

# The new PEFC Sustainable Forest Benchmark

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Including aspects from the group certification

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Deputy Secretary General and Head of Technical Unit*



# Overview



The scene for PEFC's  
Sustainable Forest  
Management benchmark



What's new in the  
benchmark

- general
- specific issues

# The scene for PEFC's benchmark

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# The benchmark principle

Sustainable Forest Management – requirements  
Group Forest Management - requirements

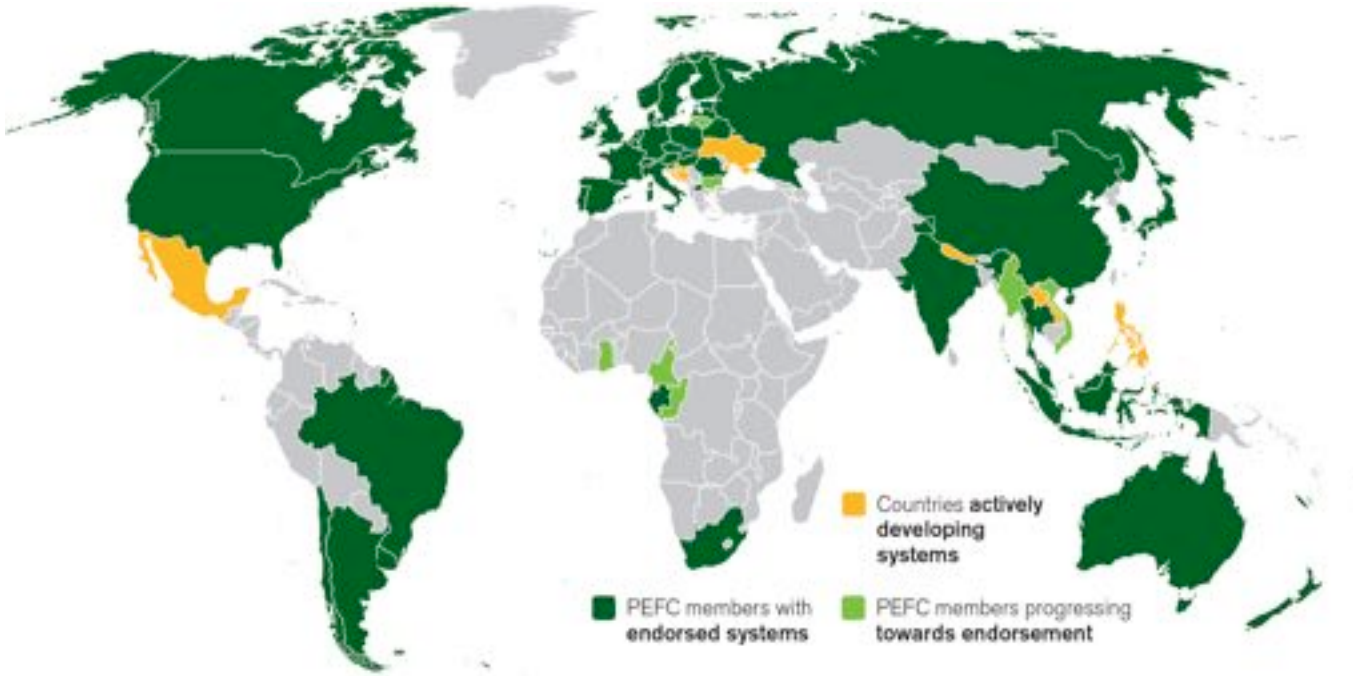
→ The international benchmarks



Implementation on the national/regional level  
The national/regional forest management standard



