



SGS QUALIFOR
(Associated Documents)

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SGS QUALIFOR FOREST MANAGEMENT STANDARD FOR SOUTH AFRICA 2015

This checklist presents the SGS Qualifor standard for forest certification against the FSC Principles and Criteria. This standard forms the basis for:

- Development of a regional standard
- Scoping assessment
- Certification assessment
- Surveillance assessment
- Information to stakeholders on the assessment criteria used by SGS Qualifor

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CHANGES SINCE THE PREVIOUS VERSION OF THE STANDARD

Section	Change	Date
	Changes throughout indicated in grey highlighting	14 March 2015



ADAPTATION OF STANDARD TO MEET LOCAL REQUIREMENTS AND THRESHOLDS

The objective of local adaptation of the SGS Qualifor standard is to:

- i. identify any aspects of the standard that may be in conflict with legal requirements in the area in which the standard is to be used, and if such a conflict is identified shall evaluate it for the purposes of certification in discussion with the involved or affected parties. Conflict only occurs where a legal obligation *prevents the implementation of* some aspect of the generic standard. It is not considered a conflict if the requirements of the generic standard exceed the minimum requirements for legal compliance;
- ii. identify any aspects of its generic standard, which specify performance thresholds lower than the minimum legal requirement in the country concerned. If any such differences are identified the relevant thresholds shall be modified to ensure that they meet or exceed the minimum national requirements.
- iii. add specific indicators (with appropriate means of verification if required) and/or cross-references to the identified documentation to evaluate compliance with key requirements of the national and local forest laws, administrative requirements and multi-lateral environmental agreements related to the FSC Principles 1 - 10.
- iv. take account of the national context with regards to forest management;
- v. take account of national environmental, social and economic perspectives;
- vi. ensure that the standard is applicable and practical in the country concerned;
- vii. ensure that the standard is applicable and practical to the size and intensity of management of the Forest Management Unit concerned;
- viii. address specific issues that are of general concern to any stakeholder group in the country concerned.

SGS QUALIFOR is not required to seek or develop a consensus with regard to the modification of our generic standard. SGS Qualifor will however make meaningful accommodation of stakeholder concerns and will be guided in this by:

- i. our knowledge of the indicators and means of verification that have been included in other, FSC-accredited, regional, national or sub-national standards, with regard to the issues raised;
- ii. advice provided in writing by the FSC National Initiative in the country concerned as to the likelihood that a proposed modification would have the support of the majority of the members of each chamber of an FSC working group active in that country;
- iii. advice provided in writing by an FSC Regional Office covering the country concerned, as to the likelihood that a proposed modification would have the support for the majority of FSC members of each chamber in the region.
- iv. the scale and intensity of forest management.

SGS QUALIFOR should be able to demonstrate that the requirements of the locally adapted generic standard are broadly in line with the requirements of other FSC-accredited national standards applicable to similar forest types in the region, and with any guidance received from an FSC National Initiative in the country concerned.

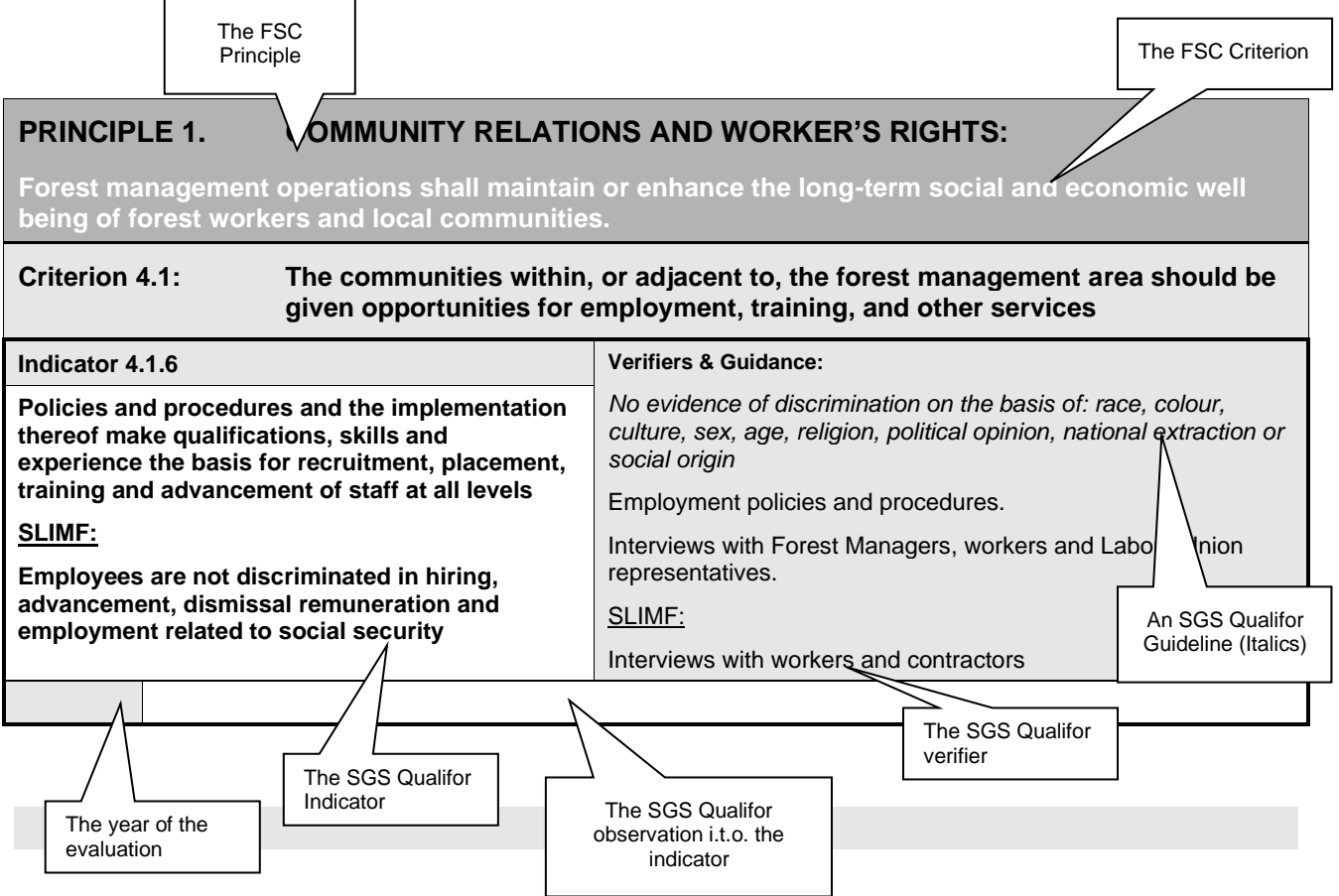
SGS Qualifor is not required to make further changes to the locally adapted standard used for an evaluation during the period of validity of the certificate except as necessary to bring it into compliance with any FSC Policies, Standards, Guidance or Advice Notes subsequently approved by FSC.

LAYOUT OF THE STANDARD:

The standard follows the FSC Principles and Criteria of Forest Stewardship (January, 2000). The Standard is divided into 10 sections, each corresponding to one of the FSC principles with the criteria listed underneath each principle. Refer below for further clarification.

Each page of the standard is divided into 3 columns. The standard also serves as the checklist that is used during an assessment and for every criterion the following is provided:

The Qualifor Requirement: Indicator <i>All local adaptations or additions are indicated in red.</i>	This outlines the norm or indicators that Qualifor requires for compliance with the specific FSC criterion. A potential source of information or evidence that allows an auditor to evaluate compliance with an indicator. Some indicators make a distinction between the requirements for “normal” forests and SLIMF operations (Small and Low Intensity Managed Forests).
Verifiers	Verifiers are examples of what the SGS assessor will look for to ascertain if the specific norm or indicator has been met. This list is not exhaustive and the assessor may use other means of verifying the relevant indicator.
Guidance	Guidance is written in <i>italics</i> and assists the assessor in understanding the requirement of the specific indicator.



THE STANDARD

PRINCIPLE 1. COMPLIANCE WITH LAWS AND FSC PRINCIPLES:

Forest management shall respect all applicable laws of the country in which they occur and international treaties and agreements to which the country is a signatory, and comply with all FSC Principles and Criteria

Criterion 1.1 Forest management shall respect all national and local laws and administrative requirements

<p>Indicator 1.1.1</p> <p>There is no evidence of significant non-compliance with all national and local laws and administrative requirements</p>	<p>Verifiers & Guidance:</p> <p>Interviews with and information supplied by regulatory authorities, other stakeholders and Forest Managers.</p> <p>Control of required legal documentation. policies, operational procedures and standards demonstrate compliance with requirements.</p> <p><u>SLIMF:</u></p> <p>The forest manager knows what the legislation requires.</p> <p>Field observation and documentation available show that legislation is being complied with in-field.</p> <p><i>A legal non-compliance will be considered "significant" if:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>i. it has been allowed to persist or remain for a period of time that would normally have allowed detection; and/or</i> <i>ii. it is an intentional or a blatant/self-evident disregard for the law.</i> <p><i>A legal non-compliance will not be considered "significant" if the deviation is short-term, unintentional and without significant damage to the environment.</i></p> <p><i>See Appendix A for list of South African applicable laws, regulations and guidelines.</i></p>
<p>Indicator 1.1.2</p> <p>Forest managers shall demonstrate awareness and compliance with relevant codes of practice, operational guidelines and other accepted norms or agreements.</p>	<p>Verifiers & Guidance:</p> <p>Interviews with Forest Managers and field observations.</p> <p>List of applicable laws, regulations and national guidelines.</p> <p><i>See Appendix A for list of South African applicable laws, regulations and guidelines.</i></p>
<p>Criterion 1.2 All applicable and legally prescribed fees, royalties, taxes and other charges shall be paid</p>	
<p>Indicator 1.2.1</p> <p>There is evidence that required payments have been made.</p>	<p>Verifiers & Guidance:</p> <p>Invoices, tax returns, receipts.</p> <p>Interviews with and information supplied by regulatory authorities and other stakeholders.</p> <p>No evidence of non-payment</p> <p><i>Check valid water use licences for Stream Flow Reduction Activities (section 36 of NWA, 1998) and Municipal Property Rates.</i></p>

Indicator 1.2.2	Verifiers & Guidance:
Provision has been made to meet the costs of future fees	Specific provisions in financial planning and long-term budgets. <u>SLIMF:</u> Forest manager can explain how future costs will be provided for.
Criterion 1.3	In signatory countries, the provisions of all the binding international agreements such as CITES, ILO conventions, ITTA, and Convention on Biological Diversity, shall be respected.
Indicator 1.3.1	Verifiers & Guidance:
There is implementation of the requirements of the Convention of International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES) and controls in place to ensure continuing compliance with such <u>SLIMF:</u> There is awareness of any local species that are covered by the requirements of the Convention of International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES) and controls in place to ensure continuing compliance with such	Interviews with Forest Managers Operational documentation Required licenses are in place <i>South Africa is a signatory to CITES. The National Environmental Management: Biodiversity Act (Act 10 of 2004) encapsulates the obligations of CITES and Schedule B2 of the List of Threatened and Protected Species (in terms of section 56(1) of the Act) makes reference to all species listed in the Appendices of CITES as "Other Protected Species".</i>
Indicator 1.3.2	Verifiers & Guidance:
Forest Managers have implemented controls to ensure continuing compliance with the International Labour Organisation (ILO) conventions that apply to their operations. ILO 87 and 98 are minimum requirements for certification. <u>SLIMF:</u> Forest Managers have implemented controls to ensure continuing compliance with national legislation relating to labour matters	Interviews with Forest Managers, workers, contractors, labour unions and regulatory authorities. Review of policies, procedures and personnel records. <u>SLIMF:</u> Forest Managers are aware of the requirements and there is no objective evidence of non-compliance. <i>South Africa is a signatory to the ILO. Current legislation encapsulates the requirements of ILO (see Appendix A).</i>
Indicator 1.3.3	Verifiers & Guidance:
(Not applicable to SLIMF) Forest Managers have implemented controls to ensure continuing compliance with ITTA.	Interviews with Forest Managers, regulatory authorities and other stakeholders. Review of policies, procedures and records
Indicator 1.3.4	Verifiers & Guidance:
(Not applicable to SLIMF) Forest Managers have implemented controls to ensure continuing compliance with the International Biodiversity Convention.	Interviews with Forest Managers, regulatory authorities and other stakeholders. Review of policies, procedures and records. <i>South Africa is a signatory to the International Biodiversity Convention. The National Environmental Management: Biodiversity Act (Act 10 of 2004) encapsulates the obligations of this convention.</i>

Criterion 1.4 Conflicts between laws, regulations and the FSC Principles and Criteria shall be evaluated for the purposes of certification, on a case-by-case basis, by the certifiers and the involved or affected parties	
Indicator 1.4.1	Verifiers & Guidance:
Any identified conflicts are brought to the attention of SGS and involved or affected parties.	<i>SGS will assess the conflict and advise on resolution thereof, where such were possible.</i> Interviews with Forest Managers and other stakeholders.
Criterion 1.5 Forest management areas should be protected from illegal harvesting, settlement and other unauthorised activities	
Indicator 1.5.1	Verifiers & Guidance:
Forest Managers have taken effective measures to monitor, identify and control illegal harvesting, settlement and other unauthorised activities. <i>1.5.1.1: The boundaries of the plantation or forest are identifiable and regularly checked for unauthorised / illegal activities.</i> <i>1.5.1.2: Programme to upgrade tenure security and address problems of illegal squatters is in place and being implemented.</i>	Field observations show no damage from unauthorised or illegal activities Manager's explanation of protection/ prevention activities e.g. signs, gates, patrols, etc Copies of reports made to the authorities of problem activities Boundaries are known to the manager and local communities and are easily identified in the field. Boundaries are marked in areas where there is a high risk of encroachment. <i>1.5.1.1: Prevention of Illegal Eviction from and Unlawful Occupation of Land Act (No 19 of 1998)</i> <i>Extension of Security of Tenure Act 67 of 1997.</i>
Indicator 1.5.2	Verifiers & Guidance:
There are adequate personnel and surveillance resources to control such activities	Staff records and records of security incidences Field observations provide no evidence of ongoing illegal activities <i>National PCI&S for SFM specifically request reporting the following information:</i> <i>What percentage of forest protection posts on staff establishment has been filled?</i> <i>Budget allocated to forest protection (cost per ha)?</i>
Criterion 1.6 Forest managers shall demonstrate a long-term commitment to adhere to the FSC Principles and Criteria	
Indicator 1.6.1	Verifiers & Guidance:
There is a publicly available policy endorsed by the owner/most senior management explicitly stating long term commitment to forest management practices consistent with the FSC Principles and Criteria <u>SLIMF:</u> The forest manager has plans to manage the forest in the long term in a way that is compatible with the FSC Principles and Criteria	Written policy with appropriate statement is available <u>SLIMF:</u> The management plan Plans (written or informal) for investment, training, and sharing of income or other benefits Past management has been compatible with the P&C
Indicator 1.6.2	Verifiers & Guidance:

<p>(Not applicable to SLIMF)</p> <p>The policy is communicated throughout the organisation (including to contractors) and to external stakeholders</p>	<p>Interviews with Forest Managers, workers and stakeholders.</p> <p>Evidence of distribution of policy to stakeholders.</p>
<p>Indicator 1.6.3</p> <p>Where the owner/manager has some responsibility for forest lands not covered by the certificate, then there is a clear long term commitment to managing all forests in the spirit of the FSC P&C</p>	<p>Verifiers & Guidance:</p> <p><i>The applicant for certification must make a full disclosure of all forest areas over which the applicant has some responsibility, whether as owner (including share or partial ownership), manager, consultant or other responsibility. The disclosure shall be documented in the main assessment report. You must record full details of ownership, forest name, type, area and location for each such forest. This information must be made available to stakeholders as part of the consultation process.</i></p> <p><i>When the evaluation does not include all the forest areas in which the applicant is involved, the applicant must explain the reasons for this, and the reasons must be documented in the main assessment report.</i></p> <p>Evidence of such other forest lands.</p> <p>Policies</p> <p>Interviews with Forest Managers.</p>
<p>Indicator 1.6.4</p> <p>Management of forest areas identified in terms of 1.6.3 complies with the latest FSC Partial Certification Policy</p>	<p>Verifiers & Guidance:</p> <p>Interviews with Forest Managers, policies, procedures and field observations.</p>
<p>PRINCIPLE 2. TENURE AND RIGHTS RESPONSIBILITIES:</p> <p>Long-term tenure and use rights to the land and forest resources shall be clearly defined, documented and legally established.</p>	
<p>Criterion 2.1 Clear evidence of long-term tenure and forest use rights to the land (e.g. land title, customary rights or lease agreements) shall be demonstrated</p>	
<p>Indicator 2.1.1</p> <p>There is documentation showing the owner/manager's legal rights to manage the land and/or utilise forest resources</p>	<p>Verifiers & Guidance:</p> <p>Documentation with appropriate legal status.</p> <p>Maps clearly indicating the boundaries of the FMU.</p>
<p>Indicator 2.1.2</p> <p>The FMU is committed to long-term forest management of at least one rotation length or harvest cycle.</p>	<p>Verifiers & Guidance:</p> <p>Policies and management plans make clear reference to management objectives that support this indicator.</p>
<p>Indicator 2.1.3</p> <p>Where the Forest Manager does not have legal title, the owner/government does not impose constraints that prevent compliance with the SGS Qualifor standard or the objectives of the management plan.</p>	<p>Verifiers & Guidance:</p> <p>Provisions in agreement for tenure.</p> <p>FMU management plans.</p> <p>FMU long term strategies.</p>

Criterion 2.2		Local communities with legal or customary tenure or use rights shall maintain control, to the extent necessary to protect their rights or resources, over forest operations unless they delegate control with free and informed consent to other agencies.
Indicator 2.2.1	Verifiers & Guidance:	
All existing legal or customary tenure or use rights that local communities have within the FMU shall be documented and mapped	Documentation showing acknowledgement by forest management of such agreements and maps. Interviews with Forest Managers and consultation with local community representatives.	
Indicator 2.2.2	Verifiers & Guidance:	
Forest planning and operations will be subject to these tenure or use rights unless such have been delegated to other agencies.	Forest management plans Field observations	
Indicator 2.2.3	Verifiers & Guidance:	
Where communities have delegated control of their legal or customary tenure or use rights, or part thereof, this can be confirmed by documented agreements and/or interviews with representatives of the local communities	Written agreements. Free and informed consent communicated by representatives of local communities. Clear evidence of payment for tenure or use rights.	
Indicator 2.2.4	Verifiers & Guidance:	
Allocation, by local communities, of duly recognized legal or customary tenure or use rights to other parties is documented, with evidence of free and informed consent	Interviews with local communities. Written agreements. Free and informed consent communicated by representatives of local communities.	
Indicator 2.2.5	Verifiers & Guidance:	
The forest is accessible to local rights holders to the extent that the forest's ecological function is not jeopardised.	Management Plans Interviews with local communities.	
Indicator 2.2.6	Verifiers & Guidance:	
Monitoring results show no significant impacts caused by access taking place in terms of 2.2.5.	Monitoring records Inspection of areas/resources where access and/or use has taken place.	
Criterion 2.3		Appropriate mechanisms shall be employed to resolve disputes over tenure claims and use rights. The circumstances and status of any outstanding disputes will be explicitly considered in the certification evaluation. Disputes of substantial magnitude involving a significant number of interests will normally disqualify an operation from being certified
Indicator 2.3.1	Verifiers & Guidance:	
Documented procedures to resolve tenure claims and use right disputes are in place where any potential for such conflicts does exist	Documented procedures. Interviews with Forest Managers and consultation with representatives of local communities.	

