



FSC-SECR-0180

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MATTER

**FSC Controlled Wood Risk Assessment  
SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS**

INTERPRETATION OF ANNEX 2B OF FSC STANDARD FOR COMPANY EVALUATION OF FSC  
CONTROLLED WOOD FOR PORTUGAL  
(FSC-STD-40-005-V-2.1)

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**National approval:** Associação para uma Gestão Florestal Responsável

**International approval:** FSC International Center: Policy and Standards Unit

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**Summary of Risk Assessment for FSC Controlled Wood**

Controlled Wood Category		Risk Level
1	Illegally harvested wood	Low risk
2	Wood harvested in violation of traditional or civil rights	Low risk
3	Wood harvested from forests in which high conservation values (HCV) are threatened by management activities	Low risk
4	Wood harvested from areas being converted from forests and/or other wooded ecosystems to plantations or non-forest use	Low risk
5	Wood from forests in which genetically modified trees are planted	Low risk

## Background

FSC Controlled Wood Standard (FSC-STD-40-005) seeks to prevent the inclusion of unacceptable materials in FSC Mixed Source Products.

There are several options by which an FSC certified manufacturer or merchant can avoid purchasing material from unacceptable sources:

1. Purchase wood from forest management organizations certified according to the requirements of *FSC Standard for Wood Controlled by Forest Management Enterprises*, FSC-STD-30-010;
2. Purchase FSC Controlled Wood from suppliers who have a valid Chain of Custody certificate that includes FSC Controlled Wood in its scope; and/or
3. Verify their sources of supply internally, in accordance with the requirements of FSC-STD-40-005, *Standard for Company Evaluation of FSC Controlled Wood*.

For the above Option 3, the company must implement a verification program in order to determine whether the sources are “low risk” or “unspecified risk”. In situations in which a company is supplied from a country without a national risk assessment approved by FSC, a risk assessment of the suppliers made by the company may be used (in accordance with the process described in Annex 2 of FSC Controlled Wood Standard). In the case of countries with National Risk Assessments approved by FSC, their use is mandatory.

In compliance with Motion 51, approved in FSC’s General Assembly, it was decided to suspend risk assessments made by the company as of December 31, 2012. Due to that decision, the need has arisen to review FSC normative references related to controlled wood, and also the official procedures for performing and reviewing National Risk Assessments.

With the process of discontinuing risk assessments made by the company as of the end of 2012, the following situations will occur:

- Countries without a National Risk Assessment approved by FSC shall be considered as “unknown risk”.
- Regions and/or types of forests in a country not designated as “low risk” shall be considered as “unknown risk”.
- Controlled Wood categories not designated as “low risk” shall be considered as “unknown risk”.

For all sources coming from areas designated as “unknown risk”, the company must implement Annex 3 of standard FSC-STD-40-005: Verification Program.

Procedure FSC-PRO-60-002 specifies the requirements to be met by National Partners that wish to perform an FSC Controlled Wood Assessment<sup>1</sup>. This will be evaluated by FSC, and after being recognized, will become mandatory for the district and category concerned.

The advantage of this approach is that it allows enterprises supplied from the same district to use the same FSC Controlled Wood Risk Assessment, so as not to waste time or resources in repeating the risk assessment and verifying its consistency.

The present document is based on the National Risk Assessment accredited since March 2011, which was prepared in accordance with the guidelines available in procedure FSC-PRO-60-002 (V1.0), including the results of the technical sessions of Technical Commission/TC Chain of Custody & Controlled Wood and of the Working Groups/WG, National Interpretation Controlled Wood, and WG, National Interpretation High Conservation Value Forests, which began in 2007 and were extended through 2008 and 2009, centered first on the translation of the related standards (FSC-STD-30-0010, FSC-STD-40-004 and FSC-STD-40-005) and later on risk analysis and assessment for the five categories of Controlled Wood for continental Portugal, cross-referencing this analysis to the analysis related to High Conservation Value Forests.

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<sup>1</sup> In the last two General Assemblies of FSC International (2008 y 2011) several motions related to FSC Controlled Wood were passed. These motions led FSC IC to prioritize the technical work of reviewing the normative references and to promote a linkage to other ongoing technical reviews.

