



Standards Development Process

SBP Standard 1: Feedstock Compliance

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(for status see document history on page ii)

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Current Standard 1 text		Proposed Standard 1 revision text	
1	Background	1	Background
	<p>The Sustainable Biomass Partnership (SBP) was formed in 2013 by European utilities that are using biomass, mostly in the form of wood pellets or chips, in large thermal generating plants. Biomass-fired power and heat generation is seen as an important technology for achieving the EU's 2020 renewable energy targets and EU member states are adopting their own national approaches to ensuring that the biomass used is legally and sustainably sourced.</p> <p>SBP's objective is to develop the tools necessary to demonstrate that, as a minimum, solid biomass used for energy production meets these national requirements. The SBP Framework is designed as a clear statement of principles, standards and processes necessary to demonstrate such compliance. Wherever possible, the Framework takes into account and builds on existing regulatory mechanisms and on voluntary certification standards already applied to other forest product streams or to other biomass sources.</p> <p>The SBP Framework provides a means to collect data describing the nature of the feedstock as well as data to be employed in the regulatory calculations of greenhouse gas (GHG) savings from its use. It also provides a means to demonstrate that risks to forest carbon stocks are managed and that forests' carbon sequestration capability is maintained.</p> <p>Collectively, the six SBP Standards represent a certification framework, or scheme, against which organisations can be assessed for compliance by independent third-party Certification Bodies (CBs). An organisation that satisfactorily demonstrates compliance receives a certificate and is entitled to make SBP claims in relation to its biomass.</p>		<p>The Sustainable Biomass Program (SBP) is a certification system designed for woody biomass, mostly in the form of wood pellets and woodchips, used in industrial, large-scale energy production.</p> <p>SBP's certification system provides assurance that woody biomass is sourced from legal and responsible sources, and a means to collect and communicate sourcing and greenhouse gas (GHG) data along the supply chain, allowing companies in the biomass sector to demonstrate compliance with regulatory requirements.</p> <p>There are six SBP Standards, which collectively represent the SBP certification framework, or scheme, against which organisations can be assessed for compliance by independent third-party Certification Bodies (CBs). Wherever possible, the framework takes into account and builds on existing regulatory mechanisms and on voluntary certification standards already applied to other forest product streams or to other biomass sources. An organisation that satisfactorily demonstrates compliance receives a certificate and may be entitled to make SBP claims in relation to its certified biomass.</p> <p>The SBP framework is made freely available for use by all supply chain actors irrespective of whether or not they are SBP Certificate Holders or applying for certification.</p>

	The SBP Framework is made freely available for use by all supply chain actors irrespective of whether or not they are members of SBP.		
2	Scope	2	Scope
	This document (SBP Standard 1. Feedstock Compliance Standard) sets out the principles, criteria and indicators to be met by participating Biomass Producers (BPs) as part of a Supply Base Evaluation (SBE).		This document (SBP Standard 1. Feedstock Compliance Standard) sets out the principles, criteria and indicators to be assessed and verified by participating organisations as part of a Supply Base Evaluation (SBE).
	The requirements are applicable to woody feedstock used in the production of biomass including feedstock included in biomass and that used for drying during the production of biomass.		The requirements are applicable to woody feedstock, from the forest and from trees outside forests, used in the production of biomass including feedstock that is incorporated into biomass and that used for drying during the production of biomass.
	Feedstock shall not be sourced from large (>1000 ha) short rotation plantations that are fully dedicated to the production of biomass and that were established after 1 January 2015.		[No longer required]

2.1 General Principles	2.1 General Principles
<p>SBP aims to provide an effective and verifiable process that will assure end users that feedstock is legally and sustainably sourced. The Standard stipulates that a participating BP is the unit of certification for this standard and must implement these requirements.</p>	<p>SBP aims to provide an effective and verifiable process that will assure end users that feedstock is legally and responsibly sourced.</p>
	<p>The SBP takes a risk-based, regional approach to compliance. It is based on the principle that factors such as the strength of legislation and the implementation of best management practices determines whether feedstock is produced responsibly or not. Understanding these factors within the region where feedstock is sourced from allows organisations and the SBP to assign a level of risk that the requirements of the standard are being met or not. Where there is a risk that any indicator is not being met then that feedstock cannot be certified as SBP-compliant.</p>
	<p>It is the organisation's role to identify, assess and manage the risks within its supply base that any of the indicators and associated requirements within this standard are not being met.</p>
<p>Feedstock received with a claim from an SBP-approved Forest Management Scheme need not be evaluated against this Standard. Other SBP standards, including those relating to Chain of Custody (CoC) and the collection and communication of data are applicable.</p>	<p>[Moved to other Standards]</p>
<p>BPs do not normally manage all forested land from which they source feedstock. They must implement the systems specified here, and verify if feedstock is SBP-compliant.</p>	<p>Organisations seeking, or holding, SBP certification do not normally manage all land from which they source feedstock or all of the supply chain from the place of harvesting to their own operations.</p>
	<p>It is their role to implement appropriate control systems and procedures to verify if feedstock is SBP-compliant including implementing appropriate due diligence systems to assure themselves that their suppliers and contractors are compliant.</p>
<p>The definitions of 'sustainable' and 'legal' in this Standard are adapted from the UK's Central Point of Expertise of Timber (CPET) www.cpet.org.uk "Category B evidence", supplemented with the sustainability requirements for solid biomass defined in the Netherlands. The UK Department of Energy</p>	<p>[No longer required]</p>

	<p>and Climate Change (DECC), Timber Standard for Heat and Electricity, 2014 (henceforth 'the Timber Standard') was subsequently developed in recognition that "wood used for fuel is typically low value, and a significant proportion is expected to be sourced from forests in North America that are not yet certified". As such, the Timber Standard permits "a risk-based regional approach that uses credible information and</p>		
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2.2	Normative elements in this Standard	2.2	Normative elements in this Standard
	<p>This Standard does not stipulate what evidence must be provided to demonstrate compliance with each indicator, as this will vary among different operations. The Standard does provide examples of the means of verification, that is to say, how evidence of compliance with each indicator might be demonstrated. These examples are illustrative and are not normative.</p>		
			<p>The participating organisation is the unit of certification for this standard and shall implement these requirements in their sourcing of feedstocks.</p>
			<p>The organisation shall undertake a Supply Base Evaluation to identify and assess the risk that any of the indicators and associated requirements within this Standard are not being met.</p>
			<p>The organisation shall implement appropriate control systems and procedures to verify if feedstock is being sourced from SBP-compliant sources.</p>
			<p>Organisations shall ensure that all other relevant operators (suppliers and contractors) also comply with these requirements in relation to the goods and services that they source from them.</p>
			<p>The organisation shall implement relevant requirements in other SBP standards.</p>
	<p>The Standard also provides guidance to aid understanding of requirements and, where appropriate, provides sources of evidence for compliance with the indicator. This guidance is not normative.</p>		<p>The Standard also provides guidance to aid understanding of these requirements and, where appropriate, provides sources of evidence for compliance with the indicator. This guidance is not normative unless the guidance says 'shall' or 'must',</p>

			which indicate requirements strictly to be followed in order to comply with the standard.
	CBs will independently evaluate compliance of the BP against the normative indicators presented in this Standard.		Certification Bodies (CBs) will independently evaluate compliance of the organisation and any relevant operators against the normative indicators presented in this Standard.
2.3	The role of the Biomass Producer	2.3	The role of the Organisation
	The BP is the unit of certification for this standard. The BP will usually be an organisation that operates a facility such as a pellet mill, but can also be any organisation in the supply chain that takes legal ownership of feedstock or biomass. For example, with an in-forest chipping operation or where chips are delivered directly to a generator the chipping operator or the generator could assume the responsibilities of the BP. Similarly, a forest owners' cooperative could take on the responsibilities of the BP.		The organisation will usually be an organisation that operates a facility such as a pellet mill, but can also be any organisation in the supply chain that takes legal ownership of feedstock or biomass. For example, with an in-forest chipping operation or where chips are delivered directly to a generator the chipping operator or the generator could assume the responsibilities of the organisation. Similarly, a forest owners' cooperative could take on the responsibilities of the organisation.
			The organisation is responsible for ensuring compliance with the Standard in their own operations and for taking all reasonable efforts to ensure it in all suppliers and/or contractors within the supply base and supply chain from the place of harvesting of the feedstock to the organisation's operations.
	These responsibilities include implementation of the management systems and completing the Supply Base Report (SBR) and if necessary the SBE.		These responsibilities include implementation of the management systems and completing the Supply Base Report (SBR) and if necessary, the SBE set out in Standard 2.
2.4	Locally Applicable Verifiers		[Moved to Standard 2]
	The Standard is applicable globally and does not define the specific means of verification which are appropriate to each BP in determining risk. BPs must prepare Locally Applicable Verifiers (LAVs) by applying the SBP requirements in Instruction Note 1A.		[Moved to Standard 2]

2.5	Components of a Supply Base Evaluation		[Moved to Standard 2]
	The SBE comprises both a Risk Assessment (RA) and a Supplier Verification Programme (SVP). This Standard, together with Standard 2, specifies the requirements for the evaluation.		[Moved to Standard 2]
	The BP will need to develop systems and procedures to ensure that all indicators are low risk. Such systems may be devised by the BP or may build on existing systems examples of which include SFI Fiber Sourcing and Legality Verification Systems. Although not specified in this Standard, it is likely that such systems will include:		[Moved to Standard 2]
	<p>A sampling plan for assessing forest operations within the Supply Base;</p> <p>Records of those assessments;</p> <p>Contractual requirements with suppliers;</p> <p>Mechanisms to rank performance and development of a list of “approved suppliers”;</p> <p>Monitoring and updating this information.</p>		[Moved to Standard 2]
2.6	SBP-endorsed Regional Risk Assessments		[Moved to Standard 2]
	Where there is demand SBP will consider endorsing a Regional Risk Assessment (RRA) where the RRA has been completed in compliance with SBP requirements for endorsement. An endorsed RRA shall replace the requirement for the Risk Assessment (RA) component of the SBE for the region covered by the endorsed RRA.		[Moved to Standard 2]
2.7	Evidence appropriate to the scale of the operation		[Moved to Standard 2]

	The evidence must demonstrate compliance with the requirements of this Standard. The means of verification must be appropriate to the scale, intensity and level of risk associated with the SB.		[Moved to Standard 2]
3	Normative references	3	Normative references
	<p>SBP Standard 2: Verification of SBP-compliant feedstock</p> <p>SBP Standard 3: Certification Systems: Requirements for Certification Bodies</p> <p>SBP Standard 4: Chain of Custody</p> <p>SBP Standard 5: Collection and Communication of Data</p> <p>SBP Standard 6: Energy and Carbon Balance Calculation</p>		<p>SBP Standard 2: Feedstock verification</p> <p>SBP Standard 3: Certification Systems: Requirements for Certification Bodies</p> <p>SBP Standard 4: Chain of Custody</p> <p>SBP Standard 5: Collection and Communication of Data</p> <p>SBP Standard 6: Energy and Carbon Balance Calculation</p>
4	Glossary of terms and definitions	4	Glossary of terms and definitions
	Please refer to separate SBP Glossary of Terms and Definitions document.		Please refer to separate SBP Glossary of Terms and Definitions document.

1	Principle 1 – Biomass feedstock is legally sourced	1	Principle 1 – Legality
1.1	Criterion: The Supply Base is defined		[Moved to Standard 2]
	<p>Includes parts of:</p> <p>Criterion 1.2: The forest owner and manager hold legal use rights to the forest (CPET L1)</p> <p>Criterion 1.3 There is compliance with the requirements of local, national and applicable international laws, and the laws applicable to Forest Management (CPET L2).</p> <p>Criterion 1.4 All applicable royalties and taxes have been paid (CPET L3).</p> <p>Criterion 1.5 There is compliance with the requirements of CITES (CPET L4).</p> <p>Criterion 2.4 Management of the forest ensures that forest ecosystem health and vitality is maintained (CPET S7).</p>	1.1	<p>Criterion</p> <p>Operators and operations are legal.</p>
1.2.1	<p>Indicator</p> <p>The BP has implemented appropriate control systems and procedures to ensure that legality of ownership and land use can be demonstrated for the Supply Base.</p>	1.1.1	<p>Indicator</p> <p>The organisation has implemented appropriate control systems and procedures for verifying that:</p> <p>Operations are legal.</p> <p>That must include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Legality of ownership and/or land and resource use • Feedstock is legally harvested, supplied and produced, including in compliance with CITES and EUTR or other applicable legal trade requirements • Payments for harvest rights and timber, including duties, relevant royalties and taxes related to timber harvesting, are complete and up to date

<p>Examples of means of verification</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Existing legislation • Levels of enforcement • Documents demonstrating that the BP is a legally defined entity • Documentation showing legal ownership patterns in the region, level of enforcement, records of disputes over land tenure, etc. In situations where customary rights govern use and access, these rights are clearly identifiable • Long term unchallenged use 	<p>[Means of Verification moved to S2 and new standalone document]</p>
<p>Guidance</p> <p>Factors affecting the risks of compliance will include the effectiveness of the land tenure system in place in the Supply Base.</p> <p>Where there are, or have been, disputes, evidence should be available that fair compensation has been made to previous owners and occupants, and that this has been accepted with free, prior and informed consent (FPIC).</p>	<p>Guidance</p> <p>Certification is not a legal compliance audit.</p> <p>There should be evidence that systems are in place to ensure operations are legal.</p> <p>The organisation shall keep a registry of all applicable international, regional, national and local legislation.</p> <p>Applicable legislation includes that in force in the country of harvest, covering all aspects within this standard, including but not limited to, the following aspects:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rights to harvest timber within legally gazetted boundaries • Payments for harvest rights and timber, including duties related to timber harvesting • Timber harvesting, including forest and tree management and silvicultural activities • Environmental impacts (water and soil protection) • Biodiversity conservation, (including rare, threatened and endangered species and ecosystems) • Third parties' legal rights concerning use and tenure that are affected by timber harvesting • Trade and customs, in so far as the forest sector is concerned

