



**FOREST STEWARDSHIP
COUNCIL® UNITED KINGDOM
ANNUAL REVIEW 2021/2022**

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Forest Stewardship Council® (FSC) UK
is a charity dedicated to promoting responsible forestry in the UK.

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|------------------|------------------------------------------------------|----------------|-------------------------------|
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Welcome to our Annual Review for 2021-22.

In early 2021 we revised our strategic priorities (see pages 8-9). The new plan builds on our previous three-year plans and was developed in the context of the Global Strategy for FSC and our own charitable objectives.

Improving standards for forest management in the UK, supporting our licence holders and promoting FSC are fundamental aspects of our work and remain as priorities for the coming years. This includes our work on the National Forest Stewardship Standard through the UK Woodland Assurance Standard, the guidance and support provided to existing and potential licence holders (by which we mean certificate holders and promotional licence holders) and our promotional activities. We are delighted that the number of Chain of Custody certificate holders and Promotional Licence Holders increased in the reporting period.

The new UK plan recognises the role of FSC UK in **promoting the value of forests** and demonstrating the impact and benefits of FSC. We also believe that our increased focus on **stakeholder engagement** will help us, as a global organisation, to inform and improve the FSC system. In our *What Are Forests For?* webinar (see pages 16-17) we brought a wide range of stakeholders together to discuss the various benefits of, and pressures on our forests and we hope that this will just be the start of such engagement on the value of forests. Having COP26 in the UK (see pages 14-15) provided a valuable opportunity for FSC to promote responsible forest management in the context of nature-based solutions to climate change.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all our members, licence holders and particularly the FSC UK board and staff team, for their continued support. It is only by working together that we can hope to ensure *Forests For All Forever*.



Rosie Teasdale
Executive Director, FSC UK



MEET THE TEAM

The staff



Rosie Teasdale
Executive Director



Beth Bennett
Business
Development Manager



Tallulah Chapman
Communications
Manager



Owen Davies
Forest
Standards Manager



Amy Willox
Outreach Manager
Forests & Ecosystem Services



Rachel Hembery
Business Advisor



Olivia Bargman
Communications
Officer



Maggie Cooper
Trademark &
Licensing Officer



Carol Lord
Trademark
Enforcement Officer



Georgina Davies
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The trustees



Jon Kirkpatrick
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Mike Bekin
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Maura Poole
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**Hubertus van
Hensbergen**



Steve Jennings



Hubert Kwisthout



**Constance L.
McDermott**



Meriel Robson



John Tewson

ABOUT FSC

The Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) is an international, non-governmental organisation dedicated to promoting responsible management of the world's forests. FSC's pioneering certification system enables businesses and consumers to choose wood, paper and other forest products made with materials that support responsible forestry.

Democratic and inclusive

We are governed by more than 1000 members and actively support Indigenous Peoples' rights.

Consistent and robust

All FSC-certified forests are managed in line with the same global principles, and our certificate holders and certification bodies are accountable and independently audited.

Credible and trusted

We consult stakeholders on changes to our standards, have a dispute resolution process and enjoy broad NGO support.

Global and recognised

We operate globally, our iconic logo is recognised, and we help governments and organisations to meet agreed sourcing standards.

Innovative and ambitious

We are the pioneers of forest certification, and we continue to innovate, whether that means certification in new sectors or using more efficient, digital tools.



MISSION: FSC will promote environmentally appropriate, socially beneficial, and economically viable management of the world's forests.

VISION: The true value of forests is recognised and fully incorporated into society worldwide. FSC is the leading catalyst and defining force for improved forest management and market transformation, shifting the global forest trend toward sustainable use, conservation, restoration, and respect for all.



FSC IN NUMBERS

Worldwide FSC-certified forests (hectares):

231,036,402

UK FSC-certified forests (hectares):

1,625,847

Worldwide FSC chain of custody certificates:

51,413

UK FSC chain of custody certificates:

2,258

Worldwide FSC Promotional licences:

1,534

UK FSC Promotional Licences:

121

Figures correct as of 1 April 2022

FSC UK Strategic Priorities 2021-24

The FSC UK 2021-2024 Strategic Plan builds on our previous three-year plans and was developed in the context of FSC's global vision and mission and our own charitable objectives.

Whilst we will always need to react to new challenges and opportunities, we also need to have clarity in terms of our overarching priorities and to translate these priorities into objectives, deliverables and key performance indicators. Our priorities for 2021-24 are to:

Promote the value of forests and demonstrate the impact/benefits of FSC



Forests play a vital role in enabling and maintaining life and help to mitigate global challenges of climate change and biodiversity loss. At the same time, forest products are increasingly important as renewable materials that can be a main factor in enabling the bio-based and circular economy which the world needs to develop.

FSC's vision is that the true value of forests is recognised and fully incorporated into society worldwide. Forest management certification and ecosystem services verification provide tools to deliver this. We should continue to promote FSC certification and demonstrate the positive impacts on our forests whilst also working with others to develop additional tools and solutions.