At the beginning of 2011, FSC Portugal agreed jointly with FSC Spain to be part of a project proposed by FSC IC to make an Iberian Risk Assessment. The project was carried out in two components: The first was completed in November 2011, after a documentary analysis of the accreditation procedure (FSC-PRO-60-002 *FSC Controlled Wood Risk Assessments by FSC accredited National Initiatives, National and Regional offices V2.0*) and of supporting manuals developed by NEPCo; the second was in the form of an Iberian workshop held in the first half of 2012, having as its objective, on the one hand, to arrive at a first classification for the Iberian Peninsula, and on the other, to put into practice the guidelines given in the supporting manuals.

This document includes the results of that workshop, held on May 29 and 30, 2012, in Pontevedra (Spain), and after the conclusion of the national public consultation, will later be put into a single Iberian document to be sent for accreditation by FSC IC.

## RISK ASSESSMENT FOR FSC CONTROLLED WOOD

This assessment is made for the five categories of FSC Controlled Wood, within the **geographic area** of continental Portugal and with the **district of origin** indicated for each of the categories. The risk assessment was made for all types of forest masses (natural, semi-natural and plantations).

### 1. Wood Harvested Illegally

**District:** Continental Portugal

Requirements	Sources of information	Key information	Conclusion
Criterion 1. The district of origin may be considered low risk in relation to illegal harvesting when <b>all</b> of the following indicators related to forest policies are present:			
1.1. Evidence of enforcement of forest harvest related laws in the district.	<a href="http://www.gnr.pt">www.gnr.pt</a> <a href="http://www.icnf.pt/florestas">www.icnf.pt/florestas</a> (previously <a href="http://www.afn.min-agricultura.pt">www.afn.min-agricultura.pt</a> ) <sup>2</sup> <a href="http://www.act.gov.pt">www.act.gov.pt</a> <a href="http://www.portaldasfinancas.gov.pt">www.portaldasfinancas.gov.pt</a>	Portugal has a broad set of laws related to the various forest activities and operations (( <a href="http://www.icnf.pt/florestas/outros/bases-dados-listas">http://www.icnf.pt/florestas/outros/bases-dados-listas</a> , previously <a href="http://www.afn.min-agricultura.pt/portal/outros/legislacao">www.afn.min-agricultura.pt/portal/outros/legislacao</a> ) In this sphere, there are several agencies with responsibility for prior authorization or subsequent supervision: the <i>National Forest Authority</i> , the <i>Municipal Chambers</i> , the <i>Authority for Working Conditions</i> and the <i>Tax and Customs Authority</i> . In addition, the <i>Nature and</i>	Regarding this indicator, Portugal can be considered a <b>low risk</b> area.

<sup>2</sup> Although the new Organic Law for the Ministry of Agriculture, the Ocean, the Environment and Land Use Planning, which is based on the assumption of a merger between the *National Forest Authority* (AFN for its initials in Portuguese) and the *Institute for Conservation of Nature and Biodiversity* (ICNB for its initials in Portuguese), in a new entity – *Institute for Conservation of Nature and Forests* (ICNF, for its initials in Portuguese), was published in the *Diario de la República* (DL 7/2012, 17-01), this document maintains the old designations of the sites as sources of information, since as of the date of preparation of this analysis they were still active.

Requirements	Sources of information	Key information	Conclusion
		<p><i>Environmental Protection Service</i> (SEPNA for its initials in Portuguese) is a specialization of the <i>Republican National Guard</i>, created in January 2001 to defend the natural and environmental heritage. Institutionally, it was created in February 2006 by Decree-Law No. 22/2006. Since then, the number of supervisory missions regarding protection of nature and the environment, in cooperation with the entities that have legal jurisdiction in this area, has increased, broadening cooperation to include protection of wildlife, fisheries and forests, thus strengthening SEPNA's capability for oversight and supervision within the nation's territory.</p> <p>The system instituted provides for two different scenarios for cases of illegality:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Prosecution-crime, with the participation of the Public Prosecutor's Office; and</li> <li>- Contravention of regulations, which, depending on the case, is the concern of the police, SEPNA and/or the AFN.</li> </ul> <p>In both scenarios, while prosecutions are ongoing, confidentiality must be ensured. After they are concluded, part of the information may be made available to the public.</p>	

