

# High Carbon Stock Approach

January 2016

## HCS Approach Steering Group - News & Updates

### HCS Approach Steering Group Meeting - March 2016

The full Steering Group meets annually between two to three times a year. The next full member meeting will take place in the last week of March 2016. A number of side meetings have also been scheduled for the various work streams, including: Quality Assurance, High Forest Cover Landscapes, HCV-HCS-FPIC Integration and Smallholders.

### Consultation Workshop: HCS Approach Methodology and Toolkit

In 2016, the Steering Group plans to review the HCS Approach Methodology in preparation for launching the second version of the HCS Approach Toolkit. As part of this revision, the Steering Group will hold a Consultation Workshop in the last week of March to gather feedback from members, practitioners and other key stakeholders. Are you interested in providing feedback on your experience or views on the methodology? Come have your say! Contact the Secretariat at [info@highcarbonstock.org](mailto:info@highcarbonstock.org) for further details.

### Call to Companies: Register your HCS Approach Assessments

In November 2015, a Quality Review Process was launched, to be followed for all HCS assessments completed by members of the Steering Group, as well as any non-member who requests review. To use the new HCS Approach Peer Review process for Quality Review of completed HCS assessments, please contact [QA@highcarbonstock.org](mailto:QA@highcarbonstock.org). The Secretariat also welcomes registrations of any ongoing or completed HCS assessments, the basic information of which will be published on the HCS Approach website.

### HCS Approach Toolkit: Upcoming Translations

**Coming soon:** Spanish, Portuguese and French translations of the HCS Approach Toolkit. Stay updated on the release of translations by subscribing to HCS Approach news at [www.highcarbonstock.org](http://www.highcarbonstock.org).

## Upcoming Dates & Events

**22– 26 February, 2016**

[Asia-Pacific Forestry Week 2016](#)

**16 - 18 March, 2016**

[ICOPE 2016](#)

**29 March - 1 April, 2016**

[HCS Approach Steering Group Meetings](#)

**30 March, 2016**

[Consultation Workshop: HCS Approach Methodology and Toolkit](#)

**25-26 April, 2016**

[Responsible Business Forum on Food and Agriculture 2016](#)

HCS Approach Practitioner Trainings 2016

The Steering Group plans to hold HCS Approach Practitioner Trainings in Asia, Latin America and Africa in 2016.

Interested in joining a training? Please contact: [QA@highcarbonstock.org](mailto:QA@highcarbonstock.org)

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## HCS Approach Work Stream Updates

### The HCS Approach & HCS+ Study Convergence

Discussions have been held over the last few months between the HCS Approach Steering Group and the SPOM Group to identify where the HCS Approach and HCS+ methodologies are aligned and how convergence might take place. Plans for integrated and side by side trials are underway in the first half of 2016.

### Quality Assurance

This year the HCS Approach Quality Assurance work will focus on training practitioners, collecting HCS assessment registrations, and implementing and evaluating the recently launched Quality Review/ Peer Review Process. To find out more about the HCS Approach Quality Review Process, please visit: [www.highcarbonstock.org](http://www.highcarbonstock.org)

### HCV-HCS-FPIC Integration

An initial version of an Integration Guidance document has been developed and will be trialed on the ground this year.

### Smallholders

The HCS Approach Smallholders work will focus on exploring how the HCS Approach could be adapted to and more accessible for smallholders, starting in the Indonesian context. The first physical Smallholders Working Group meeting will be held at the end of March 2016.

## HCS Approach on the Web

**14 December, 2015:** [Sabah to test high carbon stock for sustainable oil palm](#)

- Eco-Business

**16 October, 2015:** [A new business model for palm oil?](#)

- Eco-Business

**16 October, 2015:** [Sustainable Palm Oil Manifesto group's High Carbon Stock forests study would continue business as usual, environmentalists say](#)

- Mongabay

To contact the HCS Approach Secretariat, please e-mail: [info@highcarbonstock.org](mailto:info@highcarbonstock.org)

### New Member Announcement

The Steering Group welcomes its newest member BASF, having joined in November 2015. To learn more about BASF, please visit: [www.basf.com](http://www.basf.com)



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