The HCV Assessor Licensing Scheme

A requirement under RSPO New Planting Procedures from January 2015

18 November 2014, RSPO RT12, Kuala Lumpur
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www.hcvnetwork.org
What is the HCV Assessor Licensing Scheme?

A scheme to license lead HCV assessors in any region and commodity context.
Who requires licensed assessors?

- **RSPO** will require licensed assessors for all HCV assessments carried out in the context of New Planting Procedures (NPP) starting January 2015.

- **ALS** will **replace** current RSPO assessor registration system.

- Other certification schemes such as **FSC**, **RTRS** and **Bonsucro** may require licensed assessors in the near future.
Why was the ALS created?

Response to variable quality of HCV assessments
- HCVs not identified e.g. 5 & 6
- HCV presence / absence not clearly justified
- HCVs inaccurately mapped
- Inadequate consultation
- Inaccessible public summaries
- Unclear reports
- …
ALS development

2011 HCVRN strategic framework
2012 WWF and RSPO fund, others input to, concept development
2013 engagement with Technical Panel, assessors, certification schemes, companies, HCVRN governance
2014 ALS design published and comments invited / feedback from assessors, companies, consultancies, NGOs, standards

More than 100 stakeholders engaged
The licensing process in summary

1. Applicant submits an online application

www.hcvnetwork.org/als
The licensing process in summary

2. If the application criteria are met, the applicant receives a **provisional HCV assessor licence**
The licensing process in summary

3. After leading two assessments and submitting two adequate HCV assessment reports in line with the HCV Assessment Manual, a provisionally licensed assessor is issued with a full HCV assessor licence.
The licensing process in summary

4. To maintain a full licence, the assessor is required to submit the reports of all HCV assessments to the ALS Quality Panel. Failure to do so can result in the suspension or revocation of the licence.
How is assessor quality maintained?

1) Application Screening
2) Evidence of competence
3) Report Monitoring
4) Peer Reviews
5) Public Summaries
6) Dispute Resolution

+ Updated guidance
+ Feedback from report monitoring
+ Community of practice
Maintaining quality: who does what

Overall: Management Committee of HCVRN

Quality Manager: review of applications
Quality Panel: evaluation of reports for compliance with ALS procedures & templates
  - Expert in carry out assessments, involved in creating guidance, ALS procedures, proficient in Bahasa, English, French, Portuguese, Spanish
Peer reviewers from all regions: required for provisional licensees and full licensees when HCVs at significant risk
Stakeholders: access to public summary
Costs

• Application Fee: USD $500

• Annual Renewal Fee:* USD $250

• Report evaluation fees:**
  • Tier 1: USD $2,000
  • Tier 2: USD $900

*Payable after 1 year of submitting an application.

**By the time report evaluation fees are payable, assessors already have HCV Assessment Manual, which provides guidance on how to include such fees in the budget they deliver to the client.
Benefits for assessors, communities, companies & certification schemes

- Reduce environmental and social risks from inadequate identification, consultation

- Increase confidence: public summaries

- Clarity, certainty and efficiency: scoping, planning, reporting
Benefits: Assessors

Recognition of professional competence

Continuing professional development
• Peer feedback
• Online community of practice

Practical support: access to register of specialists

Diversification: able to work in various commodity and regional contexts
Join the Network now!
Help shape the future of the HCV approach.
For further information please visit
www.hcvnetwork.org or contact us at secretariat@hcvnetwork.org
Thank you!

More: https://hcvnetwork.org/als/

Any questions: secretariat@hcvnetwork.org

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