

Sustainability Criteria for Biomass - Experiences with FSC Forest Certification

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Environmental Policy**

**econsense Workshop „Nachhaltige Biokraftstoffe - Wie
zertifizieren?“, in cooperation with BASF and Volkswagen**



Overview

- 1. Introduction on Forest Stewardship Council**
- 2. FSC- Principles and Criteria**
- 3. FSC-Governance**
- 4. Summary on lessons to be learnt from FSC**

1.1 Similar Development?

- **1990 - Background FSC:**
destruction rainforests/ illegal logging
- **2006 - Development Bioenergy use**
Bioenergy boom...
still mainly positively rewarded in public, but public acceptance may change...



Source: Bild Zeitung, Sept. 2005

Demand for sustainability criteria?!

Press Release 2006:
„Stadtwerke verheizen Orang Utan-Wald“



Source: Rettet den Regenwald e.V.

1.2 Forest Stewardship Council at a glance I

- international not-for-profit **membership-based** organization

- 1993: first certification

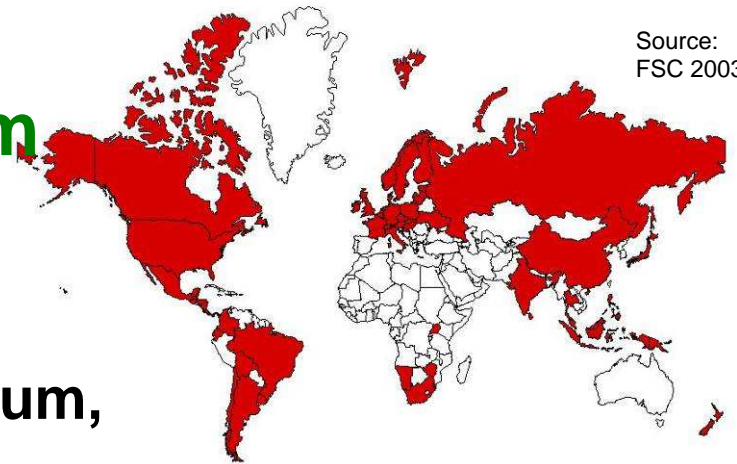
- **voluntary certification system**

- **Mission:** to promote sustainable forest management

- motivation forest owner: price premium, new customers

- Worldwide more than **84 million** hectares have been certified

- (~ 2% of the worlds forest/ ~ 10% of worlds commercial forests)
- In Germany: 600.000 ha certified (~5%)
- certificates in 74 countries (source: FSC 2007)



1.3 Forest Stewardship Council at a glance II

- FSC certification is carried out by **FSC accredited certification bodies**
- FSC certificates
 - **Forest Management** and the
 - **Chain of Custody** →
- There are **three categories** or label types
 - FSC 100%, - FSC Mixed Sources
 - FSC Recycled

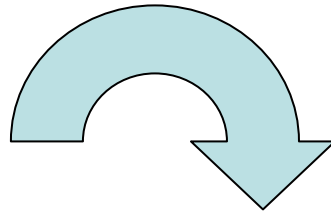


Source: FSC



Conclusions Chapter 1:

FSC



- ➔ ***voluntary international certification system***
- ➔ ***labelling sustainable forest management and products from sust. managed forests***



