forest management unit, based on techniques adapted to the local conditions. |
| 8.1.3 The standard requires that climate positive practices in management operations, such as greenhouse gas emission reductions and efficient use of resources shall be encouraged. | Y | 3.2.2 Criterion 2.2  The organization shall adopt strategies oriented toward sustainable use and management of forest resources.  Indicators:  a) evidence that practices which indicate efficient and environmentally appropriate utilization of the forest resources produced are adopted.  b) evidence that the feasibility of reducing and/or utilizing waste from harvested trees has been assessed, and that those that prove to be technically and economically viable and environmentally friendly are implemented. |
| 8.1.4 The standard requires that forest conversion shall not occur unless in justified circumstances where the conversion: | | |
| a) is in compliance with national and regional policy and legislation applicable for land use and forest management and is a result of national or regional land-use planning governed by a governmental or other official authority including consultation with affected stakeholders; and | Y | 3.3.5 Criterion 3.5  Conversion of land use by replacing natural ecosystems shall not occur except when justified. If severely degraded forests are converted into planted forests, this shall meet prior conditions established to add economic, ecological, social, and/or cultural value.  Indicators:  a) evidence of no conversion except for in justified circumstances.  NOTE This indicator does not consider conversion to cover activities to install the infrastructure necessary to implement and carry out the sustainable forest management plan such as main and secondary roadways, log yards, housing, and other infrastructure elements.  b) evidence that conversion only occurred in justified circumstances which:  - it is in compliance with national, regional, and local policy and legislation related to land use and forest management, including stakeholder consultations, offering them chances to participate in making the decision on conversion.  - represents a small portion (no greater than 5%) of the managed area.  - there are no significant negative impacts on threatened species, threatened ecosystems (including vulnerable, rare, or endangered ecosystems) culturally and socially important areas, and important habitats for threatened species or other protected areas.  - makes a contribution to long-term conservation, economic, and social benefits.  c) evidence that, if conversion of severely degraded forests into planted forests is under consideration, this process will add economic, ecological, social, and/or cultural value. Prerequisites to add this value are circumstances in which the conversion:  — is in compliance with national, regional, and local policy and legislation applicable for land use and forest management, including stakeholder consultations, offering them chances to contribute to the decision-making on conversion;  — does not have significant negative impacts on threatened species, threatened ecosystems (including vulnerable, rare, or endangered ecosystems) culturally and socially significant areas, and important habitats of threatened species or other protected areas;  — safeguards protective functions of forests for society and other regulating or supporting ecosystem services;  — safeguards socio-economic functions of forests, including the recreational function and aesthetic values of forests and other cultural services;  — provides evidence that the degradation did not result from improper forest management processes by the same organization;  — is based on credible evidence demonstrating that the area is neither recovered nor in the process of recovery. |
| b) entails a small proportion (no greater than 5 %) of forest type within the certified area; and | Y |
| c) does not have negative impacts on ecologically important forest areas, culturally and socially significant areas, or other protected areas; and | Y |
| d) does not destroy areas of significantly high carbon stock; and |  |
| e) makes a contribution to long-term conservation, economic, and social benefits. | Y |
| 8.1.5 The standard requires that afforestation of ecologically important non-forest ecosystems shall not occur unless in justified circumstances where the conversion: | | |
| a) is in compliance with national and regional policy and legislation applicable for land use and forest management and is a result of national or regional land-use planning governed by a governmental or other official authority; and | Y | 3.3.5 Criterion 3.5  Conversion of land use by replacing natural ecosystems shall not occur except when justified. If severely degraded forests are converted into planted forests, this shall meet prior conditions established to add economic, ecological, social, and/or cultural value.  Indicators:  a) evidence of no conversion except for in justified circumstances.  NOTE This indicator does not consider conversion to cover activities to install the infrastructure necessary to implement and carry out the sustainable forest management plan such as main and secondary roadways, log yards, housing, and other infrastructure elements.  b) evidence that conversion only occurred in justified circumstances which:  - it is in compliance with national, regional, and local policy and legislation related to land use and forest management, including stakeholder consultations, offering them chances to participate in making the decision on conversion.  - represents a small portion (no greater than 5%) of the managed area.  - there are no significant negative impacts on threatened species, threatened ecosystems (including vulnerable, rare, or endangered ecosystems) culturally and socially important areas, and important habitats for threatened species or other protected areas.  - makes a contribution to long-term conservation, economic, and social benefits. |
| b) is established based on a decision-making basis where affected stakeholders have opportunities to contribute to the decision-making on conversion through transparent and participatory consultation processes; and | Y | 3.3.5 Criterion 3.5  Conversion of land use by replacing natural ecosystems shall not occur except when justified. If severely degraded forests are converted into planted forests, this shall meet prior conditions established to add economic, ecological, social, and/or cultural value.  Indicators:  c) evidence that, if conversion of severely degraded forests into planted forests is under consideration, this process will add economic, ecological, social, and/or cultural value. Prerequisites to add this value are circumstances in which the conversion:  - is in compliance with national, regional, and local policy and legislation applicable for land use and forest management, including stakeholder consultations, offering them chances to contribute to the decision-making on conversion; |
| c) does not have negative impacts on threatened (including vulnerable, rare or endangered) nonforest ecosystems, culturally and socially significant areas, important habitats of threatened species or other protected areas; and | Y | 3.3.5 Criterion 3.5  Conversion of land use by replacing natural ecosystems shall not occur except when justified. If severely degraded forests are converted into planted forests, this shall meet prior conditions established to add economic, ecological, social, and/or cultural value.  Indicators:  …  - there are no significant negative impacts on threatened species, threatened ecosystems (including vulnerable, rare, or endangered ecosystems) culturally and socially important areas, and important habitats for threatened species or other protected areas. |
| d) entails a small proportion of the ecologically important non-forest ecosystem managed by an organisation; and | Y | 3.3.5 Criterion 3.5  b) evidence that conversion only occurred in justified circumstances which:  — is in compliance with national, regional, and local policy and legislation related to land use and forest management, including stakeholder consultations, offering them chances to participate in making the decision on conversion.  — represents a small portion (no greater than 5%) of the managed area.  — there are no significant negative impacts on threatened species, threatened ecosystems (including vulnerable, rare, or endangered ecosystems) culturally and socially important areas, and important habitats for threatened species or other protected areas.  — Makes a contribution to long-term conservation, economic, and social benefits. |
| e) does not destroy areas of significantly high carbon stock; and | Y |
| f) makes a contribution to long-term conservation, economic, and social benefits. | Y | 3.3.5 Criterion 3.5  Conversion of land use by replacing natural ecosystems shall not occur except when justified. If severely degraded forests are converted into planted forests, this shall meet prior conditions established to add economic, ecological, social, and/or cultural value.  Indicators:  …  - makes a contribution to long-term conservation, economic, and social benefits. |
