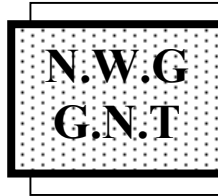


**NATIONAL WORKING GROUP ON
SUSTAINABLE FOREST MANAGEMENT
AND CERTIFICATION IN CAMEROON**



**GROUPE NATIONAL DE TRAVAIL SUR
LA GESTION DURABLE DES FORETS ET
LA CERTIFICATION AU CAMEROUN**

CRITERIA AND INDICATORS OF THE SUSTAINABLE FOREST MANAGEMENT AND CERTIFICATION IN CAMEROON

**Forest audit document for the certification
of a Forest Management Unit**

1st e edition, November 1999

I- INTRODUCTION

From 30 October to 3 November 1999 was held in Mbalmayo a workshop on the review of criteria and indicators of the forest certification in Cameroon. Synthesis works was terminated in Yaounde on the 4 to 5 November 1999.

Took part the following experts:

- Dr Marie MBOLO, Ecology Lecturer, University of Yaounde 1, member of NWG
- Dr NSANGO MAMA, Researcher, Forest Director IRAD, member of NWG
- Dr Richard EBA'A ATYI, Lecturer on Sustainable Forest, CRESA, member of the NWG Technical Committee
- Mr Roger FOTEU KAMENI, Forest Engineer, Technical Adviser MINEF, NWG Technical Coordinator
- Mr Sébastien TCHEBAYOU, Forest Engineer, Vice Director Forestry School Mbalmayo
- Mr Parfait MIMBIMI ESONO, Economist, President NWG

The attendance list is attached in annex of the present report.

II- OBJECTIVE

The objective of this workshop was to:

- Put in application one of the principal resolutions ensued from the Central African Heads of States Summit on sustainable forests management and conservation, a matter of developing criteria and indicators adapted to each country;
- Contribute to the reflexion led at the level of ATO to equip the sub-region of a harmonized system of forest management, which will end up in an independent certification;
- Equip Cameroon with certification norms adapted to cameroonian realities in harmony with those adapted at the international level;
- Dispose of an audit forest instrument, which will be used either for training, or for tests operations in the field.

III- METHODOLOGIE

The NWG President proposed this operation, and the technical supervision assured by the technical Coordinator of NWG. The experts were selected by the Technical Coordinator and approved by the President, in concertation with certain members of NWG Technical Committee.

To realized this mission, the experts had to undertook an intense documentary research on the bases of the following elements placed at their disposal at the work site:

At the national level:

- 1 Forestry law
- 2 Decree of application
- 3 Intervention norms at forestry level
- 4 Evaluation guide of management plans
- 5 National management directives
- 6 Consistent procedure and of management plan control
- 7 List of protected species CITES
- 8 Control procedure of forestry operations
- 9 Evaluation of environmental impacts of projects in the forest milieu
- 10 WHO documents on toxic products
- 11 Law of finance
- 12 Way bill
- 13 Working code
- 14 Frame law on environment
- 15 Prescription on the logs and category of species
- 16 Inventory norms of management
- 17 Verification norms
- 18 Forest cartography norms
- 19 Norms of verification of inventories
- 20 Norms of stratification
- 21 Biodiversity convention
- 22 Ministry of Environment and Forest organigramme
- 23 CIFOR tests in Kribi
- 24 Old C&I of NWG of 1997

At the regional level:

PC&I of ATO
PC&I of text of Gabon
PC&I of text of Central African Republic
Deontologie code of the Congo Basin forest exploiters.

At the international level:

- 1- Swedish FSC Standard for Forest Certification
- 2- ISO norms
- 3- FSC norms
- 4- ITTO norms
- 5- C&I of , Hart voor Hoot/GAMMA
- 6- Tool Box CIFOR (7 volumes + CDROM)
- 7- British Columbia C&I, Canada
- 8- Summary report of certification, May 1997/IMAFLORE SMARTWOOD
- 9- QUALIFOR, evaluation report, Leroy Gabon, November 1996.

