

## **UN-REDD Programme – Civil Society Representative Nomination Form**

*Please limit response length to two pages. Nominations must be submitted to [csoselection@un-redd.org](mailto:csoselection@un-redd.org) by Friday, 11 September 2009. Self-nominations are accepted.*

1. Name of the candidate:

**Stefan Salvador**

2. Name of organization or network:

**Forest Stewardship Council (FSCI International Center GmbH)**

3. Title (if applicable):

...

4. Country:

**GERMANY**

5. Language(s) spoken:

**English, German**

6. Please describe the primary interests and functions of the organization and community/constituency that the candidate represents and what countries the organization is active in.

**Primary interests:**

**The Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) is a nongovernmental, non-profit organization that promotes the responsible management of the world's forests. Established in 1993 as a response to concerns over global deforestation, FSC is widely regarded as one of the most important initiatives of the last decade to promote responsible forest management worldwide.**

**Functions:**

**FSC uses certification to engage the market, driving recognition of the value of forests to improve social and environmental standards in forest management practices worldwide. FSC provides internationally recognized standard setting, trademark assurance and accreditation services for companies, organizations and communities interested in responsible forestry.**

**FSC has defined ten principles that describe how forests have to be managed to meet the social, economic, ecological, cultural and spiritual needs of present and future generations. FSC's standards are the highest social and environmental requirements in the forestry sector and they have been proven to work across continents, forest types, sizes and ownership.**

**FSC is the only certification system in forestry recognized by the International Social and Environmental Accreditation and Labelling Alliance (ISEAL) to follow best-practice in standard setting – the international reference for setting credible voluntary social and environmental standards.**

The FSC logo and on-product labels have become the globally trusted mark for businesses and consumers looking for forest products that benefit people, the environment and that also provide ongoing business value.

**Constituency:**

FSC was founded on the basis of a balanced representation of the Northern and Southern countries. FSC is a membership association open to a wide range of organizations and individuals representing social, economic and environmental interests. FSC's membership consists of three chambers: Social, Environmental and Economic, which is further split into sub-chambers North and South. All members should demonstrate an active commitment to FSC and its Principles and Criteria.

The *Social Chamber* includes non-profit, non-governmental organizations, indigenous peoples associations, unions as well as research, academic, technical institutions and individuals that have a demonstrated commitment to socially beneficial forestry. This means that they support forest management and believe in delivering forest products to the market in a way that does not infringe on the rights of other stakeholders.

The *Environmental Chamber* includes non-profit, non-governmental organizations, as well as research, academic, technical institutions and individuals that have an active interest in environmentally viable forest stewardship.

The *Economic Chamber* includes organizations and individuals with a commercial interest. Examples are employees, certification bodies, industry and trade associations (whether profit or non-profit), wholesalers, retailers, traders, consumer associations, and consulting companies. Applicants with economic interests must have demonstrated active commitment to implementing FSC Principles and Criteria in their operations.

There are presently more than 830 FSC members, with an almost equal number from the South and the North.

**Countries active:**

FSC is nationally represented in more than 50 countries around the world through its decentralized network of National Initiatives and Regional Offices. A National Initiative can be a contact person, working group or permanent office promoting FSC in the country. They provide information about FSC, run marketing campaigns and support forest managers and manufacturers to use the FSC tool. They often also support the development of national, sub-national and regional standards. Regional Offices act as service centers for National Initiatives by providing training programs. They also support FSC processes in countries without National Initiatives.

FSC is currently having representation in the following countries:

**AFRICA**

Burkina Faso  
Cameroon  
Cote D'Ivoire  
Dem. Republic of Congo  
Ethiopia

**Gabon  
Ghana  
Kenya  
Morocco  
Mozambique  
Republic of Congo  
Senegal  
South Africa  
Tanzania  
Uganda  
Zambia**

**ASIA-PACIFIC**

**Australia  
China  
Fiji  
India  
Japan  
Malaysia  
Nepal  
Papua New Guinea  
Sri Lanka  
Vietnam**

**EUROPE**

**Belgium  
Bulgaria  
Czech Republic  
Denmark  
Estonia  
Finland  
France  
Germany  
Ireland  
Italy  
Luxembourg  
Netherlands  
Norway  
Poland  
Portugal  
Romania  
Russia  
Slovakia  
Spain  
Sweden  
Switzerland  
Ukraine  
United Kingdom**

## **LATIN AMERICA**

**Bolivia  
Brazil  
Chile  
Colombia  
Ecuador  
Guatemala  
Honduras  
Mexico  
Nicaragua  
Peru**

## **NORTH AMERICA**

**Canada  
USA**

**Over 115 million hectares are FSC certified in over 78 countries around the world – the equivalent of roughly 7% of the world’s production forests. 15 million hectares of tropical forest are FSC certified, representing 14 percent of the total global area certified to the FSC Principles and Criteria. However, the number of certificates paints a different picture: one in five certificates lies in the tropics. The top three countries with the highest total area are Brazil, Bolivia and the Republic of Congo.**

7. Describe briefly the organization’s experience gathering and representing the diverse viewpoints of a range of communities or organizations, and disseminating and coordinating information and communications among a network of communities or organizations.

