

Standard

MFCS Std 1 FM

2021-07-19

v01.01

**Myanmar Criteria and Indicators for
Forest Management Certification**

MYANMAR FOREST CERTIFICATION COMMITTEE



Copyright notice

© MFCC 2021

This document is copyright-protected by MFCC. The document is freely and publicly available from the MFCC website or upon request.

No part of the document covered by the copyright may be changed or amended; reproduced or copied in any form or by any means for commercial purposes without the permission of MFCC.

Myanmar Forest Certification Committee (MFCC)
Forest Compound, Bayinnaung Road, West Gyogone,
Insein Township (11011), Yangon
Myanmar

Tel: +965 (0) 13644430

Fax: +965 (0) 13644431

Email: info@myanmarforestcertification.org

Website: www.mfcc.org.mm

Document name:	Myanmar Criteria and Indicators for Forest Management Certification
Reference number:	MFCS Std 1 v1.01 FM/2021
Approved by:	MFCC
Issue date:	2020-08-21
Version date:	2021-07-19
Effective date:	2020-08-21

Contents

Contents.....	3
1 Introduction.....	4
1.1 Introduction	4
1.2 Background.....	4
1.3 Scope.....	5
1.4 Normative References	5
1.5 Format of the Standard	6
2. Myanmar Criteria and Indicators for Forest Management Certification	7
Principle 1: Compliance with Laws and Principles	7
Principle 2: Tenure and Use Rights and Responsibilities.....	8
Principle 3: Local Indigenous People's Right	9
Principle 4: Community Relations and Worker's Rights	10
Principle 5: Benefits from the Forest	12
Principle 6: Environmental Impact.....	14
Principle 7: Management Plan	19
Principle 8: Monitoring and Assessment	20
Principle 9: Maintenance of High Conservation Value Forests	22
Principle 10: Internal Audit, Management Review and Continual Improvement of the System	23
3. Additional Criteria and Indicators for Forest Management Certification (Plantations).....	25
Principle 11: Plantation Development	25
4. Definitions of Key Terms	30
5. Document History	35

1 Introduction

1.1 Introduction

Forest certification was introduced in the early 1990s to address concerns of deforestation and forest degradation and to promote the maintenance of biological diversity, especially in the tropics. It is a tool designed to document and reward specific sustainable forest management (SFM) practices and assures consumers of forest products that their purchase comes from a forest managed by globally recognized standard.

1.2 Background

Since Myanmar became a producer member of ITTO, identification of Myanmar's C&I for SFM at both National and Forest Management Unit (FMU) levels was formulated in 1996 based on the criteria and indicators of ITTO published in 1992.

In late 1998, when ITTO revised C&I, Myanmar also revised C&I with the approval of Ministry of Forestry (MOF). The institutions included C&I revising groups are department and divisions under Ministry of Forestry (MOF), Forest Resource Environment Development & Conservation Association (FREDA) and Japan Overseas Forestry Consultants Association (JOFCA). These contain 7 criteria both each at national and FMU levels, 78 indicators and 257 required activities at national level, and 73 indicators and 217 activities at FMU level together with standards of performance for each activity. In order to improve the standard, the Timber Certification Committee Myanmar (TCCM) was formed in August, 1998 by MOF.

In 2005, since ITTO formulated more clear C&I, Myanmar C&I for FMU level has been again revised under the technical working group included representatives from TCCM, Forest Department (FD) and Myanmar Timber Enterprise. With the cooperation of ITTO and FD, consultations for this revised draft C&I was presented, discussed and taken suggestions at "Training workshop on C&I for SFM of Tropical Forests" at CFDTC and "National Seminar on C&I for SFM of Forest Resources in Myanmar" at Forest Research Institute (FRI) in March, 2007. According to the suggestions, Myanmar C&I (FMU Level) was finally reviewed, revised and it consisted 7 criteria and 51 indicators. Myanmar's C&I is the basis for developing timber certification checklist at the FMU level. In 2007 and 2008, Forest department has been testing the adequacy and applicability of Myanmar's C&I at FMU level for further improvement.

In 2009, "Timber Certification Workshop for sustainable forest management" was held at International Business Centre, Yangon and discussed to define C&I for step-wise implementation of Myanmar Forest Certification Programme, defined C&I for SFM, legality of timber and Chain of Custody.

In 2010, "The First Workshop of C&I for Sustainable Forest Management and C&I for Legality of Timber" was held at Ingyin Hall, Forest Department, Nay Pyi Taw. Field testing of this workshop was conducted in forest department (Pyimana District) and Pyimana (North) Extraction Agency and assessed the documents for evidence.

"The second workshop of C&I for Sustainable Forest Management and C&I for Legality of Timber" was held in Central Forestry Development Training Centre (CFDTC), Hmawbi in 2010. Field testing of this workshop was conducted in Forest Department (Tharyarwady District) and Tharyarwady Extraction Agency and assessed the documents for evidence.

In 2013, TCCM was renamed into Myanmar Forest Certification Committee (MFCC) which covers all round aspects of forest certification process. MFCC develops and operates an independent timber certification scheme such as Myanmar Forest Certification Scheme (MFCS).

In 2015, MFCC revised Myanmar C&I for Natural Forest Management as the first draft which consists of nine (9) principles, forty-seven (47) criteria and ninety-four (94) indicators and for Plantation Forest Management, it appears as the first draft which consists of ten (10) principles, fifty-five (55) criteria and one-hundred and six (106) indicators based on Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) guidelines.

In 2015, MFCC held SWG and TWG/Expert Panel meetings to review and revise first draft.

MFCC requested comments and suggestions to all different stakeholders including forest department and other line departments, INGOs, NGOs, CSOs and other organizations in 2015 and received feedbacks in 2015 and 2016.

MFCC submitted Myanmar C&I for Natural Forest and Plantation Forest Management Certification Standard (2015-first draft) to National Consultative Meeting which was held in 2016 and it was approved as first draft.

In 2017, MFCC conducted field testing of Myanmar C&I for Natural Forest and Plantation Forest Management Certification (2015-first draft) in three districts (Tharyarwady, Katha and Gangaw).