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Labour conditions • Health and Safety Standards <p>Factors affecting the risks of disputes over land use will include the effectiveness of the land tenure system in place in the Supply Base.</p> <p>Risks of legal non-compliance are greater in areas with high levels of corruption relating to the granting of harvesting permits and other aspects of the management, harvesting and wood trade.</p> <p>Where appropriate to the operation, CITES requirements are understood at planning and operational level, and the requirements are implemented.</p> <p>Lists of species purchased by organisations should be verified as being consistent with the species available in the Supply Base.</p> <p>It should be verified that tree species purchased by organisations are not listed in CITES or have been purchased with the appropriate permits and approvals.</p> <p>Where the forest or landowner or management organisation is not legally able to protect the area fully, there must be a system for working with appropriate regulatory bodies to identify, report, control and discourage unauthorised activities.</p> <p>Where illegal/ unauthorised activities are detected, appropriate action should be taken.</p> <p>Control systems and procedures must firstly stipulate the adequate protection measures for the particular forest habitat type and region, and secondly, verify that these are being implemented.</p>
	<p>Sources of further information</p> <p>UK Department of Energy and Climate Change (DECC), Timber Standard for Heat and Electricity, 2014</p> <p>Article 2 of the EU Timber Regulation (EUTR). Regulation (EU) No. 995/2010 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 20 October 2010 laying down the obligations of operators who place timber and timber products on the market (OJ L 295, 12.11.2010, p.23)</p>	<p>Sources of further information</p> <p>UK Department of Energy and Climate Change (DECC), Timber Standard for Heat and Electricity, 2014: https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/timber-standard-for-heat-electricity</p> <p>Article 2 of the EU Timber Regulation (EUTR). Regulation (EU) No. 995/2010 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 20 October 2010 laying down the obligations of operators who place timber and timber products on the market (OJ L 295, 12.11.2010, p.23): https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX%3A32010R0995</p>

			<p>The Royal Institute of International Affairs/ Chatham House: https://forestgovernance.chathamhouse.org/</p> <p>Environmental Investigation Agency (EIA): https://eia-international.org/forests/</p> <p>Global Witness: www.globalwitness.org</p> <p>Transparency International Corruption Perceptions Index (CPI): https://www.transparency.org/en/cpi/</p> <p>Global Forest Watch Map: https://www.globalforestwatch.org/map/</p>
1.3.1	<p>Indicator</p> <p>The BP has implemented appropriate control systems and procedures to ensure that feedstock is legally harvested and supplied and is in compliance with EUTR legality requirements.</p>		
	<p>Examples of Means of Verification</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Existing legislation Level of enforcement Reference to sources of information in guidance notes Interviews with key staff show a good knowledge of relevant forestry legislation BPs have an up-to-date forest legislation/regulations registry BPs make use of public information on legal non-compliance, provided by regulatory authorities 		
	<p>Guidance</p> <p>Certification is not a legal compliance audit.</p> <p>There should be evidence that systems are in place to ensure forestry operations are legal.</p> <p>Applicable legislation includes that in force in the country of harvest, covering the following aspects:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rights to harvest timber within legally gazetted boundaries and tenure 		

	<p>that are affected by timber harvesting</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Trade and customs, in so far as the forest sector is concerned <p>Risks of non-compliance are greater in areas with high levels of corruption relating to the granting of harvesting permits and</p>		
	<p>Sources of information include</p> <p>UK Department of Energy and Climate Change (DECC), Timber Standard for Heat and Electricity, 2014</p> <p>Reference: Article 2 of the EU Timber Regulation (EUTR). Regulation (EU) No. 995/2010 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 20 October 2010 laying down the obligations of operators who place timber and timber products on the market (OJ L 295, 12.11.2010, p.23)</p> <p>The Royal Institute of International Affairs: www.illegal-logging.org</p> <p>Environmental Investigation Agency: www.eia-international.org</p> <p>Global Witness: www.globalwitness.org</p> <p>Transparency international index: www.transparency.org</p>		
1.4.1	<p>Indicator</p> <p>The BP has implemented appropriate control systems and procedures to verify that payments for harvest rights and timber, including duties, relevant royalties and taxes related to timber harvesting, are complete and up to date.</p>		
	<p>Examples of Means of Verification</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Records of payments and correspondence with revenue • Authorities show payments are complete and up to date 		
1.5.1	<p>Indicator</p> <p>The BP has implemented appropriate control systems and procedures to verify that feedstock is supplied in compliance with the requirements of CITES</p>		

	<p>Examples of Means of Verification</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • List of species purchased by BP • Records of field inspections • Assessment of risk that CITES species may be mixed in with non-CITES species in the supply chain • Interviews demonstrate that the CITES requirements are understood • CITES species are known and identified <p>Where relevant, the operation possesses permits for harvest and trade in any CITES species</p>		
	<p>Guidance</p> <p>Where appropriate to the operation, CITES requirements are understood at planning and operational level, and the requirements are implemented.</p> <p>Lists of species purchased by BPs should be verified as being consistent with the species available in the SB.</p> <p>It should be verified that tree species purchased by BPs are not listed in CITES or have been purchased with the appropriate permits and approvals.</p>		
2.4.3	<p>Indicator</p> <p>The BP has implemented appropriate control systems and procedures for verifying that there is adequate protection of the forest from unauthorised activities, such as illegal logging, mining and encroachment</p>	1.1.2	<p>Indicator</p> <p>The organisation has implemented appropriate control systems and procedures for verifying that:</p> <p>There is adequate protection of the land from unauthorised activities, such as illegal logging, mining and encroachment.</p>
	<p>Examples of Means of Verification</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maps • Records of BPs' field inspections • Monitoring records • Interviews with staff 		<p>[Means of Verification moved to S2 and new standalone document]</p>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interviews with stakeholders • Publicly available information 		
<p>Guidance</p> <p>Where the forest owner or management organisation is not legally able to protect the forest fully, there must be a system for working with appropriate regulatory bodies to identify, report, control and discourage unauthorised activity within the forest.</p> <p>Where illegal/unauthorised activities are detected, appropriate action should be taken.</p> <p>Control systems and procedures must firstly stipulate the adequate protection measures for the particular forest type and region, and secondly, verify that these are being implemented.</p>		<p>Guidance</p> <p>Where the forest owner or management organisation is not legally able to protect the land fully, there must be a system for working with appropriate regulatory bodies to identify, report, control and discourage unauthorised activity within the forest.</p> <p>Where illegal/unauthorised activities are detected, appropriate action should be taken.</p> <p>Control systems and procedures must firstly stipulate the adequate protection measures for the particular forest or land type and region, and secondly, verify that these are being implemented.</p>

2 Principle 2. Biomass feedstock is sustainably sourced	2 Principle 2 – Biomass sourcing does not harm the environment
<p>Includes parts of:</p> <p>Criterion 2.1: Management of the forest ensures that features and species of outstanding or exceptional value are identified and protected (CPET S8a; S8c)</p> <p>Criterion 2.2: Management of the forest ensures that ecosystem function is assessed and maintained, through both the conservation/set-aside of key ecosystems or habitats in their natural state, and the maintenance of existing ecosystem functions throughout the forest (CPET S5; S5a; 8b)</p> <p>Criterion 2.4: Management of the forest ensures that forest ecosystem health and vitality is maintained (CPET S7)</p>	<p>2.1 Criterion</p> <p>Biodiversity is maintained or enhanced.</p>
<p>2.1.1 Indicator</p> <p>The BP has implemented appropriate control systems and procedures for verifying that forests and other areas with high conservation value in the Supply Base are identified and mapped.</p>	
<p>Examples of Means of Verification</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Internet research • GIS maps of HCV areas • Interviews • Regional, publicly available data from a credible third party • The existence of a strong legal framework in the region 	
<p>Sources of information include</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The High Conservation Value Network http://www.hcvnetwork.org/ • IUCN http://www.iucnredlist.org/ 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SFI Section 6: Guidance to SFI 2015- 2019 Standard, January 6. 2014 Forests with Exceptional Conservation Value http://www.sfiprogram.org/files/pdf/draftsfi-2015-2019-standard-section-6/ • NatureServe http://www.natureserve.org/ • The Global Forestry Risk Register http://www.globalforestregistry.org/ 		
2.1.2	<p>Indicator</p> <p>The BP has implemented appropriate control systems and procedures to identify and address potential threats to forests and other areas with high conservation values from forest management activities.</p>		
	<p>Examples of Means of Verification</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maps • Guidance provided by BPs to suppliers/forest operators, regarding threats to the identified forests and areas with high conservation values, and verification of conformance through field inspections • Regional Best Management Practices • Standard Operating Procedures • Codes of Practice • Records of BPs' field inspections • Monitoring records • Interviews with staff • Publicly available information on the protection of the values identified • Regional, publicly available data from credible third parties • Environmental Impact Statements or Environmental Risk Assessment Reports • The existence of a strong legal framework in the region 		

	<p>Guidance</p> <p>The potential impacts of management activities on forests and other areas with high conservation values and biodiversity should be evaluated, and BPs should have systems in place to verify that mitigation measures are implemented in the field.</p> <p>Forests and other areas with high conservation values include those habitats in which protected and endangered plant and animal species are found.</p> <p>There is communication with suppliers/forest operators, and they are provided with records of meetings, talks, workshops, etc.</p> <p>Impacts include those originating in the area of operation but impacting outside the area of operation, such as downstream.</p>		
	<p>Sources of information include</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The High Conservation Value Network http://www.hcvnetwork.org/ • SFI Section 6: Guidance to SFI 2015-2019 Standard, January 6. 2014 Forests with Exceptional Conservation Value http://www.sfiprogram.org/files/pdf/draftsfi-2015-2019-standard-section-6/ • NatureServe http://www.natureserve.org/ • The Global Forestry Risk Register http://www.globalforestregistry.org/ 		
2.2.3	<p>Indicator</p> <p>The BP has implemented appropriate control systems and procedures to ensure that key ecosystems and habitats are conserved or set aside in their natural state (CPET S8b).</p>	2.1.1	<p>Indicator</p> <p>The organisation has implemented appropriate control systems and procedures to ensure that:</p> <p>Key species, habitats and ecosystems and other areas of high conservation value in the Supply Base are maintained or enhanced.</p> <p>This shall include that all such values and sites in the Supply Base are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identified and mapped • That the potential threats from management activities to them are identified

			<p>and evaluated; and</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • That key ecosystems and key habitats are conserved or set aside in their natural state
	<p>Examples of Means of Verification</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maps • Standard Operating Procedures, Codes of Practice and monitoring records indicate that appropriate safeguards are implemented 		<p>[Means of Verification moved to S2 and new standalone document]</p>
	<p>Guidance</p> <p>Key ecosystems or habitats include areas with statutory designations or high conservation value. Such conservation of set aside areas need to be of sufficient size or suitably connected with other similar areas to ensure their long-term viability.</p> <p>The BP should, in its procurement policies and practices, define the areas it considers to be key ecosystems or habitats and the reasons for its decisions.</p>		<p>Guidance</p> <p>Identification and mapping:</p> <p>The HCV Approach as set out in the HCVRN Common Guidance for the identification of High Conservation Values is best practice across different ecosystems and production systems and should be followed wherever possible.</p> <p>The organisation shall justify which tool they are using to identify and map high conservation values.</p> <p>Forests and other areas with high conservation values include those habitats in which protected and endangered plant and animal species are found.</p> <p>The assessment shall identify the presence of any rare, threatened and endangered species (from CPET) as well as any features and species of outstanding or exceptional value.</p> <p>Values and areas needed to support those values should be identified and mapped prior to harvesting and other operations.</p> <p>Assessments should draw on relevant information where available and the collection of additional information when necessary.</p> <p>Relevant stakeholders with knowledge of the values and or impacted/dependent on them should be engaged in identifying and mapping the values.</p> <p>Threat assessment:</p> <p>The potential impacts of management activities on forests and other areas with high conservation values, key ecosystems and habitats shall be evaluated.</p>

		<p>Threats are those impacts that undermine the identified values.</p> <p>Threats can include, but are not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The loss, damage to and/or fragmentation of habitats leading to the degradation of identified values • A decline in the ecosystem services provided <p>Impacts include those originating in the area of operation, but which may affect areas downstream or external to the area of operation.</p> <p>The organisations shall communicate with suppliers, forest and other operators, and provide them with records of meetings, talks, workshops, etc.</p> <p>Maintaining or enhancing:</p> <p>Appropriate mitigation measures should be implemented.</p> <p>Organisations should have systems in place to verify that mitigation measures are implemented in the field.</p> <p>This could include identifying areas where operations are not compatible with protecting the identified values.</p> <p>Set aside areas need to be of sufficient size or suitably connected with other similar areas to ensure their long-term viability and function.</p> <p>The organisation should, in its procurement policies and practices, define the areas it considers to contain high conservation values, be key ecosystems or habitats and the reasons for its decisions.</p>
	<p>Sources of information include</p> <p>RSB Conservation Impact Assessment Guidelines RSB-GUI-01-007-01</p> <p>IUCN http://www.iucnredlist.org/</p>	<p>Sources of information include</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The High Conservation Value (HCV) Network: https://hcvnetwork.org/ • International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN): https://www.iucnredlist.org/ • Sustainable Forestry Initiative (SFI). Requirements for the SFI 2015-2019 Program. Section 6. Guidance to SFI 2015-2019 Extended through December 2021. Standards and Rules January 2017 Chapter 6.1 SFI 2015-2019 Forest Management Standard Objective 4: Conservation of Biological Diversity. Forests with Exceptional Conservation Value: https://forests.org/wp-

