

SW-STD-EST-2005-06

SmartWood Interim Forest Management Standard for Estonia

Version 2.1, last updated 29 November, 2005

Standard scope

This standard may be applied within all forests and forest types located in Estonia.

Some indicators are only applicable for either small and/or low intensity managed forests (SLIMF), medium size or large forest management operations (FMO) or a combination of them. For the purpose of this standard the thresholds for SLIMF, medium and large FMO-s is following:

SLIMF FMO-s: a) FMO-s managing forest area below 500 ha
 b) FMO-s where the rate of harvest is less than 20% of mean annual increment and total annual harvest is less than 5000 cbm.

medium size FMO-s: FMO-s managing forest area of 500 to 10 000 hectares

large size FMO-s: FMO-s managing forest area over 10 000 hectares

Basis for the standard

This standard has been prepared by NEPCon and the Rainforest Alliance SmartWood program (herein as SW). SW is an FSC accredited certification program of Rainforest Alliance and NEPCon is partner of Rainforest Alliance representing the SW program in Scandinavia, Russia and Eastern Europe. The standard is based on Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) general requirements detailed in *FSC-STD-01-001 FSC Principles and Criteria for Forest Stewardship*. The wording of FSC principles and criteria has been included in the standard unchanged. During the adaptation process NEPCon/SW has developed indicators for each applicable criterion that detail the requirements considering local Estonian context. In case a criterion or principle has been considered non-applicable, the reason for this has been justified. The indicators in this standard are partly based on the Draft Estonian National FSC Standard (version 10.10.2004), which has been prepared by FSC Working Group Estonia (www.fsc.ee). FSC requirements for standards as described in *FSC-STD-20-003 Local adaptation of certification body generic forest stewardship standards* (ver 1-0) and *FSC-STD-20-002 Structure and Content of Forest Stewardship Standards* (ver 1-0) have been fully followed during preparation of this standard. Based on the review of Estonian legislation it is NEPCon/SW position that this standard is not in conflict with any national legal requirements. At the same time NEPCon/SW is in position that this standard does not include performance thresholds that are lower than the national legal requirements.

Public input

This standard is a public document and can be freely distributed to all interested parties, provided that the standard is distributed without any modifications. This standard is publicly available in Estonian and English language and is available for download or printout on www.smartwood.org and www.nepcon.net. This standard is subject to consultation and comments from all interested stakeholders (also see the next section "Stakeholder consultation"). Based on stakeholder comments SW can implement changes in the indicators of this standard. Please note that the principles and criteria can not be modified since they are defined by FSC. All stakeholders who have comments regarding this standard or have suggestions for improving the indicators are strongly encouraged to contact NEPCon/SW (www.nepcon.net; +372 7380 723). Comments and suggestions may also be sent to FSC Working Group Estonia (www.fsc.ee; +372 50 942 26,). You can send your comments by any means suitable for you (mail, email, fax) or contact NEPCon, SW or FSC working group to agree personal meeting or have a phone discussion. More information about FSC certification background, certification process and certified entities in Estonia or any other aspect related to FSC certification can be obtained from SW (www.smartwood.org).

Stakeholder consultation process

Present standard is based on Draft SmartWood Baltic Interim Standard, which has been used for several assessments in Baltic region. Public notification of stakeholders about the standard to be used is required part of each FM assessment process. Various stakeholders were notified about compilation of present standard and requested to present their suggestions for improving the standard. In addition to public notification, the standard text was also mailed directly to several interested parties for commenting, such as governmental institutions, environmental protection organisations, representatives of forest industry, representatives of other forest certification schemes present in Estonia and state and private forest managers.

PRINCIPLE 1. COMPLIANCE WITH LAWS AND FSC PRINCIPLES	
Forest management shall respect all applicable laws of the country in which they occur, and international treaties and agreements to which the country is a signatory, and comply with all FSC Principles and Criteria.	
Criteria	Indicators
1.1. Forest management shall respect all national and local laws and administrative requirements.	<p>1.1.1. The staff shall be aware of relevant requirements of legislation and their responsibilities.</p> <p>1.1.2. <u>Large FMO-s:</u> copies of relevant legislation shall be available in head office and for the staff</p> <p>1.1.3. Discovered non compliances with legislation shall be recorded in written</p> <p>1.1.4. Corrective actions shall be implemented in case non-compliances are identified.</p> <p>1.1.5. FMO shall meet all national, state/provincial and local environmental, labor and forestry laws.</p>
1.2. All applicable and legally prescribed fees, royalties, taxes and other charges shall be paid.	<p>1.2.1. FMO shall be aware of applicable fees, royalties and taxes</p> <p>1.2.2. Evidence shall exist of on-time payment of any applicable financial charges</p> <p>1.2.3. <u>Large FMO-s:</u> In case of discrepancies, FMO shall maintain a full documentation related to the discrepancies and solving them.</p>
1.3. In signatory countries, the provisions of all binding international agreements such as CITES, ILO Conventions, ITTA, and Convention on Biological Diversity, shall be respected.	<p>1.3.1. <u>Large FMO-s:</u> FMO shall be aware of applicable international conventions</p> <p>1.3.2. No workers under the age of 15 shall be employed in the forest unless for training or educational purposes.</p> <p>1.3.3. No workers are under the age of 18 shall be employed for operations when it is likely to jeopardize health, and safety.</p>
1.4. Conflicts between laws, regulations and the FSC Principles and Criteria shall be evaluated for the purposes of certification, on a case by case basis, by the certifiers and the involved or affected parties.	<p>1.4.1. Perceived conflicts between laws and present standard shall be recorded by the FMO.</p> <p>1.4.2. Any conflicts identified shall be resolved through consultation between FSC national contact person (if available), the FSC certifier, and FMO, on case by case bases.</p>
1.5. Forest management areas should be protected from illegal harvesting, settlement and other unauthorized activities.	<p>1.5.1. <u>Large FMO-s:</u> FMO should have a monitoring system including documented periodic inspections.</p> <p>1.5.2. Poaching and illegal timber extraction should be controlled or decreasing.</p> <p>1.5.3. The forest manager shall use all reasonable legal measures to prevent illegal usage of the forest area or resource.</p> <p>1.5.4. FMO shall inform appropriate authorities (e.g. environmental inspection and police) about all discovered illegal activities in written.</p>
1.6. Forest managers shall demonstrate a long-term commitment to adhere to the FSC Principles and Criteria.	<p>1.6.1. FMO shall clearly demonstrate long-term support for the FSC P&C.</p> <p>1.6.2. <u>Large FMO-s:</u> FMO commitment should be expressed in written.</p>

