



Forest Solutions Group

Membership Principles & Responsibilities

ABOUT THE FOREST SOLUTIONS GROUP

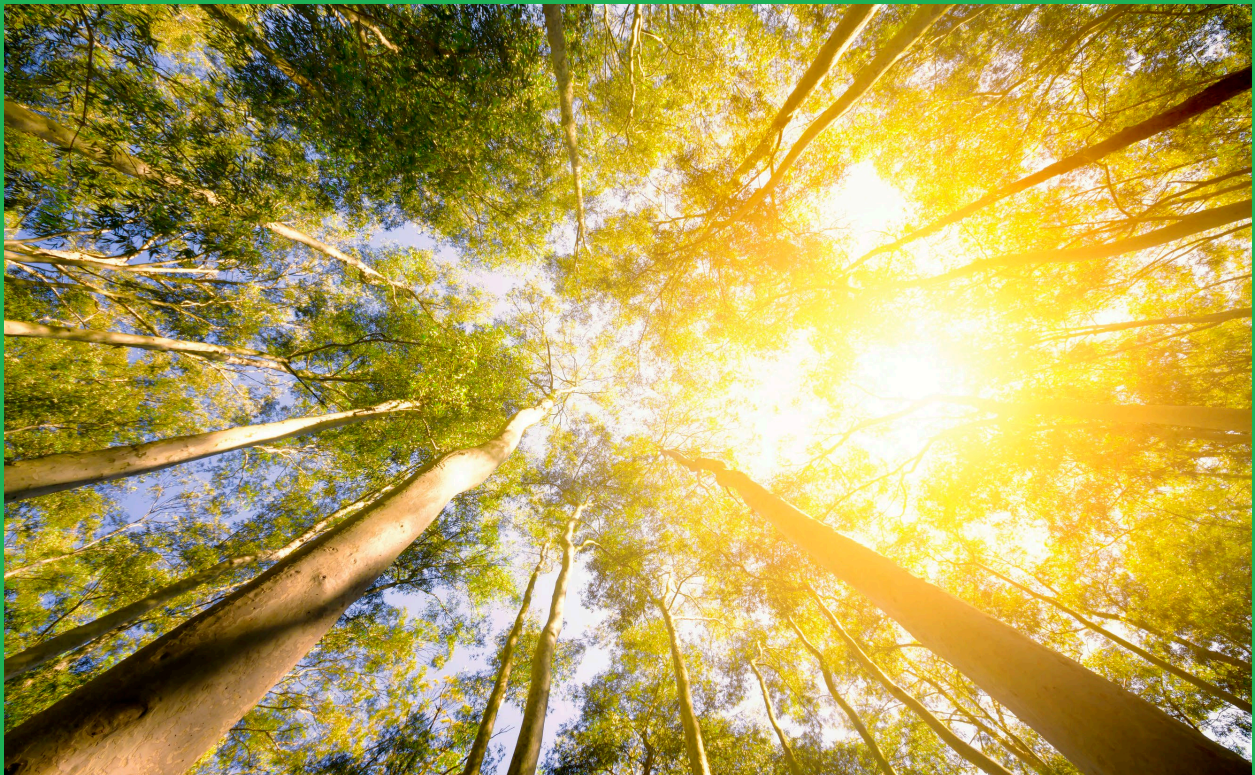
WBCSD's Forest Solutions Group (FSG) is the global platform for the forest sector value chain to build and share business solutions and lead sustainable development in the forest products sector. FSG's mission is to advance the bioeconomy and a thriving forest sector that sustains healthy productive forests and people's well-being.

GOVERNANCE, TRANSPARENCY & LEADERSHIP

Each FSG member must demonstrate leadership and commitment to sustainable development. We publicly report progress about our sustainability performance in accordance with internationally recognized reporting practices and standards, including independent third-party verification.¹ Where we operate we comply with respective laws and regulations, work against corruption and illegal practices and seek opportunities for continuous improvement.

SHARED COMMITMENT & PROGRESS

As a sign of our shared commitment and as a condition of our FSG membership, we endorse and adhere to the following membership principles and responsibilities. We report annually on associated key performance indicators and collect supporting information to measure and prove our joint progress in sustainability.²



¹ FSG members apply appropriate verification mechanisms, or work towards applying within three years of adopting the principles described herein or of becoming a FSG member.

² FSG members stand at different stages of the forest products value chain and not all principles and indicators are equally relevant to each company. Members apply and report as principles and indicators are relevant and applicable to their business. The principles and related indicators undergo regular review.



Working Forests

WE ARE COMMITTED TO BRINGING MORE OF THE WORLD'S WORKING FOREST UNDER SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT

1. Implement and promote **sustainable forest management practices and expand sustainable working forests**, while protecting and enhancing biodiversity and ecosystem services by:
 - Using forest certification standards that are based on third-party verification; independent accreditation, and transparent stakeholder engagement and supporting efforts to help improve effectiveness and impact of forest certification.
 - Helping **smallholders** overcome barriers to obtaining and retaining certification;
 - Applying practices and methods for **sustainable intensification**;
 - Engaging with the finance sector to develop new financial mechanisms to accelerate **investments in sustainable forest management**;
 - Supporting the development and implementation of new tools and approaches to measure, value and manage **biodiversity and ecosystem service impacts and dependencies**.
2. Counter the forces that drive **deforestation and forest degradation** by demonstrating and promoting successful models for sustainable forest management and wood fiber procurement.
3. Promote and engage in **context-based landscape management approaches**, including on forest fire prevention and watershed stewardship, with the aim of enhancing ecosystem services, improving resilience and helping sustain forest production systems at local, regional and global levels.