The MFCC reformed its committee structure on 7th August, 2018 to include stakeholders from departments and organizations under MONREC and relevant Ministries, and representatives from the private sector, environmental NGOs, and CSO.

During MFCC-PEFC Project, MFCC reviewed and revised the comments and suggestions received from different stakeholders conducted in 2015 and Myanmar C&I for Natural Forest and Plantation Forest Management Certification was developed as 2019-first draft.

Between August and November 2018, MFCC held technical working group meetings to review and revise the Myanmar C&I for Natural Forest and Plantation Forest Management Certification (2019-first draft) and after that, it appeared as second draft (2019).

In line with the international practices and MFCC Standard Setting Policy, Myanmar Criteria and Indicators for Forest Management Certification Standard (2019-second draft) has been developed through an open, transparent, consultative and consensus based process, including a series of public stakeholder consultations, undertaken through SWG, TWG and MFCC meetings. Myanmar Criteria and Indicators for Forest Management Certification Standard of Natural Forest and Plantations are combined as one standard according to a series of public stakeholder consultations.

With the permission of Minister of MONREC and consensus of SWG, TWG and MFCC members, Myanmar Criteria and Indicators for Forest Management Certification Standard (2020) is approved. It consists of eleven (11) principles, sixty-four (64) criteria and one-hundred and twenty-four (124) indicators. It will be reviewed and revised periodically according to MFCC Standard Setting Policy.

1.3 Scope

This document covers requirements for sustainable forest management standards for voluntary forest management unit/forest owners who shall meet to implement sustainable forest management certification under Myanmar Forest Certification Scheme.

1.4 Normative References

1. MTCC, 2008, Malaysian Criteria and Indicators for Forest Management Certification (Forest Plantation)
2. MTCC, 2012, Malaysian Criteria and Indicators for Forest Management Certification (Natural Forest)
3. FSC, 2012, FSC Principles and Criteria for Forest Stewardship
4. FSC, 2012, FSC's engagement with Plantations, FSC Global Development
5. PEFC, 2018, Sustainable Forest Management Requirements

6. ILO Eight Fundamental Conventions (Ratified by Myanmar)

1.5 *Format of the Standard*

The standard is formatted into two columns, with the first column containing the Criteria listed under the corresponding principle. The second column show the corresponding indicators specified for each Criterion. The terms and definitions are at the end of the standard.

Criterion Important main points for assessing SFM.

Indicator Numbers, qualifications, explanations, etc for fulfilling criterion.

Terms and Definitions Definitions of key terms used in this forest standard is listed in appendix.

Note : *The verifiers are contained in a separate checklist used for auditing purposes.*

2. Myanmar Criteria and Indicators for Forest Management Certification

Principle 1: Compliance with Laws and Principles

Forest management shall respect all applicable laws and administrative requirements.			
Criterion		Indicators	
1.1	Forest Management shall respect all state laws and administrative requirements.	1.1.1	Availability of up-to date relevant existing laws, subordinate laws and policies, in particular those related to forest management.
		1.1.2	Forest Owners are aware/knowledgeable of the relevant existing laws, administrative requirements, and the regulatory framework for management of forest.
		1.1.3	Record of violations and actions taken to address them.
1.2	All applicable and legally prescribed fees, royalties, taxes, and other charges shall be paid.	1.2.1	Availability of current list of all legally prescribed fees, royalties, taxes, and other charges.
		1.2.2	Records are kept of all payments made.
1.3	The provisions of all binding international agreements such as CITES, ILO Conventions, Universal Declaration on Human Rights, ITTA and Convention on Biological Diversity etc, shall be respected.	1.3.1	Forest Owners are aware of international agreements bindings relevant to forest management and implement relevant provisions for compliance.
1.4	Conflicts between laws, subordinate laws and these 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	Availability of documentation of any conflicts between laws, subordinate laws and these Principles and Criteria.
		1.4.2	Forest Owners are willing to participate in any process to resolve such conflicts that may arise with the affected parties.
1.5	Forest Management areas shall be protected from illegal harvesting, settlement and other unauthorized activities.	1.5.1	Availability of legal provisions for the establishment and protection of forest areas.

Criterion		Indicators	
		1.5.2	Control and monitoring of encroachment, illegal harvesting, hunting, fishing and settlement and other unauthorized activities in FMU.
1.6	Forest Owners shall demonstrate a long-term commitment to adhere to these Principles and Criteria.	1.6.1	Availability of policies or statements of commitment to forest management practices consistent with these Principle and Criteria.
		1.6.2	Policies or statement are communicated throughout the organization and contractors, and are made available to the public.

Principle 2: Tenure and Use Rights and Responsibilities

Long-term tenure and use rights to the land and forest resources shall be clearly defined, documented and legally established.			
Criterion		Indicators	
2.1	Clear evidence of long-term forest use rights to the land (e.g. land title, customary rights or leased agreements) shall be demonstrated.	2.1.1	Availability of documentation of legal status, and established forest use rights of the land or forest resources within the relevant legal framework for the forest area.
		2.1.2	Forest Owners shall support legality recognized mechanisms for resolving land claims,
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, prior and informed consent to other parties.	2.2.1	Availability of documentation, if any, of legal or customary tenure or use rights of local communities within relevant state laws in the FMU.
		2.2.2	Forest Owners shall collaborate with holders of duly use rights within relevant state legal frameworks, in activities that may affect such rights.
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	2.3.1	Availability of legal mechanisms to resolve disputes over tenure claims and use rights.

number of interests will normally disqualify an operation from being certified.		
---	--	--