Requirements	Sources of information	Key information	Conclusion
<p>1.2. There is evidence in the district demonstrating the legality of harvests and wood purchases that includes robust and effective systems for granting licenses and harvesting permits.</p>	<p><a href="http://www.icnf.pt/florestas">www.icnf.pt/florestas</a> (previously <a href="http://www.afn.min-agricultura.pt">www.afn.min-agricultura.pt</a>)</p> <p><a href="http://www.icnf.pt/cn/ICNPortal/vPT2007/">http://www.icnf.pt/cn/ICNPortal/vPT2007/</a> (previously <a href="http://www.icnb.pt">www.icnb.pt</a>)<sup>3</sup></p> <p><a href="http://www.asae.pt">www.asae.pt</a></p> <p><a href="http://www.gnr.pt">www.gnr.pt</a></p> <p><a href="http://www.psp.pt">www.psp.pt</a></p> <p><a href="http://www.imtt.pt">www.imtt.pt</a></p> <p><a href="http://www.portaldasfinancas.gov.pt">www.portaldasfinancas.gov.pt</a></p>	<p>Inasmuch as this indicator complements the previous indicator with a focus on the existence of legislation, the conclusion is that in Portugal there is a robust legal system that includes forest harvesting and wood purchasing activities, with responsibility shared among various regulatory bodies. Examples of this are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– <i>DL 173/88, 17-05 – Prohibition of premature logging of forest populations (AFN)</i></li> <li>– <i>DL 174/88, 17-05 – Declaration of logging or harvesting trees (AFN)</i></li> <li>– <i>DL 169/2001, 25-05 – Establishes measures for protection of the cork oak and holm oak (AFN)</i></li> <li>– <i>DL 95/2011, 08-08 – Establishes extraordinary phytosanitary measures indispensable for the control of the pinewood nematode and its insect vector.</i></li> <li>– <i>DL 423/89, 04-12 – System for protection of spontaneous growth holm oaks</i></li> <li>– <i>Mandatory documentation of transport (national and international) – transportation waybills and CRM, applicable to all goods in movement and subsequently (Decree-Law No. 45/89, 11-02) (Traffic Brigade)</i></li> </ul>	<p>Regarding this indicator, Portugal can be considered a <b>low risk</b> area.</p>

<sup>3</sup> See footnote on the previous page

Requirements	Sources of information	Key information	Conclusion
<p>1.3. There is little or no evidence or reporting of illegal harvesting in the district of origin.</p>	<p><a href="http://www.gnr.pt">www.gnr.pt</a></p> <p><a href="http://www.portugal.gov.pt/pt/os-ministerios/ministerio-da-justica.aspx">www.portugal.gov.pt/pt/os-ministerios/ministerio-da-justica.aspx</a></p> <p><a href="http://ec.europa.eu/environment/forests/">http://ec.europa.eu/environment/forests/</a></p> <p><a href="http://www.illegal-logging.info">www.illegal-logging.info</a></p> <p>www.provedor-jus.pt</p>	<p>In consultations with various national and international sources, no reports or significant evidence were found of illegal forest harvesting.</p>	<p>Regarding this indicator, Portugal can be considered a <b>low risk area</b>.</p>
<p>1.4. There is a low perception of corruption related to the granting or issuing of harvesting permits and other areas of law enforcement related to harvesting and wood trade.</p>	<p><a href="http://www.transparency.org">www.transparency.org</a></p>	<p>In Transparency International's classification of the Corruption Perceptions Index (2011) made in 2011, Spain appears with a score of 6.1 A turnaround has been verified in the negative trend recorded in recent years for the perception of corruption in Portugal.</p>	<p>Regarding this indicator, Portugal can be considered a <b>low risk area</b>.</p>

