



Responsible Forest Management

Twenty years of experience

NEPCon is an international non-profit organisation that promotes the sustainable use of natural resources worldwide. We do this through innovation projects, training and by delivering credible sustainability services. Responsible forest management is one of our key areas of expertise.

Forest certification expertise

NEPCon works with the two main global systems for certification of responsible forestry, FSC™ and PEFC. FSC is our core service, with NEPCon amongst the world's most experienced FSC certifiers.



Our customers

We work with private and public forest owners and managers. Our customers range from smallholdings less than a hectare in area to key suppliers of globally leading companies with millions of hectares under certification. We certify a total forest area of over 67 million hectares, one third of all FSC certified forest area. These forests are located in six continents around the world.



Voting session at the FSC General Assembly 2017

Understanding the systems

NEPCon is actively engaged in the FSC system at both global and local levels. For example, we actively participate in key FSC policy working groups and processes, and we regularly provide analytical inputs and risk assessments at FSC's request. We have also developed interim FSC standards for forest management certification in 40 countries.

In addition, we have been engaged by FSC to conduct Controlled Wood Risk Assessments for 48 countries for Category 1 (legality), 4 (conversion) and 5 (Genetically Modified Organisms), and for 20 countries for Category 3 (High Conservation Values).

Our experience working within the FSC system thus extends to both strategic and practical levels. We use our insight to develop projects that support the credibility and accessibility of forest certification.



NEPCon Sourcing Hub contains assessments of the risks of illegal timber production and trade in 62 countries, covering 87% of global timber production. Learn more at www.nepcon.org/sourcinghub



Forest nature conservation

Our projects have resulted in the formal designation of over 100 protected areas around the world. We are helping to conserve and manage some of Asia's most precious tropical forests and biodiversity hotspots. In Borneo, for example, we have supported the conservation and management of the Maliau Basin Conservation Area since 2000.

We have helped to identify forest High Conservation Values, and have developed related tools and methodologies. And together with our partners, we have carried out projects to implement the EU Habitats and Birds Directives in six European countries.



Engaging with smallholders

Forest contractors play a key role in securing sustainable forest management practices. At the same time, this can enhance access to certification for family forest owners. Therefore, we engage in developing and providing contractor certification.



Seeing the forest beyond the trees

We actively engage with FSC and other partners to verify ecosystem impacts which help forest managers to make valid claims on the Payments for Ecosystem Services (PES) schemes.



Supporting Indigenous People and Traditional communities

We also work to explore new approaches to make certification and the associated benefits accessible and feasible for these groups, that play a crucial role in protecting nature as they hold and manage more than half of the world's land.

Capacity building and analysis

We deliver professional, expert training programmes, focusing on responsible forestry, certification, and forest legality. Our international FSC Expert training courses were the first to be endorsed as fulfilling the new formal requirements for FSC Lead Auditor training. Gender equality, FPIC (Free, Prior and Informed Consent), and Ecosystem Services are some of our special areas of focus and expertise in such training – with these mainstreamed through our certification work. In addition, we regularly provide analyses and training on a wide range of related topics. Read more at www.nepcon.org/training.

Contact us



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