

KZR INiG System /11.3 Annex 11.3 – Additional guidance on assessing forest biomass criteria

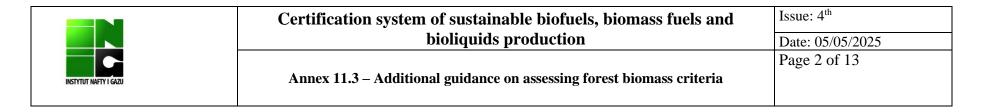


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1. Harvesting criteria - Art. 29(6) - Demonstrating compliance through national or sub-national laws (level A)

RED III Criteria		Requirement Type of evidence/verified informati Type of evidence/verified information on				Possible information sources	
29.6a(i)	Harvesting legality	Laws	Adequate and efficient due diligence as required under the EU Timber Regulation (EUTR, (EU) 995/2010) has determined negligible risk of illegal logging	Legislation in the area of forestry can be checked from national official legislation journals and databases or from the UN-FAO FAOLEX database of national legislation, policies and bilateral agreements on environment, forestry, land & soil, agriculture and natural resources management, amongst other. http://www.fao.org/faolex			
29.6a(i)	Harvesting legality	Monitoring/ Enforcement	Proof that there is no evidence from national or international governmental organizations that there is significant and continued lack of enforcement	The UNEP-WCMC briefing notes on EUTR implementation: www.unepwcmc.org/featured-projects/eu-timber-regulations-and-flegt			
			Evidence that the relevant Member State is not subject to any ongoing EU infringement procedure for non-compliance with the EU Timber Regulation	For information on EU infringement procedures, query for "MISCELLANEOUS - FORESTS - Non-compliance with EUTR and FLEGT Regulations" in the query form's Title field: https://ec.europa.eu/info/law/infringements_en			
29.6a(ii)	Forest regeneration	Laws	Legal analysis showing that the relevant legislation complies with the forest regeneration criteria	Legislation in the area of forestry can be checked from official national legislation journals and databases or from the UN-FAO FAOLEX database of national legislation, policies and bilateral agreements on environment, forestry, land & soil, agriculture and natural resources management, amongst other. http://www.fao.org/faolex			
regeneration Enforcement legislation includes monitori		Legal analysis showing that the relevant forest legislation includes monitoring and enforcement requirements for forest regeneration	Legislation in the area of forestry can be checked from official national legislation journals and databases or from the UN-FAO FAOLEX database of national legislation, policies and bilateral agreements on environment, forestry, land & soil, agriculture and natural resources management, amongst other. http://www.fao.org/faolex				
			Proof that there is no evidence from national or international governmental organizations that there is significant and continue lack of enforcement	The UNEP-WCMC briefing notes on EUTR implementation: www.unepwcmc.org/featured-projects/eu-timber-regulations-and-flegt			
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Table 1. Checklist for demonstrating compliance with the harvesting criteria through national or sub-national laws (level A).



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				Other recent and relevant official information from national governmental or international inter-governmental sources, such as World Bank, FAO, UNEP.
29.6a(iii)	Protected areas	Laws	Legal analysis showing that the relevant legislation complies with the protect areas requirement	Legislation in the area of forestry can be checked from official national legislation journals and databases or from the UN-FAO FAOLEX database of national legislation, policies and bilateral agreements on environment, forestry, land & soil, agriculture and natural resources management, amongst other. http://www.fao.org/faolex
				European Environment Agency Common Database on Designated Areas for all its 36 member countries. <u>https://www.eea.europa.eu/data-and-aps/data/nationally-designated-areas-national-cdda-14</u>
				World Database on Protected Areas (WDPA), including reports on the effective management of protected areas for most countries in the World. http://www.protectedplanet.net
29.6a(iii)	Protected areas	Monitoring/ Enforcement	Legal analysis showing that the relevant forest legislation includes monitoring and enforcement requirements for protected areas	Legislation in the area of forestry can be checked from official national legislation journals and databases or from the UN-FAO FAOLEX database of national legislation, policies and bilateral agreements on environment, forestry, land &soil, agriculture and natural resources management, amongst other. http://www.fao.org/faolex
			Proof that there is no evidence from national or international governmental organizations that there is significant and continue lack of enforcement	The UNEP-WCMC reports on EUTR implementation: www.unepwcmc.org/featured-projects/eu-timber-regulations-and-flegt World Database on Protected Areas (WDPA), including reports on the effective management of protected areas for most countries in the World. http://www.protectedplanet.net

