SMALLHOLDERS
A Priority Project For FSC
Project Plan

Normative Framework
Build on existing work and propose new solutions

Market Development
Increase market access and raise market share

Enablers
Engagement, communication, and fundraising
Normative Framework
Activities

• **Explore** the flexibility of the system.
• **Improve** relevant standards.
• **Develop** new solutions.
• Improve our market intelligence.

• Develop relevant supply chains.

• Design marketing strategies and tools.
• **Develop** a mid to long-term communication plan.

• **Engage** regional and local stakeholders.

• **Pursue** an aggressive fundraising strategy.
Mobilise & Launch 2016-2017

Develop & Test 2017-2018

Scale Up 2019-2020

Project Plan Phases
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A Starting Point
Baseline Data
We have a project baseline.

7.6 million hectares of the world’s smallholder owned forests are FSC-certified.
Contact

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To Reach Smallholders in the global North, Certify Forest Contractors
FSC Has Not Served Smallholders.

Of the 200 million hectares of FSC-certified forests, smallholders own or manage only 4 per cent.
To Reach Smallholders We Must Overcome Two Major Challenges.

Make certification simple and accessible.
Certifying Forest Contractors Is Not A New Idea.

‘Forest contractor certification’ was first piloted in 2009-2012.
Scenario 1
Allow forest contractors to become members of forest management group certificates

Within the scope of FSC Certification

External contractors

Contractor

FM Group

Group entity

FO

FO

FO

Cert. Contractor

Monitoring focused on forest owner

Operational monitoring focused on Contractor

Acknowledging a new member layer with specific monitoring tasks
Scenario 2
Allow third-party forest contractor certification schemes as verification tool

Within the scope of FSC approved verification

Monitoring focused on forest owner

Group level verification

Operational verification

Acknowledging external contractor cert. tools for conformance verification
Scenario 3
FSC develops an FSC forestry contractor certificate

Within the scope of FSC Certification

External contractors

FM Group
Group entity

FSC Contractor group certificate
Cert. Contractor

Contractor

Monitoring focused on forest owner

Group level verification
Operational verification

Building from experience – creating an FSC specific contractor certification framework
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Reaching smallholders in the global South: Two stepwise approaches towards FSC certification
FSC Already Has Existing Products For Smallholders.

Smallholders can organize into groups. And there are special criteria for small and low intensity forest owners.
Limited Skills And Knowledge Is Causing Performance Issues.

Of the 200 million hectares of FSC-certified forests, smallholders own 8 million hectares, a figure that has not grown since 2015.
Encourage Measurable And Continuous Improvement At The Local Level.

Early indications show stepwise solutions have led to a successful uptake in terms of certificates issued and increase in area certified.
Continuous Improvement

Critical Criteria

(A) (Better)

(C) (Good)

(B) (Best)
Scenario 1: Start At The National Level.

In Eastern Africa, smallholders typically join formal forest grower associations.
Scenario 2: Start At The Regional Level.

In Central America, it is common for smallholders to enter into informal and often verbal contracts.
Scenario 3: Revisit ‘Modular Approach Programme’.

MAP emphasizes legal compliance as a first step. This approach works best in high-risk countries and regions.
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