| 8.1.6 The standard requires that if conversion of severely degraded forests to forest plantations is being considered, it must add economic, ecological, social and/or cultural value. Precondition of adding such value are circumstances where the conversion: | | |
| a) is in compliance with national and regional policy and legislation applicable for land use and forest management and is a result of national or regional land-use planning governed by a governmental or other official authority; and | Y | 3.3.5 Criterion 3.5  Conversion of land use by replacing natural ecosystems shall not occur except when justified. If severely degraded forests are converted into planted forests, this shall meet prior conditions established to add economic, ecological, social, and/or cultural value.  Indicators:  c) evidence that, if conversion of severely degraded forests into planted forests is under consideration, this process will add economic, ecological, social, and/or cultural value. Prerequisites to add this value are circumstances in which the conversion:  - evidence that, if conversion of severely degraded forests into planted forests is under consideration, this process will add economic, ecological, social, and/or cultural value. Prerequisites to add this value are circumstances in which the conversion:  - is in compliance with national, regional, and local policy and legislation applicable for land use and forest management, including stakeholder consultations, offering them chances to contribute to the decision-making on conversion.  - does not have significant negative impacts on threatened species, threatened ecosystems (including vulnerable, rare, or endangered ecosystems) culturally and socially significant areas, and important habitats of threatened species or other protected areas.  - safeguards protective functions of forests for society and other regulating or supporting ecosystem services.  - safeguards socio-economic functions of forests, including the recreational function and aesthetic values of forests and other cultural services.  - provides evidence that the degradation did not result from improper forest management processes by the same organization.  - is based on credible evidence demonstrating that the area is neither recovered nor in the process of recovery.  NOTE When the planted forests involve a single species (monoculture), compliance with the ABNT NBR 14789 standard for implementing technical forest management guidelines is recommended, as well as the requirements associated with wood and non-wood products from this area. |
| b) is established based on a decision-making basis where affected stakeholders have opportunities to contribute to the decision-making on conversion through transparent and participatory consultation processes; and | Y |
| c) has a positive impact on long-term carbon sequestration capacity of forest vegetation; and | Y |
| d) does not have negative impacts on ecologically important forest areas, culturally and socially significant areas, or other protected areas; and | Y |
| e) safeguards protective functions of forests for society and other regulating or supporting ecosystem services; and | Y |
| f) safeguards socio-economic functions of forests, including the recreational function and aesthetic values of forests and other cultural services; and | Y |
| g) has a land history providing evidence that the degradation is not the consequence of deliberate poor forest management practices; and | Y |
| h) is based on credible evidence demonstrating that the area is neither recovered nor in the process of recovery. | Y |
| 8.2 Criterion 2: Maintenance of forest ecosystem health and vitality | | |
| 8.2.1 The standard requires that health and vitality of forest ecosystems shall be maintained or enhanced and degraded forest ecosystems shall be rehabilitated wherever and as far as economically feasible, by making best use of natural structures and processes and using preventive biological measures. | Y | 3.3.2 Criterion 3.2  The integrity of native ecosystems and biodiversity shall be maintained or improved. Degraded areas within a forest management unit shall be recovered or restored, according to current legislation.  Indicators:  a) evidence that the species diversity, typical vegetation, and ecosystem where the forest management unit is located are recognized.  b) existence of measures to maintain or improve biodiversity.  c) evidence that the selection of trees for harvesting and the harvest intensity for each species considers the population structure of these species, their resilience, and legal requirements.  d) evidence that protective measures are taken to minimize the impact of domesticated animals on biodiversity (when applicable).  e) existence of maps, sketches, or images identifying degraded areas in the forest management unit, when present.  f) evidence of activities to recover degraded areas identified in the forest management unit, based on techniques adapted to the local conditions.  g) evidence that if exotic species are used in the forest management unit to recover areas, this is only done if the performance of these exotic species exceeds that of native species, and only with the approval of relevant authorities. In these cases, control measures shall be established in order to avoid imbalances in the native species and other negative environmental impacts.  NOTE The guiding principles of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) to prevent, introduce, and diminish the impacts of exotic species that threaten ecosystems, habitats, or species are recognized guidelines for preventing invasive species.. |
| 8.2.2 The standard requires that adequate genetic, species and structural diversity shall be encouraged or maintained to enhance the stability, vitality and resilience of the forests to adverse environmental factors and strengthen natural regulation mechanisms. | Y | 3.3.2 Criterion 3.2  The integrity of native ecosystems and biodiversity shall be maintained or improved. Degraded areas within a forest management unit shall be recovered or restored, according to current legislation.  Indicators:  a) evidence that the species diversity, typical vegetation, and ecosystem where the forest management unit is located are recognized.  b) existence of measures to maintain or improve biodiversity.  c) evidence that the selection of trees for harvesting and the harvest intensity for each species considers the population structure of these species, their resilience, and legal requirements.  d) evidence that protective measures are taken to minimize the impact of domesticated animals on biodiversity (when applicable).  e) existence of maps, sketches, or images identifying degraded areas in the forest management unit, when present.  f) evidence of activities to recover degraded areas identified in the forest management unit, based on techniques adapted to the local conditions.  g) evidence that if exotic species are used in the forest management unit to recover areas, this is only done if the performance of these exotic species exceeds that of native species, and only with the approval of relevant authorities. In these cases, control measures shall be established in order to avoid imbalances in the native species and other negative environmental impacts.  NOTE The guiding principles of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) to prevent, introduce, and diminish the impacts of exotic species that threaten ecosystems, habitats, or species are recognized guidelines for preventing invasive species. |
| 8.2.3 The standard requires that use of fire shall be limited to regions where fire is an essential tool in forest management for regeneration, wildfire protection and habitat management or a recognized practice of indigenous peoples. In these cases adequate management and control measures shall be taken. | Y | 3.2.1 Criterion 2.1  Forest operations shall be based on a sustainable forest management plan approved by the relevant authority and other documentation associated with forest management, considering different uses, scales, and functions of the managed forest area.  Indicators:  b) Existence of a sustainable forest management plan approved by the relevant authority that stimulates diversified production of goods and services in the long term and contains:  …  - plans to prevent, combat, and mitigate damage from fires and other incidents which are appropriate to the risk that these events might occur.  Criterion 4.2  Forest management techniques to protect the forests and control exotic species, pests, and diseases when necessary, shall be adopted.  Indicators:  a) existence of a plan to prevent and combat fires in the forest management unit, including records of fires and evidence that they were reported to the relevant authorities when required.  b) existence of measures to control exotic plant and animal species that could upset the balance between native species within the forest management unit, when applicable. |
