

Template for submission of scientific and technical comments on Appendix 2 of the recommendation adopted by the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice for the Resumed Session of its twenty-fourth meeting

TEMPLATE FOR COMMENTS

Review comments on Appendix 2 of the present recommendation	
Scope of this template for comments	Template for submitting comments in accordance with recommendation CBD/SBSTTA/REC/24/2, paragraph 2, where the Executive Secretary of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), under the guidance of the Bureau of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice (SBSTTA), invites Parties, other Governments and relevant stakeholders to submit views on Appendix 2 of the recommendation.
Contact information	
Party/Government/Observer	Observer
Party/Government/Observer representative	Forest Stewardship Council A.C.
Comments	
<p>Please provide any general comments on the Appendix 2.</p> <p>General observations: Consider potential clusters to help the reader understand grouping of complementary indicators. This could be done when there are more than 10 complementary indicators. Specific recommendations: FSC (As a BIP member) is providing two key indicators that contribute to the monitoring framework: 10.3.1. Area of forest under sustainable management: total forest management certification by Forest Stewardship Council and Programme for the Endorsement of Forest Certification t3.12. Number of certified forest areas under sustainable management with verified impacts on biodiversity conservation. This indicator (t3.12) is particularly innovative as it offers comprehensive biodiversity verified data that can be used by all actors implementing the GBF at the forest level. It can be applicable to all forest types as well as ALL stewardship activities such as protection, conservation, restoration and sustainable use. This indicator is one of the five Ecosystem Services verified impacts, together with carbon, water, soil and recreational services. The indicator can measure the following impacts at a global and local level (Conservation and restoration of species diversity, restoration of natural forest cover, conservation of intact forest landscapes, maintenance of an ecologically sufficient conservation area network, conservation and restoration of natural forest characteristics) These two indicators provide relevant forest data that is verified by a third party. Certification bodies have the unique ability to check locally performance and data. After a careful analysis, we observe that these two indicators could further contribute to the delivery of other goals and targets; particularly those that are currently lacking information, and where the status of “sustainable use” needs to be verified. Forest-related indicators would significantly support efforts by parties and private actors, given that forests are the home to over 80 % of the world’s terrestrial species. Specific suggestions to include FSC indicators: Include 10.3.1 under</p>	

the following goals and targets:

- Component to Goal A - A.0.1: Certified forests enhance the integrity of forest ecosystems, considering connectivity (use, protection/conservation and restoration) while supporting resilience.
- Component to target 15: This indicator was in a former version and should be brought back. Forest certification enables businesses to report about their stewardship activities. E.g., all FSC-certified forests have public reports online.
- Component to target 5: Standards ensure that harvesting, trade and use of wild species is sustainable, legal, and safe for human health.
- Component to target 1 – 1.0.1: Certified forests are under integrated biodiversity-inclusive spatial planning addressing forest change, retaining existing intact and wilderness areas. Include t3.12. under the following goals and targets:

• Complementary to Goal B in particular to B.0.1 The indicator t3.12 corresponds to one of the five FSC Ecosystem Services, enabling the valuation of nature’s contributions to people and whether they are maintained, enhanced and restored through conservation and sustainable use.

• Complementary to Goal C: Indicator t3.12 aims at an increase in both monetary and non-monetary benefits shared, including for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity.

• Complementary to target 10 to 10.3.1: Verified impacts on biodiversity can provide more specific data, that can be connected to the component and the headline indicators.

• Component to target 14 – 14.0.1: Forest area with verified impacts on biodiversity enable the integration of its values at all levels. Comments about proposed additional indicators Overall, it would be key to limit the number of items. If there are too many, the results of items might be contradicting each other. In addition, it is important to capture for the future good indicators that are not feasible at the moment.