

THREE MEMBERSHIP CHAMBERS

In order to balance the interests of different stakeholders, FSC is governed by three chambers that make decisions cooperatively.



Social Chamber

Non-profit, non-governmental social organizations, Indigenous Peoples' associations, trade and labour unions, workers associations, research or academic institutions, individuals, socially oriented communally owned organizations, and community groups.



Environmental Chamber

Non-profit, non-governmental environmental organizations, research, academic, technical institutions or individuals who have an active interest in environmentally appropriate forest stewardship.



Economic Chamber

Individuals, industry associations, wholesalers, retailers, traders, manufacturers, forestry experts, commercially oriented communally owned forest enterprises, consultants, certification bodies, research organizations and academics whose primary interests are the economic or trade of forest products.

WHY BECOME AN FSC INTERNATIONAL MEMBER?

Through our governance model, FSC members have real influence. Members contribute directly to our standards and to the future of responsible forestry. FSC brings together, among others, private enterprises, NGOs, international organizations, indigenous groups, and educational institutions.



WHAT IS FSC?

The Forest Stewardship Council® (FSC) is the world's most rigorous sustainable forest management solution trusted by NGOs, consumers, and businesses alike to help protect healthy and resilient forests for all, forever.

Our Mission is to promote environmentally sound, socially beneficial, and economically viable management of the world's forests.

Our Strength is being a community for co-creation: we convene members and other partners from diverse interests to set global benchmarks for forest stewardship and deliver significant results for the forests and the people who depend on them.

Our Solutions provide multiple ways for forest managers, businesses, and consumers to maintain healthy forests forever.



FSC's "check tree" label – found on millions of products worldwide – verifies sustainable sourcing from forest to consumer.

WHY CHOOSE FSC?



Trusted, transparent and credible

We are the most credible forest certification system and the most trusted and preferred certification system for many companies worldwide.



Balanced

Our multi-stakeholder governance system is comprised of 1,200+ members from 92 countries who represent social, economic, and environmental perspectives equally.



Relevant

We operate in more than 130 countries and our standards are globally and locally relevant. FSC's responsible forestry standard, linked to a strict chain of custody certification offers a solution to tackle today's climate and biodiversity challenges.



Impactful

For people, climate, and biodiversity. We are the only forest certification system that verifies whether rights of workers and Indigenous Peoples are upheld. The **FSC Policy for Association** enables us to prevent and stop activities destructive to forests and **FSC certification** assures biodiversity protection.

FSC International Members come from all across the globe and play a crucial role in co-creating forest stewardship solutions and shaping FSC standards, policy, and practices.

They can also participate in the General Assembly, propose motions, and have voting rights. The members represent the global South and global North, and depending on their profile, members are spread across three chambers: social, environmental and economic.



Watch how FSC Members share their passion and make an impact

What is the difference between an FSC Member and a Certificate Holder?

'FSC membership' and 'FSC certification' are two different concepts. Obtaining certification does not mean obtaining membership, and vice versa.

- The membership consists of a global network of over 1,000 individuals and member organizations sharing a common passion to put forests first.
- Certificate holders are businesses seeking sustainable sourcing solutions for forest products. FSC has over 50,000 certificate holders committed to sustainable sourcing of forest products.

What is the difference between an Organizational Member and an Individual Member?

The requirements for verification vary depending on the type of membership you choose. For a greater voice and influence we encourage you to pursue organisational membership.



Organizational Membership



Individual Membership

Application Process

1 Application form

Access the International Membership application form online. Before you fill-in the application, do not forget to read the requirements checklist and chamber criteria.



1



2

2 Fill and submit

Complete the form corresponding to your membership, provide necessary documents and submit! Documents include filling the application form, providing all relevant information as identified in the checklist, the letter of support, and signing the FSC Policy for Association.

3

3 Criteria FSC check

Once submitted, your application goes through a verification process called 'FSC Check'. FSC Check is a tool to conduct a risk-based review of individuals and organizations that want to become an FSC member, thereby ensuring that their values are aligned with those of FSC.

! Activities unacceptable to FSC

When you apply to become a member, you must agree not to become involved in any activities which are unacceptable to FSC. These include:

- Illegal logging or trade in illegal wood or forest products
- Violation of traditional and human rights through forestry operations
- Destruction of high conservation values through forestry operations
- Conversion of forests to plantations or non-forest use
- Use of genetically modified organisms in forestry operations
- Violation of workers' right through forestry operations



4 Approval

Once the application has passed FSC Check, it moves forward to the approval process. This takes 7-10 working days. You will receive an e-mail upon approval.

4

5

Become an International MEMBER!

To know more visit Membership@FSC.org
Write to us at Membership@FSC.org

Apply now for
FSC Membership



Become an FSC® International Member

of the world's most trusted sustainable forest management solution and play a leading role in ensuring that we keep our forests for all, forever.