| 8.2.4 The standard requires that appropriate forest management practices such as reforestation and afforestation with tree species and provenances that are suited to the site conditions or the use of tending, harvesting and transport techniques that minimise tree and/or soil damages shall be applied. | Y | 3.2.2 Criterion 2.2  The organization shall adopt strategies oriented toward sustainable use and management of forest resources.  Indicators:  a) evidence that practices which indicate efficient and environmentally appropriate utilization of the forest resources produced are adopted.  b) evidence that the feasibility of reducing and/or utilizing waste from harvested trees has been assessed, and that those that prove to be technically and economically viable and environmentally friendly are implemented.  c) existence of a harvesting plan, where non-wood forest products will be traded, that follows best practices in sustainable forest management and is approved by the relevant authorities, where applicable. This harvesting plan shall be compatible with the activities described in the forest management plan and with the use of these non-wood forest products by local and traditional communities and indigenous peoples.  d) evidence that the harvesting intensity of wood and non-wood forest products that are commercially utilized by the organization do not exceed the long-term replacement rates and allow natural regeneration to guarantee the quality and quantity of the forest resources over the long term, according to the plan.  3.3.1 Criterion 3.1  The organization shall identify and assess environmental value and impacts, including defining and implementing measures to avoid, minimize, mitigate, and (when necessary) compensate for these impacts  Indicators:  e) evidence that the documented operational procedures considered recommendations to avoid, minimize, and mitigate negative impacts on environmental values.  Criterion 4.3  Construction of infrastructure and forest operations shall be planned and carried out in a way that preserves and maintains native ecosystems and water and soil resources.  Indicators:  a) evidence that construction of infrastructure and forest operations are carried out as planned in the planning stages and in the operational procedures and guidelines.  b) evidence that the infrastructure is planned and constructed and the forest operations are carried out in a way that minimizes damage to ecosystems, particularly rare, sensitive, or representative ecosystems and genetic reserves, and also considers the existence of endemic, rare, threatened, or endangered species or other key species, particularly their identified or known migration patterns.  c) evidence that forest operations are carried out in a way that prevents, minimizes, and mitigates (when necessary) soil degradation. Areas susceptible to erosion shall be considered, and the techniques and machinery utilized in the operations shall be adapted to the soil, topography, local climate conditions, as well as the characteristics of the managed forest resources.  d) evidence that forest operations are carried out in a way that prevents, minimizes, and mitigates (when necessary) adverse effects on water resources. the water balance and water quality downstream cannot be significantly affected by forest operations.  e) evidence that adequate infrastructure such as roadways, bridges, log yards, skid trails, and firebreaks is planned, constructed, and maintained in a way that minimizes exposed soil, avoids erosion, and preserves the level and natural function of permanent bodies of water.  f) evidence that when fertilizers are applied, procedures exist based on technical justifications that consider environmental concerns, along with evidence of control of their use. The use of fertilizers cannot be an alternative to adequate management of soil nutrients.  g) evidence that vehicles, machinery, and equipment that use oil-based fuels are maintained in a good state of repair to control emission of atmospheric pollutants. |
| 8.2.5 The standard requires that the indiscriminate disposal of waste on forest land shall be strictly avoided. Non-organic waste and litter shall be collected, stored in designated areas and removed in an environmentally-responsible manner. The spillage of oil or fuel during forest management operations shall be prevented. Emergency procedures for the minimisation of risk of environmental harm arising from the accidental spillage shall be in place. | Y | 3.4.5 Criterion 4.5  The organization shall adopt and implement an environmentally appropriate management plan for solid waste and effluents/wastewater in accordance with applicable legislation.  Indicators:  a) existence that an environmentally appropriate management plan for solid waste and effluents/wastewater is implemented in accordance with applicable legislation.  b) existence of records of environmentally appropriate redirection and/or final disposal of hazardous waste, in accordance with current legislation.  c) evidence that other liquid and solid waste is treated, redirected, or disposed of in an environmentally appropriate manner, in accordance with current legislation.  d) existence of emergency procedures to address spills or leaks of hazardous products in order to minimize environmental damage. |
| 8.2.6 The standard requires that integrated pest management, appropriate silviculture alternatives and other biological measures shall be preferred to minimise the use of pesticides. | Y | 3.4.2 Criterion 4.2  Forest management techniques to protect the forests and control exotic species, pests, and diseases when necessary, shall be adopted.  Indicators:  a) existence of a plan to prevent and combat fires in the forest management unit, including records of fires and evidence that they were reported to the relevant authorities when required.  b) existence of measures to control exotic plant and animal species that could upset the balance between native species within the forest management unit, when applicable.  NOTE The guiding principles of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) to prevent, introduce, and diminish the impacts of exotic species that threaten ecosystems, habitats, or species are recognized guidelines for preventing invasive species.  c) evidence that pesticides are not utilized in low-impact management activities in tropical native forests in the Amazon biome, particularly in order to control exotic pest species or diseases. Use in other activities associated with the sustainable forest management plan (for example on infrastructure earthwork slopes, log storage areas, to control invasive plants or animals due to edge effect, in fire control) shall only occur on an exceptional basis, and shall be preceded by a documented justification showing that alternate forestry, biological, or physical measures cannot be adopted.  NOTE 2 Native tropical forests, particularly in the Amazon biome, are characterized by their rich biodiversity and ecological balance in which the ecosystem itself regulates the development of fungi, bacteria, insects, and other living things. This balance is natural, and intended to perpetuate the biome. The introduce of any chemical or even biological agent specifically intended to eliminate classes or groups of species of living things is extremely harmful to its ecological balance. |
| 8.2.7 The standard requires that any use of pesticides is documented. | Y | 3.4.4 Criterion 4.4  The organization shall establish adequate measures for storage, transport, and use of pesticides, oils, and fuels.  Indicators:  …  d) existence of records of pesticide use, including but not limited to:  - trade name and active ingredient.  - quantity of product applied.  - dates of application.  - location and area of application.  - reason for/target of application.  - method of application.  - workers involved in application. |
| 8.2.8 The standard requires that the WHO Class 1A and 1B pesticides and other highly toxic pesticides shall be prohibited, except where no other viable alternative is available. Any exception to the usage of WHO Class 1A and 1B pesticides shall be defined in the national/regional standard. | Y | 3.4.4 Criterion 4.4  The organization shall establish adequate measures for storage, transport, and use of pesticides, oils, and fuels.  Indicators:  a) Existence of procedures for adequate, minimal pesticide use in line with current legislation and internationally accepted scientific protocols, when these procedures are required on an exceptional basis for activities associated with the sustainable forest management plan (for example: on infrastructure earthwork slopes, log storage areas, to control invasive plants or animals due to edge effects, in fire control).  b) evidence that except for under government order, the organization does not use highly toxic pesticides that:  - are prohibited by current legislation.  - are prohibited by international agreements such as the Stockholm Convention, Rotterdam Convention, and Montreal Protocol.  - contain chlorinated hydrocarbons, the derivatives of which remain biologically active and accumulate in the food chain well beyond the intended use.  - are included in the WHO pesticide classifications 1a or 1b.  c) evidence that when pesticides are utilized, the technical recommendations for handling, preparation, and application of such products are followed.  …  e) evidence that the equipment utilized to apply pesticides is maintained in suitable conditions.  …  h) evidence that the workers who handle or apply pesticides are trained and carry out these tasks while utilizing appropriate personal protective equipment. |