Each expert should in three days, take dispositions to well impregnate of the content of his different documents following the centre of interest which was confide to him. Was followed as one goes

along, of discussions based on the practical experience of Dr Marie MBOLO acquired during her training in Sweden, and that of Dr Richard EBA'A ATYI acquired during his SGS training, also that of other participants having a long field practice in terms of forest management. These ones will had been very useful to lead to the end a well-elaborated job.

This is how the reflexion was first of all led at the national level to evaluate the efforts that were made by Cameroon, permitting him to be eligible to certification. The white book on sustainable forest management and certification in Cameroon (Roger FOTEU KAMENI and Dr Richard EBA'A ATYI) clearly expose the efforts made by Cameroon. The principles, criteria and indicators elaborated in 1997 by the NWG also permits to appreciate these efforts.

IV- RESULTS OBTAINED

The work consisted to make on the basis of available elements, a forest audit document of which the criteria and indicators are adapted to cameroonian reality. Particularly, it meant to bring out each pertinent indicator and verifiable on the field permitting the auditor to carry a fast and easy objective judgment. A French and English report is attached herewith.

The permanent worry of participants would had been to determine the C&I whose length and detail will respect the equilibrium between:

- The need to posses measurable indicators which could be use on the field;
- The need to dispose maximum applicable indicators;
- The cost of the whole audit operation.

Taking note solely of operations taking place in a Forest Management Unit (FMU) then urge us to the necessity to dispose of clear indication of minimum requirements of certification and which can be realized in a due time.

The work accomplished has to follow two stages:

At the level of Cameroon

A re-editing by two notified personalities.

- Mr Paul VISSER of SNV Yaounde
- Mr Dieudonné NGUELE TOLO of the Presidency of the Republic.

At the international level:

A re-editing of the SmartWood team with written observations before their arrival in Cameroon and also WWF-Belgium. This will permit us to bring eventual modifications to our document.

V- PERSPECTIVES

Reflexion continue in the mist of NWG for:

- Draw at maximum profit of the regional SmartWood training of december 1999 and further the reflexion on the creation of and independent African organism of accreditation;
- Sensitize economic operators on certification;
- Put in place an internal NWG process permitting to go in certain number of FMU proceed to audit exercises and of certification on the basis of minimum requirements to be determine;

- Further sensitize national public opinion on the stakes of forest certification;

These activities were listed and made the key subject of projects, which will be presented, to our partner WWF-Belgium.

V- CONCLUSION

- The spirit in which the work was accomplished is clear, it is about placing at the disposal of forest auditor which will operate in Cameroon, a clear and simplify plan assorted of reference documents permitting him to accomplish his mission by using less possible subjective elements.
- Only field reality can permit us to measure the quality of the work accomplished.
- In this effect, the training and field exercises in the framework of forest audit and the simulation of certification deriving from the NWG/SmartWood operation, shall certainly permit to discover a certain number of gaps and weaknesses, which the NWG is proposing to fill as from December 1999 – January 2000. This process shall end up in the setting in place of a certification mecanism, which shall then be officially presented to the Cameroon government ending January 2000.

This step remains a turn up defeat for the NWG, all the better Cameroon and Stakeholders community, within the framework of setting in place of resolutions of Central African Heads of States Summit held in Yaounde on the 17 mars 1999, were registered, in an urgent plan of action set in place in this effect and baptized Horizon 2000, the obligation for Cameroon to dispose before the end of this dead-line, of reliable criteria and indicators. This has as aim to prepare Cameroon for forest certification scheduled by the year 2001, after when the management plans must have been put to work and valuable in the FMU.

Done in Yaounde, this 6 November 1999

Parfait MIMBIMI ESONO
President of NWG

Roger FOTEU KAMENI
Technical Coordinator NWG

VII- EVALUATION CRITERIA

Gradation	General description	Pre-conditions, conditions and recommendations
*	Impossible to qualify at this stage of evaluation, may be due to inadequate information or available assistance	Probable pre-conditions, majors or minors, this criterion should not be included in the general average for certification.
NA	Not applicable	Criterion not applicable in this case; pre-condition not needed, condition or recommendation, this criterion can not be included in the average value for certification.
1	Very poor conformity, disadvantageous	Many majors pre-conditions
2	Poor conformity, disadvantageous, may be typical in the region, but present a significant need to be ameliorated	Majors and minors pre-conditions, majors and minors conditions are also possible.
3	Certifiable, above the norms of the region, but amelioration are opportune.	Majors and minors conditions, but no pre-conditions.
4	Favorable conformity, significantly above the norms of the region, but subsist amelioration possibilities.	Minors conditions and recommendations.
5	Represent and example of perfection in the region, excellent conformity with norms in vigour.	Only recommendations.

