



General
Assembly
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A Legacy of Support for Smallholders and Communities

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From Policy to Action: Advancing Equitable Access to FSC Certification

Smallholders, communities, and family forest owners are central to FSC's mission. Protecting forests means considering those who depend on them.

This poster presents FSC's solutions and tools, developed in close collaboration with community and family forest members, to support inclusive, effective, and lasting forest stewardship.



CFF: From a Priority Project to a Program to a FSC Core Offering

From 2016 to 2019, FSC explored support for smallholders and communities through the New Approaches initiative.

This work evolved into the **Community and Family Forests (CFF) Program** in 2019, focused on developing tailor-made solutions to access, implement, and benefit from FSC Forest Management certification.

In **2025**, CFF transitioned into a core part of FSC's Forest Management Growth strategy, now led by the **Global Network Unit (GNU)**. The tools and approaches developed remain central to supporting inclusive forest stewardship.



The CFF Toolbox

A set of forest Management certification offerings, training, and tools co-created to support community and family forests on their certification journey.

FM CERTIFICATION OFFERINGS

Enable stepwise certification, eligibility access, and tailored regional standards.



Forest Management Group Standard



Continuous Improvement Procedure (CIP)



Regional Standard for Asia Pacific



Adapted Forest Steward Standards (SLIMF & CF)*

CFF TOOLBOX

Support economic analysis, risk screening, and market access.



Economic Viability Tool (EVT)



Collective Impact Methodology



Timber Training Program and Volume Aggregator

ENABLERS

Build technical capacity across local actors and facilitators.



Community of Practice (CoP)



Outreach and Communication



Training and Capacity Building

CFF By the Numbers (Since 2019)

14M ha

Certified under the CFF scope

552

SLIMF Certificate Holders

3,387

Families certified using the CIP*

111

Community Certificate Holders

* Estimated based on CIP certificates granted
Source: CFF dashboard, as of Q2 2025



What's Next?

The CFF Toolbox will now be further supported and scaled within the Global Network Unit (GNU).

FSC remains committed to enhancing access to certification for smallholders and communities.



Our reach Your impact

73 facilitators
trained to date

~10 trainings /year
delivered globally
(Based on 35 trainings from 2022 to Q2 2025).

220 users
engaged in
3 e-learning
courses so far

5 videos
showcasing
CFF solutions



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