## 2. Wood harvested in violation of traditional or civil rights

**District:** Continental Portugal

Requirements	Sources of information	Key information	Conclusion
<p>Criterion 2. The district of origin may be considered low risk in relation to violation of traditional and civil rights when all of the following indicators are present:</p>			
<p>2.1. There is no United Nations Security Council ban on timber exports from the country concerned.</p>	<p><a href="http://www.un.org">www.un.org</a> <a href="http://www.globalwitness.org">www.globalwitness.org</a></p>	<p>Information about United Nations Security Council bans on exports can be found on the web pages of the United Nations and <i>Global Witness</i>. There is no UN Security Council ban on timber exports from Portugal shown on these sites.</p>	<p>Regarding this indicator, Portugal can be considered a <b>low risk area</b>.</p>
<p>2.2. The country or district is not designated a source of conflict timber.</p>	<p><a href="http://www.usaid.gov">www.usaid.gov</a> - <i>Conflict Timber: Dimension of the Problem in Asia and Africa. Volume I. Synthesis Report. June 2003</i></p>	<p>The sources suggested by FSC IC and other consultations made on-line do not designate Portugal as a source of conflict timber.</p>	<p>Regarding this indicator, Portugal can be considered a <b>low risk area</b>.</p>
<p>2.3. There is no evidence of child labor or violation of ILO Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work taking place in forest areas in the district concerned.</p>	<p><a href="http://www.ilo.org">www.ilo.org</a> <a href="http://www.act.pt">www.act.pt</a> <a href="http://www.peti.gov.pt">www.peti.gov.pt</a> <a href="http://www.cnasti.pt">www.cnasti.pt</a></p>	<p>Portugal is a signatory to several ILO Conventions: 29, 87, 97, 98, 100, 105, 11, 131, 135, 138, 141, 144, 155 and 182, which include those related to Child Labor. Since September 2009, Portugal has a new program, the Program for Inclusion and Citizenship (PIEC for its initials in Portuguese), a new structure that replaces the PETI. This program is the result of the strengthening of the objectives in the</p>	<p>Regarding this indicator, Portugal can be considered a <b>low risk area</b>.</p>

Requirements	Sources of information	Key information	Conclusion
		<p>area of social inclusion of children and young people and the transfer of responsibilities for preventing and combating child labor from the PETI to the ACT, which was done through Decree-Law No. 229/2009 of the 14<sup>th</sup> of September.</p> <p>The most recent report by the ACT, in 2007, states that the developments seen in this area are manifestly positive. In 1997, for each one thousand specific inspections made of work sites considered to be a risk in this regard, 114.23 minors were found, whereas in 2007 that indicator had become practically negligible (0.13). In conclusion, this shows that child labor in the forest sector in Portugal is very low.</p>	
<p>2.4. There are recognized and equitable processes in place to resolve conflicts of substantial magnitude pertaining to traditional rights, including use rights, cultural interests or traditional cultural identity in the district concerned.</p>	<p><a href="http://www.portugal.gov.pt/pt/os-ministerios/ministerio-da-justica.aspx">www.portugal.gov.pt/pt/os-ministerios/ministerio-da-justica.aspx</a></p> <p><a href="http://www.portaldasfinancas.gov.pt">www.portaldasfinancas.gov.pt</a></p>	<p>The system and legal measures to resolve conflicts related to traditional rights are considered to be effective and comply with what is required by FSC.</p>	<p>Regarding this indicator, Portugal can be considered a <b>low risk area</b>.</p>
<p>2.5. There is no evidence of violation of ILO Convention 169 on Indigenous and Tribal Peoples taking place in the forest areas in the district concerned.</p>		<p>There are no indigenous peoples in Portugal, as defined by the United Nations.</p>	<p>This indicator is <b>not applicable</b> to Portugal.</p>

### **3. Wood harvested from forests in which high conservation values (HCV) are threatened by management activities.**

#### **District:** Continental Portugal

For the risk assessment of this category, an assessment should first be made as to whether there are any high conservation values threatened by forest management activities at the ecoregional level. The next step is to identify whether the forest management activities are one of the threats, at the district level, for the High Conservation Value identified.

The concept of High Conservation Value Forests was introduced by FSC in 1999. It diverges from definitions of forest types or harvesting methods to focus on the identification of exceptional values that convert the forest ecosystems concerned into conservation terms. This concept is expressed in Principle 9, with the presumption that it should be implemented in four phases: identification, consultation, management measures and monitoring, which correspond to the four Criteria of this Principle.

*Identification* of High Conservation Value Forests (HCVF) is based on the following attributes (HVCA):

- HCVA1 – Forest areas containing globally, regionally or nationally significant concentrations of biodiversity values (e.g. endemism, endangered species, protected areas)<sup>4</sup>
- HCVA2 – Forest areas containing globally, regionally or nationally significant large landscape level forests, where viable populations of most if not all naturally occurring species exist in natural patterns of distribution and abundance (e.g. grazed forest areas where raptor birds and other characteristic species are present).
- HCVA3 – Forest areas that are in or contain rare, threatened or endangered ecosystems (e.g. chestnut groves in the Monchique Mountains, Mediterranean temporary ponds).
- HCVA4 – Forest areas that provide basic environmental services in critical situations (e.g. watershed protection, erosion control and soil conservation)<sup>5</sup>
- HCVA5 – Forest areas fundamental to meeting basic needs of local communities (e.g. subsistence, health).
- HCVA6 – Forest areas critical to local communities' traditional cultural identity (areas of cultural, economic or religious significance identified in cooperation with such local communities).

