PEFC International

Responding to changing requirements

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Sarah Price
Head of Projects & Development Unit,
PEFC International
What is PEFC?

- Global, non-governmental organisation based in Geneva, Switzerland
- Voluntary mechanism promoting sustainable forest management providing independent, third party certification of good practices
- Alliance of national forest certification systems with global representation and an international chain of custody
- World's largest forest certification system: two thirds of the world's certified forests

Programme for the Endorsement of Forest Certification
Key Messages

- Forest certification standards are continually evolving
- Forest certification is one of a few existing tools that can deliver assurances of legality (and sustainability)
- Response in progress: EU Timber Regulation and PEFC certification
Elements of PEFC Certification

Sustainable Forest Management – national systems

Forest certification

Chain of Custody – one international standard

Certified logs, Log mill, Manufacturing, Trade, Distribution, Retail, Joiner
Multi-stakeholder process

National Standard

Pilot testing

Consens-based decision making

National public consultation

Application for assessment

Approval by members

Revision required

International Sustainability Benchmarks

Panel of Experts

Board recommendation

Independent assessment

Global public consultation
Revised PEFC FM Standard

Highlights of Major Changes

- Recognition of free, prior and informed consent (FPIC), UN Declaration on Indigenous Peoples Rights, and ILO Convention 169 on Indigenous and Tribal Peoples
- Prohibition of forest conversions
- Protection of ecologically important forest areas
- Prohibition of the most hazardous chemicals
- Prohibition of genetically modified trees
- Exclusion of certification of plantations established by conversions
- Elaboration of Legal Requirements
Criterion: Compliance with legal requirements

5.7.1 Forest management shall comply with legislation applicable to forest management issues...

Note: For a country which has signed a FLEGT VPA... the “legislation applicable to forest management” is defined by the VPA agreement.

5.7.2 Forest management shall provide for adequate protection of the forest from unauthorised activities such as illegal logging, illegal land use, illegally initiated fires, and other illegal activities.
Basic Obligations of EUTR

1. Prohibition on the first placing of illegal timber and timber products on the EU market

2. Obligation of “due diligence” for the operators i.e. first placing timber and timber products on the EU market –to take measures to verify the legality of timber or timber products traded

3. Basic traceability for traders i.e. other than “operators” –to keep records on suppliers and customers
Due Diligence System

EU Timber Regulation

- Access to Information ✓
- Risk Assessment ✓
- Risk Mitigation ✓
Example: Harmonizing Due Diligence Systems?

PEFC Due Diligence System

- Supplier self declaration, etc
- Risk Analysis
- 2\textsuperscript{nd} / 3\textsuperscript{rd} party verification (for high risk)

EU Timber Regulation

- Access to Information
- Risk Assessment
- Risk Mitigation
In Summary

✓ Forest certification standards are **continually evolving**

✓ Forest certification is one of a few existing tools that can **deliver** assurances of legality (and sustainability)

✓ **Response in progress:** EU Timber Regulation and PEFC certification
THANK YOU!

sarah.price@pefc.org
www.pefc.org
Example:
PEFC Chain of Custody Methods

C-o-C process → Physical separation

Percentage methods → Percentage calculation
  • Simple percentage
  • Rolling average

Percentage distribution
  • Average percentage
  • Volume credit

The company can choose its own methods or combination of methods (for individual product groups).