



SGS QUALIFOR
(Associated Documents)

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Approved by:

Gerrit Marais

FOREST MANAGEMENT CERTIFICATION REPORT

SECTION A: PUBLIC SUMMARY

Project Nr:	12396-UG		
Client:	Busoga Forestry Company. Uganda		
Web Page:	www.greenresources.no		
Address:	PO box 1900 Jinja		
Country:	Uganda		
Certificate Nr.	SGS-FM/CoC-008691	Certificate Type:	Forest Management
Date of Issue	15 April 2016	Date of expiry:	14 April 2021
Evaluation Standard	SGS Forest Management Standard (AD33) adapted for Uganda, version 05 of 23/3/2015		
Forest Zone:	Tropical		
Total Certified Area	9134 ha		
Scope:	Forest Management of Busoga Forestry Company's forests and plantations in the Mayuge and Dokolo districts of Uganda for the production and sale of softwood and hardwood timber in the Bukaleba and Kachung Forest Reserves and have been covered by an approved version of the standard.		
Location of the FMUs included in the scope	Bukaleba Central Forest Reserve is near the town of Jinja in central Uganda. Kachung Central Forest Reserve is located near the town of Lira in northern Uganda.		
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Dates:			

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Main Evaluation	27 – 30 July 2015
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Surveillance 1	
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Surveillance 2	
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Surveillance 3	
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Surveillance 4	
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Date the current version of the report was finalised	
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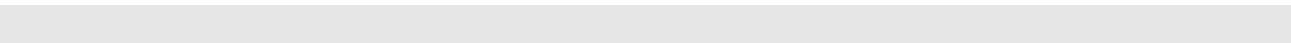


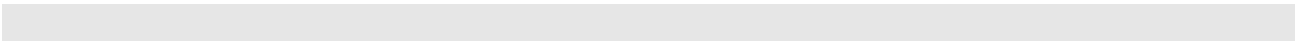
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ASSOCIATED DOCUMENTS (not part of the Public Summary)

AD 20:	Evaluation Itinerary
AD 21:	Attendance Record
AD 36-B:	Evaluation - Observations and Information on Logistics
AD 40:	Stakeholder Reports
	List of stakeholders contacted



Complaints and Disputes

Procedures for submitting complaints, appeals and disputes, and the SGS processing of such are published on <http://www.sgs.com/Forestry/>. This information is also available on request – refer contact details on the first page.

INTRODUCTION

The purpose of the evaluation was to evaluate the operations of Busoga Forestry Company against the requirements of the QUALIFOR Programme, the SGS Group's forest certification programme accredited by Forest Stewardship Council.

1. SCOPE OF CERTIFICATE

The scope of the certificate falls within the Tropical Forest Zone and includes 2 (Two) of Forest Management Units (FMUs) as described below.

Description of FMUs:				
Description	Ownership	Area (ha)	Longitude E/W	Latitude N/S
Bukaleba Plantation	State	6464	33° 23'	0° 22'
Kachung Plantation	State	2669	32° 56'	2° 01'
		9134		

Size of FMUs:		
	Nr of FMUs	Area (ha)
Less than 100ha		
100 to 1000 ha in area		
1001 to 10000 ha in area	2	9134
More than 10000 ha in area		
Total		9134

Total Area in the Scope of the Certificate that is:	
	Area (ha)
Privately managed	9135
State Managed	0
Community Managed	0

Composition of the Certified Forest(s)	
	Area (ha)
Area of forest protected from commercial harvesting of timber and managed primarily for conservation objectives	
Area of forest protected from commercial harvesting of timber and managed primarily for production of NTFPs or services	0
Area of forest classified as "high conservation value forest"	0
Area of non-forest managed primarily for conservation objectives	2543
Total area of production forest (i.e. forest from which timber may be harvested)	6591
Area of production forest classified as "plantation"	6591
Area of production forest regenerated primarily by replanting or coppicing	6591

Composition of the Certified Forest(s)	
	Area (ha)
Area of production forest regenerate primarily by natural regeneration	

List of High Conservation Values	
Description	Notes
None of the area under the control of the company qualify under any of the classifications of HCV.	

List of Timber Product Categories				
Product Class	Product Type	Trade Name	Category	Species
Wood in the rough	Logs of coniferous wood	Saw logs	Conifer	<i>Pinus caribaea</i>
Wood in the rough	Logs non-coniferous wood	Poles and saw logs	Deciduous (Hardwood)	<i>Eucalyptus grandis</i> Eucalyptus clones
Wood in the rough	Logs non-coniferous wood	Sawlogs	Deciduous (Hardwood)	<i>Maesopsis eminii</i>

Annual Timber Production				
Species (botanical name)	Species (common name)	Area (ha)	Maximum Annual Sustainable Yield (m ³)	
			Projected	Actual
<i>Pinus Caribaea</i>	Pine	60	1320	1064
<i>Eacalyptus grandis</i>	Eucalyptus	334	2000	3308
Hardwood sp other	Other	5	76,7	76,7
Totals			3397	4449

Approximate Annual Commercial Production of Non-Timber-Forest-Products				
Product	Species		Unit of measure	Total units
	Botanical Name	Common Name)		
N/A				0

Lists of Pesticides and Use					
Commercial Name of Pesticide	Active Ingredient	Year	Area of application	Amount used	Reason for use
			*1 (ha)	*2 (litre)	
Roundup	Glyphosate	RA	2513	10356	Weed control
		SA01			
		SA02			

Lists of Pesticides and Use					
Commercial Name of Pesticide	Active Ingredient	Year	Area of application ^{*1} (ha)	Amount used ^{*2} (litre)	Reason for use
		SA03			
		SA04			
Nimrod 25 EC	Buprimate	RA	1	10	Fungicide in Nursery
		SA01			
		SA02			
		SA03			
		SA04			
Confidor SL 200	Imidacloprid	RA	355	1065	Termite control
		SA01			
		SA02			
		SA03			
		SA04			

2. COMPANY BACKGROUND

2.1 Ownership

Green Resources AS of Norway as a plantation, carbon offset, forest product and renewable energy company wholly owns Busoga Forestry Company (BFC). Green Resources AS is a Limited Company established on 26 August 1995 and registered on 23 November 1995 in Norway with organisation number 975 879 968. BFC was established on 14 March 1996 with registration number 31967 and Uganda Investment Authority Licence number ASD/254/42101. It is a fully paid up member of the Uganda Timber Growers Association, the Uganda Manufacturers' Association and is registered with the Uganda Revenue Authority. It is a private, profit oriented company and its primary objective is to establish and manage commercial forest plantations in order to produce forest products for domestic use and export, carbon storage, environmental conservation and social economic development to the surrounding area.

The company acquired a lease permit of fifty years (50) from the Government of Uganda for forestry development in Bukaleba Central Forest Reserve. Central Forest Reserves are held in trust by the Government of Uganda for the people of Uganda according to the Land Act of 1998 stated in Article 237 of the 1995 Constitution of the Republic of Uganda.

2.2 Company Key Objectives

Objective	Notes
Commercial	
To establish and manage commercial forest plantations for the production of maximum volumes of sawlogs and transmission poles. The species grown will take into account the ecological suitability of the micro sites.	
Sustain the supply of wood resources in Uganda.	The company will have to contribute to establish a market for FSC timber. Currently the market for FSC certified timber in Uganda is almost non existent.

Objective	Notes
Social	
To demonstrate and promote tree planting/ afforestation activities to the local communities through Participatory Forest Management (PFM) and to facilitate social economic development	
To facilitate socio-economic development and poverty eradication among rural communities in Uganda through active participation in community development programs.	
Environmental	
To contribute to global environment protection by reducing greenhouse gas emissions through tree planting.	
Conservation of the environment and increasing biodiversity of its forests.	

2.3 Company History

Busoga Forest Company was established in 1996 as a subsidiary of Tree farm AS Norway. The initial permit was for 5 165 ha, but the company also acquired another 4 000 ha from Duetche Forest Consultant in 2007. The company has acquired a lease permit of 7 613 ha for fifty years (50) from the Government of Uganda for forestry development in Bukaleba Central Forest Reserve (CFR). BFC is responsible for the establishment and management of forest plantations for carbon offsets, quality forest products and environmental protection.

In the year 2007 the Tree Farm AS changed its name and became Green Resources AS Norway with 60 shareholders. Busoga Forestry Company is now wholly owned by Green Resources AS Norway. The Kachung Plantation Project in the Dokolo district is also being developed by Lango Forestry Company formerly Norwegian Afforestation Group (U) Limited, a subsidiary company of Norwegian Afforestation Group in Norway. Green Resources is also the largest shareholder of Lango Forestry Company and is far advanced to merge both companies into one, which will be known as Busoga Forestry Company.

The Norwegian Afforestation Group had a concession to the Kachung plantation near the town of Lira in northern Uganda. Their name was changed to Lango Forestry Company. NFA issued tree-farming licence no 815 dated 13/01/2010 to the Norwegian Afforestation Group (u) Ltd for the establishment and development of a commercial forest plantation of 2 669 ha in the Kachung Central Forest reserve. The licence is valid for 50 years and expires on 12/06/2046. All the shares in the Norwegian Afforestation Group were purchased by Green Resources and Busoga Forestry Company in 2006 – share takeover certificates are available. It is clear that Green Resources has legal title to manage the Kachung plantation.

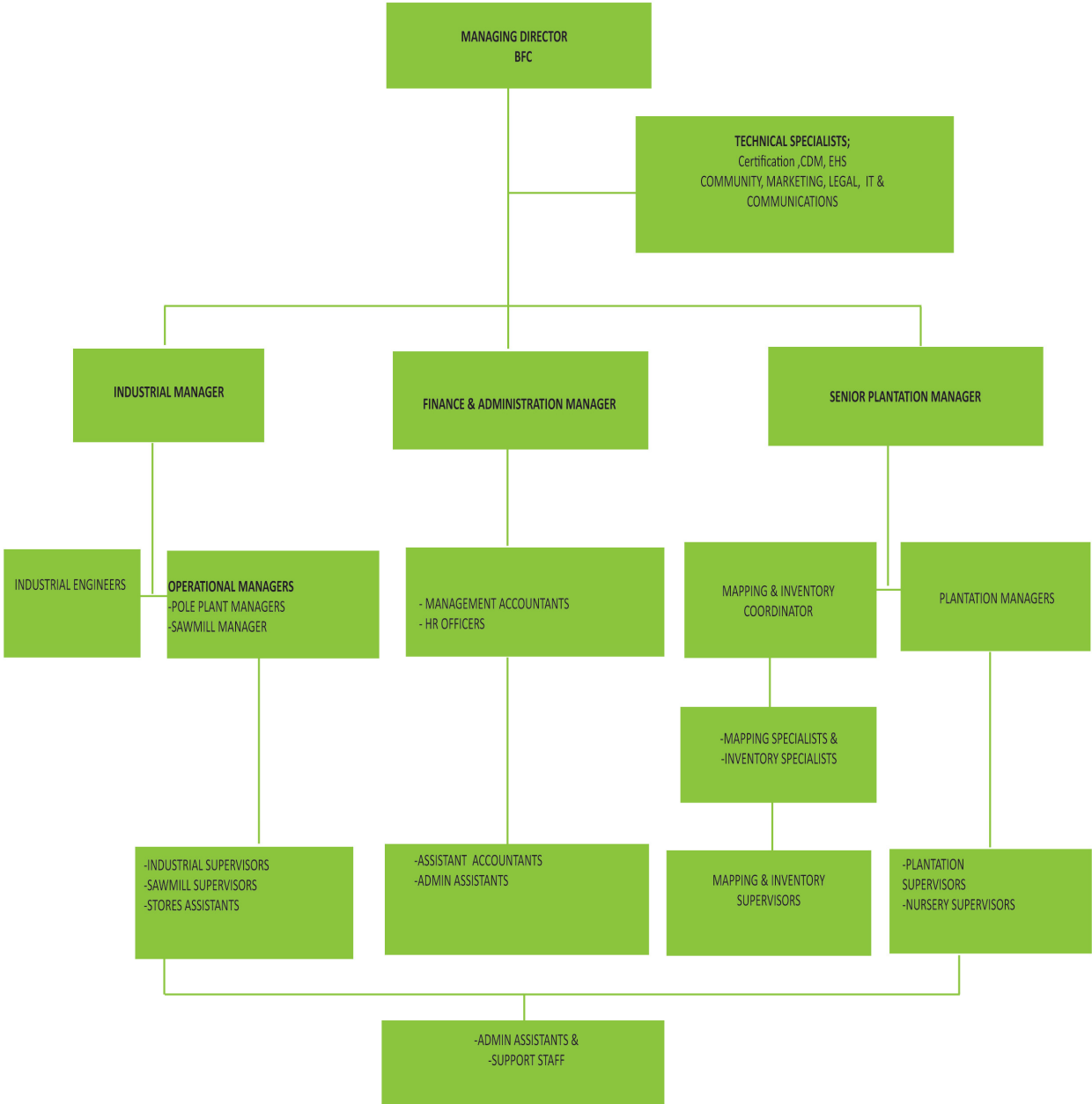
2.4 Organisational Structure

Busoga Forestry Company has full control over both the FMUs included in the scope of the certificate. This is affected through an effective management and control structure on the ground, supported by the Green Resources expertise in specialised fields such as growth and yield, inventories, etc.