# An alliance with stakeholder engagement in 51 countries



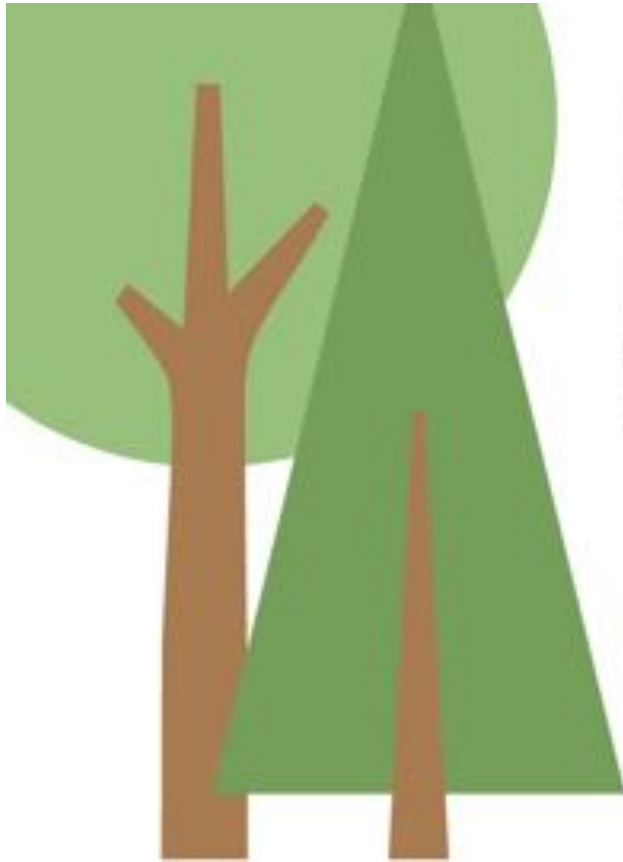
**45** Endorsed National systems

National members in **51** countries

More than **20,000** PEFC-certified companies in **71** countries

Over **311** million hectares PEFC-certified

→ **60%** share of all certified forests worldwide



## INCREASING DEMANDS ON THE WORLD'S FORESTS

for wood, fiber, fuel, food and more ecosystem services:

Annual demand for wood alone is  
**EXPECTED TO TRIPLE BY 2050**  
to more than 10 billion m<sup>3</sup> - equivalent  
to 4 million Olympic size swimming  
pools full of wood each year.



Source: FAO, WBCSD

# Benefits of Sustainable Forest Management for People & Planet



- **Forest:**
  - *Forest remain forest*
- **Biodiversity:**
  - *80% of Earth land animals and plants live in forests*
- **Carbon Storage:**
  - *Natural carbon capture and storage system*
- **Water:**
  - *Forested catchments supply 75% of fresh water*
- **Social:**
  - *Local communities living in and around forests*
  - *14 million workers globally working in forest products industry*
- **Energy & Products:**
  - *Single most important source of renewable energy*





# Sustainable resource and products



# Working Group Members: real people representing interests



PEFC National  
Governing Bodies

Materially Affected  
Certifiable  
Stakeholders

End User - Customer

Civil Society

# What's new in the benchmark

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*Overview about the main changes*