	<p>1.6.3. FMO and its employees should be aware of applicable FSC standard requirements relevant for their work area.</p> <p>1.6.4. FMO shall not violate FSC requirements in non-certified areas managed by the FMO (if applicable).</p>
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PRINCIPLE 2. TENURE AND USE RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES	
Long-term tenure and use rights to the land and forest resources shall be clearly defined, documented and legally established.	
Criteria	Indicators
2.1. Clear evidence of long-term forest use rights to the land (e.g. land title, customary rights, or lease agreements) shall be demonstrated.	2.1.1. FMO shall possess legal documents proving its legal rights of ownership or rights to manage the forest area. 2.1.2. Property borders should be marked or otherwise clearly delineated (e.g. follow natural boundaries).
2.2. Local communities with legal or customary tenure or use rights shall maintain control, to the extent necessary to protect their rights or resources, over forest operations unless they delegate control with free and informed consent to other agencies.	2.2.1. <u>Large FMO-s</u> : FMO shall respect the customary, legal or traditional use rights of local communities to use the forest resources. 2.2.2. <u>Large and medium FMO-s</u> : should ensure that local communities have controlled access to buy firewood for own consumption at a price not higher than average market price. 2.2.3. FMO should inform neighboring landowners about planned forest management operations before field works are initiated. 2.2.4. FMO shall ensure that local communities have access to the forest for collection of Non-Timber Forest Products (NTFP) such as berries and mushrooms for own consumption
2.3. Appropriate mechanisms shall be employed to resolve disputes over tenure claims and use rights. The circumstances and status of any outstanding disputes will be explicitly considered in the certification evaluation. Disputes of substantial magnitude involving a significant number of interests will normally disqualify an operation from being certified	2.3.1. Records shall be maintained of disputes over tenure and use rights. 2.3.2. Every reasonable effort should be made to resolve conflicts through consultation aiming at achieving agreement or consent.

PRINCIPLE 3. INDIGENOUS PEOPLES' RIGHTS

Long-term tenure and use rights to the land and forest resources shall be clearly defined, documented and legally established.

Criteria	Indicators
3.1. Indigenous peoples shall control forest management on their lands and territories unless they delegate control with free and informed consent to other agencies.	Criteria considered not applicable since Estonians are native people in their homeland.
3.2. Forest management shall not threaten or diminish, either directly or indirectly, the resources or tenure rights of indigenous peoples.	Criteria considered not applicable since Estonians are native people in their homeland.
3.3. Sites of special cultural, ecological, economic or religious significance to indigenous peoples shall be clearly identified in cooperation with such peoples, and recognized and protected by forest managers.	Criteria considered not applicable since Estonians are native people in their homeland.
3.4. Indigenous peoples shall be compensated for the application of their traditional knowledge regarding the use of forest species or management systems in forest operations. This compensation shall be formally agreed upon with their free and informed consent before forest operations commence.	Criteria considered not applicable since Estonians are native people in their homeland.

PRINCIPLE 4. COMMUNITY RELATIONS AND WORKERS' RIGHTS

Forest management operations shall maintain or enhance the long-term social and economic well-being of forest workers and local communities.

Criteria	Indicators
<p>4.1. The communities within, or adjacent to, the forest management area should be given opportunities for employment, training, and other services.</p>	<p>4.1.1. <u>Large FMO-s</u>: FMO shall have written employment procedures indicating preference of local employees and justifying cases when non-local people are hired (e.g. required qualification, internal promotion mechanisms)</p> <p>4.1.2. No evidence of discrimination in labor practices, including hiring, advancement, dismissal, remuneration and employment-benefits shall exist.</p> <p>4.1.3. Wages or income of contractors should be at least as high as those in comparable occupations in the same region and shall not be lower than the established minimum wage.</p>
<p>4.2. Forest management should meet or exceed all applicable laws and/or regulations covering health and safety of employees and their families.</p>	<p>4.2.1. Employees, including contractors, shall be aware of and shall implement safe working practices.</p> <p>4.2.2. Appropriate health and safety equipment including helmet, high visibility vest/jacket, safety boots and safety trousers shall be used in the field and first aid kit shall be available onsite for chain saw operators, harvesting companies and contractors.</p> <p>4.2.3. Any person entering an ongoing logging site should wear a helmet and high visibility vest.</p> <p>4.2.4. Staff climbing trees should be appropriately trained in safety procedures and tree climbing, and shall use appropriate safety equipment.</p> <p>4.2.5. Workers involved in dangerous work such as storm damage removal, logging of large trees and tree climbing shall never works alone.</p> <p>4.2.6. Workers shall be instructed about procedures in case of emergency situation such as accident, fire or oil spill.</p> <p>4.2.7. MMO shall not use forest machinery without an operators cabin or substituting crash bars.</p> <p>4.2.8. FMO should conduct regular checks to ensure that all safety procedures are observed in the field.</p> <p>4.2.9. Warning signs shall be posted at access roads to sites with ongoing logging operation.</p> <p>4.2.10. <u>Large and medium FMO-s</u>: FMO shall maintain a register of accidents and documented steps taken to minimize risk of further accidents.</p> <p>4.2.11. Workers who are staying overnight in the forest should have appropriate sleeping facilities, sufficient supply of clean water and lavatory.</p>
<p>4.3. The rights of workers to organize and voluntarily negotiate with their employers shall be guaranteed as outlined in Conventions 87 and 98 of the International Labor Organisation (ILO).</p>	<p>4.3.1. All workers shall be able to form and join a trade union of their choice without fear of intimidation or reprisal.</p> <p>4.3.2. <u>Large and medium FMO-s</u>: Collective bargaining with representative trade unions shall be carried out in good faith and with best efforts to come to an agreement.</p>

<p>4.4. Management planning and operations shall incorporate the results of evaluations of social impact. Consultations shall be maintained with people and groups directly affected by management operations.</p>	<p>4.4.1. <u>Large FMO-s</u>: FMO shall have a system to enable local communities to participate in the forest management planning process and affect it's results.</p> <p>4.4.2. All interested parties shall have access to relevant information.</p> <p>4.4.3. <u>Large and medium FMO-s</u>: FMO shall have a system in place to document stakeholder concerns and request and FMO's response.</p> <p>4.4.4. <u>Large and medium FMO-s</u>: Areas of special economic, ecological, cultural or spiritual value for local communities shall be mapped and their protection values and management regime shall be documented.</p>
<p>4.5. Appropriate mechanisms shall be employed for resolving grievances and for providing fair compensation in the case of loss or damage affecting the legal or customary rights, property, resources, or livelihoods of local peoples. Measures shall be taken to avoid such loss or damage.</p>	<p>4.5.1. Reasonable effort shall be made to resolve conflicts through consultation aiming at achieving agreement or consent.</p> <p>4.5.2. <u>Large FMO-s</u>: FMO shall have a documented mechanism for compensation of affected parties in case local community resources are damaged as result of forestry activities.</p>