The company has 93 own employees and uses about 600 workers as contractors, which figure varies depending on the season and work load. Contractors are mainly used for seasonal or occasional work such as cleaning of road drainage structures, clearing of fire belts and weeding operations.



BUSOGA FORESTRY COMPANY LTD. ORGANISATION STRUCTURE



2.5 Ownership and Use Rights

Busoga Forest Company is fully owned by Green Resources AS Norway. The company acquired a lease permit of fifty years (50) from the Government of Uganda for forestry development in Bukaleba and Kachung Central Forest Reserves (CFR). BFC is responsible for the establishment and management of forest plantations for carbon offsets, quality forest products and environmental protection.

2.6 Legislative, Administrative and Land Use Context

Uganda is administered under a decentralised system of divisions referred to as districts. With decentralisation in 1998, local government (district and the sub-county) assumed most of the responsibilities formerly undertaken by the central government ministries. These included income tax collection, service provision, formulation of policies and laws, managing the environment and local forest reserves. The current local government in Uganda is organised into a five-tier system of elected representatives called Local Councils (LCs), from level one (LC1) to level five (LC5). The District Council or the fifth level (LC5) is the highest political organisation in a district. It comprises elected councillors who represent specific constituencies and interest groups, and is headed by the District Chairperson, who presides over meetings of the executive committee. Below the District Council is the County or Municipality Council (LC4) in the rural and urban settings respectively, which is an administrative unit. The sub-county (LC3) is the second level of local government. Below the LC3 are the Parish (LC2) and the Village (LC1) levels. Each Local Council at every level includes an executive committee of nine members and a position for the secretary for production and environment. Local governments have Production and Environment Committees (PECs), whose members are elected and downwardly accountable to local people. These committees are empowered by the Local Government Act of 1997 and the National Forestry and Tree Planting Act (Government of Uganda, 1997, 2003) to manage the local environment and other natural resources, including preparation, approval, control, monitoring and overseeing the implementation of environment programmes. At the local government level, the District and Sub-county Councils have legislative powers, while the executive committee, which is part of the council, is responsible for executive functions, but it is answerable to the council. The executive (administrative) functions are exercised through a hierarchy of employed officials with the Chief Administrative Officer (at the district level), followed by the Assistant Chief Administrative Officer (County level), Sub-county and Parish chiefs at Sub-county and Parish levels, respectively. The executive committee initiates and formulates policies for approval by the council, oversees the implementation of central government programmes, including the management of natural resources and council's policies. It monitors the implementation of council's programmes, and receives and solves problems and disputes forwarded to it from lower local governments. Local organisations crafted and passed byelaws and resolutions that protect forest resources. District and sub-county governments have powers to formulate forest byelaws. This is provided for in sections 39 and 40 of the Local Government Act of 1997 (Government of Uganda, 1997) and the National Forestry and Tree Planting Act of 2003 (Government of Uganda, 2003). Many of these byelaws and resolutions address problems of deforestation, over exploitation of forest resources and protection of marginal areas and water sources. These are also intended to support national environment policy.

2.7 Other Land Uses

The surrounding land use is mainly subsistence agriculture, sugar cane and community villages.

2.8 Non-certified Forests

Green Resources has other forest projects areas that are not within the current scope of the forest management assessment within Uganda and is continuously looking for more opportunities. These forest projects areas will in future be included in the scope for forest management. These project areas are managed under the same management system as Busoga Forestry Company. Green Resources also have other forestry projects in Tanzania, Mozambique and South Sudan. The project in Tanzania is in its second FSC certification cycle and is certified in terms of certificate number SGS-FM/COC-005066 with an expiry date of 7 Aug 2018.

3. FOREST MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

3.1 Bio-physical setting

Geography:

Bukaleba Central Forest Reserve is located 40 km east of Jinja on the lower elevation of Lake Victoria in Mayuge District. The altitude varies from 1 130 m (minimum) to a maximum of 1 370 m above sea level. There is an all weather access road, which links the project with Jinja town. Kachung Forest Reserve is located in Dokolo district, Northern Uganda, and is situated about 30 km south of the town of Lira.

Ecology:

The average temperature is 30 °C with an average minimum of 25,5°C and absolute maximum of 32°C. Wind runs during the rainy season stands at 1-4m/sec, compared to the dry season run of 4-8m/sec.

The average annual rainfall lies between 1 000-1 250 mm in the two rain season patterns of March - May and September - November; with the heavy rains coming in March-May season. There are two marked dry seasons July-September, and December-February being the driest. Evaporation is moderate which means that soils retain moisture for periods of the year during rainy seasons

The original vegetation of Bukaleba Forestry is characterised by scattered patches of *Phragmites mauritania* and *Cyprus latifolious* along the lake shore and *Milicia excelsa*, *Ficus sur*, *Antiaris toxicaria*, *Markhamia lutea*, *Ficus natalensis*, *Albizia coriaria*, and *Maesopsis eminii* found in forest wood land. Other species found in Bukaleba forest reserve include herbaceous species like *Cyperus rotundus*, *Scleria melanomphala*, *Desmodium salicifolium*, *Digitaria abyssinica*, *Imperata cylindrica*, *Leersia hexandra* etc. Within the plantation there are patches of natural vegetation which can be observed along river valley bottoms, water ways and steep slopes. These have been left intact to improve biodiversity and to protect the areas from erosion by rainwater, and also to protect the rivers and streams. The Bukaleba Forest Reserve did not receive the protection that was intended and is now largely disturbed by subsistence farming. It is this disturbed land that is replanted with plantations, while the areas that has still forest left receive enrichment planting treatment where indigenous trees are used to replant.

The vegetation of Kachung central forest reserve consists of dry *Combretum* savannah and wooded grassland with mainly low trees up to 10-15 m of height, with *Borassus ethiopum* as a dominant species. This vegetation has been heavily depleted due to charcoal burning. The remaining part of the area is grassland and grasses of medium height. Grasses such as *Imperata cylindricum*, *Panicum maximum*, *Hypererhenia filipendula*, *Setaria cephecelata*, *Setaria megaphylla*, *Pensetum spp*, *Sporobolus africana*, *Eragrostis exasperate*, *Pasperlum*, *Vigna lantiola*, *Cypress rotenus* and *Bulbosa spp*.

Soils:

The Bukaleba plantation area is made up of pre-cambrian rocks with bare granitic rocks at several places. The ridge is heavily eroded with several bare surfaces. The lower slopes and flat areas have alluvial soils ending up into sandy clay soils. The elephant grass (*Pennisetum purperium*) on northern slopes are indicating fairly deep fertile soils while *Cympopogon afronardus* and *Imperata cylindrica* indicate infertile soils towards the lake and *Themeda triandra* is underlain by rocky base on very thin soil. The reserve is characterized by a central ridge running almost parallel to the lakeshore in south-east to north-west direction. Although the ridge has more rounded tops, the highest peak is 1 384 m above sea level. The ridge is generally rugged and rocky and slopes on either side to form flat lands into Lake Victoria to the south and cultivated lands to the north. The ridge area has shallow soils and is not suitable for commercial forestry.

Soils at Kachung plantation are dominated by the Buruli series which cover 54% of the total reserve area. They are made up of dark-red to yellowish red lateric sandy clay loam to clay soils developed on strongly fore-weathered basement complex rock material consisting largely of gneisses and granites. Depth is variable over pisolithic laterite, but is always shallowest at the plateau edges where sheet laterite often over crops. On a number of sites Buruli soil types merge with the Amuria types. Buruli are on the whole well drained and are not subject to inundations. Their weakly aggregated organic horizon makes them susceptible to erosion. At Kachung and surrounding areas, erosion is minimised by permeability of these soils and the flat terrain on which the reserve occurs.

The Amuria soils occupy 30% of the Kachung area. They are deep, brown to dark brown, stone free with textures ranging from sandy clay to loam to clay.

3.2 History of use

The past management of the Bukaleba Forest Central Reserve was based on providing Mvule logs for a sawmill in Kityerera. The rest of the species which include *Albizia*, *Maesopsis*, *Alstonia*, *Terminalia* and a range of other species were not harvested. In 1974, over 5 000 ha of the reserve were given to the veterinary Department to raise beef cattle and almost all of this area falls within the eastern part of the reserve. This was known as Bukaleba Beef Scheme. Under this scheme the area was fenced and large trees removed by bulldozers. Some beef cattle were introduced and the area had infrastructure such as piped water supply from Lake Victoria, and five modern houses some of which are still standing on the western side but in a sorry state.

The reserve which was under the beef scheme was cleared of most natural trees leaving only *Imperata cylindrica* (elephant grass) and some *Combretum mole* on ridge tops.

In the area of the reserve which had remained under the management of Forest Department now NFA, attempts were made to plant pine in 1976 - 1977 some 30 ha were planted and again in 1990 - 1993 an additional 80 ha of pine mostly *Pinus caribaea* were planted. However, no tending operations were carried out in both the old crop and the young crop until of late when a private contractor was hired by the NFA to carry out thinning in this part of the plantation. As a result of this, stocking is low and the trees have very poor form.

In the rest of the area, there has been intensive encroachment of the reserve and most important natural trees in the reserve destroyed by illegal charcoal burning.

Kachung Central Forest Reserve was gazetted in 1952 by the colonial Government and was first surveyed in 1961. The overall objective was to have an equitable distribution of forest resources countrywide to provide wood-based products for the local people. The other major objective was to develop a forest estate to provide wood to the local pulp and paper mill which had been planned to be developed in the area. All claimants of pieces of land that had been included as part of the reserve were compensated by the then Government of Uganda and were resettled elsewhere. Due to inactivity on the reserve a number of encroachers started using the land for subsistence agriculture and cattle grazing. None of the encroachers settled permanently on the reserve. Preceding Governments however made efforts to reclaim almost all the forest reserve land that was surrendered by the colonial Government at the time of independence. This has been done to revamp the forest sector which was dwindling at a very high rate. The Forest Department was responsible for this task of reclaiming all forest reserve land.

3.3 Planning process

In each financial year, the Board of directors stipulates targets to be pursued to meet company objectives. BFC directs or explains these targets to its departments or projects. The different departments/projects then prepare budgets (APO), which show a comprehensive list of all jobs to be accomplished, and their estimated costs with provision for actual expenditure when carried out. For BFC, the APO reflects the overall projects or departmental annual targets to be achieved as specified from the relevant Forest Management Plan. The APO is discussed at project level and later submitted to BFC management. During the BFC Management budget session all departmental executives and project managers present their budgets. The budgets are discussed and later an integrated (overall) budget is prepared for submission to Management board for approval. Upon approval of the budget, BFC then request fund for implementation for the approved activities. Any deviations felt necessary from the budget in the course of the implementation of activities, BFC management has to seek approval from Board of directors. When funds have been remitted, the expenditure is strictly done according to the existing accounting system and financial regulations of the company.

For the purpose of monitoring progress in the implementation of the FMP, a monitoring mechanism is adopted by BFC during the planning period to evaluate progress made and to make corrective measures where appropriate in case of deviations from the set targets. The Forest Plantations are managed by the Plantation Manager who is answerable to the Managing Director of GRL. The project is divided into two ranges (management units) to ease management of the operations. The workers are made aware of the objectives of the management towards which they will be required to direct their efforts. At project level, weekly meetings are conducted to discuss performance so

that deviations that may arise during implementation of the plan may be corrected. To ensure effective coordinating mechanisms the Plantation Manager adopts direct supervision, mutual adjustments and regular field check up. A progress report is prepared for discussion at BFC management meeting, which is held every month.

The management staffs from the Head Office makes regular visits to the project area to make follow up of the operations and make corrective measures where appropriate.

Evaluation of performance is undertaken to be able to compare the actual and planned performance and make necessary corrections. The performance is measured by use of already set standards, reports, work-studies, time studies, physical measurements, accounting data among others. The Plantation manager also ensures that Compartment and Plantation registers are filled, in addition to job cards weekly, bi-weekly, monthly and annual reports, are also be used as mechanisms for performance evaluation.

The Managing Director, Plantation Manager and Foresters and other supervisors are responsible for the implementation of the plan through their respective levels of responsibilities in coordination and control of project activities. Employment of qualified and experienced personnel together with undertaking regular training by BFC are expected to enhance efficiency and improved coordination and control of activities.

3.4 Harvest and regeneration

Land clearing is carried out according to the planting plan, clearing just enough land required for the plant season. Initial clearing is concentrated in the dry season when labour is available as people do little work in their own gardens during the dry season. The number of seedlings to be planted on each ha depends on soil fertility. However, it is calculated that the optimum average spacing for pines block planting is (3x3) m giving a stocking of 1 111 trees/Ha. *Eucalyptus* clone will be planted and at a spacing of (2,5 x2,5) m giving a stock of 1 600 trees/ha. Also *Maesopsis* will be planted at a spacing of (5x5) m giving a stocking of 400 tree/ha. This spacing provides easier management in terms of thinning operations, and allows the selection of high producing trees.

Procurement of seeds and *Eucalyptus* cloning materials and *Maesopsis* is made in close co-operation with NFA and National Tree Seed Centre, although recently the company started obtaining seed from the Tanzania Tree Seed Agency.