<p>SLIMF:</p> <p>There are no major unresolved disputes relating to tenure and use rights in the forest. Disputes or grievances are being resolved using locally accepted mechanisms and institutions.</p> <p>Measures are taken to avoid damage to other peoples' use rights or property, resources, or livelihoods. Where accidental damage occurs, fair compensation is provided.</p> <p>2.3.1.1: Mechanisms to ensure effective communication between forest managers and tenant communities are in place</p>	<p>Documented procedures are available that allow for a process that could generally be regarded as open and acceptable to all parties with an objective of achieving agreement and consent through fair consultation. Procedures should allow for impartial facilitation and resolution.</p> <p>SLIMF:</p> <p>Interviews with Forest Manager and local community groups</p> <p><i>Extension of Security of Tenure Act (Act 67 of 1997) and the interim Protection of Informal Land Rights Act (Act 31 of 1996).</i></p> <p><i>Land Reform Act (Act 3 of 1996)</i></p> <p><i>Restitution of Land Rights Act (Act 22 of 1994)</i></p>
<p>Indicator 2.3.2</p> <p>The Forest Manager shall maintain a record of disputes and the status of their resolution, including evidence related to the dispute and documentation of steps taken to resolve the dispute.</p>	<p>Verifiers & Guidance:</p> <p>Documented records of disputes</p> <p><i>Indicator 11.1 of National PCI&S for SFM: the number of disputes is decreasing and the forest owner or manager is compliant with the Extension of Security of Tenure Act (Act 67 of 1997) and the interim Protection of Informal Land Rights Act (Act 31 of 1996).</i></p>
<p>Indicator 2.3.3</p> <p>Unresolved tenure and/or use right disputes that are of a substantial magnitude and involving a significant number of interests should disqualify an operation from being certified.</p>	<p>Verifiers & Guidance:</p> <p><i>Magnitude of a dispute may be assessed by considering the scale at a landscape level associated with the opinion of a majority of community representatives and/or the time period over which the dispute has been in place</i></p> <p>Interviews with Forest Managers and consultation with representatives of local communities.</p> <p>Complete record of a history of disputes.</p>
<p>Indicator 2.3.4</p> <p>(Not applicable to SLIMF)</p> <p>Dispute resolution procedures shall make provision for the requirement that where the future tenure or use rights of communities may be compromised, forest operations that are, or may be the direct cause of the dispute, will not be initiated or will be suspended until the dispute had been resolved.</p>	<p>Verifiers & Guidance:</p> <p>Interviews with Forest Managers and consultation with representatives of local communities.</p> <p>Complete record of a history of disputes.</p>
<p>PRINCIPLE 3. INDIGENOUS PEOPLES' RIGHTS:</p> <p>The legal and customary rights of indigenous peoples to own, use and manage their lands, territories, and resources shall be recognised and respected.</p>	
<p>Criterion 3.1 Indigenous peoples shall control forest management on their lands and territories unless they delegate control with free and informed consent to other agencies.</p>	
<p>Indicator 3.1.1</p> <p>The identity, location and population of all indigenous peoples, including migratory groups, living in the vicinity of the management area are documented by the forest managers.</p>	<p>Verifiers & Guidance:</p> <p>Management plans and maps.</p> <p>Consultation with representatives of indigenous peoples.</p>

Indicator 3.1.2	Verifiers & Guidance:
All rights and claims to lands, territories or customary rights within the management area are documented and/or clearly mapped.	Management plans and maps. Consultation with representatives of indigenous peoples.
Indicator 3.1.3	Verifiers & Guidance:
Rights identified in terms of Indicator 3.1.1 are respected.	Consultation with representatives of indigenous peoples.
Indicator 3.1.4	Verifiers & Guidance:
Forest management operations do not take place in areas identified in Indicator 3.1.3 above, without clear evidence of the free and informed consent of the indigenous or traditional peoples claiming such land, territory or customary rights.	<i>Affected communities should have the financial, technical and logistical capacity to enable "free and informed consent"</i> Consultation with representatives of indigenous peoples. No evidence of disputes. Evidence that agreed payments for use right and/or resources are being made.
Criterion 3.2	Forest management shall not threaten or diminish, either directly or indirectly, the resources or tenure rights of indigenous peoples
Indicator 3.2.1	Verifiers & Guidance:
Any impacts of forest management on indigenous communities' resources or tenure rights are identified and recorded <u>SLIMF:</u> Any impacts of forest management on indigenous communities' resources or tenure rights are identified and known by the Forest Manager	Records or impact assessments. Consultation with representatives of indigenous peoples
Indicator 3.2.2	Verifiers & Guidance:
Indigenous peoples are explicitly informed of any impacts that forest management may have on their resources or tenure rights	Records of meetings. Consultation with indigenous peoples
Indicator 3.2.3	Verifiers & Guidance:
Forest Management will not proceed without clear evidence of the free and informed consent of the indigenous peoples claiming such land, territory or customary rights, accepting impacts identified in terms of Indicator 3.2.1. Where disputes arise post facto, operations affecting these rights will be suspended until such dispute had been resolved	Consultation with representatives of indigenous peoples. Records of dispute resolution
Indicator 3.2.4	Verifiers & Guidance:
Actions are taken to prevent or mitigate adverse impacts	Field inspections and records of corrective actions

Criterion 3.3		Sites of special cultural, ecological, economic or religious significance to indigenous peoples [and other sections of the community] shall be clearly identified in co-operation with such peoples, and recognised and protected by forest managers.
Indicator 3.3.1	Sites of special cultural, historical, ecological, economic or religious significance are identified, described and mapped in co-operation with affected indigenous people.	Verifiers & Guidance: Interviews with Forest Managers and consultation with stakeholders. Records and maps. Refer also to Indicator 7.1.1
	SLIMF: Sites of special cultural, historical, ecological, economic or religious significance have been identified and any special requirements are known.	<i>These sites are also referred to as "SMZs" (special management zones) in the Environmental guidelines for commercial forestry plantations in South Africa (Aug 2002). Such sites are protected in terms of the National Heritage Resources Act (No. 25 of 1999). They may not be destroyed, damaged, disfigured, excavated, altered, removed from their original site or exported from the Republic without a permit from the South African Heritage Resources Agency (SAHRA)</i>
Indicator 3.3.2	Management objectives and prescriptions are developed (and documented) in co-operation with affected indigenous people	Verifiers & Guidance: Management plans and documents. Consultation with stakeholders
	SLIMF: Clear management objectives have been identified. 3.3.2.1: A buffer of at least 5m should be maintained around SMZs. If there is potential for damage during operational activities, the distance should be increased to exclude such impacts.	SLIMF: Interviews with the Forest Manager and field observations <i>According to the Environmental guidelines for commercial forestry plantations in South Africa (Aug 2002). An SMZ is considered a "no go" area. As such, no activity may be conducted in an SMZ other than for its maintenance or wise use.</i>
Indicator 3.3.3	Such areas are identified in working plans and demarcated in the field where this is considered appropriate	Verifiers & Guidance: Operational plans and maps and field observation
Indicator 3.3.4	All operators and contractors can identify such sites in the field	Verifiers & Guidance: Interviews with operators and field observations. Consultation with stakeholders
Indicator 3.3.5	Measures are in place to prevent any form of damage or disturbance, other than such agreed with affected indigenous people	Verifiers & Guidance: Interviews with operators and field observations. Consultation with stakeholders
Indicator 3.3.6	Right of access to these areas is permitted	Verifiers & Guidance: Consultation with stakeholders <i>See Indicator 12.2 of National PCI&S of SFM: Number of complaints (verbal or written) regarding services supplied by significant sites or the condition and adequacy of such sites is</i>

	<i>recorded and attended to.</i>
Criterion 3.4	Indigenous peoples shall be compensated for the application of their traditional knowledge regarding the use of forest species or management systems in forest operations. This compensation shall be formally agreed upon with their free and informed consent before forest operations commence.
Indicator 3.4.1	Verifiers & Guidance:
Indigenous peoples' traditional knowledge regarding the use of forest species or management systems in forest operations , which is being, or may be, utilised commercially by the forest organisation, is documented	Documented records. Consultation with indigenous peoples.
SLIMF: Indigenous peoples' traditional knowledge regarding the use of forest species or management systems in forest operations , which is being, or may be, utilised commercially by the forest organisation, have been identified	SLIMF: Interviews with Forest Manager and indigenous peoples/local communities
Indicator 3.4.2	Verifiers & Guidance:
Indigenous peoples shall be fully informed of the intent and nature of the use of their traditional knowledge by the assessed organisation. Such use will not proceed until indigenous peoples have agreed with free consent	Records of meetings with representatives of indigenous peoples. Consultation with representatives of indigenous peoples. Agreements.
Indicator 3.4.3	Verifiers & Guidance:
If such traditional knowledge is used for profit by the assessed organisation (or any other organisation under an agreement with the assessed organisation) compensation is formally agreed before such knowledge is used	Agreements. Consultation with representatives of indigenous peoples
Indicator 3.4.4	Verifiers & Guidance:
All agreed compensation is paid	Financial records SLIMF: Interviews with indigenous peoples/local communities
PRINCIPLE 4. COMMUNITY RELATIONS AND WORKER'S RIGHTS:	
Forest management operations shall maintain or enhance the long-term social and economic well being of forest workers and local communities.	
Criterion 4.1	The communities within, or adjacent to, the forest management area should be given opportunities for employment, training, and other services
Indicator 4.1.1	Verifiers & Guidance:
People in local communities are given opportunities in employment, training and contracting	Interviews with Forest Managers and workers. Consultation with representatives of local communities and labour unions.
SLIMF:	

<p>Local workers and contractors should be used wherever possible</p>	<p>Training strategies.</p> <p>Job advertisements in local publications</p> <p><i>Employment Equity Act (Act 55 of 1998)</i></p> <p><i>The National PCI&S of SFM require the following information:</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <i>Percentage of staff positions filled ?</i> 2. <i>Percentage of labour force employed from local areas?</i> 3. <i>Analysis of work force to indicate distribution (%) of race, gender and disability within the occupational categories.</i> 4. <i>Is the Communication of forest opportunities in a language commonly spoken by the target group and what media is used to communicate?</i>
<p>Indicator 4.1.2</p> <p>In <u>large scale organisations</u>, contracts are awarded through a transparent process on the basis of clear criteria; justification for final selections is documented</p> <p><i>4.1.2.1: Retrenchees to be given equal or preferential opportunities for contracts.</i></p>	<p>Verifiers & Guidance:</p> <p>Interviews with contractors.</p> <p>Policies and procedures of the assessed organisation.</p> <p>Documentation on contracting of services.</p> <p><i>Labour Relations Act 66 of 1995.</i></p>
<p>Indicator 4.1.3</p> <p>In <u>large scale organisations</u> training and/or other appropriate forms of assistance to local people and workers to meet the organisation's long-term staffing requirements are developed and supported.</p> <p><i>4.1.3.1: There is adequate training and other support for emerging contractors (Not required for SLIMF)</i></p>	<p>Verifiers & Guidance:</p> <p>Workers include: employees, contractors, sub-contractors, and any other persons carrying out forestry work on the forest management unit.</p> <p>Long-term training plans.</p> <p>Interviews with Forest Managers and workers.</p> <p><i>Skills Development Act (Act 97 of 1998)</i></p> <p><i>Skills Development Levies Act (Act 9 of 1999)</i></p>
<p>Indicator 4.1.4</p> <p>(Not applicable to SLIMF)</p> <p>Support is provided for local infrastructure and facilities at a level appropriate to the scale of the forest resources</p>	<p>Verifiers & Guidance:</p> <p><i>Service provision and support for local infrastructure, facilities should, as a minimum, be consistent with meeting management plan objectives over the long term (e.g. provision of basic health, education and training facilities where these do not exist) as well as avoiding or mitigating any negative social impacts of the operations.</i></p> <p>Consultation with representatives of local communities</p> <p>Provision of training; schooling; medical; facilities; housing; accommodation</p> <p><i>National PCI&S for SFM require reporting on the number of forestry related SMMEs in the area and the number of these owned by local people.</i></p>
<p>Indicator 4.1.5</p> <p>Where practicable, communities are given controlled access to forest and non-forest products on the FMU</p>	<p>Verifiers & Guidance:</p> <p>Interviews with Forest Managers and local communities.</p> <p>Evidence of controlled harvesting activities</p>

Indicator 4.1.6	Verifiers & Guidance:
<p>Policies and procedures and the implementation thereof make qualifications, skills and experience the basis for recruitment, placement, training and advancement of staff at all levels</p> <p><u>SLIMF:</u></p> <p>Employees are not discriminated in hiring, advancement, dismissal remuneration and employment related to social security</p>	<p><i>No evidence of discrimination on the basis of: race, colour, culture, sex, age, religion, political opinion, national extraction or social origin</i></p> <p>Employment policies and procedures.</p> <p>Interviews with Forest Managers, workers and Labour Union representatives.</p> <p><u>SLIMF:</u></p> <p>Interviews with workers and contractors</p>
Indicator 4.1.7	Verifiers & Guidance:
<p>All employees, contractors and sub-contractors must be paid a fair wage and other benefits, which meet or exceed all legal requirements and those provided in comparable occupations in the same region</p> <p>4.1.7.1: Wage rates and benefits to conform with Sectoral Determination 12.</p>	<p>Benefits may include social security payments, pension, accommodation, food, etc.</p> <p>Records of payment</p> <p>Interviews with Forest Managers, workers and Labour Union representatives.</p> <p>System for internal auditing of contractor compliance with the provisions of the Sectoral Determination covering forest workers and employers must be in place. Auditing to cover compliance with all elements of the Determination, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - minimum wages and annual increases; - the manner of payment of wages, withholding of pay and deductions; - provision to employees of the particulars of employment ; - the number of working hours and extension of working hours; - overtime, compressed working weeks, work on Sunday's and night work; - stand by, meal intervals and rest periods and work on public holidays; - annual leave, sick leave, family responsibility leave and maternity leave; - termination of employment, payment on termination and severance pay; • employment contracts <p><i>Basic Conditions of Employment Act (Act 75 of 1997)</i></p> <p><i>Sectoral Determination 12: Forestry Sector No. R219 of 2006</i></p> <p><i>Unemployment Insurance Act (Act 30 of 1966)</i></p> <p><i>Compensation for occupational Injuries and Diseases Act (Act 130 of 1993)</i></p>
Indicator 4.1.8	Verifiers & Guidance:
<p>No workers shall be engaged in debt bondage or other forms of forced labour</p>	<p>Interviews with Forest Managers, workers and Labour Union representatives</p>
Indicator 4.1.9	Verifiers & Guidance:
<p>Persons under 15 years are not employed in any forestry work</p>	<p><i>National legislation may set higher minimum ages, but these ages are defined in ILO Convention 138 Article 3.</i></p> <p>Interviews with Forest Managers, workers and Labour Union</p>

	<p>representatives</p> <p>Observations in the work place.</p> <p><i>SA Schools Act (Act 84 of 1996)</i></p>
Indicator 4.1.10	Verifiers & Guidance:
<p>Persons under 18 years shall not be employed at night or to carry out heavy work or hazardous operations, e.g. pesticide application, harvesting, except for the purposes of training</p>	<p><i>Where children and young persons are to be removed from employment in order to comply with this requirement, criterion 4.4 on social impact assessment and mitigation will apply. Organisations are expected to carry out a social impact assessment of the displacement of children from the workplace and effectively mitigate that impact e.g. provide suitable alternative sources of family income and ensure the children have access to adequate education facilities.</i></p>
Criterion 4.2	Forest management should meet or exceed all applicable laws and/or regulations covering health and safety of employees and their families
Indicator 4.2.1	Verifiers & Guidance:
<p>Forest Managers are aware of laws and/or regulations covering health and safety of employees and their families</p>	<p><i>Forestry operations should follow the ILO Code of Practice on Safety and Health in Forestry.</i></p> <p>Interviews with Forest Managers, workers and union representatives.</p> <p>Guidelines/regulations are readily available.</p> <p>Labour directives and inspection reports.</p> <p>Company OHS records</p> <p><i>Occupational Health and Safety Act (Act 85 of 1993)</i></p> <p><i>FESA's South African Chainsaw Safety and Operating handbook and the South African Cable Yarding Safety and Operating Handbook.</i></p> <p><i>Responsible Use Guide: AVCASA Crop Protection and Animal Health Association (October 2001) (Responsible Use of Agricultural Chemicals and Stock Remedies).</i></p>
Indicator 4.2.2	Verifiers & Guidance:
<p>Forest Managers comply with laws and/or regulations covering health and safety of employees and their families</p> <p>For large scale organisations a written safety and health policy and management system are in place</p>	<p><i>Forestry operations should follow the ILO Code of Practice on Safety and Health in Forestry.</i></p> <p>Interviews with Forest Managers, workers and union representatives.</p> <p>Guidelines/regulations are readily available.</p> <p>Labour directives and inspection reports.</p> <p>Company OHS records</p>
Indicator 4.2.3	Verifiers & Guidance:
<p>Forest Managers have systematically assessed the risk associated with all tasks and equipment</p> <p>In large scale organisations, compliance with this requirement shall be supported by documentation</p> <p>SLIMF:</p> <p>All work done in the forest must comply with</p>	<p>Interviews with Forest Managers, workers and union representatives.</p> <p>Documented risk assessments.</p> <p>SLIMF:</p> <p>Equipment is available to workers</p> <p>Interviews with Forest Managers and workers</p>

<u>health and safety laws and regulations</u>	Field observations <i>Specifically see the ILO Technical guidelines for Safety and health at the Forestry Worksite, 12 General provisions, and clauses 243-276.</i> <i>Risk assessment should include risks of exposure of workers to excessive UV radiation (ILO CoP on S&H in Forestry Work, 1998)</i>
Indicator 4.2.4 In terms of the risks identified (refer 4.2.3) safe procedures which include the use of personal protective equipment (PPE), emergency procedures and key responsibilities have been recorded. <u>SLIMF:</u> <u>All work done in the forest must comply with health and safety laws and regulations</u>	Verifiers & Guidance: Interviews with Forest Managers, workers and union representatives. Documented risk assessments and safety procedures. <u>SLIMF:</u> Equipment is available to workers Interviews with Forest Managers and workers Field observations
Indicator 4.2.5 All workers have had relevant training in safe working practice and where required, hold the necessary skills certificates.	Verifiers & Guidance: Interviews with Forest Managers and workers. Training schedules and records Copies of skills certificates. <i>Chainsaw operators and First Aid personnel must have formal, certificated training by recognised training institutes.</i> <i>Occupational Health and Safety Act 85 of 1993</i> <i>Security Officer's Amendment Act of 1997.</i>
Indicator 4.2.6 Forestry operations comply as a minimum, with the ILO Code of Practice on Safety and Health in Forestry	Verifiers & Guidance: Interviews with Forest Managers and workers <i>South Africa is a signatory to ILO. The FMU should have proof of access to the ILO Code of Practice on Safety and Health in Forestry Work (ILO1998).</i>
Indicator 4.2.7 All necessary tools, machines, substances and equipment, including appropriate PPE, are available at the worksite and are in safe and serviceable condition	Verifiers & Guidance: Interviews with Forest Managers and workers. Field observations. <i>UV Protection provided for workers based on risk assessment.</i> <i>An adequate supply of safe drinking water must be available at the worksite. For Physical work in hot climates, 1litre per person per hour may be required.</i> <i>First Aid kits must be available on site and adequately equipped</i>
Indicator 4.2.8 Managers take measures to ensure that workers use the PPE that is provided	Verifiers & Guidance: Interviews with Forest Managers and workers. Field observations

