

# PROTECTING THE FUTURE OF OUR WORLD'S FORESTS

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FOREST STEWARDSHIP COUNCIL



**FORESTS  
FOR ALL  
FOREVER**

# Topics today

- 1 FSC: Who we are
- 2 What sets FSC apart
- 3 Consumer Research
- 4 Digital tools & regulatory enablement
- 5 Takeaways





# THE FOREST STEWARDSHIP COUNCIL®: WHO WE ARE



**The Forest Stewardship Council® (FSC®) runs the world's leading forest certification system and works to mitigate the climate and biodiversity crises by advancing sustainable forest management worldwide.**

# FSC 2050 Vision

“

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

FSC 2050 Vision

”

# FSC is fundamentally balanced

FSC is a democratic, member-based, and consensus-seeking organization. To equally balance the interests of different stakeholders, FSC is governed by three membership chambers.

33.3%  
Social



**Local people and  
society at large**

33.3%  
Environmental



**Biodiversity and ecological  
protection**

33.3%  
Economic



**Responsible and  
economically viable**

AT A GLANCE



Today we lead the world's most rigorous and trusted forest certification system, trusted by NGOs, consumers, and businesses alike.

30

years of operation

150+

million certified hectares of forest

1,200+

individuals and organizations make up our governing body across 90+ countries

103

locally-adapted forest stewardship standards

52%

of consumers globally recognize the FSC logo

1,700+

companies licensed to promote FSC-labelled products

60K+

certifications that verify sustainable sourcing

80+

active projects verifying ecosystem services

# How FSC is shaping the future of responsible forest management



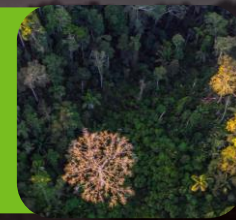
# GENERAL ASSEMBLY 2025

- 925 participants
- 2 Plenaries, 2 cross-chamber meetings, 12 chamber meetings, 40 side meetings and networking opportunities
- 48 motions – 36 voted on, 16 passed
- Consultation on global strategy