Support FSC globally and encourage stakeholder engagement to ensure that the FSC system is fit for purpose, accessible, relevant and trusted



The Global Strategy calls for streamlined policies and standards while ensuring credibility. FSC is widely recognised as the most credible forest certification scheme and maintaining this credibility is fundamental to the scheme's success. As a long-established National Office, FSC UK is well placed to support FSC as it works to deliver a credible, fit-for-purpose system, providing input on the potential implications of proposed activities and encouraging stakeholders to engage as appropriate as well as working to maintain FSC's integrity and credibility in the UK.

Improve standards for forest management in the UK for all sizes and types of forest



It is a fundamental requirement, in terms of both FSC UK's charitable objectives and our role as an accredited National Office, that we have an approved national forest stewardship standard. We need to identify mechanisms to reduce the financial and administrative burden on smallholders whilst ensuring that FSC's high forestry standards are maintained. We also have a wider role to play in promoting better forest stewardship in all forests.



Support UK based licence holders to maximise the demand for FSC products

Supporting certificate holders and retailers to maximise the market for FSC products is stated as one of the means by which we meet our charitable objectives.

It is essential that the relationship we have with our licence holders is proactively managed and that we support those companies committed to the FSC system.



Promote the FSC system, FSC certification and the specification of FSC certified products

As a strong market country, the UK can have a significant impact on uptake of FSC certification of forests globally by driving demand for certification and certified products throughout the supply chain. Raising public awareness of FSC and, in turn, driving consumer demand is one aspect of this, but FSC UK recognises that this can be best achieved in conjunction with businesses and NGOs. In many cases, it is the procurement policies of retailers and other businesses and organisations that creates the demand rather than the consumer, and emphasis will be placed on this work.



These strategic priorities are underpinned by our work to:

Ensure that FSC UK pursues its objectives as a registered charity, meets its legal and charitable obligations and operates as a professional organisation that values its people.

In order to deliver the above strategic priorities, FSC UK must ensure that it remains a viable and effective organisation, complying with legal requirements and meeting contractual obligations. We also recognise the importance of valuing our people and supporting the wider FSC network.

CERTIFICATION

Forest management certification

FSC forest management certification confirms that a forest is being managed in a way that is environmentally appropriate, socially beneficial, and economically viable. FSC's principles for forest management cover a broad range of issues, from maintaining high conservation values to community relations and workers' rights, as well as monitoring the environmental and social impacts of the forest management

During 2021-22, the total FSC-certified area in the UK decreased by 0.5% from 1,634,221 hectares to 1,625,847 ha. We did gain one new individual certificate holder, Wildland. Between April 2021 and April 2022, total group area decreased from 464,399 ha to 455,054 ha, by about 2%; this headline figure overlies a range of gains and losses for individual groups, with one group closing altogether and many of its members moving to another group. Total group membership increased from 1,018 to 1,066, which suggests that we may be seeing another time lag with higher overall group membership not yet reflected in area data. Despite the in-year losses, the twelve-month average for total certified area in 2021-22, at 1,636,484 ha, was well up on 2020-21, where the suspension of a major certificate depressed the average to 1,609,415 ha, and even on 2019-20, at 1,627,622 ha.

On the Forest Stewardship Standard front, the UKWAS Working Group was kept busy refining revision drafts on the basis of two public consultations, which both received an excellent number and range of responses.

Wildland Ltd (FSC®C171241) became FSC certified in 2021, their forest management certification covers 4,617 hectares. *"The long-term vision of Wildland in the Cairngorms is to reverse centuries of ecological decline by restoring semi-natural landscapes comprising a range of habitats from river valley to mountain summits over a 200-year period. This will reinstate native*

woodlands and improve the condition of heaths, bogs and moorlands, increasing biodiversity, capturing and storing carbon, providing a sustainable timber resource and providing a high quality of recreational facilities for the public,"

Chain of custody certification

FSC chain of custody certification ensures that FSC-certified material has been identified and separated from non-certified and uncontrolled material as it makes its way along the supply chain, from the forest to the market. Any company involved in the processing or transformation of FSC-certified products must be FSC certified to allow them to apply an FSC label to their products and/or sell them with an FSC claim.

The retention rate for FSC chain of custody certification in the UK was 94% and the number of certificates increased from 2221 to 2258. 172 new chain of custody certificates were issued between April 2021 and March 2022.

"Our company mission has always been to create street furniture that is made in the UK and sustainably. We are absolutely delighted to now carry Chain of Custody certification for using FSC-certified wood. It sends a strong signal to our customers about our commitment to transparency as we are working towards a more sustainable future," Robert Hawgood, Founder and Managing Director, Landmark Street Furniture (FSC®C166318)

Project certification

Individual objects or buildings of any size or scale that are built or renovated can seek FSC project certification. Project certification can also be used for civil engineering projects and events such as exhibitions and festivals. Under this certification standard, several projects can be managed on a rolling-basis or a single project can achieve a one-time certification.