PRINCIPLE 5. BENEFITS FROM THE FOREST	
Forest management operations shall encourage the efficient use of the forest's multiple products and services to ensure economic viability and a wide range of environmental and social benefits.	
Criteria	Indicators
5.1. Forest management should strive toward economic viability, while taking into account the full environmental, social, and operational costs of production, and ensuring the investments necessary to maintain the ecological productivity of the forest.	5.1.1. Revenue received should be sufficient to cover forest management costs, e.g. management planning, road maintenance, silvicultural treatments, long-term forest health, growth and yield monitoring, and conservation investments.
5.2. Forest management and marketing operations should encourage the optimal use and local processing of the forest's diversity of products.	5.2.1. The "highest and best use" for individual tree and timber species should be sought. 5.2.2. FMO should utilize frequently occurring, lesser known or less-commonly utilized plant species for commercial and subsistence uses if appropriate. 5.2.3. Non-timber forest products (e.g. seeds, berries, mushrooms, resin, greenery, Christmas trees and game) should be considered during forest use and processing. See also 5.4
5.3. Forest management should minimize waste associated with harvesting and on-site processing operations and avoid damage to other forest resources.	5.3.1. The layout of existing and planned forest roads, bridges, and harvesting tracks should be appropriate to the scale and intensity of management operations. 5.3.2. Harvesting techniques should be designed to avoid losses of merchantable volumes and damage to remaining trees. 5.3.3. Waste generated through harvesting operations and on-site processing should be minimized.
5.4. Forest management should strive to strengthen and diversify the local economy, avoiding dependence on a single forest product.	5.4.1. FMO's sales policies and methods should consider needs of local processing industry. See also 5.2
5.5. Forest management operations shall recognize, maintain, and, where appropriate, enhance the value of forest services and resources such as watersheds and fisheries.	5.5.1. <u>Large FMO-s</u> : FMO shall take into consideration the impacts of forest management on the multiple services produced in the forest such as outdoor life, watersheds, NTFP (fishing, hunting, berries and mushrooms), protection of cultural and biological values in written. 5.5.2. FMO shall consider areas important for mushrooms and berry picking; hunting and recreation when planning forest operations. See 4.4.4
5.6. The rate of harvest of forest products shall not exceed levels which can be permanently sustained	5.6.1. Annual allowable cut (AAC), by area or volume, shall be set based on conservative and well-documented estimates of growth and yield. 5.6.2. FMO shall ensure that the rate of harvest does not exceed sustainable levels. 5.6.3. Actual annual harvest shall be strictly documented, including site, species, quantities, assortments, period of felling and terms and monitoring documentation.

	<p>5.6.4. FMO should document commercial harvest of NTFP such as seeds, Christmas trees, greenery and game.</p> <p>5.6.5. Commercial harvest of NTFP shall not exceed sustainable levels.</p> <p>5.6.6. Boundaries of harvesting areas shall be clearly marked or distinguishable in field</p>
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PRINCIPLE 6. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT	
Forest management shall conserve biological diversity and its associated values, water resources, soils, and unique and fragile ecosystems and landscapes, and, by so doing, maintain the ecological functions and the integrity of the forest.	
Criteria	Indicators
6.1. Assessment of environmental impacts shall be completed -- appropriate to the scale, intensity of forest management and the uniqueness of the affected resources -- and adequately integrated into management systems. Assessments shall include landscape level considerations as well as the impacts of on-site processing facilities. Environmental impacts shall be assessed prior to commencement of site-disturbing operations.	<p>6.1.1. FMO shall assess environmental impacts during management planning and designate appropriate mitigation measures in management plan.</p> <p>6.1.2. Measures to minimize negative environmental impacts of forest operations shall be followed in the field (e.g. wet soil types shall be handled with precaution to avoid soil damages, sensitive bird habitats shall not be intervened in birds nesting period etc.).</p> <p>6.1.3. <u>Large and medium FMO-s</u>: FMO shall have a documented procedure for conducting documented environmental impact assessments prior to major forest management activities such as constructions of new roads or restoration of drainage systems.</p> <p>6.1.4. <u>SLIMF FMO-s</u>: FMO shall identify and avoid negative environmental impacts prior to and during road construction and drainage systems renovation.</p> <p>6.1.5. Environmental impacts of on-site processing facilities shall be assessed and controlled (e.g. waste, construction impacts, etc.).</p>
6.2. Safeguards shall exist which protect rare, threatened and endangered species and their habitats (e.g., nesting and feeding areas). Conservation zones and protection areas shall be established, appropriate to the scale and intensity of forest management and the uniqueness of the affected resources. Inappropriate hunting, fishing, trapping and collecting shall be controlled.	<p>6.2.1. <u>Large FMO-s</u>: FMO shall have written data and protection plan of threatened, rare, or endangered species or ecosystems within their forest area.</p> <p>6.2.2. <u>SLIMF and medium FMO-s</u>: FMO shall be aware of and conserve the officially registered protected species in the forest area.</p> <p>6.2.3. <i>Taxus baccata</i> shall not be harvested or damaged by logging.</p> <p>6.2.4. Conservation zones shall be demarcated on maps.</p> <p>6.2.5. Operations in the conservation zones shall be conducted so that the conservation values are not harmed or endangered in any way.</p> <p>6.2.6. Felling operations shall not be conducted in the nesting places and during the nesting period of rare, endangered or threatened species.</p>
6.3. Ecological functions and values shall be maintained intact, enhanced, or restored, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Forest regeneration and succession. b) Genetic, species, and ecosystem diversity. c) Natural cycles that affect the productivity of the forest ecosystem. 	<p>6.3.1. <u>Large and medium FMO-s</u>: FMO should try to maintain or enhance the share of native noble hardwoods (a, b).</p> <p>6.3.2. <u>SLIMF FMO-s</u>: FMO should try to maintain the share of native noble hardwoods (a, b).</p> <p>6.3.3. Natural regeneration and local provenances should be preferred. (a, b, c).</p> <p>6.3.4. Thinning and harvesting operations shall favor development of mixed stands (a, b, c).</p> <p>6.3.5. Forest areas not affected by existing drainage ditches shall</p>

	<p>not be drained.</p> <p>6.3.6. Old and hollow standing trees, trees with bird nests, snags (standing dead trees) and dead wood shall always be preserved in the forest, with consideration of national requirements on work safety (b, c).</p> <p>6.3.7. At least 10 living biodiversity trees (5 in case of noble hardwood) per hectare shall be left in final felling and shall be left uncut forever (b).</p> <p>6.3.8. Biodiversity trees shall be chosen from wide variety of species with largest diameter among the most biologically valuable and wind stable trees. (6.3 b)</p> <p>6.3.9. Forwarding and harvesting by harvester shall not be done during wet spring and autumn season, in cases when soil damage can not be prevented.</p> <p>See 6.9</p>
<p>6.4. Representative samples of existing ecosystems within the landscape shall be protected in their natural state and recorded on maps, appropriate to the scale and intensity of operations and the uniqueness of the affected resources.</p>	<p>6.4.1. <u>Large FMO-s</u>: FMO shall protect representative samples of existing rare and/or endangered ecosystems in their natural state covering at least 5 % of the total forest area.</p> <p>6.4.2. <u>Large FMO-s</u>: Selection of forest areas to be preserved as required in 6.4.1 shall be based on the identification of key biological areas identified through consultation with environmental stakeholders, local government and scientific authorities.</p> <p>6.4.3. <u>SLIMF and medium FMO-s</u>: FMO shall protect representative samples of existing rare and/or endangered ecosystems in their natural state.</p> <p>6.4.4. No timber harvesting shall take place in areas protected as required in 6.4.1 or 6.4.3, unless specified by written protection rules for the protected area.</p> <p>6.4.5. Existing drainage systems shall not be maintained in protected areas unless required to protect their conservation values according to official written protection rules or for transportation of water from bordering lands.</p> <p>See also 6.2</p>
<p>6.5. Written guidelines shall be prepared and implemented to: control erosion; minimize forest damage during harvesting, road construction, and all other mechanical disturbances; and protect water resources.</p>	<p>6.5.1. <u>Large FMO-s</u>: FMO should have maps specifying areas suitable for all-weather harvesting, winter harvesting or dry-weather only</p> <p>6.5.2. <u>SLIMF and medium FMO-s</u>: FMO shall be aware of soil types appropriate for logging in winter, spring summer and autumn seasons to avoid soil damage.</p> <p>6.5.3. Guidance to field staff should cover technical specifications for skid trails (location, width and density), log landing, maintaining buffer zones and road design.</p> <p>6.5.4. Measures shall be taken to minimize soil damage and erosion during harvesting operations.</p> <p>6.5.5. No road fill or waste material (e.g. rocks, brush) from site preparation or other activities shall be placed in stream courses.</p> <p>6.5.6. FMO shall preserve existing buffer zones along forest edges and favour the development and conservation of</p>