Principle 3: Local Indigenous People's Right

The legal and customary rights of indigenous people to own, use and manage their lands, territories, and resources shall be recognized and respected.			
Criterion		Indicators	
3.1	Local indigenous people shall control forest management on their lands and territories unless they delegate control with free, prior and informed consent (FPIC) to other agencies.	3.1.1	Availability of documentation of the customary rights of indigenous people's lands within relevant legal frameworks.
		3.1.2	Management of such lands is controlled by local indigenous people unless they delegate control with free prior and informed consent (FPIC) to other agencies.
		3.1.3	Availability of appropriate mechanisms to resolve any conflict and grievance between parties involved.
3.2	Forest Management shall not threaten or diminish, either directly or indirectly, the resources or tenure rights of local indigenous peoples.	3.2.1	Forest Management practice in local indigenous people' lands recognized within relevant legal frameworks shall not threaten or diminish, either directly or indirectly, their resources or tenure rights.
3.3	Sites of special cultural, ecological, economic or religious significance to local indigenous peoples shall be clearly identified in cooperation with such peoples, and recognized and protected by forest owners.	3.3.1	Availability of appropriate procedures within current administrative processes for identifying and protecting such sites and provisions for rights of access to these sites by local indigenous people within relevant state legal frameworks or by mutual agreement.
		3.3.2	Availability of appropriate mechanisms for conflict resolution.
3.4	Local indigenous people 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 prior and informed consent (FPIC)	3.4.1	Availability of documentation, if any of traditional forest-related knowledge and practices of local indigenous peoples in the use of forest species or management systems in forest operations.

	before forest operations commence.	3.4.2	Availability of appropriate mechanisms, fair and equitable compensation for the commercial utilization of traditional forest-related knowledge and practices of local indigenous people in accordance with existing legislation or by mutual agreement.
--	------------------------------------	-------	---

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		Indicators	
4.1	The communities within, or adjacent to, the forest management area shall be given opportunities for employment, training, and other services.	4.1.1	Forest Owners shall ensure people in local communities are given equal employment opportunities and that local employment and training opportunities are promoted.
		4.1.2	Forest Owners ensure that qualified people in communities living within or adjacent to forest areas are given preference for employment and contract works and treated fairly.
4.2	Forest Management shall meet or exceed all applicable laws and/or regulations covering health and safety of employees and their families.	4.2.1	Up-to-date information on all applicable laws and/or subordinate laws covering occupational safety and health of forest workers shall be disseminated to them.
		4.2.2	Availability of management policies addressing the occupational safety and health of forest workers and their families.
		4.2.3	Appropriate safety and operational equipment in good working condition, including operational procedures, shall be made available to forest workers in the work place.
		4.2.4	Forest Owners shall maintain up-to-date safety records in compliance with all applicable laws and/or subordinate laws covering health and safety of forest workers.

Criterion		Indicators	
		4.2.5	Demarcation of hazardous areas and provision of guidelines for storage and handling of hazardous materials.
4.3	The rights of workers as outlined in Conventions 29, 87 and 182 of the International Labour Organization (ILO) shall be guaranteed.	4.3.1	Provision for forest workers to suppress the use of forced or compulsory labour in accordance with ILO Convention No.29.
		4.3.2	Provision for forest workers to freely organize into unions of their own choice in accordance with ILO Convention No.87.
		4.3.3.	Provision for the prohibition and elimination of the worst forms of child labour in accordance with ILO Convention No.182.
		4.3.4.	Availability of appropriate procedures to address grievances raised by forest workers and/or their organizations and for conflict resolution.
4.4	Management planning and operations shall incorporate the results of evaluations of social impact and environmental impact. Consultations shall be maintained with people and groups (both men and women) directly affected by management operations.	4.4.1	Forest Owners shall evaluate through consultations, social impact and environmental impact of forest management operations directly affecting communities, and the people and groups directly affected by the forest management operations shall have access to information on the results of the social impact evaluations.
		4.4.2	Forest planning and management practices shall consider and incorporate the results of such evaluations.
4.5	Forest Owners shall be committed to equal opportunities, workspace and working facilities, non-discrimination and freedom from workplace harassment and actively promote gender equality, work space and working facilities.	4.5.1	Forest Management have policies and/or procedures covering equal opportunities.
4.6	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.	4.6.1	Procedure for resolving grievances involving claims loss or damage to property health and/or legal or customary source, livelihood caused by forest operations shall be documented.
		4.6.2	Appropriate mechanisms, the forest owners shall comply with the provisions of national law to offer remedial action or fair compensation in the case of any

			loss or damage caused by the forest operations and affecting the legal or customary rights, property, resources or livelihood of local people within FMU.
--	--	--	---

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		Indicators	
5.1	Forest Management shall strive toward economic viability, while taking into account the full environment, social, cultural and operational costs of production, and ensuring the investments necessary to maintain the ecological productivity of the forest.	5.1.1	Cost and benefits of environmental and social effects shall be identified and incorporated into a district forest management plan including for forest administration, research, human resource development and budget.
		5.1.2	Provisions and management prescriptions are made to maintain, restore or enhance the productive capacity and ecological functions of the forest areas to ensure its economic viability.
5.2	Forest management and marketing operations shall encourage the optimal use and local processing of the forest's diversity of products.	5.2.1	Application of forest management practices to encourage the optimal use of forest resources.
		5.2.2	Application of marketing operations to encourage local processing and diversifying the mix of commercial products derived from the forest.
5.3	Forest Management shall minimize waste associated with harvesting and on-site processing and avoid damage to other forest resources.	5.3.1	Availability and implementation of guidelines for reduced/low impact logging to minimize damage to other forest resources and wastage.
5.4	Forest management shall strive to strengthen and diversify the local economy, avoiding dependence on a single forest product.	5.4.1	Application of forest management strategy encourages the production of a mix of commercial forest products (timber and non-timber forest products).

Criterion		Indicators	
5.5	Forest Management operation shall recognize, maintain, and where appropriate, enhance the value of forest services and resources such as watersheds and fisheries.	5.5.1	Availability and implementation of guidelines and/or procedures of identify and demarcate sensitive areas for the protection of soil and water, watercourses and wetlands in forest areas.
		5.5.2	Availability and implementation of forest management guidelines, where appropriate to maintain and/or enhance the value of forest services and resources.
5.6	The rate of harvest of forest products shall not exceed levels which can be permanently sustained.	5.6.1	Rate of harvest shall not be greater than the estimated re-growth of the residual stand based on permanent within a pre-defined cutting cycle.
		5.6.2	Records of quantity of timber and non-timber forest products harvested shall be maintained, taking cognizance of their sustainability in the long term.

