



HCV-HCSA assessments

Preparatory Cluster 8 - Halting Deforestation & Peatland Protection and Conservation

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Paulina Villalpando, Executive Director, HCV Network



**A Renewed Commitment to
Achieving Market Transformation**



RSPO Principles & Criteria 2018



- **Principle 7.** Protect, conserve and enhance ecosystems and the environment
 - **7.12** Land clearing does not cause deforestation or damage any area required to protect or enhance High Conservation Values (HCVs) or High Carbon Stock (HCS) forests. HCVs and HCS forests in the managed area are identified and protected or enhanced.
 - **7.12.2 (C)** HCVs, HCS forests and other conservation areas are identified as follows:
 - **7.12.2 b:** Any new land clearing (in existing plantations or new plantings) after 15 November 2018 is preceded by an **HCV-HCS assessment**, using the **HCSA Toolkit** and the **HCV-HCSA Assessment Manual**. This will include stakeholder consultation and take into account wider landscape-level considerations.

Collaboration between HCVRN & HCSA

- Both organisations collaborate since **2013**
- **2014** - HCV-HCS-FPIC Integration WG
- **2016** - HCVRN's Management Committee and HCSA's Executive Committee agree to:
 - Develop HCV-HCSA Assessment Manual
 - Carry out quality assurance of HCV-HCSA assessment reports via HCVRN's Assessor Licensing Scheme (ALS)
- **2017** - HCV-HCSA Assessment Manual
- **2018** - HCV-HCSA assessments required in RSPO P&Cs



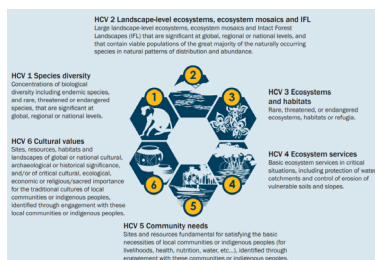
The HCV & HCS approaches

HCV – developed in 1990's

- Non-forest & forest ecosystems
- Primary forests, Intact Forest Landscapes (IFLs) and forests containing HCVs

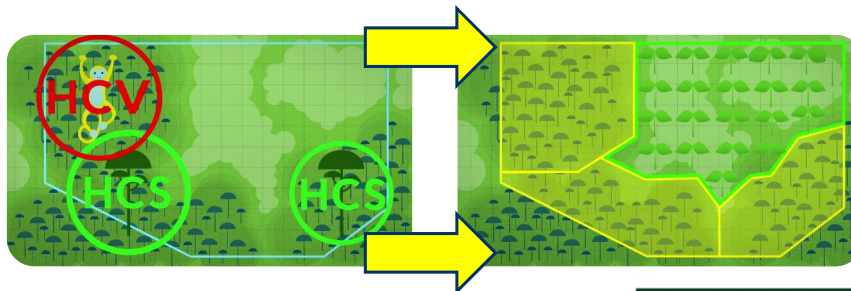
HCSA – developed in 2013

- Fragmented tropical forest landscapes
- Peat, Young Regenerating Forests
- Methodology includes the HCV approach



HCV-HCSA assessments

- Led by ALS-licensed Assessors who must follow the HCV-HCSA Assessment Manual (5 languages)
- Result:
 - Report with identified HCVs, peat, HCS forests, community lands, and
 - M&M recommendations



HCV-HCSA Assessment Manual

- For use in fragmented landscapes (<80% forest cover)
 - Not for smallholders
 - Not for application in High Forest Cover Landscapes
- Must be used along:
 - Common Guidance for HCV Identification
 - HCS Approach Toolkit V2
 - HCV Assessor Licensing Scheme (ALS) templates & documents



HCSA's 3 steps

- **Step 1:** company's responsibility
- **Step 2:** responsibility of Licensed Assessor. Quality Assurance by HCVRN's ALS.
- **Step 3:** company's responsibility

1.5 THE HCV-HCSA ASSESSMENT IN THE WIDER HCSA

Figure 1 shows how the integrated assessment fits into the larger HCS approach.

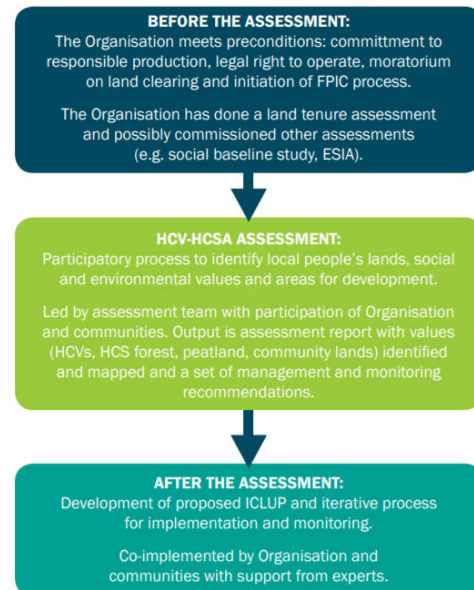
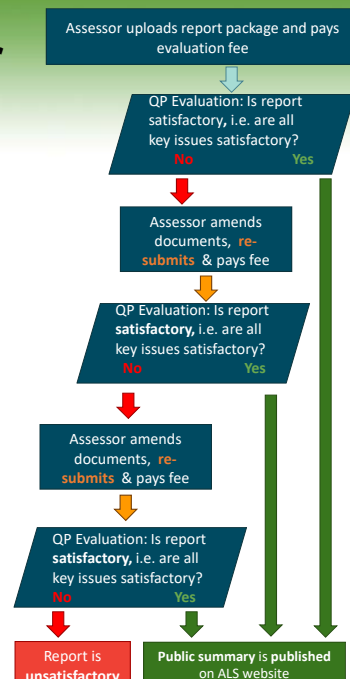


Figure 1 Overall process of responsible commodity production, showing how the HCV-HCSA assessment (green box) fits into the bigger picture.

Quality Assurance – Assessor Licensing Scheme (ALS)

- Not new in RSPO
 - ALS required in NPP since January 2015
- Report evaluation process:
 - HCV-HCSA assessment report is submitted for evaluation
 - Reports evaluated by **Quality Panel**
 - **Pass/Fail** system based on **KEY ISSUES**





Key Issues for HCV-HCS assessment reports

1. Due diligence
2. Scoping study
3. Definition of boundaries of Aol
4. Image analysis and land cover classification
5. Methods – participatory mapping
6. Identification of HCVs 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 & 6
7. Future livelihoods for local people
8. Peat
9. Identification of HCS forests
10. HCSA patch analysis
11. Stakeholder consultation
12. Management and monitoring recommendations
13. Public summary
14. Maps



Next...



- Flesh out implementation details
- Capacity building of:
 - Prospective licensed assessors
 - Existing assessors
 - Quality Panel members
 - Companies & other stakeholders

Thank You

Questions?

secretariat@hcvnetwork.org

More info:

www.hcvnetwork.org/als