Nursery practices and other silvicultural operations are similar to the current techniques and practices explained in Green Resources Work Procedures and Instructions document. During tree establishment, hand pitting will be done when the ground is moist in aligned marked areas for pitting. The specification for pits is 30 cm diameter and 30 cm depth. Scattered trees species are been left intact during land preparations. Planting is done early during the rainy season (when moisture has penetrated to a depth of 25-30 cm) to ensure good survival and early growth of the nursery stock. This will also permit early blanking and weeding during the remainder of the rainy season. In some areas, apart from spot weeding, slashing can also be carried out if considered necessary. The existing guidelines for pruning and thinning will be followed for Pines.

Survival assessment of the planted area is normally carried out about two weeks after planting so that blanking can be carried out the same planting season where necessary. A further survival assessment is carried out 6-9 month following this, with the replanting taking place if stands have a survival rate below 70%. The PSP has been established and maintained mainly to monitor volume increment and the quality of the crop in relation to the objectives of management in the plantation. Diameter at breast height (dbh), tree height, shall be measured and monitored.

The company will use the harvesting guideline developed by Green Resources for the harvesting operation. Prior to harvesting a site specific assessment EIAs shall be done to identify any negative significant impacts involved in the operations from marking, felling, skidding so as to enable the mitigation of the negative impacts. During harvesting the procedures to be followed are described in the group harvesting procedures and guidelines.

3.5 Monitoring processes

For the purpose of monitoring progress in the implementation of the FMP, a monitoring mechanism will be adopted by BFC during the planning period to evaluate progress made and to make corrective measures where appropriate in case of deviations from the set targets.

Monitoring Plan

Monitoring of Environmental and commercial Aspect					
Parameter to be monitored	Sampling frequency	Indicator	Standards WHO/UG STD	Baseline data	Responsibility
Soil quality	Once in 5 years.	PH, electrical, conductivity, nitrates, sulphates, phosphates, borates hydrocarbon Permeability Physical appearance.	WHO STD Or UG Standards	Ambient levels established during pre-construction phase	BFC
Water quality	Twice a year in dry and rainy season.	PH, Conductivity, Oil content, TSS, SO ₄ , Cr, Pb, BOD ₅ , COD TKN, Plankton		Ambient levels established during pre-establishment phase.	BFC
Collection of meteorological data	Daily	Within the plantation-weather changes.	Established standards	Baseline existing information	BFC
Status of both natural and planted vegetation/trees in the project area	Once a year	Vegetation cover trees/ species composition		Existing baseline information	BFC
Monitoring Of Social Economic and Cultural Aspects					
Workers safety, health and occupation rights	Once a year	Salary levels safety measurements and disease control		Existing work regulations and Labour laws	
Economic impact	Once in 3 years	Economic activity profile to villagers around the company economic gains by District through service charges		Economic performance prior establishment of the project	
Effect on culture	Once in 5 year	Changes in behaviour		Current state	consultant
Health occupation	Twice a year	Prominent diseases trend in STI and HIV/AIDS.		Health data prior to the established of the project	BFC
Public relation	Once a year	Number conflicts, court cases, grievances			BFC

Vegetation on the ridge and slopes, woodland and wetland has been left intact and are monitored for catchment and biodiversity purposes.

4. SOCIO-ECONOMIC AND ENVIRONMENTAL CONTEXT

4.1 Social aspects

	Male	Female
Number of own workers	66	27
Number of contract workers	500	100
Minimum daily wage for agricultural/forestry workers	6200/=	
Infant mortality rates (under 5 years)		
Proportion of workers employed from the local population (%)	99%	

The local communities in the neighbourhood are of mixed tribes but they are dominated by the Basoga tribe. The main economic activity in the area is fishing, subsistence agriculture, trade in agriculture produce and limited livestock grazing. The most common food crops grown are maize, beans, potatoes, millet, rice, cassava, tomatoes etc. The overall social situation in the area around the forest organization under evaluation is poor. This is evidenced by the rapid rate of population growth and the pressure on natural resources, the decay in educational and health infrastructure, growing malnutrition and poverty, and widespread unemployment and underemployment.

Women, children and youth bear a disproportionate burden of the social crisis in Uganda who constitutes 70 to 80 per cent of the total population and a preponderant share of the unemployed and participants in the informal economy. Ugandan women experience the highest maternal mortality rates in East Africa, while the level of illiteracy among them is almost unsurpassed anywhere else. The infant mortality rate (under 5 years) is at 137 deaths /1,000 which is very high. The most serious social problem in the area is the rapid spread of the HIV/AIDS disease which has brought untold havoc to the region's health landscape in recent years.

The adjacent local communities form the major workforce. These communities provide casual labour for the plantations, while getting wages and other social benefits being provided by BFC.

Extension and seminars are used as tools to educate people on different issues pertaining to plantation activities such as fire protection, zero grazing and environmental conservation. Education and extension is reinforced to ensure the communities around and plantations workers are aware of their limitations and rights with regard to the plantations and to minimize the interference in the plantation with man and domestic animals.

Community Forestry:

Promotion of private /village afforestation programs by providing them with seedlings and training to enable them improve their incomes through sale of poles and timber to the company and other wood products for their own use. They can also benefit from Carbon Fund through carbon emissions reduction. Beekeeping is also promoted with the purpose of expanding business opportunities to the local community and the company.

Jobs are created to enable local economic empowerment and hence opening up new business opportunities and improved standard of living. In this context, equal employment opportunities of both women and men are promoted and encouraged. BFC is currently one of the main employing organizations in the area. The company provides the workforce with salaries and wages while enjoying other social benefits.

4.2 Environmental aspects

Major environmental problems in the region include overgrazing, deforestation, and primitive agricultural methods, all of which lead to soil erosion. Forests and woodlands were eliminated and between 1983 and 1993, an additional 7.7% of forest and woodland were lost. Wetlands have been drained for agricultural use.

Vegetation on wetland and ridges has been left intact and are monitored for catchment and biodiversity purposes. During the plan period a botanical survey was done covering tree species composition, their uses, and identification of rare and endangered/threatened and endemic species. The survey has also recommended species of particular importance that could be regenerated by

BFC projects or within the surrounding villages. . This vegetation will be left intact to offer refuge to wildlife, improve biodiversity, protect the areas from erosion by rainwater and also protect the Lakeshore and streams.

The project demonstrates its conservation of biodiversity role by leaving all natural trees and shrub vegetation intact and planting only in the deforested areas. In compliance with the above, the project will execute the following:

- Ridgeline, remnant woodland and bush vegetation are not been disturbed and thus enhance their capacity as catchment areas, carbon sequestration and protection of biodiversity thus safeguarding some of the native grasses and trees that may contain rare and endemic species.
- A buffer zone of not less than 200 m from the lake shore has been demarcated and mapped and left intact or protected from any activity.
- Protection of High Conservation Value Forests (HCVF's), Sites of special importance (SSI's), environmental safeguards based on environmental assessments is being undertaken.
- Protection of special interest sites such as graves, ritual sites etc for the local people will be done and demarcated /mapped and planting shall be done 10 m away from these sites.
- Protection of available wildlife and management according to the wildlife policy of the country.
- A conservation area has been left intact or set aside without planting as a control for monitoring and comparing vegetation changes between the two habitats.

The ecological survey has identified only one endangered species, namely *Encephalartos equatorialis*. It is a cycad and a member of the Zamiaceae. The species is endemic to Uganda and is listed as Critically Endangered by the IUCN. The species is highly restricted, known only from two locations on the low hills along the Northern shore of lake Victoria. This species shall be conserved and protected and their regeneration encouraged by BFC in collaboration with surrounding villagers. However, the area on which this spp occurs has subsequently been excised from the scope of the certificate. Burning of vegetation before planting (leakage) and collection of firewood shall be prohibited for biodiversity conservation and plant species that have use-value like honey, beeswax, fruits and medicines among others to the local communities are numerous and shall be targets for conservation. Beekeeping program has currently started an assessment for flowering intensity of trees and recommended the planting of Eucalyptus species, which has flowering characteristics conducive for honey production. The program shall be implemented through involvement of the local community in order to promote beekeeping products for mutual interest and adding value to the forest plantations

The environmental impact assessment of the project has been carried out and an Environmental Monitoring plan is implemented. The plan is for monitoring changes in the vegetation, meteorology, diseases, soil quality, water quality, biodiversity and social- economic aspects etc in the course of the implementation of the project with the purpose of mitigating any negative impacts that may arise. Thus this Environmental Monitoring Plan is implemented as part of BFC by adhering to the impacts mitigation measures contained in the EIA report to ensure that all issues of environmental concerns are addressed appropriately. BFC has prepared guidelines consisting of the strategies and methodology for implementation of the Environmental Monitoring Plan by the project management.

An environmental and socio-economic impact statement report dated March 2008 was available. The company met with local stakeholders on several occasions about environmental conservation awareness, FSC, CDM; and also with cattle grazers regarding unauthorised grazing. A large annual meeting is held with local stakeholders at the end of each year. Files are available of minutes of stakeholder meetings such as that of 15/07/2010 with cattle grazers. The Proforest HCVF toolkit was used by management to evaluate the FMU for the presence of HCVs; and a report is available which identified the presence of HCV 1 on the FMU. A biodiversity monitoring plan is available which describes the identification of monitoring indicators, frequency and monitoring procedures and monitoring sites. This is done for plants, birds, mammals and fish. This is a new plantation and actual biodiversity monitoring has not yet started although PSPs are in place in the plantations and weather data is recorded via an automatic weather station.

4.3 Administration, Legislation and Guidelines

Uganda has a fairly advanced policy and institutional framework that, if fully implemented, would lead to sustainable and equitable forest management. Over the past ± ten years, there has been

considerable development of key instruments and tools for forest governance, including revised forest and land policy and legislation, participatory land use planning initiatives and various decentralization reforms. Currently, the state responsibility for forest management is vested in the National Forest Authority (NFA).

The following table lists the key national legislation, regulations, guidelines and codes of best practice that are relevant to forestry in the commercial, environmental and social sectors. This list does not purport to be comprehensive, but indicates information that is key to the forestry sector.

LAWS, REGULATIONS AND STANDARDS APPLICABLE IN UGANDA

A.	NATIONAL LEGISLATION
	<p>Legal Rights to Harvest:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Land tenure and management rights <i>Legislation covering land tenure rights, including customary rights as well as management rights that includes the use of legal methods to obtain tenure rights and management rights. It also covers legal business registration and tax registration, including relevant legal required licenses.</i> • Concession licenses <i>Legislation regulating procedures for the issuing of forest concession licenses, including use of legal methods to obtain concession license. Especially bribery, corruption and nepotism are well-known issues in connection with concession licenses.</i> • Management and harvest planning <i>Any legal requirements for management planning, including conducting forest inventories, having a forest management plan and related planning and monitoring, as well as approval of these by competent authorities.</i> • Harvesting permits <i>Legislation regulating the issuing of harvesting permits, licenses or other legal document required for specific harvesting operations. It includes the use of legal methods to obtain the permit. Corruption is a well-known issue in connection with the issuing of harvesting permits.</i>
1.	According to the National Forestry Authority (NFA), the Central Government or Local Government holds Forest Reserves in trust for the people of Uganda (The 1995 Constitution), it is therefore illegal to sell or cut off any part of a Forest Reserve for the benefit of an individual or a group of (Land Act). Any activity in Forest Reserves, unless for management purposes, must be permitted by the responsible body (National Forestry & Tree Planting Act) after EIAs.
2.	Land Act (Act No. 16 of 1998): Any person who owns or occupies land must manage and utilise the land in accordance with the National Environmental Management Act (1995) and any other binding laws; it also stipulates land rental procedures.
3.	Land Act, 1999
4.	Forests Act, 1947 (CH 146)
5.	National Environmental Act, 1995: Specifies projects that need environmental impact assessments (listed activities that need EIAs). These include timber harvesting, clearance of forest areas, reforestation and afforestation, the building of roads and the use of new pesticides.
6.	Collaborative Resource Use Agreements
	<p>Taxes and Fees</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Payment of royalties and harvesting fees <i>Legislation covering payment of all legally required forest harvesting specific fees such as royalties, stumpage fees and other volume based fees. It also includes payments of the fees based on correct classification of quantities, qualities and species. Incorrect classification of forest products is a well-known issue often combined with bribery of officials in charge of controlling the classification.</i> • Value added and sales taxes <i>Legislation covering different types of sales taxes which apply to the material being sold, including selling material as growing forest (standing stock sales).</i> • Income and profit taxes <i>Legislation covering income and profit taxes related to the profit derived from sale of forest products and harvesting activities. This category is also related to income from the sale of timber and does not include other taxes generally applicable for companies or related to salary payments.</i>