Each action receives a mark, then an average arithmetic value is attributed to each category.

VIII NWG REQUIREMENTS: *Principle*, Criteria, Indicator

1. ***Compliance with Cameroonian law- Forest management shall respect all applicable laws of the country and international treaties and agreements to which Cameroon is a signatory, and comply with African Timber Organization (ATO) and all accredited Principles and Criteria.***

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

1.1.1 The forest manager possesses the agreement

1.1.2 The management inventory and its conformity attestation exist.

1.1.3 The management inventory has been controlled and established reports thereof are available

1.1.4 The management plan written in conformity with the “Evaluation guide of management plans in forest production” exist and is implemented

1.1.5 The annual exploitation inventory on forest areas to be logged each year exists as well as 1:50.000 forestry maps.

1.1.6 The possession of a wood transformation unit in the region where the management is done or a contract of partnership with an existing industry exist.

1.1.7 The timber production is transformed according to the provision made by the law.

1.1.8 The forest manager has a commitment to make.

1.1.9 The forest concession boundaries are made materialize and well looked after.

1.1.10 The forest intervention annual report is made available

1.1.11 The company operation annual report made available

1.1.12 The forest manager possesses a definite convention, the provisional convention for more than three years.

1.2 **All applicable and legally prescribed fees, royalties, taxes and other charges shall be paid.**

1.2.1 The guarantee is paid for

1.2.2 The receipt of the annual forest dues based on the surface area available

1.2.3 The receipt on felling tax made available.

- 1.2.4 The receipt of export progressive surcharge made available.
- 1.2.5 The receipt on the contribution for the realization of social activities made available.
- 1.2.6 The receipt to the cost of participation in the works management are available (write down if otherwise, the cost of work realized previously by the administration).
- 1.2.7 The customs dues of the imported products made available.

- 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.**
 - 1.3.1 The forest manager had knowledge of the protected species of plants and animals (attach a list of such species in the annex).

- 1.4 Conflicts between laws, regulations and the accredited 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.**
 - 1.4.1 The forest manager should prove his good knowledge on the law and regulations in conflicts with the principle and criteria accredited.
 - 1.4.2 The statement of understanding between the different parties concerned by the conflict is made available.

- 1.5 Forest management areas should be protected from illegal harvesting, settlement and other unauthorized activities.**
 - 1.5.1 The microzoning has been accepted by all parties involved.
 - 1.5.2 Appropriate mechanism for monitoring and reporting the realization of non authorized activities in the forest exist.
 - 1.5.3 The partnership construct between the state and the manager for the respect of the biodiversity exists.

- 1.6 Forest managers shall demonstrate a long-term commitment to adhere to the FSC Principles and Criteria**
 - 1.6.1 The manager possess a copy of the national norms.
 - 1.6.2 The manager has a good knowledge of the national norms.
 - 1.6.3 The manager has a technical staff accordingly.

2. Tenure and rights responsibilities- Long-term tenure and use rights to the land and forest resources shall be clearly defined, documented and legally established.

2.1 Clear long-term tenure and forest use rights to the land (e.g. land title, customary rights, or lease agreements) shall be demonstrated.

2.1.1 The decree of forest classification exists.

2.1.2 The final convention is available.

2.2 Local people 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.

2.2.1 The socio-economic study shall be made valid and available.

2.2.2 A protocol of agreement between the state, the manager and the local communities safeguarding the use rights of the local communities has been signed by all the parties concerned and is available.

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 interest will normally disqualify an operation from being certified.

2.3.1 A local cooperative mechanism to manage conflicts exists.

2.3.2 “Villagers-forest” committee exists.

