FAIRWILD FOUNDATION

INTERNATIONAL STANDARD FOR FAIR AND SUSTAINABLE WILD COLLECTION
Training Session 2: FairWild – Ecological Principles
One FairWild Standard with two modules: ISSC-MAP and FairWild

Some considerations on history
Partial implementation of FairWild?

Is partial implementation of FairWild possible, e.g. only part of an operation or implementation of only social or only environmental criteria?

- **Certification option**: Only whole operations (entire production year and all relevant parts of operation) can be certified.
- Certified operators must fully implement all principles of FairWild.
- Fair trade certification includes labour rights. It would be unfair to treat only selected groups of workers within an operation well.
- **Verification outside certification scope**: Partial implementation is possible; standard is considered a guidance and no certificate is issued that would confirm full implementation of FairWild.
Risk Analysis

For all plant species / plant parts, for which certification is requested, a risk analysis needs to be carried out in advance!

- **Who**: Risk analysis is carried out by the FairWild Foundation. Applicants pay a fee per species.

- **When**: Application at least four months before intended time of first audit, ideally earlier.

- **How**: Assessing a number of defined parameters related to the species / region of collection. Summary assessment classifies the risk level: LOW / MEDIUM / HIGH
Value chains and FairWild

Collectors → Wild Collection companies → Traders → Herbal / Medicinal Companies → Consumers choice for FairWild

Each group mentioned here is a part of the value chain.
Groups who are close to each other will know each other.
Groups who are not in direct contact will probably not know of each other.

=> The understanding between the different groups can be very limited.
=> FAIRWILD wants to bring these groups together.

BUT: FairWild is NO supply chain certification.
Sections of FairWild

- **SECTION I:** Wild Collection and Conservation Requirements (P1 + 2)

- **SECTION II:** Legal and Ethical Requirements (P3 + 4)

- **SECTION III:** Social and FairTrade Requirements (P5 – 8)

- **SECTION IV:** Management and Business Requirements (P9 + 10)
Principle 1: 
Maintaining wild plant resources

Criterion 1.1: Conservation status of target species
Definition and regular review of target species and populations
Principle 1: Maintaining wild plant resources

Criterion 1.2: Knowledge-based collection practices
Adequate species identification, mapping, resource inventory & monitoring
Principle 1: Maintaining wild plant resources

Criterion 1.3: Sustainability of collection rate
Collection rate does not exceed target species regeneration
Principle 1: Maintaining wild plant resources

Key aspects and documents to demonstrate implementation:

- Species information sheet, including ecological information.
- Reference to relevant national / IUCN red list.
- Detailed collection area maps with exclusion zones and scale.
- Resource assessment and monitoring concept.
- Collection instructions.
- Voucher specimen.
Principle 2: Preventing negative environmental impacts

Criterion 2.1 Sensitive taxa and habitats
Endangered species affected by collection are identified and protected
Principle 2: Preventing negative environmental impacts

Criterion 2.2 Habitat (landscape level) management
Management does not negatively affect ecosystem diversity and functions
Principle 2: Preventing negative environmental impacts

Key aspects and documents to demonstrate implementation:

- Habitat research / studies, including potential endangered species
- If relevant: protection concept for endangered species
- Proof from land owners / local authorities that no prohibited chemicals (e.g. pesticide spraying) are used in the collection area.
- Collection area and species management plan.
Resource assessment in practice

Maps
Maps of collection areas are a central tool for resource assessment and management

Maps need to show:
- Enough details (preferably Scale 1:50.000 or smaller)
- All major and minor sources of contamination
- A combination between official maps and hand drawn or GPS based maps is adequate for low and most medium risk species
- All target populations in the collection area must be shown.
Index: What is on the map?

Location: Where are the plants on the map?