Principle 6: Environmental Impact

Forest Management shall conserve biological diversity and its associated values, water resources, soils and unique fragile ecosystems and landscapes, and by so doing, maintain the ecological functions and the integrity of the forest.

Criterion		Indicators	
6.1	Assessment of environmental impacts shall be completed appropriate to the scale, intensity of forest management and the uniqueness of the effected resources and adequately integrated into management systems. Assessments shall include landscape level consideration 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	Forest Owners shall systematically identify and assess the potential site including landscape level specific environmental impacts (including on-site processing facilities) prior to commencement of all site disturbing activities carried out within the management unit appropriate to the scale and intensity of forest management unit.
		6.1.2	Assessment of environmental impacts are carried out, including the potential impacts on endangered, rare and threatened species of flora and fauna, and the need for biological corridors in forests area, appropriate to the scale and intensity of forest management.
		6.1.3	District Forest Management Plans shall incorporate measures to mitigate the environmental impacts identified in the assessments.

Criterion		Indicators	
6.2	Safeguards shall exist which protect rare, threatened and endangered species and their habitats (e.g. their nesting and feeding areas) conservation zones and protection areas shall be established, appropriate to the uniqueness of affected resources and the scale and intensity of forest management (e.g. hunting, fishing, trapping and collection shall be controlled).	6.2.1	Availability and implementation of guidelines to identify and protect endangered, rare and threatened species of forest flora and fauna, including features of species biological interest such as seed trees, salt licks, nesting and feeding areas in FMU.
		6.2.2	Availability and implementation of management guidelines to establish representative conservation and protection areas, in accordance with existing forest ecosystems, appropriate to the scale and intensity of forest/forest plantations management
		6.2.3	Existence of cooperation between forest owners and conservation organizations, and regulatory authorities in implementing conservation and management activities.
		6.2.4	Hunting, fishing and collecting activities shall be controlled and unauthorized and/or inappropriate activities prevented in forest area.
		6.2.5	Forest workers shall be aware of endangered, rare and threatened species of forest flora and fauna found in the FMU. Such awareness shall be promoted among local communities.
6.3	Ecological functions and values shall be maintained intact, enhanced, or restored, including: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Forest regeneration and succession 2. Genetic, species and ecosystem diversity. 3. Natural cycles that affect the productivity of the forest ecosystem. (This Criterion shall apply only to areas/sites within the forest management unit which are allocated for conservation or natural forest management).	6.3.1	Availability and implementation of Forest Management guidelines to access post harvesting in natural forests, and measures to enhance natural regeneration, where necessary, in forest areas.
		6.3.2	Availability and implementation of guidelines for conservation of genetic, species and ecosystem diversity forest areas.
		6.3.3	Harvesting is designed taking into consideration the need for biological corridors and buffer zone for feature of special biological interest for wildlife.

Criterion		Indicators	
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.	6.4.1	Representative areas of existing forest ecosystems, appropriate to the scale and intensity of forest operations, identified and selected under 6.2.2, are demarcated, mapped and protected in their natural state.
		6.4.2	Implementation of appropriate protection and management activities for these areas.
6.5	Guidelines shall be prepared and implemented to control erosion, minimize forest damage during harvesting, road construction, and all other mechanical disturbances, and protect water resource.	6.5.1	Availability and implementation of harvesting procedure to protect the soil from compaction by harvesting machinery and erosion during harvesting operation.
		6.5.2	Implementation of reduce impact logging (RIL) to minimize damage to the environment.
		6.5.3	Availability and implementation of guidelines for forest road lay-out and construction, including log landings and drainage requirements.
		6.5.4	Availability and implementation of guidelines for conservation of buffer strips along streams and rivers.
6.6	Forest Owners shall adopt, where possible, environmentally friendly non-chemical methods of pest management and avoid the use of chemical pesticides. World Health Organization Type 1A and 1B and chlorinated hydrocarbon 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 minimize health and environmental risks.	6.6.1	Forest Owners shall demonstrate a commitment to the goal of avoidance and minimization of chemical pesticide use and the promotion of environmentally optimal methods of pest management.
		6.6.2	Availability and implementation of guidelines and/or procedures on the use of chemicals in forest approved by relevant regulatory authorities.
		6.6.3	Forest workers shall be trained and aware of the procedures on the use of approved chemicals in the forest.
6.7	Chemicals, containers, liquid and solid non-organic wastes, including fuel and oil, shall be disposed of in an environmentally appropriate manner at off-site locations.	6.7.1	Availability of documentation on oil, fuel, tyres, containers, liquid and solid non-organic wastes, shall be disposed of in an environmentally appropriate and legal manner.

Criterion		Indicators	
6.8	Forest management shall implement prevention and remedial measures against forest fire that comply with Forest law.	6.8.1	Documented training and awareness raising programs for forest management employees and local communities.
		6.8.2	Adequate and functional fire fighting equipment/fire safety procedures/emergency procedures.
6.9	Use of biological control agents shall be documented, monitored and strictly controlled in accordance with internationally accepted scientific protocols. Use of genetically modified organisms (GMO) shall be prohibited	6.9.1	Biological control agents shall be documented, monitored and controlled in accordance with relevant laws internationally accepted.
6.10	The use of exotic species shall be carefully controlled and actively monitored to avoid adverse ecological impacts.	6.10.1	Forest Owners shall carefully document, control and monitor the use of exotic species to avoid adverse ecological impacts. Preference shall be given to native species in enrichment planting in natural forest.