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<sup>4</sup> The HCVA1 attributes are divided into 1.1. Classified areas; 1.2. Threatened and endangered species; 1.3. Endemic species; and 1.4. Critical areas with seasonal concentrations of species.

<sup>5</sup> The HSVA4 attributes are divided into 4.1. Areas essential to maintenance of watershed basins; 4.2. Areas essential to erosion control; and 4.3. Areas resistant to forest fires.

A High Conservation Value Forest is one that meets one or more of the 6 attributes.

The requirements of FSC IC, in terms of Controlled Wood, are that forest management activities shall not place at risk or threaten the HCV, at the same time that in terms of Forest Management Certification, Principle 9 requires the maintenance and enhancement of the HCVs present.

FSC IC gives the following sources of information as references for identification of ecoregions at the district level:

- **Conservation International** ([http://www.conservation.org/where/europe\\_central\\_asia/Pages/priorities.aspx](http://www.conservation.org/where/europe_central_asia/Pages/priorities.aspx))
  - a. Regions identified as *High Biodiversity Wilderness Areas*, defined as forests that contain forest ecosystems with more than 500 km<sup>2</sup>.
  - b. Regions identified as *Biodiversity Hotspots*

or

Ecosystems and communities explicitly identified as key components of a *Biodiversity Hotspot*.

Key information: The Mediterranean basin is the largest of the five Mediterranean climatic regions in the world and extends, from west to east, from Portugal to Jordan, and from north to south, from northern Italy to Morocco. It surrounds the whole Mediterranean Sea, with a total area of 2,085,292 km<sup>2</sup>, including parts of Spain, France, the Balkans, Greece, Turkey, Syria, Lebanon, Israel, Egypt, Libya, Tunisia and Algeria, as well as about five thousand islands scattered throughout the Mediterranean Sea. Towards the western part of the continent, the hotspot also includes the islands of Macaronesia: the Canary Islands, Madeira, the Savage Islands, the Azores and the Cape Verde Islands.

- **World Conservation Union (IUCN)** – regions identified as Centers of Plant Diversity  
Key information: The Centers of Plant Diversity (CPD) were created in 1998 as a result of a joint classification between WWF and the IUCN. The purpose of this initiative was to identify the areas of highest conservation value in the world, regarding the largest number of plant species. In 1998, there were 234 Centers of Plant Diversity registered throughout the world, including the Mediterranean basin. In this case also, the Mediterranean basin was identified as one of the principal world centers of plant diversity, where 10% of the world's plants can be found in an area that represents 1.6% of the earth's surface. These areas were later designated as *Important Plant Areas* (IPA) and grouped under various forms of legal protection, including the Natura 2000 Network.

- **World Resources Institute** ([http://multimedia.wri.org/frontier\\_forest\\_maps/euroruss.html](http://multimedia.wri.org/frontier_forest_maps/euroruss.html)) – Regions identified as *Frontier Forest*  
Key information: No Frontier Forests have been identified in Portugal.
- **Greenpeace** ([www.intactforests.org](http://www.intactforests.org)) – Regions identified as *Intact Forest Landscapes*.  
Key information: No areas classified as *Intact Forest Landscapes* have been identified in Portugal.
- **WWF** – Ecoregions (jungles, forests or mangroves) identified by WWF as one of the *Global 200 Ecoregions* and classified with a Conservation Status of threatened or critical.  
Key information: There are two ecoregions in Portugal defined by WWF: *Temperate Broadleaf & Mixed Forest* and *Mediterranean Forests, Woodlands and Scrub*. In national terms, the percentage of the territory occupied by *Temperate Broadleaf & Mixed Forest* is almost insignificant and is not identified by WWF as endangered. A detailed description of the HCVs associated with the second ecoregion can be found on the WWF website [www.panda.org/about\\_our\\_earth/ecoregions/mediterranean\\_forests\\_scrub.cfm](http://www.panda.org/about_our_earth/ecoregions/mediterranean_forests_scrub.cfm)).

The principal threats indicated by WWF include continued conversion of these wooded areas to agriculture, pastures or urban areas. They also include frequent fires, wood harvested in remaining patches of natural forests, the use of exotic species and excessive grazing. Following the same position as that taken by FSC Spain, it can be seen that the principal threat to forest areas in Portugal is not forest management, but rather the lack of it.

