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Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) and ecosystem services

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Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) and ecosystem services
REDD+ AND FORESTRY-RELATED PROGRAMMES IN
VOLUNTARY MARKETS



Montreal/2018.02.07





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Part 1

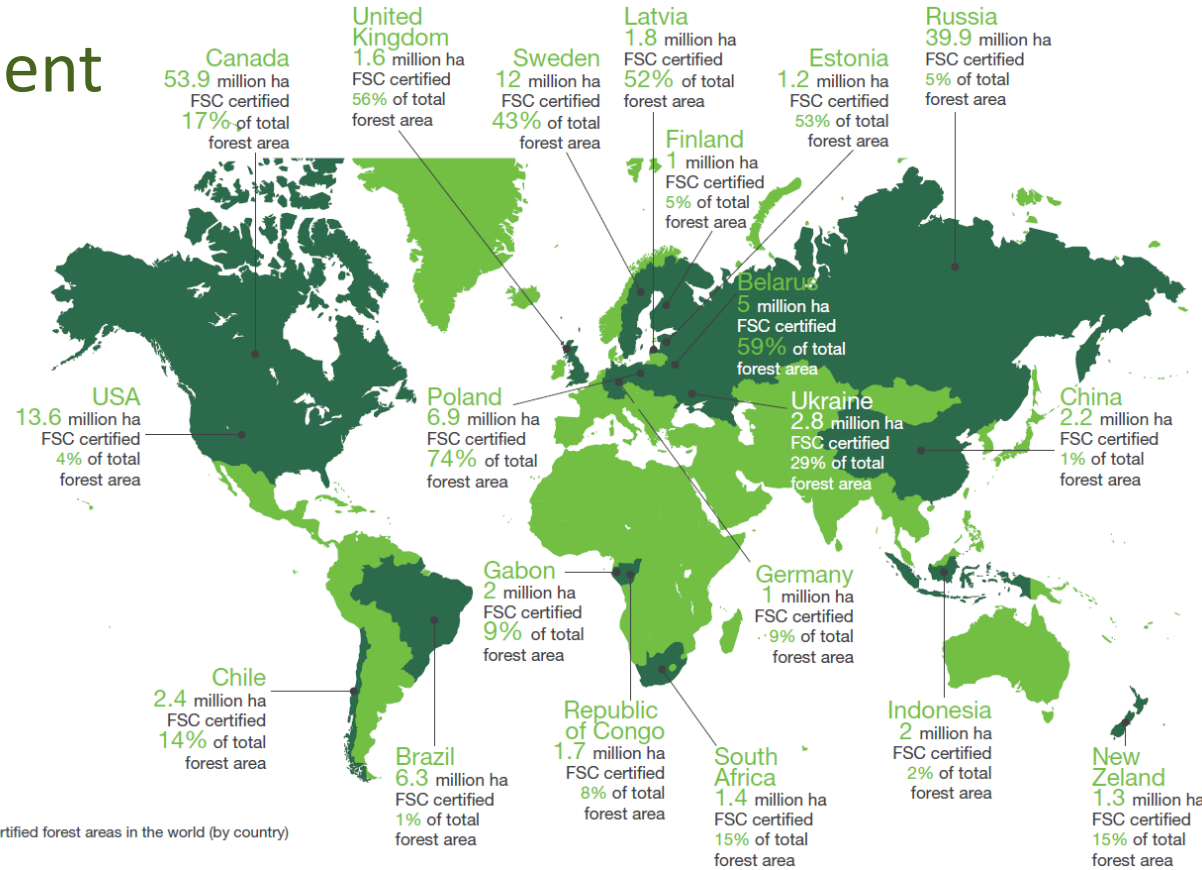
**How are the emissions units
generated by your programme,
mechanism or project?**



1. FSC forest management certification

FSC forest management certification guarantees responsible forest stewardship

199 million hectares of FSC-certified forests in 82 countries, equaling more than 4,5 times the size of Sweden (44,7 million ha)