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				Other recent and relevant official information from national governmental or international inter-governmental sources, such as World Bank, FAO, UNEP.
29.6a(iv)	Maintenance of soil quality and biodiversity	Laws	Legal analysis showing that the relevant legislation complies with the maintenance of soil quality and biodiversity criteria	Legislation in the area of forestry can be checked from national legislation databases or from the UN-FAO FAOLEX database of national legislation, policies and bilateral agreements on environment, forestry, land &soil, agriculture and natural resources management, amongst other. http://www.fao.org/faolex
29.6a(iv)	Maintenance of soil quality and biodiversity	Monitoring/ Enforcement	Legal analysis showing that the relevant forest legislation includes monitoring and enforcement requirements for protected areas	Legislation in the area of forestry can be checked from national legislation databases or from the UN-FAO FAOLEX database of national legislation, policies and bilateral agreements on environment, forestry, land &soil, agriculture and natural resources management, amongst other. http://www.fao.org/faolex
			Proof that there is no evidence from national or international governmental organizations that there is significant and continue lack of enforcement	The UNEP-WCMC reports on EUTR implementation: <u>www.unepwcmc.org/featured-projects/eu-timber-regulations-and-flegt</u> Other recent and relevant official information from national governmental or international inter-governmental sources, such as World Bank, FAO, UNEP
29.6a(v)	Long-term production capacity	Laws	Legal analysis showing that the relevant legislation complies with the long-term production capacity criteria	Legislation in the area of forestry can be checked from national legislation databases or from the UN-FAO FAOLEX database of national legislation, policies and bilateral agreements on environment, forestry, land &soil, agriculture and natural resources management, amongst other. http://www.fao.org/faolex
29.6a(v)	Long-term production capacity	Monitoring/ Enforcement	Legal analysis showing that the relevant forest legislation includes monitoring and enforcement requirements for long-term production capacity	Legislation in the area of forestry can be checked from national legislation databases or from the UN-FAO FAOLEX database of national legislation, policies and bilateral agreements on environment, forestry, land &soil, agriculture and natural resources management, amongst other. http://www.fao.org/faolex
			Proof that there is no evidence from national or international governmental organizations that there is significant and continue lack of enforcement	The UNEP-WCMC reports on EUTR implementation: <u>www.unepwcmc</u> .org/featured-projects/eu-timber-regulations-and-flegt

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				Other recent and relevant official information from national governmental or international inter-governmental sources, such as World Bank, FAO, UNEP
Art. 29.6a (vi)	National legislation obliging company to issue a statement of assurance	Laws	Legal analysis showing that the relevant legislation includes obligation that installations producing biofuels, bioliquids and biomass fuels from forest biomass, issue a statement of assurance, underpinned by company-level internal processes, for the purpose of the audits conducted pursuant to Article 30(3), that the forest biomass is	Legislation in this aspects can be checked from national legislation databases
			not sourced from 'no-go' areas	



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2. Demonstrating compliance through management systems at the sourcing area level (level B)

2.1. Legality criterion

As mentioned in preceding sections, any wood and products made of wood that are placed on the EU market, need to comply with EUTR requirements. The procedure to comply with the legality criterion is to be the same for level A and level B. For further clarification on the link between RED III and EUTR see Section 0 on (i) Legality of harvesting operations. For a summary guidance on compliance with the RED III legality criterion, see Table 1.

2.2. Regeneration criterion

Step	Indicator	Sources of information
1.1. and 1.2	Type of forest operation from which forest biomass results	Forest management plans obtained e.g. from the forest owner directly, or from a competent authority that compiles such information from forests within the sourcing area
2	Quality and quantity of next generation forest resources	Forest management plans obtained e.g. from the forest owner directly, or from a competent authority that compiles such information from forests within the sourcing area

Table 2. Checklist for demonstrating compliance with the regeneration criterion

2.3. Protected area criterion

Step	Indicator	Sources of information
1	Presence of designated areas for nature protection, including wetlands and peatlands	IUCN maintains the World Database on ProtectedAreas (WDPA)Other international networks of designated areas e.g. the UNESCO Biosphere Reserves
2	Permissions for biomass removal in the protected areas	Harvesting permission issued by the relevant competent authority Alternatively, proof of compliance with relevant legislation is provided through operational reports/harvest protocols
3	Implementation of plans/measures in the protected areas	Operational reports describe compliance measures undertaken in the respective areas, obtained via field inspections with an agent of the relevant competent authority, or

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		The confirmations are implemented by second or third party and thereafter endorsed by the competent authority
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2.4. Maintenance of soil quality and of biodiversity criterion

