



MINISTRY OF WATER AND ENVIRONMENT



Proposed Content of the Roadmap For Implementing the National Forest Stewardship Standard for Uganda

Prepared for Discussion in the National Stakeholder's Dialogue, 27th March 2019





Why is the NFSS Important for Uganda?



- Internationally trustworthy standard for good forest stewardship, but developed to address national circumstances
- Provides for comparable performance across all types of forests
- Establishes a level of excellence which forest owners can strive to achieve
- Certification of forest properties, & thus a wide range of benefits to the property owner, the local community, and the country at large
- Enhances the competitive nature of forest related business enterprises on the market
- An avenue for mobilising investment capital into the forestry sector
- A tool for contributing towards SDGs

Aims of the Roadmap



Roadmap to where? **Responsible Forest Stewardship**

1. To offer a structured framework for providing SHs with information about the NFSS, so that they can appreciate the opportunities presented by the Standard
2. To put in place systems and procedures that will make it easier for forest owners/ managers to achieve forest certification (esp. smallholders)
3. To clarify areas of action so that different SHs can determine how best to participate in implementing the nascent NFSS
4. To set the pace for increasing FSC-certification in Uganda



Issues to be Addressed in the Roadmap



• Institutional Arrangements

- Transformation of the SDG
 - The current role described in Section 4 of the Process Requirements
 - Activities to be done during the 1st five years
 - Other activities needed. Therefore revised mandate of SDG
- Transformation of the National Consultative Forum
 - Current role described in Section 6 of Process Requirements
 - Ceases to exist under the current arrangements
 - Need for a formal voluntary & credible body of identifiable individuals with the mission of making sure that certification as a tool for responsible forest management is ingrained into the psyche of Ugandans.



Roadmap Issues (cont'd)



Institutional Arrangements (cont'd)

- Uganda's participation in the FSC processes
 - to keep abreast of what is going on in the FSC processes
 - increase our FSC membership
 - Increase participation in the various FSC processes

2. Procedures and Guidelines

- Uganda's timber products from certified forests will be sourced mainly from tree plantations
 - The small scale segment dominates ownership of forest properties
- NTFPs and services will also be sourced from natural forests, now found mainly in protected areas

Procedures and Guidelines (cont'd)

- Level of technical capacity is lower in the small scale segment
- Uganda needs to catch up with the international community in terms of national procedures and guidelines. Therefore:
 - Take stock of existing procedures & guidelines
 - Determine the gaps
 - Address them during the NFSS implementation phase

Roadmap Issues (cont'd)



3. Skills Development and Capacity building in general

Certification requires skills that are not common among forest owners and their managers today

especially true for forests outside the protected areas

Large forest owners can hire well trained staff & continue training them

Majority of forest owners have been hiring forest managers and contractors who have relatively low levels of skills in forest management.

Need for technical advisory services as momentum for skilling builds

4. Monitoring Use of the NFSS

Involves work required by FSC during the first 5 years of implementing the Standard

Other organisations will use the Standard as a best practice benchmark.

Both of these processes and others, will generate data that will need to be stored, accessed, and used as the need arises

[See details](#) in a word document



1. Institutional

- Transform the SDG into a NFSS implementing agency ([see examples](#))
- Transform the National Consultative Forum into a support arm of the implementing agency
- Intensify the drive for FSC membership
- Support members to participate in the FSC International General Assembly

2. National Level Procedures and Guidelines

- Develop a Forest Manager user friendly version of the NFSS
- Develop a communication and awareness strategy targeting certification of the various categories of forest owners/managers
- Develop a procedure for identification and management of High Conservation Values, including intact forest landscapes
- Conduct a national risk assessment
- Adapt the FSC chain of custody certification standard
- Develop Free Prior and Informed Consent Guidelines/ SOPs
- Develop grievances redress and conflict resolution guidelines

3. Skills and general capacity development

- Stakeholder mapping and training needs assessment
- Development of training programmes, starting with programmes for policy level decision makers, technical advisory service providers, forest managers, and contractors
- Conduct the training
- Provide technical advisory/ extension services as needed
- Training of auditors that can be accredited by CBs and other people who may not be accredited, but have the skill to prepare forest owners/ managers for certification (extension service providers)

Content (Cont'd)

4. Monitoring Use of the NFSS

- Keeping a record of comments on the Standard to be used for updating the NFSS
- Keeping track of how and extent to which the standard is being used to monitor quality of forest management at national and/or institutional level
- Developing data bases for monitoring results & linking the institutions involved
- Use of FSC trademarks and logos
- Developing monitoring frameworks for giving feedback to FSC International, and for domestic monitoring purposes



Ending Remarks



- We were 8th in the world to have our standard approved. Let's move together to actualize this in practice; and we can do it
- We have a contribution to make towards Uganda's international commitments – adding best practice to the numbers
- When we are through with boardroom rhetoric, we will down to manage the actual forests
- The roadmap should help us deliver
- **How do other countries do it?**



FSC supports 14 of 17 SDG's



1 NO POVERTY 	2 ZERO HUNGER 	3 GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING 	4 QUALITY EDUCATION 	5 GENDER EQUALITY 	6 CLEAN WATER AND SANITATION
7 AFFORDABLE AND CLEAN ENERGY 	8 DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH 	9 INDUSTRY, INNOVATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE 	10 REDUCED INEQUALITIES 	11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES 	12 RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION
13 CLIMATE ACTION 	14 LIFE BELOW WATER 	15 LIFE ON LAND 	16 PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS 	17 PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS 	



How Some Countries Work



- No experience of national roadmaps for implementing NFSSs
- In some countries, FSC National Offices provide technical support
- In many countries, it is a voluntary process moved by some companies/ groups, the state, and individuals