7.	Companies Act, 1961 (Ch 110)
8.	Value Added Tax Act, CAP. 349
9.	Income Tax Act, CAP. 340
	<p>Timber Harvesting Activities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Timber harvesting regulations <i>Any legal requirements for harvesting techniques and technology including selective cutting, shelter wood regenerations, clear felling, transport of timber from felling site and seasonal limitations etc. Typically this includes regulations on the size of felling areas, minimum age and/or diameter for felling activities and elements that shall be preserved during felling etc. Establishment of skidding or hauling trails, road construction, drainage systems and bridges etc. shall also be considered as well as planning and monitoring of harvesting activities. Any legally binding codes for harvesting practices shall be considered.</i> • Protected sites and species <i>Covers legislation related to protected areas as well as protected, rare or endangered species, including their habitats and potential habitats</i> • Environmental requirements <i>Covers legislation related to environmental impact assessment in connection with harvesting, acceptable level for soil damage, establishment of buffer zones (e.g. along water courses, open areas, breeding sites), maintenance of retention trees on felling site, sessional limitation of harvesting time, and environmental requirements for forest machineries.</i> • Health and safety <i>Legally required personal protection equipment for persons involved in harvesting activities, use of safe felling and transport practice, establishment of protection zones around harvesting sites, and safety requirements to machinery used. Legally required safety requirements in relation to chemical usage. The health and safety requirements that shall be considered relate to operations in the forest (not office work, or other activities less related to actual forest operations).</i> • Legal employment <i>Legal requirements for employment of personnel involved in harvesting activities including requirement for contracts and working permits, requirements for obligatory insurances, requirements for competence certificates and other training requirements, and payment of social and income taxes withhold by employer. Furthermore, the points cover observance of minimum working age and minimum age for personal involved in hazardous work, legislation against forced and compulsory labour, and discrimination and freedom of association</i>
10.	<p>Land Act of 1998</p> <p>Part III section 44 & 45 providing for protection of forests by both Local and Central Governments; Forests are to be held in trust for the people of Uganda.</p>
11.	<p>National Environmental Act, 1995:</p> <p>Sustainable management of the environment including listed activities that need EIAs, protection or rivers, wetlands, prevention of pollution, conservation of biological diversity.</p> <p>Stipulates <i>inter alia</i> the need for EIA for afforestation projects and that an area within 30 m of a small river/stream be protected.</p>
12.	Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 1998
13.	The National Environment Statute (No 4 of 1995)
14.	<p>National Forest and Tree Planting Act of 2003 (NFTPA):</p> <p>Stipulates <i>inter alia</i> that forest produce must be harvested in accordance with the management plan and regulations made under this Act.</p> <p>Section 5 obliges both Local and Central Government to hold forest reserves in trust and responsible for protection of forest reserves, Sections 14 and 32 making encroachment illegal and punishable by law and Section 85(a)& (b) also provides for the National Forestry Authority (NFA) to ask Court to order for compensation to the NFA for the loss caused by encroachers and other illegal operators in Central Forest Reserves (CFRs)</p> <p>Section 32 states that: No person shall, except, for forestry purposes and in accordance with a management plan, or in accordance with a license granted under this Act, in a forest reserve or community forest –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Cut, take, work or remove forest produce; - Clear, use or occupy any land for –

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Grazing; • Camping; • Livestock farming; • Planting or cultivation of crops; • Erecting of a building or enclosure; or • Recreational, commercial, residential, industrial or hunting • purposes; <p>- Collect biotic and abiotic specimens; or</p> <p>- Construct or re-open a road, track, bridge, airstrip or landing site.</p> <p>A person who contravenes this section commits an offence and is liable on conviction, to a fine not exceeding thirty currency points or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding three years, or both.”</p>
15.	The Employment Decree 1975
16.	Employment Regulations 41 of 1977
17.	The Employment Act 6 of 2006
18.	The Workers Compensation Act 2000
19.	The Occupational Safety and Health Act, 2007
20.	The National Social Security Fund Act 1985
	<p>Third Party Rights</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Customary rights <i>Legislation covering customary rights relevant to forest harvesting activities including requirements covering sharing of benefits and indigenous rights</i> • Free prior and informed consent (FPIC) <i>Legislation covering “free prior and informed consent” in connection with transfer of forest management rights and customary rights to the organisation in charge of the harvesting operation</i> • Rights of indigenous peoples <i>Legislation that regulates the rights of indigenous people as far as it's related to forestry activities. Possible aspects to consider are land tenure, right to use certain forest related resources or practice traditional activities, which may involve forest lands</i>
21.	<p>The Constitution of The Republic of Uganda (1995)</p> <p>Under the National Objectives & Directive Principles, Parts XIII & XXV11 providing for the protection of natural resources and Section 237,2 (b) providing for holding in trust and protection of Forest Reserves for the people of Uganda.</p>
22.	Constitutional Amendment Act 2 of 2005
23.	The Uganda Human Rights Commission Act 4 of 1997
24.	<p>Land Act of 1998</p> <p>Part III section 44 & 45 providing for protection of forests by both Local and Central Governments; Forests are to be held in trust for the people of Uganda.</p>
	<p>Trade and Transport</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Classification of species, quantities, qualities <i>Legislation regulating how harvested material is classified in terms of species, volumes and qualities in connection with trade and transport. Incorrect classification of harvested material is a well-known method to reduce/avoid payment of legality prescribed taxes and fees</i> • Trade and transport <i>All required trading permits shall exist as well as legally required transport document which accompany transport of wood from forest operation</i> • Offshore trading and transfer pricing <i>Legislation regulating offshore trading. Offshore trading with related companies placed in tax havens combined with artificial transfer prices is a well-known way to avoid payment of legally prescribed taxes</i>

	<i>and fees to the country of harvest and considered as an important generator of funds that can be used for payment of bribery and black money to the forest operation and personal involved in the harvesting operation. Many countries have established legislation covering transfer pricing and offshore trading. It should be noted that only transfer pricing and offshore trading as far as it is legally prohibited in the country, can be included here.</i>
25.	Access to Roads Act 1969 (Cap 350)
26.	Roads Act 1949 (Cap 358)
27.	The Traffic and Road Safety Act, 1998: Regulates the licensing of goods vehicle transport.
28.	Uganda National Roads Authority (UNRA Act), 2006.
29.	The Uganda National Roads Authority (UNRA) was established by the Uganda National Authority Act, n ^o 15 of 2006 and became operational on 1 July 2008. The UNRA is responsible for developing and maintaining the national roads network, managing ferries linking the national roads network and controlling axle overloading.
30.	EAC Tripartite Agreement on Road Transport.
	Custom regulations <i>Custom legislation covering areas such as export/import licenses, product classification (codes, quantities, qualities and species)</i>
31.	Customs Management Act, Part 1-4
32.	Customs and Excise Act, 1977 (CH 335)
33.	East African Community Customs Management Act, 2004
	CITES <i>CITES permits (the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora, also known as the Washington Convention)</i>
34.	<p>The Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) was developed in the early 1970's in response to concerns that unregulated international trade in wild species of wild fauna and flora could have a detrimental impact on species and their ecosystems. It currently has 167 State Parties and regulates trade in about 30 000 species. Only a small number of these are actually endangered, the majority being species for which trade measures have been introduced to avoid conservation threat. Parties acceding to CITES agree to place controls on international trade in species that are listed in any of the Convention's three Appendices.</p> <p>Uganda is particularly rich in primates, which have been popular for trade in the past. Whilst the focus is not only on primates, they should specifically be considered. The Uganda Wildlife Authority does issue licenses (e.g. Professional Trappers License) for the collection of certain animals (e.g. reptiles) which also need to be assessed against CITES and the Uganda's own RT&E species.</p> <p>The Uganda Wildlife Policy (1995) and the Uganda Wildlife Statute (1996) brought the management of all wildlife resources under the newly created Uganda Wildlife Authority (UWA). This policy and law are aimed to implement Uganda's obligation under CITES, Convention on Migratory Species of Wild Animals 1979 (CMS) and the Convention on Biological Diversity, 1992.</p> <p>See also IUCN Red List of Threatened Species</p>
	Other
35.	Uganda Wildlife Act, 1996
36.	The Game Preservation and Control Act 1959
37.	The Water Act, 1997: This act aims to promote the rational management and use of water in Uganda and includes the need for water use permits and the prevention of pollution as well as the establishment of water works and construction of impoundments.
38.	Plant Protection Act: Prohibits the import of seeds without a permit – this includes seeds of <i>Acacia</i> spp, <i>Eucalyptus</i> spp and all Conifer species.
39.	The Trade Unions Act 7 of 2006
40.	The Labour Disputes (Arbitration and Settlement) Act 8 of 2006
41.	Children Act, 1997
42.	Children Statute, 6 of 1996

43.	The Prohibition of Burning of Grass Act (Cap 33)
44.	Mining Act (Cap 148)
45.	The Control of Agricultural Chemicals Act 1989 (Cap 28)
46.	The Seed and Plant Act (2006)
47.	The Investment Code Act (Cap 92)
48.	Administration of Estates (Small Estates) (Special Provisions) Cap 156
49.	Arbitration and Conciliation (Cap 4)
50.	Business Names Registration (Cap 109)
51.	Cattle Grazing (Cap 42)
52.	Community Service (Cap 115)
53.	Companies Act (Cap 110)
54.	Cooperative Societies (Cap 112)
55.	Historical and Monuments (Cap 46)
56.	Partnership Act (Cap 114)
57.	Produce Protection Act (Cap 32)
58.	Rivers (Cap 35)
59.	Survey (232)
60.	Trade (Licensing) (Cap 101)
61.	Town and Country Planning (Cap 246)
B.	REGULATIONS PERTINENT TO FORESTRY RELATED TO AND EMERGING FROM NATIONAL LEGISLATION AND OTHER LEGISLATIVE INSTITUTIONS:
62.	The Water Statute No. 7 of 1995
63.	The Water (Water Resources) Regulations, 1998 (Statutory Instrument 152-1)
64.	The Uganda Wildlife Statute No. 14 of 1996: Provides for conservation and protection of wildlife and their derivatives in the country, including trees.
65.	<p>National Environmental Statute No. 4 of 1995</p> <p>Provides for the protection of the environment and critical ecosystems. Section 35 deals with the management of rivers and lakes. It prohibits the carrying out of any of the following activities without the consent and written authorisation of the National Environment Management Authority (NEMA):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • use, erect, alter, extend or remove any structure in, above, on or under the bed; • excavate, drill, tunnel or disturb the bed otherwise; • introduce any plant, micro-organism or animal whether alien or indigenous into a river or lake; • divert or block any river; and • drain any river or lake. <p>Section 37 addresses the management of wetlands. It requires the approval of NEMA in consultation with the lead agency for any person to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • reclaim or drain any wetland; • erect, construct, place, alter, extend, remove or demolish any structure that is fixed in any wetland; • disturb any wetland by drilling or tunnelling in a manner likely to have an adverse impact on the wetland; • deposit in, on or under any wetland any substance in a manner that is likely to have an adverse impact on the environment; and • introduce any plant or animal into the wetland.

66.	The National Environment Assessment Regulations SI 1998 No.13
67.	The National Environment (Hilly and Mountainous Areas Management) Regulations SI 2000 No. 2
68.	The National Environment (Wetlands, Riverbanks and Lakeshores Management) Regulations SI 2000 No. 3
69.	The National Environment (Delegation of Waste Discharging Functions) Instrument SI 1999 No. 56
70.	National Environment (Minimum Standard for Management of Soil Quality) Regulations SI 2001 No. 59
71.	The National Environment (Waste Management) Regulations SI 1999 No. 52
72.	The National Environment (Management of Ozone Depleting Substances and Products) Regulations SI 2001 No. 63
73.	The Access to Information Regulations, 2011 (Statutory Instrument 2011 No. 17)
74.	Administration of Estates (Small Estates) (Special Provisions) SI No. 156-1
75.	Business Names Registration Rules SI No. 109-1
76.	Cattle Grazing (Application of Act) Instrument SI No. 42-1
77.	Companies (General) Regulations SI No. 110-1
78.	Cooperative Societies Regulations SI No. 112-1
79.	Employment Regulations SI No. 219-1
80.	Mining Regulations SI No. 148-1
81.	Motor vehicle Insurance (3rd Party Risks) Regulations SI No. 214-1
82.	National Social Security Fund (Contributions) Regulations SI No. 222-3
83.	Plant Protection (Pests Declaration) Rules SI No. 31-1
84.	The Plant Protection (Importation of Plants) Order Statutory Instrument 31-3
85.	Plant Protection (Pests) Rules SI No. 31-2
86.	The Local Governments (Public Procurement and disposal of Public Assets) Regulations, 2006. Statutory Instruments 2006 No. 39
87.	Public Health (Rural Areas) (Health & Sanitation) Rules SI No. 281-6
88.	Roads (Road Reserves) (Declaration) Instrument SI No. 358-1
89.	Timber Reserve Certificates Regulations SI No. 347-1
90.	Timber (Export) (Grading & Export) Rules SI No. 151-1
91.	Town and Country Planning Regulations SI No. 246-1
92.	Trade Unions Regulations SI No. 223-1
93.	Trade Marks Rules SI No. 217-1
94.	Traffic & Road Safety (Carriage of Goods by Motor) Rules SI No. 363-57
95.	Traffic & Road Safety (Condition of Motor Vehicle) Regulations SI No. 361-9
96.	Traffic & Road Safety Regulations SI No. 361-10
97.	Value Added Tax Regulations SI No. 349-1
98.	Workers Compensation Regulations SI No. 225-1
C.	INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENTS PERTINENT TO FORESTRY
99.	Convention on Biological Diversity The convention has 3 main goals: i) The conservation of biological diversity