During 2021-22 seven new FSC project certificates were issued to London projects: Southbank Place (FSC®P001718), Barchester Street Project (FSC®P001880), Wood Wharf Phases 1A and 1B (FSC®P001864/ FSC®P001903), 1 Triton Square (FSC®P001861), The Pavilion (FSC®P001868) and Oxford House (FSC®P001859). A photograph of The Pavilion can be seen on the cover of this Annual Review.

“The Pavilion is an exemplar of the many benefits of building with sustainably sourced timber. It’s lightweight and was quicker, cleaner, safer and simpler to build as almost all the components were prefabricated offsite, meaning it arrived like a giant kit of

parts. Using timber instead of a concrete superstructure reduced embodied carbon by 56%, and aesthetically it makes for an iconic landmark building and publicly accessible lookout over the Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park in Stratford. In line with Lendlease Europe’s procurement policy, all the timber came from sustainably managed forests that support the lives of local people and workers, having achieved full Chain of Custody Certification from the Forest Stewardship Council. We look forward to building more FSC certified timber buildings on our journey to Absolute Zero Carbon by 2040.”

Paul King, Managing Director
Sustainability & Social Impact,
Lendlease Europe

Trademark licensing & enforcement

Licensing

Consumers justifiably have high expectations that the forest-based products they buy are sourced responsibly and do not contribute to deforestation. Promoting FSC-certified products and packaging empowers consumers to make informed choices about the products they purchase. We encourage retailers, brand owners and other organisations to use the power of the FSC brand by creating their own unique and compelling promotional campaigns and materials. Through these tailored campaigns, businesses can communicate their commitment to responsible forest management to their customers – supported by the widely-recognised FSC trademarks.

For organisations that buy FSC-labelled products from an FSC-certified supplier and either use them in their business or sell them on unchanged, a promotional licence may offer an alternative to chain of custody certification. 18 new licence agreements were issued by FSC UK during this period. At the end of March 2022, 121 FSC promotional licences were held in the UK, which represented 8% of the licences held worldwide.

“Combining tradition and modern trends, our premium organic matcha powder is packed in a stylish FSC-certified bamboo box. We buy FSC-certified and labelled products from our FSC-certified suppliers and promote these using the FSC trademarks under an FSC promotional licence. Through the FSC system, we can prove our commitment to sustainable forestry and ensure our values are respected,”

Frank Behrendt, Matchita (FSC®N003357)

Enforcement

We take trademark infringement very seriously. The FSC logo, the name Forest Stewardship Council, the abbreviation FSC and the FSC Forest For All Forever brandmarks are all registered trademarks and there are strict controls on their use. Only companies holding an FSC certificate, or a promotional licence, are allowed to promote products commercially as FSC certified. FSC UK resolved 60 cases of unauthorised trademark use between April 2021 and March 2022. The FSC trademarks help to assure consumers and business customers that the products they buy come from well-managed forests, controlled sources or reclaimed materials. Protecting the trademarks from infringement and misuse helps to maintain the integrity of the FSC system and ensure that those who have invested time and resources in responsible forest management and production are properly identified and rewarded.



©Gousto

The food industry is currently a major contributor to climate change. Recipe box provider, Gousto, believe it is their responsibility to do what they can to improve things, including making all their own packaging 100% recyclable, reusable or compostable by 2025. Gousto became FSC promotional licence holders in 2021 (FSC®N003562) to promote their FSC-certified and labelled packaging.

COP26: Together for our Planet

In November 2021, the UK hosted COP26, the United Nations annual climate change conference, bringing world leaders together to tackle climate change.



United Nations climate change conferences are among the largest international meetings in the world. The negotiations between governments are complex and involve officials from every country in the world as well as representatives from civil society and the global news media.

Forests took centre stage at the conference. Dubbed by some as the “Nature COP”, a major focus was on highlighting the intertwined crises of climate change and biodiversity loss. Staff from FSC UK and FSC International collaborated in representing FSC during a busy week of networking and side events.

High-level forest pledges

One of the first announcements made at COP26 was the [Glasgow Leaders’ Declaration on Forests and Land Use](#), in which 141 countries committed to end deforestation and land degradation by 2030.

This pledge was followed by other significant forest-related announcements, including the backing of the declaration with a total of \$19.2 billion to support the restoration and

conservation of forests globally. Importantly, \$1.7 billion of this financing is to be given directly to Indigenous Peoples and local communities (IPLCs) in recognition of their key role in preserving forests and promised them a role in decision-making and design of climate programs and finance instruments.

The commitments were welcomed by many in that they acknowledge the important value of forests in climate change mitigation, but there were also calls for urgent implementation and action on the ground.

“Based on the Declaration, forest protection and sustainable forest management must now become a central part of all efforts to combat climate change. FSC certification of forests, including certification by Indigenous Peoples of their territories, can be an important part of the solution going forward. FSC stands ready to work with governments, businesses, Indigenous Peoples and interested stakeholders to help meet the ambition of the Declaration”

Kim Carstensen, Director General,
FSC International

FSC at COP

As well as the formal sessions, covering topics including nature-based solutions, the role of forestry in net zero aspirations and urban tree equity, many useful conversations took place in the coffee shops and corridors of the blue and green zones.