	<p>wind resistant and viable forest edges (buffer zones) along open landscapes.</p> <p>6.5.7. FMO shall ensure that technological map is prepared for each felling site including areas with protection values and other site specific information (e.g. erosion risk areas, natural regeneration to be preserved etc.).</p> <p>See also 6,1; 7.3</p>
<p>6.6. Management systems shall promote the development and adoption of environmentally friendly non-chemical methods of pest management and strive to avoid the use of chemical pesticides. World Health Organization Type 1A and 1B and chlorinated hydrocarbon pesticides; pesticides that are persistent, toxic or whose derivatives remain biologically active and accumulate in the food chain beyond their intended use; as well as any pesticides banned by international agreement, shall be prohibited. If chemicals are used, proper equipment and training shall be provided to minimize health and environmental risks.</p>	<p>6.6.1. Chemicals shall not be used outside nurseries, except in cases of extensive weevil outbreaks, for protection of forest regeneration or if prescribed by forest pathologist.</p> <p>6.6.2. All uses of chemical substances shall be recorded including information on the name of the chemical, the purpose, the site, date and the amount used at minimum.</p> <p>6.6.3. Chemical storage, mixing and application practices shall meet applicable regulation and codes of best practice.</p> <p>6.6.4. Responsible employees shall be aware of and able to implement emergency procedures for clean-up following spillages and other accidents with chemicals.</p>
<p>6.7. Chemicals, containers, liquid and solid non-organic wastes including fuel and oil shall be disposed of in an environmentally appropriate manner at off-site locations.</p>	<p>6.7.1. Chemical, container, liquid and solid waste shall be disposed of in an environmentally sound and legal manner, whether from forest operations or processing facilities.</p> <p>6.7.2. Efforts shall be taken to control and minimize disposal of all types of waste in the forest including garbage left from visitors.</p> <p>6.7.3. Appropriate oil absorbent kit shall be available in forest machinery.</p> <p>6.7.4. Appropriate oil absorbent kit or spill proof tanks shall be used at chain saws filling points.</p> <p>6.7.5. Forest machinery shall be without oil/fuel leakage.</p> <p>6.7.6. Biodegradable oil should be used for chainsaws and hydraulic oil in forest machinery.</p>
<p>6.8. Use of biological control agents shall be documented, minimized, monitored and strictly controlled in accordance with national laws and internationally accepted scientific protocols. Use of genetically modified organisms shall be prohibited.</p>	<p>6.8.1. Biological control agents shall only be used in exceptional cases; any usage shall be documented, minimized, monitored and strictly controlled.</p> <p>6.8.2. Genetically modified organisms (GMOs) shall not be used.</p>
<p>6.9. The use of exotic species shall be carefully controlled and actively monitored to avoid adverse ecological impacts.</p>	<p>6.9.1. Native forests shall not be converted to exotic plantations.</p> <p>6.9.2. Exotic species shall not be cultivated in the forest.</p> <p>6.9.3. The spread of invasive exotic species that have been historically introduced shall be monitored and if</p>

	<p>necessary, actions should be taken to control or eliminate the species.</p> <p>See also 10.3</p>
<p>6.10. Forest conversion to plantations or non-forest land uses shall not occur, except in circumstances where conversion:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) entails a very limited portion of the forest management unit; b) does not occur on high conservation value forest areas; and c) will enable clear, substantial, additional, secure long term conservation benefits across the forest management unit. 	<p>6.10.1. Conversion of forestland to other land uses shall not be done unless resulting from legally established procedures and supported by cultural, landscape, recreational or natural interests.</p> <p>6.10.2. Plans for conversion should be supported by stakeholders, including local communities and governmental agencies.</p> <p>See also 6.9</p>

PRINCIPLE 7. MANAGEMENT PLAN	
A management plan -- appropriate to the scale and intensity of the operations -- shall be written, implemented, and kept up to date. The long term objectives of management, and the means of achieving them, shall be clearly stated.	
Criteria	Indicators
<p>7.1. The management plan and supporting documents shall provide:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Management objectives; b) Description of the forest resources to be managed, environmental limitations, land use and ownership status, socio-economic conditions, and a profile of adjacent lands; c) Description of silvicultural and/or other management system, based on the ecology of the forest in question and information gathered through resource inventories; d) Rationale for rate of annual harvest and species selection; e) Provisions for monitoring of forest growth and dynamics; f) Environmental safeguards based on environmental assessments; g) Plans for the identification and protection of rare, threatened and endangered species; h) Maps describing the forest resource base including protected areas, planned management activities and land ownership; i) Description and justification of harvesting techniques and equipment to be used; 	<p>7.1.1. <u>SLIMF FMO-s</u>: FMO shall have a valid management plan prepared according to national legislation together with written description of the management objectives (a, e); protection measures of all protection values and HCV forest areas (f, g).</p> <p>7.1.2. <u>Large and medium FMO-s</u>: FMO management plan or its appendices shall include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Management objective (a). b) A general description of the history, including ownership and use of the forest management area (b). c) A stand level description of the forest resources including area, site type/forest type, soil type, species, age class distribution, height, site class, average diameter (dbh) and volume (b, c). d) Summaries for the total forest area including total area (ha), forest cover percentage, area by site types/forest type, age class distribution, total annual increment and average volume per hectare (b, c, d). e) Provisions for monitoring of forest growth and dynamics (e); f) Description and justification of the management system used, including types of silvicultural systems used. g) general description of monitoring activities implemented to ensure conservation of protected areas and HCVF resources (f, g) h) Maps describing the forest resource base including protected areas, planned management activities and land ownership (h) i) Description and justification of harvesting techniques and equipment to be used (i) <p>7.1.3. The plan shall be technically sound and sufficiently detailed, given the size of the forest operation and extent and intensity of forest management.</p> <p>7.1.4. Maps should be of sufficient quality to effectively guide field activities (see also criterion 6.5)</p> <p>7.1.5. Management plans or related annual operating or harvesting plan shall be available to staff and used in the field.</p> <p>See also 6.2.4 and 9.1.1.</p>
<p>7.2. The management plan shall be periodically revised to incorporate the results of monitoring or new scientific and technical</p>	<p>7.2.1. Management plan (and/or annual operating plan) revision or adjustments shall occur in timely manner (with revision period not more than 10 years).</p> <p>7.2.2. <u>Large and medium FMO-s</u>: Management plan revisions</p>

