Making Sense of Different Certification Processes

by

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Schemes

■ **Certification schemes**

1. performance-based

2. environmental services

3. environmental management systems

4. hybrids

■ **Labeling schemes**

Performance-based systems

1 **Market-oriented certification**
- voluntary, independent
- often linked with labeling

2 **Mandatory verification/certification**
- enforcement of regulatory requirements
- forest management and chain- of-custody

3 **Verification of specific forest management requirements**
- community-based/joint forest management
- monitoring & evaluation of development projects

Other Types of Certification

Certification of environmental services

- baseline and project impacts
- carbon, water, erosion control, *etc.*

Certification of environmental management systems (EMS)

- ISO 14001/14004 standard
- capacity of organization

Hybrids

- EMS + performance standards

Labeling schemes

1 **Forest management labels**

2 **LCA-based ecolabels**

IPF Recommendations on C&L

- ■ open access and non-discrimination in respect of all types of forest, forest owners, managers and operators

- ■ credibility

- ■ non-deceptiveness

- ■ cost-effectiveness

- ■ participation that seeks to involve all the interested parties, including local communities

IPF Recommendations on C&L II

■ sustainable forest management

■ transparency

■ the only agreed set of criteria

■ the IPF recommendations are general and need further elaboration to provide guidance for the development of certification schemes

WWF/WB Alliance Requirements

- **institutionally and politically adapted to local conditions**

- **goal-oriented and effective**

- **acceptable to involved parties**

- **based on performance standards, defined nationally, internationally compatible**

WWF/WB Alliance Requirements II

- objective and measurable criteria

- reliable and independent assessment

- credible to major stakeholders

- free from conflict of interest

WWF/WB Alliance Requirements III

■ cost effective

■ transparent

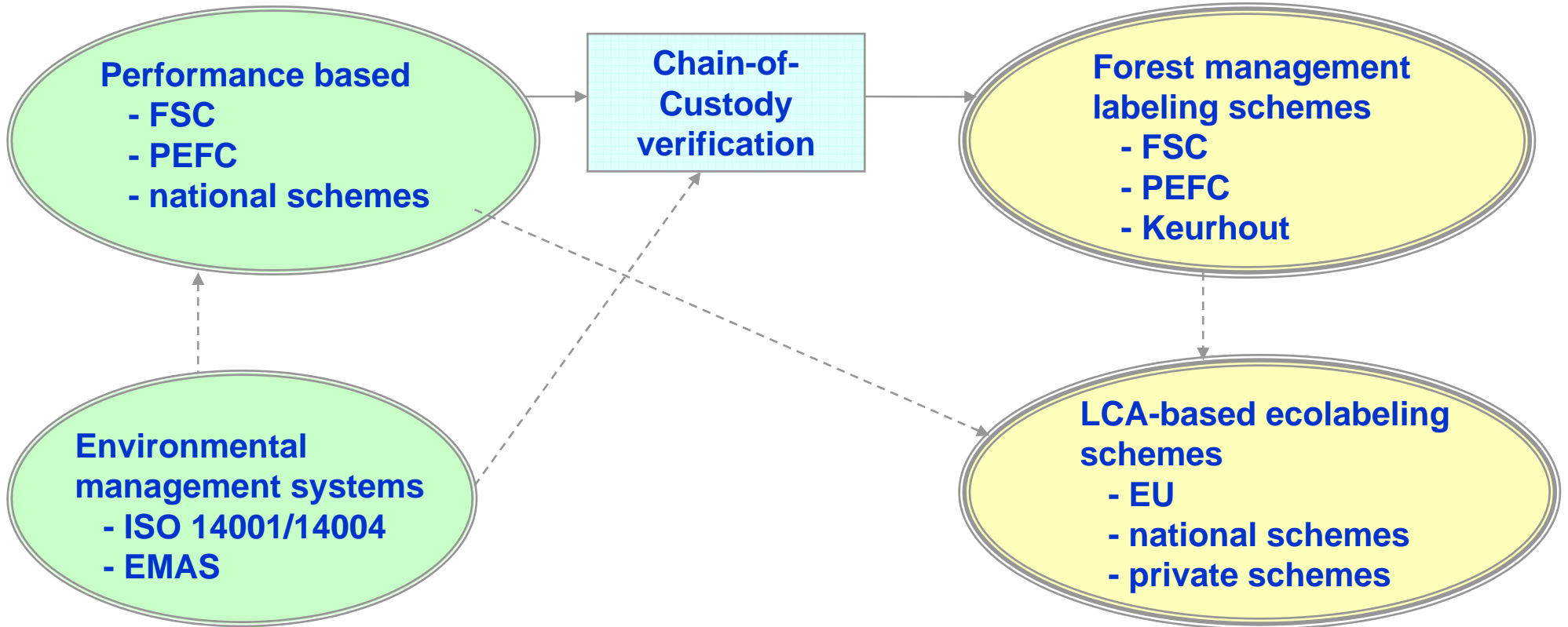■ equitable access to all countries

WWF/WB Alliance Requirements IV

- it appears that no existing scheme is likely to meet all the WWF/WB Alliance requirements

- there are trade-offs between criteria

Existing Market-oriented Certification and Labeling Schemes

Forest certification

Labeling

Performance based
- FSC
- PEFC
- national schemes

Chain-of-Custody verification

Forest management labeling schemes
- FSC
- PEFC
- Keurhout

Environmental management systems
- ISO 14001/14004
- EMAS

LCA-based ecolabeling schemes
- EU
- national schemes
- private schemes

Market-Oriented Forest Certification Standards

- **International**
  - FSC   **#**

- **Regional**
  - PEFC   **##**

- **National schemes**
  - Brazil   **# # CERFLOR**
  - Canada   **#   CSA**
  - Finland   **#   FFCS**
  - Germany   **##   GFCC**

**operational**
 # #   **expected to start next year**

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Market-Oriented Forest Certification Schemes II

- **National schemes (cont'd)**
  - Ghana   ## **FMCS**
  - Indonesia   ## **LEI**
  - Malaysia   ## **NTCC**
  - Norway   # **Living Forest**
  - Sweden   # **Family Forest Certification**
  - UK   # **UKWAS**
  - USA   # **AF&PA/SFI**

Certification is reported to be under development
in more than 25 countries

**operational**
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Review of Existing Schemes

- goals: improved/sustainable forest management; market communication

- not all cover chain-of-custody

- standard framework: international / regional sets of C&I for SFM

- criteria cover performance and management system elements

- full or partial compatibility with ISO 14001/14004

Review of Existing Schemes II

■ multi-stakeholder and broad-based processes

■ consultation and communication for transparency

■ emphasis on consensus in decision making

■ independent audits

■ group certification for small holdings

■ mutual recognition a common goal of national schemes

Conclusions

- undefined common terminology

- no conclusive agreement on minimum requirements for forest certification systems

- obstacle for on-going development work in a large number of countries

- comparative analysis on schemes needed

Conclusions II

■ mutual recognition as a general goal

■ schemes with different "grades" may be required

■ more proactive role of the industry