Amy Willox, Outreach Manager Forests and Ecosystem Services, commented, “*We spent time with the Cities4Forests and Partner Forest Programme team discussing ideas to connect tropical forests of the world with the cities of the world. We also had the chance to walk the on their boardwalk made from timber harvested from the Carmelita, Custodios de la Selva and San Andrés community forest enterprises in Petén, Guatemala, who hold FSC-certification.*”

FSC UK is a partner of Climate Cymru and the FSC UK delegation joined the Climate Scotland and Climate Cymru session looking at the role of the two devolved nations, with Youth Ambassadors expressing their views eloquently and passionately.

FSC hosted a side event, convening speakers from key sectors that benefit from, promote, support and invest in sustainable forest

management, forest conservation and restoration. The session highlighted the need to co-create tools that help ensure positive social, environmental and economic impacts. A main theme running through these events was the need for building alliances and partnerships.

Concluding COP

The conference concluded with the signing of the Glasgow Climate Pact, the final COP26 agreement, by almost 200 governments. There was some disappointment with the final deal, but the conference did see nature, forests and people more firmly embedded in the climate agenda. It is encouraging to see that the preamble of the Glasgow Climate Pact, notes ‘the importance of ensuring the integrity of all ecosystems, including in forests, the ocean and the cryosphere, and the protection of biodiversity.’

Looking forward, FSC UK will continue with optimism and renewed drive to work with our colleagues from around the world and FSC International to emphasise the importance of protecting, conserving and restoring forests to achieve the Paris Agreement goal of not more than 1.5C.

FSC and climate change

Climate change undermines the natural ecosystems on which we rely for our basic needs – food, health, and shelter – and many of the products that support our livelihoods and economies.

Protecting forests from conversion to other land uses such as agriculture, introducing management practices that maintain the integrity of the forest, and restoring degraded forests, all contribute to reducing the impacts of climate change.

FSC believes in the importance of nurturing responsible forestry to protect healthy and resilient forests that sustain life on earth. FSC certification can be an important tool to secure the necessary protective measures to prevent deforestation.

The FSC system contributes to mitigating climate change by promoting sustainable forest management, and the recycling of wood materials. Our global framework for forest management standards, gives special attention to protecting the function of forests as net removers of CO₂ from the atmosphere.

What are forests for?

Our popular panel discussion, held online with speakers from Rewilding Britain, Scottish Woodlands and Llais y Goedwig, found more common ground than you might first think.

Owen Davies, Forest Standards Manager, FSC UK set out the ways in which he thinks FSC certification currently does – or does not – reflect this range of viewpoints. The panel discussion was chaired by FSC UK Board member Steve Jennings, a partner at 3Keel. FSC UK's Communications Officer, Olivia Bargman, created live, visual minutes of the event.

Forests are valued in many different ways and for many different reasons by UK stakeholders. So, what are our forests for? Can we reconcile the full range of aspirations for them? And how well is that range of aspirations reflected in the standards used for FSC certification? These are the questions we explored in a discussion hosted by FSC UK.

“Great Britain is one of the world’s top five importers of timber. The most recent statistics suggest that in 2019 we imported 25 million tonnes from around the world. As the UK’s demand for timber continues to increase, so does our overseas footprint. In a world trying to tackle climate change and global biodiversity losses, is this ethically or environmentally justified? We have an artificially low percentage tree cover in the UK, one of the lowest in Western Europe (13%) and our landscapes are more heavily deforested than most of the countries we regularly criticise for ongoing deforestation.

We need to stand up to our responsibilities and grow more sustainably produced timber.

So, is this what are forests for? It would be easy if the answer was as simple as that. There are so many competing demands for the different societal and environmental benefits that forests provide that to reconcile them all into a single achievable forest plan and still make the forest pay its way is what forest management is all about. That is precisely what makes the job of the professional forest manager so challenging but also so fascinating and ultimately rewarding.”

***Stuart Wilkie, Certification & Environment Manager,
Scottish Woodlands***

“The UK and devolved governments have set themselves the target of achieving nature’s recovery across 30% of the UK by 2030 as well as net carbon zero by 2050. Supporting the natural regeneration of our native woodlands alongside a mosaic of low-impact silviculture could make a significant contribution towards meeting these targets as part of a rewilding approach. This can, and should, happen in a way that benefits local communities through enhancing and diversifying rural jobs and incomes. So, in answering question ‘what are forests for?’ we have to embrace complexity and start thinking about integrated landscapes, resilient communities and flourishing ecosystems. I feel that rewilding and restoring our wonderful, wildlife-rich woodlands and forests has a key role to play in this.”

