



CHAPTER 2

FSC® (Forest Stewardship Council) Forest Management Certification System and Turkish Forestry

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Introduction

Local communities and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) reached the power to arouse national and global interest in forests and forestry only in the 1980s. As a result, multilateral organizations such as the World Bank and FAO, as well as some national organizations, have financed and managed numerous projects aimed at improving and protecting forest management. In addition, initiatives such as the “Tropical Forest Action Plan” and the “International Tropical Timber Organization” have been formed to help improve the tropical forestry sector (1). In the 1980s and 1990s, forests became an increasingly important issue for NGOs. “Friends of Earth” established research links with United Kingdom (UK) timber companies in the 1980s regarding deforestation processes in tropical regions (2). In the face of these public concerns about forestry and forest resources, timber producers aimed to give a message to the consumer by using labels claiming the sustainability of forest resources on their products. For some of these timber companies, the situation became

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In regions with FSC Forest Management certification, this issue must be included in the internal audit, and FSC-related issues must be examined during the controls carried out by the branches.

FGD, which has a monopoly on wood production, must decide together with the forest industry on which system it will produce, taking into account the international situation. Efforts to create systems for which there is no demand will further tire the provincial organization, which already has a high workload.

The current forestry management system in Turkish forestry must be overlapped with the FSC quality system. By ensuring this overlap, it will be possible to run the system more smoothly.

If there is demand in the future, the “Double Certification” process, in which the FSC system is used together with the other requested system, can be tried. However, the demand situation must be taken into consideration in this regard. In other words, if there is a demand from the forest industry sector in this regard, the process should be initiated.

The “Regulation on deforestation-free products” (33), which was adopted by the EU Commission in April 2023 and given a transition period of 18 months as of June 29, 2023, has further increased the importance of certification. In addition, studies such as “Barcoding”, which has been made mandatory according to this regulation, need to be accelerated. Otherwise, problems will be encountered in the export of wood products to EU countries.

Our country’s forestry is rich in terms of NWFP potential, and attempts should be made to include potential products within the scope of certification in certified regions. This will pave the way for these products to enter new markets by creating higher added value.

A “Certification Workshop” should be held where the certification process is discussed in detail.

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