- Key information: The **Natura 2000 Network** is an ecological network for the European Union Community area that resulted from the application of Directives No. 79/409/CEE (Directive on Birds) and No. 92/43/CEE (Directive on Habitats). Their purpose is to ensure long-term conservation of the most endangered species and habitats in Europe and to contribute toward halting the loss of biodiversity. It is the principal instrument for conservation of nature in the European Union. In Portugal, in undertaking implementation of the Directive on *Habitats*, 3 biogeographical regions were identified: the Atlantic, the Mediterranean and Macaronesia. The habitats present in each of them were identified, and the priority habitats were selected. Fact sheets on ecological characterization and management of natural values were prepared for each of these habitats, containing the ecological characterization, identification of threats to maintaining them, the conservation objectives to be achieved and the management guidelines needed to ensure mid-term and long-term conservation of the natural values.

Requirements	Sources of information	Key information	Conclusion
<p>Criterion 3: The district of origin may be considered low risk in relation to threats to high conservation values if:</p> <p>a) indicator 3.1 is met, or</p> <p>b) indicator 3.2 eliminates (or greatly mitigates) the threat posed to the district of origin by non-compliance with 3.1.</p>			
<p>3.1. Forest management activities in the relevant level (ecoregion, sub-ecoregion, local) do not threaten eco-regionally significant high conservation values.</p>	<p><a href="http://www.panda.org/about_our_earth/ecoregions/mediterranean_forests_scrub.cfm">www.panda.org/about_our_earth/ecoregions/mediterranean_forests_scrub.cfm</a></p> <p><a href="http://www.icnf.pt/cn/ICNPportal/vPT2007/">www.icnf.pt/cn/ICNPportal/vPT2007/</a> (previously <a href="http://www.icnb.pt">www.icnb.pt</a>)</p> <p><a href="http://www.worldheritagesite.org/countries/portugal.html">http://www.worldheritagesite.org/countries/portugal.html</a></p>	<p>By analyzing the HCVs category by category, the following conclusions were reached:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- HCV1 and 3 – are present both in Portugal and in Spain and are protected by specific legislation (National Network of Protected Areas and Natura 2000 Network)</li> <li>- HCV2 – is also present (the largest patch of cork oak and holm oak trees anywhere in the world) and is also protected by specific legislation (DL 169/2001, 25-05)</li> <li>- HCV4 – is also present, and in this case also, the conservation values that could potentially be present are safeguarded by specific legislation (<i>DL 166/2008, 22-08, National Ecological Reserve</i>)</li> <li>- HCV 5 – is not present on the Iberian Peninsula</li> <li>- HCV6 – these were considered to be the forest</li> </ul>	<p>In Portugal, indicator 3.1 is considered an <b>unspecified risk</b>.</p> <p>In Portugal, indicator 3.1 is considered an <b>unspecified risk</b>.</p>

Requirements	Sources of information	Key information	Conclusion
		<p>areas classified as World Heritage<sup>6</sup></p> <p>As indicated in the <i>2nd Progress Report on "Characterization of Forest Intervention Zones"</i>, one of the principal objectives of national forest policy is to give more dynamism to private forest management and its association for a common management. In this context, the FIZs take on particular importance as instruments of a forest policy that seeks to guarantee efficient management of forest landscape areas and a coherent application of public supports for forest development. At present, there are 157 FIZs established, with a total area of 801,163 ha, and about 20,000 owners who belong to 62 Management Bodies<sup>7</sup>. However, only 9% of Portugal (12.5% of the total</p>	<p>In Portugal, indicator 3.1 is considered an <b>unspecified risk</b>.</p>

<sup>6</sup> As of the date of preparation of this document, the forest areas classified as World Heritage are the following: *Cultural Landscape of Sintra; Prehistoric Rock Art Site in the Foz Côa Valley, Laurisilva of Madeira, Douro Wine Region* and the *Landscape of Pico Island*. In addition, other areas have been requested and are awaiting a final decision (e.g. *Arrábida Mountains, Bussaco Mountains, Alentejo Coast*, etc.).

<sup>7</sup> As of the date of preparation of this document, and after consultation with the AFN, there were 161 published FIZs (846,127 ha) and 5 in the process of being established (14,064 ha).