			<p>content/uploads/2015_2019StandardsandRules_Section6_June2019.pdf</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NatureServe: http://www.natureserve.org/ • Preferred by Nature Sourcing Hub: https://preferredbynature.org/sourcinghub • FSC Risk assessment platform: https://fsc.org/en/fsc-risk-assessment-platform • RSB Conservation Impact Assessment Guidelines RSB-GUI-01-007-01: https://rsb.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/06/RSB-GUI-01-007-01-RSB-Conservation-IA-Guidelines_3.0.pdf
2.2.4	<p>Indicator</p> <p>The BP has implemented appropriate control systems and procedures to ensure that biodiversity is protected (CPET S5b).</p>	2.1.2	<p>The organisation has implemented appropriate control systems and procedures to ensure that:</p> <p>Biodiversity is protected.</p>
	<p>Examples of Means of Verification</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regional Best Management Practices • Supply contracts • Assessment of potential impacts at operational level and of measures to minimise impacts • Monitoring results • Publicly available information on the protection of the identified values • Level of enforcement • Regional, publicly available data from a credible third party • The existence of a strong legal framework in the region 		<p>[Means of Verification moved to S2 and new standalone document]</p>

	<p>Guidance</p> <p>BPs should evaluate the likely impacts of management practice and feedstock harvesting on ecosystems and biodiversity, and appropriate mitigation measures should be implemented.</p> <p>Impacts should be monitored and there should be a mechanism by which the monitoring results are fed back into operational practice.</p> <p>Impacts include those originating in the area of operation, but which may affect areas downstream or external to the area of operation.</p>	<p>Guidance</p> <p>This indicator focuses on general considerations related to maintaining a diversity of flora and fauna in the landscape and at the stand level.</p> <p>Organisations should evaluate the likely impacts of operations and feedstock harvesting on general biodiversity, and manage operations in order to maintain or improve biodiversity in the landscape.</p> <p>Possible impacts include, but are not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The effect of forest structure change at a landscape level • Effects on species richness and distribution • a decline in the ecosystem services provided • The maintenance of key habitat features at a forest stand level (i.e. standing dead trees, deadwood on the forest floor, hard and soft mast producing trees, streamside buffers, etc.) • The impacts of sourcing on invasive species • The impacts of pollution (link to indicators 2.2.3, 2.2.4 and 2.2.5) <p>Impacts include those originating in the area of operation, but which may affect areas downstream or external to the area of operation.</p> <p>Impacts of biomass sourcing should be understood and methods to maintain or enhance biodiversity should be implemented in operational harvests.</p>
<p>2.2</p>	<p>Includes Parts of:</p> <p>Criterion 2.2: Management of the forest ensures that ecosystem function is assessed and maintained, through both the conservation/set-aside of key ecosystems or habitats in their natural state, and the maintenance of existing ecosystem functions throughout the forest (CPET S5; S5a; 8b)</p> <p>Criterion 2.3: Management of the forest ensures that productivity is maintained (CPET S6; S6a; S6e)</p> <p>Criterion 2.4: Management of the forest ensures that forest ecosystem health and vitality is maintained (CPET S7)</p>	<p>2.2</p> <p>Criterion</p> <p>Ecosystems, their productivity, functions and services are maintained or enhanced.</p>

<p>2.1.3</p>	<p>Indicator</p> <p>The BP has implemented appropriate control systems and procedures for verifying that feedstock is not sourced from forests converted to production plantation forest or non-forest lands after January 2008.</p>	<p>2.2.1</p>	<p>Indicator</p> <p>The Organisation has implemented appropriate control systems and procedures for verifying that Feedstock is not sourced from land that had one of the following statuses in January 2008 and no longer has that status:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wetland • Peatland • Continuously forested areas, • Natural forest that has been converted to production plantation • Land spanning more than one hectare with trees higher than five metres and a canopy cover of between 10% and 30%, or trees able to reach those dimensions
	<p>Examples of Means of Verification</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Historical maps and enquiries with stakeholders • Regional, publicly available data from a credible third party • The existence of a strong legal framework in the region 		<p>[Means of Verification moved to S2 and new standalone document]</p>
	<p>Guidance</p> <p>Production plantation forests are forests of exotic species that have been planted or seeded by human intervention and that are under intensive stand management, are fast growing, and subject to short rotations.</p> <p>Example: Poplar, Acacia or Eucalyptus plantations</p>		<p>Guidance</p> <p>This indicator addresses direct land use change due to feedstock sourcing.</p> <p>Feedstocks shall not be sourced from wetland unless evidence is provided that the production of feedstock does not involve drainage of previously undrained soil or is disturbing the ecosystem function of the wetlands.</p> <p>Feedstock shall not be sourced from peatland unless evidence is provided that the production of feedstock does not involve drainage of previously undrained soil.</p>
	<p>Sources of information include</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • http://www.fao.org/docrep/007/ae347e/ae347e02.htm 		<p>Sources of information include</p> <p>Global Forest Watch: http://www.globalforestwatch.org/</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Global Forest Watch http://www.globalforestwatch.org/ 		Accountability Framework (AFI) 2019. Terms and Definitions: https://accountability-framework.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/07/Definitions.pdf
2.2.1	<p>Indicator</p> <p>The BP has implemented appropriate control systems and procedures to verify that feedstock is sourced from forests where there is appropriate assessment of impacts, and planning, implementation and monitoring to minimise them.</p>	2.2.2	<p>Indicator</p> <p>The Organisation has implemented appropriate control systems and procedures for verifying that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> There is assessment of impacts on ecosystems, their productivity, functions and services in the Supply Base, and There is planning, implementation and monitoring of actions to minimise them
	<p>Examples of Means of Verification</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regional Best Management Practices Supply contracts Assessment of potential impacts at operational level Assessment of measures to minimize impacts Monitoring results Publicly available information on protecting the values identified Level of enforcement Regional, publicly available data from a credible third party The existence of a strong legal framework in the region 		
	<p>Guidance</p> <p>Potential impacts of feedstock harvesting on ecosystems and biodiversity should be identified, with mitigation measures implemented in the field as necessary.</p> <p>Impacts should be monitored and there should be a mechanism to feed monitoring results back into operational practice.</p>		<p>Guidance</p> <p>Potential impacts of operations on ecosystems should be identified, with mitigation measures implemented in the field as necessary.</p> <p>Impacts should be monitored and there should be a mechanism to feed monitoring results back into operational practice.</p> <p>Impacts include those originating in the area of operation but impacting outside the area of operation, such as downstream.</p>

	<p>Impacts include those originating in the area of operation but impacting outside the area of operation, such as downstream.</p> <p>Assessment planning, implementation and monitoring should be based on scientific research and, if needed, information on comparable forests types.</p> <p>BPs may require suppliers and forest owners to adopt specific Best Management Practices and to be certified for certain tasks.</p> <p>These should be specified in purchasing or procurement policies.</p> <p>Feedstock sourced from stump material will require specific controls to minimise impact.</p> <p>Avoidable damage to the ecosystem is prevented by application of the most suitable and available methods and techniques for logging and road construction under the prevailing conditions.</p>		<p>Assessment planning, implementation and monitoring should be based on scientific research and, if needed, information on comparable forests and other landscape types.</p> <p>Organisations may require suppliers and forest and other land owners to adopt specific Best Management Practices and to be certified for certain tasks.</p> <p>These should be specified in purchasing or procurement policies.</p> <p>Feedstock sourced from stump material will require specific controls to minimise impact (see 2.2.4 and 3.1.1).</p> <p>Avoidable damage to the ecosystem is prevented by application of the most suitable and available methods and techniques for logging and road construction under the prevailing conditions.</p>
2.2.2	<p>Indicator</p> <p>The BP has implemented appropriate control systems and procedures for verifying that feedstock is sourced from forests where management maintains or improves soil quality (CPET S5b)</p>	2.2.3	<p>Indicator</p> <p>The Organisation has implemented appropriate control systems and procedures for verifying that:</p> <p>Management maintains or improves soil quality.</p>
	<p>Examples of Means of Verification</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regional Best Management Practices • Supply contracts • Records of BPs' field inspections • Assessment at an operational level of measures designed to minimize impacts on the values identified • Soil monitoring records • Interviews with staff • Publicly available information on the protection of soil • Level of enforcement • Regional, publicly available data from a credible third party 		<p>[Means of Verification moved to S2 and new standalone document]</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The existence of a strong legal framework in the region 		
	<p>Guidance</p> <p>Potential impacts of feedstock harvesting on soil should be identified, with mitigation measures implemented in the field as necessary. Impacts should be monitored and there should be a mechanism to feed monitoring results back into operational practice.</p> <p>BPs may require suppliers and forest owners to adopt specific Best Management Practices and to be certified for certain tasks.</p> <p>These should be specified in purchasing or procurement policies.</p>		<p>Guidance</p> <p>Potential impacts of operations on soils should be identified, with mitigation measures implemented in the field as necessary.</p> <p>The following impacts shall be assessed and if necessary, mitigation measures implemented in the field to ensure that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Erosion is minimised • Organic matter content is enhanced • Nutrient balance, fertility and cycling is maintained • Contamination is prevented and minimised • Compaction is prevented and minimised <p>Other impacts that could be identified and mitigated include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Salinisation and alkalinisation • Acidification • Soil biodiversity impacts • Sealing • Soil water management <p>Impacts should be monitored and there should be a mechanism to feed monitoring results back into operational practice.</p> <p>Organisations may require suppliers and forest owners to adopt specific Best Management Practices and to be certified for certain tasks.</p> <p>These should be specified in purchasing or procurement policies.</p>
			<p>Sources of information include</p> <p>Voluntary Guidelines for Sustainable Soil Management FAO 2017: http://www.fao.org/3/bl813e/bl813e.pdf</p>

<p>2.2.5 Indicator</p> <p>The BP has implemented appropriate control systems and procedures for verifying that the process of residue removal minimises harm to ecosystems.</p>	<p>2.2.4 Indicator</p> <p>The Organisation has implemented appropriate control systems and procedures for verifying that:</p> <p>The removal of residues minimises harm to ecosystems.</p>
<p>Examples of Means of Verification</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regional Best Management Practices • Supply contracts • Records of BPs' field inspections • Operational Assessment of measures designed to minimise impacts on the values identified • Monitoring records • Interviews with staff • Publicly available information on the protection of ecosystems • Level of enforcement • Regional, publicly available data from a credible third party • The existence of a strong legal framework in the region 	<p>[Means of Verification moved to S2 and new standalone document]</p>
<p>Guidance</p> <p>'Residue' includes treetops and branches.</p> <p>Likely impacts of residue removal should be identified, and appropriate mitigation measures should be implemented. Impacts should be monitored and there should be a mechanism to feed monitoring results back into operational practice.</p> <p>Impacts include those originating in the area of operation, but which may affect areas downstream or external to the area of operation.</p> <p>BPs may require suppliers and forest owners to adopt specific Best Management Practices and to be certified for certain tasks.</p>	<p>Guidance</p> <p>Likely impacts of residue removal should be identified, and appropriate mitigation measures implemented.</p> <p>These include but are not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Impacts of the process of residue removal as well as the absence of that material once removed • Impacts on soil quality – fertility, organic matter content, structure and compaction, water retention and chemistry; • Impacts on carbon storage (link to 3.1.1)

	<p>These should be specified in purchasing or procurement policies.</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Impacts on biodiversity - availability of dead organic matter serving as a niche and food source for wildlife • Impacts on tree and stand regeneration including fire risk • Impacts on access and amenity <p>Impacts should be monitored and there should be a mechanism to feed monitoring results back into operational practice.</p> <p>Impacts include those originating in the area of operation, but which may affect areas downstream or external to the area of operation.</p> <p>Organisations may require suppliers and forest owners to adopt specific Best Management Practices and to be certified for certain tasks.</p> <p>These should be specified in purchasing or procurement policies.</p>
2.2.6	<p>Indicator</p> <p>The BP has implemented appropriate control systems and procedures to verify that negative impacts on ground water, surface water and water downstream from forest management are minimised (CPET S5b).</p>	2.2.5	<p>Indicator</p> <p>The Organisation has implemented appropriate control systems and procedures for verifying that:</p> <p>The impacts on ground water, surface water and water downstream from operations are minimised.</p>
	<p>Examples of Means of Verification</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regional Best Management Practices • Supply contracts • Records of BPs' field inspections • Assessment at an operational level of measures designed to minimize impacts on the values identified • Monitoring records • Interviews with staff • Publicly available information on the protection of ground and surface water • Level of enforcement 		<p>[Means of Verification moved to S2 and new standalone document]</p>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Regional, publicly available data from a credible third party - The existence of a strong legal framework in the region 		
	<p>Guidance</p> <p>This Indicator includes impacts outside the direct area of operation, such as runoff from harvesting operations, fertiliser or chemical application.</p> <p>Impacts on riparian zones are included in the evaluation of compliance with this Indicator.</p> <p>Likely impacts on water should be identified. Impacts include those originating in the area of operation, but which may affect areas downstream or external to the area of operation.</p> <p>BPs may require suppliers and forest owners to adopt specific Best Management Practices and to be certified for certain tasks.</p> <p>These should be specified in purchasing or procurement policies.</p>	<p>Guidance</p> <p>Potential impacts of operations on water should be identified, with mitigation measures implemented in the field as necessary.</p> <p>Impacts on water may include but are not limited to:</p> <p>Quality:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Diffuse and point pollution • Siltation/sedimentation • Eutrophication and deoxygenation • Acidification • Insolation and temperature impacts • Riparian habitat change <p>Quantity:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Soil and ground water depletion • Surface runoff • Flood mitigation • Drainage of wetlands and peat soils <p>This Indicator includes impacts outside the direct area of operation, such as runoff from harvesting operations, fertiliser or chemical application.</p> <p>Impacts on riparian zones are included in the evaluation of compliance with this Indicator.</p> <p>Likely impacts on water should be identified.</p> <p>Impacts include those originating in the area of operation, but which may affect areas downstream or external to the area of operation.</p>