Criterion		Indicators	
6.11	<p>Forest conversion shall not occur unless in justified circumstances where conversion:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. is in compliance with Myanmar legislation and land use planning for forest management and is permitted by the relevant authorities and included consultation with affected stakeholders; 2. entails a small proportion (no greater than 5%) of forest type within the certified area; and 3. does not have negative impacts on ecologically important forest areas, culturally and socially significant areas, or other protected areas; and 4. does not destroy areas of significantly high carbon stock; and 5. makes a contribution to long-term conservation, economic and social benefits. <p>Note: "Conversion of forests to other types of land use, and conversion of ecologically important forest areas to forest plantations" means that forest plantations established by a forest conversion after 31 December 2010 in other than "justified circumstances" do not meet the requirement and are not eligible for certification.</p>	6.11.1	<p>Natural Forest</p> <p>Forest Management shall ensure that conversion from forest to or non-forest use:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> I. Shall not include any High Conservation Value Forest areas; and II. Covers a very limit portion(*) of the FMU and shall enable clear, substantial, additional, secure, long term conservation economic and social benefits across the FMU. <p>Forest Plantations</p> <p>Conversion of forest area to forest plantations, consistent with the provisions of relevant and state legal frameworks and policies, does not occur on high conservation value forest areas, and shall provide substantial, additional, secure and long term benefits across the forest plantation management unit.</p>
		6.11.2	<p>The forest owner shall have evidence of necessary approval for the conversion, in line with applicable laws and policies.</p>

Principle 7: Management Plan

A forest 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		Indicators	
7.1	<p>The forest management plan and supporting documents shall provide:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Management objectives. 2. Description of the forest resources to be managed, environmental limitations, land use and ownership status, socio-economic conditions, and a profile of adjacent lands. 3. Description of silvicultural and/or other management system, based on the ecology of the forest in question and information gathered through resource inventories. 4. Rationale for rate of annual harvest and species selection. 5. Provisions for monitoring of forest growth and dynamics. 6. Environmental safeguards based on environmental assessments. 7. Plans for the identification and protection of rare, threatened and endangered species. 8. Maps describing the forest resource base including protected areas, planned management activities and land ownership. 	7.1.1	Availability and implementation of District Forest Management Plan.
7.2	<p>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>	7.2.1	Implementation of procedures to periodically revise the forest management plan, incorporating the result of monitoring or new scientific and technical information, the frequency of which shall be appropriate to the scale and intensity of forest management, so as to respond to changing environmental, social and economic circumstances

Criterion		Indicators	
		7.2.2	Forest Owners shall be aware of new scientific and technical information pertinent to the management of the area to be certified.
7.3	Forest workers shall receive adequate training and supervision to ensure proper implementation of the management plan.	7.3.1	Availability of facilities and programs for training of forest workers for proper implementation of the forest management plan.
		7.3.2	Forest workers shall be trained as to their respective roles in the implementation of the forest management plan.
7.4	While respecting the confidentiality of information, forest owners shall make publicly available a summary of the primary elements of the management plan, including those listed in Criterion. 7.1.	7.4.1	A summary of the primary elements of the forest management plan as prepared and implemented under Indicator 7.1.1 shall be made publicly available.

Principle 8: Monitoring and Assessment

Monitoring shall be conducted - appropriate to the scale and intensity of forest management - to assess the condition of forest, yields of forest products, chain-of-custody, management activities and their social and environmental impacts.

Criterion		Indicators	
8.1	The frequency and intensity of monitoring shall 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 shall be consistent and replicable overtime to allow comparison of results and assessment of change.	8.1.1	Forest Owners shall comply with the regulatory monitoring procedures in accordance with relevant guidelines of Forest Departments and other relevant agencies.
		8.1.2	Forest Owners shall identify and implement appropriate monitoring procedures, in accordance with the scale and intensity of the forest management operations, for assessing social, ecological environmental and economic impacts.

Criterion		Indicators	
8.2	<p>Forest management shall include the research and data collection need to monitor, at a minimum the following indicators:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Yield of all forest products harvested. 2. Growth rates, regeneration and condition of the forest. 3. Composition and observed changes in the flora and fauna. 4. Environmental and social impacts of harvesting and other operations. 5. Costs, productivity, and efficiency of forest management. 	8.2.1	Yields of forest products harvested shall be recorded. Forest owners shall gather the relevant information, appropriate to the scale and intensity of forest management, needed to monitor the items (a) to (e) listed in Criterion 8.2.
8.3	Documentation shall be provided by the forest owner 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	Forest Owners shall provide relevant documents for identifying all forest products leaving the area to be certified so that their origin could be easily determined.
8.4	The results of monitoring shall be incorporated into the implementation and revision of the management plan.	8.4.1	Forest Owners shall incorporate the results and findings of the monitoring activities into the implementation and revision of the forest management plan.
8.5	While respecting the confidentiality of information, forest management shall make publicly available a summary of the results of monitoring indicators, including those listed in Criterion 8.2.	8.5.1	A summary of the results of monitoring indicators, including those listed in Criterion 8.2, shall be made publicly available.

Principle 9: Maintenance of High Conservation Value Forests

Management activities in high conservation value forests (HCVFs) 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.

Criterion		Indicators	
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 Owners shall conduct an assessment to identify High Conservation Value Forests (HCVFs) in accordance with relevant guidelines, appropriate to scale and intensity of management for FMU, and in consultation with relevant stakeholders and experts.
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 Owners shall provide the assessors with a list of relevant stakeholders who have been consulted regarding the HCVFs.
		9.2.2	Forest Owners shall demonstrate that the forest management operations consider and protect areas of high conservation value in forest areas.
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.	9.3.1	Measures to demarcate, maintain and/or enhance the HCVF attributes are documented in the forest management plan and effectively implemented
		9.3.2	These measures shall be included in the District Forest Management Plan summary made publicly available.
9.4	Annual monitoring shall be conducted to assess the effectiveness of the measures employed to maintain or enhance the applicable conservation attributes.	9.4.1	Forest Owners shall conduct, appropriate to scale and intensity of forest management, annual monitoring to assess the effectiveness of the measures to identify mortality, disease, insect outbreak, and adverse ecological impact in the management of the HCVFs in forest areas.
		9.4.2	Forest Owners shall incorporate the results and findings of the HCVFs monitoring activities into the implementation and revision of the District Forest Management Plan.