	<p>ii) The sustainable use of its components, and</p> <p>iii) The fair and equitable sharing of the benefits from the use of genetic resources.</p> <p>Enabling Legislation: National Environmental Act, 1995</p> <p>The Uganda Wildlife Policy (1995) and the Uganda Wildlife Statute (1996) brought the management of all wildlife resources under the newly created Uganda Wildlife Authority (UWA). This policy and law are aimed to implement Uganda's obligation under CITES, Convention on Migratory Species of Wild Animals 1979 (CMS) and the Convention on Biological Diversity, 1992.</p>
100.	<p>The International Tropical Timber Agreement (ITTA) was adopted on 26 January 1994 (successor agreement to the ITTA, 1983). There are currently 58 members, comprising 32 producing and 26 consuming members, including the European Community. The agreement is open to any state that produces or consumes tropical timber, and to intergovernmental organizations having responsibilities in respect of the negotiation, conclusion, and application of international agreements. The members represent 90 per cent of world trade in tropical timber and over 75 per cent of the world's tropical forests.</p> <p>The International Tropical Timber Organization (ITTO), established by the ITTA, 1983, administers the provisions and supervises the operation of this Agreement. It has the following mission statement: 'The ITTO facilitates discussion, consultation and international co-operation on issues relating to the international trade and utilization of tropical timber and the sustainable management of its resource base. Among its objectives are to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide an effective framework for consultation, international co-operation, and policy development among all members with regard to all relevant aspects of the world timber economy; • Provide a forum for consultation to promote non-discriminatory timber trade practices; • Contribute to the process of sustainable development; • Encourage members to support and develop industrial tropical timber reforestation and forest management activities as well as rehabilitation of degraded forest land, with due regard for the interest of local communities dependent on forest resources; and, • Encourage members to develop national policies aimed at sustainable utilization and conservation of timber-producing forests and their genetic resources and at maintaining the ecological balance in the regions concerned, in the context of tropical timber trade.
101.	<p>International Labour Organisation (ILO): with specific reference to</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ ILO Code of Practice on Safety and Health in Forestry Work (ILO 1998) ▪ ILO Safety and Health in the use of Agrochemicals, A guide. 1991 ▪ ILO Safety in the use of Chemicals at Work (Code of Practice), 1993 ▪ Convention 29: Forced Labour, 1930 ▪ Convention 87: Freedom of Association and Protection of the Right to Organise, 1948 ▪ Convention 97: Migration for Employment, 1949 ▪ Convention 98: Right to Organise and Bargain Collectively, 1949 ▪ Convention 100: Equal remuneration, 1951 ▪ Convention 105: Abolition of Forced Labour, 1957 ▪ Convention 111: Discrimination (occupation and Employment), 1958 ▪ Convention 131: Minimum Wage Fixing, 1970 ▪ Convention 138: Minimum Age for Working, 1973 ▪ Convention 141: Rural Worker's Organisations, 1975 ▪ Convention 142: Human Resources Development, 1975 ▪ Convention 143: Migrant Workers (Supplementary Provisions), 1975 ▪ Convention 155: Occupational Safety and Health, 1981 ▪ Convention 169: Indigenous and Tribal People, 1989 ▪ Convention 182: Worst Forms of Child Labour, 1999 ▪ Guidelines for worker's health surveillance ▪ Guidelines for Labour Inspection in Forestry 2005

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Guidelines for Occupational Health and Safety ▪ Protection of Worker's personal data <p>Uganda is one of the 135 states that has ratified all of the fundamental ILO conventions.</p>
102.	<p>Convention on Wetlands (Ramsar www.cites.org)</p> <p>This is an intergovernmental treaty that provides the framework for national action and international cooperation for the conservation and wise use of wetlands and their resources.</p> <p>Negotiated through the 1960s by countries and non-governmental organizations that were concerned at the increasing loss and degradation of wetland habitat for migratory waterbirds, the treaty was adopted in the Iranian city of Ramsar in 1971 and came into force in 1975. It is the only global environmental treaty that deals with a particular ecosystem, and the Convention's member countries cover all geographic regions of the planet. Many wetland dependent species, particularly birds, are migratory or nomadic, and cross national borders as they move between wetlands. Thus, cooperation among different countries may be necessary for effective wetland conservation.</p> <p>Uganda acceded to the Ramsar Convention on 4 March 1988. Uganda has 12 Ramsar wetland sites covering an area of 454 303 ha. The National Environmental Statute (1995) is the enabling legislation for meeting the Ramsar obligations.</p>
103.	<p>Convention on Migratory Species of Wild Animals (CMS or Bonn Convention):</p> <p>The CMS is concerned particularly with those species of wild animals that migrate across or outside national jurisdictional boundaries. It recognises that the States are and must be the protectors of the migratory species of wild animals that live within or pass through their national jurisdictional boundaries. The conservation and effective management of migratory species of wild animals require the concerted action of all States within the national jurisdictional boundaries of which such species spend any part of their life cycle.</p> <p>The Uganda Wildlife Policy (1995) and the Uganda Wildlife Statute (1996) brought the management of all wildlife resources under the newly created Uganda Wildlife Authority (UWA). This policy and law are aimed to implement Uganda's obligation under CITES, Convention on Migratory Species of Wild Animals 1979 (CMS) and the Convention on Biological Diversity, 1992.</p>
104.	The Convention for the Protection of World Cultural and Natural Heritage, 1972;
105.	The United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, 1992
106.	The Convention to Combat Desertification, 1994
107.	The Africa Forest Law Enforcement and Governance
108.	Membership to the Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA)
109.	Protocol on the Sustainable Development of Lake Victoria Basin;
110.	The East African Community Protocol on Environment and Natural Resources Management
111.	Membership to the African Great Lakes Pact
112.	Kagera Basin Agreement, 1997
D.	LOCAL STANDARDS AND BEST OPERATING PRACTICES
113.	Tree Planting Guidelines for Uganda: SPGS, 2007.
114.	<p>Dykstra, D.P. (1997), FAO model code of forest harvesting practice. ISBN 92-5-103690-X.</p> <p>The information provided in this model code of forest harvesting practice has been compiled with the intend of highlighting the wide range of environmentally sound harvesting practices that are available to forest managers, especially those requiring only a modest level of investment in training and technology. This will permit policy-makers to develop national, regional or local codes of practice which will best serve the particular needs of government agencies, the private sector, non-governmental organizations and other constituents.</p>
115.	<p>STRATEGIC PLANNING FRAMEWORKS RELATED TO FORESTRY:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. National Development Plan (2010/11 – 2014/15) 2. The National Forest Plan 2001 3. Strategy for management of natural forests in Central Forest Reserves July 2006 – June 2016 (NFA, 2006)

	<p>4. National Environment Action Plan</p> <p>5. Plantation strategy</p> <p>6. NFA strategic plan</p>
116.	Human Resource Manual 2002
117.	Uganda Wildlife Authority (UWA), (1995): <i>Uganda Wildlife Policy</i> .
118.	NEAP/Ministry of Natural Resources (MNR), (1994): <i>The National Environment Management Policy</i> .
119.	National Environmental Action Plan (NEAP), 1993: <i>Policy, Environmental Legislation and Institutional arrangements</i> .
120.	MNR, (1994): <i>The National Policy for Conservation and Management of Wetlands Resources</i> .
121.	Guidelines for development of Forest Management Plans (National Forestry Authority, 2005)
122.	A Guide to the Management of Uganda's Tropical Moist Forests for Timber Production (NFA, 2006)
123.	Standards For Boundary Demarcation (NFA, 2005)
124.	A field guide for assessing and restoring growth and development in degraded natural forests in Uganda (NFA, 2007)
125.	Guidelines For Environmental Impact Assessment of Forestry Developments (NFA, 2005)
126.	Guideline for land allocation in Central Forest Reserves (NFA, 2005)
127.	A Field Guide to Exploratory Inventory in Uganda's Tropical Moist Forests in Central Forest Reserves (NFA, 2008)
128.	Designing a licencing system for grazing domestic animals in Central Forest Reserves (NFA, 2005)
129.	Exploratory inventory and integrated stock-survey and management inventory (contained in the report on the Management of Tropical Moist Forests in Uganda, Denis Alder, NFA 2005)
130.	Guidelines for felling trees in built-up areas (NFA, 2003)
131.	Logging in Natural Forests: Supervisor's Toolkit (NFA, 2005)
132.	Plantation development guidelines for Plantation Planning, management, costings, productivity and profitability (NFA, 2006)
133.	Guidelines for Collaborative Forest Management
134.	Guidelines for successful communication at the National Forestry Authority - NFA Guidelines and Standards No. 8 (NFA, 2005)
135.	Guidelines for valuing natural forestry resources in Uganda (NFA, 2006)
136.	Guidelines for valuing plantation forestry resources in Uganda (NFA, 2007)
137.	Guidelines for verification of legal sources of timber – the Case for Central Forest Reserves in Uganda (NFA, 2007)
138.	Tree Improvement for Timber Plantations in Uganda
139.	Threat reduction assessment (TRA): A field manual (NFA, 2008)
140.	Mechanism for collaboration between UWA and the Forestry Department (2003)
141.	Guidelines for the preparation of species action plans at the forest management unit level (David N.L. Hafashimana)
142.	Development of Forest Management Guidelines for Forest Certification and Labeling of Forest Products (NFA, 2003)
143.	Guidelines for Forest Engineering Practices in South Africa. Forest Engineering Working Group of South Africa (FESA) May 1999.
144.	FSC Guidelines for the Implementation of the right to free, prior and informed consent (FPIC). Version 1, 30 October 2012.

5. CHANGES IN MANAGEMENT, HARVESTING, SILVICULTURE AND MONITORING

The following table shows significant changes that took place in the management, monitoring, harvesting and regeneration practices of the certificate holder over the certificate period.

Description of Change	Notes
SURVEILLANCE 1	
SURVEILLANCE 2	
SURVEILLANCE 3	
SURVEILLANCE 4	

6. PREPARATION FOR THE EVALUATION

6.1 Schedule

This is a re-assessment of forest management units that have been certified since. 15/4/2011

6.2 Team

The table below shows the team that conducted the main evaluation and the independent specialist(s) that were selected to review the main evaluation report before certification is considered.

Evaluation Team	Notes
Team Leader	Has a Diploma in forestry, Higher diploma in Forestry Conservation and a Masters degree in Environmental Management. He has 20 years experience in forestry and conservation and 6 years experience in Environmental Management internationally. More than 100 days of FSC auditing.
Local Specialist	Has a PhD in Forestry, 11 years experience in forestry and teaching, involved in teaching and research since 2000, speaks English, Swahili and Ugandan local languages (Rukiga, Runyankore, Runyoro, Rutoro and Luganda), and has 2 years experience as local specialist on FSC assessments in Uganda.

6.3 Checklist Preparation

A checklist was prepared that consisted of the documents listed below. This checklist was prepared by adapting the QUALIFOR generic forest management checklist.

(A copy of this checklist is available on the SGS Qualifor website, <http://www.sgs.com/en/Forestry>).

Standard Used in Evaluation	Effective Date	Version Nr	Changes to Standard
SGS Qualifor: Generic Forest Management Standard (AD33) adapted for Uganda	23/3/2015	05	Surveillance Re –Assessment.

6.4 Stakeholder notification

A wide range of stakeholders were contacted 6 weeks before the planned evaluation to inform them of the evaluation and ask for their views on relevant forest management issues. These included environmental interest groups, local government agencies and forestry authorities, forest user groups, and workers' unions. Responses received and comments from interviews are recorded at the end of this Public Summary.

7. THE EVALUATION

The Main Evaluation was conducted in the steps outlined below.

7.1 Opening meeting

An opening meeting was held at Busoga Forestry Company Head office in Jinja. The scope of the evaluation was explained and schedules were determined. Record was kept of all persons that attended this meeting.

7.2 Document review

A review of the main forest management documentation was conducted to evaluate the adequacy of coverage of the QUALIFOR Programme requirements. This involved examination of policies, management plans, systems, procedures, instructions and controls.

7.3 Sampling and Evaluation Approach

A detailed record of the following is available in section B of the evaluation report. This section does not form part of the public summary, but includes information on:

- Sampling methodology and rationale;
- FMUs included in the sample;
- Sites visited during the field evaluation; and
- Man-day allocation.

The majority of management was present and available throughout the audit. The document review was mainly conducted at the Jinja office. Both the auditor and local specialist visited in-field operations, the field office and workshop and store area. Prominent areas were visited such as the fire tower, sites of special interest, nursery and some of the villages. Extensive consultation was done with villagers. The company sponsored and helped the neighbouring community with the building of a clinic and still play an active role in providing resources for the clinic. Boreholes were drilled and water is provided to the community. Time was allocated so that a whole day was spent on the FMU visiting these places. The sawmill construction site is off the FMU and was visited. In total six man-days were spend at the company on and off the FMU.

7.4 Field assessments

Field assessments aimed to determine how closely activities in the field complied with documented management systems and QUALIFOR Programme requirements. Interviews with staff, operators and contractors were conducted to determine their familiarity with and their application of policies, procedures and practices that are relevant to their activities. A carefully selected sample of sites was visited to evaluate whether practices met the required performance levels.

7.5 Stakeholder interviews

Meetings or telephone interviews were held with stakeholders as determined by the responses to notification letters and SGS discretion as to key stakeholders that should be interviewed. These aimed to:

- clarify any issues raised and the company’s responses to them;
- obtain additional information where necessary; and
- obtain the views of key stakeholders that did not respond to the written invitation sent out before the evaluation.

Nr of Stakeholders contacted	Nr of Interviews with		
	NGOs	Government	Other
MAIN EVALUATION			
53		15	16
SURVEILLANCE 1			
SURVEILLANCE 2			
SURVEILLANCE 3			

Nr of Stakeholders contacted	Nr of Interviews with		
	NGOs	Government	Other
SURVEILLANCE 4			

Responses received and comments from interviews are recorded under paragraph 13 of this Public Summary.