			Organisations may require suppliers and forest owners to adopt specific Best Management Practices and to be certified for certain tasks. These should be specified in purchasing or procurement policies.
2.2.7	<p>Indicator</p> <p>The BP has implemented appropriate control systems and procedures for verifying that air quality is not adversely affected by forest management activities.</p>	2.2.6	<p>Indicator</p> <p>The Organisation has implemented appropriate control systems and procedures for verifying that: Air quality is not adversely affected by operations</p>
	<p>Examples of Means of Verification</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regional Best Management Practices • Supply contracts • Records of BPs' field inspections • Assessment at an operational level of measures designed to minimize impacts on the values identified • Monitoring records • Interviews with staff • Publicly available information on the protection of air quality • Level of enforcement • Regional, publicly available data from a credible third party • The existence of a strong legal framework in the region 		[Means of Verification moved to S2 and new standalone document]
	<p>Guidance</p> <p>Potential impacts on air quality should be identified.</p> <p>Impacts include those originating in the area of operation, but which affect areas downwind or external to the area of operation.</p> <p>BPs may require suppliers and forest owners to adopt specific Best Management Practices and to be certified for certain tasks.</p>		<p>Guidance</p> <p>Potential impacts on air quality should be identified, with mitigation measures implemented in the field as necessary.</p> <p>Impacts on air include but are not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Particulates from machinery and use of fire • NOx and ammonia – from fertility management

	<p>These should be specified in purchasing or procurement policies.</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • VOCs – from use of fuels and other chemicals <p>Impacts include those originating in the area of operation, but which affect areas downwind or external to the area of operation.</p> <p>Organisations may require suppliers and forest owners to adopt specific Best Management Practices and to be certified for certain tasks.</p> <p>These should be specified in purchasing or procurement policies.</p>
<p>2.2.8</p>	<p>Indicator</p> <p>The BP has implemented appropriate control systems and procedures for verifying that there is controlled and appropriate use of chemicals, and that Integrated pest management (IPM) is implemented wherever possible in forest management activities (CPET S5c).</p>	<p>2.2.7</p>	<p>Indicator</p> <p>The Organisation has implemented appropriate control systems and procedures for verifying that:</p> <p>There is controlled and appropriate use of chemicals, and that Integrated pest management (IPM) is implemented wherever possible in operations.</p>
	<p>Examples of Means of Verification</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Existing legislation • Level of enforcement • Regional Best Management Practices • Supply contracts • Records of BPs' field inspections • Monitoring records • Interviews with staff • Regional, publicly available data from a credible third party • The existence of a strong legal framework in the region 		<p>[Means of Verification moved to S2 and new standalone document]</p>
	<p>Guidance</p> <p>The requirement relates to current and ongoing use rather than historic use. If chemicals are used, proper equipment and training should be provided to minimise health and environmental risks. Chemical use should be justified, and there should be evidence that non-chemical alternatives have been considered. The use of class 1A and 1B pesticides, as drafted by the World</p>		<p>Guidance</p> <p>The requirement relates to current and ongoing use rather than historic use. If chemicals are used, proper equipment and training should be provided to minimise health and environmental risks.</p>

	Health Organisation, and of chlorinated hydrocarbons is not permitted. There should be evidence that the options for implementing IPM have been considered and, where appropriate, IPM is implemented. BPs may require suppliers and forest owners to adopt specific Best Management Practices and to be certified for certain tasks. These should be specified in purchasing or procurement policies.		Chemical use should be justified, and there should be evidence that non-chemical alternatives have been considered. The use of class 1A and 1B pesticides, as drafted by the World Health Organisation, and of chlorinated hydrocarbons is not permitted. There should be evidence that the options for implementing IPM have been considered and, where appropriate, IPM is implemented. Organisations may require suppliers and forest owners to adopt specific Best Management Practices and to be certified for certain tasks. These should be specified in purchasing or procurement policies.
2.2.9	Indicator The BP has implemented appropriate control systems and procedures for verifying that methods of waste disposal minimise negative impacts on forest ecosystems (CPET S5d).	2.2.8	Indicator The Organisation has implemented appropriate control systems and procedures for verifying that: Methods of waste disposal minimise negative impacts on forest ecosystems.
	Examples of Means of Verification <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regional Best Management Practices Supply contracts Operational Assessment of potential impacts and of measures to minimise impact Monitoring results 		[Means of Verification moved to S2 and new standalone document]
	Guidance Waste is defined as any substance or object that the holder discards or intends to discard or is required to discard. References sources include: 2008 Waste Framework Directive (Directive 2008/98/EC)		[Moved to Glossary of Definitions]
			Sources of information include European Commission: (2008) Waste Framework Directive (Directive 2008/98/EC):

			https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=celex%3A32008L0098
2.3.1	<p>Indicator</p> <p>Analysis shows that feedstock harvesting does not exceed the long-term production capacity of the forest, avoids significant negative impacts on forest productivity and ensures long-term economic viability.</p> <p>Harvest levels are justified by inventory and growth data.</p>	2.2.9	<p>Indicator</p> <p>The Organisation has undertaken analysis to show that Feedstock harvesting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Does not exceed the long-term production capacity of the forest • Avoids significant negative impacts on productivity and • Ensures long-term economic viability • Harvest levels are justified by inventory and growth data
	<p>Examples of Means of Verification</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Harvesting records, inventory and growth data and yield calculations demonstrate that biomass feedstock harvesting rates are not having significant negative impacts on forest productivity and long-term economic viability • Documentation of Operational Practice 		[Means of Verification moved to S2 and new standalone document]
	<p>Guidance</p> <p>Evaluation must cover the entire Supply Base, and where appropriate, should be based on regional markers, such as growth/drain, inventory, mortality, and age class distribution.</p>		<p>Guidance</p> <p>Evaluation must cover the entire Supply Base, and where appropriate, should be based on regional markers, such as growth/drain, inventory, mortality, and age class distribution.</p> <p>This indicator also has impacts on forest carbon. (Link to FC Principle 3)</p>
2.4.1	<p>Indicator</p> <p>The BP has implemented appropriate control systems and procedures for verifying that the health, vitality and other services provided by forest ecosystems are maintained or improved (CPET S7a).</p>	2.2.10	<p>Indicator</p> <p>The Organisation has implemented appropriate control systems and procedures for verifying that:</p> <p>The health, vitality and other services provided by forest and other ecosystems in the Supply Base are maintained or enhanced.</p>
	<p>Examples of Means of Verification</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Overall evaluation of potential impacts of operations on forest ecosystem health and vitality 		[Means of Verification moved to S2 and new standalone document]

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assessment of potential impacts at operational level and of measures to minimise impacts • Regional Best Management Practices • Supply contracts • Monitoring results 		
	<p>Guidance</p> <p>Health and vitality of the forest ecosystem relate to the resilience of the ecosystem to withstand change. Indicators of health and vitality may include the level of disturbance observed, changes in biodiversity, or the presence or absence of key ‘indicator’ species.</p> <p>Relevant ecological functions and values may include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Forest regeneration and succession • Genetic, species and community diversity • Natural cycles affecting productivity of the forest ecosystem <p>There are other forest services, not specifically covered elsewhere in this standard, which indicate forest health and vitality.</p> <p>These include functions that forests provide for people and/or the environment, such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Erosion control • Flood control • Adequate access for recreation, where possible. <p>There should be ongoing maintenance and improvement for other forest services provided, such as access for recreation.</p>		<p>Guidance</p> <p>Health and vitality of the forest and other ecosystems relate to the resilience of the ecosystem to withstand change.</p> <p>Indicators of health and vitality may include the level of disturbance observed, changes in biodiversity, or the presence or absence of key ‘indicator’ species. (see Criterion 2.1 Biodiversity).</p> <p>Relevant ecological functions and values may include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Forest and tree regeneration and succession • Genetic, species and community diversity • Threat and/or presence and spread of invasive, non-native species • Natural cycles affecting productivity of the forest or other ecosystem <p>There are other forest services, not specifically covered elsewhere in this standard, which indicate ecosystem health and vitality.</p> <p>These include functions that ecosystems provide for people and/or the environment, such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Erosion control • Flood control • Adequate access for recreation, where possible. <p>There should be ongoing maintenance and improvement for other forest services provided, such as access for recreation.</p>
2.4.2	Indicator	2.2.11	Indicator

<p>The BP has implemented appropriate control systems and procedures for verifying that natural processes, such as fires, pests and diseases are managed appropriately (CPET S7b).</p>	<p>The Organisation has implemented appropriate control systems and procedures for verifying that: Natural processes, such as fires, pests and diseases are managed appropriately.</p>
<p>Examples of Means of Verification</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regional Best Management Practices • Supply contracts • Assessment of potential impacts at operational level and of measures to minimise impacts • Monitoring results • Regional, publicly available data from a credible third party • The existence of a strong legal framework in the region 	<p>[Means of Verification moved to S2 and new standalone document]</p>
<p>Guidance</p> <p>Appropriate management of such situations will depend upon the forest type, management objectives and local best practice and guidance.</p> <p>Fire, for example, may be an appropriate and necessary natural process in some forest types and seasons, and inappropriate in others. Where they are natural and necessary, the characteristics of any fire control interventions will be different to those taking place in forests where fire is not naturally part of their ecology.</p> <p>Pests and diseases also need to be managed appropriately, and this will vary according to management objectives. In conservation areas, for example, it may not always be appropriate to attempt eradication of certain pests and diseases.</p> <p>Where pesticides and other chemicals are used to address pests and diseases, regional and other best management practices must be adhered to.</p> <p>Control systems and procedures should, define appropriate management practice for the particular forest type and region.</p>	<p>Guidance</p> <p>Appropriate management of such situations will depend upon the forest and other land type, management objectives and local best practice and guidance.</p> <p>Fire, for example, may be an appropriate and necessary natural process in some areas and seasons, and inappropriate in others.</p> <p>Where they are natural and necessary, the characteristics of any fire control interventions will be different to those taking place in areas where fire is not naturally part of their ecology.</p> <p>Pests and diseases also need to be managed appropriately, and this will vary according to management objectives.</p> <p>In conservation areas, for example, it may not always be appropriate to attempt eradication of certain pests and diseases.</p> <p>Where pesticides and other chemicals are used to address pests and diseases, regional and other best management practices must be adhered to.</p> <p>Control systems and procedures should, define appropriate management practice for the particular land type and region.</p>

2.10. 1	Indicator Genetically modified trees are not used.	2.2.12	Indicator Genetically modified trees are not used.
	Examples of Means of Verification <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reference sources, interviews and records concerning use of genetically modified trees • Regional, publicly available data from a credible third party • The existence of a strong legal framework in the region 		[Means of Verification moved to S2 and new standalone document]
	Guidance Genetically modified trees are those in which the genetic material has been altered in a way that does not occur naturally by pollination and/or natural recombination, taking into account applicable legislation providing a specific definition of genetically modified organisms. Reference sources include: http://www.globalforestregistry.org/		
			Sources of information include <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Preferred by Nature Sourcing Hub: https://preferredbynature.org/sourcinghub • FSC Risk assessment platform: https://fsc.org/en/fsc-risk-assessment-platform

		3	Principle 3 – Carbon in the landscape is maintained or increased
	Criterion 2.9: Regional carbon stocks are maintained or increased over the medium to long term	3.1	<p>Criterion</p> <p>As a result of sourcing feedstocks, carbon stocks in the supply base are maintained or increased.</p> <p>or</p> <p>Criterion</p> <p>As a result of sourcing feedstocks, carbon stocks in the supply base are not adversely affected</p>
2.9.1	Feedstock is not sourced from areas that had high carbon stocks in January 2008 and no longer have those high carbon stocks.		
	<p>Examples of means of verification:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maps • Procedures and records • Regional, publicly available data from a credible third party • The existence of a strong legal framework in the region 		
	<p>Examples of areas that may have high carbon stock:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wetlands: Land that is covered with or saturated by water, permanently or for a significant part of the year. These should remain as wetlands; that is biomass production should not result in drainage of previously undrained soil • Peatland: This should remain as peatland unless evidence is provided that the production of feedstock does not involve drainage of previously undrained soil 		