# FSC's priorities for 2026



Increasing total area under FSC Forest Management (FM) Certification



Strengthening System Integrity

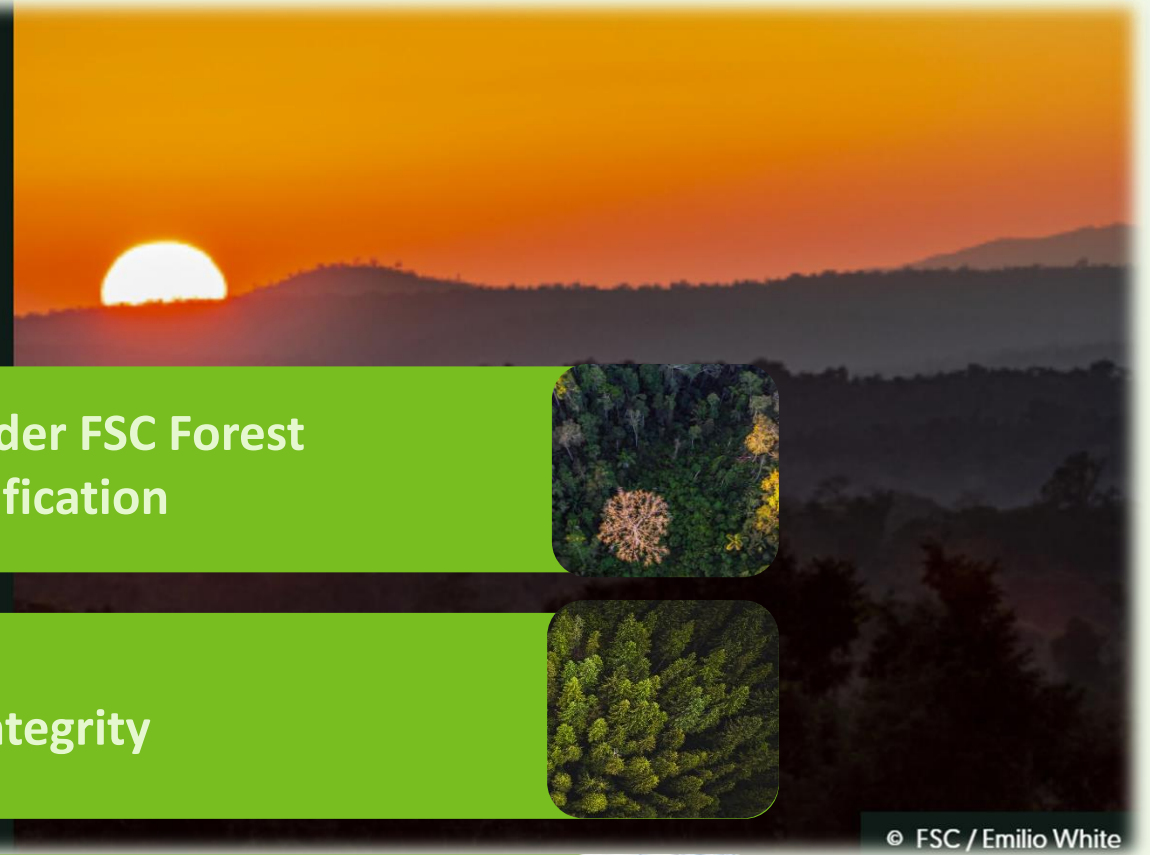


© FSC / Jjumba Martin

Implementation of Climate, Biodiversity, & Restoration Strategic Framework



© FSC / Emilio White



# Principles and Criteria revision: Key proposals



**Structural changes for user-orientation**



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



**Modular approach**



**Scope &  
Applicability**



**Outcome orientation**



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

# Consultation process



Public  
consultation

1 Oct–Nov 30 2025



Consultation Report  
publication

April 2026



Drafting of requirements  
with chamber balanced  
working group

Starting in Q2 2026



# WHAT SETS FSC APART

# FSC offers solutions from forest to consumer, and beyond the value chain



## CORE CERTIFICATION



Forest



Sawmill



Factory



Processor



Retailer

- ✓ Forest Management (FM) Certification
- ✓ Controlled Forest Management
- ✓ Group Certification & certification support

- ✓ Chain of Custody (CoC) Certification
- ✓ Project Certification

- ✓ Promotional Licence



## VOLUNTARY ADD-ONS

For ecosystem services: biodiversity, carbon, water and more

- ✓ Verified Impact

For EUDR-affected companies throughout the chain

- ✓ FSC Aligned for EUDR

To trace forest materials all the way back to the forest

- ✓ FSC Trace

# FSC offers solutions from forest to consumer, and beyond the value chain

## Forest operators

### Forest Management (FM) Certification

Meet the world's most rigorous and credible standards for sustainable forestry.

### Controlled Forest Management

Fast-track full your journey to full Forest Management Certification.

### Verified Impact

Measure and showcase sustainable forestry impact and receive funding.

## Certification support

### Smallholders

Receive tailored support to get certified with the Community and Family Forest Toolbox and Group Certification (FM + CoC)

## Manufacturers & Traders

### Chain of Custody (CoC) Certification

Secure a responsible and unbroken supply chain for forest material.

### Project Certification

Show that forest materials in projects come from sources which meet FSC standards.

## Retailers & Brands

### Promotional Licence

Leverage credible FSC trademarks to promote FSC-certified products.

## Voluntary certification add-ons

### All business

#### FSC Trace

Trace forest materials back to the forest using blockchain technology.

### EUDR-affected companies

#### FSC Aligned for EUDR





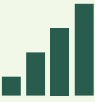

Comprehensive pathway to support compliance at any point in the supply chain.

### Business or governments

#### Verified Impact

High-integrity data enables sustainability reporting and showcasing nature's benefits.