<p>information, as well as to respond to changing environmental, social and economic circumstances.</p>	<p>shall incorporate changing silvicultural, environmental, social and economic conditions</p> <p>7.2.3. <u>SLIMF FMO-s</u>: Management plan revisions shall follow national procedures.</p>
<p>7.3. Forest workers shall receive adequate training and supervision to ensure proper implementation of the management plan.</p>	<p>7.3.1. <u>Large FMO-s</u>: Forest managers and supervisors shall have appropriate qualification, preferably nationally recognized, ensuring that they are able to plan and organize forest operations and other elements of the management plan.</p> <p>7.3.2. <u>Large FMO-s</u>: FMO shall have and implement a written training plan.</p> <p>7.3.3. <u>Large FMO-s</u>: FMO shall provide training to relevant staff in biodiversity issues.</p> <p>7.3.4. <u>SLIMF and medium FMO-s</u>: For harvesting activities, FMO shall hire only workers who have received instructions on proper and safe felling techniques.</p> <p>7.3.5. All workers, as well as contractors and their workers and self-employed persons should be sufficiently educated and trained in the tasks they are assigned to and preferably hold relevant skill certificates.</p> <p>See also 4.1</p>
<p>7.4. While respecting the confidentiality of information, forest managers shall make publicly available a summary of the primary elements of the management plan, including those listed in Criterion 7.1.</p>	<p>7.4.1. <u>Large FMO-s</u>: FMO shall produce a public summary of the management plan that are available in printed versions and/or published on the Internet.</p> <p>7.4.2. <u>SLIMF and medium FMO-s</u>: At minimum FMO shall be willing to provide access to relevant parts of the management plan to stakeholders who have justified interest in the forest management activities of FMO (e.g. neighboring landowners and local inhabitants)</p>

PRINCIPLE 8. MONITORING AND ASSESSMENT	
Monitoring shall be conducted -- appropriate to the scale and intensity of forest management -- to assess the condition of the forest, yields of forest products, chain of custody, management activities and their social and environmental impacts.	
Criteria	Indicators
8.1. The frequency and intensity of monitoring should be determined by the scale and intensity of forest management operations as well as the relative complexity and fragility of the affected environment. Monitoring procedures should be consistent and replicable over time to allow comparison of results and assessment of change.	<p>8.1.1. <u>Large and medium FMO-s</u>: FMO should have monitoring procedures for consistent and frequent monitoring of the aspects mentioned in 8.2, which allows comparison of the results and assessment of changes.</p> <p>8.1.2. <u>SLIMF FMO-s</u>: FMO should at a minimum conduct monitoring of harvesting operations and re-forestation.</p>
8.2. Forest management should include the research and data collection needed to monitor, at a minimum, the following indicators: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Yield of all forest products harvested. b) Growth rates, regeneration and condition of the forest. c) Composition and observed changes in the flora and fauna. d) Environmental and social impacts of harvesting and other operations. e) Costs, productivity, and efficiency of forest management. 	<p>8.2.1. <u>Large and medium FMO-s</u>: Monitoring plan should identify/describe observed changes in conditions in terms of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) growth rates, regeneration area and species and age and species composition of forest resources, (typically part of the standard management plan prepared according to national legislation) (b, c); b) commercial harvest including harvest of NTFP such as seeds, seedling, game, greenery and Christmas trees (a). c) environmental changes affecting flora, fauna, soil and water resources (e.g. erosion, outbreak of pest, spreading of invasive species, observed nesting sites for endangered bird species) (c, d) d) socioeconomic aspects (e.g. forest management costs, yields of all products, and changes in community and worker relations or conditions). e) HCV forest areas </p> <p>8.2.2. <u>SLIMF FMO-s</u>: FMO shall at minimum have yearly records of commercially harvested products and regenerated area and species (a, b).</p> <p>8.2.3. <u>SLIMF FMO-s</u>: FMO shall ensure that inventory data is regularly updated with periodic management plan revision (typically done during the standard management plan preparation according to national legislation) (a, b, c)</p>
8.3. Documentation shall be provided by the forest manager to enable monitoring and certifying organizations to trace each forest product from its origin, a process known as the "chain of custody."	<p>8.3.1. Invoices, waybills and other applicable documentation related to transport of forest products shall be kept in a central location and/or shall be easily available for inspection.</p> <p>8.3.2. In case FMO is also handling non-certified timber or products, FMO shall clearly distinguish certified products from non-certified products through product marking or labels and by separate documented storage, and accompanying invoices and waybills.</p> <p>8.3.3. <u>Large and medium FMO-s</u>: FMO shall establish and implement written procedures that ensure the certified</p>

	<p>status of sold products is clearly indicated on invoices and transport documents</p> <p>8.3.4. <u>SLIMF FMO-s</u>: FMO shall ensure that the certified status of sold products is clearly indicated on invoices and transport documents.</p> <p>8.3.5. Illegally logged wood reclaimed by the operation shall not be sold as certified.</p>
<p>8.4. The results of monitoring shall be incorporated into the implementation and revision of the management plan.</p>	<p>8.4.1. <u>Large and medium FMO-s</u>: Monitoring data as required per 8.2.1 shall be considered for management plan revision.</p> <p>8.4.2. <u>SLIMF FMO-s</u>: FMO shall ensure that the management plan is reviewed periodically according to national legislation.</p> <p>See also criterion 7.2</p>
<p>8.5. While respecting the confidentiality of information, forest managers shall make publicly available a summary of the results of monitoring indicators, including those listed in Criterion 8.2.</p>	<p>8.5.1. <u>Large FMO-s</u>: FMO shall produce a public summary of the monitoring results and make it available in printed versions and/or publish on the internet.</p> <p>8.5.2. <u>SLIMF and medium FMO-s</u>: At minimum FMO shall be willing to provide access to relevant parts of the management plan to stakeholders who have justified interest in the forest management activities of FMO (e.g. neighboring landowners and local inhabitants)</p>

PRINCIPLE 9. MAINTENANCE OF HIGH CONSERVATION VALUE FORESTS

Management activities in high conservation value forests shall maintain or enhance the attributes which define such forests. Decisions regarding high conservation value forests shall always be considered in the context of a precautionary approach.

Criteria	Indicators
<p>9.1. Assessment to determine the presence of the attributes consistent with High Conservation Value Forests will be completed, appropriate to scale and intensity of forest management.</p>	<p>9.1.1. Information on Natura 2000 sites, woodland key habitats and other officially protected areas shall be included on maps and protection reasons described in written.</p> <p>9.1.2. <u>Large and medium FMO-s</u>: FMO shall have written procedures for identifying and recording new HCVF areas.</p> <p>9.1.3. <u>SLIMF FMO-s</u>: FMO should carry out self evaluation of HCV forest areas and include identified areas in the management plan</p> <p>9.1.4. FMO should be open and willing to cooperate with state organizations and environmental specialists for inventories and protection of HCV forest areas.</p> <p>See also 4.4; 6.1; 6.2; 6.3</p>
<p>9.2. The consultative portion of the certification process must place emphasis on the identified conservation attributes, and options for the maintenance thereof.</p>	<p>9.2.1. <u>Large FMO-s</u>: Local stakeholders including environmental NGOs should be consulted to identify HCVF.</p> <p>9.2.2. <u>Large FMO-s</u>: FMO shall document the stakeholder consultation process in written.</p> <p>9.2.3. Stakeholder consultations should indicate that FMO consistently considers and protects HCVF values.</p>
<p>9.3. The management plan shall include and implement specific measures that ensure the maintenance and/or enhancement of the applicable conservation attributes consistent with the precautionary approach. These measures shall be specifically included in the publicly available management plan summary.</p>	<p>9.3.1. <u>Large FMO-s</u>: Measures to protect HCVF values and officially protected areas shall be described in written public summary</p> <p>9.3.2. <u>SLIMF and medium FMO-s</u>: The FMO shall be willing to provide access to the information on protection measures of HCV forest areas in the FMO forests upon request.</p> <p>See also 7.1</p>
<p>9.4. Annual monitoring shall be conducted to assess the effectiveness of the measures employed to maintain or enhance the applicable conservation attributes.</p>	<p>9.4.1. HCVF shall be monitored on a regular basis to avoid activities such as illegal logging that might endanger the conservation values.</p> <p>See also 8.2</p>