<p>2.9.2</p>	<p>Analysis demonstrates that feedstock harvesting does not diminish the capability of the forest to act as an effective sink or store of carbon over the long term.</p>	<p>3.1.1</p>	<p>Indicator</p> <p>The organisation shall undertake a risk assessment of the impacts of biomass harvesting on forest carbon within the supply base, to ensure that forest carbon stocks are maintained or increased, and uses the assessment to justify feedstock sourcing decisions.</p> <p>The organisation shall provide justification for the time frame applicable to the assessment.</p> <p>Or</p> <p>Indicator</p> <p>The organisation shall undertake a risk assessment of the impacts of biomass harvesting on forest carbon within the supply base, to ensure that forest carbon stocks are not adversely affected, and uses the assessment to justify feedstock sourcing decisions.</p> <p>The organisation shall provide justification for the time frame applicable to the assessment.</p>
	<p>Examples of means of verification:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Results of analysis of carbon stocks • Analysis of historic and present carbon uptake rates • Regional, publicly available data from a credible third party • The existence of a strong legal framework in the region 		<p>[Means of Verification moved to S2 and new standalone document]</p>
	<p>SBP recognises that at some times in some catchments, due to natural forest cycles that may be wholly unassociated with wood for energy, carbon stocks may decline for a period. These declines will be naturally recovered and carbon stocks will be maintained or increased.</p> <p>Assessment of risks to the carbon stock may include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Collection of reliable data on current stocks, growth rates, age class distributions, and existing market requirements • Analysis of the data 		<p>The organisation shall undertake assessment and provide justification for sourcing feedstock within the following contexts:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regions where growth < drain. The Organisation must provide justification for the time period to which the assessment applies • Slow growing forest • High carbon stock areas. Definitions and examples of high carbon stock areas are found in the standalone guidance

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Examination of various outcomes (changing species or productivity, disease, fire, other markets) • Consideration of risk over various spatial and temporal scales, with a minimum horizon of five to ten years • Awareness of pressures or opportunities from outside the supply area • Recognition that there may be periods of transition requiring management • Regular review <p>Where there is a direct land use change, the carbon emissions associated with this may need to be calculated.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stumps and roots • Where demand for biomass could lead to diversion of feedstock from long term carbon stores <p>To inform the risk assessment and feedstock sourcing decision, the organisation should also:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consider whether there is evidence of dynamic response in the forest to increased economic demand for feedstock, measured over a justifiable period, providing evidence of its impact on carbon • Consider whether a robust carbon estimation needs to be undertaken. This might include a carbon stock and flow assessment, and should be based on best available data and methods • Establish systems and procedures to monitor the rate of carbon sequestration and storage within the supply base • Utilise relevant economic data on demand for alternative products in local markets to demonstrate the lack of alternative market for the fibre. The organisation may also provide evidence of systems in place to avoid using feedstocks which are high value or which may be used to produce longer use products <p>Where there is uncertainty about the assessment of carbon impact, the organisation should take a conservative approach. Conservative means a consideration of the full range of potential carbon impacts and takes action to ensure that there is a low risk of negative impacts on carbon stocks within the supply base.</p> <p>Requirements elsewhere in the standard are relevant for ensuring forest carbon stocks are maintained or increased, including those relating to forest productivity, ecosystem functions, soil carbon, residue removals, regeneration/restocking of forests etc. The standalone guidance identifies those sustainable forest management activities which have relevance to forest carbon stocks and advises how they may be taken into account in the forest carbon risk based regional assessment.</p>
<p>Sources of information include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • https://www.ofgem.gov.uk/publicationsand-updates/renewables- 	

obligationsustainability-criteria-guidance

- http://ec.europa.eu/energy/renewables/biofuels/doc/2010_bsc_example_land_carbon_calculation.pdf

		4	Principle 4 – Biomass benefits people and communities
	<p>Includes parts of:</p> <p>Criterion 2.7: The basic labour rights of forest workers are safeguarded</p> <p>Criterion 2.3: Management of the forest ensures that productivity is maintained</p> <p>Criterion 2.6: Appropriate mechanisms are in place for resolving grievances and disputes, including those relating to tenure and use rights, to Forest Management practices and to work conditions</p> <p>Criterion 2.8: Appropriate safeguards are in place to protect the health and safety of forest workers</p>	4.1	<p>Criterion</p> <p>Decent working conditions are provided and labour rights are safeguarded.</p>
2.7.1	<p>Indicator</p> <p>The BP has implemented appropriate control systems and procedures for verifying that Freedom of Association and the effective recognition of the right to collective bargaining are respected.</p>	4.1.1	<p>Indicator</p> <p>The organisation has implemented appropriate control systems and procedures for verifying that:</p> <p>Freedom of Association and the effective recognition of the right to collective bargaining are respected in the workplace.</p>
	<p>Examples of Means of Verification</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Existing legislation • Level of enforcement • Employment contracts • Company policies • Interviews with HR Interviews with staff 		<p>[Means of Verification moved to S2 and new standalone document]</p>
	<p>Guidance</p> <p>In this Standard the term “forest workers” includes contractors. The following ILO conventions have not been ratified in all countries. The</p>		<p>Guidance</p> <p>The organisation, its suppliers and contractors:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shall not interfere with contractors and/or workers’ organisation(s) and/or

	<p>Indicator must be met in all countries, whether the ILO conventions are ratified or not. Sources of information include: · ILO Declaration on Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work (1998) based on the eight ILO Core Labour Conventions · ILO Convention 98 (Right to Collective Bargaining) · ILO Convention 87 (Freedom of Association) · ILO Convention 135 (Workers Representatives Convention).</p>	<p>collective bargaining</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shall allow workers to freely elect their own representatives, including where the right to freedom of association and collective bargaining are restricted under law • Shall effectively inform workers that they are free to join a worker organisation of their choosing without consequences or retaliation • Shall ensure that those engaged in organising workers are not subjected to discrimination, harassment, intimidation or retaliation • Shall ensure that such representatives have access to their members in the workplace
		<p>Sources of information include</p> <p>This standard is based on the main elements of relevant ILO Core Conventions.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Freedom of Association and Protection of the Right to Organise Convention, 1948 (No. 87) 2. Right to Organise and Collective Bargaining Convention, 1949 (No. 98) 3. Forced Labour Convention, 1930 (No. 29) (and its 2014 Protocol) 4. Abolition of Forced Labour Convention, 1957 (No. 105) 5. Minimum Age Convention, 1973 (No. 138) 6. Worst Forms of Child Labour Convention, 1999 (No. 182) 7. Equal Remuneration Convention, 1951 (No. 100) 8. Discrimination (Employment and Occupation) Convention, 1958 (No. 111) <p>The indicators must be met in all countries, whether the ILO conventions are ratified or not.</p> <p>Other relevant ILO conventions include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • C011 - Right of Association (Agriculture) Convention, 1921 (No. 11) • C084 - Right of Association (Non-Metropolitan Territories) Convention, 1947 (No. 84)

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • C135 - Workers' Representatives Convention, 1971 (No. 135) • C141 - Rural Workers' Organisations Convention, 1975 (No. 141) • C151 - Labour Relations (Public Service) Convention, 1978 (No. 151) • C154 - Collective Bargaining Convention, 1981 (No. 154) <p>Further details about ILO Conventions are available: https://www.ilo.org/dyn/normlex/en/f?p=NORMLEXPUB:12000:0::NO:: Further guidance is available in the Social Accountability 8000 standard: https://sa-intl.org/programs/sa8000/</p>
2.7.2	<p>Indicator</p> <p>The BP has implemented appropriate control systems and procedures for verifying that feedstock is not supplied using any form of compulsory labour.</p>	4.1.2	<p>Indicator</p> <p>The organisation has implemented appropriate control systems and procedures for verifying that: Feedstock is not supplied using any form of compulsory labour.</p>
	<p>Examples of Means of Verification</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Existing legislation • Level of enforcement • Employment contracts • Company policies • Interviews with HR Interviews with staff 		[Means of Verification moved to S2 and new standalone document]
	<p>Guidance</p> <p>'Compulsory labour' is defined as "All work or service that a person has not offered to do voluntarily and is made to do under the threat of punishment or retaliation, or is demanded as a means of repayment of debt".</p> <p>The following ILO conventions have not been ratified in all countries. The Indicator must be met in all countries, whether the ILO conventions are ratified or not.</p>		<p>Guidance</p> <p>The organisation, its suppliers and contractors:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shall not withhold any salary, benefits, property or documents in order to force workers to continue working • Shall ensure that no employment fees or costs are borne by workers • Workers:

	<p>ILO Conventions 29 and 105 (Forced & Bonded Labour)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ shall be free to leave the workplace after completing the standard workday ○ shall be free to terminate their employment provided that they give reasonable notice to the organisation <p>The organisation should ensure that it:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Has a publicly available labour and health and safety policy statement that it intends to comply with this standard and with ILO conventions ● Has policies and procedures to implement this standard ● Effectively communicates these to workers ● Keeps records to demonstrate compliance ● Regularly monitors and evaluates its implementation
		<p>Sources of information include</p> <p>This standard is based on the main elements of relevant ILO Core Conventions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Freedom of Association and Protection of the Right to Organise Convention, 1948 (No. 87) 2. Right to Organise and Collective Bargaining Convention, 1949 (No. 98) 3. Forced Labour Convention, 1930 (No. 29) (and its 2014 Protocol) 4. Abolition of Forced Labour Convention, 1957 (No. 105) 5. Minimum Age Convention, 1973 (No. 138) 6. Worst Forms of Child Labour Convention, 1999 (No. 182) 7. Equal Remuneration Convention, 1951 (No. 100) 8. Discrimination (Employment and Occupation) Convention, 1958 (No. 111) <p>The indicators must be met in all countries, whether the ILO conventions are ratified or not.</p> <p>Other relevant ILO conventions include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● C029 - Forced Labour Convention, 1930 (No. 29)

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • C105 - Abolition of Forced Labour Convention, 1957 (No. 105) • C158 - Termination of Employment Convention, 1982 (No. 158) <p>Further details about ILO Conventions are available: https://www.ilo.org/dyn/normlex/en/f?p=NORMLEXPUB:12000:0::NO::</p> <p>Further guidance is available in the Social Accountability 8000 standard: https://sa-intl.org/programs/sa8000/</p>
2.7.3	<p>Indicator</p> <p>The BP has implemented appropriate control systems and procedures to verify that feedstock is not supplied using child labour.</p>	4.1.3	<p>Indicator</p> <p>The organisation has implemented appropriate control systems and procedures to verify that:</p> <p>Child labour is not used.</p>
	<p>Examples of Means of Verification</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Existing legislation • Level of enforcement • Supply contracts • Records of field inspections • Operational assessment of measures designed to minimise impacts on the values identified • Monitoring records • Interviews with staff 		[Means of Verification moved to S2 and new standalone document]
	<p>Guidance</p> <p>Child labour is defined as any work performed by a child younger than 15 / younger than the age stipulated below, except as provided for by ILO Recommendation 146. Definition of a child: any person less than 15 years of age, unless the minimum age for work or mandatory schooling is stipulated as being higher by local law, in which case the stipulated higher age applies in that locality. The following ILO conventions have not been ratified in all countries. The Indicator must be met in all countries, whether</p>		<p>Guidance</p> <p>The organisation, its suppliers and contractors:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shall not employ any child younger than school age or 15 years old whichever is greatest • Shall not expose children or young workers to any working situations that are hazardous and/or unsafe

	<p>the ILO conventions are ratified or not. ILO Convention 138 & Recommendation 146 (Minimum Age and Recommendation).</p>	
		<p>Sources of information include</p> <p>This standard is based on the main elements of relevant ILO Core Conventions.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Freedom of Association and Protection of the Right to Organise Convention, 1948 (No. 87) 2. Right to Organise and Collective Bargaining Convention, 1949 (No. 98) 3. Forced Labour Convention, 1930 (No. 29) (and its 2014 Protocol) 4. Abolition of Forced Labour Convention, 1957 (No. 105) 5. Minimum Age Convention, 1973 (No. 138) 6. Worst Forms of Child Labour Convention, 1999 (No. 182) 7. Equal Remuneration Convention, 1951 (No. 100) 8. Discrimination (Employment and Occupation) Convention, 1958 (No. 111) <p>The indicators must be met in all countries, whether the ILO conventions are ratified or not.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Other relevant ILO conventions include: • C006 - Night Work of Young Persons (Industry) Convention, 1919 (No. 6) • C059 - Minimum Age (Industry) Convention (Revised), 1937 (No. 59) • C078 - Medical Examination of Young Persons (Non-Industrial Occupations) Convention, 1946 (No. 78) • C079 - Night Work of Young Persons (Non-Industrial Occupations) Convention, 1946 (No. 79) • C090 - Night Work of Young Persons (Industry) Convention (Revised), 1948 (No. 90) • Convention, 1965 (No. 123) • C124 - Medical Examination of Young