# And there is more...

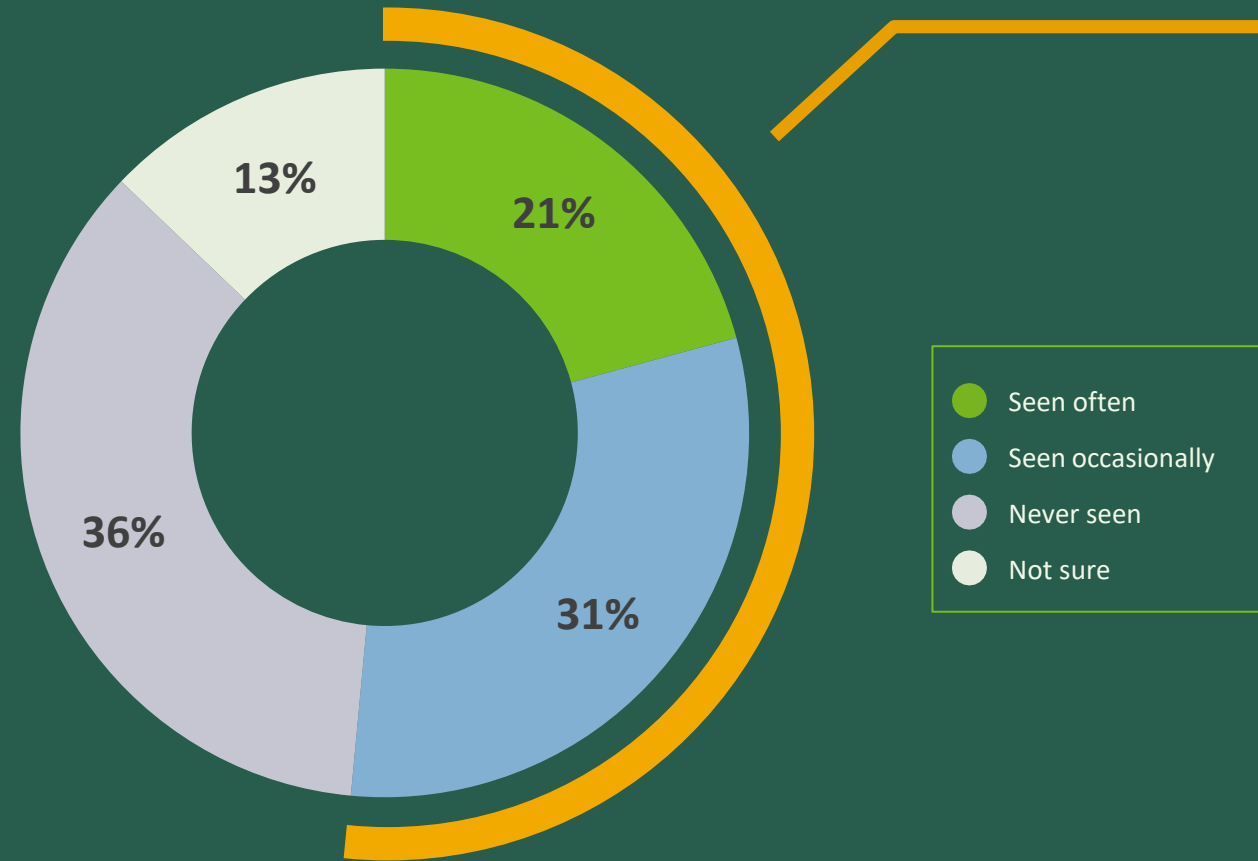
Strategic area		Major projects 2023-2025
	<b>IT Infrastructure</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ Strengthened FSC Search, automated cloud services and improved systems security</li> <li>❖ Developed major new solutions including eTLA, FSC Check and the FSC Developer Portal</li> <li>❖ Launched with Early Adopters 'FSC Trace' as a blockchain solution for materials traceability</li> </ul>
	<b>System Integrity</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ Used GIS and Remote Sensing Data for PfA violation investigations and to develop degradation maps for country level risks</li> <li>❖ Piloted Wood ID to verify the origins of timber and identify false claims</li> <li>❖ Established a System Integrity Unit, resourcing it to systematically strengthen integrity</li> </ul>
	<b>Network Development</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ Strengthened on-the-ground presence with new Network Partners in Romania and Turkey</li> <li>❖ Increased regional footprint in Africa and LATAM, near doubling local staff</li> <li>❖ Expanded service provision to local stakeholders through key document translations and FSC certification trainings</li> </ul>
	<b>Stakeholder Engagement</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ Launched new Motions Platform for GA2025 in Panama</li> <li>❖ Commissioned Consumer Satisfaction survey to identify areas for improvement for FSC</li> <li>❖ Conducted certification experience journey-mapping with improvement actions in development</li> </ul>
	<b>Emerging Products / Services</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ Revised Ecosystem Services Procedure including a registry and go-to-market plan</li> <li>❖ Launched voluntary regulatory module to support EUDR compliance, including dedicated customer care support team</li> <li>❖ Delivered first eCommerce offers based on a validated FSC-certified product database</li> </ul>
	<b>Market Development and Transformation</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ Engaged in dedicated, multi-year collaborations with partners in rubber value chains</li> <li>❖ Invested in a dedicated priority around Natural Tropical Forests and tropical timber</li> <li>❖ Established the FSC Circularity Hub to scale-up existing FSC solutions and explore further means to promote circularity</li> </ul>