Step	Indicator	Sources of information
1	Biomass includes stumps or roots	Operational post-harvest reports confirm that stumps or roots were not harvested in the sourcing area
2.1;	Existence of poor or vulnerable soils in	FAO/UNESCO Soil Map of the World
2.2	the forest sourcing area	Harmonized World Soil Database – FAO
		National or regional soil maps
		Identification of poor or vulnerable soils in forest management plans
3	Harvesting on poor or vulnerable soils is implemented according to requirements of logging permission	Post-harvest report issued or approved by the competent authority
4	Impacts on soil quality are minimized during and after harvesting	Forest management plans/operational reports/harvest protocols could include a "checklist" for the assessment of potential impacts as well as an assessment of measures to minimize such at operational level
		Operational reports created during or after harvest show proof that precautionary measures have been implemented regarding soil protection and include dated and geo-tagged pictures before-and after- the intervention or written description of impacts on logging trails and damages on the remaining stand
		Operational reports/harvest protocols confirm that local best practice guidelines or relevant legislation regarding soil protection during harvesting operations are complied with (i.e. chosen harvesting system is justified in respect of soil type and slope)
5	Biodiversity and habitat features are	Forest management plans
	assessed and specified	Operational reports
		Pre-harvest inventory
		Regional biodiversity assessments
6	Required or recommended amounts of	Applicable legislation or regulation
	deadwood are known	Regionally applicable best practices
0	Required or recommended amounts of deadwood are known	

Table 4. Checklist for demonstrating compliance with the soil quality and biodiversity criterion

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		Scientific recommendations
7	Deadwood amounts are according requirements or best practice Recommendation	Harvesting protocols Operational reports Pre-harvest inventory Post-harvest assessments
8	Preventive and protective measures are taken to protect biodiversity during harvesting operations	Harvesting protocols Operational reports Post-harvest assessments

2.5. Long-term production capacity criterion at sourcing area level

Table 5. Checklist for demonstrating compliance with the long-term production capacity criterion,
following a retrospective approach

Step	Indicator	Sources of information
1; 2	Sustainable harvest levels on forest available for wood supply	Regional data for net annual increment is published by national or regional forest inventories but can also be calculated on the basis of forest growth models specifically for the forest sourcing area Regional data for annual harvested timber amounts can be obtained from national or regional forest inventories, or from forest authorities
3	Harvest amounts exceed net annual increments	Permits or documents including reports of the relevant competent forest authority Specific permits issued by the relevant competent authority allow these temporally higher harvest levels.

2.6. 'No-go' areas

Table 6. Checklist for demonstrating compliance with the primary forests and other wooded lands, with the highly biodiverse forests, grasslands/heathlands areas

Step	Indicator	Sources of information
2	Confirmation of verification of place of origin	Internal procedures, internal audits reports
2	Is the area, or any part of it, included among those listed in art. 29 (3, 4, 5)?	RED III Directive
2	Does the sourcing area, or any part of it, match the definition of primary forest?	Evidence confirming land status, geospatial and/or non-geospatial data, Intact Forest Landscape Database, FAO Global Forest Resource Assessment

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3	Does the sourcing area, or any part of it, match the definition of other wooded lands?	Evidence confirming land status, geospatial and/or non-geospatial data, Intact Forest Landscape Database, FAO Global Forest Resource Assessment
4	Identifying whether a sourcing area has been forest or other wooded land in or after 2008	Definition check, geospatial and/or non-geospatial data, Intact Forest Landscape Database, FAO Global Forest Resource Assessment
5	Determining whether a sourcing area has been highly biodiverse forest or other wooded land in or after 2008	Evidence confirming land status, geospatial and/or non-geospatial data, Intact Forest Landscape Database, FAO Global Forest Resource Assessment
6	Showing evidence that the acquisition of raw material did not interfere with the protection of the high biodiversity value of highly biodiverse forests and other wooded land	Evidence confirming land status, geospatial and/or non-geospatial data, Intact Forest Landscape Database, FAO Global Forest Resource Assessment
7	Is the sourcing area, or any part of it, included among those listed in art. 29 par 3d or 3e	Evidence confirming land status, the map indicates a risk of peat bogs (e.g. http://www.gis- mokradla.info/html/foto/mapa_siedliska.pdf)

3. LULUCF criteria – Art. 29(7) - Demonstrating compliance with the LULUCF criteria (level A)

Table 6. Summary of LULUCF criteria, related proof of compliance and possible sources of evidence (Article 29.7(a))

Criteria	Evidence of compliance	Source
The country or regional economic integration organisation of origin of the forest biomass:		
is a Party to the Paris Agreement	The country or regional economic integration organisation is listed as a Party to the Paris Agreement	United Nations list of parties to the Paris Agreement: https://treaties.un.org/pages/ViewDetails.as px?src=TREATY&mtdsg_no=XXVII-7- d&chapter=27&clang=_en
has submitted a nationally determined contribution (NDC) to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), covering emissions and removals from agriculture,	Presence of a Nationally Determined Contribution in the UNFCCC registry, submitted by the country or regional economic integration organisation	NDC is included in the UNFCCC NDC Registry: https://unfccc.int/process-and- meetings/the-paris-agreement/nationally- determined-contributions-ndcs
forestry and land use which ensures that changes in carbon stock associated with biomass harvest are accounted towards the country's	Emissions and removals by agriculture, forestry and land use are included in the country's or	Information provided in the NDC