PRINCIPLE 10. PLANTATIONS	
Plantations shall be planned and managed in accordance with Principles and Criteria 1-9, and Principle 10 and its Criteria. While plantations can provide an array of social and economic benefits, and can contribute to satisfying the world's needs for forest products, they should complement the management of, reduce pressures on, and promote the restoration and conservation of natural forests.	
Criteria	Indicators
10.1. The management objectives of the plantation, including natural forest conservation and restoration objectives, shall be explicitly stated in the management plan, and clearly demonstrated in the implementation of the plan.	10.1.1. Objectives of tree planting shall be explicit in the management plan, with clear statements regarding the relationship between tree planting and the silvicultural, socio-economic and environmental (i.e. forest conservation and restoration) realities in the region.
10.2. The design and layout of plantations should promote the protection, restoration and conservation of natural forests, and not increase pressures on natural forests. Wildlife corridors, streamside zones and a mosaic of stands of different ages and rotation periods shall be used in the layout of the plantation, consistent with the scale of the operation. The scale and layout of plantation blocks shall be consistent with the patterns of forest stands found within the natural landscape.	<p>10.2.1. Areas with natural vegetation shall be protected and taken into consideration when planning establishment of plantations.</p> <p>10.2.2. Streamside buffer zone with natural vegetation shall be established and/or protected.</p> <p>10.2.3. The scale and layout of plantations shall be consistent with natural forest vegetation in the landscape.</p>
10.3. Diversity in the composition of plantations is preferred, so as to enhance economic, ecological and social stability. Such diversity may include the size and spatial distribution of management units within the landscape, number and genetic composition of species, age classes and structures.	<p>10.3.1. Felling and regeneration plans should provide for variations of age classes, species and rotation periods.</p> <p>See also 6.8; 10.4</p>
10.4. The selection of species for planting shall be based on their overall suitability for the site and their appropriateness to the management objectives. In order to enhance the conservation of biological diversity, native species are preferred over exotic species in the establishment of plantations and the restoration of degraded ecosystems. Exotic species, which shall be used only when their performance is greater than that of native species, shall be carefully monitored to detect unusual mortality, disease, or insect outbreaks and adverse ecological	<p>10.4.1. The species selected shall be suitable for site and the management objective.</p> <p>10.4.2. Exotic species may only be used when they outperform native species in meeting the management objective.</p> <p>10.4.3. Invasive exotic species and species that cross breed with local species shall not be used.</p> <p>10.4.4. Exotic species, provenances and varieties may only be used in case their environmental impact and influence on genetic structure of native species and provenances have been previously assessed and found to be safe.</p> <p>10.4.5. In case exotic species are used, at least 20 pct of the stand shall consist of native species.</p> <p>See also 6.9</p>

impacts.	
10.5. A proportion of the overall forest management area, appropriate to the scale of the plantation and to be determined in regional standards, shall be managed so as to restore the site to a natural forest cover.	<p>10.5.1. <u>Large and medium FMO-s</u>: FMO shall set aside at least 10 pct of the area for natural vegetation.</p> <p>10.5.2. <u>SLIMF FMO-s</u>: FMO should set aside at least 10 pct of the area for natural vegetation.</p> <p>See indicators under 6.2; 6.4; 10.2</p>
10.6. Measures shall be taken to maintain or improve soil structure, fertility, and biological activity. The techniques and rate of harvesting, road and trail construction and maintenance, and the choice of species shall not result in long term soil degradation or adverse impacts on water quality, quantity or substantial deviation from stream course drainage patterns.	<p>10.6.1. Information shall exist on all soil types including their susceptibility to degradation from forest operations and silvicultural treatments.</p> <p>10.6.2. Water bodies within the plantation area shall be identified and buffer zones established (see also 10.2).</p> <p>See also 6.5</p>
10.7. Measures shall be taken to prevent and minimize outbreaks of pests, diseases, fire and invasive plant introductions. Integrated pest management shall form an essential part of the management plan, with primary reliance on prevention and biological control methods rather than chemical pesticides and fertilizers. Plantation management should make every effort to move away from chemical pesticides and fertilizers, including their use in nurseries. The use of chemicals is also covered in Criteria 6.6 and 6.7.	<p>10.7.1. Staff should be trained to identify health problems.</p> <p>10.7.2. An appropriate fire prevention and control system shall be in place.</p> <p>10.7.3. All employees and contractors, who are required to perform fire control activities, should have received adequate training.</p> <p>See also 6.6; 6.7</p>
10.8. Appropriate to the scale and diversity of the operation, monitoring of plantations shall include regular assessment of potential on-site and off-site ecological and social impacts, (e.g. natural regeneration, effects on water resources and soil fertility, and impacts on local welfare and social well-being), in addition to those elements addressed in principles 8, 6 and 4. No species should be planted on a large scale until local trials and/or experience have shown that they are ecologically well-adapted to the site, are not invasive, and do not have significant negative ecological impacts on other ecosystems. Special attention will	<p>10.8.1. <u>Large and medium FMO-s</u>: Written monitoring procedures shall incorporate ecological and social impacts of plantation activities, where significant (according to assessor judgment and stakeholder observations) ecological impacts could occur.</p> <p>10.8.2. <u>SLIMF FMO-s</u>: FMO shall record any negative environmental or social impacts identified and design appropriate alleviating measures.</p> <p>10.8.3. The purchase of land or land leases, for plantation establishment should not adversely impact the community and/or resource use by local people.</p> <p>See 6.9; 10.4;</p>

<p>be paid to social issues of land acquisition for plantations, especially the protection of local rights of ownership, use or access.</p>	
<p>10.9. Plantations established in areas converted from natural forests after November 1994 normally shall not qualify for certification. Certification may be allowed in circumstances where sufficient evidence is submitted to the certification body that the manager/owner is not responsible directly or indirectly of such conversion.</p>	<p>10.9.1. The plantation shall not occupy land converted from natural forest since November 1994, unless clear evidence exist that the current manager/owner was not responsible.</p> <p>10.9.2. Primary, degraded primary and mature secondary forests shall not be cleared by current forest managers to create tree plantations.</p>

Annex I

Relevant Estonian national forest legislation

The table below lists acts and other regulations that are most relevant in forestry context. All legal documents can be freely downloaded from www.riigiteataja.ee.