Requirements	Sources of information	Key information	Conclusion
		<p>forest area) is included in the FIZs. Of the area included in the FIZs, not all is covered as yet by the Specific Forest Intervention Plans (PEIF for their initials in Portuguese) or the Forest Management Plan (PGF for its initials in Portuguese)<sup>8</sup>.</p>	
<p>3.2. A strong system of protection (effective protected areas and legislation) is in place that ensures survival of the HCVs in the ecoregion.</p>	<p><a href="http://www.icnf.pt/florestas">www.icnf.pt/florestas</a> (previously <a href="http://www.afn.min-agricultura.pt">www.afn.min-agricultura.pt</a>)</p> <p><a href="http://www.icnf.pt/cn/ICNPortal/vPT2007/">www.icnf.pt/cn/ICNPortal/vPT2007/</a> (previously <a href="http://www.icnb.pt">www.icnb.pt</a>)</p> <p><a href="http://www.gnr.pt">www.gnr.pt</a></p> <p><a href="http://www.govindicators.org">www.govindicators.org</a></p>	<p>The national legal system for conservation of nature is based on legal protection instruments (e.g. the National Network of Protected Areas, the Natura 2000 Network, etc.) that set the conditions for the activities that can take place in these areas.</p> <p>In addition to the legislation, Portugal has supervisory bodies, the ICNB and the SEPNA, with specific competencies regarding Nature Conservation.</p> <p>According to Directive FSC-DIR-40-005 (Advice #40-005-14, 2a), this indicator may be classified as low risk when a strong national system of protection of the High Conservation Values is in place.</p>	<p>Regarding indicator 3.2, Portugal can be considered a <b>low risk area</b>.</p> <p>This indicator classifies <b>Category 3 as low risk</b>.</p> <p>Regarding indicator 3.2, Portugal can be considered a <b>low risk area</b>.</p> <p>This indicator classifies <b>Category 3 as low risk</b>.</p>

<sup>8</sup> According to the AFN, in May 2012 there were 1,712 PGFs approved (comprising more than a million hectares) and 412 in the process of approval (240,446 ha).

Requirements	Sources of information	Key information	Conclusion
		<p>Although according to FSC IC, the definition of “strong” should be based on the effectiveness of law enforcement in the country, this can be shown by a rating of <math>\geq 75\%</math> in the World Bank “Rule of Law” index. Portugal has a rating of 83.41% (and Spain 86.73%).</p> <p>Therefore, it is considered that indicator 3.2 eliminates (or mitigates to a large degree) the potential threat identified in the previous indicator.</p>	

#### 4. Wood harvested from areas being converted from forest and other wooded ecosystems to plantations or non-forest uses

**District:** Continental Portugal

According to the last FAO report on *State of the World's Forests* (2011), there has been an increase in the forested area in Europe and this growth will probably be maintained because of continued expansion of forest resources on abandoned agricultural lands. As well, the joint report on Forest Europe by UNECE and FAO: *State of Europe's Forests 2011* says that in all the regions of Europe there has been an increase in the total forested area (5.1 million ha since 2005).

The national instruments for land use planning (RAN, REN, PEOT, PSOT, etc.), as well as the legislation applicable to the forest sector, establish a series of conditions and restrictions on forest management activities, including conditions for planting fast growing forest species, alterations in the use of the soil and burnt areas, legislation for protection of some species (cork oaks and holm oaks), and additional legislation in the case of interventions in classified areas (Network of Protected Areas and the Natura Network). More detailed information can be found by visiting <http://www.icnf.pt/florestas/outros/legislacao>.

Requirements	Sources of information	Key information	Conclusion
<p>Criterion 4: The district of origin may be considered low risk in relation to conversion of forest to plantations or non-forest uses when the following indicator is present:</p>			
<p>4.1. There is no net loss AND no significant rate of loss (&gt; 0.5% per year) of natural forests and other naturally wooded ecosystems, such as savannahs, taking place in the ecoregion in question.</p>	<p><a href="http://www.fao.org">http://www.fao.org</a>  <a href="http://www.icnf.pt/florestas">www.icnf.pt/florestas</a> (previously <a href="http://www.afn.min-agricultura.pt">www.afn.min-agricultura.pt</a>)  <a href="http://www.icnf.pt/cn/ICNPortal/vPT2007/">www.icnf.pt/cn/ICNPortal/vPT2007/</a> (previously <a href="http://www.icnb.pt">www.icnb.pt</a>)</p>	<p>According to the results of the last <i>National Forest Inventory</i>, in the decade 1995-2005, the forested area in the continental territory had a slight increase (3%).</p> <p>Some alterations in the specific composition were verified, with:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- large increases in pine tree areas (+68%),</li> </ul>	<p>Regarding this indicator, Portugal can be considered a <b>low risk area</b>.</p>