7.6 Summing up and closing meeting

At the conclusion of the field evaluation, findings were presented to company management at a closing meeting. Any areas of non-conformance with the QUALIFOR Programme were raised as one of two types of Corrective Action Request (CAR):

- Major CARs - which must be addressed and re-assessed before certification can proceed
- Minor CARs - which do not preclude certification, but must be addressed within an agreed time frame, and will be checked at the first surveillance visit

A record was kept of persons that attended this meeting.

8. EVALUATION RESULTS

Detailed evaluation findings are included in Section B of the evaluation report. This does not form part of the public summary. For each QUALIFOR requirement, these show the related findings, and any observations or corrective actions raised. The main issues are discussed below.

8.1 Findings related to the general QUALIFOR Programme

For "Weaknesses" please refer to the list of corrective action requests (CAR) under section 11 and observations under section 12 of this report.

PRINCIPLE 1: COMPLIANCE WITH LAW AND FSC PRINCIPLES	
<i>Criterion 1.1 Respect for national and local laws and administrative requirements</i>	
Strengths	
Compliance	The management staff of Busoga forestry Company showed a good understanding of the relevant Ugandan laws regulating the forestry industry. Access to legislation was demonstrated during interviews. There are people employed to ensure legislation and policies are updated. Over and above country legislation the company has also set its own policies to ensure good forest practice.
<i>Criterion 1.2 Payment of legally prescribed fees, royalties, taxes and other charges</i>	
Strengths	
Compliance	The annual budget make provision for the prescribed fees and taxes. During the audit budgets and documents reviewed indicate that all prescribed fees are up to date.
<i>Criterion 1.3 Respect for provisions of international agreements</i>	
Strengths	
Compliance	Uganda is a signatory to international agreements such as CITES, genda 21, RAMSAR, ILO, Biodiversity Convention etc. The requirements of these are ratified in national legislation and the company operating in compliance to the national legislation.
<i>Criterion 1.4 Conflicts between laws and regulations, and the FSC P&C</i>	
Strengths	

Compliance	No conflict between legislation and the FSC principles and criteria were noted.
<i>Criterion 1.5 Protection of forests from illegal activities</i>	
Strengths	
Compliance	The company works closely with communities in a community policing programme that sensitizes local people about illegal activities. They employ several patrolmen for the continuously patrol and address illegal activities.
<i>Criterion 1.6 Demonstration of a long-term commitment to the FSC P&C</i>	
Strengths	
Compliance	The company has a long term licence agreement to manage the land. The company also has a policy signed by the CEO stating the commitment to comply with FSC principles in the management of their forests reserves.
PRINCIPLE 2: TENURE AND USE RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES	
<i>Criterion 2.1 Demonstration of land tenure and forest use rights</i>	
Strengths	
Compliance	Tree farming licences were verified during the audit and all land managed by the company has legal authority to manage the land and establish forestry.
<i>Criterion 2.2 Local communities' legal or customary tenure or use rights</i>	
Strengths	
Compliance	Both the FMUs under the management of the company are historically gazetted as forest reserves. There are no legal or customary use rights, but the company acknowledges local communities rights to access to non-timber forests on the reserve.
<i>Criterion 2.3 Disputes over tenure claims and use rights</i>	
Strengths	
Compliance	There are no current unresolved disputes over tenure and use rights. The company has procedures in place for the handling of disputes and complaints. All such disputes and complaints are documented and the records kept.
PRINCIPLE 3: INDIGENOUS PEOPLES' RIGHTS	
<i>Criterion 3.1 Indigenous peoples' control of forest management</i>	
Strengths	
Compliance	There are no indigenous people around Bukaleba Forest plantation. The neighbouring communities are all natives of Uganda.
<i>Criterion 3.2 Maintenance of indigenous peoples' resources or tenure rights</i>	
Strengths	
Compliance	BFC incorporated local people's privileges into the management plan. Through community policing and sensitisation meetings local people are informed of the privileges that they are entitled to under section 33 of the National Forestry and Tree Planting Act, 2003..
<i>Criterion 3.3 Protection of sites of special cultural, ecological, economic or religious significance to indigenous peoples</i>	
Strengths	
Compliance	Sites of special cultural, ecological, economic or religious significance to indigenous peoples are clearly identified in co-operation with such peoples, and recognised and protected by forest managers. They are mapped and protected during operations.

<i>Criterion 3.4 Compensation of indigenous peoples for the application of their traditional knowledge</i>	
Strengths	
Weaknesses	
Compliance	No evidence was found of any traditional knowledge that has been commercially exploited by the company. No compensation necessary.
PRINCIPLE 4: COMMUNITY RELATIONS AND WORKERS RIGHTS	
<i>Criterion 4.1 Employment, training, and other services for local communities</i>	
Strengths	
Compliance	Local people are given opportunity for employment. The company follows its recruitment policy of being an equal opportunity employer and compensation is based on qualifications, skills and performance. A training and development plan for the period 2015 was verified indicating the accomplished training/courses and the persons who benefited. Medical infrastructure such as children's ward constructed at Bardyang in Kachung and a Maternity Ward at Nkombe Health Centre II. Interviews indicated that the company also assist with medical supplies to the Nkombe and Bukatube Health Centres to improve on the health of their workers and neighbouring communities.
<i>Criterion 4.2 Compliance with health and safety regulations</i>	
Strengths	
Compliance	Forestry operations comply with the ILO code of practice on safety in forestry. All workers interviewed indicate relevant training in safe working practise. At all operations visited PPE was available and supervision with the necessary skills and training was available.
<i>Criterion 4.3 Workers' rights to organise and negotiate with employers</i>	
Strengths	
Compliance	The company allows its workers to organise and bargain collectively and this is provided under Labour Relations Policy in the employee Handbook, 2014. Workers committee are in place and meetings are held. Minutes of the meetings were available for the audit.
<i>Criterion 4.4 Social impact evaluations and consultation</i>	
Strengths	
Compliance	Social impacts in the region were identified and the company contribute where possible. The impacts are seen as having positive impact on the region. Interviews with local leaders for communities around the Bukaleba Forest plantations indicated that BFC has a community development programme through which people have been trained and sensitised on tree planting, fuelwood energy cook stoves, supplied tree seedlings, supported girl child education, constructed maternity wards and provided medical supplies to health centres. Most of these projects were verified during stakeholder interviews in the villages adjacent to Bukaleba.
<i>Criterion 4.5 Resolution of grievances and settlement of compensation claims</i>	
Strengths	
Compliance	The company has effective dispute and grievance procedures in place that is accepted in the community. This was confirmed with local leaders around Bukaleba.
PRINCIPLE 5: BENEFITS FROM THE FOREST	
<i>Criterion 5.1 Economic viability taking full environmental, social, and operational costs into account</i>	
Strengths	

Compliance	While still establishing a productive and viable resource base, the company is making optimal use of annual yield from thinning. Environmental and social expenses are considered in budgets.
<i>Criterion 5.2 Optimal use and local processing of forest products</i>	
Strengths	
Compliance	Optimal use is made of local processing. Primary processing is done by the company's own local sawmill.
<i>Criterion 5.3 Waste minimisation and avoidance of damage to forest resources</i>	
Strengths	
Compliance	National harvesting guidelines are applied in operations. The company allow for firewood collection that helps to clear the compartments of access litter. Harvesting techniques are designed to avoid log breakage, No damage to standing trees was observed in the selective harvesting compartment.
<i>Criterion 5.4 Forest management and the local economy</i>	
Strengths	
Compliance	The forests are managed commercially for the timber value. The plantations are also established to sequestrate carbon and to protect the natural vegetation and biodiversity. Although these objectives might not have financial benefit, their value is acknowledged. Other forest products are for free and do not play a role in the economy although the resources are available.
<i>Criterion 5.5 Maintenance of the value of forest services and resources</i>	
Strengths	
Compliance	The company plays an important role in providing neighbouring communities with trees to plant. Apart from having a potential resource in the future there is a reduction of deforestation and an increase in tree growth, that in turn increases the carbon sequestration in the region.
<i>Criterion 5.6 Harvest levels</i>	
Strengths	
Compliance	Pines are grown on a saw timber rotation of 20 yrs, Eucalypts are mainly poles on a 12 year rotation. Thinning is done on both Eucalypts and Pines. Data with regard to volumes predicted and actual harvest volumes are collected. Harvesting levels are determined in the management plan as 60ha Pines and 334ha gums per annum.
PRINCIPLE 6: ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT	
<i>Criterion 6.1 Environmental impacts evaluation</i>	
Strengths	
Compliance	Site-specific assessments of the potential environmental impacts of all forest operations are carried out prior to commencement of site disturbing operations. The impact study covers both environmental and social issues.
<i>Criterion 6.2 Protection of rare, threatened and endangered species</i>	
Strengths	
Compliance	Experts from Makerere University (a consultant group of ecologists, foresters, birders, botanists who have published internationally) were contracted to compile a comprehensive list of all RTE spp. The potential habitats of rare, threatened and endangered species are demarcated on maps. No RTE species were recorded to occur on the FMU.
<i>Criterion 6.3 Maintenance of ecological functions and values</i>	

Strengths	
Compliance	Regeneration, succession, and the abundance of species is the result of natural processes that are allowed to take place. Enrichment planting is done only on disturbed areas with some of the least occurring species. Silviculture is applied to the exotic plantations to promote the optimal yield and timber quality
<i>Criterion 6.4 Protection of representative samples of existing ecosystems</i>	
Strengths	
Compliance	There is a strip of 200 m around the lake that is maintained in its natural state to protect the riparian zone. The rocky ridge down the middle of the estate has shallow soils that are not suitable for planting and also contain the rare <i>Encephalartos</i> species. The area is managed as conservation zone. These areas are all mapped out on GIS maps. Riparian zones along streams are maintained in their natural state.
<i>Criterion 6.5 Protection against damage to soils, residual forest and water resources during operations</i>	
Strengths	
Compliance	Procedures are developed for the protection of soil during operations. Water resources are protected by protecting the adjacent riparian zones. Guidelines developed by the holding company Green resources are implemented. No evidence of field activities leading to environmental damage was seen inside the leased area. Buffer zones are maintained along streams and a 200m wide buffer zone is maintained all along the coastline of the lake. These areas was indicated on maps and adhered to in field
<i>Criterion 6.6 Chemical pest management</i>	
Strengths	
Compliance	Management systems are developed for environmentally friendly non-chemical methods of pest management and strive to avoid the use of chemical pesticides. However with the persistent weed problem and termite problems experienced in the forest, the use of chemicals are foreseen to be used for quite some time. Due consideration is given to use only permitted chemicals and to apply correctly.
<i>Criterion 6.7 Use and disposal of chemicals, containers, liquid and solid non-organic wastes</i>	
Strengths	
Compliance	Infield waste collection facilities are available and from there it is removed to the office for further recycling and disposal. Disposal is done in environmentally appropriate ways and comply with the ILO Guide', and 'Safety in the Use of Chemicals at Work'
<i>Criterion 6.8 Use of biological control agents and genetically modified organisms</i>	
Strengths	
Compliance	No biological control agents or Genetically Modified Organisms are used.
<i>Criterion 6.9 The use of exotic species</i>	
Strengths	
Compliance	The exotic trees now being used for plantations are known species for commercial forestry in Uganda. The initial EIA indicate that these species will be used in the afforestation program and is acceptable to the authorities. The species to be used were assessed in the EIA and a selection was made on those with the least adverse impacts. The impacts are mostly beneficial in the sense that it reduces the pressure on indigenous forest.
<i>Criterion 6.10 Forest conversion to plantations or non-forest land uses</i>	
Strengths	
Compliance	No natural forest conversions are done.

PRINCIPLE 7: MANAGEMENT PLAN	
<i>Criterion 7.1 Management plan requirements</i>	
Strengths	
Compliance	The management plan 2010 – 2015 is still active until December. Field visits throughout the FMU showed that the FMU was being developed in accordance with prescriptions set out in the plan and implemented accordingly. Management objectives are clearly described, Forest resources, environmental limitations, special characteristics of the forest, are described. Silvicultural and/or other management system, as well as and inventories, are described. Rate of harvest, and operational techniques are documented and justified. Monitoring forest growth and dynamics are described. Environmental safeguards described. Maps describing the forest resource base including protected areas, planned management activities and land ownership are available.
<i>Criterion 7.2 Management plan revision</i>	
Strengths	
Compliance	The current plan is valid until the end of December 2015. New plan still under revision. Staff responsible for the revision and approval clearly defined and appointed.
<i>Criterion 7.3 Training and supervision of forest workers</i>	
Strengths	
Compliance	All teams visited in field had supervisors to supervise the jobs. Supervisors are experienced and trained to oversee the work. Training needs are identified and training records are available.
<i>Criterion 7.4 Public availability of the management plan elements</i>	
Strengths	
Compliance	The summary of the management plan is publicly available.
PRINCIPLE 8: MONITORING AND EVALUATION	
<i>Criterion 8.1 Frequency, intensity and consistency of monitoring</i>	
Strengths	
Compliance	The description in the management plan gives indication of the different parameters that are monitored. It further indicates the responsible authority to do the monitoring and the time interval for the monitoring to be done. It covers the normal forest growth monitoring as well as environmental and socio economic parameters. Frequency defined in the management plan.
<i>Criterion 8.2 Research and data collection for monitoring</i>	
Strengths	
Compliance	A system of Permanent Sample Plots has been established within the plantation growing stock. The data of plot surveys are regularly analysed and provide for all the normal stand parameters such as dbh, average and dominant height, basal area, MAI, site index, etc There is a permanent inventory team that is responsible for forest mensuration. Information is linked to the GIS and Microforest software. That allows management to have an up to date database of the resource inventory.
<i>Criterion 8.3 Chain of custody</i>	
Strengths	
Compliance	There is a procedure for identifying all products leaving the forest so that the recipient can easily determine the forest of origin. Records are kept of the total quantities of all products sold, There were no certified sales.