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Persons (Underground Work) Convention, 1965 (No. 124) <p>Further details about ILO Conventions are available: https://www.ilo.org/dyn/normlex/en/f?p=NORMLEXPUB:12000:0::NO::</p> <p>Further guidance is available in the Social Accountability 8000 standard: https://sa-intl.org/programs/sa8000/</p>
2.7.4	<p>Indicator</p> <p>The BP has implemented appropriate control systems and procedures for verifying that feedstock is not supplied using labour which is discriminated against in respect of employment and occupation.</p>	4.1.4	<p>Indicator</p> <p>The organisation has implemented appropriate control systems and procedures for verifying that:</p> <p>Workers are not discriminated against in respect of employment and occupation.</p>
	<p>Examples of Means of Verification</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Existing legislation Level of enforcement § Supply contracts Records of BPs' field inspections Monitoring records Interviews with staff Payroll records 		<p>[Means of Verification moved to S2 and new standalone document]</p>
	<p>Guidance</p> <p>The following ILO conventions have not been ratified in all countries. The Indicator must be met in all countries, whether the ILO conventions are ratified or not.</p> <p>Sources of information include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ILO Conventions 100 (Equal remuneration for male and female workers for work of equal value) and 111 (Discrimination) 		<p>Guidance</p> <p>The organisation, its suppliers and contractors:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Shall not discriminate in hiring, remuneration, access to training, promotion, termination or retirement Shall not interfere with the exercise of workers' rights to observe tenets or practices or to meet needs relating to any condition that could give rise to discrimination Shall not allow any behaviour that is threatening, abusive, exploitative or

		<p>sexually coercive, including gestures, language and physical contact</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shall not subject workers to pregnancy or virginity tests under any circumstances • Shall not engage in or tolerate the use of corporal punishment, mental or physical coercion or verbal abuse of workers • Shall not engage in physical abuse or discipline, the threat of physical abuse, sexual or other harassment and verbal abuse or other forms of intimidation
		<p>Sources of information include</p> <p>This standard is based on the main elements of relevant ILO Core Conventions.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Freedom of Association and Protection of the Right to Organise Convention, 1948 (No. 87) 2. Right to Organise and Collective Bargaining Convention, 1949 (No. 98) 3. Forced Labour Convention, 1930 (No. 29) (and its 2014 Protocol) 4. Abolition of Forced Labour Convention, 1957 (No. 105) 5. Minimum Age Convention, 1973 (No. 138) 6. Worst Forms of Child Labour Convention, 1999 (No. 182) 7. Equal Remuneration Convention, 1951 (No. 100) 8. Discrimination (Employment and Occupation) Convention, 1958 (No. 111) <p>The indicators must be met in all countries, whether the ILO conventions are ratified or not.</p> <p>Other relevant ILO conventions include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • C156 - Workers with Family Responsibilities Convention, 1981 (No. 156) • C003 - Maternity Protection Convention, 1919 (No. 3) • C103 - Maternity Protection Convention (Revised), 1952 (No. 103) • C183 - Maternity Protection Convention, 2000 (No. 183)

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • C190 - Violence and Harassment Convention, 2019 (No. 190) <p>Further details about ILO Conventions are available: https://www.ilo.org/dyn/normlex/en/f?p=NORMLEXPUB:12000:0::NO</p> <p>Further guidance is available in the Social Accountability 8000 standard: https://sa-intl.org/programs/sa8000/</p>
2.7.5	<p>Indicator</p> <p>The BP has implemented appropriate control systems and procedures for verifying that feedstock is supplied using labour where the pay and employment conditions are fair and meet, or exceed, minimum requirements.</p>	4.1.5	<p>Indicator</p> <p>The organisation has implemented appropriate control systems and procedures for verifying that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A Decent Living Wage is established and paid, or • At least the legal minimum or industry standard wage is paid
	<p>Examples of Means of Verification</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Existing legislation • Level of enforcement • § Supply contracts • Records of BPs' field inspections • Monitoring records • Interviews with staff 		[Means of Verification moved to S2 and new standalone document]
	<p>Guidance</p> <p>Requirements for minimum pay and employment conditions are those that legally apply in the local, regional or national context. Minimum requirements should be based on local best practice (as defined and ratified by relevant employers' associations and trade unions) even if this exceeds legal minimum levels.</p> <p>Further guidance is available in the Social Accountability 8000 standard referenced below.</p>		<p>Guidance</p> <p>The organisation, its suppliers and contractors:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shall ensure that wages for a normal work week, not including overtime, shall meet at least legal or industry minimum standards, or collective bargaining agreements on a Decent Living Wage (where applicable) • Shall not make deductions from wages for disciplinary purposes • Shall ensure that workers' wages and benefits are detailed clearly and regularly to them in writing for each pay period • Shall lawfully render all wages and benefits due in a manner convenient to

		<p>workers, but in no circumstances in delayed or restricted forms, such as vouchers, coupons or promissory notes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shall not use labour-only contracting arrangements, consecutive short-term contracts and/or false apprenticeship or other schemes to avoid meeting its obligations to workers under applicable laws and regulations pertaining to labour and social security <p>Wages and benefits shall be established by collective bargaining agreement.</p> <p>Wages and benefits shall be sufficient to afford a Decent Standard of Living for workers.</p> <p>All overtime shall be reimbursed at a premium rate as defined by national law or established by a collective bargaining agreement.</p> <p>Deductions can only be made when both of the following conditions exist:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) Deductions from wages for disciplinary purposes are permitted by national law; and b) A freely negotiated collective bargaining agreement is in force that permits this practice. <p>In countries where a premium rate for overtime is not regulated by law or there is no collective bargaining agreement, workers shall be compensated for overtime at the organisation's premium rate or at a premium rate equal to prevailing industry standards, whichever is higher.</p> <p>The organisation should endeavour to support suppliers and contractors in also paying a decent living wage to their staff but shall require that the legal minimum wage is paid.</p>
		<p>Sources of information include</p> <p>This standard is based on the main elements of relevant ILO Core Conventions.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Freedom of Association and Protection of the Right to Organise Convention, 1948 (No. 87) 2. Right to Organise and Collective Bargaining Convention, 1949 (No. 98) 3. Forced Labour Convention, 1930 (No. 29) (and its 2014 Protocol)

		<p>4. Abolition of Forced Labour Convention, 1957 (No. 105)</p> <p>5. Minimum Age Convention, 1973 (No. 138)</p> <p>6. Worst Forms of Child Labour Convention, 1999 (No. 182)</p> <p>7. Equal Remuneration Convention, 1951 (No. 100)</p> <p>8. Discrimination (Employment and Occupation) Convention, 1958 (No. 111)</p> <p>The indicators must be met in all countries, whether the ILO conventions are ratified or not.</p> <p>Other relevant ILO conventions include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • C012 - Workmen's Compensation (Agriculture) Convention, 1921 (No. 12) • C017 - Workmen's Compensation (Accidents) Convention, 1925 (No. 17) • C018 - Workmen's Compensation (Occupational Diseases) Convention, 1925 (No. 18) • C026 - Minimum Wage-Fixing Machinery Convention, 1928 (No. 26) • C095 - Protection of Wages Convention, 1949 (No. 95) • C099 - Minimum Wage Fixing Machinery (Agriculture) Convention, 1951 (No. 99) • C131 - Minimum Wage Fixing Convention, 1970 (No. 131) • C173 - Protection of Workers' Claims (Employer's Insolvency) Convention, 1992 (No. 173) <p>Further details about ILO Conventions are available: https://www.ilo.org/dyn/normlex/en/f?p=NORMLEXPUB:12000:0::NO::</p> <p>Further guidance is available in the Social Accountability 8000 standard: https://sa-intl.org/programs/sa8000/</p> <p>RSPO Guidance Implementing a Decent Living Wage RSPO-GUI-T08-004 V1 ENG: https://rspo.org/library/lib_files/preview/907</p>
	<p>4.1.6</p>	<p>Indicator</p>

		<p>The organisation has implemented appropriate control systems and procedures for verifying that: Working hours are fair.</p>
		<p>Guidance</p> <p>The organisation, its suppliers and contractors:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shall develop, communicate and implement policies and procedures to ensure that working hours are not excessive • Shall ensure that the normal work week, not including overtime, shall be defined by law and shall not exceed 48 hours • shall provide workers with at least one day off following every six consecutive days of working • shall ensure that all overtime work shall be voluntary, except as freely negotiated, shall not exceed 12 hours per week and shall not be requested on a regular basis <p>Exceptions to this overtime rule apply only where both of the following conditions exist:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) National law allows work time exceeding this limit; and b) A freely negotiated collective bargaining agreement is in force that allows work time averaging, including adequate rest periods <p>In cases where overtime work is needed in order to meet short-term business demand and the organisation is party to a freely negotiated collective bargaining agreement representing a significant portion of its workforce, the organisation may require such overtime work in accordance with such agreement. Any such agreement must comply with the other requirements of this Working Hours standard.</p>
		<p>Sources of information include</p> <p>This standard is based on the main elements of relevant ILO Core Conventions.</p> <p>The indicators must be met in all countries, whether the ILO conventions are ratified or not.</p>

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Other relevant ILO conventions include: • C001 - Hours of Work (Industry) Convention, 1919 (No. 1) • C014 - Weekly Rest (Industry) Convention, 1921 (No. 14) • C030 - Hours of Work (Commerce and Offices) Convention, 1930 (No. 30) • C047 - Forty-Hour Week Convention, 1935 (No. 47) • C106 - Weekly Rest (Commerce and Offices) Convention, 1957 (No. 106) • C132 - Holidays with Pay Convention (Revised), 1970 (No. 132) • C153 - Hours of Work and Rest Periods (Road Transport) Convention, 1979 (No. 153) • C171 - Night Work Convention, 1990 (No. 171) • C175 - Part-Time Work Convention, 1994 (No. 175) <p>Further details about ILO Conventions are available: https://www.ilo.org/dyn/normlex/en/f?p=NORMLEXPUB:12000:0::NO</p> <p>Further guidance is available in the Social Accountability 8000 standard: https://sa-intl.org/programs/sa8000/</p>
		<p>4.1.7</p>	<p>Indicator</p> <p>The organisation has implemented appropriate control systems and procedures for verifying that:</p> <p>Regular employment is provided.</p>
			<p>Guidance</p> <p>The organisation, its suppliers and contractors:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shall ensure that to every extent possible work performed is on the basis of recognized employment relationship established through national law and practice. • Shall not avoid any obligations to employees under labour or social security laws and regulations and arising from the regular employment relationship, through the use of labour-only contracting, sub- contracting, or home-working arrangements, or through apprenticeship schemes where there is

		<p>no real intent to impart skills or provide regular employment, nor shall any such obligations be avoided through the excessive use of fixed-term contracts of employment.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Further guidance is available in the Social Accountability 8000 standard: https://sa-intl.org/programs/sa8000/
		<p>Indicator</p> <p>The organisation has implemented appropriate control systems and procedures for verifying that:</p> <p>workers have adequate access to</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • health care provision • Sickness benefits • Retirement benefits • Invalidity benefits • Death benefits • Workers' compensation • Are there any others?
		<p>Sources of information include</p> <p>This standard is based on the main elements of relevant ILO Core Conventions.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Freedom of Association and Protection of the Right to Organise Convention, 1948 (No. 87) 2. Right to Organise and Collective Bargaining Convention, 1949 (No. 98) 3. Forced Labour Convention, 1930 (No. 29) (and its 2014 Protocol) 4. Abolition of Forced Labour Convention, 1957 (No. 105) 5. Minimum Age Convention, 1973 (No. 138) 6. Worst Forms of Child Labour Convention, 1999 (No. 182) 7. Equal Remuneration Convention, 1951 (No. 100)

8. Discrimination (Employment and Occupation) Convention, 1958 (No. 111)

The indicators must be met in all countries, whether the ILO conventions are ratified or not.

Other relevant ILO conventions include:

- C019 - Equality of Treatment (Accident Compensation) Convention, 1925 (No. 19)
- C024 - Sickness Insurance (Industry) Convention, 1927 (No. 24)
- C025 - Sickness Insurance (Agriculture) Convention, 1927 (No. 25)
- C035 - Old-Age Insurance (Industry, etc.) Convention, 1933 (No. 35)
- C036 - Old-Age Insurance (Agriculture) Convention, 1933 (No. 36)
- C037 - Invalidity Insurance (Industry, etc.) Convention, 1933 (No. 37)
- C038 - Invalidity Insurance (Agriculture) Convention, 1933 (No. 38)
- C039 - Survivors' Insurance (Industry, etc.) Convention, 1933 (No. 39)
- C040 - Survivors' Insurance (Agriculture) Convention, 1933 (No. 40)
- C042 - Workmen's Compensation (Occupational Diseases) Convention (Revised), 1934 (No. 42)
- C044 - Unemployment Provision Convention, 1934 (No. 44)
- C048 - Maintenance of Migrants' Pension Rights Convention, 1935 (No. 48)
- C102 - Social Security (Minimum Standards) Convention, 1952 (No. 102)
- C118 - Equality of Treatment (Social Security) Convention, 1962 (No. 118)
- C121 - Employment Injury Benefits Convention, 1964 [Schedule I amended in 1980] (No. 121)
- C128 - Invalidity, Old-Age and Survivors' Benefits Convention, 1967 (No. 128)
- C130 - Medical Care and Sickness Benefits Convention, 1969 (No. 130)
- C157 - Maintenance of Social Security Rights Convention, 1982 (No. 157)

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • C168 - Employment Promotion and Protection against Unemployment Convention, 1988 (No. 168) <p>Further details about ILO Conventions are available: https://www.ilo.org/dyn/normlex/en/f?p=NORMLEXPUB:12000:0::NO</p> <p>Further guidance is available in the Social Accountability 8000 standard: https://sa-intl.org/programs/sa8000/</p>
2.3.2	<p>Indicator</p> <p>Adequate training is provided for all workers, including employees and contractors</p>	4.1.8	<p>Indicator</p> <p>The organisation has implemented appropriate control systems and procedures for verifying that:</p> <p>Training is provided for all workers including contractors in order to allow them to implement the conditions set out in all elements of the SBP Standards relevant to their responsibilities.</p>
	<p>Examples of Means of Verification</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Existing legislation • Level of enforcement • Training course curricula • Records of BPs' field inspections • Training records • Interviews with staff • Training plans, training records, and • records of qualifications 		[Means of Verification moved to S2 and new standalone document]
	<p>Guidance</p> <p>Adequate training provision should include assessment of training needs, and the delivery of training programmes. Training should be periodic and secure the level of required skills, including knowledge.</p>		<p>Guidance</p> <p>Adequate training provision should include assessment of training needs, and the delivery of training programmes by the organisation.</p> <p>Training should be periodic and secure the level of required skills, including knowledge, needed to ensure biomass is sustainable.</p>