### **Gathering and representing diverse viewpoints**

**FSC’s policies are developed through a democratic, transparent and inclusive decision-making process that involves the participation of all interest groups related to forests and forest management. Forest stakeholders are empowered to come together and seek a consensus on the future of the world’s forests through the FSC system. Equal voting weight is given to three chambers representing social, environmental and economic interests from the South and the North. Members of the three chambers meet and vote on the direction and activities of FSC at the FSC General Assembly held once every three years.**

**While FSC strives to embrace all stakeholders, members at the FSC Annual Conference in 1999 decided to give special attention to indigenous peoples, forests workers, communities and owners of small and low intensity forest operations.**

**FSC has also strived to engage the South in its policy consultation process. This is evident from the Southern representation in various FSC’s Working Groups including those for High Conservation Value forests, Small Scale and Low Intensity Managed Forests and Plantation Policy. FSC’s commitment to social issues is reflected in its vision for socially beneficial forestry and further emphasised in the FSC Social Strategy.**

### **Disseminating and coordinating information and communications**

**FSC offers several ways for its members and stakeholders to stay informed. All interested parties may subscribe to weekly news updates which give an overview of international news**

and other updates. Additionally, FSC publishes a monthly newsletter called News & Notes which offers a monthly overview on national and international news, market and institutional developments, forest certification, membership and more.

FSC also provides access to intranet discussion forums and additional resources to FSC members, FSC National Initiatives and other FSC network groups, including dedicated working groups.

FSC has particularly reached out to Southern stakeholders the last few years. Highlights include:

- Guidance on the interpretation of FSC Principles 2 and 3 relating to local communities and Indigenous Peoples with specific reference to challenges in the South
- Development of stepwise approaches to forest certification, improving access to certification for forests in the South
- A full review of the FSC plantations policy, focusing on its application in the South
- A communication program focusing on promoting uptake of FSC certification by small scale and low intensity forest operations in Latin America
- A major project, funded by the Global Environment Facility, to facilitate certification for responsible management in tropical High Conservation Value Forests (HCVF)
- Activities to develop social impact indicators in the South

8. Describe briefly your organization's background and experience with multilateral agency programs, social and environmental issues related to forests, and the role of forests in response to climate change, including REDD.

**Experience with multilateral agency programs:**

FSC has been closely involved in multilateral agency programs aiming at supporting sustainable forest management in the tropics. Some examples of this involvement are:

**1. GEF project - Improved certification systems for sustainable tropical forest management**

EXECUTING PARTNER(S): CIFOR; FSC National Initiatives in Brazil, Cameroon and Mexico; ProForest.

This four year project aims to develop tools and incentives to help small forest managers, communities and NTFP collectors in the tropics to identify and protect biodiversity in the forests they manage through certification, whilst continuing to meet their own management objectives.

**2. GTZ PPP-NI - Strengthening FSC National Initiatives to improve tropical forest management**

This four year project aims to optimize FSC's influence on policy decision-making and regulatory institutions for responsible forest management, focusing on the Amazon, the Congo Basin and China. It will build and strengthen the capacity of FSC National Initiatives in these strategic regions to deliver services and enhance their ability to generate revenues.

Project partners: GTZ, IKEA, FSC Global Fund, Accreditation Services International (ASI)

**3. Certification of forest contractors (CeFCo)**

The project will develop a concept for the certification of forest contractors and small forest operations in four countries in Europe. Awareness raising, training and promotion will follow at the national and European level.

**Project Partners:** Nature, Ecology and People Consult (NEPCon), European Network of Forest Entrepreneurs (ENFE), European Union

#### **4. Capacity Building for Sustainable Forest Management and Certification in Africa**

A four year project with multiple partners – successfully implemented and ended June 2009.

**Project Partners:** DANIDA, DGIS, Novib-Oxfam

**5. In development: GEF project – Expanding FSC Certification at Landscape-level through Incorporating Additional Eco-system Services.**

**COUNTRY(IES):** Chile, Indonesia, Nepal, Vietnam

**EXECUTING PARTNER(S):** CIFOR, RECOFTC, LEI, Pustanling-MOF, WARSI, Tropical Forest Trust – in Indonesia; ANSAB – in Nepal; FSC National Initiative – in Chile; MARD – in Vietnam.

**GEF Focal Area (s):** Biodiversity

**GEF-4 Strategic program(s):** BD-SP5 ‘fostering markets for biodiversity goods and services’, BD-SP4 ‘strengthening the policy and regulatory framework for mainstreaming biodiversity in production sectors’, and partly BD-SP8 ‘building capacity on access & benefit sharing’ & CC – SP6 ‘management of LULUCF’

#### **Experience with social and environmental issues related to forests:**

##### **SOCIAL ISSUES:**

Indigenous peoples, local communities and workers look to certification as a way to improve their social situation. This includes improving livelihoods via access to ‘ecological markets’ access, higher prices, increased market share and other economic benefits. There have already been a number of success stories involving FSC certification’s contribution to these groups meeting their goals.