Requirements	Sources of information	Key information	Conclusion
		<p>deciduous oaks (+15%) and eucalyptus (+10%)</p> <p>- marked decreases in areas of chestnut trees (-26%), and other leafy trees (-19 %), holm oaks (-11%), maritime pines (- 9%) and other resinous species (-8%)</p> <p>- The areas of cork oaks have been maintained.</p> <p>In addition, with regard to implementation in Portugal of the Directive on <i>Habitats</i>, Natura 2000 Network's Sectorial Plan 2000 includes 88 fact sheets on natural habitats, 88 fact sheets on plant species and 125 on wildlife species. On each of the fact sheets, a characterization of the habitat in question is given, showing the distribution and relative abundance, although for a very prolonged time space.</p>	

## 5. Wood from forests in which genetically modified trees are planted

**District:** Continental Portugal

In order to ensure sustainable progress and safe use, the EU has established a broad regulatory framework for the purpose of ensuring protection of human health, the ecosystems and agriculture from potential risks associated with the use of chemicals and genetically modified organisms (GMO). Taking into account the possible risks that the release of GMOs into the environment represents for ecosystems, agriculture and human health, it is subject to strict national and community standards.

In this regard, the EU has been publishing legislation on GMOs since 1990. This legislation establishes standards and procedures regarding use, labeling and traceability. At present, the basic legislation that regulates the release into the environment of genetically modified organisms is Directive 2001/18/EC of the 12th of March, which took effect on October 17, 2002. This policy strengthens the security mechanism and establishes the principles applicable to environmental risk assessments, with the requirement of a follow-up plan after commercialization of GMOs and limitation of the authority for commercial use to a maximum period of 10 years.

In considering the expected uses, those identified to comply with the requirements are:

- Deliberate release of GMOs for experimental purposes (for example, field tests) - Directive 2001/18/EC (Part B);
- Commercial use of products that contain or are composed of genetically modified organisms (for example, growing, importing and processing food products and/or animals) - Directive 2001/18/EC (Part C).

Portugal transposed this Directive to its internal legal regulations through *Decree-law No. 72/2003, of the 10<sup>th</sup> of April*. In the terms of that regulation, the *Portuguese Environmental Agency* is the competent authority charged with decisions on the deliberate release into the environment of GMOs for any purpose other than commercialization and also the commercial use of products that contain or are made up of GMOs, in consultation with the General Directorate of Health (DGS for its initials in

Portuguese) and the General Directorate of Agriculture and Rural Development (DGADR, or its initials in Portuguese), in cases of genetically modified higher plants.

With regard to field tests with GMOs for experimental purposes, *Decree-Law No. 72/2003* established a specific authorization procedure that includes an analysis of the information submitted by the applicant, principally an assessment of the environmental risks, public consultation and a survey of agencies in charge of health and agriculture.

Requirements	Sources of information	Key information	Conclusion
<p>Criterion 5: The district of origin may be considered low risk in relation to wood from genetically modified trees when <u>one</u> of the following indicators is complied with:</p>			
<p>a) There is no commercial use of genetically modified trees of the species concerned taking place in the country or district concerned.</p>	<p><a href="http://www.apambiente.pt/">www.apambiente.pt/</a></p>	<p>---</p>	<p>Regarding this indicator, Portugal can be considered a low risk area. At this time, no genetically modified forest species are in commercial use.</p>

Requirements	Sources of information	Key information	Conclusion
<p>b) Licenses are required for commercial use of genetically modified trees and there are no licenses for commercial use.</p>	<p><a href="http://www.apambiente.pt/">www.apambiente.pt/</a></p>	<p>In Portugal, there are no licenses for commercial use of genetically modified trees. However, there is a record of the use of genetically modified trees (a test by Celbi concluded in 2001) – see list attached (GMO – Part B).</p>	<p>Regarding this indicator, Portugal can be considered a <b>low risk area</b>.</p>
<p>c) It is forbidden to use genetically modified trees commercially in the country concerned.</p>		<p>---</p>	<p>Regarding this indicator, the use of GMOs is not prohibited in Portugal, but is regulated legally and the corresponding authorizations are specified.</p>