	<p>Sources of information include</p>		<p>Sources of information include</p> <p>This standard is based on the main elements of relevant ILO Core Conventions.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Freedom of Association and Protection of the Right to Organise Convention, 1948 (No. 87) 2. Right to Organise and Collective Bargaining Convention, 1949 (No. 98) 3. Forced Labour Convention, 1930 (No. 29) (and its 2014 Protocol) 4. Abolition of Forced Labour Convention, 1957 (No. 105) 5. Minimum Age Convention, 1973 (No. 138) 6. Worst Forms of Child Labour Convention, 1999 (No. 182) 7. Equal Remuneration Convention, 1951 (No. 100) 8. Discrimination (Employment and Occupation) Convention, 1958 (No. 111) <p>The indicators must be met in all countries, whether the ILO conventions are ratified or not.</p> <p>Other relevant ILO conventions include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • C140 - Paid Educational Leave Convention, 1974 (No. 140) • C142 - Human Resources Development Convention, 1975 (No. 142) <p>Further details about ILO Conventions are available: https://www.ilo.org/dyn/normlex/en/f?p=NORMLEXPUB:12000:0::NO</p> <p>Further guidance is available in the Social Accountability 8000 standard: https://sa-intl.org/programs/sa8000/</p>
2.6.1	<p>Indicator</p> <p>The BP has implemented appropriate control systems and procedures for verifying that appropriate mechanisms are in place for resolving grievances and disputes, including those relating to tenure and use rights, to forest management practices and to work conditions.</p>	4.1.9	<p>Indicator</p> <p>The organisation has implemented appropriate control systems and procedures for verifying that:</p> <p>Workplace grievances and disputes are resolved.</p>
	<p>Examples of Means of Verification</p>		<p>[Means of Verification moved to S2 and new standalone document]</p>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Existing legal systems • Level of enforcement • Regional Best Management Practices • Supply contracts • Records of grievances and the • outcomes from internal investigations • Interviews with stakeholders and local • community members • Interviews with staff 		
<p>Guidance</p> <p>Mechanisms for resolving complaints and grievances at the workplace level may be incorporated into existing legislation. Grievances related to tenure and use rights may require additional mechanisms where appropriate.</p>		<p>Guidance</p> <p>The organisation, its suppliers and contractors:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • shall establish and maintain appropriate mechanisms for recording and resolving grievances and disputes relating to work conditions. • shall not discipline, dismiss or otherwise discriminate against any worker or interested party for providing information on compliance or for making other workplace complaints. • shall keep a record of all grievances, including how they were investigated, dealt with and the outcome of the process. • The grievance mechanism: • shall be confidential, unbiased, non-retaliatory and accessible and available to workers and interested parties • shall be a documented • shall be communicated to workers • shall be easily accessible to workers • shall be on request available to interested parties <p>Grievances:</p>

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> shall be acknowledged and dealt with in a timely manner. <p>Dispute-resolution</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> shall be based on negotiation and decisions shall be made on consensus.
	Sources of information include		<p>Sources of information include</p> <p>Further guidance is available in the Social Accountability 8000 standard: https://sa-intl.org/programs/sa8000/</p>
2.8.1	<p>Indicator</p> <p>The BP has implemented appropriate control systems and procedures for verifying that appropriate safeguards are put in place to protect the health and safety of forest workers (CPET S12).</p>	4.1.10	<p>Indicator</p> <p>The organisation has implemented appropriate control systems and procedures for verifying that:</p> <p>Appropriate safeguards are put in place to protect the health and safety of workers.</p>
	<p>Examples of Means of Verification</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Existing legislation Course curricula from safety trainings Training records § PPE available to workers at job sites Records of BPs' field inspections Safety risk assessments Interviews with staff 		[Means of Verification moved to S2 and new standalone document]
	<p>Guidance</p> <p>Appropriate safeguards include the requirement to identify risks, to provide appropriate training courses, and to provide appropriate Personal Protective Equipment (PPE).</p>		<p>Guidance</p> <p>The organisation, its suppliers and contractors:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Shall develop, communicate and implement policies and procedures to ensure that appropriate safeguards are put in place to protect the health and safety of workers

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shall provide a safe and healthy workplace • Shall take effective steps to prevent potential health and safety incidents and occupational injury or illness • Shall minimise or eliminate, so far as is reasonably practicable, the causes of all hazards in the workplace • Shall assess all the workplace risks to new, expectant and nursing mothers, to ensure that all reasonable steps are taken to remove or reduce any risks • Shall appoint a senior management representative to be responsible for ensuring a safe and healthy workplace • Shall establish and maintain a Health and Safety Committee, comprised of a well-balanced group of management representatives and worker • Shall provide to workers, on a regular basis, effective health and safety site and job training • shall provide to workers appropriate Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) at its own expense • Shall provide first aid and assist the worker in obtaining follow-up medical treatment, in the event of a work-related injury • Shall establish documented procedures to detect, prevent, minimise, eliminate or otherwise respond to potential risks to the health and safety of workers • Shall maintain written records of all work-related health and safety incidents that occur • Shall provide, for use by all workers, free access to: clean toilet facilities, potable water, suitable spaces for meal breaks, and, where applicable, sanitary facilities for food storage <p>Workers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shall have the right to remove themselves from imminent serious danger without seeking permission from the organisation • The Health & Safety Committee shall conduct formal, periodic occupational health and safety risk assessments to identify and then address current and
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		<p>potential health and safety hazards</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Records of these assessments and corrective and preventive actions taken shall be kept <p>Any dormitory facilities provided for workers shall be clean, safe and meet their basic needs, whether the organisation owns, leases or contracts the dormitories from a service provider.</p> <p>Practices to prevent arguments should be based upon the prevailing safety and health knowledge of the industry sector and of any specific hazards.</p> <p>The organisation is responsible for health and safety in the workplace and in all residences and property provided by the organisation, whether it owns, leases or contracts the residences or property from a service provider.</p>
		<p>Sources of information include</p> <p>This standard is based on the main elements of relevant ILO Core Conventions.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Freedom of Association and Protection of the Right to Organise Convention, 1948 (No. 87) Right to Organise and Collective Bargaining Convention, 1949 (No. 98) Forced Labour Convention, 1930 (No. 29) (and its 2014 Protocol) Abolition of Forced Labour Convention, 1957 (No. 105) Minimum Age Convention, 1973 (No. 138) Worst Forms of Child Labour Convention, 1999 (No. 182) Equal Remuneration Convention, 1951 (No. 100) Discrimination (Employment and Occupation) Convention, 1958 (No. 111) <p>The indicators must be met in all countries, whether the ILO conventions are ratified or not.</p> <p>Other relevant ILO conventions include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> C115 - Radiation Protection Convention, 1960 (No. 115) C139 - Occupational Cancer Convention, 1974 (No. 139) C148 - Working Environment (Air Pollution, Noise and Vibration)

			<p>Convention, 1977 (No. 148)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • C155 - Occupational Safety and Health Convention, 1981 (No. 155) • C161 - Occupational Health Services Convention, 1985 (No. 161) • C167 - Safety and Health in Construction Convention, 1988 (No. 167) • C170 - Chemicals Convention, 1990 (No. 170) • C174 - Prevention of Major Industrial Accidents Convention, 1993 (No. 174) • C176 - Safety and Health in Mines Convention, 1995 (No. 176) • C184 - Safety and Health in Agriculture Convention, 2001 (No. 184) • C187 - Promotional Framework for Occupational Safety and Health Convention, 2006 (No. 187) <p>Further details about ILO Conventions are available: https://www.ilo.org/dyn/normlex/en/f?p=NORMLEXPUB:12000:0::NO::</p> <p>Further guidance is available in the Social Accountability 8000 standard: https://sa-intl.org/programs/sa8000/</p>
		<p>4.1.11</p>	<p>Indicator</p> <p>The organisation has adequate systems and procedures in place to ensure that: Suppliers and contractors are paid and treated fairly.</p>
			<p>Guidance</p> <p>Suppliers and contractors should be seen as partners with the organisation rather than providers of goods and services alone.</p> <p>As a result, the organisation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • shall ensure that suppliers and contractors rates of pay meet or exceed industry standards and which allow suppliers and contractors to provide benefits to their employees, including but not limited to <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Health care ○ Sickness benefits

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Retirement benefits ○ Invalidation benefits ○ Death benefits ● Workers' compensation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ shall not violate national or other legal standards against the use of labour-only contracting, sub- contracting, or home-working arrangements, or through apprenticeship schemes where there is no real intent to impart skills or provide regular employment, nor shall any such obligations be avoided through the excessive use of fixed-term contracts of employment to avoid providing benefits and lower the cost of providing the service ○ shall not violate national anti-trust provisions by including anti-competitive requirements in contracts with suppliers and contractors ● Shall pay suppliers and contractors in a reasonable amount of time. Payment should be received within 30 days of invoicing ● Shall not withhold payments in order to force suppliers and contractors to continue working ● Shall allow suppliers and contractors to terminate their contract provided that they provide reasonable notice ● Shall not interfere with the suppliers and contractor's ability to negotiate in good faith and/or to create cooperatives for this purpose. Those engaged in negotiations should not be subjected to discrimination, harassment, intimidation or retaliation ● Shall not intentionally reduce contract rates due to the receipt of incentives, rebates, grants or reductions in operating expenses by suppliers and contractors ● Shall ensure that to every extent possible work performed is on the basis of a recognized contractual relationship that is consistent with national law and practice ● Shall ensure that suppliers and contractors are treated as independent contractors and will not require those contractors to provide services through
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			<p>extenuating or abnormal times and circumstances</p> <p>The organisation should invest time and resources in building a long-term relationship with suppliers and contractors. The relationship should be equitable within which all parties feel that they have influence and derive benefits.</p> <p>Suppliers and contractors should feel that they are able to raise issues and concerns with the organisation that will be treated with respect and addressed appropriately.</p> <p>The organisation should communicate with its suppliers and contractors in a respectful, timely and clear manner so that all parties understand what is expected of them and that sufficient time is available to meet any contracted commitments.</p> <p>During audits, suppliers and contractors should not be asked to conduct activity which adds expense or is considered to be unreasonable in terms of the implementation of their contract. If they are, a contract amendment should be considered. Suppliers and contractors should also be free to speak freely during any audits.</p>
1.6.1	<p>Includes parts of:</p> <p>Criterion 1.6: Harvesting does not violate traditional or civil rights</p> <p>Criterion 2.2: Management of the forest ensures that ecosystem function is assessed and maintained, through both the conservation/set-aside of key ecosystems or habitats in their natural state, and the maintenance of existing ecosystem functions throughout the forest (CPET S5; S5a; 8b)</p> <p>Criterion 2.3: Management of the forest ensures that productivity is maintained (CPET S6; S6a; S6e)</p> <p>Criterion 2.5: Management of the forest ensures that legal, customary and traditional tenure and use rights of indigenous peoples and local communities related to the forest, are identified, documented and respected (CPET S9)</p> <p>Criterion 2.6: Appropriate mechanisms are in place for resolving grievances and disputes, including those relating to tenure and use rights, to Forest Management practices and to work conditions (CPET S10)</p>	4.2	<p>Criterion</p> <p>Biomass production benefits communities</p>
	<p>Indicator</p>		

	The BP has implemented appropriate control systems and procedures to ensure that feedstock is not sourced from areas where there are violations of traditional or civil rights.		
	Means of Verification <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Traditional and civil rights are identified • Procedures are in place to ensure rights are not violated 		
	Guidance 'Traditional rights' are rights expressed by social groups or peoples, who affirm those rights to their lands, forests and other resources, based on long established custom or traditional occupation and use. Useful sources of information may include interviews with involved stakeholders.		
	Sources of information include www.globalwitness.org		
2.2.1	Indicator The BP has implemented appropriate control systems and procedures to verify that feedstock is sourced from forests where there is appropriate assessment of impacts, and planning, implementation and monitoring to minimise them.	4.2.1	Indicator The organisation has implemented appropriate control systems and procedures to verify that: There is an assessment of the likely social and community impacts of feedstock sourcing, and planning, implementation and monitoring to minimise them.
	Examples of Means of Verification <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regional Best Management Practices • Supply contracts • Assessment of potential impacts at operational level • Assessment of measures to minimize impacts • Monitoring results • Publicly available information on protecting the values identified 		[Means of Verification moved to S2 and new standalone document]