	Use of the FSC trademark is in accordance with policy and has been approved by SGS Qualifor
Criterion 8.4 Incorporation of monitoring results into the management plan	
Strengths	
Compliance	The company uses Microforest software to improve the database and ultimately management decision making. The areas that are under the accelerated harvesting program are measured and GIS maps produced with accurate compartment boundaries. The results of research and monitoring programmes are regularly analysed and incorporated into planning on a regular basis.
Criterion 8.5 Publicly available summary of monitoring	
Strengths	
Compliance	Summary of monitoring results is publicly available.
PRINCIPLE 9: HIGH CONSERVATION VALUE FORESTS	
Criterion 9.1 Evaluation to determine high conservation value attributes	
Strengths	
Compliance	Not Applicable: The FMU was assessed by professionals and confirmed that no HCVF occur on the FMU.
Criterion 9.2 Consultation process	
Strengths	
Compliance	Not Applicable
Criterion 9.3 Measures to maintain and enhance high conservation value attributes	
Strengths	
Compliance	Not Applicable
Criterion 9.4 Monitoring to assess effectiveness	
Strengths	
Compliance	Not Applicable
PRINCIPLE 10: PLANTATIONS	
Criterion 10.1 Statement of objectives in the management plan	
Strengths	
Compliance	The management plan of the plantation explicitly states the management objectives for the plantation. There is no natural forest conversion. Short term objectives are to sustain the supply of wood resources; while long term objectives aim to facilitate socio economic development. Carbon sequestration forms an integral part of the objectives
Criterion 10.2 Plantation design and layout	
Strengths	
Compliance	Plantation design has consideration for natural vegetation, and buffer zones along watercourses and the lake shore. The scale of the plantation operations was determined during the EIA process and approved for afforestation. Compartment sizes are determined by natural boundaries and by establishing manageable units.
Criterion 10.3 Diversity in composition	

Strengths	
Compliance	The plantation diversity is achieved by planting Pines and Eucalyptus of varying age classes in a mosaic. Eucalyptus clones are used to ensure survival and for optimal performance. Maximum clear-cut size is defined.
<i>Criterion 10.4 Species selection</i>	
Strengths	
Compliance	The species selection is based on the good performance of the species and the proven good economic viability they provide. Selection is narrowed down to a few species of <i>Eucalyptus</i> , <i>Pinus</i> , Eucalyptus clones are used to ensure survival and for optimal performance. <i>Eucalyptus grandis x camaldulensis</i> & <i>Eucalyptus grandis x urophylla</i> . Information is available on seed sources and these can be traced to the stand data
<i>Criterion 10.5 Restoration of natural forest</i>	
Strengths	
Compliance	There is no natural forest in the reserve covered by the lease. The remaining conservation land, that does not contain forests, is still about 28 % of the reserve under the management of the company.
<i>Criterion 10.6 Impacts on soil and water</i>	
Strengths	
Compliance	There is information on all soil types in the plantation area that indicate their susceptibility to degradation from forest operations. Site-species matching is done to ensure best selection of species for the right soil site. Little signs of erosion and soil degradation was seen.
<i>Criterion 10.7 Pests and diseases</i>	
Strengths	
Compliance	The principal forest pests and diseases are identified. There is a documented pest and invasive plant management strategy. Sites of post treatment were visited and results were good.
<i>Criterion 10.8 Monitoring of impacts, species testing and tenure rights</i>	
Strengths	
Compliance	Monitoring is done on the biophysical impacts of the forestry operations, including the use of exotic species for timber production. The species selection is based on the good performance of the species and the proven good economic viability they provide. Socio-Economic parameters are included in the monitoring strategy.
<i>Criterion 10.9 Plantations established in areas converted from natural forests after November 1994</i>	
Strengths	
Compliance	There is no conversion of natural forests.

9. CERTIFICATION DECISION

SGS considers that Busoga Forestry Company's forest management of Bukaleba and Kuchung forests, Uganda can be certified as:

- i. There are no outstanding Major Corrective Action Requests

- ii. The outstanding Minor Corrective Action Requests do not preclude certification, but Busoga Forestry Company is required to take the agreed actions before the first surveillance. These will be verified by SGS QUALIFOR at the first surveillance to be carried out at about 12 months from the date of the issuance of the certificate. If satisfactory actions have been taken, the CARs will be 'closed out'; otherwise, Minor CARs will be raised to Major CARs.
- iii. The management system, if implemented as described, is capable of ensuring that all of the requirements of the applicable standard(s) are met over the whole forest area covered by the scope of the evaluation;
- iv. The certificate holder has demonstrated, subject to the specified corrective actions, that the described system of management is being implemented consistently over the whole forest area covered by the scope of the certificate.

10. MAINTENANCE OF CERTIFICATION

During the surveillance evaluation, it is assessed if there is continuing compliance with the requirements of the Qualifor Programme. Any areas of non-conformance with the QUALIFOR Programme are raised as one of two types of Corrective Action Request (CAR):

01. **Major CARs** - which must be addressed and closed out urgently with an agreed short time frame since the organisation is already a QUALIFOR certified organisation. Failure to close out within the agreed time frame can lead to suspension of the certificate.
02. **Minor CARs** - which must be addressed within an agreed time frame, and will normally be checked at the next surveillance visit

The full record of CARs raised over the certification period is listed under section 11 below.

The table below provides a progressive summary of findings for each surveillance. A complete record of observations demonstrating compliance or non-compliance with each criterion of the Forest Stewardship Standard is contained in a separate document that does not form part of the public summary.

MAIN EVALUATION	
Issues that were hard to assess	None. The system is well documented and the cooperation of the staff is good.
Number of CARs raised	0 New Major CARs and 5 Minor CARs were raised.
SURVEILLANCE 1	
Issues that were hard to assess	
Number of CARs closed	
Nr of CARs remaining open	
New CARs raised	
Brief Summary of Sites Inspected	
Recommendation	
SURVEILLANCE 2	
Issues that were hard to assess	
Number of CARs closed	
Nr of CARs remaining open	
Nr of New CARs raised	
Brief Summary of Sites Inspected	

Recommendation	
SURVEILLANCE 3	
Issues that were hard to assess	
Number of CARs closed	
Nr of CARs remaining open	
Nr of New CARs raised	
Brief Summary of Sites Inspected	
Recommendation	
SURVEILLANCE 4	
Issues that were hard to assess	
Number of CARs closed	
Nr of CARs remaining open	
Nr of New CARs raised	
Brief Summary of Sites Inspected	
Recommendation	

11. RECORD OF CORRECTIVE ACTION REQUESTS (CARs)

CAR #	Indicator	CAR Detail					
		Date Recorded>		Due Date>		Date Closed>	
32	1.3.3	Date Recorded>	25-07-2014	Due Date>	24-07-2015	Date Closed>	27/7/2015
		Non-Conformance:					
		Forest managers are not aware of the requirements and have not implemented controls to ensure continuing compliance with ITTA.					
		Objective Evidence:					
		During interviews with forest management they did not display an awareness of the ITTA. They were not aware of the agreement or of its requirements.					
		Close-out evidence:					
34	6.1.3	Date Recorded>	25-07-2014	Due Date>	24-07-2015	Date Closed>	29/7/2015
		Non-Conformance:					
		All potential environmental impacts identified during assessments are not considered during operations and planning and do not ensure that adverse impacts are avoided or mitigated.					
		Objective Evidence:					
		The watering of stake holder's cattle is permitted within the wetland situated on the FMU. Although there is a prescription on how the cattle can access the water points there are no control or monitoring procedures where the numbers of cattle and the impact of the cattle can be assessed.					
		Close-out evidence:					

CAR #	Indicator	CAR Detail					
		Verified the management plan for the conservation zones. Meetings were held with different communities and all the cattle owners are registered. Evidence of the meetings and the attendants is available. These meetings took place between 4 – 12 June 2015. During the meetings forms were distributed for registering each owner's cattle. At Bukaleba the meetings progressed to a stage where the numbers of cattle are known to be about 5000 and there is agreement dated 12/6/2015 with the communities to reduce to 3000. The process of reduction is underway.					
35	10.2.1	Date Recorded>	23-05-2014	Due Date>	22-05-2015	Date Closed>	29/7/2015
Non-Conformance:							
Natural vegetation areas within the FMU are identified and demarcated on maps and such areas within the landscape are known but are not considered during planning.							
Objective Evidence							
The large area of wetland within the FMU amounting to approximately 19% of the total area has not been categorised as a SMZ, and no management prescriptions for its management have been drawn up.							
Close-out evidence:							
Site specific environmental assessment for the harvesting operations in Compartment E 03 & E 04 had clear management prescriptions described. Management plan for the conservation zones in Bukaleba dated September 2014 was verified and it give guidance to swamp areas that are all identified and numbered. Wooded conservation areas with strategies and general considerations for managing these areas, both swamps and wooded areas. Monitoring prescriptions are listed, although no evidence were seen of actual data. This is included in new CAR 01 of the recertification. CAR closed							
36	10.8.2	Date Recorded>	25-07-2014	Due Date>	24-07-2015	Date Closed>	29/7/2015
Non-Conformance:							
Potential biophysical off-site impacts are not monitored on a regular basis. Evidence of consultation with affected parties in terms of these impacts is not available.							
Objective Evidence							
At Kachung FMU there is no regular monitoring of off-site water quality, or of the spread of exotic plantation species, or the effect of cattle watering on the water resources. In discussions with forest management it was confirmed that these issues have not been discussed with affected parties.							
Close-out evidence:							
Minutes of the stakeholder meetings held on the 12 th March 2015 indicate that the species found outside the reserve area are intentional and not as a result of invasive spread from the company. The community confirmed this. The company also has a scheme of providing seedlings to the community and over 200,000 seedlings have been distributed in adjacent communities.							

CAR #	Indicator	CAR Detail					
01	8.1.3	Date Recorded>	29/7/2015.	Due Date>	12 months	Date Closed>	dd mmm yy
Non-Conformance:							
Consistent and replicable monitoring procedures for each activity are not documented in the programme and implemented, allowing for comparison and change over time.							
Objective Evidence:							
Several aspects highlighted for monitoring in the management plan are not well described in monitoring procedures in terms of methodology and frequency. It is also not implemented and the results therefore not available for comparisons. Social Issues are listed as Economic impact, Effect of culture etc. Some on 3yearly basis							

CAR #	Indicator	CAR Detail					
		<p>and some on 5 yearly basis. Had no evidence that it was done and no guidance in the procedure.</p> <p>Water quality measures include requirements for BOD & COD that was not done.</p> <p>Management plan require soil quality to be done on a 5 yearly basis.</p> <p>More specific documents such as the Management plan for conservation Zones in the Bukaleba forest identify specific issues to be monitored. E.g the monitoring of movement, numbers and effect of cattle grazing, the effect of plantation operations, and success of enrichment planting.</p> <p>The EIA for the new mill indicates monitoring of logging operations on water resources with specific reference to siltation.</p> <p>These parameters are not clearly defined and described in the monitoring procedure and there was no evidence that it was done.</p> <p>Close-out evidence:</p>					
02	6.2.2	Date Recorded>	29/7/2015	Due Date>	12 months	Date Closed>	dd mmm yy
Non-Conformance:							
There is co-operation with acknowledged experts and/or conservation organisations and/or regulatory authorities in identifying conservation zones and protection areas for rare, threatened and endangered species present, but these expert's studies failed to evaluate against all potential RT & E species.							
Objective Evidence:							
The last ecological study was done in 2009. It does not contain any information on amphibians and only one reference to fish. Expert studies in 2013 only addresses the trees, mammals and reptiles and does not address the national concern of fish and amphibians as indicated in the verifier of 6.1.1. The latest report also did not evaluate against the RT&E Status of the species. E.g. Melicia exelcia that was indicated in previous reports as being "threatened".							
Close-out evidence:							
03.	6.2.5	Date Recorded>	29/7/2015	Due Date>	12 months	Date Closed>	dd mmm yy
Non-Conformance:							
Authorised grazing and collecting activities are not managed to ensure they do not exceed sustainable levels.							
Objective Evidence:							
The sustainable levels of grazing is not determined and the effects not monitored.							
Verified the management plan for the conservation zones. Meetings were held with different communities and the all the cattle owners are registered. Evidence of the meetings and the attendants is available. These meetings took place between 4 – 12 /6 / 2005. During the meetings forms was distributed for registering each owner's cattle. These forms are not all received back and thus the total number of cattle is still unknown for Kuchung. At Bukaleba the meetings progressed to a stage where the numbers of cattle is known to about 5000 and there is agreement with the communities to reduce to 3000. This figure is random and not based on established carrying capacity. There is no monitoring system in place that monitor the reduction process. Cattle were also seen that clearly overnight in Compartments E19 and damage observed in the J block near Waigala Site.							
Close-out evidence:							
04	3.3.5	Date Recorded>	29/7/2015	Due Date>	12 months	Date Closed>	dd mmm yy

