Background

Motion 51 of the 2011 FSC General Assembly called for a strengthening of the controlled wood system. This included phasing out risk assessments developed by certificate holders and replacing them with FSC-developed risk assessments. As a result of Motion 51, FSC revised a number of controlled wood standards and procedures between 2013 and 2015, including the controlled wood standard for chain of custody (FSC-STD-40-005).

From its publication in December 2015 until the end of 2017, the certificate holders have time to implement the new standard. Many certificate holders were postponing the implementation and are only now in the transition phase.

While certificate holders are implementing the new standard, FSC is working on providing risk assessments to phase out company-developed risk assessments in 58 countries. FSC risk assessment development is either led by the network partner in a country, in which case they produce a National Risk Assessment (NRA), or by the FSC secretariat, in which case we produce a Centralized National Risk Assessment (CNRA).

Current Status

FSC is developing a monitoring program to assess the impacts of the standard implementation, and directly support the system. This upcoming project will allow us to gather knowledge directly from the field, and utilize it in further revision processes.

Every FSC risk assessment process has a detailed timeline and budget agreed upon by the involved parties. Timelines are communicated and regularly updated on controlled wood’s risk assessment website.
Timeline

CNRAs approved for Belgium, Bulgaria, Denmark, Ireland, Lithuania, Slovakia, Viet Nam

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>By end 2017</th>
<th>By mid 2018</th>
<th>By end 2018</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NRA</td>
<td>Ukraine</td>
<td>Austria, Brazil, China, France, Georgia, Germany, Italy, Japan, Norway, Portugal, Russia, South Africa, Spain, Uruguay, USA</td>
<td>Canada, Ecuador, Luxembourg, Netherlands, United Kingdom</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CNRA with network partner engagement</td>
<td>Belarus, Estonia, India, Romania,</td>
<td>Chile, Czech Republic, Finland, Guatemala, Indonesia, New Zealand, Sweden, Switzerland</td>
<td>Australia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CNRA without network partner engagement</td>
<td>Laos, Latvia, Republic of Korea</td>
<td>Malaysia, Myanmar, Poland, Swaziland, Turkey</td>
<td>Argentina, Bolivia, Colombia, Honduras, Hungary, Mexico, Papua New Guinea, Peru, Slovenia</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Figure 1. Deadlines for FSC Risk Assessments. Underlined countries are classified as priority countries.

GA 2017 Activities

The side event “Controlled Wood Risk Assessments and the Standard” will occur on 10 October at 16:30-18:00. This is your chance to learn more of these details about the monumental task of FSC Controlled Wood risk assessments. Half the session is dedicated to presenting the actual status and challenges of the risk assessment processes, and the second half is dedicated to responding to questions and concerns.

Additional information