Bioeconomy

WE ARE COMMITTED TO SCALING UP THE SECTOR'S CONTRIBUTIONS TO A CIRCULAR BIOECONOMY

1. Invest in **innovation and the widespread adoption of low-carbon and circular wood fiber products** that store carbon and substitute non-renewable and fossil-based materials, in particular in the packaging, construction, energy, chemical and textile sectors.
2. **Accelerate research and science to better understand the carbon impacts of forests and wood fiber products to build a clear, consistent and science-based narrative** to inform customer procurement decisions and raise consumer awareness of the carbon storage and end-of-life benefits of wood fiber products over fossil-based and non-renewable alternatives.



Climate

WE ARE COMMITTED TO ADVANCING AND STRENGTHENING THE ROLE OF FORESTS, WOOD FIBER PRODUCTS AND THE FOREST SECTOR IN GLOBAL CLIMATE CHANGE MITIGATION AND ADAPTION

1. Support and invest in **reforestation, afforestation, wider land restoration and conservation** efforts, especially of unique forest values; in order to advance carbon dioxide removals to meet global climate goals and to enhance resilience to a changing climate.
2. **Reduce scope 1 and 2 GHG emissions across operations**, for example by improving manufacturing technology or increasing the resource-efficient production and use of renewable energy.
3. **Achieve scope 3 GHG emissions reductions across the supply chain** by working with suppliers to:
 - Optimize transportation and distribution logistics;
 - Increase the resource efficient production and use of renewable energy;
 - Further localize supply chains where possible.
4. Support the **development and implementation of new tools and approaches to measure, value and manage GHG emissions avoidance** by substituting fossil-based and other non-renewable materials with wood fiber products.



Water

WE ARE COMMITTED TO EXPANDING CONTEXT-BASED WATER STEWARDSHIP APPROACHES

1. **Identify and implement water-use reductions, wastewater treatment and circular water management practices in manufacturing operations**, focusing in particular on water-stressed regions.
2. Contribute to **water stewardship science and research where forests are a key land use** and scale up collaborative action through local multi-stakeholder initiatives, for example on watershed management.
3. Support the **development and implementation of effective tools to value and manage water risks**, impacts and dependencies along the full spectrum of the forest products value chain.



Circularity

WE ARE COMMITTED TO BRINGING RESOURCE-EFFICIENT, BIO-BASED AND CIRCULAR BUSINESS MODELS TO SCALE

1. Innovate to enable effective and efficient **upcycling of waste streams and processing residues** within the value chain for energy generation and as a feedstock for other industries, such as the chemical and cement sectors.
2. Further increase the **global recovery rate of wood fiber products** by:
 - Identifying and scaling up **new sustainable solutions to waste management and fiber recovery**;
 - Helping to spread best practices and innovative designs to **overcome end-of-life use bottlenecks**, for example for long-life engineered wood products in construction;
3. Improve and innovate **business models and product design to provide end-of-life solutions for single-use fiber products**, such as composite packaging, diapers, personal care and sanitary products.
 - Promoting and competitively positioning circular economy products to customers and consumers by **driving behavior change through consumer education and incentives**.



Communities

WE ARE COMMITTED TO ENHANCING THE LIVELIHOODS AND SUPPORTING THE RESILIENCE OF FOREST-DEPENDENT COMMUNITIES AND LOCAL ECONOMIES

1. **Scale shared-value business models** that provide services, infrastructure, business support, skills development opportunities and other livelihood benefits to communities and enable improved governance.
2. **Respect access and tenure rights of Indigenous Peoples and communities directly affected by forest operations** by
 - Proactively seeking to resolve any disputes through appropriate grievance mechanisms, dialogue and independent mediation;
- Implementing best practices such as participatory planning with Indigenous Peoples in line with the principles of free, prior and informed consent (FPIC).



People

WE ARE COMMITTED TO ENHANCING THE SECTOR'S ATTRACTIVENESS, DIVERSITY, INCLUSIVENESS AND SAFETY

1. **Enhance the quality and integrity of jobs** through continuous improvements in health, safety (incl. road safety) and well-being for employees and contractors.
2. **Invest in human and social capital** to attract and retain talent and enhance workforce diversity by:
 - Providing access to **capacity building and training** opportunities for employees and contract workers;
- Strengthening policies that support **workforce diversity and inclusion** by setting goals and measuring and reporting progress.



Procurement

WE ARE COMMITTED TO STRENGTHENING AND ENHANCING RESPONSIBLE PROCUREMENT PRACTICES, TRANSPARENCY AND TRACEABILITY THROUGHOUT THE VALUE CHAIN

1. Scale the use of best practices to **increase the percentage of purchased wood fiber products from legal, controlled and environmentally and socially responsible sources** (including respecting the rights of affected communities and Indigenous Peoples) by implementing a risk-based approach addressing traceability, and geographic and supply chain risk-based assessment.
2. **Improve the traceability of materials and products** by using up-to-date technology and transparent geo-localization of forest operations and applying approaches to measure and manage natural and social capital dependencies throughout the supply chain.
3. **Enhance sustainable and responsible procurement practices globally for key non-wood fiber raw materials** and services, such as chemicals and minerals, through supplier collaboration and promotion and the enforcement of supplier codes and other measures.

**World Business Council
for Sustainable Development**

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