Source: FSC



2.1 FSC principles

- **10 worldwide applicable principles!**

Principle **1**: Compliance with laws and FSC Principles

Principle **2**: Tenure and use rights and responsibilities

Principle **3**: Indigenous peoples' rights

Principle **4**: Community relations and worker's rights

Principle **5**: Benefits from the forest

Principle **6**: Environmental impact

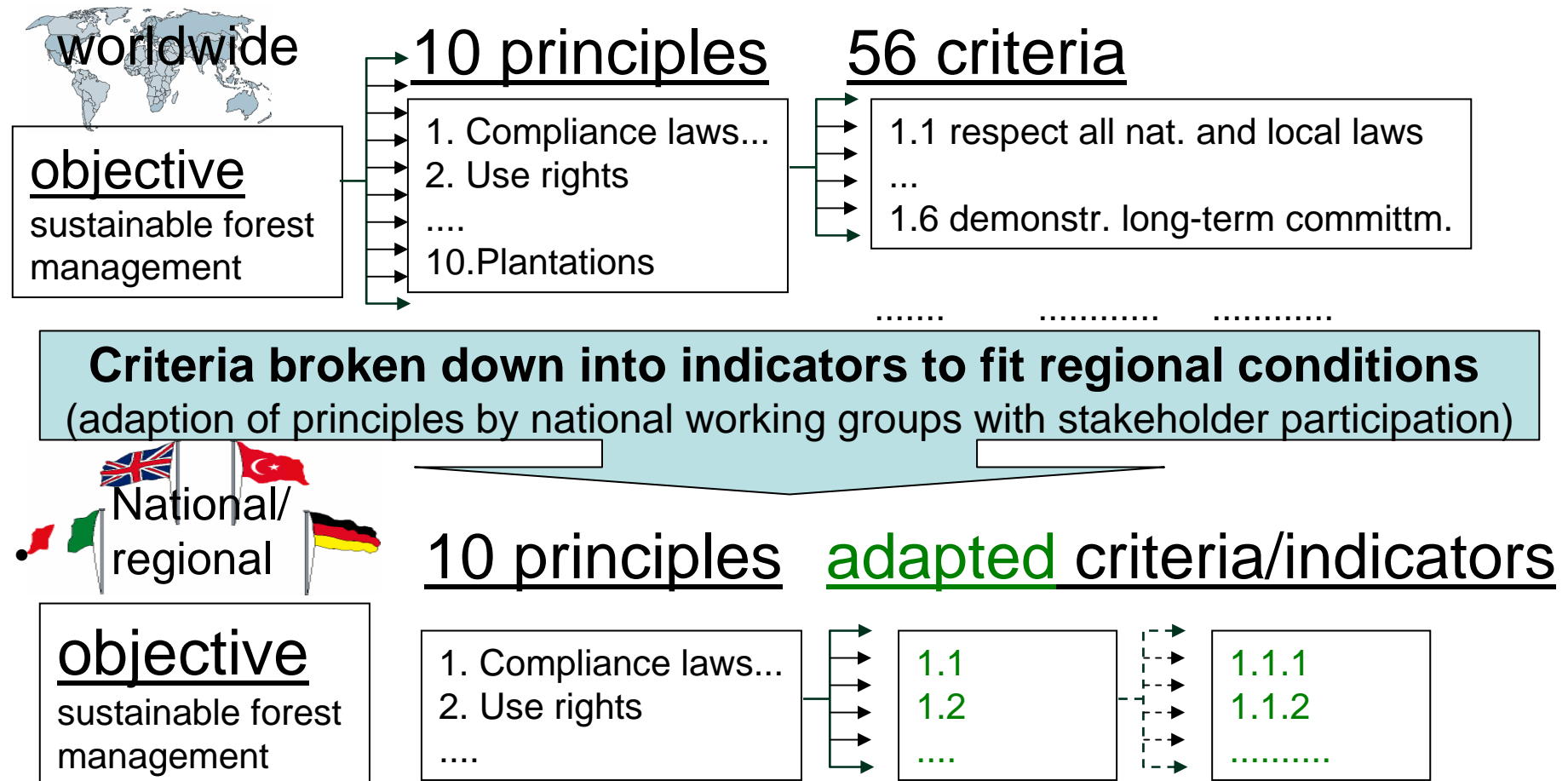
Principle **7**: Management plan

Principle **8**: Monitoring and assessment

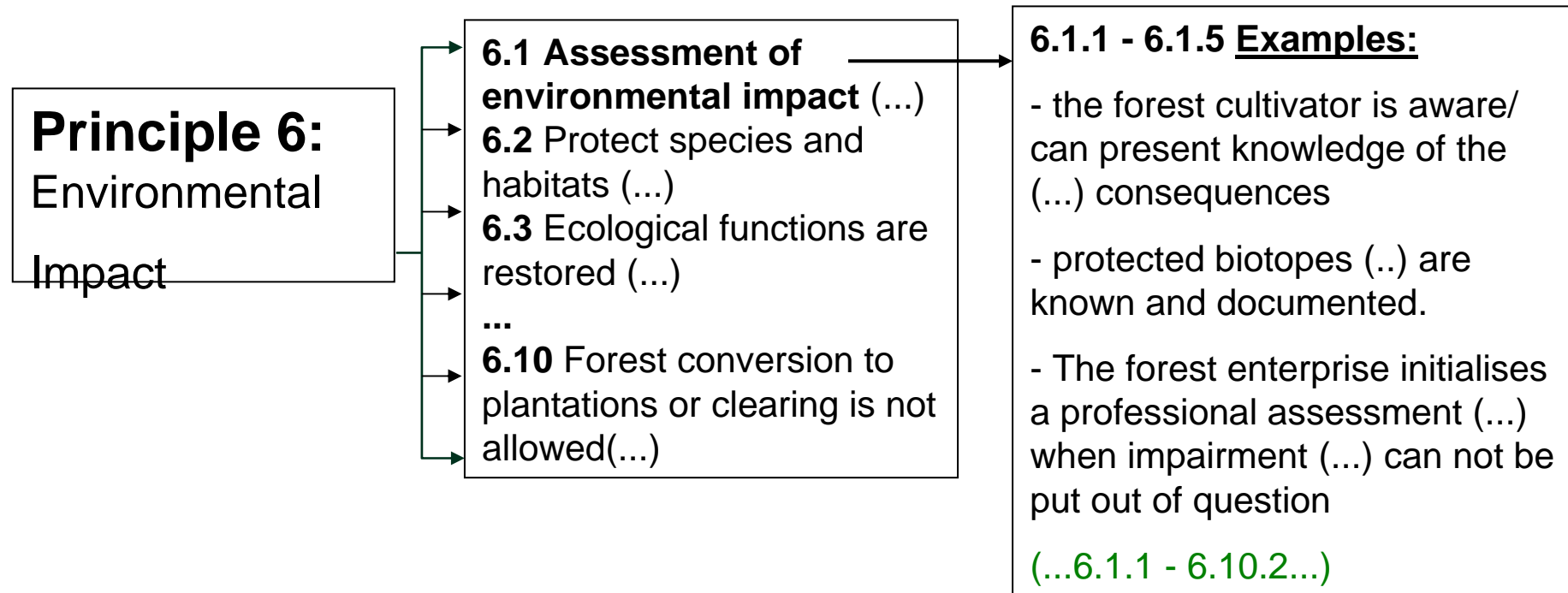
Principle **9**: Maintenance of high conservation value forests

