



KZR INiG System /11.3

Annex 11.3 – Additional guidance on assessing forest biomass criteria



	Certification system of sustainable biofuels, biomass fuels and bioliquids production	Issue: 3 rd
		Date: 19/12/2023
	Annex 11.3 – Additional guidance on assessing forest biomass criteria	Page 2 of 12

Table of contents

1. Harvesting criteria - Art. 29(6) - Demonstrating compliance through national or sub-national laws (level A)	3
2. Demonstrating compliance through management systems at the sourcing area level (level B)	7
2.1. Legality criterion	7
2.2. Regeneration criterion	7
2.3. Protected area criterion	7
2.4. Maintenance of soil quality and of biodiversity criterion	8
2.5. Long-term production capacity criterion at sourcing area level	9
3. LULUCF criteria – Art. 29(7) - Demonstrating compliance with the LULUCF criteria (level A)	9
4. Demonstrating compliance through management systems at forest sourcing area level (level B).....	11
5. Changes compared to the previous edition	12


Annex 11.3 – Additional guidance on assessing forest biomass criteria	Cracow, December 2023	Directive 2018/2001
---	-----------------------	---------------------

	Certification system of sustainable biofuels, biomass fuels and bioliquids production	Issue: 3 rd
		Date: 19/12/2023
	Annex 11.3 – Additional guidance on assessing forest biomass criteria	Page 3 of 12

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


Table 1. Checklist for demonstrating compliance with the harvesting criteria through national or sub-national laws (level A).

RED II Criteria		Requirement	Type of evidence/verified information on 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
29.6a(ii)	Forest regeneration	Monitoring/ Enforcement	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.
Annex 11.3 – Additional guidance on assessing forest biomass criteria		Cracow, December 2023	Directive 2018/2001	


	Certification system of sustainable biofuels, biomass fuels and bioliquids production	Issue: 3 rd
		Date: 19/12/2023
	Annex 11.3 – Additional guidance on assessing forest biomass criteria	Page 4 of 12

				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 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. https://www.eea.europa.eu/data-and-aps/data/nationally-designated-areas-national-cdda-14 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.

Annex 11.3 – Additional guidance on assessing forest biomass criteria	Cracow, December 2023	Directive 2018/2001
---	-----------------------	---------------------


	Certification system of sustainable biofuels, biomass fuels and bioliquids production	Issue: 3 rd
		Date: 19/12/2023
	Annex 11.3 – Additional guidance on assessing forest biomass criteria	Page 5 of 12

				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	<p>The UNEP-WCMC reports on EUTR implementation: www.unepwcmc.org/featured-projects/eu-timber-regulations-and-flegt</p> <p>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</p> <p>Other recent and relevant official information from national governmental or international inter-governmental sources, such as World Bank, FAO, UNEP.</p>
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	<p>The UNEP-WCMC reports on EUTR implementation: www.unepwcmc.org/featured-projects/eu-timber-regulations-and-flegt</p> <p>Other recent and relevant official information from national governmental or international inter-governmental sources, such as</p>
Annex 11.3 – Additional guidance on assessing forest biomass criteria		Cracow, December 2023	Directive 2018/2001	

	Certification system of sustainable biofuels, biomass fuels and bioliquids production	Issue: 3 rd
		Date: 19/12/2023
	Annex 11.3 – Additional guidance on assessing forest biomass criteria	Page 6 of 12

				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	<p>The UNEP-WCMC reports on EUTR implementation: www.unepwcmc.org/featured-projects/eu-timber-regulations-and-flegt</p> <p>Other recent and relevant official information from national governmental or international inter-governmental sources, such as World Bank, FAO, UNEP</p>

Annex 11.3 – Additional guidance on assessing forest biomass criteria	Cracow, December 2023	Directive 2018/2001
---	-----------------------	---------------------

	Certification system of sustainable biofuels, biomass fuels and bioliquids production	Issue: 3 rd
		Date: 19.12.2023
	Annex 11.2 – Additional guidance on assessing forest biomass criteria	Page 7 of 12

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 REDII and EUTR see Section 0 on (i) Legality of harvesting operations. For a summary guidance on compliance with the REDII legality criterion, see Table 1.