Certification in the context of sustainable development has been shown to offer more than market benefits – these are of equal, or in some cases, greater importance. One example is the benefit to workers from improved working conditions. Another is the recognition of indigenous peoples land claims.

Strong social standards have been incorporated into the FSC system. The clearest examples being Principles 2, 3,4, and 5:

- **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.

- **Principle 3: Indigenous People’s Rights**

The legal and customary rights of indigenous peoples to own, use and manage their lands, territories, and resources shall be recognised and respected.

- **Principle 4: Well-being of Forest Workers and Local Communities**

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

- **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

The FSC Social Strategy identifies objectives and activities to put FSC's social values into practice. The overall aim of the FSC Social Strategy is to make forest certification more accessible and responsive to the needs of its social constituents so as to bring about an improvement in welfare and conservation of the environment for these groups.

#### **ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES:**

FSC certification prioritizes the protection of especially valuable forest areas which includes both ecological and social values. To achieve this, FSC developed the concept of High Conservation Value Forest (HCVF). HCVFs are forests of outstanding and critical importance. This could be due to the presence of endangered wildlife, or an unusually high number of rare plant species. Or it could be because the forest is of critical importance to local people because it provides them with food, water, income or sites of cultural significance. Principle 9 of the FSC Principles and Criteria requires that forests with High Conservation Values (HCVs) increase or at the very least maintain these values.

There are six types of High Conservation Value Forests (HCVFs) as recognized by the FSC system:

1. Globally, regionally or nationally significant concentrations of biodiversity values
2. Globally, regionally or nationally significant large landscape-level forests
3. Forest areas that are in or contain rare, threatened or endangered ecosystems
4. Forest areas that provide basic services of nature in critical situations
5. Forest areas fundamental to meeting basic needs of local communities
6. Forest areas critical to local communities' traditional cultural identity

Beyond the maintenance of HCVFs that is addressed in Principle 9, FSC has incorporated rigid requirements for the following in Principle 6: 'Environmental impact'.

- Reduction of environmental impact of logging activities
- Maintenance of the ecological functions and integrity of the forest
- Prohibit conversion of forests or any other natural habitat
- Prohibit the use of hazardous chemicals
- Setting aside representative examples of forest ecosystems for conservations purposes
- Use of exotic species
- Controlling erosion and protection water resources

#### **Experience with the role of forests in response to climate change:**

FSC as a global system can provide a solid foundation from which to address many of the challenges around the role of forests for mitigating and adapting to climate change.

FSC Forest Management standards are currently in many regions the only tools available to ensure that forest-based claims do not come at the expense of other environmental and social values. Their consistent and rigid application on the basis of auditing tools has put FSC in the position not only to verify claims of biodiversity conservation and social justice but also, in principle, to allow the monitoring and verifying of carbon benefits.

The main assets FSC has to offer to put carbon management and carbon crediting into the context and harmonize with other uses and values of the forest are the following:

- FSC is built upon a governance model that ensures the balanced representation of societal interests as well as fair North-South representation on the international level. At national level, FSC requires the involvement of all forest stakeholders for national forest management indicators to be recognized under the FSC Principles & Criteria. At forest level, certification processes include the identification of and consultation with affected forest stakeholders to ensure that their interests are adequately considered and potential impacts effectively addressed in management planning and implementation.
- FSC standards incorporate multiple mechanisms that are compatible with increasing or maintaining forest-based carbon stores (restoration of degraded forests, maintaining carbon-rich soil structures, and ensuring that harvest volumes never exceed growth).
- FSC standards incorporate strong requirements to ensure social justice, including establishment and recognition of the rights of people living in and around the forests, participation of local stakeholders in management decision-making, and allocation of benefits from forest projects to local communities.
- FSC standards include requirements to protect environmental values of the forests, including maintaining areas of high conservation value and restricting conversion from natural forests to other land uses including plantations.
- FSC provides on-the-ground, project-level credibility for claims (e.g. verification of carbon measurement and monitoring) that can additionally link remote-sensing claims with ground-verified measurements.

9. Describe the financial, technical and/or advisory arrangements your organization has with the UN-REDD Programme, as well as the governments of the UN-REDD pilot countries, NGOs, or private sector organizations as they pertain to the UN-REDD process.

**Financial, technical and/or advisory arrangements with  
... the UN-REDD Programme**

NONE

**...governments of the UN-REDD pilot countries**

NONE

**Note:**

Article 32<sup>o</sup> of the Peruvian Forestry Law includes provisions for promoting voluntary certification of forest products coming from well-managed forests, by establishing a percentage reduction on the annual harvesting fees for concessions that have achieved



certification. The reduction goes up to 50% when the forest management certificate is efficiently linked to a supply chain.

...NGOs or private sector organizations (as they pertain to the UN-REDD process)

NONE

*Please send completed form to [csoselection@un-redd.org](mailto:csoselection@un-redd.org)*