Indicator 4.2.9	Verifiers & Guidance:
<p>Health and safety records (including risk evaluations, accident records) are maintained and up-to-date</p> <p><u>SLIMF:</u></p> <p>Basic record is kept of health and safety related incidents</p>	<p>Records of accidents, incidents, instructions to supervisors and workers</p> <p><u>SLIMF:</u></p> <p>Records</p> <p>Interviews with Forest Manager and workers</p> <p><i>Indicator 16.1 of National PCI&S of SFM requires reporting on the Percentage of employees absent from work measured as a trend.</i></p> <p><i>Check that H&S records are maintained at the worksite (e.g. by First Aiders at the cutting site)</i></p>
Indicator 4.2.10	Verifiers & Guidance:
<p>Provision is made for medical assistance in case of an accident and/or injury during operations.</p>	<p><i>Emergency assistance needs to be provided to assist a worker in case of an injury sustained during operations. Communication and transport would be an important aspect of this assistance.</i></p> <p>Interviews with Forest Managers and workers</p>
Indicator 4.2.11	Verifiers & Guidance:
<p>All employees and contractors and their families have access to adequate local medical facilities while working on the FMU.</p>	<p>Interviews with Forest Managers and workers</p> <p><i>Access to "local medical facilities" would normally mean that where a clinic is not available on the FMU, employees, contractors and their families would have the means of getting to the nearest facility. Where public transport is not readily available, the Forest Manager should assist to get such persons to the nearest medical facility and more so in emergency situations.</i></p>
Indicator 4.2.12	Verifiers & Guidance:
<p>Where located and provided on the FMU worker accommodation and nutrition comply, as a minimum, with the ILO Code of Practice on Safety and Health in Forestry.</p> <p>4.2.12.1: The use of rivers/streams for washing (personal hygiene and clothes) is discouraged</p> <p>4.2.12.2: Consideration should be given to cultural traditions in the design and type of facilities provided</p> <p>4.2.12.3: Quality of drinking water should be monitored (unless it is municipal water)</p> <p>4.2.12.4: Training and awareness education should cover aspects such as literacy, hygiene, health, maintenance and protection of surrounding natural assets</p>	<p>Interviews with Managers and workers</p> <p>Inspection of facilities</p> <p><i>Specific attention to the availability of potable and adequate water supply, adequate ablution facilities and space (no overcrowding). Permits are necessary for waste sites and for sewage and water treatment plants.</i></p> <p><i>See Environmental Guidelines for Commercial Forestry Plantations in South Africa (Aug 2002) on Village Management'.</i></p>
Indicator 4.2.13	Verifiers & Guidance:
<p>There is evidence of a programme on the FMU that raises awareness of illnesses and diseases endemic to the area that affect forest workers or their families.</p> <p>For large scale organisations there is contribution towards or provision of a</p>	<p>Interviews with Forest Managers and workers.</p> <p>Interviews with social NGOs.</p> <p>Records of support.</p> <p>Health statistics for the region.</p>

<p>prevention and control programme for any illnesses and diseases endemic to the area that affect forest workers or their families</p> <p>SLIMF:</p> <p>There is evidence of a basic programme on the FMU that raises awareness of illnesses and diseases endemic to the area that affect workers or their families</p> <p>4.2.13.1: Evidence of implementation of an HIV/AIDS strategy.</p>	<p>SLIMF:</p> <p>Interviews with forest manager and workers</p> <p><i>In South Africa, waterborne diseases (e.g. cholera, bilharzia) in rural areas also pose an immense threat, as does gastro-enteritis (lack of clean water for washing) and Malaria. These threats are common in forestry areas, hence the need for such awareness too.</i></p>
<p>Criterion 4.3 The rights of the workers to organise and voluntarily negotiate with their employers shall be guaranteed as outlined in Conventions 87 and 98 of the International Labour Organisation (ILO).</p>	
<p>Indicator 4.3.1</p> <p>Workers are free to organise and or join a trade union of their choice without fear of intimidation or reprisal. This will at a minimum comply with the requirements of the ILO Convention No. 87: Convention concerning Freedom of Association and Protection of the Right to Organise</p>	<p>Verifiers & Guidance:</p> <p>Interviews with Forest Managers, workers and labour union representatives.</p> <p><i>Check that labour unions are included on the stakeholder's list (see 4.4.3).</i></p> <p><i>Labour Relations Act (Act 66 of 1995)</i></p> <p><i>Labour Relations Amendment Act of 1997.</i></p>
<p>Indicator 4.3.2</p> <p>Workers are free to organise and bargain collectively. This will at a minimum comply with the requirements of International Labour Organisation convention 98, Convention concerning the Application of the Principles of the Right to Organise and to Bargain Collectively</p>	<p>Verifiers & Guidance:</p> <p>Interviews with Forest Managers, workers and labour union representatives</p> <p><i>Proof of access to ILO Convention No. 98.</i></p>
<p>Indicator 4.3.3</p> <p>There is an effective mechanism in place to provide information to, and enable the participation of workers in decision-making where this directly affects their working terms and conditions</p> <p>SLIMF:</p> <p>Workers or their representatives are accepted as participants in decision making</p>	<p>Verifiers & Guidance:</p> <p>Interviews with Forest Managers, workers and labour union representatives</p>
<p>Criterion 4.4 Management planning and operations shall incorporate the results of evaluations of social impact. Consultations shall be maintained with people and groups (both men and women) directly affected by management operations.</p>	
<p>Indicator 4.4.1</p> <p>In conjunction with the local stakeholders affected (both men and women) and in accordance with the scale and intensity of management, the social, socio-economic, spiritual and cultural impacts of forest operations are evaluated.</p> <p>For <u>large scale organisations</u>, these impacts</p>	<p>Verifiers & Guidance:</p> <p><i>New operations will normally be subjected to formal impact assessments and these assessments must include the social environment. For ongoing operations it will be necessary to maintain communication with stakeholders and thus ensure the Forest Manager is aware of any current and/or potential impacts. Management plans must provide mitigatory measures to address such impacts, e.g. problems with dust or noise caused by operations are known and planning is adjusted to reduce or</i></p>

<p>shall be documented</p> <p><u>SLIMF (Small Forests):</u></p> <p>Anyone who is likely to be directly affected by an operation is informed and has an opportunity to comment.</p> <p>The forest manager must try to avoid negative impacts of operations.</p> <p><u>SLIMF (Low Intensity Forests):</u></p> <p>The forest manager proactively seeks assistance from external organizations to carry out an assessment of social impacts and/or social impact monitoring and uses the results to plan future management.</p>	<p><i>negate such</i></p> <p>Interviews with Forest Managers and local communities.</p> <p><u>SLIMF (Small Forests):</u></p> <p>Discussions with neighbours and forest manager</p> <p>Copies of newspaper advertisements, letters, posters and signs used to inform people of operations.</p> <p><u>SLIMF (Low Intensity Forests):</u></p> <p>Copies of Social Impact Assessment reports</p> <p>Evidence of changes in management following results of an Social Impact Assessment <u>or</u> monitoring of social impacts.</p> <p><i>National PCI&S for SFM require reporting on the number of people that leave the organisation within a year, expressed as a percentage of the total staff complement (trend from year to year?) as well as measures to be taken and support to be given to mitigate the negative effects of retrenchments.</i></p>
<p>Indicator 4.4.2</p> <p>(Not applicable to SLIMF)</p> <p>Adverse impacts, opportunities for positive impact and areas of potential conflict identified by evaluations are adequately addressed in plans</p>	<p>Verifiers & Guidance:</p> <p>Interviews with Forest Managers and local communities.</p> <p>Management plans</p>
<p>Indicator 4.4.3</p> <p>An up-to-date list of stakeholders is maintained</p>	<p>Verifiers & Guidance:</p> <p>Records</p> <p>Consultation with stakeholders</p>
<p>Indicator 4.4.4</p> <p>(Not applicable to SLIMF)</p> <p>There is adequate and ongoing consultation with stakeholders (local people, workers and relevant organisations); in particular, stakeholders are aware that forest management plans and monitoring results are available for inspection, if high impact operations are planned, and that the FMU is being evaluated/monitored for certification</p> <p><i>4.4.4.1: A responsible person is appointed/identified to attend to stakeholder issues.</i></p>	<p>Verifiers & Guidance:</p> <p>Records</p> <p>Consultation with stakeholders and interviews with Forest Managers</p> <p><i>National PCI&S of SFM require the following evidence of active participation (includes records, minutes etc of interaction events) and evidence of capacity building processes.</i></p> <p><i>Availability of information in a format that is understandable to stakeholders in the participation process.</i></p>
<p>Indicator 4.4.5</p> <p>Issues raised by stakeholders are treated constructively and objectively</p>	<p>Verifiers & Guidance:</p> <p>Records</p> <p>Consultation with stakeholders and interviews with Forest Managers</p>
<p>Indicator 4.4.6</p> <p>In <u>large scale operations</u>, communications with stakeholders on issues that require action and follow-up shall be documented</p>	<p>Verifiers & Guidance:</p> <p>Documentation of communication</p>

Criterion 4.5		Appropriate mechanisms shall be employed for resolving grievances and for providing fair compensation in the case of loss or damage affecting the legal or customary rights, property, resources or livelihoods of local peoples. Measures shall be taken to avoid such loss or damage	
Indicator 4.5.1	Verifiers & Guidance:		
Every effort is made to resolve disputes through fair consultation aimed at achieving agreement and consent	Records Consultation with stakeholders and interviews with Forest Managers <i>Labour Relations Act (Act 66 of 1995)</i> <i>Labour Relations Amendment Act of 1997.</i>		
Indicator 4.5.2	Verifiers & Guidance:		
(Not applicable to SLIMF) Dispute resolution is clearly defined. System for resolving disputes includes legal requirements and is documented for <u>large scale operations</u>.	Documented dispute resolution Consultation with stakeholders and interviews with Forest Managers <i>Labour Relations Act (Act 66 of 1995) – Disciplinary Code of Practice</i> <i>Labour Relations Amendment Act of 1997</i>		
Indicator 4.5.3	Verifiers & Guidance:		
(Not applicable to SLIMF) Dispute resolution mechanism makes provision for compensations to local people in the case of loss or damage affecting their legal or customary rights, property, resources or livelihoods.	Records Consultation with stakeholders and interviews with Forest Managers		
Indicator 4.5.4	Verifiers & Guidance:		
(Not applicable to SLIMF) There is evidence that all payments agreed in terms of 4.5.3 have been made.	Records of payments Consultation with stakeholders and interviews with Forest Managers		
PRINCIPLE 5. BENEFITS FROM THE FOREST:			
Forest management operations shall encourage the efficient use of the forest's multiple products and services to ensure economic viability and a wide range of environmental and social benefits.			
Criterion 5.1		Forest management should strive towards economic viability, while taking into account the full environmental, social, and operational costs of production, and ensuring the investments necessary to maintain the ecological productivity of the forest	
Indicator 5.1.1	Verifiers & Guidance:		
Optimal use is made of the potential annual yield of forest products 5.1.1.1: Values of timber and utilised NTFPs recorded annually, and as a trend. SLIMF: 5.1.1.2: The Forest Manager is aware of the range and value of timber and utilised NTFPs and can	Annual plan of operations, budgets and financial statements. Yield estimates 5.1.1.1: See Indicator 7.3 of National PCI&S for SFM		

explain significant trends		
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Indicator 5.1.2	Verifiers & Guidance:	
<p>Current and future budgets include specific provision for environmental and social, as well as all operational costs</p> <p>SLIMF</p> <p>The Forest Manager is aiming to be in an economically viable situation which permits long term forest management</p>	<p><i>Income may be interpreted broadly as direct income from sales of forest products and indirect income from leisure/tourism, charitable fundraising, payments for environmental services rendered and subsidies.</i></p> <p>Financial planning records and statements.</p> <p>Interviews with Forest Managers</p>	
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Indicator 5.1.3	Verifiers & Guidance:	
<p>Investments are made to maintain the ecological productivity of the forest</p>	<p>Interviews with Forest Managers and environmental NGOs.</p> <p>Plans and maps.</p> <p>Observation of ecosystems.</p> <p><i>Indicator 4.2 of National PCI&S for SFM: Report on annual fire protection expenditure</i></p>	
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Criterion 5.2	Forest management and marketing operations should encourage the optimal use and local processing of the forest's diversity of products.	
Indicator 5.2.1	Verifiers & Guidance:	
<p>(Not applicable to SLIMF)</p> <p>The owner/manager should promote the development of markets for common, lesser known plantation-grown or natural forest species and non-timber forest products</p>	<p>Interviews with Forest Managers and consultation with local communities.</p>	
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Indicator 5.2.2	Verifiers & Guidance:	
<p>Local processing and markets are provided access to forest products available from the FMU, unless there is a justifiable reason for not doing so</p> <p>SLIMF</p> <p>Local processing is used where it is viable.</p>	<p>Interviews with Forest Managers and consultation with local communities.</p> <p>Evidence of opportunities to support local processing and markets.</p> <p>SLIMF:</p> <p>Details of sales of timber and information about local processing options.</p>	
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Criterion 5.3	Forest management should minimise waste associated with harvesting and on-site processing operations and avoid damage to other forest resources.	
Indicator 5.3.1	Verifiers & Guidance:	
<p>Strategic and tactical/operational harvest planning and harvest operations shall be carried out in accordance with national best practice guidelines (where these do not exist or are inadequate, for tropical high forest the FAO Model Code of Forest Harvesting Practice will apply)</p> <p>SLIMF:</p>	<p>Harvest plans</p> <p>Forest Managers' knowledge of local BOPs</p> <p>SLIMF:</p> <p>Field inspections</p> <p>Harvest records and sales volumes</p> <p><i>Consult Guideline for Forest Engineering Practices in South</i></p>	

<p>Wood waste and damage to the remaining forest during harvesting and on site processing are minimised.</p> <p>5.3.1.1: Strategic Plans (at least one rotation in the case of plantation forestry) are available and demonstrate sustainability of harvest.</p> <p>5.3.1.2: Tactical Plans (3-5 years) are available and incorporate the critical elements.</p> <p>5.3.1.3: The Annual Plan of Operations (APO) balances compartments and harvesting systems over a year.</p> <p>5.3.1.4: An operational harvesting plan is prepared for each harvesting site (compartment).</p> <p>RSA SLIMF:</p> <p>5.3.1.5: Strategic plans for at least one rotation are available, demonstrating sustainability.</p> <p>5.3.1.6: The Forest Manager can explain the Annual Plan of Operations in relation to the long term Strategic Plan.</p>	<p><i>Africa (FESA, May 1999) for comprehensive detail on harvest planning.</i></p> <p><i>Consult Harvesting Planning and Implementation section of Environmental Guidelines for Commercial Forestry plantations in South Africa (Aug 2002). These guidelines provide simple and clear recommendations for the elements that are required for tactical, annual and operational harvest plans in the South African context as well as environmental issues.</i></p>
<p>Indicator 5.3.2</p> <p>Harvesting techniques are designed to avoid log breakage, timber degradation and damage to the forest stand</p>	<p>Verifiers & Guidance:</p> <p>Interviews with Forest Managers, supervisors and workers.</p> <p>Observation of harvesting operations</p>
<p>Indicator 5.3.3</p> <p>Waste generated through harvesting operations, is minimised whilst leaving adequate organic material on the forest floor for soil conservation</p>	<p>Verifiers & Guidance:</p> <p><i>When timber products are removed from the stand sufficient material in the form of tops, branches and solid wood should remain behind to assist the natural nutrient cycle.</i></p> <p>Observation of harvesting and on-site processing operations.</p> <p><i>See "Silvicultural Practices" section of Environmental Guidelines for Commercial Forestry plantations in South Africa (Aug 2002) for Slash Management.</i></p>
<p>Indicator 5.3.4</p> <p>Harvested and processed wood and/or products processed on-site are transported from the forest before any deterioration occurs</p>	<p>Verifiers & Guidance:</p> <p>Observation of harvesting operations.</p> <p>Records of timber deliveries</p>
<p>Criterion 5.4 Forest management <u>should</u> strive to strengthen and diversify the local economy, avoiding dependence on a single forest product.</p>	
<p>Indicator 5.4.1</p> <p>The forest should be managed for more than one product, considering both timber and non-timber forest products, <u>commercial or non-commercial use</u></p> <p><u>SLIMF (Small Forests):</u></p> <p>Not applicable</p> <p><u>SLIMF (Low Intensity Forests):</u></p>	<p>Verifiers & Guidance:</p> <p>Interviews with Forest Managers.</p> <p>Forest management planning</p> <p><u>SLIMF (Low Intensity Forests):</u></p> <p>Sales records.</p> <p>Discussions with local communities and the forest manager</p>

<p>Forest management should aim to avoid dependence on a single forest product. Local initiatives involving the use, processing and or marketing of forest products are encouraged.</p>	
<p>Indicator 5.4.2</p> <p>Local initiatives involving the use, processing and/or marketing of forest products are encouraged.</p> <p>SLIMF (Small Forests):</p> <p>Not applicable</p> <p>SLIMF (Low Intensity Forests):</p> <p>Local initiatives involving the use, processing and or marketing of forest products are encouraged.</p>	<p>Verifiers & Guidance:</p> <p>Interviews with Forest Managers.</p> <p>Interviews with local service providers</p> <p>Forest management planning</p> <p>SLIMF (Low Intensity Forests):</p> <p>Sales records.</p> <p>Discussions with local communities and the forest manager</p>
<p>Indicator 5.4.3</p> <p>The utilisation of non-timber forest products by local community enterprises is encouraged</p>	<p>Verifiers & Guidance:</p> <p>Interviews with Forest Managers and consultation with local communities.</p> <p>Evidence of NTFP sales or licenses or permits issued.</p>
<p>Criterion 5.5 Forest management operations shall recognise, maintain and, where appropriate, enhance the value of forest services and resources such as watersheds and fisheries.</p>	
<p>Indicator 5.5.1</p> <p>Forest managers are aware of the range of forest services and resources</p>	<p>Verifiers & Guidance:</p> <p>Interviews with Forest Managers</p>
<p>Indicator 5.5.2</p> <p>Forest management practices minimise negative impacts on services and other forest resources</p>	<p>Verifiers & Guidance:</p> <p>Interviews with Forest Managers</p>
<p>Indicator 5.5.3</p> <p>Forest management practices maintain and where appropriate, enhance the value of forest services and resources:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Monitoring evidence that services and resources are maintained ▪ Practices to enhance services and resources are evident. 	<p>Verifiers & Guidance:</p> <p>Interviews with Forest Managers</p>
<p>Criterion 5.6 The rate of harvest of forest products shall not exceed levels, which can be permanently sustained.</p>	
<p>Indicator 5.6.1</p> <p>Data on forest growth, regeneration and volumes harvested and thinned are reported regularly and analysed in comparison with predicted volumes</p>	<p>Verifiers & Guidance:</p> <p>Evidence of enumerations, yield calculations and harvesting planning</p> <p>SLIMF:</p>