# CONSUMER RESEARCH: CONSUMERS RECOGNIZE AND TRUST FSC

# FSC IS THE MOST RECOGNIZED FOREST CERTIFICATION SYSTEM GLOBALLY



1



# 52%

of global consumers recall seeing the FSC logo.

No other forest certification tested came higher globally in all the 50 countries surveyed.<sup>1</sup>

**FSC's global brand recognition has increased by 5% points since 2022<sup>2</sup>**

The recognition of FSC is highest among young consumers aged 18-24 years, followed by 25-44-year-olds.

Q3. Have you ever seen the following logos or labels? (4-point scale)

Base: Total global sample (n=40,802)

18 Totals do not add up to 100% due to rounding off to the nearest whole number (Seen often = 20.9%; Seen occasionally = 30.6% ; Never seen = 35.8%; Not sure – 12.7%)

<sup>2</sup>This is found on comparing the results across 32 countries which were surveyed both in 2022 & 2025. FSC witnessed a recognition increase in 23 of the 32 countries surveyed in 2022.

# FSC DIGITAL TOOLS AND REGULATORY ENABLEMENT

FSC is **bridging sustainability and competitiveness:**



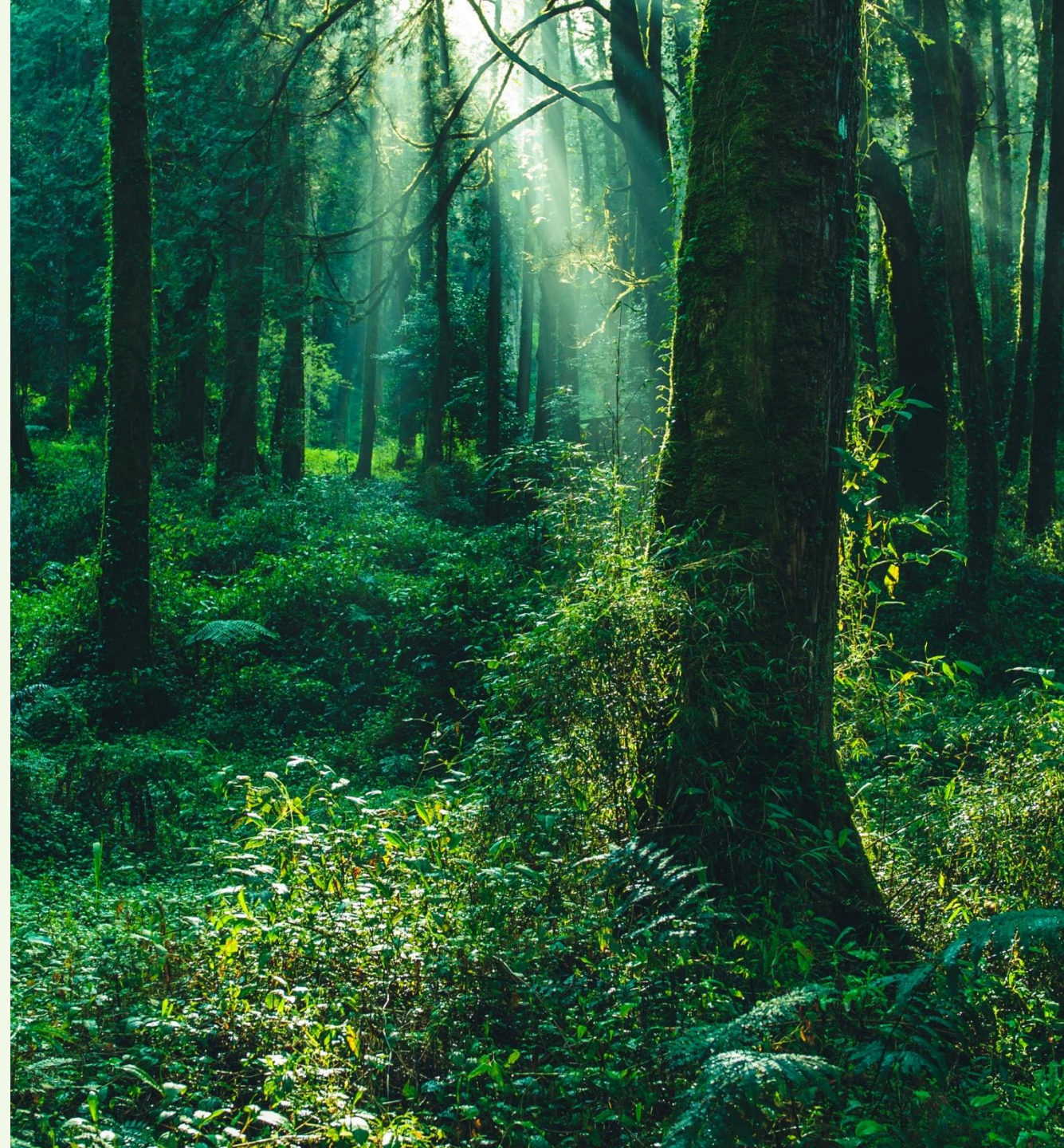
**Supports forest policies implementation**



