Become a Member of FSC

Do you want to have a real influence on the future of the world’s forests? Could you help shape the future of responsible forest management? Would you like to have a say in the development of standards, policies and procedures for the certification of products from well-managed forests?

If so, FSC membership could be for you!

What is FSC?

FSC helps take care of forests and the people and wildlife who call them home.

The FSC system can help you to choose wood, paper and other forest products such as cork, latex or viscose from well-managed forests and/or genuinely recycled sources.

When you see the FSC logo on a label, you can buy timber and other wood products (such as paper), with the confidence that you are not contributing to deforestation.

What is FSC Membership?

FSC is a democratic organisation that is governed by its members. FSC brings together, amongst others, environmental and social NGOs, timber traders, forestry and indigenous peoples’ organisations, retailers, manufacturers and interested individuals.

Members apply to join one of three chambers: environmental, social or economic, which are further sub-divided into northern and southern sub-chambers. Voting is weighted to ensure that each chamber and sub-chamber gets an equal say. This guarantees that influence is shared equitably between different interest groups and levels of economic power.

Our members contribute directly to upholding a system which ensures that the harvest of forest products is balanced with maintaining the biodiversity, productivity and ecological stability of forests, and that local people get a fair share of the benefits.

Membership or certification?

FSC membership is separate to FSC certification. In order to make or label FSC certified products you would need to hold FSC certification. FSC membership is not mandatory for FSC certified companies or license holders.
The General Assembly

The FSC General Assembly is FSC's highest decision-making body. Every three years, members come together to discuss a sustainable future for the world’s forests and the people and animals who inhabit them.

All FSC members are invited to attend and vote at the FSC General Assembly as well as to formulate and submit motions. It is in this dynamic environment where valuable concerns and constructive criticism are brought into a forum; different stakeholders work together in an equitable way to make important strategic decisions that define the future of FSC.

Board of Directors

The FSC Board of Directors is accountable to the FSC members. It is made up of twelve elected representatives, with four elected from each of the chambers for a four year term. The Board of Directors may also establish a number of committees to assist with both operational and management tasks, on which both members and outside experts may be invited to serve.

Why become a member?

- **Decision making**
  Help shape the future of responsible forest management.

- **Networking**
  Become part of a vibrant international group of individuals and organisations who are taking action to improve the state of forest management around the world. Membership offers you the opportunity to build connections and strengthen your networks.

- **Access to information**
  Keep up-to-date with current issues in certification and forestry.

- **Demonstrating commitment**
  FSC membership shows your commitment to improving the management of the world’s forests. It demonstrates that you believe in achieving the highest environmental and social standards in forestry.

FSC UK Annual Members’ Meeting

Members based in the UK are invited to the FSC UK Annual Members’ Meeting, which provides an opportunity to discuss relevant topics and connect with other UK Members and FSC UK staff.

Consultation

Members can apply to be part of a Working Group on a specific issue (e.g. plantations, pesticides etc.) and are regularly consulted during the review processes of our standards and policies.

The application process is simple:

**Choose** to become an individual or an organisational member.

**Apply** online at www.uk.fsc.org/membership

After you submit your application, the international membership committee will decide on the approval of your application.

Once your application is approved, you immediately have full rights and obligations.

**Fees:** The fee structure is based on either the organisation’s number of employees or its turnover. For downloadable information on membership fees please visit the above link.