<p>and growth data (data accuracy is appropriate to scale and intensity of management)</p> <p>SLIMF (Small Forests):</p> <p>Harvest levels are sustainable over the long term (a period equivalent to the rotation length of the trees harvested). Note that annual harvest levels may vary hugely.</p> <p>SLIMF (Low Intensity Forests):</p> <p>Harvest limits are established at sustainable levels, based on conservative estimates of tree growth and yield rates. The harvest limits are stated in the management plan.</p>	<p>Management plan</p> <p>Field observations of harvesting sites compared to areas planned for harvesting.</p> <p>Maps of tree location</p> <p>Harvest and sales records and plans over the relevant time span.</p> <p>Data on likely or actual growth rates of species harvested.</p>
<p>Indicator 5.6.2</p> <p>Sustainable harvest and thinning intensities and frequencies have been calculated for the FMU based on the most up-to-date available information and do not exceed calculated replenishment rates over the long term.</p>	<p>Verifiers & Guidance:</p> <p>Timber resource planning</p>
<p>Indicator 5.6.3</p> <p>Authorised harvesting of non-timber forest products does not exceed calculated replenishment rates over the long term</p>	<p>Verifiers & Guidance:</p> <p>Management plans</p>
<p>PRINCIPLE 6. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT:</p> <p>Forest management shall conserve biological diversity and its associated values, water resources, soils, and unique and fragile ecosystems and landscapes, and, by so doing, maintain the ecological functions and the integrity of the forest.</p>	
<p>Criterion 6.1 Assessment of environmental impacts shall be completed - appropriate to the scale, intensity of forest management operations and the uniqueness of the affected resources - and adequately integrated into management systems. Assessments shall include landscape level considerations as well as the impacts of on-site processing facilities. Environmental impacts shall be assessed prior to commencement of site disturbing operations.</p>	
<p>Indicator 6.1.1</p> <p>(Not applicable to SLIMF)</p> <p>The owner/manager has systematically assessed the potential environmental impacts of all activities (including on-site processing facilities) carried out in the forest; the impacts of forest plans have been considered at the landscape level, taking account of the interaction with adjoining land and other nearby habitats. For large scale organisations, the results of these impact assessments shall be documented.</p>	<p>Verifiers & Guidance:</p> <p><i>For all operations or activities carried out on the FMU, there should be an evaluation of the possibility of the following potentially negative impacts being caused: soil erosion and compaction; changes to soil productivity; changes to invasive exotic, native or naturalised flora or fauna species abundance, diversity or distribution. Habitat fragmentation, pesticide, lubricant, nutrient or fertiliser pollution (by runoff, spray drift or spillage) and sedimentation of watercourses or water bodies; changes to water flow and drainage regimes of watercourses, water bodies, visual changes to prominent landscapes. Working Instruction 01 regarding on-site processing plants must be used as reference.</i></p> <p>Interviews with Forest Managers, environmental NGOs and government conservation agencies.</p> <p><i>See ICFR Handbook series No. 1/99 Site Damage and Long Term Site Productivity in Forestry Plantations in South Africa.</i></p>

	<p>Research briefs.</p> <p>Licences and permits.</p> <p><i>If the introduction of exotic fish is being considered (e.g. trout, bass, grass carp etc.), permission from the relevant Provincial Authority must be sought, and an impact assessment is necessary (see 6.1.2). If exotic animal species are introduced for biological control purposes, see 6.8.</i></p> <p><i>In the case of the introduction of livestock (cattle, sheep, goats), access to wetlands and watercourses and other sensitive areas must be prohibited/strictly controlled. Where communicators drive their cattle onto the FMU without permission, there must be evidence of action and communication with such communities to discourage this and/or to provide alternative grazing.</i></p>
<p>Indicator 6.1.2</p> <p>Site-specific assessments of the potential environmental impacts of all forest operations are carried out prior to commencement of site disturbing operations, in a manner appropriate to the scale of the operations and the sensitivity of the site. Where such activities are considered “significant”, these site-specific assessments are documented. “Significant” activities shall include, but not be restricted to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The building of new roads or substantial rerouting of existing roads; ▪ Any form of flow restriction in streams and rivers; ▪ Aforestation; ▪ Change in genus in the reforestation of more than 100 ha during the same planting season within an operational/management unit, where an FMU comprises more than one; ▪ Recreational activities and associated infrastructure ▪ Communication masts and associated infrastructure ▪ Power lines ▪ Water lines ▪ Change of natural vegetation to commercial or any other use. ▪ Erection of new fences ▪ Use of natural areas and products for commercial gain or any other purpose ▪ New waste disposal sites; ▪ Implementation of new/modified activities/products that may have significant impacts on the environment. <p><u>SLIMF (Small Forests):</u></p> <p>Before starting any operation, the possible negative environmental impacts are identified and the operation is designed to minimise them. Assessments do not need to be documented unless legally required</p> <p><u>SLIMF (Low Intensity Forests):</u></p> <p>Before starting any operation, the possible negative environmental impacts at the site and</p>	<p>Verifiers & Guidance:</p> <p>A “significant activity is an activity that has the potential to cause environmental impacts that are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Permanent or long term; or ▪ Affects a wide environment <p>An EIA is the formal procedure that is followed to collect, organise, analyse, interpret and communicate data that are relevant to making a decision. The procedure can however be followed as an informal assessment for a project such as the planning of a harvesting operation. The purpose of an EIA is to minimise negative impacts, ensure the conservation of important features and to enhance positive aspects of the project.</p> <p>Principles that a formal EIA should comply with are:</p> <p>Informed Decision Making: Decision-making should be based on reliable information.</p> <p>Accountability: Responsibilities must be clearly defined.</p> <p>Environment in the Broadest Sense: The environment includes all aspects (i.e. physical, social, political, economic, visual).</p> <p>Open Consultation: Consultation with all interested and affected parties must be done in a transparent manner.</p> <p>Specialist Input: Specialists in the particular field must support impact assessments.</p> <p>Alternatives: Consider all possible alternatives in terms of location and activities.</p> <p>Mitigatory Measures: Assess mitigatory measures that will reduce or negate negative impacts and enhance the positive impacts of the planned activities.</p> <p>Consider all Stages: The assessment should consider all stages of the development, from the planning phase through to closure.</p> <p>Interviews with Forest Managers also testing their basic knowledge of EIAs.</p> <p>Records of assessments and decisions.</p> <p>Environmental management plans.</p> <p><u>SLIMF:</u></p> <p>Manager’s knowledge of the site and impacts of operations</p> <p>Field observations</p> <p>Management plan</p>

<p>landscape levels are identified and the operation is designed to minimise them. Assessments do not need to be documented unless legally required</p> <p>6.1.2.1: Listed Activities in terms of Regulations 386 and 387 of the National Environmental Management Act 107 of 1998 are subject to a formal EIA, which is subject to public participation and needs to be approved by governmental authorities. Record of decision (RoD) is available</p> <p>6.1.2.2: EIA's for afforestation licences comply with the guidelines of the Department of Environmental Affairs and Tourism and consultation with stakeholders, even where said Department has waived the requirement for a full EIA.</p>	<p>Documented environmental statement or assessment where legally required</p> <p><i>Site disturbing activities also include the construction of permanent depots, irrigated log decks, toilets, quarries and other mining activities (including sand mining from riparian zones), construction of river crossings, mechanical land preparation, etc.</i></p> <p><i>Consult Regulations 386 and 387 of the National Environmental Management Act 107 of 1998 to determine whether the activity is listed and requires a formal EIA with formal approval prior to the commencement of the activity. Provision is made for the public to be involved in the process. Some of the listed activities pertinent to forestry include the following (not quoted verbatim):</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>The building or upgrading of roads (in SMZs), airfields, canals and channels, dams, levies or weirs affecting the flow of a river.</i> • <i>Intensive husbandry of, or importation of any plant or animal that has been declared a weed or invasive alien species,</i> • <i>Release of organisms for biological pest control,</i> • <i>Disposal of waste in terms of NEMA: Waste Act Listed Activities.</i> • <i>Change in land use from agriculture/undetermined, grazing or conservation to other land uses (afforestation must also be permitted).</i> <p><i>Note the following:</i></p> <p><i><u>Dams & Weirs:</u> A permit is required from the Department of Water Affairs and Forestry (DWAF) for the construction of weirs and dams. Dams with a wall of >5m or of a capacity of >50 000 m³ of water also requires a safety permit from DWAF.</i></p> <p><i><u>Sewage and Water Treatment plants:</u> the installation and operation of such plants requires a permit from DWAF.</i></p> <p><i><u>Waste Sites:</u> Waste/landfill sites require a permit from DWAF.</i></p>
<p>Indicator 6.1.3</p> <p>All potential environmental impacts identified during assessments are considered during operations and planning and ensure that adverse impacts are avoided or mitigated</p> <p>6.1.3.1: A buffer zone of 30m (approximately one tree length) should be maintained around cliffs or significant rocky outcrops which are larger than 0.25 ha.</p> <p>6.1.3.2: At establishment, a buffer of at least 30m should be allowed for indigenous forests. Where the indigenous forest invades the buffer zone, maintain the plantation boundary as demarcated. Should there be potential for damage of the forest edge, then the buffer must be increased in size.</p>	<p>Verifiers & Guidance:</p> <p>See also requirements 6.5.1 and 6.5.2.</p> <p>Interviews with Forest Managers, supervisors and workers also testing their knowledge of minimum requirements.</p> <p>Field observations and operational plans. For <u>large scale operations</u>, these provisions and controls will be documented in plans.</p> <p><i>Refer to the Environmental guidelines for Commercial Forestry Plantations in South Africa (August 2002 or later edition).</i></p> <p><i>Soil erosion and sedimentation of water resources have been identified as key areas of environmental concern in South Africa. Forestry operations (especially harvesting, road building, quarries, firebreaks) resulting in such impacts must therefore be dealt with very strictly.</i></p>
<p>Indicator 6.1.4</p> <p>Timely corrective actions are considered and implemented to address both past and potential non-conformances.</p>	<p>Verifiers & Guidance:</p> <p><u>Corrective Actions:</u></p> <p><i>The first <u>objective</u> is, whenever there is a non-conformance:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <i>action is taken to correct any damage to the environment that may have occurred (corrective action); and</i>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <i>measures are instituted to prevent the non-conformance from recurring (preventive action).</i> <p><i>The second objective is to ensure that preventative action is taken where there is obvious potential for an activity to develop into a non-conformance with subsequent environmental impact(s).</i></p> <p><i>The third objective is to ensure that CARs are reviewed periodically to identify persistent problem areas and to ensure that such problem areas are appropriately addressed, in either a corrective or a preventative manner.</i></p> <p>Interviews with managers.</p> <p>Comparison of quality of ongoing operations and associated record of past CARs.</p>
Indicator 6.1.5	Verifiers & Guidance:
Corrective action requests (CARs) are recorded and closed out appropriately	<u>Records of CARs</u>
<u>SLIMF:</u>	<u>SLIMF:</u>
Timeous corrective actions are taken	Interviews with the forest Manager and workers and field observations
Criterion 6.2	Safeguards shall exist which protect rare, threatened and endangered species and their habitats (e.g. nesting and feeding areas). Conservation zones and protection areas shall be established, appropriate to the scale and intensity of forest management and the uniqueness of the affected resources. Inappropriate hunting, fishing, trapping and collecting shall be controlled.
Indicator 6.2.1	Verifiers & Guidance:
Rare, threatened and endangered species and their habitats present (or likely to be present) on the FMU have been identified and documented	<i>Where survey data are incomplete, it should be assumed that relevant species ARE present.</i>
<u>SLIMF (Small Forests):</u>	Interviews with Forest Managers, local experts and government agencies.
Where known, rare, threatened and endangered species and their habitats are protected.	Refer also to 7.1.7
<u>SLIMF (Low Intensity Forests):</u>	<u>SLIMF (Small Forests):</u>
Where known, rare, threatened and endangered species and their habitats are mapped and protected.	Manager's knowledge of rare, threatened and endangered species in the area.
	Records from other sources of species found on the site.
	Field observations of nesting and feeding areas of rare, threatened and endangered species.
	<u>SLIMF (Low Intensity Forests):</u>
	Manager's and workers' knowledge of rare, threatened and endangered species in the area.
	Reports of training for forest workers on protection issues.
	Field observations of nesting and feeding areas of rare, threatened and endangered species.
	Reports of the conservation status of the FMU from other sources.
	<i>Consult draft lists of Threatened and Protected Species issued in terms of Section 56(1) of the National Environmental Management: Biodiversity Act 10 of 2004.</i>
	<i>Consult South African Red Data Books (Birds, terrestrial mammals, reptiles and amphibians). See Appendix A. See</i>

	<i>Appendix B for reference to the RT&E species of South Africa.</i>
Indicator 6.2.2	Verifiers & Guidance:
There is co-operation with acknowledged experts and/or conservation organisations and/or regulatory authorities in identifying conservation zones and protection areas for rare, threatened and endangered species present	Records and maps.
SLIMF:	Interviews with Forest Managers, local experts and government agencies.
Other features which are important for conservation are identified and protected.	<u>SLIMF:</u>
	Maps showing conservation features
	Field observations and interviews with forest manager
	<i>Check stakeholder's list for environmental representation.</i>
Indicator 6.2.3	Verifiers & Guidance:
The habitats of rare, threatened and endangered species are demarcated on maps, and, where necessary, on the ground	Records and maps.
Indicator 6.2.4	Verifiers & Guidance:
Rare, threatened and endangered species are protected during operations	Operational plans.
	Interviews with Forest Managers, local experts and government agencies.
Indicator 6.2.5	Verifiers & Guidance:
Authorised hunting, fishing, grazing and collecting activities are managed to ensure they do not exceed sustainable levels	Policies and procedures.
	Interviews with Forest Managers, local experts and government agencies.
	Field observations and records of collection.
Indicator 6.2.6	Verifiers & Guidance:
Measures are in place to control inappropriate hunting, fishing, grazing and collecting activities	Policies and procedures.
	Interviews with Forest Managers, local experts and government agencies.
	Field observations and records of collection.
Criterion 6.3	Ecological functions and values shall be maintained intact, enhanced, or restored, including:
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Forest regeneration and succession. ▪ Genetic, species and ecosystem diversity. ▪ Natural cycles that affect the productivity of the forest ecosystem.
Indicator 6.3.1	Verifiers & Guidance:
The status of the FMU with regard to:	<i>This requirement applies to natural forest and plantation management organisations. Compliance might involve an initial assessment and monitoring of the following:</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ regeneration and succession ▪ genetic, species and ecosystem diversity ▪ natural cycles 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <i>Regeneration of natural forest areas harvested, degraded areas, fragmented areas, areas damaged by fire, conservation zones and protection areas;</i>
is known or estimated.	

<p>6.3.1.1: Declared weeds and invader plants (listed in regulation 15 of CARA) have been identified.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <i>Impacts of past management e.g. logging, collection of NTFPs, soil erosion</i> ▪ <i>Distribution and status of plant communities;</i> ▪ <i>Conservation status of native floral and faunal assemblages, species and their habitats;</i> ▪ <i>Spread of invasive species</i> ▪ <i>Ongoing soil erosion</i> ▪ <i>Water quality</i> <p>Records and maps</p> <p>Interviews with Forest Managers and local experts.</p> <p><i>Regulation 15 of Conservation of Agricultural Resources Act 43 of 1983 lists declared weeds and invader plants and categorises them into Categories 1-3. Restrictions apply to all three categories, and these restrictions must be applied on the FMU.</i></p>
<p>Indicator 6.3.2</p> <p>Silvicultural and/or other management systems are appropriate for the ecology of the forest and resources available</p>	<p>Verifiers & Guidance:</p> <p>Interviews with Forest Managers and local experts</p>
<p>Indicator 6.3.3</p> <p>Ecological functions (regeneration, succession, diversity, natural cycles) are maintained</p> <p>6.3.3.1: The burning of wetlands and grasslands (and fynbos) as a management tool should be planned on an irregular partial, rotational basis where possible.</p>	<p>Verifiers & Guidance:</p> <p><i>Enhancement, maintenance and restoration activities should be prepared to provide for the restoration of degraded natural areas, weed infestation, erosion, borrow pits, waste sites, quarries, etc.</i></p> <p>Interviews with Forest Managers, local experts.</p> <p>Plans and maps and field observations.</p> <p><i>6.3.3.1: Refer to the veld burning guidelines described in the Environmental Guidelines for Commercial Forestry Plantations in South Africa (Aug 2002) under the planning section of the Silvicultural Practices chapter. Annual burning is not recommended and total exclusion of burning is not recommended.</i></p>
<p>Indicator 6.3.4</p> <p>There is a programme for restoration of degraded sites</p> <p>6.3.4.1: Rehabilitation of riparian zones identified as being degraded through poor land-use or historical infringement by commercial tree species or agricultural crops.</p> <p>6.3.4.2: Strategic (long term), tactical (3-5 years) and annual weed control plans are in place and being implemented, with special attention to declared weeds and invader plants.</p> <p>6.3.4.3: There is measurable progress in weed control/eradication programmes.</p> <p>RSA SLIMF:</p> <p>6.3.4.4: For FMUs > 100ha, the entire FMU is in a weed maintenance phase (<5% weed infestation)</p> <p>6.3.4.5: The Forest Manager is aware of degraded wetlands and riparian zones and can explain plans</p>	<p>Verifiers & Guidance:</p> <p><i>Enhancement, maintenance and restoration activities should be prepared to provide for the restoration of degraded natural areas, weed infestation, erosion, borrow pits, waste sites, quarries, etc.</i></p> <p>Interviews with Forest Managers, local experts.</p> <p>Plans and maps and field observations.</p> <p><i>6.3.3.2: Refer to the veld burning guidelines described in the Environmental Guidelines for Commercial Forestry Plantations in South Africa (Aug 2002) under the planning section of the Silvicultural Practices chapter. Annual burning is not recommended and total exclusion of burning is not recommended.</i></p> <p>RSA SLIMF:</p> <p><i>It is a requirement for SLIMF eligibility of FMUs larger than 100ha in South Africa that the entire FMU shall be in a weed maintenance phase, i.e. weed control is only required for sporadic reoccurrence of seedlings. This is not required for</i></p>

to ameliorate such. Progress with this work is evident.	<i>FMUs < 100ha.</i> <i>SLIMF eligibility in South Africa allows for FMU size up to 1000ha.</i>
Indicator 6.3.5 In natural and semi-natural forest, natural regeneration is preferred where adequate for the meeting of management objectives	Verifiers & Guidance: Plans and maps Interviews with Forest Managers, local experts
Indicator 6.3.6 Where artificial regeneration is planned, the environmental impact has been assessed (refer Criterion 6.1)	Verifiers & Guidance: Plans and maps Interviews with Forest Managers, local experts
Criterion 6.4 Representative samples of existing ecosystems within the landscape shall be protected in their natural state and recorded on maps, appropriate to the scale and intensity of operations and the uniqueness of the affected resources.	
Indicator 6.4.1 Conservation zones and protection areas, representative of existing ecosystems, are being protected in their natural state, based on the identification of key biological areas and the requirement for natural corridors (with special reference to plantations) and/or consultation with local experts and government agencies SLIMF: Where representative samples of ecosystems are known to exist in the FMU these shall be protected.	Verifiers & Guidance: Plans and maps and records of completed work. Interviews with Forest Managers, local experts and government agencies. <i>South Africa is a semi-arid country; therefore, protection of the water resource must be seen as a conservation priority.</i> <i>Refer to the Environmental Guidelines for Commercial Forestry Plantations in South Africa (Aug 2002) under the planning section of the Silvicultural Practices chapter for corridors.</i>
Indicator 6.4.2 (Not applicable to SLIMF) Where less than 10% of the total area included in the scope of certification has been set aside for conservation zones and protection areas, justification must be provided for this in the form of consultation with local experts and/or government agencies.	Verifiers & Guidance: Plans and maps and records of completed work. Interviews with Forest Managers, local experts and government agencies.
Indicator 6.4.3 Conservation management and protection activities are documented in plans and demarcated on maps. SLIMF: Conservation management and protection activities have been determined and are demarcated on maps	Verifiers & Guidance: Plans and maps, including annual plan of operations.
Indicator 6.4.4 Conservation management and protection	Verifiers & Guidance: Records of operations

activities are implemented.	Field observations
Criterion 6.5 Written guidelines shall be prepared and implemented to: control erosion; minimise forest damage during harvesting, road construction, and all other mechanical disturbances; and protect water resources.	
Indicator 6.5.1 All environmentally sensitive forest operations are identified (see 6.1) and written guidelines defining acceptable practice are available to forest managers and supervisors; operational guidelines must meet or exceed national or regional best practice requirements <u>SLIMF:</u> All forest management operations that may damage soil (e.g. compaction, erosion) and methods to mitigate or avoid such are known. 6.5.1.1: Forest Managers are aware of and have access to nationally endorsed local standards, codes of practice and guidelines.	Verifiers & Guidance: <i>Forest operations include: site preparation, fire belt management, planting, weed control, stand management, harvesting and extraction, road surfacing material extraction and excavation site closure, road network design, road design, construction, maintenance and closure.</i> Records, plans and maps. Interviews with Forest Managers and field observations. <u>SLIMF:</u> Interviews with Forest Managers and field observations Maps showing new roads and locations of new and ongoing operations <i>The nationally endorsed local standards, best operating practices and guidelines available for South Africa are included as Appendix 1.</i>
Indicator 6.5.2 Guidelines developed in terms of indicator 6.5.1 are implemented during operations and planning	Verifiers & Guidance: <i>The main assessment report should make explicit reference to the national or regional best practice guidelines used as a reference.</i> Operational plans, interviews with staff and field observations. <i>Specifically check application of Guidelines in the following:</i> <i>Land preparation methods are based on site conditions (See Silvicultural Practices section and Annexure C of Environmental Guidelines for Commercial Forestry plantations in South Africa (Aug 2002)</i> <i>Extraction methods are based on terrain conditions (See Annexure F of Enviro. Guidelines as well as the Guidelines for Forest Engineering Practices in South Africa (FESA, 1999).</i> <i>Road building methods are based on soil and terrain conditions (See Enviro Guidelines as well as the South African Forestry Road handbook (FESA, August 2004).</i> <i>Slope restrictions for afforestation (slopes of 35-60% and >60%) apply (see Section PS14 of Enviro Guidelines. In the case of non-conforming existing plantation areas, there is evidence of corrective planning/mitigation).</i> <i>Slash management is based on the Environmental guidelines provided, and burning restrictions apply. Section 11.4 (PS14) for slope restrictions with slash burning.</i> <i>Tracers belt preparation (no hoeing on steep slopes)</i>
Indicator 6.5.3 Buffer zones are maintained along watercourses and around water bodies in compliance with specifications made in national and regional best practice guidelines	Verifiers & Guidance: <i>The main assessment report shall make explicit reference to the national or regional best practice guidelines used as a reference.</i> Operational plans, interviews with staff and field observations.