**Eases compliance for companies in global supply chains**



**Empowers consumers to make sustainable choices**



# FSC Aligned for EUDR: Solutions to support different compliance aspects

## FSC Aligned for EUDR



# System Integrity: Risk Assessments Framework



## The Risk Assessment Framework

Ensures uniform and robust **requirements** for assessing risks of sourcing material from supply areas.

## FSC Risk Assessment

**Assesses the risk** of sourcing material from supply areas and establishes **mitigation measures** to address those identified risks.

# FSC Risk Assessment development is underway

Dashboard on **FSC Connect** to track progress.

Sign up to **stay informed** on upcoming consultations.

### FSC Country Requirements Schedule

This dashboard provides an overview and a schedule for the development and revision of FSC Risk Assessments and Forest Stewardship Standards. This dashboard is updated on a daily basis.

Hover and click to explore. Unclick to reset.

Select an FSC Document Type: **Risk Assessments** / Forest Stewardship Standards

Decision-making body: All

Select a region: All

Select a country: All

Process type: All

To select multiple values in a filter, hold down the CTRL key while making your selection.

Are you interested in taking part in an upcoming consultation? Click on the button below.

**Consultation Form**

Country	Drafting phase (according to PRO-60-006a)	Consultation	Final draft	Planned approval date	Publication date
Brazil	2024-09-01 to 2025-01-31	2025-02-01 to 2025-03-31	2025-04-01 to 2025-05-31	2025-06-01	2025-07-01
Bulgaria	2024-10-01 to 2025-01-31	2025-02-01 to 2025-03-31	2025-04-01 to 2025-05-31	2025-06-01	2025-07-01
Canada	2024-09-01 to 2025-01-31	2025-02-01 to 2025-03-31	2025-04-01 to 2025-05-31	2025-06-01	2025-07-01
Chile	2024-09-01 to 2025-01-31	2025-02-01 to 2025-03-31	2025-04-01 to 2025-05-31	2025-06-01	2025-07-01
China	2024-09-01 to 2025-01-31	2025-02-01 to 2025-03-31	2025-04-01 to 2025-05-31	2025-06-01	2025-07-01