Rebecca Wrigley, Chief Executive, Rewilding Britain

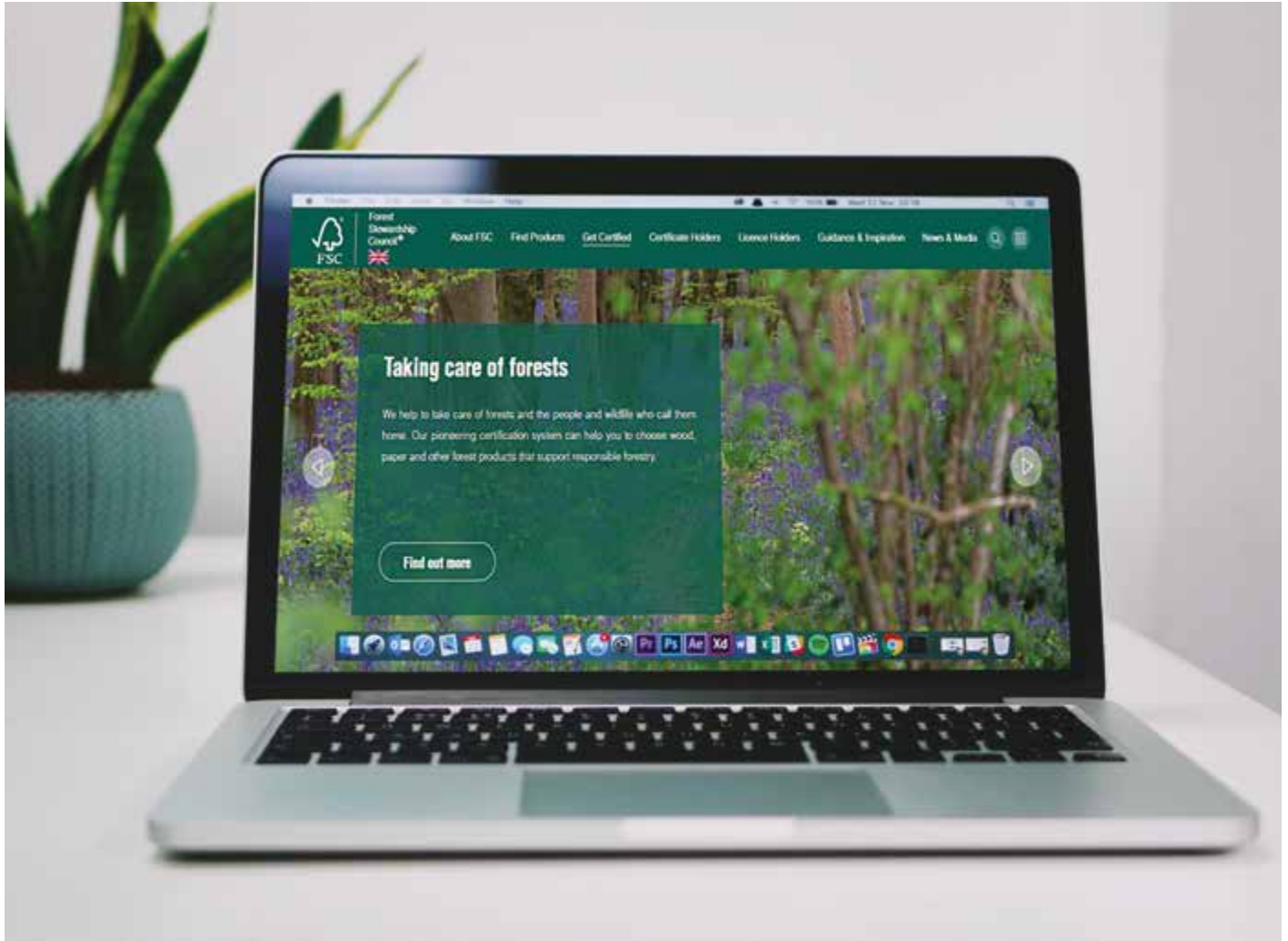
“Forests are for people – whether the end goal is primarily economic, environmental or social, it’s important to make sure the people and communities that live and work in and around them have the ability to take an active part in their management and the decisions relating to them.

The challenge is to make our forests multipurpose so they meet the increasing demands of people who want and should be able to benefit from them, while balancing the needs to supply timber and other woodland products where appropriate and protect more vulnerable areas for biodiversity. The key though is to take people with you at each step of the journey to learn, support and enjoy.”

Maria Wilding, Programme Manager, Llais y Goedwig

ONLINE SUPPORT

A new version of the FSC UK website launched in January 2022. We hope that it will make it easier for everyone to find information about FSC in the UK. We also hosted two forest-themed webinars and released four bite-size videos, providing more information about FSC forest management, ecosystem services, specifying FSC-certified products and using the FSC labels.



©James-Mckinven/unsplash

New website

Whether you want to know more about [FSC in general](#), [FSC-certified forests](#), [recycled materials](#) or the [FSC labels](#), the FSC UK website features a wealth of information.

