

Congo Basin Community report 2.



Dear members of the FSC Congo Basin Community. With this second Community report we would like to update you on the progress of the action points identified at the Libreville Gabon meeting in June 2019 and general developments. If you have information, views or opinions that you want to share in this quarterly report please do not hesitate to send us your content.

LKTSCB (action point 2) - Promoting a diverse world of timber

Together with various partners FSC Denmark has successfully initiated several activities to promote Lesser Known Tropical Timber Species (LKTS). Promoting a diverse market of timbers and LKTS is a way to motivate forest owners to protect the forests diversity improving the business case for sustainable timber production in tropical forests. That is why FSC Denmark has developed the globally available *Lesser Known Timber Species database*.

The website is a unique source of inspiration and guidance for timber traders and wood users such as construction managers, building advisors, architects and designers. This summer it will be available in English, Spanish, French, Dutch and Mandarin to ensure a global appeal. New improvement is also the implementation of ATIBT pilot-names and Cites and IUCN status implemented.

As part of a PPECF-COMIFAC related project FSC Denmark aims to get 40 new African cases added during 2019. The diverse source of inspiration is the core of the concept. That is why all companies active with FSC certified LKTS projects or products are encouraged to provide cases to the concept and showcase the use. Input is very welcome. Together with FSC Netherlands the African focus is also set to be intensified by the development of fact sheets on prioritized species set for promotion.



Call for partnerships

Partners have until now been defined as companies or organizations having provided FSC Denmark with cases, data or in other ways been helpful in building the global inspirational platform. To ensure a continuous development FSC Denmark proposes an annual partnership fee to cover our running costs on maintaining the site and further development of content and promotion of the platform. A partnership there also is meant to promote the companies active in diversifying the market. As a partner you get a business profile on the platform, consisting of:

- Logo
- Contact information
- Short company description
- Linkage between the business profile and the relevant cases associated with the company
- Possibility to show FSC/LKTS related video
- Possibility to show FSC/LKTS related pictures

Fee size are based on company size and kept at a level that reflects a non-profit concept. FSC Denmark hopes for support to continue the work on promoting FSC LKTS! Please contact Kristian Jørgensen for more information: kristian@fsc.dk.

Attached you will find a copy of the first LKTS factsheet.

Convince Asian businesses of the validity of certification (action point 4)

So far the efforts are in the stage of having talks with, mostly, Chinese associations. The signals are positive and give enough fuel to have more meetings which are scheduled for this month. There is an intention of a visit of a Chinese delegation to Gabon in October this year.

Together we are FSC campaign



Together We Are FSC is our new campaign! With this campaign we want to inspire you to talk more about the impact of FSC. We show that in all our local actions, FSC is part of a global movement for positive change.

We are all FSC - everyone from forest owners to forest workers and producers; from NGOs to consumers worldwide. We are all part of a movement that is working hard to deliver on the United Nation's Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). This movement was founded on a constructive, impact-based approach through which businesses, NGOs, and other stakeholders working with FSC could show their contribution to the movement in a positive, tangible way. With this campaign, Together We Are FSC, there is both a sense of connection and a sense of reward (for a greater good) when trading FSC-certified products. This campaign uses a combination of storytelling and beautiful imagery to help you talk about the contribution we're all making towards realizing the SDGs.

We encourage all of our stakeholders to help bring the campaign to life by utilizing the campaign platform, the stories and the assets across their platforms. Share the campaign in any way that fits your purpose as a business. Find the campaign and the assets here: <https://marketingtoolkit.fsc.org/togetherwearefsc>.



Payment for Ecosystem Services (Action point 5)

FSC Netherlands is conducting a market scan of potential buyers in different sectors of ecosystems services claims to understand better their interests and needs. We like to start at least one pilot in 2019. At this moment we are working on a proposal with a potential buyer for biodiversity claims. For more information please check [our website](#).

Besides, FSC Netherlands together with Commonland/4 Return Partners and Rewilding Europe have joined forces to set up a Green Impact Facility to realize large-scale conservation and restoration of land based ecosystems, such as forests. With this we anticipate on an increasing demand from companies and financial institutions for CO2 compensation in impactful projects with an positive benefit for biodiversity and local communities, thus offering more than traditional carbon compensation schemes. We are planning to start the facility in the third quarter of 2019.

We are already discussing possible projects with some of the concessionaires in the Congo Basin. Next coming months we will reach out to all the FSC-certified concessionaires in the region to explore possibilities to work together. If you have any questions, please contact Liesbeth: L.gort@fsc.nl.