<p>6.5.3.1: Depots/landings should not be situated within 40m of a river, stream or wetland. <u>Temporary</u> landings alongside roads that are within 40 metres of a stream or wetland shall be managed to prevent siltation into such stream or wetland. (This only applies if the application of wetland delineation results in a buffer of < 40m).</p>	<p><i>The determination of buffer zones should be based on the latest version of the “Wetland/Riparian habitats: A Practical Field procedure for Identification and delineation”. This requires that a 20m buffer strip should be established from the outer edge of the temporary zone of a wetland or from the outer edge of a riparian zone.</i></p> <p><i>Also refer to the Environmental guidelines for Commercial Forestry Plantations in South Africa (August 2002 or later edition).</i></p> <p><i>See buffer zones that are specified in the Silvicultural Practices section of Environmental Guidelines for Commercial Forestry Plantations in South Africa (Aug 2002). All buffers must be kept weed free.</i></p> <p><i>The National Water Act (36 of 1998): The natural flow of a river should not be altered. If the flow is to be altered (temporarily or permanently) then a permit may required by the Department of Water Affairs and Forestry – refer to requirements of No 398 General Authorisations in terms of Section 39 of the National Water Act, 1998 (Act nr 36 of 1998, dated 26 March 2004</i></p> <p><i>National Forests Act (84 of 1998).</i></p>
<p>Indicator 6.5.4</p>	<p>Verifiers & Guidance:</p>
<p>Operators are able to implement adequate emergency procedures for clean up following accidental oil and chemical spillages</p>	<p>Operational plans, interviews with staff and field observations.</p> <p>No evidence of significant spillages.</p>
<p>Criterion 6.6</p>	<p>Management systems shall promote the development and adoption of environmentally friendly non-chemical methods of pest management and strive to avoid the use of chemical pesticides. World Health Organisation Type 1A and 1B and chlorinated hydrocarbon pesticides; pesticides that are persistent, toxic or whose derivatives remain biologically active and accumulate in the food chain beyond their intended use; as well as any pesticides banned by international agreement, shall be prohibited. If chemicals are used, proper equipment and training shall be provided to minimise health and environmental risks.</p>
<p>Indicator 6.6.1</p>	<p>Verifiers & Guidance:</p>
<p>There is an up-to-date list of all pesticides used in the organisation that documents trade name, and active ingredient. Where not provided by the product label, authorised applications, application methods and rates will also be documented.</p>	<p><i>Chemical pesticides include herbicides, insecticides, fungicides, and rodenticides in the formulation applied in the field (including any surfactants, dispersants or solvents used).</i></p> <p>Records of chemicals in use.</p> <p>Receipts and invoices.</p> <p>Procedures for the safe and appropriate use of chemicals</p>
<p>Indicator 6.6.2</p>	<p>Verifiers & Guidance:</p>
<p>Prohibited pesticides are not used except where:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ a derogation of policy has been obtained from the FSC Secretariat; or ▪ a temporary exemption has been authorised in terms of FSC- POL-30-001, and its associated documents., 	<p><i>Refer SGS Qualifor Work Instruction 16 for:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <i>Current list of prohibited pesticides;</i> ▪ <i>Derogations;</i> ▪ <i>Temporary derogations; and</i> ▪ <i>Use of prohibited chemicals for emergency situations.</i> <p>Chemical records</p>

Indicator 6.6.3	Verifiers & Guidance:
<p>Where chemicals are used on an ongoing basis the owner/manager must prepare a strategy that will have at least the following components:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ reduction of use is stated as a long-term objective; ▪ a range of methods for pesticide control providing justification for chemical-use as an option; ▪ procedures that promote the optimal use of chemicals (timing, follow-up, equipment, etc) ▪ clear measurable targets for long term chemical use; with reduction as the objective; <p>Usage is expressed per product, on a per hectare basis and sub-divided according to catchment or drainage basin.</p> <p>SLIMF:</p> <p>There is an indication that alternative methods are being considered leading to a reduction in use of the long term</p>	<p><i>Usage, and reduction targets should be expressed on a per hectare basis and sub-divided according to operations and catchment/drainage basin; targets should be quantitative</i></p> <p><i>Some organisations may be allowed to increase use of certain chemical pesticides in the short or medium term, where the use of these pesticides is justified on social or environmental grounds, see 6.6.</i></p> <p>This requirement applies to nurseries located on the certified FMU.</p> <p>Documented long term strategy</p> <p>Chemical use records.</p>
Indicator 6.6.4	Verifiers & Guidance:
<p>(Not applicable to SLIMF)</p> <p>The chemical use strategy (refer 6.6.3) is implemented.</p>	<p>Field observations and records.</p>
Indicator 6.6.5	Verifiers & Guidance:
<p>(Not applicable to SLIMF)</p> <p>Where pesticides are the preferred method of control for environmental or social reasons, the consideration of alternatives and justification for their use has been determined and documented in cooperation with acknowledged experts</p>	<p><i>Pesticides may be preferred in some instances, for example, to eliminate invasive weeds, control vectors of serious human diseases.</i></p> <p>Interviews with Forest Managers and local experts.</p> <p>Documented justification.</p>
Indicator 6.6.6	Verifiers & Guidance:
<p>All transport, storage, handling, application and emergency procedures for clean up following accidental spillages of chemical pesticides comply, as a minimum, with the ILO publications 'Safety & Health in the Use of Agrochemicals: A Guide', and 'Safety in the Use of Chemicals at Work'</p> <p><i>6.6.5.1: Pesticides use shall be controlled by a registered Pest Control Operator as defined by the Act.</i></p>	<p>Procedures and records.</p> <p>Interviews with staff</p> <p><i>Dept. of Agric guidelines shall apply.</i></p> <p><i>AVCASA's Responsible use of Agricultural Chemicals and Stock Remedies will also apply.</i></p> <p><i>See Chemical Application Section of Environmental Guidelines for Commercial Forestry plantations in South Africa (Aug 2002)</i></p>
<p>Criterion 6.7 Chemicals, containers, liquid and solid non-organic wastes including fuel and oil shall be disposed in an environmentally appropriate manner at off-site locations.</p>	
Indicator 6.7.1	Verifiers & Guidance:
<p>Where such facilities exist, the owner/manager shall ensure that non-organic wastes (e.g. oil,</p>	<p>Field observations and interviews with staff</p>

tyres, containers, etc.), including those generated by contractors working on the FMU are recycled where recycling is possible	<i>Re-cycling of tins, metal, glass, plastic, paper is expected if there is a collecting depot within 50km of the FMU.</i>
<p>Indicator 6.7.2</p> <p>The owner/manager shall ensure that waste that cannot be re-cycled, including that generated by contractors working on the FMU, is disposed of in environmentally appropriate ways.</p> <p><i>6.7.2.1: Hazardous waste has been identified, separated and is disposed of accordingly.</i></p>	<p>Verifiers & Guidance:</p> <p><i>Waste includes:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Surplus chemicals ▪ Chemical containers ▪ Plastic waste ▪ Fuels and lubricants ▪ Worn vehicle tyres ▪ Used vehicle batteries ▪ Waste produced from processing operations ▪ Domestic <p>Evidence that waste has been disposed off in an acceptable manner.</p>
<p>Indicator 6.7.3</p> <p>The owner/manager shall ensure that the handling and disposal of chemicals and chemical containers, including that generated by contractors working on the FMU, shall comply, as a minimum, with the ILO publications 'Safety & Health in the Use of Agrochemicals: A Guide', and 'Safety in the Use of Chemicals at Work'</p>	<p>Verifiers & Guidance:</p> <p>Interviews with staff</p>
<p>Indicator 6.7.4</p> <p>On-site facilities for easy collection of waste are provided</p>	<p>Verifiers & Guidance:</p> <p>Presence of waste receptacles or other at operational sites and service areas.</p> <p><i>Waste sites (landfill sites) that receive more than 1 ton of household waste per day require a permit from DWAF. Such sites also need an operational management plan (including rehabilitation) and need to be monitored (see 8.2).</i></p>
<p>Criterion 6.8 Use of biological control agents shall be documented, minimised, monitored and strictly controlled in accordance with national laws and internationally accepted scientific protocols. Use of genetically modified organisms shall be prohibited.</p>	
<p>Indicator 6.8.1</p> <p>The use of biological control agents is avoided or minimised by making use of best available alternative control methods not entailing excessive cost</p>	<p>Verifiers & Guidance:</p> <p>Interviews with Forest Managers.</p> <p>Policies and procedures.</p> <p><i>The use of biological agents would be a preferred method to chemical use.</i></p>
<p>Indicator 6.8.2</p> <p>Any use of biological control agents must be supported by documented justification which details: alternative methods of pest or disease control considered, ecological impact assessment, relevant organisations and</p>	<p>Verifiers & Guidance:</p> <p>Documentation</p> <p><i>Numerous biological control agents have been introduced into South Africa. The PPRI (Plant protection research Institute) is responsible for the importation and testing of biological control agents in South Africa. The "Working for Water" programme to</i></p>

regulatory authorities consulted	<i>control alien plant invaders has embraced biological control as the only sustainable mechanism to prevent the spread of invasive weed species and the re-invasion of cleared areas.</i>
Indicator 6.8.3	Verifiers & Guidance:
All activities where biological control agents are used are documented and monitored	Documentation
Indicator 6.8.4	Verifiers & Guidance:
No genetically modified organisms are used in management, production or research programmes within the FMU.	Interviews with staff. Records of biological material sources and supplies
Criterion 6.9	The use of exotic species shall be carefully controlled and actively monitored to avoid adverse ecological impacts
Indicator 6.9.1	Verifiers & Guidance:
Exotic species are assessed for adverse ecological impacts	Records of scientific studies. Interviews with Forest Managers
Indicator 6.9.2	Verifiers & Guidance:
The impacts identified in terms of 6.9.1 are avoided or mitigated	Monitoring records
Criterion 6.10	Forest conversion to plantations or non-forest land uses shall not occur, except in circumstances where conversion: a) entails a very limited portion of the forest management unit; and b) does not occur on high conservation value forest areas; and c) will enable clear, substantial, additional, secure, long-term conservation benefits across the forest management unit.
Indicator 6.10.1	Verifiers & Guidance:
FME shall not convert forests to plantations or non- forest land uses, except where the conversion meets the conditions of 6.10.2 – 6.10.4 below.	<i>Clear felling and replanting of a natural or semi-natural forest with a mixture native species in the absence of satisfactory natural regeneration is not considered forest conversion to plantation. Clear felling and replanting of a natural or semi-natural forest with an exotic species is considered conversion.</i> Interviews with Forest Managers, local experts and government agencies. Plans and maps. Field observations.
Indicator 6.10.2	Verifiers & Guidance:
If conversion occurs, the area affected shall not exceed 0.5% of the area of the FMU in any one year, nor affect a total of more than 5% of the area of the Management Unit.	Interviews with Forest Managers, local experts and government agencies. Plans and maps. Field observations.

Indicator 6.10.3	Verifiers & Guidance:
If conversion occurs, the forest manager shall demonstrate that any conversion produces clear, substantial, additional, secure, long-term conservation benefits across the forest management unit.	<i>Conversion may, for example, have a net conservation benefit where an area is converted back to its original natural or semi-natural habitat type such as open wetland or grassland.</i> Interviews with Forest Managers, local experts and government agencies.
Indicator 6.10.4	Verifiers & Guidance:
If the conversion occurs, it shall not occur on high conservation value forest areas.	Scientific evidence and interviews with Forest Managers and local experts
PRINCIPLE 7. MANAGEMENT PLAN:	
A management plan - appropriate to the scale and intensity of the operations - shall be written, implemented, and kept up to date. The long-term objectives of management, and the means of achieving them, shall be clearly stated.	
Criterion 7.1	The management plan and supporting documents shall provide: a) management objectives; b) description of the forest resources to be managed, environmental limitations, land use and ownership status, socio-economic conditions, and a profile of adjacent lands; c) description of silvicultural and/or other management system, based on the ecology of the forest in question and information gathered through resources inventories d) rationale for rate of annual harvest and species selection; e) provisions for monitoring of forest growth and dynamics; f) environmental safeguards based on environmental assessments; g) plans for the identification and protection of rare, threatened and endangered species; h) maps describing the forest resource base including protected areas, planned management activities and land ownership; i) description and justification of harvesting techniques and equipment to be used.
Indicator 7.1.1	Verifiers & Guidance:
There is a management plan (or overview linking different planning documents) <u>SLIMF:</u> Management plans may consist of brief notes and a map	Management plan <u>SLIMF:</u> Checking the plan exists and contains all the information required. Field checks that the plan has been implemented in the past and is currently still followed.
Indicator 7.1.2	Verifiers & Guidance:
Management objectives are clearly described <u>SLIMF:</u> An outline is provided of objectives and how these will be achieved	Management plan
Indicator 7.1.3	Verifiers & Guidance:

<p>Forest resources, attributes of any high conservation value forest, environmental limitations, special characteristics of the forest, land use and ownership status, socio-economic conditions, and adjacent lands are described</p> <p>SLIMF:</p> <p>The forest is broadly described</p>	<p>Management plan</p>
<p>Indicator 7.1.4</p> <p>Silvicultural and/or other management system, based on the ecology of the forest in question and information gathered through resources and inventories, are described</p> <p>SLIMF:</p> <p>The forest is broadly described</p>	<p>Verifiers & Guidance:</p> <p>Management plan</p>
<p>Indicator 7.1.5</p> <p>Rate of harvest, species selection, management prescriptions (for production and conservation zones) and operational techniques are documented and justified</p> <p>SLIMF:</p> <p>Sustainable harvest limits and regeneration plans (long term, at least one full rotation period for the whole of the FMU) are provided</p>	<p>Verifiers & Guidance:</p> <p>Management plan</p> <p>SLIMF:</p> <p>Harvest limits are established at sustainable limits and are based on conservative estimates of tree growth and yield.</p> <p>Silvicultural prescriptions take into account factors such as DBH, seed trees for each species, etc.</p>
<p>Indicator 7.1.6</p> <p>Provisions for monitoring forest growth and dynamics are described</p> <p>SLIMF:</p> <p>The plans include provisions for monitoring forest regrowth</p>	<p>Verifiers & Guidance:</p> <p>Management plan</p>
<p>Indicator 7.1.7</p> <p>Refer Criterion 6.1 for description of environmental safeguards</p>	<p>Verifiers & Guidance:</p>
<p>Indicator 7.1.8</p> <p>Refer 6.2 for conservation planning and provision for RTE species.</p>	<p>Verifiers & Guidance:</p>
<p>Indicator 7.1.9</p> <p>The pest management strategy is documented and describes and justifies objectives, control methods and precautions.</p> <p>Refer also Criterion 6.6 for chemical use in pest management.</p>	<p>Verifiers & Guidance:</p>

Indicator 7.1.10	Verifiers & Guidance:
<p>Any control of wild animals is based on a written strategy, which describes and justifies objectives, cull targets, control methods and precautions</p> <p>SLIMF:</p> <p>Refer Criterion 6.2</p>	<p>Written strategy and communication with interested and affected parties.</p> <p>Interviews with Forest Managers and consultation with local stakeholders, experts and government agencies.</p> <p><i>Specifically check for control of indigenous animals such as baboons, antelope, rodents that may cause damage to commercial tree species.</i></p>
Indicator 7.1.11	Verifiers & Guidance:
<p>There are appropriate maps (at a scale appropriate for planning and supervision activities) showing the forest resource base including protected areas, watercourses, roads and other features important for forest management.</p> <p>SLIMF:</p> <p>There are appropriate maps showing the forest resource base including protected areas, watercourses, roads and ownership.</p>	<p>Maps and associated records</p>
Indicator 7.1.12	Verifiers & Guidance:
<p>Maps shall be prepared prior to commencement of harvesting and road construction</p>	<p>Maps and associated records</p>
Indicator 7.1.13	Verifiers & Guidance:
<p>Harvesting techniques and equipment are described and justified</p> <p>SLIMF:</p> <p>The plan describes harvesting methods and silviculture to ensure responsible management</p>	<p>Management plan and operational controls.</p> <p>Interviews with staff</p> <p><i>Conformance with recommendations in the FESA Harvesting Code of practice (May 1999) and the Environmental Guidelines for Commercial Forestry Plantations in South Africa (Aug 2002).</i></p>
Indicator 7.1.14	Verifiers & Guidance:
<p>For large scale operations, planning includes short (operational/annual), medium (tactical/3-5 yearly) and long (strategic, rotation/harvesting cycle) term plans covering all operations and these shall be documented.</p> <p>For small-scale operations a long-term plan covering harvesting operations will be documented. The requirement for documented planning in small-scale operations will be decided by the scale, duration and intensity of the operation.</p> <p>SLIMF:</p> <p>Only a long term plan as outlined in Indicators 7.1.2 to 7.1.11 is required.</p>	<p>Management plan and operational controls.</p> <p>Interviews with staff</p> <p><i>Conformance with recommendations in the FESA Harvesting Code of practice (May 1999) and the Environmental Guidelines for Commercial Forestry Plantations in South Africa (Aug 2002).</i></p>
Indicator 7.1.15	Verifiers & Guidance:
<p>Plans are being implemented and any deviation from prescription or rate of progress is</p>	<p>Management plan and operational controls.</p>