You can also dig deeper into [threats that forests face today](#) and their relationship with [climate change](#), and on topics such as how we measure [our impact](#) and ensure our [integrity](#).

FSC-certified materials and products

Find out [what can be FSC certified](#), how to [choose FSC-certified products](#) and [how to tell if an organisation holds FSC certification](#).

Getting certified or licensed

For those seeking to [use the FSC trademarks](#) or sell FSC-certified products, there is guidance on how to get [forest management certification](#), [chain of custody certification](#) or a [promotional licence](#).

Existing certificate holders

If you already hold an FSC certificate you can get information for you, including key standards, guidance and technical information, whether you hold a [forest management certificate](#) or a [chain of custody certificate](#).

Existing licence holders

For promotional licence holders, there is guidance on [using your licence](#) and the FSC trademarks.

Governance and membership

For those interested in FSC's governance, you can find information on both [global governance](#) and [UK governance](#) and, if you would like to be involved, you can read about [FSC membership](#).

Sector-specific guidance

Sector-specific guidance is also available for those in the [construction](#), [fashion](#), [furniture](#), [packaging](#), and [paper and print](#) sectors.

News

To keep up with the latest news, case studies and updates, visit our [newsfeed](#).

Webinars

FSC UK hosted two forest-themed webinars: [What are Forests for?](#), further details of which can be found on pages 16–17, and [FSC Certification for Small and Community Woodlands](#).

Bite-size videos

In May 2021 we uploaded four new bite-size videos to our YouTube channel:

The FSC Labels: Using and understanding the FSC labels

How can certificate and licence holders use the trademarks? Who can apply an FSC label? How is FSC trademark use approved? What are the three FSC labels and what materials do they cover? What are considered eligible inputs in FSC-certified products? All these questions and more are answered in [this guidance video](#) designed primarily for existing and potential FSC certificate and licence holders and those considering FSC certification or licensing.

'It's Got to be FSC: A guide for businesses buying and specifying FSC-certified materials'

What is FSC forest management and what does the FSC system do? What are the FSC trademarks and who can use them? What is the risk of buying uncertified forest-based materials? How can you make sure that the forest products used in your business are responsibly sourced? How can you purchase FSC-certified materials? How can you check if a supplier is FSC certified? In under 10 minutes [this video](#) lets specifiers and procurers understand why and how to source FSC-certified materials.

The FSC Ecosystem Services Procedure

Ecosystem services are the benefits we obtain from nature. FSC has created new ways to engage in the protection and restoration of forest ecosystem services. [This video](#) briefly explains the FSC Ecosystem Procedure, the claims it allows forest managers to make, and how these can provide governments, investors, buyers and businesses with assurance that the impacts they are funding preserve the sustainable provision of forest ecosystem services.

FSC Forest Management: What is it and next steps

[This video](#) provides a short introduction to FSC forest management certification for forest owners and managers.

CONSUMER INSIGHTS

Among consumers, environmental concerns are becoming more important than ever, and sustainability now rivals conventional factors such as price and brand as influencers of consumer shopping choices. The results of this year's FSC UK Consumer Survey reveal public opinion on forests and climate change, FSC logo recognition, generational differences, and a degree of uncertainty around which kinds of products can come from trees.

Three quarters of people in the UK agree that healthy forests are of crucial importance in the fight against climate change. And ensuring that products from forests have been sourced responsibly is important to most, with **63%** wanting reassurance about the forest products they buy. A study of 1,281 adults* found that **6 in 10** people in the UK assume that some, or even all, of the wood-based products they buy are from sustainable sources.

Three quarters recognise that sourcing sustainable wood and paper is good for both forests and the planet in general, but most

aren't sure how to tell if these products are sustainable.

There is also uncertainty when it comes to other forest-products, with **87%** unaware that viscose and textiles, and **73%** unaware that shoe soles (which can be made from natural rubber), can be sourced from trees. And yet, three quarters say they think natural rubber and materials made from trees, such as viscose, should be responsibly sourced.

6 in 10 also reported becoming more conscious of the sustainability of both products and packaging. And **35%** say they keep an eye out for certification labels when shopping for forest-based products.

76% of people in the UK now recognise the FSC logo. Two thirds of respondents who had seen the logo are also confident they understand, at least roughly, what it means.

Once the meaning was explained, **7 in 10** people said they would prefer to buy a forest product bearing the FSC logo, as opposed to



35%

Look for certification labels
when shopping for forest-
based products



one without, only **1 in 10** stated that this was unlikely to positively influence their purchasing decision. Half of respondents even said they would be prepared to pay more for FSC-certified products and **65%** said they would have a positive opinion of a brand or retailer if they saw the FSC label on their products.

Ecosystem Services

The survey also reveals findings on how shoppers might view brands and companies investing in ecosystem services (the benefits that we obtain from nature and natural processes).