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commitment to reduce or limit greenhouse gas emissions as specified in the NDC	regional economic integration organisation's NDC	
	Changes in carbon stock associated with biomass harvest are considered as a separate target or integrated into an economywide target in the NDC	Information provided in the NDC
has national or sub-national laws in place, in accordance with Article 5 of the Paris Agreement, applicable in the area of harvest, to conserve and enhance carbon stocks and	Presence of national or sub- national laws to conserve and enhance carbon stocks and sinks in forests	National or sub-national legislation
and enhance carbon stocks and sinks, and providing evidence that reported LULUCF-sector emissions do not exceed removals	Reported LULUCF-sector emissions for the country or regional economic integration organisation do not exceed removals	Compare emissions and removals for the LULUCF sector, as reported in National Inventory Reports submitted to UNFCCC: https://unfccc.int/process-and- meetings/transparency-and- reporting/reporting-and-review-under-the- convention/greenhouse-gas-inventories- annex-i-parties/national-inventory- submissions-2019

4. Demonstrating compliance through management systems at forest sourcing area level (level B)

Table 7. Checklist of possible tools to demonstrate LULUCF criteria compliance at forest sourcing area level

Name of tool	Brief description	on	URL	
CO2FIX	quantifies the C aboveground	nulation model, which stocks and fluxes in the biomass, belowground soil organic matter and cts chain.	http://	dataservices.efi.int/casfor/models.htm
CBM-CFS3	framework that of all forest of under the Kyoto biomass, below	dscape-level modelling simulates the dynamics arbon stocks required Protocol (aboveground ground biomass, litter, soil organic carbon).	adapta	//www.nrcan.gc.ca/climate-change/impacts- tions/climate-change-impacts-forests/carbon- nting/carbon-budget-model/13107
YASSO soil carbon model	Dynamic model of the cycling of organic carbon in soil. Yasso calculates		https:/	/en.ilmatieteenlaitos.fi/yasso
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	the amount of soil organic carbon, changes in the amount of soil organic carbon and heterotrophic soil respiration	
CASMOFOR	Tool to assess the amount of carbon sequestered in a forest system (aboveground biomass, belowground biomass, litter, dead wood and soil organic carbon)	http://www.scientia.hu/casmofor/index.php
FORMIND	Individual tree-based vegetation model that simulates the growth of forests on the hectare scale. It allows to explore forest dynamics and forest structure.	http://formind.org/model/

Table 8. Potential data sources to demonstrate LULUCF criteria compliance at forest sourcing area level

Variable affecting carbon stock	Potential source of information
and sinks in forests	
Tree species composition	Forest inventories
	Forest management plan
Age structure	Forest inventories
	Forest management plan
Forest reproductive material used (provenance)	Forest management plan
Growth rate of the selected tree species	Forest inventories
and forest reproductive material used	National or regional yield tables
	Producer of seedlings or seeds used for regeneration
Basic wood density	IPCC 2013 Revised Supplementary Methods and Good Practice Guidance Arising from the Kyoto Protocol
Carbon content	IPCC 2013 Revised Supplementary Methods and Good Practice Guidance Arising from the Kyoto Protocol
Whole-tree biomass in relation growing stock volume	IPCC 2013 Revised Supplementary Methods and Good Practice Guidance Arising from the Kyoto Protocol
	National GHG inventory report to UNFCCC
	FAO method collection, see http://www.fao.org/3/w4095e/w4095e06.htm
	Scientific literature

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Thinning intensity and frequency	Forest management plan	
	Forest management recommendations applicable to the forest	
	sourcing level	
Rotation length	Forest management plan	
	Forest management recommendations	
	Empirical historic data for the sourcing area on rotation cycles	
	applied	
Cutting regime	Forest management plan	
	Forest management recommendations	
Other management decisions	Forest management plan	
	Forest management recommendations	

5. <u>Changes compared to the previous edition</u>

Date	Section	Previous requirement	Current requirement
05.05.2025	Whole	RED II	RED III
	document		
05.05.2025	Whole	Directive 2018/2001	Directive 2018/2001 as amended by Directive
	document		2023/2413
05.05.2025	Table 1.	-	Added:
			Art. 29.6a (vi)
05.05.2025	2.6.	-	Added:
			2.6. 'No-go' areas
			[]

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