2.3.3 Contract specifications related to the protection of local pollution interest are respected (enumerate key clauses).

3. Local people's rights – The legal and customary rights of indigenous people to own, use and manage their lands, territories, and resources shall be recognized and respected.

3.1 Local people shall control forest management on their lands and territories unless they delegate control with free and informed consent to other agencies.

3.1.1 The tripartite protocol clauses are respected.

3.1.2 The microzoning is applied and respected by all the parties.

3.1.3 There is no conflict related to the use right.

3.2 Sites of special cultural, ecological, economic or religious significance to local people (and other section of the community) shall be clearly identified in co-operation with such people, and recognized and protected by forest managers.

3.2.1 The microzoning map indicates clearly the sites of special cultural, ecological and religious significance.

3.2.2 The sites so mapped are well delimited in the ground.

4. Community relations and workers rights – Forest management operations shall maintain or enhance the long-term social and economic well being of forest workers and local communities.

4.1 The communities within, or adjacent to, the forest management area should be given opportunities for employment, training and other services.

4.1.1 The local community should be given opportunities for employment (inventories, exploitation, silviculture).

4.1.2 The employers shall benefit from training and refresher courses.

4.1.3 The salaries advantages connected to the employment shall be guaranteed as outlined in the collective agreement of forest employees and the national labour code.

4.2 Forest management should meet or exceed all applicable laws and/or regulations covering health and safety of employees and their families.

4.2.1 The workers are fitted with safety equipment against accident.

4.2.2 The manager has a health and accident insurance covering the employees.

4.2.3 The forest management shall have a health unit for the employees and their families, including a first aid team of workers.

4.2.4 The national insurance contributions are transferred to the governmental organization.

4.3 The rights of the workers to organize and voluntarily with their employees shall be guaranteed as outlined in Conventions 87 and 98 of the International Labour Organization (ILO).

4.3.1 The right of workers to organize freely into unions and groups of solidarity is included in the internal rules of the company.

4.3.2 Appropriate mechanisms shall be employed for resolving grievances between the employees and the manager (code of company procedures).

4.3.3 Free elected delegates of personnel exist.

4.4 Management planning and operations shall incorporate the results of evaluations of social impact. Consultations shall be maintained with people and groups directly affected by management operations.

4.4.1 Social impact studies (component of the environmental impact study) have been signed by the representative of the committee.

4.4.2 Appropriate mechanisms of Cameroon cooperation with all the stakeholders shall be established and well known by all parties.

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 people. Measures shall be taken to avoid such loss or damage.

4.5.1 A chart for compensations related to the destruction of agricultural goods and other exists.

4.5.2 Appropriate mechanism of resolution of such conflicts exists and well understood by all parties.

4.5.3 Evidences shall be given proving that the administrative authorities have been associated the eventual compensation cases.

5. Benefits from the forest – Forest management operations shall encourage efficient use of the forest's multiple products and services to ensure economic viability and a wide range of environmental and social benefits.

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.

5.1.1 The feasibility study report (economic and finance balance sheets within the framework of the management plan) demonstrate the viability of the exploitation.

5.1.2 Secondary species are into account when calculating the forest possibility.

5.1.3 The manager shall fine, understand and master the method and parameters used in the calculation possibility.

5.1.4 The manager shall diversify the sample withdrawal in order to safeguard the production level (number of species ... volume, the widest possible).

5.1.5 The operation budget is adequate and insuring the investment necessary to finance operation include in the waybill.

5.2 Forest management and marketing operations should encourage the optimal use and local processing of the forest's diversity of products.

5.2.1 The study on chain of commercialization of wood showing the constraints and assets of the said study is available.

5.2.2 The manager develops techniques of transformation and recuperation of wood products and sub-products.

5.2.3 A strategy to develop infrastructures in order to optimize wood transformation exists.

5.2.4 Accurate informations related to other forest products and fauna exists.

5.3 Forest management should minimize waste associated with harvesting and on-site processing operations and avoid damage to other forest resources.

