



COVID-19 updates: Extension of transition period for the FSC Pesticides Policy and for several national standards

To support a smooth transition to new normative documents during the ongoing COVID 19 pandemic, FSC has approved:

1. An extension of the transition period of the FSC Pesticides Policy until 31st December 2020.

The extension applies to:

- Derogations due to expire before 31st December 2020 are extended until this date.
- FSC highly restricted highly hazardous pesticides (HHP) and FSC restricted HHPs for which the certificate holder does not have an approved derogation: the deadline to conduct environmental and social risk assessment (ESRA) for a) newly listed HHPs in this category, and b) HHPs in this category, which were previously listed but that did not require a derogation, is extended until 31st December 2020.
- Other chemical pesticides: the deadline to conduct ESRA for these chemical pesticides is extended until 31st December 2020.

For detailed information, please see the updated interpretation INT-POL-30-001_07 in <https://fsc.org/en/document-centre/documents/resource/381> and attached.

The interpretation has been also revised to provide further clarification on the role of the draft HHP-IGI when conducting ESRAs.

2. An extension of the transition period of several national standards in transition as follows:

- up to the 31st December 2020, if the original transition period ended by 30th June 2020.
- up to six months, if the original transition period ended by 31st March 2020.

The countries affected and extended deadlines are:

Country	End of the extended transition period	Original end of the transition period
Australia	31 December 2020	9 February 2020
Bosnia and Herzegovina	21 September 2021	21 March 2021
Canada	30 June 2021	31 December 2020
Luxembourg	30 March 2021	30 September 2020
Malaysia	31 December 2020	3 April 2020
Namibia	30 September 2021	31 March 2021
Netherlands	31 December 2020	31 May 2020
Romania	15 December 2020	14 April 2020



Country	End of the extended transition period	Original end of the transition period
Spain	14 July 2021	14 January 2021
Ukraine	29 September 2021	29 March 2021