63% of people in the UK say they would have a more positive opinion of a company if they knew they had invested in nature or climate-positive projects. The FSC Ecosystem Services Procedure builds on FSC forest management certification by allowing forest managers or owners to make specific, credible claims on how their management activities are contributing to maintaining and/or enhancing various ecosystem services in their forests. FSC verified ecosystem service claims

help financial sponsors demonstrate their commitment to sustainability and to reducing deforestation and forest degradation.

Generations of consumers

The survey revealed some generational differences, with older people, including the sometimes maligned Baby Boomers, being the most concerned if forest-based products have been sourced sustainably, and most convinced of the importance of sourcing sustainable wood and paper.

But younger people tend to be more confident in identifying sustainably sourced forest products, with **3 in 10** millennials sure of how to tell.

Millennials are also most clued up about viscose, but still just **15%** realise that it could be sourced from trees. When it comes to shoe soles, Gen Z lead the pack, with **3 in 10** identifying that they can be made using materials from trees. Nearly half of those aged 25-34 keep an eye out for certification labels when shopping for forest-based products and **91%** of Gen Z recognise the FSC logo.

** Survey conducted (24/03/2022 - 28/03/2022) in United Kingdom by Kantar via OnLineBus, a sample of 1281 UK adults aged 16+ were interviewed.*

76%

recognise the
FSC logo

Two thirds of those say they
understand at least roughly
what it means



91%

Gen Z recognise
the logo

FSC®F000323

FSC FURNITURE AWARDS



© Community Products Ltd

In 2021 FSC UK joined the first European edition of the FSC Furniture Awards, an evolution of the awards launched by FSC Italy in 2019, enabling UK-based certificate holders to participate. 12 awards for indoor and outdoor furniture, including five special prizes for CSR, Communication, Green, Labelling and Small business and an honorable mention, were awarded to FSC-certified companies active in the furniture sector in Italy, UK, Germany, Poland and Croatia.

The awards ceremony took place online and the winners in six award categories (Home-living, Home-office, Office furniture, Public spaces furniture, Outdoor furniture for home, Outdoor furniture for public spaces) and five special awards were announced by a jury composed by representatives of FSC national

offices from the 11 competing countries (Austria, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Czech Republic, Germany, Italy, Poland, San Marino, Serbia, Slovenia, United Kingdom).

The ceremony event was preceded by a round table on the use of wood from certified sources, which was attended by representatives of FSC International, international NGOs, forest owners, retailers and journalists and moderated by designer and BBC star Oliver Heath.

European countries with the highest number of FSC-certified companies producing furniture are Poland, United Kingdom and Italy.¹ These numbers go hand in hand with a growing demand for products of sustainable origin. Indeed, new research² conducted by

Globescan on behalf of FSC International reported that 84% of consumers expect companies to ensure that the wood/paper products they sell are not contributing to deforestation. This report is part of FSC's efforts to understand how forests, people and markets are responding to global changes.

"FSC works in close collaboration with furniture manufacturers, brands and retailers to help them develop their supply chains, increase awareness about sustainable forestry and its benefits, and communicate their commitment to FSC certification" said Jeremy Harrison,

Chief Markets Officer at FSC International "The positive results of these collaborations are confirmed in the research findings from Globescan".

"In the climate change era we must provide viable solutions and positive examples of how forest conservation, communities and markets can coexist. The FSC Furniture Awards promotes best practices, rewarding the achievements of companies that have decided to share their path towards sustainability with FSC" said Alexia Schrott, FSC Italy's Marketing Manager and coordinator of the project.

2021's FSC sustainable furniture champions

Below is the list of winners for each category of this year's awards.

Home-living

Composad s.r.l., based in Viadana (Italy), won the category awards with Velata bed systems.

Home-office

Polish company **Melaco Sp.z o.o** from Nowa Sól (Poland), specialising in components for furniture design.

Office furniture

Hammerbacher GmbH from Neumarkt (Germany), whose furniture for small and large workspaces is all FSC-certified.

Public space furniture

Schäfer Trennwandsysteme GmbH, based in Horhausen (Germany), are manufacturers of wooden doors and dividers for public places, changing cubicles and lockers.

Outdoor furniture for home

Roda s.r.l from Gavirate (Italy), with its wooden Orson sun loungers.

Outdoor furniture for public spaces

British company **Community Products (UK) LTD**, based in East Sussex (UK), for its environmentally-

friendly outdoor furniture and play equipment for toddlers. This company was also awarded the special Green award for its sustainability policy.

Special award for CSR policies

Buoyant Upholstery LTD, based in Lancashire (UK).

Special award for communication

Stosa s.p.a (Italy) was recognized for its commitment to promoting FSC values.

Special award for the best FSC labeling

Calligaris s.p.a from Udine (Italy) for labeling its iconic design products.

Award for small businesses

Cantarutti s.r.l., based in Udine (Italy).

Special mention

Era Grupa d.o.o., from Vinkovci (Croatia), for its dedication to the procurement of FSC-certified inputs.