| 8.2.9 The standard requires that pesticides, such as chlorinated hydrocarbons whose derivatives remain biologically active and accumulate in the food chain beyond their intended use, and any pesticides banned by international agreement, shall be prohibited.  Note: “Pesticides banned by international agreements” are defined in the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants. | Y |
| 8.2.10 The standard requires that the use of pesticides shall follow the instructions given by the pesticide producer and be implemented with proper equipment by trained personnel. | Y |
| 8.2.11 The standard requires that where fertilisers are used, they shall be applied in a controlled manner and with due consideration for the environment. Fertilizer use shall not be an alternative to appropriate soil nutrient management. | Y | 3.4.3 Criterion 4.3  Construction of infrastructure and forest operations shall be planned and carried out in a way that preserves and maintains native ecosystems and water and soil resources.  Indicators:  …  f) evidence that when fertilizers are applied, procedures exist based on technical justifications that consider environmental concerns, along with evidence of control of their use. The use of fertilizers cannot be an alternative to adequate management of soil nutrients. |
| 8.3 Criterion 3: Maintenance and encouragement of productive functions of forests (wood and non-wood) | | |
| 8.3.1 The standard requires that the capability of forests to produce a range of wood and non-wood forest products and services on a sustainable basis shall be maintained. | Y | 3.2.2 Criterion 2.2  The organization shall adopt strategies oriented toward sustainable use and management of forest resources.  Indicators:  d) evidence that the harvesting intensity of wood and non-wood forest products that are commercially utilized by the organization do not exceed the long-term replacement rates and allow natural regeneration to guarantee the quality and quantity of the forest resources over the long term, according to the plan. |
| 8.3.2 The standard requires that sound economic performance shall be pursued, taking into account possibilities for new markets and economic activities in connection with all relevant goods and services of forests. | Y | 3.2.3 Criterion 2.3  The organization shall determine and provide the resources needed to develop, implement, maintain, and continuously improve oversight of its sustainable forest management system.  Indicators:  d) evidence that the economic feasibility of the forest management is periodically reevaluated, considering the possibilities of new species and new markets, as well as revenues from other economic activities related to all the relevant forest goods and services, when applicable. |
| 8.3.3 The standard requires that management, harvesting and regeneration operations shall be carried out at a time, and in a way, that does not reduce the productive capacity of the site, for example by avoiding damage to soil and retained stands and trees. | Y | 3.3.1 Criterion 3.1  The organization shall identify and assess environmental value and impacts, including defining and implementing measures to avoid, minimize, mitigate, and (when necessary) compensate for these impacts.  Indicators:  e) evidence that the documented operational procedures considered recommendations to avoid, minimize, and mitigate negative impacts on environmental values. |
| 8.3.4 The standard requires that harvesting levels of both wood and non-wood forest products shall not exceed a rate that can be sustained in the long term, and optimum use shall be made of the harvested products. | Y | 3.2.2 Criterion 2.2  The organization shall adopt strategies oriented toward sustainable use and management of forest resources.  Indicators:  d) evidence that the harvesting intensity of wood and non-wood forest products that are commercially utilized by the organization do not exceed the long-term replacement rates and allow natural regeneration to guarantee the quality and quantity of the forest resources over the long term, according to the plan. |
| 8.3.5 The standard requires that adequate infrastructure such as roads, skid tracks or bridges shall be planned, established and maintained to ensure efficient delivery of goods and services while minimising negative impacts on the environment. | Y | 3.4.3 Criterion 4.3  Construction of infrastructure and forest operations shall be planned and carried out in a way that preserves and maintains native ecosystems and water and soil resources.  Indicators:  e) evidence that adequate infrastructure such as roadways, bridges, log yards, skid trails, and firebreaks is planned, constructed, and maintained in a way that minimizes exposed soil, avoids erosion, and preserves the level and natural function of permanent bodies of water. |
| 8.4 Criterion 4: Maintenance, conservation and appropriate enhancement of biological diversity in forest ecosystems | | |
| 8.4.1 The standard requires that management planning shall aim to maintain, conserve or enhance biodiversity on landscape, ecosystem, species and genetic levels. | Y | 3.2.1 Criterion 2.1  Forest operations shall be based on a sustainable forest management plan approved by the relevant authority and other documentation associated with forest management, considering different uses, scales, and functions of the managed forest area.  Indicators:  …  b) Existence of a sustainable forest management plan approved by the relevant authority that stimulates diversified production of goods and services in the long term and contains:  - the objectives of the sustainable forest management plan, including those related to maintaining and protecting the social, environmental, and economic functions of the forests.  - management conditions as a function of specific regional and local characteristics.  - management techniques to be applied.  - justification of the economic viability of the management.  - technical justification for defining the intensity of the forest management activities.  - roadway/transport system.  - harvest cycle.  - definition of permitted annual harvest volume and minimum diameter for each species/group of species, according to legal requirements and forest characteristics.  - surveys of the topography and vegetation typologies, as well as the forms and distribution of available water resources, according to the size of the organization and the intensity of forest management activities.  - letters, maps, and/or sketches, according to the intensity of management activities, that show: the borders of the forest management unit and its subdivisions, the resources managed by the organization, the infrastructure, areas of relevant ecological and social interest, locations of local and traditional communities and indigenous peoples.  - the multiannual plan for pre-harvesting, harvesting, and post-harvesting operations in order to minimize the negative effects caused by harvest of the remaining forest.  - plans to prevent, combat, and mitigate damage from fires and other incidents which are appropriate to the risk that these events might occur.  - environmental safeguards that specify how to minimize risks of degradation and damage to forest ecosystems.  - specific measures to protect and preserve wild flora and fauna, particularly rare, threatened, endemic, and protected species.  - pre-harvest inventory that is suitable for the planning, the harvest evaluation, and the forest monitoring. |
| 8.4.2 The standard requires that inventory, mapping and planning of forest resources shall identify, protect, conserve or set aside ecologically important forest areas.  Note: This does not prohibit forest management activities that do not damage the important ecologic values of those biotopes. | Y | 3.3.4 Criterion 3.4  Areas of relevant ecological and social interest which are recognized for their exceptional natural, social, cultural, or environmental attributes shall be identified, protected, maintained, or improved.  Indicators:  c) Existence of measures to protect, maintain, or improve relevant areas of ecological and social interest in the forest management unit. |