Principle **10**: Plantations

2.2 Adaptation FSC principles and criteria



2.3 Example 1 - Principle 6 - Germany

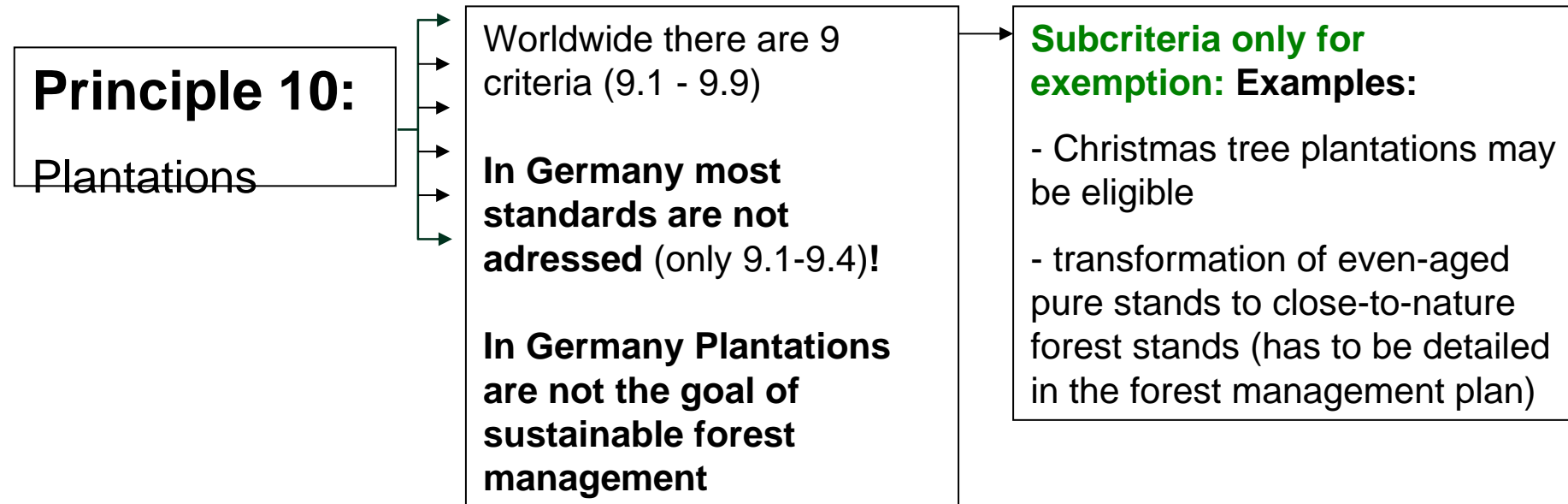


Principle: *identical*
at international
and national level

Criteria *almost identical*
at international and
national level

Explanations/ indicators
ONLY and *PARTICULAR* for
Germany derived from
criteria (38)

2.4 Example 2: Principle 10 - Germany



*Principle: identical
at international
and national level*

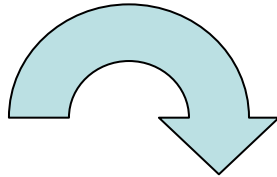
*Criteria in this case
almost not adressed,*

*Explanations/ Indicators
ONLY and PARTICULAR for
Germany derived from
criteria (3)*



Conclusions Chapter 2:

FSC standards



- *FSC standards based on a worldwide applicable set of principles and criteria*
- *further broken down on regional/ national level to fit regional conditions*
- *adaption of principles by national working groups with stakeholder participation*

Source: FSC





3. FSC Governance

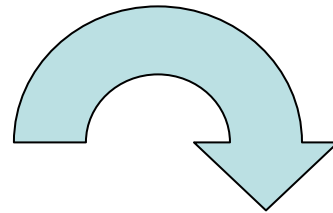
- built upon the principles of participation, democracy and equity
- highest decision-making body: General Assembly of FSC
- made up of the three membership chambers:
 - **Environmental** (environmental groups)
 - **Social** (social groups, trade unions...)
 - **Economic** (timber trade, forestry profession...)
- also balanced voting power north-south (50%)
- three chamber system also in other (national) bodies
- balance of voting power between different interests, without having to limit the number of members



Source: FSC



Conclusions Chapter 3:



FSC Governance

- ***based on transparency & equal involvement of all sustainability stakeholder (three chambers)***



Source: FSC

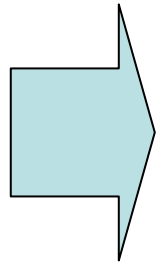
4.1 Differences FSC and certification biofuels

- **FSC: experiences forest management, but biomass can also be agricultural products and waste -> adaption necessary**
- **the FSC system does not take GHG emissions into consideration, which is one of the core requirements for bioenergy production**
- **Is a voluntary certification system that relies on market forces enough to adress the challenges of the bioenergy boom?**
- **visibility of biofuels lower (compared to timber products), might be a problem for the establishment of a market niche with price premium, if a voluntary certification is chosen**



4.2 Summary-Lessons learnt

FSC can be a model for the certification of biofuels



- *long term globally tested*
- *high standards*
- *needs to be adapted*

particularly useful elements:

- 1. System for deriving regional standard
(Principles and Criteria)**
- 2. Governance structure
(3 chambers, transparency)**
- 3. Experiences certification
chain of custody**

Source: FSC



Thank you for listening.

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