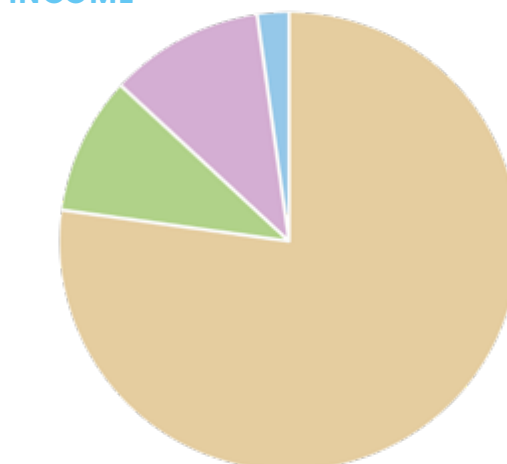
More information on prizes and motivations can be found on the official website www.fscfurnitureawards.org

¹ Source: FSC International Database, 2 November 2021.

² Source: FSC Global Consumer Research 2021. Global sample: 12,000. Consumers were surveyed in Canada, Chile, Colombia, China, Germany, India, Italy, Mexico, Poland, South Africa, South Korea, Sweden, Turkey, UK and USA.

FINANCE

INCOME



Income

Over the 2021-22 financial year income exceeded expenditure by £46,494. Trademark licensing revenue continued to increase, providing £48,676 of income during the reporting period. Membership income accounted for a further £43,563.

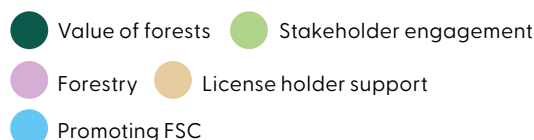
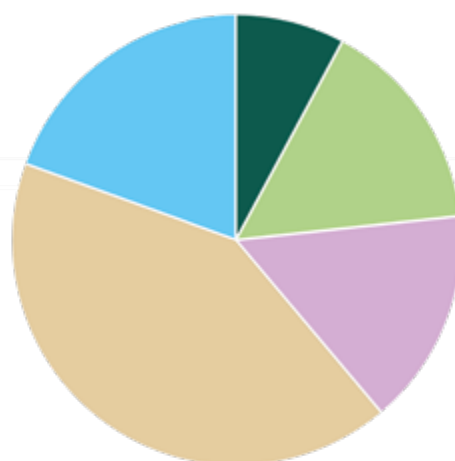
Most of the income is received under the Principal Cooperation, Service and Licence Agreement (the Activity Compensation Fee (ACF)) with FSC Global Development. The ACF income is based primarily on a formula linked to the Annual Administration Fee charged to certified companies in the UK, but strategic funding is also allocated for specific projects. Some of these projects are managed by other FSC National Offices and the funding is received and administered by them. The income received indirectly from FSC Global Development through this strategic funding is included within the total ACF figure.

Expenditure

Expenditure was higher this year compared with last (£410,321 compared with £374,795). This was partly due to a gradual return to more normal travel and printing costs which were very low in 2020/21 as a consequence

of Covid-19 restrictions. The expenditure is allocated in line with our new strategic priorities. The budget allocated to licence holder support increased to strengthen our services and support to these stakeholders. As the staff team grows to meet the demands on the organisation, we are budgeting for higher staff costs in the coming years.

EXPENDITURE



Reserves Policy

The Board of Directors considers the charity's requirements for reserves in light of the main risks to the organisation. A policy has been established whereby the unrestricted funds not committed or invested in tangible fixed assets held by the charity should be equivalent to 6 months' of expenditure.

The reserves are needed to meet the working capital requirements of the charity and, in the worse-case scenario, to cover the cost of closing the charity. The Board is confident that, the charity would be able to continue at worthwhile activity levels in the event of a temporary significant drop in funding and that the estimated cost of closing the charity does not exceed 50% of reserves.

UK MEMBERS

FSC is a democratic organisation governed by its members. Members apply to join one of three chambers: environmental, social or economic. There are 1,165 International members in 89 countries.*

Environmental Chamber

Born Free Foundation
Fauna and Flora International
Dr Florin Ioras (individual)
Steve Jennings (individual)
Jon Kirkpatrick (individual)
Meriel Robson (individual)
Hannah Scrase (individual)
Soil Association
Woodland Trust
WWF UK
Zoological Society of London

Social Chamber

Dr Marcus Colchester (individual)
Hubert Kwisthout (individual)
Llais y Goedwig
Andrew Heald (individual)
Constance Lynn McDermott (individual)
National Trust
Ben Vickers (individual)

Economic Chamber

Mike Bekin (individual)
Stephanie Doig (individual)
Blueline Office Furniture
BM TRADA
Bound Oak Ltd
Confederation of Forest Industries (CONFOR)
Confederation of Paper Industries (CPI)
Hubertus van Hensbergen (individual)
Home and Leisure International Ltd
HSBC Holdings plc
Kingfisher plc
Kronospan Ltd
Lend Lease Europe
Mondi plc
Soil Association Certification Ltd
Timber Trade Federation

*Correct as of 1 April 2022



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