| 8.4.3 The standard requires that protected, threatened and endangered plant and animal species shall not be exploited for commercial purposes. Where necessary, measures shall be taken for their protection and, where relevant, to increase their population.  Note: The requirement does not preclude trade according to CITES requirements. | Y | 3.3.3 Criterion 3.3  Measures to identify and protect endemic, rare, threatened, or endangered species and their habitats are implemented in the forest management unit.  Indicators:  a) evidence of measures to identify and list endemic, rare, threatened, or endangered species that occur in the forest management unit which are appropriate to the scale of the organization.  b) evidence that endemic, rare, threatened, or endangered species are not exploited for commercial purposes, except when permitted by law.  c) evidence that measures are taken to protect endemic, rare, threatened, or endangered species and their habitats within the forest management unit. |
| 8.4.4 The standard requires that successful regeneration shall be ensured through natural regeneration or planting that is adequate to ensure the quantity and quality of the forest resources. | Y | Criterion 2.2  The organization shall adopt strategies oriented toward sustainable use and management of forest resources.  Indicators:  d) evidence that the harvesting intensity of wood and non-wood forest products that are commercially utilized by the organization do not exceed the long-term replacement rates and allow natural regeneration to guarantee the quality and quantity of the forest resources over the long term, according to the plan. |
| 8.4.5 The standard requires that for reforestation and afforestation origins of native species that are well-adapted to site conditions shall be preferred. Only those introduced species, provenances or varieties shall be used whose impacts on the ecosystem and on the genetic integrity of native species and local provenances have been scientifically evaluated, and if negative impacts can be avoided or minimised.  Note: CBD (Convention on Biological Diversity) Guiding Principles for the Prevention, Introduction, and Mitigation of Impacts of Alien Species that Threaten Ecosystems, Habitats or Species are recognised as guidance for avoidance of invasive species. | Y | 3.3.2 Criterion 3.2  The integrity of native ecosystems and biodiversity shall be maintained or improved. Degraded areas within a forest management unit shall be recovered or restored, according to current legislation.  Indicators:  a) evidence that the species diversity, typical vegetation, and ecosystem where the forest management unit is located are recognized.  f) evidence of activities to recover degraded areas identified in the forest management unit, based on techniques adapted to the local conditions.  g) evidence that if exotic species are used in the forest management unit to recover areas, this is only done if the performance of these exotic species exceeds that of native species, and only with the approval of relevant authorities. In these cases, control measures shall be established in order to avoid imbalances in the native species and other negative environmental impacts.  NOTE The guiding principles of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) to prevent, introduce, and diminish the impacts of exotic species that threaten ecosystems, habitats, or species are recognized guidelines for preventing invasive species. |
| 8.4.6 The standard requires that afforestation, reforestation and other tree planting activities that contribute to the improvement and restoration of ecological connectivity shall be promoted. | Y | 3.3.2 Criterion 3.2  The integrity of native ecosystems and biodiversity shall be maintained or improved. Degraded areas within a forest management unit shall be recovered or restored, according to current legislation.  Indicators:  f) evidence of activities to recover degraded areas identified in the forest management unit, based on techniques adapted to the local conditions.  g) evidence that if exotic species are used in the forest management unit to recover areas, this is only done if the performance of these exotic species exceeds that of native species, and only with the approval of relevant authorities. In these cases, control measures shall be established in order to avoid imbalances in the native species and other negative environmental impacts.  NOTE The guiding principles of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) to prevent, introduce, and diminish the impacts of exotic species that threaten ecosystems, habitats, or species are recognized guidelines for preventing invasive species. |
| 8.4.7 The standard requires that genetically-modified trees shall not be used.  Note: The restriction on the usage of genetically-modified trees has been adopted by the PEFC General Assembly based on the Precautionary Principle. Until enough scientific data on genetically modified trees indicates that impacts on human and animal health and the environment are equivalent to, or more positive than, those presented by trees genetically improved by traditional methods, no genetically-modified trees will be used. | Y | This standard does not consider forest plantations for commercial purposes, which is set by ABNT NBR 14789.  3.3.2 Criterion 3.2  The integrity of native ecosystems and biodiversity shall be maintained or improved. Degraded areas within a forest management unit shall be recovered or restored, according to current legislation.  Indicators:  f) evidence of activities to recover degraded areas identified in the forest management unit, based on techniques adapted to the local conditions.  g) evidence that if exotic species are used in the forest management unit to recover areas, this is only done if the performance of these exotic species exceeds that of native species, and only with the approval of relevant authorities. In these cases, control measures shall be established in order to avoid imbalances in the native species and other negative environmental impacts.  NOTE The guiding principles of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) to prevent, introduce, and diminish the impacts of exotic species that threaten ecosystems, habitats, or species are recognized guidelines for preventing invasive species.  3.2.1 Criterion 2.1  Forest operations shall be based on a sustainable forest management plan approved by the relevant authority and other documentation associated with forest management, considering different uses, scales, and functions of the managed forest area.  Indicators:  …  h) existence of annual operation plans approved by the relevant authority that specify the forest management operations that will be carried out during the period. The goals of the operational plans shal include the maintenance, conservation, or improvement of biodiversity at the landscape, ecosystem, species, and genetic levels. |
| 8.4.8 The standard requires that a diversity of both horizontal and vertical structures and the diversity of species such as mixed stands shall be promoted, where appropriate. The practices shall also aim to maintain or restore landscape diversity. | Y |
| 8.4.9 The standard requires that traditional management practices that create valuable ecosystems on appropriate sites shall be supported, where appropriate. | Y | Criterion 3.2  The integrity of native ecosystems and biodiversity shall be maintained or improved. Degraded areas within a forest management unit shall be recovered or restored, according to current legislation.  Indicators:  a) evidence that the species diversity, typical vegetation, and ecosystem where the forest management unit is located are recognized.  b) existence of measures to maintain or improve biodiversity.  c) evidence that the selection of trees for harvesting and the harvest intensity for each species considers the population structure of these species, their resilience, and legal requirements.  d) evidence that protective measures are taken to minimize the impact of domesticated animals on biodiversity (when applicable).  e) existence of maps, sketches, or images identifying degraded areas in the forest management unit, when present.  f) evidence of activities to recover degraded areas identified in the forest management unit, based on techniques adapted to the local conditions.  g) evidence that if exotic species are used in the forest management unit to recover areas, this is only done if the performance of these exotic species exceeds that of native species, and only with the approval of relevant authorities. In these cases, control measures shall be established in order to avoid imbalances in the native species and other negative environmental impacts.  NOTE The guiding principles of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) to prevent, introduce, and diminish the impacts of exotic species that threaten ecosystems, habitats, or species are recognized guidelines for preventing invasive species. |