Principle 10: Internal Audit, Management Review and Continual Improvement of the System

Quality management systems shall be established, implemented and maintained to promote continual monitoring and improvement of the sustainable forest management system.			
Criterion		Indicators	
10.1	Forest Management shall establish and document a quality management system to ensure that the programme towards Sustainable Forest Management continues to be suitable, adequate, and effective, and to ensure continual improvement in performance outcomes are achieved.	10.1.1	Forest Management shall have documented policies and/or procedures and reporting tools for carrying out internal audits.
		10.1.2	Forest Management shall commit to and demonstrate that quality systems are conducted objectively and impartially.
10.2	Forest Management shall plan, establish, implement and maintain an audit programme(s). At a minimum this will include audit frequency, audit criteria and scope, methods, responsibilities, planning requirements and reporting. Plans shall consider results of previous audits and ensure audit impartiality.	10.2.1	Forest Management shall have documented policies and/or procedures for audit arrangements.
10.3	When a nonconformity occurs in the system, forest management shall <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. react to the nonconformity and, 2. evaluate the need for action to eliminate the causes of the nonconformity 3. implement any action needed; 4. review the effectiveness of any corrective action taken; 5. make changes to the management system, if necessary. 	10.3.1	Forest Management shall prepare and follow own procedures and related documents to ensure that these procedures will cover at a minimum: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - raising, evaluating and closing NCOs - escalating non-conformances and observations - reporting and recording
		10.3.2	Non Conformity Procedures must cover the process for approving proposed corrective actions.
		10.3.3	Forest Management shall retain documented information as evidence of the results of any corrective action for at least five years.

Criterion		Indicators	
10.4	<p>Forest Management shall have defined procedures for management reviews of the systems. At a minimum reviews will cover:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Updates on previous management reviews, changes in external and internal issues relevant to the management system, information on performance(including NCOs, corrective actions; 2. Audits results: 3. Monitoring and measurement results; 4. Opportunities for system development and improvement. <p>Reviews will take place at least once a year.</p>	10.4.1	Forest Management shall have documented policies and/or procedures for management reviews.
		10.4.2	Management review outputs shall include minutes with decision an action points covering systems correction, development and improvement.
10.5	Forest Management shall keep a record of reviews, NCO's and audits and document any changes to management and performance outcomes for at least 5 years.	10.5.1	Records of internal audits, managements reviews, corrective and preventative actions and other records of change.

3. Additional Criteria and Indicators for Forest Management Certification (Plantations)

Principle 11: Plantation Development

Plantation shall be planned, established and managed in accordance with Principles and its Criteria. While plantations can provide an array of social and economic benefits, and can contribute to satisfying the regional and global needs for forest produces, they should complement the management of, reduce pressure on, and promote the restoration and conservation of natural forests.

Criterion		Indicators	
11.1	The management objectives of the plantation, including natural forest conservation and restoration objectives, shall be explicitly stated in the management plan, and clearly demonstrated in the implementation of the plan.	11.1.1	Implementations of forest plantation management plan with clear management objectives, including natural forest conservation and restoration objectives. Planning complies criteria 7.1, 7.2, 7.3, 7.4.
11.2	The design and layout of plantations shall 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.	11.2.1	Forest plantation design and layout shall promote the protection, restoration and conservation of natural forests for forest plantation areas.
		11.2.2	Forest plantation establishment shall, appropriate to the scale of the operation, follow natural landscape and take into account the need for wildlife corridors, buffer strips for permanent streams and rivers, as well as a mosaic of stands of different age classes, good for indigenous wildlife corridor, cover, food, etc.
11.3	Diversity in the composition of plantations is preferred, so as to enhance economic, ecological and social stability. Such diversity may include the size and spatial distribution of management units within the landscape, number and genetic composition of species, age classes and structures.	11.3.1	Availability of information on planting stock and species planted in the forest plantation areas, taking cognizance that diversity in compositing of forest plantation is preferred, so as to enhance economic, ecological and social stability.
		11.3.2	Availability of documentation of the size and spatial distribution of the established forest plantation areas.

Criterion		Indicators	
11.4	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, other than the already established 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.	11.4.1	Availability of documentation of choice of species that match the site conditions and the management objectives of the established forest plantation areas, weeds and pest control.
		11.4.2	Availability of justification and/or analysis of the comparative advantages/benefits of choosing exotic species over native species in forest plantations establishment and/ or restoration.
		11.4.3	Assessment of forest plantations established with exotic species through monitoring of permanent sample plots to detect unusual mortality, disease, or insect outbreaks and adverse ecological impacts.
11.5	A proportion of the overall forest plantation management area, appropriate to the scale of the plantation, shall be managed so as to restore the site to a natural forest cover.	11.5.1	Provision and measures, appropriate to the scale of the forest plantation, to manage part of the forest plantation area as natural forest.
11.6	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.	11.6.1	Application of appropriate site preparation and planting techniques, road and trail construction and maintenance, and the selection of species for forest plantation areas that would not cause long term soil degradation or adverse impacts on water quality and quantity or adverse impacts on water quality and quantity or substantial deviation from stream cause drainage patterns.
11.7	Measures shall be taken to prevent and minimize outbreak 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 fertilizers. Plantation management shall make every effort to move away from chemical pesticides and fertilizers, including their use in nurseries. The use of chemical is also covered in Criteria 6.6 and 6.7.	11.7.1	Availability and implementation of guidelines and/or procedures to control the outbreaks of pests, diseases and fire, as well as invasive plant introductions, if any, for forest plantation areas.
		11.7.2	Availability and implementation of fertilization schedule for forest plantation areas, including the use of chemical pesticides and biological agents such as plants and soil organisms that fix and store key elements and nutrients.

Criterion		Indicators	
11.8	Appropriate to the scale and diversity of the operations, 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 4, 6 and 8. No species shall 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.	11.8.1	Availability and implementation of programs appropriate to the scale and diversity of the forest plantation operations, to monitor the potential on-site and off-site ecological and social impacts of forest plantation establishment and development.
		11.8.2	Availability of documentation of nursery and field trials, including provenance trials, of selected species for forest plantation establishment.