5.3.1 Trainings on norms to be used in forest management should be organized.

5.3.2 The manager uses felling and skidding (avoiding) forest destruction.

5.3.3 The manager knows and applies national norms of forest exploitation.

- 5.3.4 No log is abandon in the forest.
- 5.3.5 A strategy to increase the value of puzzles and wood exploitation, sub-products exists.
- 5.4 Forest management should strive to strengthen and diversify the local economy, avoiding dependence on a single forest product.**
 - 5.4.1 The manager participate to the realization of economic micro-projects development (agroforestry, breeding, valorization of local products...).
 - 5.4.2 Informations on non woody products and fauna are available.
- 5.5 Forest management operations shall recognize, maintain and, where appropriate, enhance the value of forest services and resources such as watersheds and fisheries.**
 - 5.5.1 Maps of exploitation inventories exists.
 - 5.5.2 Inventory and exploitation maps are available.
 - 5.5.3 The forest manager respect possibilities calculated during the elaboration of the management plan (comparison between provisions of the management plans and real harvesting).
 - 5.5.4 The regular archival documents for harvesting are available.
 - 5.5.5 The marking of trees, stumps and logs that is made on the map and in the field is notified in the field exercise book.
 - 5.5.6 The forest manager possess “Certificats de recollement”.
- 6. Environmental impact- Forest management shall conserve biological diversity and its associated values, water resources, soils, unique and fragile ecosystems and landscapes, and, by so doing, maintain the ecological functions and the integrity of the forest.**
 - 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 integrate 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.**
 - 6.1.1 The microzoning map shows fragile ecological zones (watersheds, mountain slopes, rivers borders, marshs,...).

- 6.1.2 The environmental impact assessment report about the industrial unit installation as well as other forestry works is available.
- 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.**
- 6.2.1 The partnership agreement with the state for protecting biodiversity is available.
- 6.2.2 There exists a structure in charge of monitoring and controlling biodiversity and for respecting microzonage within the forest concession.
- 6.2.3 Periodical reports on biodiversity monitoring and microzonage statement established by these structure are available.
- 6.3 Ecological functions and values shall be maintained intact, enhanced, or restored, including:**
- Forest regeneration and succession;
 - Genetic, species and ecosystem diversity;
 - Natural cycles that affect the productivity of the forest ecosystem.
- 6.3.1 There exists a research programme on forest resources conservation and other forest products exploitation, implemented according to an agreement protocol between the forest manager and the research Institute.
- 6.3.2 There exists a map localizing protected species and trees that provide seeds.
- 6.3.3 Replanting is done according to the silvicultural intervention programme of the management plan.
- 6.3.4 There exists permanent areas for observation within the forest concession (sample areas of the natural forest evolution).
- 6.4 Representative samples of existing ecosystems within landscapes shall be protected in their natural state and recorded on maps, appropriate to the scale of operations and the uniqueness of the resource.**
- 6.4.1 There exists areas representing the different vegetation types (resources and ecosystems) present in the forest concession.

6.5 Written guidelines shall be prepared and implemented to: control erosion, minimize forest damage during harvesting, road construction, and all other mechanical disturbances and protect water resources.

6.5.1 The national intervention standards in the forestry medium are respected.

6.5.2 The implementation of the roads infrastructures is planned.

6.5.3 The roads and skids trails network is reduced to the strict necessary.

6.6 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 Organization Type 1A and 1B 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 chemical are used, proper equipment and training shall be provided to minimize health and environmental risks.

6.6.1 All the chemical products used within the forest concession are listed and the list is available.

6.6.2 The forest manager privileges the use of biodegradable chemical products.

6.6.3 Employees are trained for using chemical products.

6.6.4 Employees are appropriately equipped for manipulating the used chemical products.

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.

6.7.1 All wastes produced within the forest concession are listed and the list is available.

6.7.2 There exist technical mechanisms for toxic wastes management.

6.8 Use of biological control agents shall be documented, minimized, monitored and strictly controlled in accordance with national laws and internationally accepted scientific protocols. Use of genetically modified organisms shall be prohibited.

6.8.1 All the biological agents used in case of survival of the fittest are listed and the list is available.

6.9 The use of exotic species shall be controlled and actively monitored to avoid adverse ecological impacts.

6.9.1 Documents authorizing the introduction of exotic species within the forest concession are available.

6.9.2 The list of exotic species introduced within the forest concession is available.

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.