<p>adequately justified; overall objectives will still be achieved</p> <p>SLIMF:</p> <p>Plans are being implemented and deviations (whilst maintaining long term objectives) can be explained</p>	Interviews with staff
<p>Criterion 7.2 The management plan shall be periodically revised to incorporate the results of monitoring or new scientific and technical information, as well as to respond to changing environmental, social and economic circumstances.</p>	
<p>Indicator 7.2.1</p> <p>In large scale organisations, staff members with responsibility for the overall compilation and updating of the management plan are identified</p>	<p>Verifiers & Guidance:</p> <p>Company procedures</p>
<p>Indicator 7.2.2</p> <p>(Not applicable to SLIMF)</p> <p>New scientific and technical developments in production forestry and biodiversity conservation are available at the FMU or Forest Managers have access to this information</p>	<p>Verifiers & Guidance:</p> <p>Publications</p> <p>Interviews with Forest Managers</p>
<p>Indicator 7.2.3</p> <p>There is evidence that scientific and technical developments and results of monitoring are incorporated into revisions of policies, procedures and plans.</p> <p>SLIMF:</p> <p>There is evidence that scientific and technical developments and results of monitoring are incorporated into revisions of plans.</p>	<p>Verifiers & Guidance:</p> <p>Interviews with Forest Managers, scientific evidence.</p> <p>Evidence of revised planning</p>
<p>Indicator 7.2.4</p> <p>There is evidence that changing environmental, social and economic considerations have been included in the revision of the management plan</p>	<p>Verifiers & Guidance:</p> <p>Interviews with Forest Managers, scientific evidence.</p> <p>Evidence of revised planning</p>
<p>Indicator 7.2.5</p> <p>In large scale operations a timetable for the periodic revision of the management plan is documented and adhered to</p>	<p>Verifiers & Guidance:</p> <p>Management revision timetable and status of current management plan</p>
<p>Criterion 7.3 Forest workers shall receive adequate training and supervision to ensure proper implementation of the management plan</p>	
<p>Indicator 7.3.1</p> <p>Forest workers at all levels of skill and responsibility are appropriately educated and trained in the tasks they are assigned to and</p>	<p>Verifiers & Guidance:</p> <p>Training records</p> <p>Interviews with workers and management</p>

<p>company policy and procedures.</p> <p>SLIMF:</p> <p>Forest workers at all levels of skill and responsibility are appropriately trained in the tasks they are assigned to.</p>	<p>Field observations</p>
<p>Indicator 7.3.2</p> <p>(Not applicable to SLIMF)</p> <p>Managers and supervisors (including those employed by contractors) have received adequate education, training or experience to ensure that they are able to plan and organize forestry operations in accordance with organisations' plans, policies and procedures</p>	<p>Verifiers & Guidance:</p> <p>Training records</p> <p>Interviews with staff</p>
<p>Indicator 7.3.3</p> <p>All activities are supervised and monitored sufficiently to ensure that plans, policies, procedures and contract specifications (for contractors) are adequately implemented</p>	<p>Verifiers & Guidance:</p> <p>Operational procedures</p> <p>Interviews with staff.</p>
<p>Indicator 7.3.4</p> <p>Evidence of formal or informal training exists in the field</p>	<p>Verifiers & Guidance:</p> <p>Interviews with workers and field observations</p>
<p>Indicator 7.3.5</p> <p>In <u>large scale organisations</u> a formal long-term training plan shall be available</p>	<p>Verifiers & Guidance:</p> <p>Strategic training plan</p>
<p>Criterion 7.4 While respecting the confidentiality of information, forest managers shall make publicly available a summary of the primary elements of the management plan, including those listed in Criterion 7.1 above.</p>	
<p>Indicator 7.4.1</p> <p>There are publicly available statements that provide an up-to-date summary of the primary management plan elements listed in 7.1 at company level</p> <p>SLIMF:</p> <p>The management plan, or a summary of it (which includes the information required by Indicators 7.1.2 to 7.1.11 is available for the public to see on request.</p>	<p>Verifiers & Guidance:</p> <p>Public Summary of Management Plan</p> <p>SLIMF:</p> <p>Management Plan is available</p>

PRINCIPLE 8. MONITORING AND ASSESSMENT:	
Monitoring shall be conducted - appropriate to the scale and intensity of forest management - to assess the condition of the forest, yields of forest products, chain of custody, management activities and their social and environmental impacts.	
Criterion 8.1	The frequency and intensity of monitoring <u>should</u> be determined by the scale and intensity of forest management operations as well as the relative complexity and fragility of the affected environment. Monitoring procedures <u>should</u> be consistent and replicable over time to allow comparison of results and assessments of change.
Indicator 8.1.1	Verifiers & Guidance:
All activities that require monitoring are identified. For <u>large scale organisations</u> these shall be documented in a monitoring programme.	Interviews with Management and environmental specialists/stakeholders Monitoring programme <i>Environmental Monitoring includes:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Key RT&E species identified from the list identified in terms of C6.2.</i> • <i>Condition of natural habitats over time.</i> • <i>Monitoring of river health using SASS5 is recommended as a national system. Accredited practitioners must be used (Certificate of competency is issued by National River Health Programme). River EcoClassification Manuals produced by the Water Research Commission include other indices that can be used to monitor river health.</i>
Indicator 8.1.2	Verifiers & Guidance:
The frequency, intensity and expense of monitoring are defined and is appropriate to the scale and intensity of the forest management operations and the sensitivity of the receiving environment <u>SLIMF:</u> Monitoring should be done in a consistent and replicable way over time to allow comparison of results and assessment of change.	Monitoring programmes <u>SLIMF:</u> Manager's field notes Manager's description of how monitoring is done.
Indicator 8.1.3	Verifiers & Guidance:
(Not applicable to SLIMF) Consistent and replicable monitoring procedures for each activity are documented in the programme and implemented, allowing for comparison and change over time.	Monitoring procedures Interviews with Forest Managers and local experts
Indicator 8.1.4	Verifiers & Guidance:
Monitoring information is readily available and in a format that facilitates effective auditing and certification by third parties	Monitoring records, reports and archival system. Internal audit records CAR records
Indicator 8.1.5	Verifiers & Guidance:

Corrective actions identified through the monitoring process are appropriately implemented and closed out	Corrective action documentation
<p>Criterion 8.2 Forest management <u>should</u> include the research and data collection needed to monitor, at a minimum, the following indicators:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ yield of all forest products harvested; ▪ growth rates, regeneration and condition of the forest; ▪ composition and observed changes in the flora and fauna; ▪ environmental and social impacts of harvesting and other operations; ▪ costs, productivity, and efficiency of forest management. 	
Indicator 8.2.1	Verifiers & Guidance:
Yields of all forest products harvested are recorded	Harvesting records
Indicator 8.2.2	Verifiers & Guidance:
<p>A timber resource inventory is conducted, appropriate to the scale and intensity of forest management</p> <p>SLIMF:</p> <p>The manager knows what information they need in order to judge progress towards their objectives. The information is collected and recorded.</p> <p>In all cases this will include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Amount of products harvested ▪ Effects of operations as identified under C6.1 ▪ Changes in features identified under C6.2 ▪ At least annual monitoring of high conservation values identified under C 9.1 ▪ Invasive exotic species 	<p><i>Data are collected on growth rates, regeneration, and yield of all forest products harvested as well as the condition of the forest (data accuracy is appropriate to scale and intensity of management)</i></p> <p>Documented inventory</p> <p>SLIMF:</p> <p>Discussions with forest manager.</p> <p>Evidence of the manager's knowledge of the forest and proactive approach to field observation and field notes</p> <p>Review of manager's field notes, observations or reports on HCVs.</p> <p>Available maps and reports from other sources</p>
Indicator 8.2.3	Verifiers & Guidance:
<p>Where non-timber products are used, a resource inventory is conducted, appropriate to the scale and intensity of forest management</p> <p>SLIMF:</p> <p>The sustainable harvest levels of non-timber forest products is known</p>	<p>Documented Inventory</p> <p>SLIMF:</p> <p>Interviews with the Forest Manager and field observations</p>
Indicator 8.2.4	Verifiers & Guidance:
<p>(Not applicable to SLIMF)</p> <p>Data are collected on the composition and observed changes in the flora and fauna and the effectiveness of conservation activities, particularly of rare, threatened and endangered species</p>	<p>Monitoring data</p> <p>SLIMF:</p> <p>Interviews with Forest Managers</p>

Indicator 8.2.5	Verifiers & Guidance:
<p>Indicators to track long term changes in terms of environmental and social impacts of forest operations, including health and safety, are determined and monitoring data collected</p> <p>SLIMF:</p> <p>The forest manager is aware of the social impacts of operations and mitigate these where they are negative</p>	<p>Monitoring data</p> <p>Interviews with Forest Managers and consultation with local communities</p> <p><i>The intent of the indicator is to ensure that long term trends in terms of the social and bio-physical environments can be measured. Specific indicators that can provide this information need to be identified.</i></p>
Indicator 8.2.6	Verifiers & Guidance:
Data are collected on any wild mammals culled	Data
Indicator 8.2.7	Verifiers & Guidance:
<p>Post-harvest monitoring is carried out to assess waste and damage to the site.</p> <p>For <u>large scale operations</u> this monitoring shall be documented.</p>	<p>Interviews with Forest Managers and supervisors.</p> <p>Field observations</p> <p>Post-harvest monitoring record</p> <p><i>Consult Guideline for Forest Engineering Practices in South Africa (FESA, May 1999) for guidelines on post-harvest monitoring.</i></p> <p><i>Consult Harvesting Planning and Implementation section of Environmental Guidelines for Commercial Forestry plantations in South Africa (Aug 2002) for post-harvest issues.</i></p>
Indicator 8.2.8	Verifiers & Guidance:
The owner/manager records and analyses data on the costs, productivity and efficiency of forest management activities; the results of such analyses are incorporated into plans	Data and records
Indicator 8.2.9	
The results of such analyses (refer 8.2.8) are incorporated into plans	Verifiers & Guidance: Data and records
Indicator 8.2.10	Verifiers & Guidance:
<p>Contractors' performance is monitored, including compliance with contract specifications and legal requirements.</p> <p>In <u>large scale organisations</u>, formal auditing of contractors shall be carried out on a regular basis and records thereof maintained</p>	<p>Interviews with Forest Managers and contractors.</p> <p>Audit documents</p> <p><i>The intent of the indicator is not only the monitoring of the daily operations of contractors, but also their compliance with the requirements of their contracts, compliance with legal requirements, the payment of any fees and taxes and compensation of employees and allowances for leave and other associated requirements.</i></p>
Indicator 8.2.11	Verifiers & Guidance:
Waste disposal sites within the FMU are regularly checked	Interviews with Forest Managers and field observations

Criterion 8.3		Documentation shall be provided by the forest manager to enable monitoring and certifying organisations to trace each forest product from its origin, a process known as the “chain of custody.”
Indicator 8.3.1	Verifiers & Guidance:	
There is a procedure for identifying all products (timber and non-timber) leaving the forest so that the recipient can easily determine the forest of origin. For <u>large scale organisations</u> this procedure shall be documented.	<i>The scope of a joint FM/CoC certificate covers harvesting and transportation of roundwood to the first point of sale, unloading or processing. On site processing e.g. charcoal burning, use of a mobile saw-bench, or purchase and harvesting of standing timber by a third party (e.g. sawmill, harvesting contractor, timber merchant) must be covered by a separate chain of custody certificate if the products are to be sold as certified.</i> Interview with Forest Managers Procedures.	
Indicator 8.3.2	Verifiers & Guidance:	
Documentation of origin and destination of all certified forest products is available for products held at landing areas, stacking areas and processing sites on the FMU	Delivery notes, receipts and stock records	
Indicator 8.3.3	Verifiers & Guidance:	
Sales invoices and other documentation related to sales of certified material include the chain of custody certificate number, in the correct format (SGS-FM/CoC-XXXXXX) and indicating the FSC category as “FSC 100%”	Sales invoices	
Indicator 8.3.4	Verifiers & Guidance:	
Records are kept of the total quantities of all products sold, as well as of quantities sold to any chain-of-custody certificate holders	Sales records, invoices	
Indicator 8.3.5	Verifiers & Guidance:	
Use of the FSC trademark is in accordance with policy and has been approved by SGS Qualifor	Samples of trademark use	
Criterion 8.4		The results of monitoring shall be incorporated into the implementation and revision of the management plan.
Indicator 8.4.1	Verifiers & Guidance:	
The results of research and monitoring programmes are regularly analysed and incorporated into planning on a regular basis SLIMF: Refer Indicators 7.2.3 and 7.2.4	Interviews with local experts and Forest Managers. Forest planning documents Check if recommendations from monitoring reports are considered and implemented.	
Indicator 8.4.2	Verifiers & Guidance:	
There is evidence that monitoring results are used to improve forest management SLIMF:	Interviews with local experts and Forest Managers	

Refer Indicators 7.2.3 and 7.2.4	
<p>Criterion 8.5 While respecting the confidentiality of information, forest managers shall make publicly available a summary of the results of monitoring indicators, including those listed in Criterion 8.2.</p>	
<p>Indicator 8.5.1</p> <p>Results and/or summaries of monitoring programmes (including those listed in Criterion 8.2) are available to the public within the accepted norms of commercial confidentiality.</p> <p>Regular summaries of monitoring results and analysis by FMU are available to the public</p> <p>SLIMF:</p> <p>Refer Indicator 7.4.1</p>	<p>Verifiers & Guidance:</p> <p>Public summary</p>
<p>PRINCIPLE 9. MAINTENANCE OF HIGH CONSERVATION VALUE FORESTS:</p> <p>Management activities in high conservation value forests shall maintain or enhance the attributes, which define such forests. Decisions regarding high conservation value forests shall always be considered in the context of a precautionary approach.</p>	
<p>Criterion 9.1 Assessment to determine the presence of the attributes consistent with High Conservation Value Forests will be completed, appropriate to scale and intensity of forest management</p>	
<p>Indicator 9.1.1</p> <p>The FMU has been adequately assessed (in consultation with conservation organisations, regulatory authorities and other local and national stakeholders) and any HCVPs and their biological and/or socio-economic or cultural attributes have been identified</p> <p>SLIMF:</p> <p>The FMU has been adequately assessed (in consultation with conservation organisations and regulatory authorities) and any HCVPs and their biological and/or socio-economic or cultural attributes have been identified</p>	<p>Verifiers & Guidance:</p> <p><i>This requirement must be applied to all forests undergoing assessment. HCVPs possess one or more the following attributes:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Forest areas containing globally, regionally or nationally significant concentrations of biodiversity values and/or large landscape level forests where viable populations of most/all naturally occurring species exist in natural patterns of distribution and abundance; ▪ Rare, threatened or endangered ecosystems; ▪ Forests that provide basic ecological services in critical situations (e.g. water quality or flow, protection against erosion or natural disasters such as cyclones or hurricanes, pollinators); ▪ Forests fundamental to meeting basic economic or bio-physiological needs of local communities or critical to local community cultural identity. <p>Interviews with Forest Managers and local experts.</p> <p>Evidence of assessments.</p> <p><i>According to the National Forests Act 84 of 1998, all natural forests in South Africa enjoy complete protection. In terms of Section 7 of the Act, it is illegal to cut, disturb, damage or destroy indigenous trees in or to remove them from an indigenous forest unless the Minister has issued a licence or an exemption to do so. The Act further defines a "natural" or "indigenous" forest as being a group of indigenous trees (i.e. 2 or more) whose crowns are contiguous. In terms of this all natural forests in South Africa may be classified as HCVPs without expert evaluation.</i></p>

Indicator 9.1.2	Verifiers & Guidance:
For large scale organisations the assessment procedure shall be documented and records of consultation maintained	Documented procedures and records
Criterion 9.2 The consultative portion of the certification process must place emphasis on the identified conservation attributes, and options for the maintenance thereof.	
Indicator 9.2.1	Verifiers & Guidance:
The owner/manager has determined appropriate management prescriptions for the HCVF in consultation with (and acceptable to) conservation organisations, regulatory authorities and other local and national stakeholders	Management plans and maps Consultation with stakeholders and/or government agencies or evidence of input by these agents
SLIMF: The owner/manager has determined appropriate management prescriptions for the HCVF in consultation with (and acceptable to) conservation organisations and regulatory authorities.	
Indicator 9.2.2	Verifiers & Guidance:
When an HCVF has been identified for its socio-economic or cultural attributes, there shall be joint analysis and decision-making with the stakeholders directly affected	Interviews with Forest Managers, local experts and communities. Affected communities/persons are listed on the stakeholder list (refer Criterion 4.4).
Criterion 9.3 The management plan shall include and implement specific measures that ensure the maintenance and/or enhancement of the applicable conservation attributes consistent with the precautionary approach. These measures shall be specifically included in the publicly available management plan summary.	
Indicator 9.3.1	Verifiers & Guidance:
All biological and/or social attributes of any HCVF identified are described in the management plan	Management plan
Indicator 9.3.2	Verifiers & Guidance:
The plan describes the specific measures to be taken to enhance the identified attributes (see also Criterion 7.1)	Management plan
Indicator 9.3.3	Verifiers & Guidance:
All measures are described in the public summary of the plan	Management plan
Indicator 9.3.4	Verifiers & Guidance:
When an HCVF has been identified for biological values, management shall : <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ maintain natural patterns of distribution and abundance of species, 	Management plans and maps. Interviews with Forest Managers and local experts. Field observations.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ maintain natural evolutionary and ecological processes (biotic and abiotic, including disturbance), ▪ avoid fragmentation, and set aside core areas for strict protection 	
Indicator 9.3.5 Critically endangered forest landscapes must be subject to complete protection (i.e. no harvesting)	Verifiers & Guidance: Management plans and maps. Interviews with Forest Managers and local experts
Criterion 9.4 Annual monitoring shall be conducted to assess the effectiveness of the measures employed to maintain or enhance the applicable conservation attributes.	
Indicator 9.4.1 Monitoring indicators and frequency are defined in consultation with acknowledged experts, local and national stakeholders to monitor effectiveness of each measure described in the plan <u>SLIMF:</u> Refer Indicator 8.2.2	Verifiers & Guidance: Interviews with Forest Managers and local experts
Indicator 9.4.2 Records of monitoring are kept and used, in consultation with acknowledged experts, local and national stakeholders, to adapt future management <u>SLIMF:</u> Records of monitoring are kept and used, in consultation with conservation and government agencies, to adapt future management	Verifiers & Guidance: Records of monitoring
Indicator 9.4.3 Managers are actively monitoring research developments which might contribute to management of HCVMs <u>SLIMF:</u> Managers are actively communicating with conservation and government agencies to access research developments which might contribute to management of HCVMs	Verifiers & Guidance: Scientific evidence. Interviews with Forest Managers and local experts