Criterion		Indicators	
11.9	<p>Reforestation and Afforestation of ecologically important non-forest ecosystems shall not occur unless in justified circumstances where conversion:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. is in compliance with Myanmar legislation and land use planning for forest management and is permitted by the relevant authorities; 2. is established based on a decision-making basis where affected stakeholders have opportunities to contribute to the decision-making on conversion through transparent and participatory consultation processes; and 3. does not have negative impacts on threatened (including vulnerable, rare or endangered) non- forest ecosystems, culturally and socially significant areas, important habitats of threatened species or other protected areas; and 4. entails a small proportion of the ecologically important non-forest ecosystem managed by an organisation. 5. does not destroy areas of significantly high carbon stock and 6. makes a contribution to long-term conservation, economic and social benefits. <p>Note: "Reforestation and Afforestation of ecologically important non-forest ecosystems" means that ecologically important non-forest ecosystems reforested or afforested after 31 December 2010 in other than "justified circumstances" do not meet the requirement and are not eligible for certification."</p>	11.9.1	The Forest Management shall have records and evidences of public affected stakeholder consultation for afforestation and reforestation in line with applicable laws, policies and land use planning.
		11.9.2.	The Forest Management shall have records and evidences on threatened non-forest ecosystems, culturally and socially significant areas.
		11.9.3.	The Forest Management shall provide relevant documents for identifying ecologically important forest ecosystem.

Criterion		Indicators	
11.10	<p>Any conversion of severely degraded forests to forest plantations must add economic, ecological, social and/or cultural value. Precondition of adding such value are circumstances where the conversion:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. is in compliance with Myanmar legislation and land use planning for forest management and is permitted by the relevant authorities; 2. is established based on a decision-making basis where affected stakeholders have opportunities to contribute to the decision-making process through transparent and participatory consultation processes; 3. has a positive impact on long-term carbon sequestration capacity of forest vegetation; and 4. does not have negative impacts on ecologically important forest areas, culturally and socially significant areas, or other protected areas; and 5. safeguards protective functions of forests for society and other regulating or supporting ecosystem services; and 6. safeguards socio-economic functions of forests, including the recreational function and aesthetic values of forests and other cultural services; and 7. has a land history providing evidence that the degradation is not the consequence of deliberate poor forest management practices; 8. and is based on credible evidence demonstrating that the area is neither recovered nor in the process of recovery. 	11.10.1	The Forest Management shall have records and evidence for conversion of severely degraded forests to forest plantations in line with applicable laws, policies and land use planning.

4. Definitions of Key Terms

<i>Annual allowable cut</i>	The amount of timber that is permitted to be harvested annually from a given area.
<i>Biological control agents</i>	Living organisms used to eliminate or regulate the population of other living organisms.
<i>Biological corridor</i>	Area of habitat connecting wildlife populations separated by human activities (such as roads, development or logging). This allows an exchange of individuals between populations, which may help prevent the negative effects of inbreeding and reduced genetic diversity (via genetic drift) that often occur within isolated populations. Corridors may also help facilitate the reestablishment of populations that have been reduced or eliminated due to random events (such as fires or disease). This may potentially moderate some of the worst effects of habitat fragmentation.
<i>Biological diversity</i>	The variability among living organisms from all sources including, inter alia, terrestrial, marine and other aquatic ecosystems and the ecological complexes of which they are a part; this includes diversity within species, between species and of ecosystems.
<i>Chemicals</i>	The range of fertilizers, insecticides, fungicides, and hormones which are used in forest management.
<i>Consultation</i>	Act of asking advice, opinions from other persons or parties, and of deliberating together over that opinion or advice.
<i>Criterion (pl. Criteria)</i>	A means of judging whether or not a Principle has been fulfilled.
<i>Customary rights</i>	Rights which result from a long series of habitual or customary actions, constantly repeated, which have, by such repetition and by uninterrupted acquiescence, acquired the force of a law within a geographical or sociological unit.
<i>Degraded forest land</i>	Former forest land severely damaged by the excessive harvesting of wood and/or non-wood forest products, poor management, repeated fire, grazing or other disturbances or land-uses that damage soil and vegetation to a degree that inhibits or severely delays the re-establishment of forest after abandonment.
<i>Ecosystem</i>	A community of all plants and animals and their physical environment, functioning together as an interdependent unit.
<i>Encroachment</i>	The act or action of using forest land contrary to the provisions provided for in forestry laws and regulations with regard to forest land uses.
<i>Endangered species</i>	Any species which is in danger of extinction throughout all or a significant portion of its range.
<i>Enrichment Planting</i>	Gaps created in the natural forests are planted with suitable tree species and valuable species introduced in areas where forest density and the composition of the commercial tree species are low with a view to enriching existing forests.

<i>Exotic species</i>	An introduced species not native or endemic to the area in question.
<i>Forest Owner</i>	“May be an organization, household, individual or community that is allocated or leased out a forest by the State; allocated or leased out land for afforestation, forest regeneration or development; receives transfer of the forest, inherits the forest according to regulations of law.”
<i>Forest management area</i>	A forest management area refers to the clearly defined area which is under direct management of the company/ organization undertaking forest management operations and assessment for the purpose of timber certification.
<i>Forest management unit</i>	A forest management unit (FMU) is a clearly defined forest area, managed to a set of explicit objectives and according to a long-term management plan. In accordance with District Forest Management Plan in Myanmar, it is based on each district which is consisted a number of townships and is managed by assistant director level in general.
<i>Forest plantation</i>	Forest stand in which trees have been established by planting or/and deliberate seeding or coppicing (where the coppicing is previously planted trees) with either native species or non-native species that meet all the following criteria, namely, one or two or few species, even-aged, and regular spacing.
<i>Forest worker</i>	An individual who is an employee of the FMU owner, a license, contractor or processor, or is an independent owner/operator performing one or more phases involved in the harvesting of timber from a license, or delivery of timber to a processor.
<i>Free, prior and informed consent</i>	A decision making process that does not involve coercion/undue influence/manipulation (free), is made before activities are undertaken (prior) , is founded upon a clear understanding (informed), and involves granting or withholding consent (saying ‘yes’ or ‘no’) to an activity, programme or policy (consent).
<i>Genetically modified organisms</i>	Biological organisms which have been induced by various means to consist of genetic structural changes.
<i>High conservation value forests</i>	High Conservation Value Forests (HCVFs) are those that possess one or more of the following attributes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> I. forest areas containing globally, regionally or nationally significant concentrations of biodiversity values (e.g. endemism, endangered species, refuge); and/or large landscape level forests, contained within, or containing the management unit, where viable populations of most if not all naturally occurring species exist in natural patterns of distribution and abundance. II. forest areas that are in or contain rare, threatened or endangered ecosystems. III. forest areas that provide basic services of nature in critical situations (e.g. watershed protection, erosion control). IV. forest areas fundamental to meeting basic needs of local communities (e.g. subsistence, health) and/or critical to local

communities' traditional cultural identity (areas of cultural, ecological, economic or religious significance identified in cooperation with such local communities).