CAR #	Indicator	CAR Detail					
		Non-Conformance:					
		No Measures are in place to prevent any form of damage or disturbance, other than such agreed with affected indigenous people					
		Objective Evidence:					
		The Pyramidal stone structure (ASI) in Block B was found collapsed and overgrown with Lantana. No evidence was found that the company made any effort to prevent damage. Interviews revealed that it could be a potential tourism asset. There is also very little information known to the company regarding this monument.					
		Close-out evidence:					
05	6.5.3.	Date Recorded>	29/7/2015	Due Date>	12 months	Date Closed>	dd mmm yy
		Non-Conformance:					
		Buffer zones are not all well maintained along watercourses and around water bodies in compliance with specifications made in national and regional best practice guidelines.					
		Objective Evidence:					
		Evidence was found of cultivated fields along the main watercourse running from the guesthouse to the lake at Bukaleba. The company destroyed the fields but damage to the watercourse was not prevented.					
		Close-out evidence:					

12. RECORD OF OBSERVATIONS

OBS #	Indicator	Observation Detail			
1	8.5	Date Recorded>	29/7/2015	Date Closed>	dd MMM yy
		Observation:			
		The company belongs to The Green Resources Group, who publishes an annual report that contains the results. The 2013/2014 annual report is available. There is room for improvement on elaboration on results of monitoring of environmental and social impacts, with specific reference to Busoga operations			
		Follow-up evidence:			
2	5.3.1.	Date Recorded>	29/7/2015	Date Closed>	dd MMM yy
		Observation:			
		At the harvesting operation it was observed that scaling of block lengths are not accurate. Some were too short to qualify and others had too much trimming allowance.			
		Follow-up evidence:			

13. RECORD OF STAKEHOLDER COMMENTS AND INTERVIEWS

Nr	Comment	Response
	Main Evaluation	

Nr	Comment	Response
01	<p>Local leaders from Walumbe Village</p> <p>Acknowledged the company for providing employment opportunities to the community, opening up of access roads and medical supplies to Nkombe Health Centre where they easily access treatment. They noted that company allows them access firewood from prunnings. Also noted that the company allows local communities to access to the Walumbe Tree for spiritual purposes. The company has also provided training for the communities in fuelwood cook stoves as a measure to reduce firewood use and healthy of the women.</p> <p>Noted that the area is easily accessible to the Pyramid considered a monument area where slaves used to assemble before crossing the lake Victoria enroute to Tanzania which the company should work closely with Busoga Region Tourism EXPO into a major tourist attraction. Local leaders noted the need for developing the caves and the Pyramid/Monument cultural site into a tourist attraction for the area and also opening up a road for easy access of the area.</p>	<p>Positive comments acknowledged</p> <p>BFC noted the contractor had been sourced to open up the roads to all areas including that compartment adjacent of the pyramid. The Busogo Forest Exp is working</p> <p>Management noted that they are working closely with Busoga Region Tourism Expo to improve on all potential tourism sites in Busoga that includes Bukaleba..</p>
02	<p>Fishermen at Waigala Landing site</p> <p>Noted that they serve as watchdogs for the company against illegal tree felling and grazing. They acknowledged the company for providing employment to local people. Noted that the company has opened access roads for the communities, constructed water sources, provided tree seedlings to the communities, and construction of a maternity ward at Nkombe Health Centre II.</p> <p>Issue raised:</p> <p>Map out Waigala as a landing site and make it known/recognised</p>	<p>Positive comments acknowledged</p> <p>BFC noted that meetings have been held with communities and that local people want it to be recognised as a village, but Busoga Region Tourism Exp want it as a beach. The Busoga Tourism Expo does not want it as a village because it will be difficult to evict them.</p>
03	<p>Health workers at Bukatube Health Centre II</p> <p>Noted that they collaborate with BFC in training of workers in health and safety. The company also supplies drugs to the health unit, particularly antimalarial drugs, medical supplies for the maternity ward. They also provide treatment to BFC workers and their families free of charge.</p>	<p>Positive comments acknowledged</p>
04	<p>Health workers at Nkombe Health Centre II</p> <p>Noted that the company constructed a Maternity Ward where women access services during delivery and that this has reduced death to women after delivery. The company also supplies drugs on a quarterly basis to the health centre that local communities freely access. The centre also provides treatment to the company workers.</p> <p>Noted that the Health Unit needs a Paediatric Ward and running water for the Maternity Ward.</p>	<p>Positive comments acknowledged</p> <p>BFC noted that these issues had not been brought to the company for attention and will be met to guide them on the requisitions so that they are incorporated among future projects under the community development programme.</p>
05	<p>Local leaders, Bwewere Village</p> <p>Applauded the company for its community</p>	<p>Positive comments acknowledged</p>

Nr	Comment	Response
	development programmes where local people have benefited through employment, tree seedlings, and support to girl child education, opening up of roads and water sources. Noted that they closely work with BFC in handling illegal activities like cattle grazing through meetings and sensitization of communities.	
06	<p>Arise Africa Christian Secondary School</p> <p>Noted that company respects environment by leaving certain areas of the forest natural e.g. hills and areas close to water sources and wetlands. There is interaction of the company and the school and the plantation serves educational site for the school. Noted that their relationship with company improved since the company recognises unlike in the years before 2012 when the school was taken as an illegal structure on the FMU. The school had also worked with company on road works on the section close to the school.</p> <p>Applauded the company for its effort to control weeds from its plantation. However, they expressed concern on the chemicals used, that they are likely to spill over into the water sources and may be a health hazard to humans and livestock.</p>	Management noted that chemicals used are Glyphothate for weed control and Imidacloprid for termite control believed to be environmentally friendly. Measures in place not to use them near buffer zones and water sources. Workers to use the PPE and have to wash after use in designated places not in the community
07	<p>Bukaleba Hill Primary School</p> <p>Acknowledged that company for supporting education in the area, particularly Girl Child Education. Noted that company has supported girl from their school up to the tertiary education level. The company had also dug a borehole for the community around where they access water. Noted that the company also provides training to people in tree planting and supply them tree seedlings to plant on their own gardens.</p>	Positive comments acknowledged
08	<p>Cattle grazers and farmers, Budhala A Village</p> <p>Noted that cattle grazing and cultivation of crops are illegal activities on the FMU, but have limited land for such activities and thus illegally graze on the FMU. Noted that they have had sensitization meetings with BFC about cattle grazing and only graze in older trees. They have also been sensitised on reducing their herd to avoid overgrazing. also working continue to illegally Acknowledged that company allows them to collect prunnings and branches for firewood and also the company for being the major employer of neighbouring communities.</p>	Positive comments acknowledged
09	<p>Local leaders, Budhala B Village</p> <p>Noted that they have a good working relationship with company and have regular community policing and sensitisation meetings with BFC staff. They also work with company in addressing illegal activities like cattle grazing and cultivation of crops. Noted that local people are grateful to the company for allowing them to access firewood, tree seedlings and cattle</p>	Positive comments acknowledged

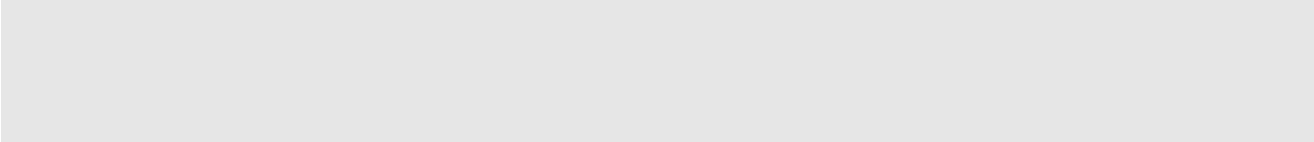
Nr	Comment	Response
	<p>grazing in older trees. Noted that previous issues such boundary encroachment and conflicts that strained the relationship between the company and local people were addressed. Noted the company has also trained local people in the construction and use fuelwood energy cook stoves. Other benefits accruing to people from the company include trainings in group formation to engage in income generating activities, firewood access for the bereaved families, employment of local people and equipping medicines in the health units that are freely accessed by locals.</p>	
10	<p>Mayuge District Local Government</p> <p>Acknowledged the company for being up-to-date in payments for Local Service Tax. Noted that the company is major partner in service delivery in the areas of health, water, education and road maintenance.</p> <p>Issues raised:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. How the District Local Government can benefit from timber revenues 2. BFC taking the Mayuge District leadership to court on allegations that they incited local people to cut down company trees. 3. Noted the company was planting indigenous trees in the lake shore area instead on allowing natural regeneration. 	<p>Positive comments acknowledged</p> <p>Management BFC noted that they follow policy under timber licence where licence is paid to NFA, timber movement permit is also paid to NFA which is in charge of timber revenues from Central Forest Reserves under which Bukaleba falls.</p> <p>Management of BFC noted that in 2011, it lost about 50ha of trees through encroachment and that BFC received a communication from the District Environmental Officer, Mayuge in support of the activities of local people, and based on what was happening at that time, the company decided to go for court redress. Management noted that, it was not only Mayuge District Local Government, but also NFA for giving them an encumbered land, also individuals and the office president given that Environmental Officer wrote the letter based on presidential directive. The individuals have served their sentence and are now good neighbours. Management however, noted that since then their relationship with district had improved.</p> <p>Management noted that natural regeneration was tried, but these areas were heavily encroached on and also continue to be encroached on through cultivation thus unable to allow natural regeneration. Thus management took an option to plant indigenous trees through enrichment planting. The district natural resources department was even informed to take the lead in the process but their response was poor.</p>
11	<p>District Police Post, Mayuge District</p> <p>Acknowledged that they work closely with the company in community policing and training of their forest guards and patrol men. Noted that they had previously handled cases of illegal encroachment and malicious damage of property on Bukaleba forest by local communities, but since January 2015, only 2 cases reported on setting fire to the forest and criminal trespass. Noted that conflicts reported have gone down attributing to sensitisation and</p>	<p>Positive comments acknowledged</p>

Nr	Comment	Response
	community policing between the company, local area leaders and police.	
12	<p>BFC Staff, workers and contractors</p> <p>Through interviews with BFC staff, contractors and workers on health and safety, training and terms and conditions of worker, there were no significant negative issues detected, a clear indication that the company is working closely with its human resource.</p>	Positive comments acknowledged
13	<p>Reposes/Written feedback from stakeholder notification sent to local leaders from Ndhokero A and B Villages, Bukaleba Forest plantation)*</p> <p>Issues raised from</p> <p>BFC guards are harsh to firewood collectors and arrest them as thieves, low pay to workers, vermin's/crop raiding by animals form the forest, not allowed to cultivate crops in areas where trees have been cut down.</p>	<p>Management noted that they do not allow cultivation of crops in a reserve since it is illegal under the National Forestry and Tree Planting Act, 2003. Management also noted that local people scramble and want to collect firewood in areas where logging is being done, thus preventing people is a measure for security of people dangers of tree falls.</p> <p>Management also noted that their pay to workers is better compared to what workers from the neighbouring Mayuge Sugar Works. BFC pays its workers a minimum of UGX 6200/Manday while Mayuge Sugar pays a minimum 3000 UGX/Manday, and given their good pay, most of their workers come from Mayuge Sugar works.</p> <p>Management also noted that some velvet monkeys have been cited in the areas, which eat people's crops and have been sensitised on the protection measures. They have also been linked to district vermin control for help on how to guard their crops and chase them away.</p>
14	<p>Reposes/Written feedback from stakeholder notification sent to local leaders from Lwanika Parish, Budhala, Lukindu, Buwerere, Wamondo, Bukaleba Forest Plantation)*</p> <p>Most stakeholders acknowledged the company for providing employment to local people, supporting health sector through supply of drugs to health units, opening of roads training of farmers and provision of tree seedlings.</p> <p>No significant negative issues mentioned from these local leaders</p>	Positive comments acknowledged
15	<p>Written response from stakeholders (Teachers , Local leaders and technical personnel from Kachung Forest Plantation, Dokolo Districts) *</p> <p>Noted that BFC is a major partner in the health sector and had constructed Children Wards at Adok and Bardyang Health Centre II, around Kachung Forest Plantation. Applauded BFC for its effort to promote and support to the health education particularly Voluntary HIV Aids Testing and Counselling for staff and local people living in areas adjacent to Kachung.</p>	Positive comments acknowledged
16	Forest Supervisor, National Forestry	

Nr	Comment	Response
	<p>Authority (NFA)*</p> <p>Noted that the company is major employer to local people adjacent to Kachung Forest Plantation. The company also has a good waste management and has been able to meet its planting targets; the whole area of Kachung has been planted. Noted that the company's annual tree farming licence to NFA are up to date. No significant negative issues mentioned from NFA.</p>	Positive comments acknowledged
	Surveillance 1	
	Surveillance 2	
	Surveillance 3	
	Surveillance 4	

14. RECORD OF COMPLAINTS

Nr	Detail		
	Complaint:	Date Recorded >	dd MMM yy
	None		
	Objective evidence obtained:		
	Close-out information:	Date Closed >	dd MMM yy



End of Public Summary