PRINCIPLE 10. PLANTATIONS:	
<p>Plantations shall be planned and managed in accordance with Principles and Criteria 1 - 9, and Principle 10 and its Criteria. While plantations can provide an array of social and economic benefits, and can contribute to satisfying the world's needs for forest products, they should complement the management of, reduce pressures on, and promote the restoration and conservation of natural forests.</p>	
<p>Criterion 10.1 The management objectives of the plantation, including natural forest conversion and restoration objectives, shall be explicitly stated in the management plan, and clearly demonstrated in the implementation of the plan.</p>	
<p>Indicator 10.1.1</p> <p>The management plan of the plantation explicitly states the management objectives for the plantation itself, as well as for natural forest conversion and restoration (see also Criterion 7.1)</p>	<p>Verifiers & Guidance:</p> <p><i>"Natural forest" can be also be interpreted as natural vegetation.</i></p> <p>Forest Management Plan</p> <p>Interviews with Forest Managers and local experts.</p>
<p>Indicator 10.1.2</p> <p>The achievement of the objectives can be clearly demonstrated</p>	<p>Verifiers & Guidance:</p> <p>Interviews with Forest Managers and local experts.</p> <p>Field observations</p>
<p>Criterion 10.2 The design and layout of plantations <u>should</u> promote the protection, restoration and conservation of natural forests, and not increase pressures on natural forests. Wildlife corridors, streamside zones and a mosaic of stands of different ages and rotation periods, shall be used in the layout of the plantation, consistent with the scale of the operation. The scale and layout of plantation blocks shall be consistent with the patterns of forest stands found within the natural landscape.</p>	
<p>Indicator 10.2.1</p> <p>Natural vegetation areas are considered during planning</p>	<p>Verifiers & Guidance:</p> <p>Maps</p>
<p>Indicator 10.2.2</p> <p>For protection, restoration and conservation of natural forest and wildlife corridors, refer to Criteria 6.2</p>	<p>Verifiers & Guidance:</p>
<p>Indicator 10.2.3</p> <p>Buffer zones along watercourses and around water bodies are demarcated on maps in compliance with specifications made in national and regional best practice guidelines. Refer indicator 6.5.3.</p>	<p>Verifiers & Guidance:</p>
<p>Indicator 10.2.4</p> <p>Buffer zones identified in terms of 10.2.3 are maintained</p>	<p>Verifiers & Guidance:</p> <p>Maps and field observations</p>
<p>Indicator 10.2.5</p> <p>The scale and layout of existing and new</p>	<p>Verifiers & Guidance:</p> <p>Maps and field observations</p>

plantation blocks are consistent with the patterns of forest stands within the natural landscape.	See “ <i>Visual landscape</i> ” section of the <i>Environmental Guidelines for Commercial Forestry Plantations in South Africa (Aug 2002)</i> .
Criterion 10.3 Diversity in the composition of plantations is preferred, so as to enhance economic, ecological and social stability. Such diversity <u>may</u> include the size and spatial distribution of management units within the landscape, number and genetic composition of species, age classes and structures.	
Indicator 10.3.1	Verifiers & Guidance:
Plantation planning and reestablishment make provision for diversity in species and/or provenances and/or clones to achieve optimal economic, ecological and social stability;	Forest plans and maps Field observations
Indicator 10.3.2	Verifiers & Guidance:
<p>Maximum clear-cut size is defined. Documented justification shall be provided where there are potential adverse environmental or socio-economic impacts</p> <p>SLIMF:</p> <p>Maximum clear-cut size is defined and justified.</p> <p>10.3.2.1: Clearfelling areas should be separated sufficiently to provide buffers serving as sediment traps and escape routes or havens for fauna.</p> <p>10.3.2.2: Within a catchment that feeds a permanent watercourse, no more than one third of the catchment should be clearfelled within a two-year period.</p>	Policies and procedures. <u>SLIMF:</u> Interviews with Forest Managers and field observations <i>10.3.2.1&2 See “Size of Clearfelling” section of the Environmental Guidelines for Commercial Forestry Plantations in South Africa (Aug 2002).</i>
Criterion 10.4 The selection of species for planting shall be based on their overall suitability for the site and their appropriateness to the management objectives. In order to enhance the conservation of biological diversity, native species are preferred over exotic species in the establishment of plantations and the restoration of degraded ecosystems. Exotic species, which shall be used only when their performance is greater than that of native species, shall be carefully monitored to detect unusual mortality, disease, or insect outbreaks and adverse ecological impacts.	
Indicator 10.4.1	Verifiers & Guidance:
Selection of species, provenances and clones is based on documented trials that demonstrate their suitability to the site and management objectives SLIMF: The species chosen for plantations are suited to the site and matched to the objectives. 10.4.1.1: The weed potential and water use efficiency of species is taken into consideration in terms of the locality of the planting site. 10.4.1.2: Trees are not planted where they cannot be adequately managed or harvested. This includes steep and inaccessible areas and marginal sites where the profitability is questionable.	Scientific evidence and interviews with local experts <u>SLIMF:</u> Discussions with manager about plantation objectives Plans for future planting <i>See “Site-Species Matching” (Silvicultural Practices) section of the Environmental Guidelines for Commercial Forestry Plantations in South Africa (Aug 2002).</i>

Indicator 10.4.2	Verifiers & Guidance:
Exotic species are used only where they outperform native species in meeting management objectives	Scientific evidence and interviews with local experts
Indicator 10.4.3	Verifiers & Guidance:
Information is available on seed sources and these can be traced to the stand data	Plant records
<p>Criterion 10.5 A proportion of the overall forest management area, appropriate to the scale of the plantation and to be determined in regional standards, shall be managed so as to restore the site to a natural forest cover.</p>	
Indicator 10.5.1	Verifiers & Guidance:
<p>At least 10% of the overall forest management area is managed so as to restore the site to a natural forest cover and/or other natural ecosystems. Refer Criterion 6.2. Where less than 10% is present, this shall be agreed with authorities and/or local experts.</p> <p>SLIMF:</p> <p>Improvements to the ecological value of the plantation are made where conservation features exist.</p>	<p>SLIMF:</p> <p>Field observations of conservation features</p> <p>Plans for future improvements</p>
<p>Criterion 10.6 Measures shall be taken to maintain or improve soil structure, fertility and biological activity. The techniques and rate of harvesting, road and trail construction and maintenance, and the choice of species shall not result in long term soil degradation or adverse impacts on water quality, quantity or substantial deviation from stream course drainage patterns</p>	
Indicator 10.6.1	Verifiers & Guidance:
<p>There is information on all soil types in the plantation area that indicate their susceptibility to degradation from forest operations and appropriate plantation species;</p> <p>Small growers and SLIMF can demonstrate their efforts to get access to adequate information on soil types occurring within the managed area.</p>	<p>Interviews with Forest Managers and local experts.</p> <p>Documented site information.</p> <p>Evidence that site information is being used in planning of operations.</p> <p><i>See Annexure D of the Environmental Guidelines for Commercial Forestry plantations in South Africa (Aug 2002), which provides a soil sensitivity index (NB the forest manager still needs to know the soil form, to apply this index).</i></p> <p><i>Information provided should be based on the National Terrain Classification System for Forestry, and Taxonomic Soil Classification System for South Africa.</i></p>
Indicator 10.6.2	Verifiers & Guidance:
<p>Where soils are degraded from previous activities, there are plans to restore them</p> <p>10.6.2.1: There is evidence of measures taken to improve soil structure, fertility and biological activity.</p>	<p>Soil degradation through erosion, oil and chemical spills, etc.</p> <p>Interviews with Forest Managers and field observations.</p> <p><i>Degraded areas include erosion dongas (including hoed tracer belts and eroded fire belts), decommissioned quarries and roads, overgrazed and burnt (uncontrolled fires) areas.</i></p>

Indicator 10.6.3	Verifiers & Guidance:
Major water resources within the forest area are identified	Maps and interviews with Forest Managers
Indicator 10.6.4	Verifiers & Guidance:
For impacts on soil and other biophysical aspects, refer also to Criteria 6.1 and 6.5	
Criterion 10.7	Measures shall be taken to prevent and minimise outbreaks of pests, diseases, fire and invasive plant introductions. Integrated pest management shall form an essential part of the management plan, with primary reliance on prevention and biological control methods rather than chemical pesticides and fertilisers. Plantation management <u>should</u> make every effort to move away from chemical pesticides and fertilisers, including their use in nurseries. The use of chemicals is also covered in Criteria 6.6 and 6.7.
Indicator 10.7.1	Verifiers & Guidance:
<p>The principle forest pests and diseases are identified.</p> <p>For <u>large scale organisations</u> these shall be documented.</p> <p>10.7.1.1: Document area of plantation negatively affected by pests and diseases.</p>	
Indicator 10.7.2	Verifiers & Guidance:
<p>There is a documented pest and invasive plant management strategy.</p> <p>(For chemical use, refer to criterion 6.6) in terms of pest and/or weed control and management, refer to Criterion 6.6</p>	
Indicator 10.7.3	Verifiers & Guidance:
<p>Effective control and remedial action is taken in the event of a pest, disease or invasive plant problem.</p> <p>For <u>large scale organisations</u> these actions shall be documented.</p>	<p>Interview with Forest Managers and staff.</p> <p>Documentation</p>
Indicator 10.7.4	Verifiers & Guidance:
<p>Where, required effective measures are taken to protect the plantation from fire.</p> <p>For <u>large scale organisations</u> there is regular monitoring of fire readiness that test all procedures</p> <p>10.7.4.1: Fire breaks are a) wide and long enough to have a reasonable chance of preventing a veldfire from spreading, b) do not cause soil erosion and c) are reasonable free of inflammable material.</p> <p>10.7.4.2: Where, possible, fire breaks are wide enough to permit burning each half in alternate rotations where mowing cannot be practiced.</p>	<p><i>These measure will include documented* procedures for fire suppression that include definition of responsibilities and reporting lines.</i></p> <p>Interviews with staff and records of training.</p> <p>Fire readiness and control procedures.</p> <p><i>See requirements of Veld and Forest Fire Act 101 of 1998.</i></p> <p><i>Refer to Chapter on "Fire Protection" in the Environmental Guidelines for Commercial Forestry plantations in South Africa (Aug 2002) for further legal obligations and environmental mitigation measures.</i></p>

Criterion 10.8	Appropriate to the scale and diversity of the operation, monitoring of plantations, shall include regular assessment of potential on-site and off-site ecological and social impacts, (e.g. natural regeneration, effects on water resources and soil fertility, and impacts on local welfare and social well-being), in addition to those elements addressed in principles 8, 6 and 4. No species <u>should</u> be planted on a large scale until local trials and/or experience have shown that they are ecologically well-adapted to the site, are not invasive, and do not have significant negative ecological impacts on other ecosystems. Special attention will be paid to social issues of land acquisition for plantations, especially the protection of local rights of ownership, use or access.
Indicator 10.8.1 For potential on-site impacts, see Criteria 6.1 and 6.5	Verifiers & Guidance:
Indicator 10.8.2 (Not applicable to SLIMF) Potential biophysical <u>and social</u> off-site impacts shall be monitored on a regular basis.	Verifiers & Guidance: <i>Off-site impacts may include:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ <i>Spread of exotic plantation species.</i>▪ <i>Unwanted natural regeneration of native plantation species</i>▪ <i>Effects on water resources</i>▪ <i>Effects on soil fertility</i>▪ <i>Impacts on the aesthetics of the landscape</i> Interviews with Forest Managers and local communities and/or experts. Evidence of consultation.
Indicator 10.8.3 (Not applicable to SLIMF) There is evidence of consultation with affected parties in terms of the impacts identified under 10.8.2	Verifiers & Guidance: Interviews with Forest Managers and local communities and/or experts. Evidence of consultation.
Indicator 10.8.4 For exotic or invasive species issues, see Criterion 6.9 and 10.7	Verifiers & Guidance:
Indicator 10.8.5 For social impacts, see Criteria 2.1, 2.2, 4.2 and 4.4	Verifiers & Guidance:
Criterion 10.9	Plantations established in areas converted from natural forests after November 1994 normally shall not qualify for certification. Certification may be allowed in circumstances where sufficient evidence is submitted to the certification body that the manager/owner is not responsible directly or indirectly of such conversion.
Indicator 10.9.1 Accurate data is compiled on all conversions since 1994.	Verifiers & Guidance: <i>Clear felling and replanting of a natural or semi-natural forest with a mixture of native species in the absence of satisfactory natural regeneration is not considered forest conversion to plantation.</i>

	<p><i>Clear felling and replanting of a natural or semi-natural forest with an exotic species is considered conversion.</i></p> <p><i>Where the requirements of criteria 10.9 are in conflict with criterion 6.10, the latter will take precedence.</i></p> <p>Interviews with Forest Managers and Government Agencies.</p> <p>Plantations plans and maps.</p>
<p>Indicator 10.9.2</p>	<p>Verifiers & Guidance:</p>
<p>Areas converted from natural forest to plantation since November 1994 are not certified, except where the Organization provides clear and sufficient evidence that it was not directly or indirectly responsible for the conversion.</p>	<p>Legal evidence of ownership or use-right</p>



APPENDIX A

LAWS, REGULATIONS AND STANDARDS APPLICABLE IN SOUTH AFRICA

A.	NATIONAL LEGISLATION
	<p>Legal Rights to Harvest:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Land tenure and management rights <i>Legislation covering land tenure rights, including customary rights as well as management rights that includes the use of legal methods to obtain tenure rights and management rights. It also covers legal business registration and tax registration, including relevant legal required licenses.</i> • Concession licenses <i>Legislation regulating procedures for the issuing of forest concession licenses, including use of legal methods to obtain concession license. Especially bribery, corruption and nepotism are well-known issues in connection with concession licenses.</i> • Management and harvest planning <i>Any legal requirements for management planning, including conducting forest inventories, having a forest management plan and related planning and monitoring, as well as approval of these by competent authorities.</i> • Harvesting permits <i>Legislation regulating the issuing of harvesting permits, licenses or other legal document required for specific harvesting operations. It includes the use of legal methods to obtain the permit. Corruption is a well-known issue in connection with the issuing of harvesting permits.</i>
1.	Land Administration Act, 1995 (Act No. 2 of 1995)
2.	Land Reform (Labour Tenants) Act (No. 3 of 1996, updated 2011/05/23)
3.	Land Tenure Rights Act, 1991
4.	Upgrading of Land Tenure Rights Amendment Act, 1996
5.	Restitution of Land Rights Act (No. 22 of 1994)
6.	Formalities in Respect of Leases on Land Act, 1969 (Act No. 18 of 1969)
7.	Communal Land Rights Act (No. 11 of 2004)
8.	<p>National Forests Act (No. 84 of 1998)</p> <p>Before the implementation of the NWA in 1998 (see below), afforestation was regarded as lawful if it was:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • established before May 1972, or • established before April 1994 in self-regulated homeland areas (TBVC states) (<i>this is due to the fact that these former homeland areas were only included as part of the RSA after the 1994 elections and therefore legislation only became applicable to these areas after this date</i>), or • authorised by a permit from May 1972 or April 1994 until the change to NWA licences in 1998/1999, <p>provided that the plantation adhered to all applicable legislative requirements and permit conditions.</p> <p>An example of such a legislative requirement is that of section 4A of the Forest Act, 1968 (Act No. 72 of 1968) as amended by the Forest Amendment Act, 1972 (Act No. 46 of 1972). This stated that no land which has been unafforested for a period of more than five years after the removal, harvesting or destruction of commercial timber crop, can be replanted without a permit. A permit specifies the hectares and tree genus that can be planted.</p> <p>A plantation can therefore be authorised in three different manners i.e. by means of its establishment before 1972, by means of an afforestation permit issued between 1972 and 1998 or a licence issued after 1998. These different authorisations will each authorise a portion of the afforestation within such plantation.</p>

9.	<p>National Water Act (No. 36 of 1998)</p> <p>Afforestation has been declared as a Stream Flow Reduction Activity (SFRA), regulated by means of a licensing system (Chapter 4, Section 36). This licensing system has replaced the permit system that was in use since 1972 and which was regulated under the now repealed Forest Act, 1984. Permits issued for new afforestation since 26 May 1972 are still valid and afforestation prior to May 1972 is legal (see above NFA).</p>
	<p>Taxes and Fees</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Payment of royalties and harvesting fees <i>Legislation covering payment of all legally required forest harvesting specific fees such as royalties, stumpage fees and other volume based fees. It also includes payments of the fees based on correct classification of quantities, qualities and species. Incorrect classification of forest products is a well-known issue often combined with bribery of officials in charge of controlling the classification.</i> ● Value added and sales taxes <i>Legislation covering different types of sales taxes which apply to the material being sold, including selling material as growing forest (standing stock sales).</i> ● Income and profit taxes <i>Legislation covering income and profit taxes related to the profit derived from sale of forest products and harvesting activities. This category is also related to income from the sale of timber and does not include other taxes generally applicable for companies or related to salary payments.</i>
10.	Income Tax Act, 1962 (Act No. 58 of 1962, updated 2012/07/05)
11.	<p>National Water Act (Act No. 36 of 1998)</p> <p>Afforestation has been declared as a Stream Flow Reduction Activity (SFRA), regulated by means of a licensing system (Chapter 4, Section 36). From 1 April 2002, a water resource management fee was introduced for all significant water users, including forestry.</p>
12.	Taxation Laws Amendment Act, 2012 (Act No.22 of 2012)
13.	Value Added Tax Act, 1991 (Act No.89 of 1991)
14.	Unemployment Insurance Act, 2001 (Act No. 63 of 2001, updated 2009/10/12)
15.	Unemployment Insurance Contributions Act, 2002 (Act No. 4 of 2002, updated 2012/01/17)
16.	Skills Development Act (Act No. 97 of 1998) – promotes the development of skills
17.	Skills Development Levies Act (Act No. 9 of 1999)
	<p>Timber Harvesting Activities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Timber harvesting regulations <i>Any legal requirements for harvesting techniques and technology including selective cutting, shelter wood regenerations, clear felling, transport of timber from felling site and seasonal limitations etc. Typically this includes regulations on the size of felling areas, minimum age and/or diameter for felling activities and elements that shall be preserved during felling etc. Establishment of skidding or hauling trails, road construction, drainage systems and bridges etc. shall also be considered as well as planning and monitoring of harvesting activities. Any legally binding codes for harvesting practices shall be considered.</i> ● Protected sites and species <i>Covers legislation related to protected areas as well as protected, rare or endangered species, including their habitats and potential habitats</i> ● Environmental requirements <i>Covers legislation related to environmental impact assessment in connection with harvesting, acceptable level for soil damage, establishment of buffer zones (e.g. along water courses, open areas, breeding sites), maintenance of retention trees on felling site, seasonal limitation of harvesting time, and environmental requirements for forest machineries.</i> ● Health and safety <i>Legally required personal protection equipment for persons involved in harvesting activities, use of safe felling and transport practice, establishment of protection zones around harvesting sites, and safety requirements to machinery used. Legally required safety requirements in relation to chemical usage. The health and safety requirements that shall be considered relate to operations in the forest (not office work, or other activities less related to actual forest operations).</i> ● Legal employment

	<i>Legal requirements for employment of personnel involved in harvesting activities including requirement for contracts and working permits, requirements for obligatory insurances, requirements for competence certificates and other training requirements, and payment of social and income taxes withhold by employer. Furthermore, the points cover observance of minimum working age and minimum age for personal involved in hazardous work, legislation against forced and compulsory labour, and discrimination and freedom of association</i>
18.	Conservation of Agricultural Resources Act, 1983 (Act No. 43 of 1983), as amended 2001. Section 6 (e) Protection of vleis, marshes, water sponges, water courses and water sources.
19.	Environment Conservation Act, 1989 (Act No. 73 of 1989) Section 31A (1) allows for government intervention where the environment is damaged, endangered or detrimentally affected.
20.	National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998) 28 (1) Every person who causes, has caused or may cause significant pollution or degradation of the environment must take reasonable measures to prevent such pollution or degradation from occurring, continuing or recurring, or, in so far as such harm to the environment is authorised by law or cannot reasonably be avoided or stopped, to minimise and rectify such pollution or degradation of the environment.
21.	National Water Act (Act No. 36 of 1998) 19. Prevention and remedying effects of pollution (1) If the land owner/user causes, has caused or is likely to cause pollution of the water resource then all reasonable measures to prevent such pollution from occurring continuing or recurring must be taken. (2) This may include measures to: (a) cease, modify or control any act or process causing the pollution; (b) comply with any prescribed waste standard or management practice; (c) contain or prevent the movement of pollutants; (d) eliminate any source of the pollution; (e) remedy the effects of the pollution; and (f) remedy the effects of any disturbance to the bed and banks of a watercourse.
22.	National Heritage Resources Act, 1999 (Act No. 25 of 1999) – provides for the protection of heritage resources
23.	Compensation for Occupational Injuries and Diseases Act, 1993 (No. 130 of 1993)
24.	Occupational Health and Safety Act, 1993 (No. 85 of 1993)
25.	Basic Conditions of Employment Act, 1997 (Act No. 75 of 1997) – Provides for control measures pertaining to employment
26.	Employment Equity Act, 1998 (Act No. 55 of 1998)
27.	Labour Relations Act, 1995 (Act No. 66 of 1995, updated 2012/06/22)
28.	Broad Based Black Economic Empowerment, 2003 (Act No. 53 of 2003)
	<p>Third Party Rights</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Customary rights <i>Legislation covering customary rights relevant to forest harvesting activities including requirements covering sharing of benefits and indigenous rights</i> • Free prior and informed consent (FPIC) <i>Legislation covering “free prior and informed consent” in connection with transfer of forest management rights and customary rights to the organisation in charge of the harvesting operation</i> • Rights of indigenous peoples <i>Legislation that regulates the rights of indigenous people as far as it’s related to forestry activities. Possible aspects to consider are land tenure, right to use certain forest related resources or practice traditional activities, which may involve forest lands</i>
29.	Prevention of Illegal Eviction from and Unlawful occupation of Land Act, 1998 (Act No. 19 of 1998)
30.	Extension of Security of Tenure Act, 1997 (Act No. 67 of 1997)
31.	Protection of Informal Land Rights Act, 1996 (Act No. 31 of 1996)
	Trade and Transport