Village and road: Sources of contamination, excluded from collection!
Resource assessment in practice

STEP 2. RESOURCE INVENTORY

Planning
Focus and scope
Define sampling methods
• random or systematic
• plots, transects, how many, where, size-classes

Information gathering – Field work
Count / estimate # of individuals in each plot / transect
Determine age (usually by measuring height, diameter)
Different methods for different plant life-forms

Analysis and reporting
Estimate target species abundance and density
Prepare an inventory report
Plot data as a histogram to show:
• population structure
• size-class distribution

Local and Collector Knowledge
Resource assessment in practice

USE APPROPRIATE PRECISION

Random plots
- preferred by statisticians
- eliminate bias

Systematic sampling
- preferred by collectors & communities
- eliminates bias

Replication (minimum 3-5 samples per treatment)
- improves precision
- reduces chance effects
Resource assessment in practice

STEP 3. YIELD STUDIES

Planning
Focus and scope:
• harvested age / size-classes
• vegetation types
Standard harvesting method
Actual or potential yield

Information gathering – Field work
Measure / estimate yield
• amount of resource harvested
• amount of resource possible to harvest

Analysis and reporting
Calculate total resource yield, e.g.
• per sample plot
• per unit area (e.g., hectare)
• per age / size-class
• per vegetation type

Local and Collector Knowledge
STEP 4. HARVEST IMPACTS

**Planning / Field work**
- Define sample population (harvested age / size-classes)
- Define current (standard) and test (alternative) harvesting method
- Establish permanent plots or permanently marked individuals

**Information gathering – Field work**
- Apply standard and test harvesting methods
- Record observed impacts (changes from base-line):
  - Survival and vigour, reproduction, yield, growth, regeneration

**Analysis and reporting**
- Estimate sustainability of current level & method of harvest:
  - vigour, yield, etc. declining → unsustainable
  - vigour, yield, etc. stable or increasing → likely sustainable*

*But beware of short-term „growth-spurt“ response to over-harvest! → Carry out long-term studies & monitoring
STEP 5. PERIODIC MONITORING & HARVEST ADJUSTMENTS

Planning / Field work
- Define monitoring objectives
- Select monitoring indicators and methods
- Develop a plan

Information gathering – Field work
- Focus on target resources included in normal harvest activity
- Add samples (plots, individuals) to answer relevant questions
- Keep good records

Analysis and reporting
- Estimate current harvest level
- Monitor impacts on yield, regeneration, vigour, productivity, etc.
- Adjust harvest levels, methods if needed:
  - intensity, frequency, timing, management methods
Management plan
Requirement covered by various criteria in principles 1, 2, 4, 9, and 10.

Core management plan (MP) requirements:
- Development of collection rules (C1.2)
- Maximum collection quantities defined in management plan (C1.3)
- Management plan includes measures to avoid negative impacts (C.2.1/2)
- Sustainable collection is guaranteed also in multi-user situations (C.3.1)
- Traditional use rights are analysed and documented in the MP (C4.1)
- Applying responsible management practices (C9.1)
- Management plan identifies all relevant stakeholders (C9.5)
- Buyer instructions are reviewed according to the MP (C10.1)
Management planning

An adaptive management plan should:

- State the specific management purpose & steps taken to achieve it (including the resource assessment & monitoring plan)
- Clearly identify priority issues, species & appropriate management scale
- Incorporate & build the capacity of collectors, local communities & other stakeholders to manage MAP resources sustainably
- Enable enforcement of management rules (such as collection limits)
- Support the contributions of MAP resources to social, economic, health & other local goals
- Be reliable & sufficiently accurate
- Be affordable in terms of time and other costs
Management planning

PREPARE A MANAGEMENT PLAN

Advantages

- Normally in writing. Local harvesters rarely make formal written management plans. However, there can be advantages for them to do so.

- Developing a management plan enables stakeholders to communicate their planned management approach to people not as actively involved in the decision-making process.

Disadvantages

- Recording a plan in a written document may challenge traditional ways of transmitting knowledge & alter power relations in favour of those with a formal education.

- Developing a management plan may prove too challenging for the existing resources or capacities in the community.
COMPONENTS OF THE PLAN

- Describe the resource species targeted for management
- Define the management area (including its management zones), accompanied by a map
- Describe the sustainable collection protocol based on results of the resource assessment process
- State the objectives for management and monitoring
- Outline multi-year management and monitoring strategy
- Identify organization(s) responsible for management (& plans for building capacity if needed)
- Identify bottle-necks and critical interventions needed
What about the social criteria of FairWild?

They will be presented in session 3 — please join in!
Thank you for listening

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