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) rational for rate of annual harvest and species selection;
- d) provisions for monitoring of forest growth and dynamics;
- e) environmental safeguards based on environmental assessments;
- f) plans for the identification and protection of rare, threatened and endangered species;
- g) maps describing the forest resource base including protecting areas, planned management activities and land ownership;
- h) description and justification of harvesting techniques and equipment to be used.

7.1.1 There is a management plan or overview that clearly shows the linkages between the different forest planning activities.

7.1.2 Reference is made to the objectives of management.

7.1.3 There is a description of the forest resources being managed, environmental limitations, land use and ownership status, socio-economic conditions, and a profile or adjacent lands.

7.1.4 There is a description of silvicultural and/or other management system, based on the ecology of the forest and information gathered through resource inventories.

7.1.5 A rational for the rate of harvest is provided.

7.1.6 There are plans for identification and protection of rare, threatened and endangered species.

7.1.7 There are maps describing the forest resource base that show protected areas, planned managed activities and land ownership.

7.1.8 Description and justification of harvesting techniques and equipment are provided.

- 7.1.9 The rotations are made conform to national management guidelines.
- 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 considerations.**
- 7.2.1 The annual operation plan is available.
- 7.2.2 The five-year management plan is available.
- 7.2.3 Internal evaluation reports and administrative reports are available.
- 7.2.4 There exists a procedure to incorporate scientific innovations.
- 7.2.5 Control brigades reports are available.
- 7.3 Forest workers shall receive adequate training and supervision to ensure proper implementation of the management plan.**
- 7.3.1 There exists within the forest concession a structure in charge of the implementation and the monitoring of the management.
- 7.3.2 The personnel employed in the forest concession benefit from continued training.
- 7.3.3 The forest manager employs national forestry expertise in technical positions for logging and forest management operations.
- 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.**
- 8.1 The frequency and intensity of monitoring should 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 should be consistent and replicable over time to allow comparison of results and assessment of change.**
- 8.1.1 An evaluation system based on the operation annual plan and the five-year management plan exists and is applied.
- 8.1.2 There exist a qualified and trained personnel responsible of evaluation as well as reports thereof.
- 8.1.3 Re-management operations of areas affected by logging damages are regularly monitored and monitoring reports are available.

- 8.1.4 There exist a mechanism of monitoring the forest dynamism put in place in collaboration with the scientific research.
- 8.2 Forest management should include the research and data collection needed to monitor, at a minimum, the following indicators:**
- **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.**
- 8.2.1 The management inventory is actualized at the end of each final convention.
- 8.2.2 Changes observed on the fauna and the flora are written report.
- 8.2.3 Identified factors that could affect human health shall be highlighted and employees shall be informed (insects, plants...)
- 8.2.4 Way bill disposals in favour of local populations are respected (schools, roads, recreative sets, support to associations,...)
- 8.2.5 Training programmes are effectively organized for the employees.
- 8.3 Documentation shall be provided by the forest manager to enable monitoring and certifying organizations to trace each forest product from its origin, a process known as the “chain of custody”.**
- 8.3.1 There exist documents indicating the quality and the quantity of the harvesting, removal dates, origin and destination of logs.
- 8.3.2 The “certificat de recollement” exist and is actualized.
- 8.3.3 The DF10 is available
- 8.4 The results of monitoring shall be incorporated into the implementation and revision of the management plan.**
- 8.4.1 Research results are integrated in the management plan.
- 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.**
- 8.5.1 Annual reports are available by the forest manager and the administrative.

9. Maintenance of high conservation value-forests – Management activities in high conservation value forests shall maintain or enhance the attributes which define such forests. Decision regarding high conservation value forests shall always be considered in the context of a precautionary approach.

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.

9.1.1 Forest conservation measures shall be clearly defined in the management plan.

9.2 The consultative portion of the certification process must place emphasis on the identified conservation attributes, and options for the maintenance thereof.

9.2.1 Forest degradation risks resulting from logging shall be identified as well as measures taken to reduce them (roads construction, local population presence,...)