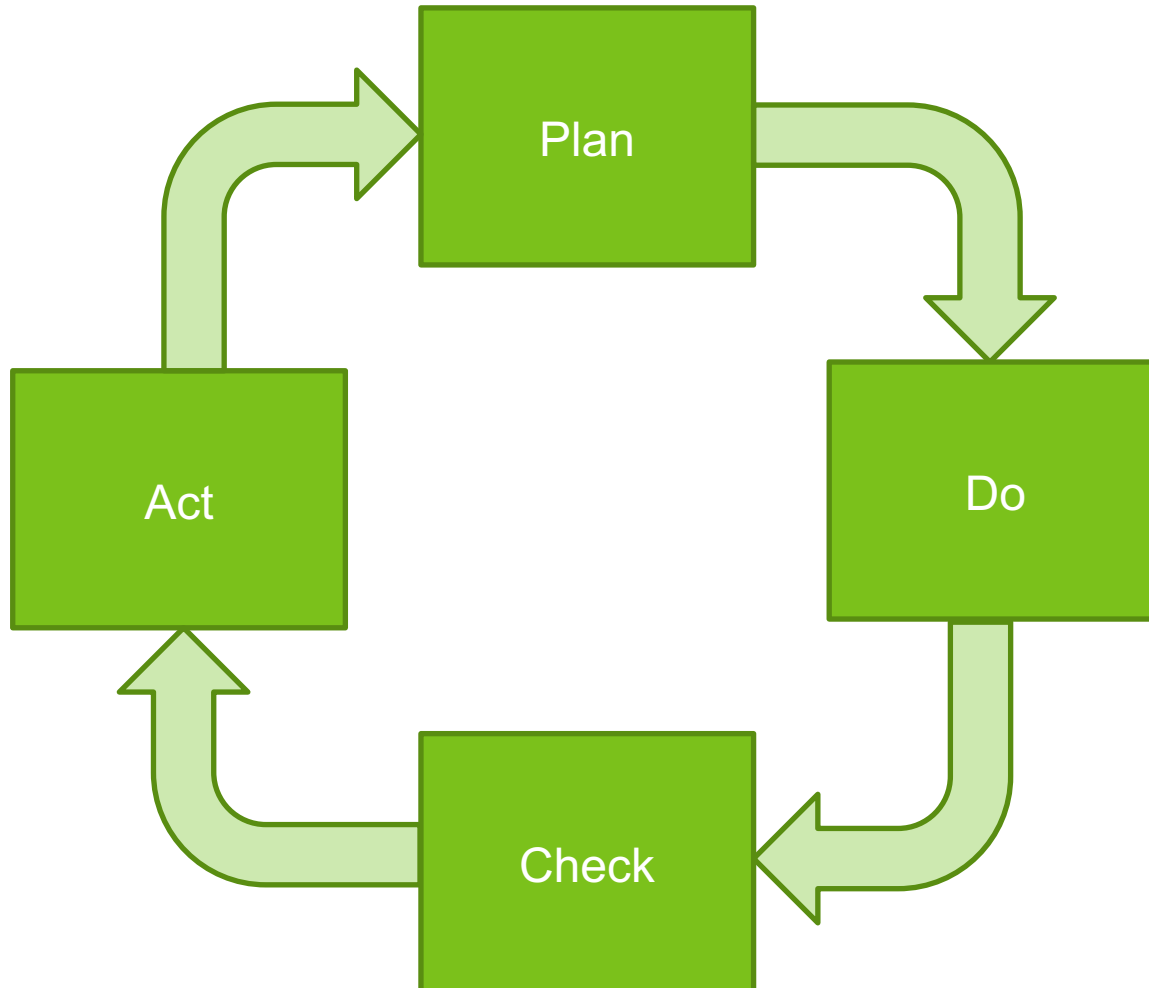


# What's new - general

- Implementation of a management system standard:  
The ISO High Level Structure for management system standards



# Management system cycle



# The structure



1 - Scope	→
2 - Normative references	→
3 - Terms and definitions	→
4 - Context	→
5 - Leadership	→
6 - Planning	→
7 - Support	→
8 - Operation	→
9 - Performance evaluation	→
10 - Improvement	→



PEFC  
CERTIFIED | PEFC ST 1000:2016

## Group Forest Management – Requirements



PEFC Standard  
1000:2016  
Forest Management  
Certification  
www.pefc.org



PEFC  
CERTIFIED | PEFC ST 1000:2016

## Sustainable Forest Management – Requirements



PEFC Standard  
1000:2016  
Forest Management  
Certification  
www.pefc.org

# PEFC's “largest group FM certificate”



“Bayern”, Germany

7.055.000 ha land area

2.562.272 ha forest area

2.101.063 ha certified  
(82 %)

> 100.000 forest owners

Organisation:

- Group Entity
- Rules for system management (*including public governance elements*)
- Monitoring



# What's new - general



- Implementation of a management system standard: The ISO High Level Structure for management system standards
- Using the wording of a benchmark: “the standard requires....”

# Benchmark language



Language example:

8.1.1 **The standard requires that** management shall aim to maintain or increase forests and their ecosystem services and maintain or enhance the economic, ecological, cultural and social values of forest resources.

# What's new - general



- Implementation of a management system standard: The ISO High Level Structure for management system standards
- Using the wording of a benchmark: “the standard requires....”
- Strengthening of ecosystem services

# What's new - general



- Implementation of a management system standard: The ISO High Level Structure for management system standards
- Using the wording of a benchmark: “the standard requires....”
- Carefully strengthening of ecosystem services
- Amendment of a “Trees outside Forests” appendix

# Definition



Trees outside Forests:

Trees growing outside areas of nationally designated **forest** land. Such areas will normally be classified as “agriculture” or “settlement”.

UNFCCC COP21 committed to annual GHG Reporting

Using the 6 Land Types

Forest

Wetland

Other Land

Grassland

Trees can be present on five of the Land Types

The slide features a blue background with a grid of six images. The top row shows a forest, a wetland, and a forest with a car. The bottom row shows a forest, a mountainous area, and a grassland. A small logo is in the top right corner of the slide.



# Zero Net Deforestation & Landscape Approaches



## ToF appendix



The ToF appendix contains interpretations of the requirements of the main body of the standard for trees outside forests.

On national level certification systems can

- Integrate the ToF interpretations in the main standard
- Establish a separate ToF standard

# Categorization in Pictures

Agriculture

Settlement

Intensive

100% SFM requirements



Extensive

~65% SFM requirements



# What's new

## Specific issues



- stricter definition of ecologically important forest areas (3.6)
- risk based implementation (6.1.1)
- compliance commitment (6.3.1.2)
- human rights (6.3.2.3)
- minimum standards for forest works wages (migrant and local) (6.3.4.3)
- employment policy which includes equal opportunities and non-discrimination (6.3.4.4)
- gender equality shall be promoted (6.3.4.4)
- supporting climate positive practices (8.1.3)
- no reforestation or afforestation of ecologically important non forest areas (8.1.5)
- conversion of degraded forests to plantations encouraged subject to strict conditions (8.1.6)
- equitable sharing of the benefits arising from the utilization of knowledge of NGOs, local communities, and indigenous peoples is encouraged (8.6.5)
- working conditions shall be regularly monitored and adapted as necessary (9.1.5)
- performance evaluation improved (9)

# Tech support of SFM certification



RESEARCH REPORT

Thinking Outside  
The Box – PEFC &  
Blockchain  
Technology



**Thank you for  
your attention**

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