<i>Indicator</i>	A qualitative, quantitative or descriptive attribute that, when periodically measured or monitored, indicates the direction of change.
<i>Local Indigenous peoples</i>	<p>“Indigenous communities, peoples and nations are those which, having a historical continuity with pre-invasion and pre-colonial societies that developed on their territories, consider themselves distinct from other sectors of the societies now prevailing on those territories, or parts of them.</p> <p>(Note: There is no confirmed definition at the national level. The above definition is taken from “The Concept of Indigenous Peoples: Background paper prepared by the Secretariat of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues, United Nations” and it is to be reviewed and revised occasionally).</p>
<i>Landscape</i>	A geographical mosaic composed of interacting ecosystems resulting from the influence of geological, topographical, soil, climatic, biotic and human interactions in a given area.
<i>Local communities/people</i>	Permanent or stable human communities who rely on the forest resources and ecosystems, are having their own rules, cultural norms and expectations, are living in or adjacent to the FMU, and are affected by forest management operations conducted within the FMU.
<i>Natural cycles</i>	Nutrient and mineral cycling as a result of interactions between soils, water, plants and animals in forest environments that affect the ecological productivity of a given site.
<i>Natural forest</i>	Forest areas where many of the principal characteristics and key elements of native ecosystems such as complexity, structure and diversity are present.
<i>Non forest land use</i>	Land not primarily intended for growing or supporting a forest, including forest plantation.
<i>Non-timber forest products</i>	All forest products except timber, including other materials obtained from trees such as resins and leaves, as well as any other plant and animal products.
<i>Native species</i>	A species that occurs naturally in a region
<i>Plantation</i>	Forest areas lacking most of the principal characteristics and key elements of native ecosystems which result from the human activities of either planting and sowing or intensive silvicultural treatments

<i>Precautionary approach</i>	The essence of the precautionary approach is given in Principle 15 of the Rio Declaration, which states; “Where there are threats of serious or irreversible damage, lack of scientific certainty shall not be used as a reason for postponing cost-effective measures to prevent environmental degradation.”
<i>Principle</i>	An essential rule or element of forest stewardship.
<i>Protected area</i>	An area of land and/or sea especially dedicated to the protection and maintenance of biological diversity, and of natural and associated cultural resources, and managed through legal or other effective means.
<i>Reserved forest</i>	Any land constituted or deemed to have been constituted a reserved forest under the Forest Law.
<i>Seed Production Area</i>	A stand of trees that has been selected for superior phenotypic performance, upgraded by removal of undesired trees and then managed for early and abundant seed production, typically by thinning.
<i>Silvicultural</i>	Pertaining to the art and science of producing and tending forests by manipulating their establishment, species’ composition, structure and dynamics to fulfil given management objectives
<i>Stakeholder</i>	Individuals and organizations with a legitimate interest in the goods and services provided by an FMU; and those with an interest in the environmental and social effects of an FMU’s activities, products and services. They include: those individuals and organizations which exercise statutory environmental control over the FMU; local people; employees; investors and insurers; customers and consumers; environmental interest and consumer groups and the general public.
<i>Sustainable forest management</i>	The process of managing forest to achieve one or more clearly specified objectives of management with regard to the production of a continuous flow of desired forest products and services without undue reduction of its inherent values and future productivity and without undue undesirable effects on the physical and social environment Sustained yield. The production of forest products in perpetuity, ensuring that the harvesting rate does not exceed the rate of replacement (natural and/or artificial) in a given area over the long term.
<i>Tenure</i>	Socially defined agreements held by individuals or groups, recognized by legal statutes or customary practice, regarding the "bundle of rights and duties" of ownership, holding, access and/or usage of a particular land unit or the associated resources there within (such as individual trees, plant species, water, minerals, etc).
<i>Threatened species</i>	Any species which is likely to become endangered within the foreseeable future throughout all or a significant portion of its range,

<i>Use rights</i>	Rights for the use of forest resources that can be defined by local custom, mutual agreements or prescribed by other entities holding access rights. These rights may restrict the use of particular resources to specific levels of consumption or particular harvesting techniques.
<i>Verifier</i>	Data or information that enhances the specificity or the ease of assessment of an indicator. Verifiers provide specific details that would indicate or reflect a desired condition of an indicator.

5. Document History

Date of Amendment:	Version	Approval date:	Requested by:	Nature of Change	Approved by:
2021.01.22	01.01	2021.01.22	Technical Committee for Wood Based Product, National Standards and Quality Department, Department of Research and Innovation, Myanmar	<p>1 Introduction -</p> <p>MFCC inserts the new contents (1.3 Scope and 1.4 Normative References).</p> <p>1.3 <i>Scope</i></p> <p>This document covers requirements for sustainable forest management standards for voluntary forest management unit/forest owners who shall meet to implement sustainable forest management certification under Myanmar Forest Certification Scheme.</p> <p>1.4 <i>Normative References</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. MTCC, 2008, Malaysian Criteria and Indicators for Forest Management Certification (Forest Plantation) 2. MTCC,2012, Malaysian Criteria and Indicators for Forest Management Certification (Natural Forest) 3. FSC, 2012, FSC Principles and Criteria for Forest Stewardship 4. FSC, 2012, FSC's engagement with Plantations, FSC Global Development 5. PEFC, 2018, Sustainable Forest Management Requirements 6. ILO Eight Fundamental Conventions (Ratified by Myanmar) 	MFCC
2021.07.19	01.01	2021.07.19	MFCC	Amendment of MFCS Std 2 FM to MFCS Std 1 FM.	MFCC