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Level of enforcement • Regional, publicly available data from a credible third party • The existence of a strong legal framework in the region 		
	<p>Guidance</p> <p>Potential impacts of feedstock harvesting on ecosystems and biodiversity should be identified, with mitigation measures implemented in the field as necessary.</p> <p>Impacts should be monitored and there should be a mechanism to feed monitoring results back into operational practice.</p> <p>Impacts include those originating in the area of operation but impacting outside the area of operation, such as downstream.</p> <p>Assessment planning, implementation and monitoring should be based on scientific research and, if needed, information on comparable forests types.</p> <p>BPs may require suppliers and forest owners to adopt specific Best Management Practices and to be certified for certain tasks.</p> <p>These should be specified in purchasing or procurement policies.</p> <p>Feedstock sourced from stump material will require specific controls to minimise impact.</p> <p>Avoidable damage to the ecosystem is prevented by application of the most suitable and available methods and techniques for logging and road construction under the prevailing conditions.</p>		<p>Guidance</p> <p>Potential impacts both positive and negative of feedstock harvesting on communities should be identified, with mitigation measures implemented in the field as necessary.</p> <p>Impacts should be monitored and there should be a mechanism to feed monitoring results back into operational practice.</p> <p>Impacts include those originating in the area of operation but impacting on communities outside the area of operation.</p> <p>Assessment planning, implementation and monitoring should be based on scientific research and stakeholder and community engagement.</p> <p>Impacts include, but are not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Loss of tenure and use rights • Loss of access to areas with cultural, social and economic values used by communities • Loss of adequate access for recreation Provision of employment and economic opportunities • Health and welfare impacts on communities • Any potential impacts on food, water and other basic needs should be identified • Impacts of and on gender, racial or religious equality
			<p>Sources of information include</p> <p>Roundtable for Sustainable Biomaterials (RSB) Rural and Social Development Guidelines RSB-GUI-01-005-02 https://rsb.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/06/RSB-GUI-01-005-02-Rural-and-Social-Development-Guidelines-v3.0.pdf</p>

<p>2.3.3</p> <p>Indicator</p> <p>Analysis shows that feedstock harvesting, and biomass production positively contribute to the local economy, including employment.</p>	<p>4.2.2</p> <p>Indicator</p> <p>Analysis shows that feedstock harvesting and biomass production positively contribute to the local economy, including employment.</p>
<p>Examples of Means of Verification</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Analysis of contribution to the local economy • Description of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The direct economic value that is created • Employment and personnel records • Policy, practice and the proportion of the budget spent on local suppliers • Procedures for appointment of local staff and their share of senior management. 	<p>[Means of Verification moved to S2 and new standalone document]</p>
<p>Guidance</p> <p>Contributions to the local economy from feedstock harvesting and biomass production should be evaluated for positive and negative impacts.</p> <p>These should be calculated on the basis of economic performance indicators EC1, EC6, and EC7 of Global Reporting Initiative (GRI)</p> <p>Contribution to the local economy should include reasonable opportunities for employment to the local population, including indigenous peoples, as well as the local processing of timber and non-timber forest products.</p> <p>Contribution should be made to the development of local physical infrastructure and social services and programmes for the local population, including indigenous people, unless such infrastructure and social services are provided by government bodies.</p> <p>This contribution should be made in agreement with the local population.</p>	<p>Guidance</p> <p>The organisation should seek to increase the positive contributions to the local economy identified in the analysis.</p> <p>Contributions to the local economy from feedstock harvesting and biomass production should be evaluated for positive and negative impacts.</p> <p>These should be calculated on the basis of economic performance indicators EC1, EC6, and EC7 of Global Reporting Initiative (GRI)</p> <p>Contribution to the local economy should include reasonable opportunities for employment to the local population, including indigenous peoples, as well as the local processing of timber and non-timber forest products.</p> <p>Contribution should be made to the development of local physical infrastructure and social services and programmes for the local population, including indigenous people, unless such infrastructure and social services are provided by government bodies.</p> <p>This contribution should be made in agreement with the local population.</p>

	<p>Sources of information include</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - GRI (2013) G4 Sustainability Reporting Guidelines, Part 2: Implementation Manual. Global Reporting Initiative, p266 		<p>Sources of information include</p> <p>GRI (2013) G4 Sustainability Reporting Guidelines, Part 2: Implementation Manual. Global Reporting Initiative, p266</p> <p>ProFor: Understanding Forests' Contribution to Poverty Reduction: https://www.profor.info/knowledge/understanding-forests%E2%80%99-contribution-poverty-reduction</p>
2.5.1	<p>Indicator</p> <p>The BP has implemented appropriate control systems and procedures for verifying that legal, customary and traditional tenure and use rights of indigenous people and local communities related to the forest, are identified, documented and respected (CPET S9).</p>	4.2.3	<p>Indicator</p> <p>The organisation has implemented appropriate control systems and procedures for verifying that:</p> <p>Legal, customary and traditional tenure and use rights of indigenous people and local communities related to the forest and other land, are identified, documented and respected.</p>
	<p>Examples of Means of Verification</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Customary and traditional tenure and use rights are identified and documented • Interviews with indigenous peoples, local communities and other stakeholders, indicate that their rights are being respected • Appropriate mechanisms exist to resolve disputes • Agreements exist regarding these rights 		<p>[Means of Verification moved to S2 and new standalone document]</p>
	<p>Guidance</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Indigenous people's and local communities' legal rights concerning use and tenure, which are affected by timber harvesting, must be identified, and mechanisms put in place to ensure these rights are respected. • In particular, rights should be identified, documented and respected in relation to: • Trade and customs 		<p>Guidance</p> <p>Indigenous peoples' and local communities' legal rights concerning use and tenure, which are affected by timber harvesting, must be identified, and mechanisms put in place to ensure these rights are respected.</p> <p>In particular, rights should be identified, documented and respected in relation to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Trade and customs • Legal, customary and traditional tenure and use • The requirement includes ILO convention 169, which relates to the rights of

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Legal, customary and traditional tenure and use • The requirement includes ILO convention 169, which relates to the rights of indigenous and tribal peoples. • Appropriate mechanisms should be in place to allow: • Indigenous peoples and local communities to control and protect their rights and resources, unless they have chosen to delegate control with free and informed consent. • Indigenous peoples and local communities to be fully compensated for appropriation of traditional community knowledge or intellectual property. <p>Resolution of disputes over tenure claims and use rights Substantial disputes involving multiple interests will normally prevent this Indicator from being considered low risk.</p>		<p>indigenous and tribal peoples.</p> <p>Appropriate mechanisms should be in place to allow:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Indigenous peoples and local communities to control and protect their rights and resources, unless they have chosen to delegate control with free, prior and informed consent • Indigenous peoples and local communities to be fully compensated for appropriation of traditional community knowledge or intellectual property • Resolution of disputes over tenure claims and use rights Substantial disputes involving multiple interests will normally prevent this Indicator from being considered low risk <p>Useful sources of information may include interviews with involved stakeholders.</p>
			<p>Sources of information include</p> <p>ILO convention C169 - Indigenous and Tribal Peoples Convention, 1989.</p> <p>Accountability Framework (AFI). Operational Guidance on FPIC: https://accountability-framework.org/operational-guidance/free-prior-and-informed-consent/</p> <p>Global Witness www.globalwitness.org</p> <p>Accountability Framework (AFI). Operational Guidance on Respecting the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities: https://accountability-framework.org/operational-guidance/respecting-the-rights-of-indigenous-peoples-and-local-communities/</p>
2.5.2	<p>Indicator</p> <p>The BP has implemented appropriate control systems and procedures for verifying that production of feedstock does not endanger food, water supply or subsistence means of communities, where the use of this specific feedstock or water is essential for the fulfilment of basic needs.</p>	4.2.4	<p>Indicator</p> <p>The organisation has implemented appropriate control systems and procedures for verifying that:</p> <p>Production of feedstock does not endanger food, water supply or subsistence means of communities, where the use of this specific feedstock or water is essential for the fulfilment of basic needs.</p>

	<p>Examples of Means of Verification</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Interviews with local communities and other stakeholders indicate that subsistence needs are not endangered Agreements exist on resource rights, where these impact on the needs of communities 		<p>[Means of Verification moved to S2 and new standalone document]</p>
	<p>Guidance</p> <p>Any potential impacts on food, water and other basic needs should be identified.</p>		<p>Guidance</p> <p>Any potential impacts on food, water and other basic needs should be identified.</p> <p>The HCV Approach as set out in the HCVRN Common Guidance for the identification of High Conservation Values is best practice across different ecosystems and production systems and should be followed wherever practicable to identify impacts on basic needs (HCV5) and cultural values (HCV6).</p> <p>The organisation shall justify which tool they are using to identify these high conservation values.</p>
	<p>Sources of information include</p> <p>RSB <i>Food Security Guidelines</i>. RSBGUI-01-006-01</p>		<p>Sources of information include</p> <p>Roundtable for Sustainable Biomaterials (RSB) Food Security Guidelines. RSBGUI-01-006-01: https://rsb.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/06/RSB-GUI-01-006-01-RSB-Food-Security-Guidelines_final.pdf</p> <p>High Conservation Value (HCV) Common Guidance for the identification of HCVs: https://hcvnetwork.org/library/common-guidance-for-the-identification-of-high-conservation-values/</p>
2.6.1	<p>Indicator</p> <p>The BP has implemented appropriate control systems and procedures for verifying that appropriate mechanisms are in place for resolving grievances and disputes, including those relating to tenure and use rights, to forest management practices and to work conditions.</p>	4.2.5	<p>Indicator</p> <p>The organisation has implemented appropriate control systems and procedures for verifying that:</p> <p>Appropriate mechanisms are in place for resolving grievances and disputes, including those relating to tenure and use rights and to forest and other land management practices.</p>
	<p>Examples of Means of Verification</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Existing legal systems 		<p>[Means of Verification moved to S2 and new standalone document]</p>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Level of enforcement • Regional Best Management Practices • Supply contracts • Records of grievances and the outcomes from internal investigations • Interviews with stakeholders and local community members • Interviews with staff 		
<p>Guidance</p> <p>Mechanisms for resolving complaints and grievances at the workplace level may be incorporated into existing legislation.</p> <p>Grievances related to tenure and use rights may require additional mechanisms where appropriate.</p>		<p>Guidance</p> <p>The mechanism for resolving grievances and disputes should be mutually agreed by all parties involved and documented.</p> <p>The system should resolve disputes in an effective, timely and appropriate manner.</p> <p>The systems should ensure the anonymity of complainants, community spokespersons and whistle-blowers, where requested, without risk of reprisal.</p>
<p>Sources of information include</p> <p>RSB-GUI-01-005-01: <i>Social Impact Assessment Guidelines</i></p> <p>RSB-GUI-01-012-01: <i>Land Rights Guidelines</i></p>		<p>Sources of information include</p> <p>Roundtable for Sustainable Biomaterials (RSB). RSB-GUI-01-005-02 Rural and Social Development Guidelines: https://rsb.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/06/RSB-GUI-01-005-02-Rural-and-Social-Development-Guidelines-v3.0.pdf</p> <p>Roundtable for Sustainable Biomaterials (RSB). RSB-GUI-01-012-01. Land Rights Guidelines: https://rsb.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/06/RSB-GUI-01-012-01-Land-Rights-Guidelines_3.0.pdf</p>
	<p>4.2.6</p>	<p>Indicator</p> <p>The organisation has appropriate control systems and procedures in place for verifying that</p> <p>Where operations may affect indigenous peoples' and local communities' rights, land, resources, territories, livelihoods, and food security, their free, prior and informed consent (FPIC) is secured.</p>

			<p>Guidance</p> <p>Where the risk assessment has identified specified risk that adverse impacts on local communities or indigenous peoples may occur, the organisation must have in place documented procedures for appropriate FPIC initiatives and implementation.</p> <p>Biomass producers must likewise have in place documented procedures for checking and verifying appropriate FPIC initiatives and implementation at feedstock producers supplying SBP-compliant feedstock.</p> <p>Instances where FPIC procedures must be in place include major operations with likely impacts on communities such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Management and harvesting operations • Conservation activities requiring restricted access • Infrastructure development
			<p>Sources of information include</p> <p>Accountability Framework initiative (AFI). Operational Guidance on FPIC: https://accountability-framework.org/operational-guidance/free-prior-and-informed-consent/</p> <p>Food and Agricultural Organisation (FAO). Free Prior and Informed Consent. Manual for project practitioners: http://www.fao.org/3/i6190e/i6190e.pdf</p>
		4.2.7	<p>Indicator</p> <p>The organisation has appropriate control systems and procedures in place for verifying that</p> <p>Where operations impinge on their rights, lands, resources, territories, livelihoods, or food security, indigenous peoples and local communities are compensated or accommodated through appropriate measures reflecting the negotiated outcomes of an FPIC process.</p>
			<p>Guidance</p>

			<p>These measures may include continued access to these lands, territories and resources; just and fair compensation; and/or an equitable share in the benefits from such uses.</p> <p>Where there are, or have been, disputes, evidence should be available that fair compensation has been made to previous owners and occupants, and that this has been accepted with free, prior and informed consent (FPIC).</p>
			<p>Sources of information include</p> <p>Accountability Framework initiative (AFI). Operational Guidance on FPIC: https://accountability-framework.org/operational-guidance/free-prior-and-informed-consent/</p>
		4.2.8	<p>Indicator</p> <p>The organisation has appropriate control systems and procedures in place for verifying that:</p> <p>Remediation has been provided through mutually agreed procedures in cases where the company has caused or contributed to appropriation of or harm to the lands, territories, or resources of indigenous peoples or local communities without securing FPIC.</p>
			<p>Sources of information include</p> <p>Accountability Framework initiative (AFI). Remediation and Access to Remedy: Guidance on how companies can ensure proper remediation and access to remedy related to their supply chain commitments, including through effective grievance mechanisms: https://accountability-framework.org/operational-guidance/remediation-and-access-to-remedy/</p>