Name	Valid from
Hunting Act	03.04.2005 ...
Nature Conservation Act	29.04.2005 ...
Forest Act	10.05.2004 ...
Beach and Coastline Protection Act	10.05.2004 ...
Forest Inventory Guidelines	18.03.2004 ...
Sales and harvesting system for timber growing in State forest	01.06.2002 ...
Origin of regeneration material allowed to be used for regenerating Estonian forests	30.07.2004 ...
List of exotic species allowed to be grown in Estonian forest land	01.07.2004 ...
Minimum allowed levels of forest diameter at breast height and canopy cover for thinning	01.06.2002 ...
Prescriptions of felling rights of standing stock and for transactions with forest material, forest material handover act form and declaration of harvesting rights of standing stock and sales of forest material form	01.06.2002 ...
Fire prevention requirements for forest and other vegetation areas	01.06.2002 ...
Forest protection rules	01.06.2002 ...
Forest management plan approval procedures and approving body	07.05.2004 ...
Transportation rules for forest material transport	01.06.2002 ...
Requirements for importing forest seeds and regeneration material to Estonia	29.08.2004 ...
Form and submission of felling declaration	18.03.2004 ...
Measures and order for calculation of environmental damage done by violation of forestry regulations	01.06.2002 ...
Minimum canopy cover levels for clearfelling of pine stands younger than hundred years and spruce stands younger than eighty years and minimum canopy cover levels and diameter at breast height for birch stands younger than seventy years and hardwood stands younger than hundred years	07.03.2004 ...
Requirements and order of application of extending deadline for regenerating felled or destroyed forest land	01.06.2002 ...
Requirements and certification of marketed regeneration material regeneration material used in State forest	30.07.2004 ...
Classification of key habitats and key habitat inventory form	30.04.2004 ...
Reclaiming damage inflicted by illegal felling on unlawfully expropriated forest land	01.06.2002 ...
Maintenance felling and border clearing rules for unlawfully expropriated forest land	01.06.2002 ...

Annex II

List of environmental conventions, multilateral agreements and ILO conventions signed or ratified by Estonia.

Conventions ratified by Estonia

<i>Name and year of the convention</i>	<i>Time ratified by Estonia</i>
Ramsar (1971) Convention on Wetlands of International Importance Especially as Waterfowl Habitat	October 1993
Washington (1973) Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora	October 1993
Rio de Janeiro (1992) Convention on Biodiversity	May 1993
Århus (1998) Convention on Access to Information, Public Participation in Decision-Making and Access to Justice in Environmental Matters	June 2001
Berne (1979) Conservation on Conservation of European Wildlife and Natural Habitats	August 1992

Environmental agreements signed by Estonia

<i>Name of the agreement</i>	<i>Place and time of signing</i>
1. Agreement on cooperation between the State Committee of Environmental Protection of Latvia, the Environmental Protection Department of Lithuania and the Ministry of Environment of Estonia in environmental protection and regulation of the use of natural resources	December, 10. Tallinn, 17. Riga, 19. Vilnius 1990
2. Agreement between the Republic of Estonia and RSFSR on the use and protection of natural resources of the lake Peipsi from 1991 to 1995	August 01, 1991 (Moscow)
3. Agreement between the Ministry of the Environment of the Republic of Estonia and the Ministry of the Environment of the Kingdom of Denmark on cooperation in the field of environmental protection	September 2, 1991 (Copenhagen)
4. Agreement between the Republic of Estonia and the Republic of Finland on environmental cooperation	November 7, 1991 (Helsinki)
5. Agreement between the Republic of Estonia and the Kingdom of Sweden on cooperation in the field of environment	March 30, 1992 (Stockholm)
6. Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Estonia from the one side and the Government of the Kingdom of Denmark and Faeroe Islands from the other side concerning the bilateral relations in the field of fisheries	May 01, 1992 (Copenhagen)
7. Agreement between the Ministry of the Environment of the Republic of Estonia and the Ministry of the Environment Nature Protection and Reactor Safety of the German Federal Republic on cooperation on environmental protection,	May 25, 1992 (Düsseldorf)
8. Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Estonia and the Government of the United States of America concerning fisheries off the coasts of the United States	June 01, 1992 (Washington)
9. Agreement between the Republic of Estonia and the European Communities in the field of Fisheries	July 17, 1992 (Tallinn)
10. Memorandum of understanding between the Government of Canada and the Government of Estonia on mutual fisheries relations	September 23, 1992 (Ottawa)
11. Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Estonia and the Government of the Kingdom of Sweden on fisheries	February 24, 1993 (Tallinn)
12. Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Estonia and the Government of the Republic of Finland on air protection	July 02, 1993 (Tallinn)
13. Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Estonia and the Government of the Republic of Finland on water protection	July 02, 1993 (Tallinn)
14. Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Estonia and the Government of the Republic of Finland on Cooperation in the field of Combating Oil Spills	December 8, 1993 (Helsinki)
15. Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Estonia and the Government of the Republic of Finland on fisheries	January 21, 1994 (Tallinn)
16. Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Estonia and the Government of the Republic of Latvia on cooperation in the field of environmental protection	February 18, 1994 (Riga)
17. Treaty between the Government of the Republic of Estonia and the Government of the Russian Federation on the conservation and use of fishing stocks in Lake Peipsi, Lake Lämmi and Lake Pihkva	May 04, 1994 (Moscow)

18. Treaty between the Government of the Republic of Estonia and the Government of the Russian Federation in the field of fisheries	May 04, 1994 (Moscow)
19. Agreement between the ministry of Environment of Estonia and the Minister of Environmental Protection, National Resources and Forestry of Poland on cooperation in the field of environment protection	June 28, 1995 (Warsaw)
20. Agreement between the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry in Finland and the Ministry of Environment in Estonia on the Coordination of the Forestry Sector Development Program - Project in Estonia	July 8, 1995 (Tallinn)
21. Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Estonia, the Government of the Republic of Latvia and the Government of the Republic of Lithuania on cooperation in the field of environmental protection	July 21, 1995 (Tallinn)
22. Agreement between the Ministry of the Environment of Estonia and the Ministry of Interior of Denmark on Co-operation and Technical Assistance in the field of Nuclear Emergency Preparedness and Response including Radiation Protection	November 03, 1995
23. Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Estonia and the Government of the Russian Federation on Cooperation in the field of Environment	January 11, 1996 (Pihkva)
24. Agreement between the Ministry of the Environment of the Republic of Estonia and the Ministry of the Environmental Protection of the Republic of Lithuania on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes between Estonia and Lithuania	March 22, 1996 (Tallinn)
25. Programme Agreement between the Estonian Ministry of Environment and the Danish Ministry of Housing and Building	May 06, 1996 (Tallinn)
26. Agreement between the Republic of Estonia and the European Union on Relations in the field of Fisheries	December 19, 1996 (Brussels)
27. Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Estonia and the Government of the Republic of Latvia on Mutual Relations in the Field of Fisheries	February 1997 (Tallinn)
28. Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Estonia and the Government of the Republic of Latvia on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context	March 14, 1997 (Pärnu)
29. Programme Agreement between the Estonian Ministry of Environment and the Danish Ministry of Housing and Building	May 09, 1997 (Tallinn)
30. Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Estonia and the Government of the Russian Federation on Cooperation in the field of Protection and Sustainable Use of Transboundary Watercourses	August 20, 1997 (Moscow)
31. Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Estonia and the International Atomic Energy Agency for the Application of Safeguards in connection with the Treaty on the Non-proliferation of Nuclear Weapons	November 18 (24), 1997 (Vienna/Tallinn)
32. Agreement between the Ministry of the Environment of Estonia and the Ministry of Interior of Denmark on Co-operation and Technical Assistance in the field of Nuclear Safety, Radiation Protection and Nuclear Emergency Preparedness and Response	January 14, 1998 (Tallinn)
33. Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Estonia and the Government of the Kingdom of Sweden on cooperation on activities implemented join exchange of notes	March 16, 1998/June 10, 1998
34. Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Estonia and the Government of the Republic of Finland on water protection	February 12, 1999 (Tallinn)
35. Memorandum of Understanding between the Ministry of the Environment of the Republic of Estonia and the Ministry of the Environment of the Republic of Finland (Activities Implemented Jointly)	February 12, 1999 (Tallinn)
36. Agreement between the Ministry of the Environment of the Republic of Estonia and the Ministry of Environmental Protection and Regional Development of the Republic of Latvia on Management of Nature Conservation in Transboundary Context	January 27, 2000 (Tallinn)
37. Agreement between the Ministry of the Environment of the Republic of Estonia and the Ministry of Environment of the Republic of Hungary on Environmental and Nature Protection	June 19, 2000 (Szentendre)
38. Agreement between the European Community and the Republic of Estonia concerning the participation of the Republic of Estonia to the European Environment Agency and the European Environment Information and Observation Network	October 9, 2000 (Brussels)

39. Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Estonia and the Government of the Republic of Finland on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context	February 21, 2002 (Helsinki)
40. Declaration by the Ministry of the Environment of the Republic of Estonia and the Ministry of the Environment of the Land of Mecklenburg-Vorpommern on Co-operation in the fields of Environmental and Nature Protection	March 12, 2002 (Castle Granitz/Binz)
41. Memorandum between the Ministry of the Environment of the Republic of Finland, the Ministry of the Environment of the Republic of Estonia on the Provision of Support to the Project for Water and Waste Accession Program for 17 Small Municipalities in Estonia	September 30, 2002 (Tallinn)
42. Agreement between the Ministry of the Environment of the Republic of Estonia and the Ministry of the Environment and Natural Resources of Ukraine on Cooperation in the field of Environmental Protection	October 14, 2002 (Kiev)
43. Memorandum of understanding between the European Community and the Republic of Estonia on Estonia's participation in the Community action programme promoting non-governmental organizations primarily active in the field of environmental protection	September 27, 2002 (Tallinn)
44. Agreed record of conclusions of fisheries consultations between delegations of the Republic of Latvia and the Republic of Estonia	November 1, 2002 (Riga)
45. Agreement on joint implementation of emission reductions of greenhouse gases between the Government of the Republic of Estonia and the Government of the Republic of Finland	December 17, 2002 (Tallinn)
46. Memorandum of understanding on co-operation between the Government of the Republic of Estonia and the Government of the Netherlands in reducing emissions of greenhouse gases under article 6 of the Kyoto Protocol	September 9, 2003 (Tallinn)
47. Memorandum of understanding between the Government of the Republic of Estonia and the Government of the Kingdom of Denmark on co-operation for the implementation of the Kyoto Protocol to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change	September 25, 2003 (Tallinn)
48. Project agreement between the Government of the Republic of Estonia and the Government of the Republic of Finland concerning Paide Bioenergy II project	October 10, 2003 (Tallinn)
49. Agreement between the Ministry of the Environment of the Republic of Estonia and the Ministry of Environment of the Republic of Latvia on co-operation in protection and sustainable use of trans-boundary water courses	October 24, 2003 (Palanga)
50. Memorandum of Understanding between the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs of the United Kingdom, Environment Protection Agency of Denmark, Energy Market Authority of Finland, Ministry of Environment and Territory of Italy, Ministry of Climate Change and Industry of Netherlands, Norwegian Ministry of the Environment, Ministry of the Environment, Spatial Planning and Energy of Slovenia, Lithuanian Environmental Investment Fund, the Swedish Energy Agency, Environment Protection Agency – Ireland and Ministry of Environment – Republic of Estonia concerning a Generic and UN/EU Compatible Registry System	November 15, 2004 (Tallinn)
51. Joint Implementation agreement between the Minister of the Environment of the Republic of Estonia and the Minister for the Environment of the Kingdom of Denmark concerning Türisalu Wind Farm project	December 14, 2004 (Buenos Aires)

ILO conventions ratified by Estonia during 1922-2002			
Nr	Name	Adopted	Ratified by Estonia
C2	Unemployment Convention, 1919	1919	1922
C5	Minimum Age (Industry) Convention, 1919	1919	1922
C6	Night Work of Young Persons (Industry) Convention, 1919	1919	1922
C7	Minimum Age (Sea) Convention, 1920	1920	1922
C8	Unemployment Indemnity (Shipwreck) Convention, 1920	1920	1923
C9	Placing of Seamen Convention, 1920	1921	1923
C10	Minimum Age (Agriculture) Convention, 1921	1921	1922
C11	Right of Association (Agriculture) Convention, 1921	1921	1922
C12	Workmen's Compensation (Agriculture) Convention, 1921	1921	1922
C13	White Lead (Painting) Convention, 1921	1921	1922
C14	Weekly Rest (Industry) Convention, 1921	1921	1923

(C15)	Minimum Age (Trimmers and Stokers) Convention, 1921	1921	1922
C16	Medical Examination of Young Persons (Sea) Convention, 1921	1921	1922
C19	Equality of Treatment (Accident Compensation) Convention, 1925	1925	1930
(C20)	Night Work (Bakeries) Convention, 1925	1925	1929
C22	Seamen's Articles of Agreement Convention, 1926	1926	1929
C23	Repatriation of Seamen Convention, 1926	1926	1929
C27	Marking of Weight (Packages Transported by Vessels) Convention, 1929	1929	1932
C29	Forced Labor Convention, 1930	1930	1995
C41	Night Work (Women) Convention (Revised), 1934	1934	1935
C45	Underground Work (Women) Convention, 1935	1925	1937
C53	Officers' Competency Certificates Convention, 1936	1936	1938
C87	Freedom of Association and Protection of the Right to Organize Convention, 1948	1948	1993
C98	Right to Organize and Collective Bargaining Convention, 1949	1949	1993
C100	Equal Remuneration Convention, 1951	1951	1996
C105	Abolition of Forced Labor Convention, 1957	1957	1995
C108	Seafarers' Identity Documents Convention, 1958	1958	1996
C122	Employment Policy Convention, 1964	1964	2002
C135	Workers' Representatives Convention, 1971	1971	1995
C144	Tripartite Consultation (International Labor Standards) Convention, 1976	1976	1993
C174	Prevention of Major Industrial Accidents Convention, 1993	1993	2000
C182	Worst Forms of Child Labor Convention, 1999	1999	2001

Annex III

Endangered and protected species in Estonia

Species protection is regulated in Estonia by Nature Conservation Act (in Estonian *Looduskaitse seadus*, available at www.riigiteataja.ee). According to the Nature Conservation Act protected species are divided into I, II and III category protected species, according to the status of their endangerment, with category I as the most endangered and strictly protected species. Protection rules for all protected species are described in the Nature Conservation Act and special protection plans prepared for some species.

The official lists of I and II category species is available in a regulation document issued by Government of Estonian Republic. The document is called „List of I and II protection category species to be protected” (I ja II kaitsekategooriana kaitse alla võetavate liikide loetelu) and it is available for download at www.riigiteataja.ee.

The official lists of III category species is available in a regulation document issued by Estonian Minister of Environment. The document is called „Protection of III protection category species” (III kaitsekategooria liikide kaitse alla võtmine) and it is available for download at www.riigiteataja.ee.