Project Name: Group Certification Standard Revision
August 2018 – April 2020

Objective:
• To revise the Group Certification Standard that will:
  o Align with FSC normative documents and Strategic Plan
  o Address concerns expressed by stakeholders, certificate holders, and certification bodies
  o Consider the inclusion of new mechanisms to improve group certificates
  o Enhance inclusion of stakeholder groups such as smallholders and communities

Geography & Unique Needs:
• International relevance
• Builds on previous efforts to describe the formalized relationship between group managers and members within a group certification scheme
• GA2017/46 sought to revise the group standard to include stakeholder perspectives and with consideration of enhanced conditions to communities and small forest owners, integration of new elements such as a formalized role for contractors, and considerations of concepts like risk based or stepwise approaches.

Activities/Methodology:
• Conducted global survey to guide the standard revision
• Established a Technical Working Group of seven members
• Approved work plan and timeline

Outcomes
• Under development

Reference Documents:
• FSC-PRO-01-001 Development and Revision of FSC Normative Documents
• FSC-STD-30-005 FSC Standard for Group Entities in Forest Management Groups

2019 GOALS
The revision of the standard, with a focused Technical Working Group, will be streamlined

All relevant related issues into one, simply-built standard, will be incorporated

Ensure group certification supports certificate holders, particularly smallholders

10% accomplished

PROJECT LINKS
To collect or provide input to:
• Group Model Type III pilot test
• Forestry Contractors field test
• Forest Management Evaluation Standard revision