### Published Risk Assessments

Select a Risk Assessment: All

Risk Assessment	Effective date	Document Centre	Consultation report
RA Austria (FSC-RA-AUT-02-2025)	10/16/2025	<a href="#">Document Centre</a>	<a href="#">Consultation report</a>
RA Romania (FSC-RA-ROU-02-2025)	8/28/2025	<a href="#">Document Centre</a>	<a href="#">Consultation report</a>

2 countries finalized, 31 in progress



For more information - [FSC Country Requirements Schedule](#) | [FSC Connect](#)



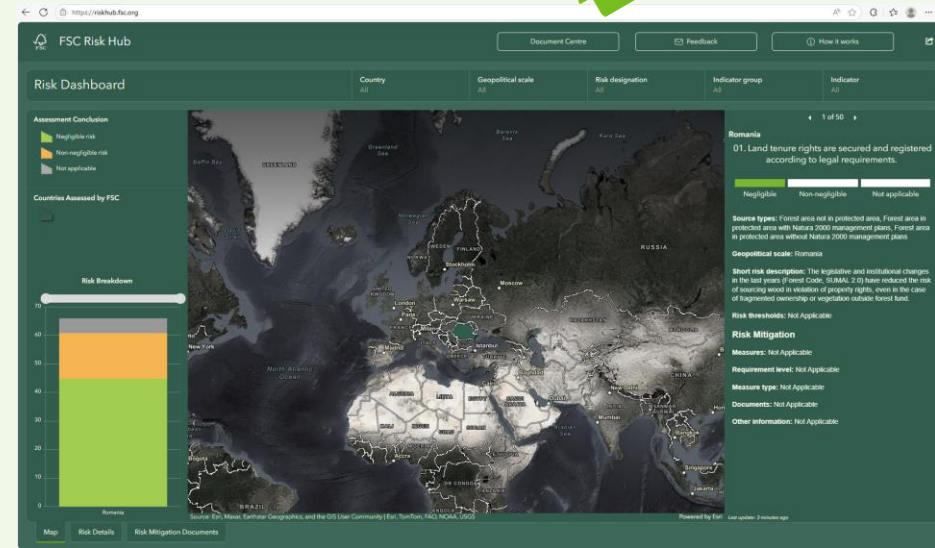
# Where can you find FSC Risk Assessments?



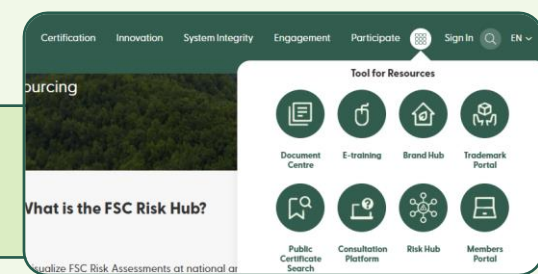
## FSC Risk Hub

- Our **FSC Risk Assessments** are developed in collaboration with stakeholders and presented through in the **FSC Risk Hub**
- **FSC Risk Hub** is a central hub for managing risk in supply areas not certified by FSC
- It presents our expert assessed global risk data from **FSC Risk Assessments** as an interactive world map
- Provides a clear understanding of geographically specific risks and actionable mitigation strategies.

riskhub.fsc.org



Access through the app palette on FSC connect



# FSC Trace

FSC Trace is a secure **traceability platform** designed to **share and verify transaction data** within FSC supply chains.

## FSC Trace enables to:

- ✓ Securely exchange data in the supply chain
- ✓ Check FSC conformity of materials in real time
- ✓ Supports verification, due diligence & regulatory compliance



# Traceability enabled by FSC



## Transparent & secure

Enhanced traceability with matching transactions and direct control over sensitive data.



## Automated checks

Real-time validation on certification licence and product data of trading partners.



## Integrity enhancement

Validated, tamper-proof transaction data, reduces risk and helps to spot discrepancies earlier.



## User-friendly design

Bulk upload via Excel template and API-connection available to integrate to existing workflows.





# KEY TAKEAWAYS

# Takeaways



FSC is an adaptive system that responds to global challenges and accounts for stakeholder interests and expectations.



A genuine commitment to FSC values implies a deep understanding of their nature and integration into management systems and practices.



The FSC system fosters continuous improvement in light of current trends and challenges.

Thank you



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