2.2. Regeneration criterion


Table 2. Checklist for demonstrating compliance with the 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

2.3. Protected area criterion

Table 3. Checklist for demonstrating compliance with the protected areas criterion

Step	Indicator	Sources of information
1	Presence of designated areas for nature protection, including wetlands and peatlands	IUCN maintains the World Database on Protected Areas (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 The confirmations are implemented by second or third
Annex 11.3 – Additional guidance on assessing forest biomass criteria		Cracow, December 2023
		Directive 2018/2001


	Certification system of sustainable biofuels, biomass fuels and bioliquids production	Issue: 3 rd
		Date: 19.12.2023
	Annex 11.2 – Additional guidance on assessing forest biomass criteria	Page 8 of 12

	party and thereafter endorsed by the competent authority
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2.4. Maintenance of soil quality and of biodiversity criterion

Table 4. Checklist for demonstrating compliance with the soil quality and 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 ; 2.2	Existence of poor or vulnerable soils in the forest sourcing area	FAO/UNESCO Soil Map of the World 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 assessed and specified	Forest management plans Operational reports Pre-harvest inventory Regional biodiversity assessments
6	Required or recommended amounts of deadwood are known	Applicable legislation or regulation Regionally applicable best practices Scientific recommendations
7	Deadwood amounts are according	Harvesting protocols
Annex 11.3 – Additional guidance on assessing forest biomass criteria		Cracow, December 2023
		Directive 2018/2001

	Certification system of sustainable biofuels, biomass fuels and bioliquids production		Issue: 3 rd
			Date: 19.12.2023
	Annex 11.2 – Additional guidance on assessing forest biomass criteria		Page 9 of 12

	requirements or best practice Recommendation	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.

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.aspx?src=TREATY&mtdsg_no=XXVII-7-d&chapter=27&clang=_en
Annex 11.3 – Additional guidance on assessing forest biomass criteria	Cracow, December 2023	Directive 2018/2001



Certification system of sustainable biofuels, biomass fuels and bioliquids production


Issue: 3rd

Date: 19.12.2023

Annex 11.2 – Additional guidance on assessing forest biomass criteria

Page 10 of 12

has submitted a nationally determined contribution (NDC) to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), covering emissions and removals from agriculture, forestry and land use which ensures that changes in carbon stock associated with biomass harvest are accounted towards the country's commitment to reduce or limit greenhouse gas emissions as specified in the NDC	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
	Emissions and removals by agriculture, forestry and land use are included in the country's or regional economic integration organisation's NDC	Information provided in the 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 sinks, and providing evidence that reported LULUCF-sector emissions do not exceed removals	Presence of national or sub-national laws to conserve and enhance carbon stocks and sinks in forests	National or sub-national legislation
	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

 INSTYTUT NAFTY I GAZU	Certification system of sustainable biofuels, biomass fuels and bioliquids production	Issue: 3 rd
		Date: 19.12.2023
	Annex 11.2 – Additional guidance on assessing forest biomass criteria	Page 11 of 12

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	URL
CO2FIX	Stand level simulation model, which quantifies the C stocks and fluxes in the aboveground biomass, belowground forest biomass, soil organic matter and the wood products chain.	http://dataservices.efi.int/casfor/models.htm
CBM-CFS3	Stand- and landscape-level modelling framework that simulates the dynamics of all forest carbon stocks required under the Kyoto Protocol (aboveground biomass, belowground biomass, litter, dead wood and soil organic carbon).	https://www.nrcan.gc.ca/climate-change/impacts-adaptations/climate-change-impacts-forests/carbon-accounting/carbon-budget-model/13107
YASSO soil carbon model	Dynamic model of the cycling of organic carbon in soil. Yasso calculates the amount of soil organic carbon, changes in the amount of soil organic carbon and heterotrophic soil respiration	https://en.ilmatieteenlaitos.fi/yasso
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 and sinks in forests	Potential source of information	
Tree species composition	Forest inventories Forest management plan	
Age structure	Forest inventories	
Annex 11.3 – Additional guidance on assessing forest biomass criteria	Cracow, December 2023	Directive 2018/2001



Certification system of sustainable biofuels, biomass fuels and bioliquids production

Issue: 3rd

Date: 19.12.2023

Annex 11.2 – Additional guidance on assessing forest biomass criteria

Page 12 of 12

	Forest management plan
Forest reproductive material used (provenance)	Forest management plan
Growth rate of the selected tree species and forest reproductive material used	Forest inventories 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
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. Changes compared to the previous edition

Date	Section	Previous requirement	Current requirement
31/08/2022	N.A.	No changes	No changes

Annex 11.3 – Additional guidance on assessing forest biomass criteria	Cracow, December 2023	Directive 2018/2001
---	-----------------------	---------------------