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Classification of species, quantities, qualities <i>Legislation regulating how harvested material is classified in terms of species, volumes and qualities in connection with trade and transport. Incorrect classification of harvested material is a well-known method to reduce/avoid payment of legality prescribed taxes and fees</i> ● Trade and transport <i>All required trading permits shall exist as well as legally required transport document which accompany transport of wood from forest operation</i> ● Offshore trading and transfer pricing <i>Legislation regulating offshore trading. Offshore trading with related companies placed in tax havens combined with artificial transfer prices is a well-known way to avoid payment of legally prescribed taxes and fees to the country of harvest and considered as an important generator of funds that can be used for payment of bribery and black money to the forest operation and personal involved in the harvesting operation. Many countries have established legislation covering transfer pricing and offshore trading. It should be noted that only transfer pricing and offshore trading as far as it is legally prohibited in the country, can be included here.</i>
32.	Carriage of Goods by Sea Act, 1986 (Act No.1 of 1986)
33.	Sea Transport Documents Act, 2000 (Act No. 65 of 2000, updated 2007/03/02)
34.	Road Transportation Act, 1977 (Act No. 74 of 1977, updated 2006/03/23)
35.	National Road Safety Act, 1972 (Act No. 9 of 1972)
36.	National Road Traffic Amendment Act, 1999 (Act No. 21 of 1999)
37.	Export Credit and Foreign Investment Insurance Act, 1957 (Act No. 78 of 1957)
38.	International Trade Administration Act, 2002 (Act No.71 of 2002, updated 2012/02/13)
	Custom regulations <i>Custom legislation covering areas such as export/import licenses, product classification (codes, quantities, qualities and species)</i>
39.	Administration Act, 2002 (Act No.71 of 2002) – Export permit
40.	Customs and Excise Act, 1964 (Act No. 91 of 1964, updated 2012/08/13)
	CITES <i>CITES permits (the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora, also known as the Washington Convention)</i>
41.	National Environmental Management: Biodiversity Act (No. 10 of 2004) – regulates all CITES listed spp.
	Other
42.	Advertising On Roads And Ribbon Development Act (No. 21 of 1940)
43.	Agricultural Pests Act (No. 39 of 1983) – Prevents agricultural pests
44.	Animal Health Act (No. 7 of 2002) – Regulates animal health (e.g. use of mules for timber extraction in forestry)
45.	Commission on Gender Equality Act, 1996 (Act No.39 of 1996)
46.	<p>Conservation of Agricultural Resources Act, 1983 (Act No. 43 of 1983), as amended 2001.</p> <p>Land users are forbidden (without successfully obtaining the necessary permission) to drain or cultivate any vlei, marsh or water sponge or portion thereof on their land or to cultivate any land within the flood area of a water course.</p> <p>In terms of the amendments to the regulations under CARA, landowners are legally responsible for the control of alien invasive plants on their properties. 198 alien species listed as “Declared” weeds and invaders have been divided into 3 categories:</p> <p>Category 1 plants are prohibited and must be controlled</p> <p>Category 2 plants (commercially used plants such as all exotic commercial forestry plantation species) may only be grown in demarcated areas (controlled by Permit/License). Such plants are prohibited within 30m of the 1:50 year floodline of watercourses or wetlands.</p> <p>Category 3 plants (ornamentally used plants) may no longer be planted. Existing plants must be controlled from spreading and are prohibited within 30m of the 1:50 year floodline of watercourses or wetlands.</p>

47.	Constitution of South Africa (1996)
48.	<p>Environment Conservation Act, 1989 (Act No. 73 of 1989)</p> <p>19 (1) Prohibition of littering</p> <p>20 (1) Permits are necessary for waste disposal sites (this includes sawdust and bark dumps)</p> <p>21 & 22 Written authorisation is needed for certain “controlled activities” such as but not limited to:</p> <p>(a) Land use and transformation;</p> <p>(b) water use and disposal;</p> <p>(c) resource removal, including natural living resources;</p> <p>(d) resource renewal;</p> <p>(e) agricultural processes;</p> <p>(f) industrial processes;</p> <p>(g) transportation;</p> <p>(h) energy generation and distribution;</p> <p>(i) waste and sewage disposal;</p> <p>(j) chemical treatment;</p> <p>(k) recreation.</p> <p>See GN R1182 <u>The identification under section 21 of activities which may have a substantial detrimental effect on the environment</u></p>
49.	Fencing Act (No. 31 of 1963) – regulates all matters relating to fencing
50.	Fertilisers, Farm Feeds, Agricultural Remedies and Stock Remedies Act (No. 36 of 1947).
51.	Hazardous Substances Act (No. 15 of 1973)
52.	Minerals and Petroleum Resources Development Act (No. 28 of 2002)
53.	<p>Mountain Catchment Areas Act, 1970 (No. 63 of 1970, added 2005/01/13)</p> <p>This Act provides for the conservation, use, management and control of land situated in declared "mountain catchment areas". Particular emphasis is placed on the prevention of soil erosion and the protection of natural vegetation through the control of fire. Any wetlands within mountain catchment areas are protected under provisions of the act.</p>
54.	National Building Regulations and Building Standards (No. 103 of 1977) – regulates and promotes uniformity in building standards
55.	<p>National Environmental Management: Air Quality Act (2004)</p> <p>Listed activities need an emission license (Section 21(1)). In forestry this would apply to charcoal production; Paper, pulp and board manufacturing activities incl. by-product recovery; Wood preservation processes using creosote or chlorinated phenols. Medical waste incineration is also listed.</p>
56.	<p>National Environmental Management: Biodiversity Act (No. 10 of 2004)</p> <p>Chapter 4 deals with threatened or protected ecosystems and species (covers CITES requirements). Chapter 5 deals with threats to biodiversity: specifically alien invasive species and their control.</p>
57.	<p>National Environmental Management: Protected Areas Act (No. 57 of 2003)</p> <p>Provides for the protection and conservation of ecologically viable areas representative of the country's biological diversity, its natural landscapes and seascapes. It further provides for the establishment of a national register of protected areas, the management of these areas, cooperative governance, public participation and matters related to protected areas.</p>
58.	National Environmental Management: Waste Act (No. 59 of 2008)
59.	National Veld and Forest Fire Act (No. 101 of 1998) – regulates veld and forest fires
60.	<p>National Water Act (Act No. 36 of 1998)</p> <p>Section 21 states that the following activities are regarded as a “Water use” and must be licensed (and registered with the relevant authorities):</p> <p>(a) taking water from a water resource;</p> <p>(b) storing water;</p> <p>(c) impeding or diverting the flow of water in a watercourse;</p> <p>(d) engaging in a stream flow reduction activity contemplated in section 36;</p> <p>(e) engaging in a controlled activity identified as such in section 37(1) or declared under section 38(1);</p> <p>(f) discharging waste or water containing waste into a water resource through a pipe, canal, sewer, sea outfall or other conduit;</p> <p>(g) disposing of waste in a manner which may detrimentally impact on a water resource;</p>

	(h) disposing in any manner of water which contains waste from, or which has been heated in, any industrial or power generation process; (i) altering the bed, banks, course or characteristics of a watercourse; (j) removing, discharging or disposing of water found underground if it is necessary for the efficient continuation of an activity or for the safety of people; and (k) using water for recreational purposes.
61.	Plant Breeders Rights Act (No. 15 of 1976)
62.	Plant Improvement Act (No. 53 of 1976)
63.	SA Schools Act (No. 84 of 1996)
64.	Security Officer's Act, 1997 (Act No. 92 of 1997, updated 2011/11/28)
65.	Temporary Employees Pension Fund, 1979 (Act No. 75 of 1979, added 2004/07/26)
B.	REGULATIONS PERTINENT TO FORESTRY RELATED TO AND EMERGING FROM NATIONAL LEGISLATION AND OTHER LEGISLATIVE INSTITUTIONS:
66.	Nature and Environmental Conservation Ordinance No. 19 of 1974 (E. & W. Cape): Protection of fauna, flora, pollution – includes hunting regulations e.g. no hunting with dogs, prohibition of barriers in inland waters that may prevent free movement of fish etc.
67.	Mpumalanga Nature Conservation Act 10 of 1998. Regulates Nature Conservation including protected fauna and flora, hunting, prevention of obstructions in waters, pollution of waters, invader weeds and plants.
68.	Kwa-Zulu Nature Conservation Act 29 of 1992: Regulates Nature Conservation, including protected fauna and flora, fishing and hunting restrictions, waste management and pollution etc. Nature Conservation Ordinance 15 of 1974 (KZN): Regulates Nature Conservation: This is very similar to the act described above.
69.	Draft Lists of Threatened and Protected Species issued in terms of Section 56 (1) of the National Environmental Management: Biodiversity Act, 2004.
70.	General authorisation to use water in terms of section 39 of the National Water Act: GN1191, GG20526 of 08 October 1999. (This set of Regulations provides general authorisation with regard to a variety of manners of water use as listed in section 21. As such it widens the extent covered by section 21).
71.	A number of Regulations made under the previous Water Act, 54 of 1956 remains in force on the strength of section 163(3) of the National Water Act. They include Dam Safety Regulations and Regulations on water care works. Of importance are regional standards for industrial effluence, the so-called water quality standards. See in this regard GNR3208/2512/1; of 29 August 1969, amended by GN372/4597/15 dated 28 February 1975.
72.	National List of Declared Weeds and Invader Plants: Table 3 of Regulation 15 of Conservation of Agricultural resources Act (43 of 1983). Government Gazette Vol. 429: No 22166 of the 30 March 2001. R280.
73.	Henderson, L. (2001). Alien Weeds and Invasive Plants: A complete guide to declared weeds and invaders in South Africa. Plant Protection Research Institute handbook No12, Agricultural Research Council.
74.	Bromilow, C. (2010). Problem Plants and Alien Weeds of South Africa. Briza Publications, Pretoria.
75.	Picker, M & Griffiths, C. (2011) Alien and Invasive Animals – a South African Perspective. Struik Publishers, Cape Town. (See e.g. <i>Sirex</i> , <i>Leptocybe</i> , trout, bass, carp common in Forestry)
76.	National Principles, Criteria, Indicators and Standards (PCI&S) of Sustainable Forest Management (SFM). Section 3 of the National Forest Act (84 of 1998). Version 2009.
C.	INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENTS PERTINENT TO FORESTRY
77.	Convention on Biological Diversity The convention has 3 main goals: i) The conservation of biological diversity ii) The sustainable use of its components, and iii) The fair and equitable sharing of the benefits from the use of genetic resources. Enabling Legislation: National Environmental Management: Biodiversity Act (No. 10 of 2004)
78.	Convention on the International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES)

	<p>The Convention aims to ensure that international trade in specimens of wild animals and plants does not threaten their survival.</p> <p>National Environmental Management: Biodiversity Act (No. 10 of 2004) – regulates all CITES listed spp.</p> <p>South Africa also relies on enforcement through the respective Nature Conservation Ordinances.</p> <p>See also IUCN Red List of Threatened Species</p>
79.	<p>International Labour Organisation (ILO): with specific reference to</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ ILO Code of Practice on Safety and Health in Forestry Work (ILO 1998) ▪ ILO Safety and Health in the use of Agrochemicals, A guide. 1991 ▪ ILO Safety in the use of Chemicals at Work (Code of Practice), 1993 ▪ Convention 29: Forced Labour, 1930 ▪ Convention 87: Freedom of Association and Protection of the Right to Organise, 1948 ▪ Convention 97: Migration for Employment, 1949 ▪ Convention 98: Right to Organise and Bargain Collectively, 1949 ▪ Convention 100: Equal remuneration, 1951 ▪ Convention 105: Abolition of Forced Labour, 1957 ▪ Convention 111: Discrimination (occupation and Employment), 1958 ▪ Convention 131: Minimum Wage Fixing, 1970 ▪ Convention 138: Minimum Age for Working, 1973 ▪ Convention 141: Rural Worker’s Organisations, 1975 ▪ Convention 142: Human Resources Development, 1975 ▪ Convention 143: Migrant Workers (Supplementary Provisions), 1975 ▪ Convention 155: Occupational Safety and Health, 1981 ▪ Convention 169: Indigenous and Tribal People, 1989 ▪ Convention 182: Worst Forms of Child Labour, 1999 ▪ Guidelines for worker’s health surveillance ▪ Guidelines for Labour Inspection in Forestry 2005 ▪ Guidelines for Occupational Health and Safety ▪ Protection of Worker’s personal data
80.	<p>The Ramsar Convention (now becoming known as the Convention on Wetlands)</p> <p>The health of wetlands depends on their supply of water, and factors impacting this supply may be considerable distances away, in many cases beyond national borders. Furthermore, many wetland dependent species, particularly birds, are migratory or nomadic, and cross national borders as they move between wetlands. Thus, cooperation among different countries may be necessary for effective wetland conservation.</p> <p>South Africa took a leading role in the development of the Convention, becoming the fifth contracting Party in 1975. The Department of Environmental Affairs and Tourism is the administrative authority responsible at the national level for implementation of the Convention. As at of June 1998 South Africa had designated 16 sites. The Convention has been used as a rallying point for several of these wetlands when they have come under threat, including the St Lucia System, Langebaan, Blesbokspruit and the Orange River Mouth.</p> <p>The St Lucia System is afforested with commercial exotic species.</p>
81.	<p>Southern African Development Community (SADC)</p> <p>SADC Protocol on Forestry (2002): Applies to all activities related to development, conservation, sustainable management and utilisation of all types of forests and trees, as well as trade in forest products. Article 4.1 provides the guiding principles to which state parties must cooperate in good faith. The protocol further provides for the tenure and ownership of state-owned forests, national forest policies and programmes for the introduction and implementation of national legal and administrative measures to promote sustainable forest management.</p> <p>SADC Protocol on Shared Watercourse Systems (1995): This provides for the utilisation of a shared watercourse system for the purpose of agricultural , domestic and industrial use. The protocol establishes river basin management institutions for shared watercourse systems and provides for all matters relating to the</p>

	<p>regulation of shared watercourse systems.</p> <p>Forestry in South Africa located in shared watercourse systems are as follows;</p> <p>Usutu catchment feeding Swaziland (Jessivale and Piet Retief area) and the following catchments all feeding Mozambique: Pongola (Mpumalanga Highveld and KZN); Komati (Badplaas, Carolina area); Sabie; Crocodile (Ngodwana, Brooklands area); Olifants (Tzaneen) and Limpopo (Louis Trichardt area).</p>
D.	LOCAL STANDARDS AND BEST OPERATING PRACTICES
82.	A practical field procedure for identification and delineation of wetlands and riparian areas. Final draft: February 2003. Department of Water Affairs and Forestry.
83.	Engelbrecht, G. V. R. And Warkotsch, P.W. 1994. Chute Operating Manual – FESA Chute Project Group
84.	Environmental Guidelines for Commercial Forestry Plantations in South Africa (Forestry South Africa, Second Edition, August 2002).
85.	Guidelines for Forest Engineering Practices in South Africa. Forest Engineering Working Group of South Africa (FESA) May 1999.
86.	Protective Device for users of sharp bladed tools: Requirements for leg protectors. FESA standard FESA 001:1998.
87.	Relevant ICFR Bulletins and handbook series. Of special note see ICFR Handbook series No. 1/99 Site Damage and Long Term Site Productivity in Forestry Plantations in South Africa.
88.	Responsible Use Guide. AVCASA Crop protection and Animal Health Association, October 2001. (Responsible Use of Agricultural Chemicals and Stock Remedies)
89.	South African Forestry Handbook, 5 th Edition, 2012. Edited by Brian V Bredenkamp and Sally J Upfold. The Southern African Institute of Forestry (SAIF).
90.	The Private Security Industry Regulatory Authority (SIRA) Regulations.
91.	The South African Cable-yarding Safety and Operating handbook (FESA).
92.	The South African Chainsaw Safety and Operating handbook January 2000. (FESA).
93.	The South African Forestry Road Handbook. FESA Working Group, August 2004.
94.	FSC Guidelines for the Implementation of the right to free, prior and informed consent (FPIC). Version 1, 30 October 2012.

APPENDIX B

LIST OF RARE THREATENED AND ENDANGERED SPECIES LISTED FOR SOUTH AFRICA

The following websites provide information about South Africa's RT&E species:

www.iucnredlist.org (IUCN red lists)

www.panda.org

www.earthsendangered.com (this allows a search per country for species lists)

www.nationsencyclopedia.com (information per country)

www.animalinfo.org (information per country)

www.conservationoutdoors.org (species search per country)

www.nationalredlist.org (email info@nationalredlists.org)

The table below lists references related to Rare, Threatened and Endangered (or Red data) species of South Africa:

REFERENCES RELATED TO RT&E SPECIES OF SOUTH AFRICA	
1	Barnes, K. N. (ed.) 2000. The Eskom Red Data Book of Birds of South Africa, Lesotho and Swaziland. BirdLife South Africa, Johannesburg – ISBN number 0-620-25499-8
2	Draft List of Threatened and protected Species in terms of section 56 (1) of the National Environmental Management: Biodiversity Act (2004)
3	Friedmann Y. and Daly B, (editors) 2004. Red Data Book of the Mammals of South Africa: A Conservation Assessment: CBSG Southern Africa, Conservation Breeding Specialist Group (SSC/IUCN), Endangered Wildlife Trust. South Africa - ISBN number 0-620-32017-6
4	Golding, J. (ed) 2002. Southern African Plant Red Data Lists. South African Botanical Diversity Network report No 14.
5	Hilton-Taylor, C. 1996. Red Data list of Southern African Plants. NBI. Strelitzia 4.
6	Minter, L.R., M. Burger, J.A. Harrison, H.H. Braak, P.J. Bishop and D. Kloepfer, eds, 2004. Atlas and Red Data Book of the Frogs of South Africa, Lesotho and Swaziland. SI/MAB Series #9.
7	Scott-Shaw, C. R. 1999. Rare and Threatened Plants of KwaZulu-Natal and Neighbouring Regions. KwaZulu-Natal Nature Conservation Service.
8	The South African Red Data Book Series (National Scientific Programmes Report Series published by the CSIR: No 7 and 11 in 1976, 14 and 18 in 1977, 23 in 1978, 45 in 1980, 97 in 1984 and 117 in 1986. These cover birds, small mammals, fishes, large mammals, reptiles and amphibians and vascular plants.

End of Standard