| 8.4.10 The standard requires that tending and harvesting operations shall be conducted in a way that does not cause lasting damage to ecosystems. Wherever possible, practical measures shall be taken to maintain or improve biological diversity. | Y |
| 8.4.11 The standard requires that infrastructure shall be planned and constructed in a way that minimizes damage to ecosystems, especially to rare, sensitive or representative ecosystems and genetic reserves, and that takes threatened or other key species – in particular their migration patterns – into consideration. | Y |
| 8.4.12 The standard requires that, with due regard to management objectives, measures shall be taken to control the pressure of animal populations on forest regeneration and growth as well as on biodiversity. | Y |
| 8.4.13 The standard requires that standing and fallen dead wood, hollow trees, old groves and rare tree species shall be left in quantities and distribution necessary to safeguard biological diversity, taking into account the potential effect on the health and stability of forests and on surrounding ecosystems. | N | 3.3.3 Criterion 3.3  Measures to identify and protect endemic, rare, threatened, or endangered species and their habitats are implemented in the forest management unit.  Indicators:  a) evidence of measures to identify and list endemic, rare, threatened, or endangered species that occur in the forest management unit which are appropriate to the scale of the organization.  b) evidence that endemic, rare, threatened, or endangered species are not exploited for commercial purposes, except when permitted by law.  c) evidence that measures are taken to protect endemic, rare, threatened, or endangered species and their habitats within the forest management unit. |
| 8.5 Criterion 5: Maintenance or appropriate enhancement of protective functions in forest management (notably soil and water) | | |
| 8.5.1 The standard requires that protective functions of forests for society, such as their potential role in erosion control, flood prevention, water purification, climate regulation, carbon sequestration and other regulating or supporting ecosystem services shall be maintained or enhanced. | Y | 3.3.2 Criterion 3.2  The integrity of native ecosystems and biodiversity shall be maintained or improved. Degraded areas within a forest management unit shall be recovered or restored, according to current legislation.  Indicators:  a) evidence that the species diversity, typical vegetation, and ecosystem where the forest management unit is located are recognized.  b) existence of measures to maintain or improve biodiversity.  3.3.5 Criterion 3.5  Conversion of land use by replacing natural ecosystems shall not occur except when justified. If severely degraded forests are converted into planted forests, this shall meet prior conditions established to add economic, ecological, social, and/or cultural value.  Indicators:  c) evidence that, if conversion of severely degraded forests into planted forests is under consideration, this process will add economic, ecological, social, and/or cultural value. Prerequisites to add this value are circumstances in which the conversion:  - is in compliance with national, regional, and local policy and legislation applicable for land use and forest management, including stakeholder consultations, offering them chances to contribute to the decision-making on conversion;  - does not have significant negative impacts on threatened species, threatened ecosystems (including vulnerable, rare, or endangered ecosystems) culturally and socially significant areas, and important habitats of threatened species or other protected areas;  - safeguards protective functions of forests for society and other regulating or supporting ecosystem services;  - safeguards socio-economic functions of forests, including the recreational function and aesthetic values of forests and other cultural services;  - provides evidence that the degradation did not result from improper forest management processes by the same organization;  - is based on credible evidence demonstrating that the area is neither recovered nor in the process of recovery. |
| 8.5.2 The standard requires that areas that fulfil specific and recognised protective functions for society shall be mapped, and forest management plans and operations shall ensure the maintenance or enhancement of these functions. | Y | 3.3.4 Criterion 3.4  Areas of relevant ecological and social interest which are recognized for their exceptional natural, social, cultural, or environmental attributes shall be identified, protected, maintained, or improved.  Indicators:  a) Evidence of assessment to identify areas of relevant ecological and social interest (see 2.4) in the forest management unit, including characterization and mapping  b) Evidence that stakeholder and/or specialists were consulted in the process of assessing areas of relevant ecological and social interest in the forest management unit  c) Existence of measures to protect, maintain, or improve relevant areas of ecological and social interest in the forest management unit  d) Identification of conservation units present in the area influenced by the operations, including assessment of the existence of operational and/or legal restrictions and how they apply to the forest management unit, when applicable. |
| 8.5.3 The standard requires that special care shall be given to forestry operations on sensitive soils and erosion-prone areas as well as in areas where operations might lead to excessive erosion of soil into watercourses. Techniques applied and the machinery used shall be suitable for such areas. Special measures shall be taken to minimise the pressure of animal populations on these areas. | Y | 8.5.3 Criterion 4.3  Construction of infrastructure and forest operations shall be planned and carried out in a way that preserves and maintains native ecosystems and water and soil resources.  Indicators:  c) evidence that forest operations are carried out in a way that prevents, minimizes, and mitigates (when necessary) soil degradation. Areas susceptible to erosion shall be considered, and the techniques and machinery utilized in the operations shall be adapted to the soil, topography, local climate conditions, as well as the characteristics of the managed forest resources.  d) evidence that forest operations are carried out in a way that prevents, minimizes, and mitigates (when necessary) adverse effects on water resources. the water balance and water quality downstream cannot be significantly affected by forest operations.  e) evidence that adequate infrastructure such as roadways, bridges, log yards, skid trails, and firebreaks is planned, constructed, and maintained in a way that minimizes exposed soil, avoids erosion, and preserves the level and natural function of permanent bodies of water.  3.6.1 Criterion 6.1  The organization shall conduct monitoring to assess its environmental, social, and economic performance, in accordance with the scale of the organization and its management objectives.  Indicators:  a) evidence that environmental, social, and economic aspects to be monitored by the organization have been defined.  b) existence of indicators and goals related to the monitored environmental, social, and economic aspects, with frequency and intensity that are in line with the scale of the organization and the management objectives. |
| 8.5.4 The standard requires that special care shall be given to forestry operations in forest areas with water protection functions to avoid adverse effects on the quality and quantity of water resources. Inappropriate use of chemicals or other harmful substances or inappropriate silvicultural practices influencing water quality in a harmful way shall be avoided. Downstream water balance and water quality shall not be significantly affected by the operations. | Y |
| 8.5.5 The standard requires that construction of roads, bridges and other infrastructure shall be carried out in a manner that minimises bare soil exposure, avoids the introduction of soil into watercourses and preserves the natural level and function of water courses and river beds. Proper road drainage facilities shall be installed and maintained. | Y | 3.4.3 Criterion 4.3  Construction of infrastructure and forest operations shall be planned and carried out in a way that preserves and maintains native ecosystems and water and soil resources.  Indicators:  a) evidence that construction of infrastructure and forest operations are carried out as planned in the planning stages and in the operational procedures and guidelines.  b) evidence that the infrastructure is planned and constructed and the forest operations are carried out in a way that minimizes damage to ecosystems, particularly rare, sensitive, or representative ecosystems and genetic reserves, and also considers the existence of endemic, rare, threatened, or endangered species or other key species, particularly their identified or known migration patterns. |