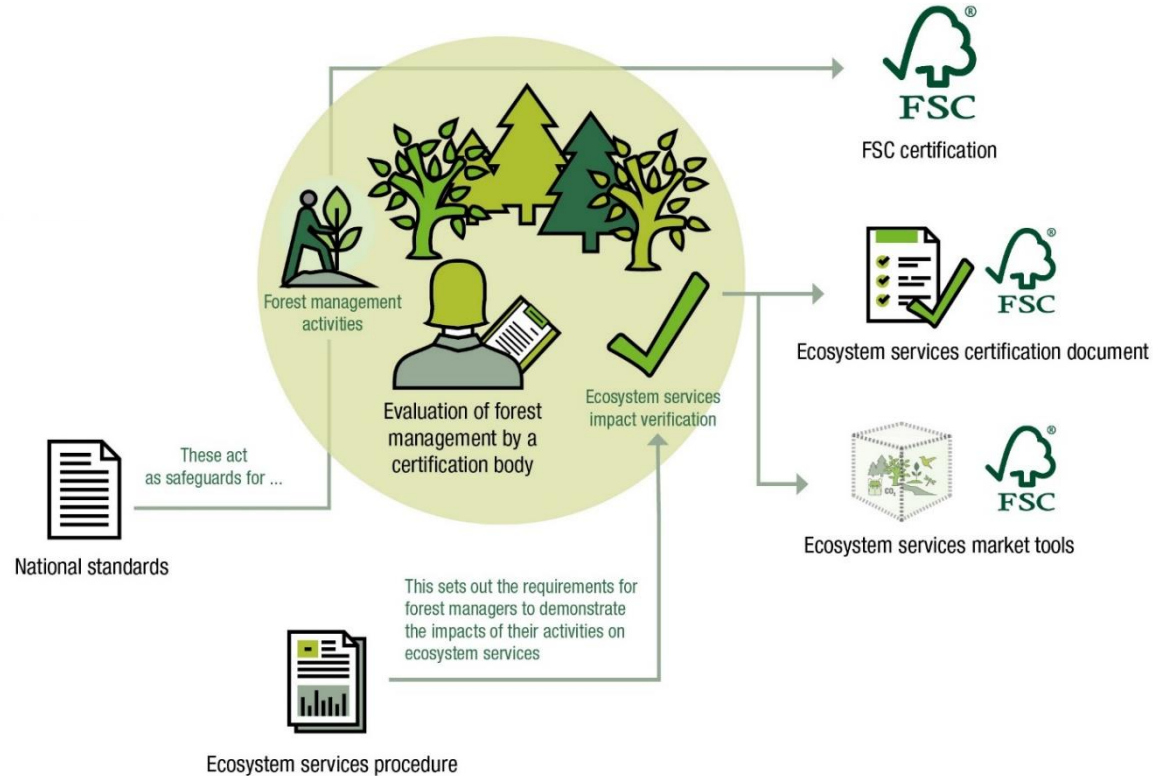
■ Largest FSC-certified forest areas in the world (by country)





2. Verify ecosystem services impacts

Draft Ecosystem Services Procedure can be used to **verify impacts on carbon, water, biodiversity, soil and recreational services.**





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3. Verified impacts will give rise to FSC ecosystem services claims

- Claims can be communicated by forest managers or sponsors
- Claims and sponsorships will be recorded in FSC certificate database
- Claims can be used as is, or used to confirm co-benefits associated with carbon credits.





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Part 2

What are the features and benefits of the emissions units generated by your programme, mechanism or project, including the means to ensure their quality?



Features of FSC ecosystem services claims

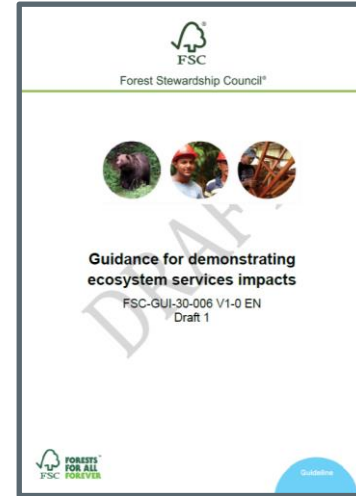
- System is not yet operational: expected approval in March 2018
- Impacts must be achieved (not forward-looking)
- Impacts re-evaluated every five years
- No requirement for financial additionality
- Carbon claims support **results-based payments**; they do not lead to carbon credits and cannot be used for offsetting:
 - Conservation of forest carbon stocks
 - Restoration of forest carbon stocks
- FSC ecosystem services claims may be listed in external carbon registries as verification of co-benefits





Measures to ensure quality

- FSC sets requirements for demonstrating impact
- FSC provides guidance including credible methodologies
- Compliance with requirements and verification of evidence done by **FSC-accredited certification bodies**
- Rules developed with technical working group including forest managers, certification bodies, and carbon certification systems (Gold Standard and Verified Carbon Standards)





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Part 3

Where can potential buyers purchase the emissions units generated by your programme, mechanism or project?



Purchasing FSC ecosystem services claims

Availability of ecosystem services claims will follow approval of the Ecosystem Services Procedure by FSC and use by forest managers

- Organizations may sponsor and promote verified impacts
- Transactions are independent from FSC
- FSC will maintain a database of ecosystem services impacts and sponsorships
- Purchasers of carbon credits will be able to ask for FSC ecosystem services claims as verified co-benefits





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Part 4

**How does your programme,
mechanism or project track the
use of emissions units?**



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Tracking emissions units

- FSC certificate database will record all verified ecosystem services impacts





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