| 8.6 Criterion 6: Maintenance or appropriate enhancement of socio-economic functions and conditions | | |
| 8.6.1 The standard requires that forest management planning shall aim to respect all socio-economic functions of forests. | Y | 3.5.1 Criterion 5.1  The organization shall identify and assess the environmental, social, and economic values for stakeholders. The impacts on these values shall be identified and assessed, and measures to avoid, minimize, mitigate, and (when necessary) compensate for these impacts shall be defined and implemented.  Indicators:  d) evidence that measures have been defined and implemented to avoid, minimize, and (when necessary) compensate for negative impacts on the environmental, social, and economic values for stakeholders as a result of forest management and associated activities. |
| 8.6.2 The standard requires that adequate public access to forests for the purpose of recreation shall be provided, taking into account respect for ownership rights, safety and the rights of others, the effects on forest resources and ecosystems, as well as compatibility with other functions of the forest. | Y | 3.1.2 Criterion 1.2  The organization's rights of ownership and of the use of land and forest resources and/or land tenure rights shall be clearly defined, documented, and established for the forest management unit. Similarly, legal, customary, and traditional rights related to the forest management unit shall be identified, recognized, and respected according to current legislation and applicable treaties and international agreements ratified by the country.  Indicators:  g) Evidence that areas customarily used for recreation within the forest management unit are recognized, and when present, that public access is permitted, respecting rights of ownership, safety limits, rights of third parties, and the effects on forest resources and ecosystems, as well as compatibility with the forest's other functions. |
| 8.6.3 The standard requires that sites with recognised specific historical, cultural or spiritual significance and areas fundamental to meeting the needs of indigenous peoples and local communities (e.g. health, subsistence) shall be protected or managed in a way that takes due regard of the significance of the site. | Y | 3.3.4 Criterion 3.4  Areas of relevant ecological and social interest which are recognized for their exceptional natural, social, cultural, or environmental attributes shall be identified, protected, maintained, or improved.  Indicators:  a) Evidence of assessment to identify areas of relevant ecological and social interest (see 2.4) in the forest management unit, including characterization and mapping  b) Evidence that stakeholder and/or specialists were consulted in the process of assessing areas of relevant ecological and social interest in the forest management unit  c) Existence of measures to protect, maintain, or improve relevant areas of ecological and social interest in the forest management unit. |
| 8.6.4 The standard requires that management shall promote the long-term health and well-being of communities within or adjacent to the forest management area, where appropriate supported by engagement with local communities and indigenous peoples. | Y | 3.5.2 Criterion 5.2  The organization's relationships with local and traditional communities and indigenous peoples shall value traditional knowledge and raise awareness about sustainable use of natural resources.  The organization shall consider the role of its activities in local economies and promote activities that contribute to the health, well-being, and environmental education of its workers, and when viable, of local and traditional communities and indigenous peoples.  Indicators:  a) evidence that when natural resources from the management unit are utilized by local and traditional communities and indigenous peoples, the organization promotes or collaborates in activities to raise awareness about the sustainable use of these resources in order to minimize environmental impacts.  b) evidence that the intellectual property of these traditional communities and indigenous peoples, when utilized by the organization for commercial purposes, is compensated as agreed between the parties and in accordance with legal requirements.  NOTE The expression "intellectual property of traditional communities and indigenous peoples" is considered in this Standard in a broad sense and not interpreted strictly (with official registration of intellectual property).  c) Evidence that forest-related experience, traditional knowledge, innovation, and practices are shared with stakeholders by the organization via engagement efforts, utilized in the most appropriate manner, and that their sharing is encouraged, when applicable  d) evidence that traditional management practices that create valuable ecosystems in appropriate locations are supported, when relevant.  e) evidence that local communities, including indigenous peoples, are considered when employment and training opportunities are available in various forest management activities.  f) evidence that local providers of products and services are prioritized in order to stimulate the regional economy.  g) existence of activities that encourage worker health, literacy, safety, and hygiene, which can also be accessed by their direct dependents, according to the size of the organization. When feasible, these activities shall be extended to local and traditional communities and indigenous peoples.  h) existence of environmental education programs implemented with the workers, in accordance with the size of the organization. When feasible, these programs shall be extended to local and traditional communities and indigenous peoples. |
| 8.6.5 The standard requires that the best use shall be made of forest-related experience and traditional knowledge, innovations and practices such as those of forest owners, NGOs, local communities, and indigenous peoples. Equitable sharing of the benefits arising from the utilization of such knowledge shall be encouraged. | Y |
| 8.6.6 The standard requires that management shall give due regard to the role of forestry in local economies. Special consideration shall be given to new opportunities for training and employment of local people, including indigenous peoples. | Y |
| 8.6.7 The standard requires that forest management shall contribute to research activities and data collection needed for sustainable forest management or support relevant research activities carried out by other organisations, as appropriate. | Y | 3.4.1 Criterion 4.1  The organization shall implement forest management utilizing technologies and information that area appropriate to local characteristics.  Indicators:  c) evidence that the forest management contributes to research activities and data collection required for sustainable forest management, or supports relevant research activities conducted by other organizations, when applicable. |
| 9. Performance evaluation | | |
| 9.1 Monitoring, measurement, analysis and evaluation | | |
| 9.1.1 The standard requires that monitoring of forest resources and evaluation of their management, including ecological, social and economic effects, shall be periodically performed, and results fed back into the planning process. | Y | 3.6.1  The organization shall conduct monitoring to assess its environmental, social, and economic performance, in accordance with the scale of the organization and its management objectives.  Indicators:  a) evidence that environmental, social, and economic aspects to be monitored by the organization have been defined.  b) existence of indicators and goals related to the monitored environmental, social, and economic aspects, with frequency and intensity that are in line with the scale of the organization and the management objectives.  c) existence of monitoring for pending administrative and legal issues related to the organization's compliance with legislation, including planned and executed activities as well as time frames for execution.  d) existence of monitoring (of documents and in the field) related to compliance with labor law, including collective or individual agreements and collective conventions, which apply to the workers that carry out activities in the forest management unit.  e) existence of monitoring (of documents and in the field) related to compliance with legislation and regulatory standards related to workplace health and safety which apply to the workers that carry out activities in the forest management unit.  f) existence of monitoring of the effectiveness of the mechanisms to protect against and control illegal and unauthorized activities, inducing recording incidents of such activities in the forest management unit.  g) existence of monitoring forest growth and productivity, as well as control of the production of wood products managed by the organization.  h) existence of monitoring of productivity and control of non-wood products managed by the organization  i) existence of monitoring of the efficacy of measures to avoid, minimize, mitigate, or compensate for significant negative environmental impacts caused by the forest management activity and associated activities.  j) existence of monitoring of measures to protect, maintain, or improve areas of relevant ecological and social interest.  k) existence of monitoring for the presence of exotic plant and animal species that could upset the balance between native species within the forest management unit, when applicable.  NOTE The guiding principles of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) to prevent, introduce, and diminish the impacts of exotic species that threaten ecosystems, habitats, or species are recognized guidelines for preventing invasive species.  l) existence of monitoring of the efficacy of measures to avoid, minimize, mitigate, or compensate for significant negative social and economic impacts caused by the forest management activity and associated activities. |
| 9.1.2 The standard requires that health and vitality of forests shall be periodically monitored, especially key biotic and abiotic factors that potentially affect health and vitality of forest ecosystems, such as pests, diseases, overgrazing and overstocking, fire, and damage caused by climatic factors, air pollutants or by forest management operations. | Y |
| 9.1.3 The standard requires that where it is the responsibility of the forest owner/manager and included in forest management, the use of non-wood forest products, including hunting and fishing, shall be regulated, monitored and controlled. | Y |
| 9.1.4 The standard requires that working conditions shall be regularly monitored and adapted as necessary. | Y |
| 9.2 Internal audit | | |
| 9.2.1 Objectives  The standard requires that an internal audit programme at planned intervals shall provide information on  whether the management system | | |
| a) conforms to  • the organisation’s requirements for its management system;  • the requirements of the national sustainable forest management standard | Y | 3.6.2 a)  The organization shall plan, implement, and maintain an internal auditing program in order to verify compliance with the requirements of this Standard  Indicator:  a) existence of an internal auditing program in order to verify compliance with this Standard that is in line with the scale of the organization and the intensity of management activities, including:  - frequency.  - methods.  - responsibilities.  - criteria and scope. |
| b) is effectively implemented and maintained. | Y |
| 9.2.2 Organisation  The standard requires that the organisation shall: | | |
| a) plan, establish, implement and maintain an audit programme(s) including the frequency, methods, responsibilities, planning requirements and reporting, which shall take into consideration the importance of the processes concerned and the results of previous audits; | Y | 3.6.2  The organisation shall plan, implement, and maintain an internal auditing program in order to verify compliance with the requirements of this Standard  Indicators:  a) existence of an internal auditing program in order to verify compliance with this Standard that is in line with the scale of the organization and the intensity of management activities, including:  - frequency.  - methods.  - responsibilities.  - criteria and scope..  b) evidence that the internal auditing program is planned, implemented, and maintained.  c) evidence that the results of previous audits are considered.  d) evidence that the audit process is conducted in an objective and impartial manner.  e) evidence that the results of the internal audits are documented and reported to the relevant management. |
| b) define the audit criteria and scope for each audit; | Y |
| c) select the auditors and conduct audits to ensure objectivity and the impartiality of the audit process; | Y |
| d) ensure that the results of the audits are reported to relevant management; | Y |
| e) retain documented information as evidence of the implementation of the audit programme and the audit results. | Y |
| 9.3 Management review | | |
| 9.3.1 The standard requires that an annual management review shall at least include | | |
| a) the status of actions from previous management reviews; | Y | 3.6.4 a), b) and c)  The organization shall conduct annual management review and incorporate the results for continuous improvement of the sustainable forest management.  Indicators:   1. evidence that the organization's top management promotes annual management review .   b) evidence that the management review consider:  - the status of activities in prior management review .  - changes in external and internal issues that are relevant for the sustainable forest management system.  - information about the organization's environmental, social, and economic performance, including trends in:   * non-conformites and corrective measures. * monitoring results. * audit findings.   - opportunities for continuous improvement.  c) evidence that the results of management review include decisions related to continuous improvement and the need for changes in the management system and execution of forest management and associated activities.  d) evidence that the results of the management review are documented and maintained.  e) evidence that compliance, improvement, and efficacy of the sustainable forest management system are continuously improved. |
| b) changes in external and internal issues that are relevant to the management system; | Y |
| c) information on the organisation’s performance, including trends in:  • nonconformities and corrective actions;  • monitoring and measurement results;  • audit results; | Y |
| d) opportunities for continual improvement | Y |
| 9.3.2 The standard requires that the outputs of the management review shall include decisions related to continual improvement opportunities and any need for changes to the management system. | Y |
| 9.3.3 The standard requires that documented information as evidence of the results of management reviews shall be retained. | Y |
| 10. Improvement | | |
| 10.1 Nonconformity and corrective action | | |
| 10.1.1 The standard requires that when a nonconformity occurs, the organisation shall: | | |
| a) react to the nonconformity and, as applicable:  i. take action to control and correct it;  ii. deal with the consequences; | Y | 3.6.3  The organization shall implement activities to address any non-conformities identified in order to minimize their consequences and avoid recurrence.  Indicators:  a) evidence that appropriate measures are taken to control, correct, and mitigate (when applicable) damage caused by any identified non-conformities.  b) evidence that the identified non-conformities are analyzed in order to:  - determine causes.  - determine whether similar non-conformities exist or could occur.  - determine appropriate corrective measures to eliminate the identified causes in order to avoid recurrence of the non-conformity.  c) evidence that corrective measures defined to eliminate the identified causes were implemented and their effectiveness analysed. |
| b) evaluate the need for action to eliminate the causes of the nonconformity, in order that it does not  recur or occur elsewhere, by:  i. reviewing the nonconformity;  ii. determining the causes of the nonconformity;  iii. determining if similar nonconformities exist, or could potentially occur; | Y |
| c) implement any action needed; | Y |
| d) review the effectiveness of any corrective action taken; | Y |
| e) make changes to the management system, if necessary. | Y |
| 10.1.2 The standard requires that corrective actions shall be appropriate to the effects of the nonconformities encountered. | Y |
| 10.1.3 The standard requires that the organisation shall retain documented information as evidence of: | | |
| a) the nature of the nonconformities and any subsequent actions taken; | Y | 3.6.3 d)  The organization shall implement activities to address any non-conformities identified in order to minimize their consequences and avoid recurrence.  Indicator:  d) documented evidence of the non-conformities identified, the corrective measures implemented, and their results. |
| b) the results of any corrective action. | Y |
| 10.2 Continual improvement  The standard requires that the suitability, adequacy and effectiveness of the sustainable forest management system and the sustainable management of the forest shall be continuously improved. | Y | 3.6.4 e)  The organization shall conduct an annual management review and incorporate the results for continuous improvement of sustainable forest management.  Indicator:  e) Evidence that compliance, improvement, and efficacy of the sustainable forest management system are continuously improved. |

**\*** If the answer to any question is no, the application documentation shall indicate for each element why and what alternative measures have been taken to address the element in question.