

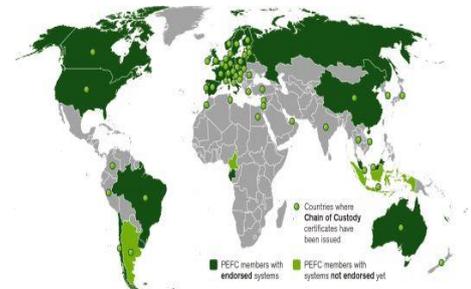
# PEFC in short

## What you should know about PEFC

PEFC™ is a worldwide non-profit, non-governmental organization promoting sustainable forest management. PEFC aims to create a world in which people manage all forests sustainably.

### The PEFC-label is recognized as sustainable by

- ✓ **European Union:** PEFC is stated as proof of sustainable origin in the EU Green Public Procurement toolkit.
- ✓ **Dutch Government:** The Dutch Government has included PEFC in its Sustainable procurement policy. Governmental bodies are obliged to ask for sustainable wood in tenders. Governmental bodies and companies work with standard tender texts of STABU and RAW.
- ✓ **STABU:** in the Construction tender text.
- ✓ **RAW:** terms for civil engineering contracts of CROW
- ✓ **Dutch Green Building Council:** in BREEAM NL PEFC is a Tier one level for sustainable origin of timber. **Green Building Initiative's Green Globes**, in USA, also includes PEFC in the scoring for sustainable buildings.
- ✓ **NIBE:** PEFC is in DUBOkeur®. DUBOkeur® shows that the Construction product has been made of the most sustainable products.
- ✓ **EU-Ecolabel:** PEFC is in the criteria from the EU-Ecolabel
- ✓ **Cradle 2 Cradle:** the first Cradle2Cradle wood product with Gold certificate on the Dutch market came from PEFC certified forest.
- ✓ You also find PEFC on the website of the Government informing consumers about reliable labels: [www.ConsuWijzer.nl](http://www.ConsuWijzer.nl)



### Worldwide

**The World Business Council for Sustainable Development (WBCSD)** Forest Solution Group has committed to significantly scale up sustainable forest management. The WBCSD includes 26 companies responsible for 40% of annual wood, paper & packaging sales worldwide.

**The Soft Commodities Compact** established by the Banking Environment Initiative and the **Consumer Goods Forum (CGF)** have stated that they want sustainable forest management to be mainstream.



### Some figures:

- ✓ Over 1.000.000 forest owners are PEFC Certified. They manage over 260 million hectares of forest, making PEFC the worlds' largest forest certification scheme.
- ✓ More than 16.250 companies obtained PEFC Chain of Custody certification.
- ✓ In total over 410 million ha are certified worldwide (including FSC). This is >10% of total forest area, of which about ⅓ PEFC. The challenge to increase sustainable forest management is in tropical forests.

### How does it work by PEFC from forest till final product?

By forest management certification forest owners can show that they are managing their forest sustainably according to the requirements of PEFC. From a certified forest will be harvested PEFC certified wood. PEFC Chain of Custody certified companies in the chain process the wood (and paper) with the PEFC label on products such as magazines, books, copy paper, garden timber, construction timber, laminate flooring and many other products. Therefore they are allowed to place the logo on their product.



### How does PEFC work?

PEFC has developed a Sustainability Benchmark for sustainable forest management based on international principles. PEFC assesses independent national certification schemes to be in compliance with the Sustainability Benchmark. Approved national schemes are endorsed and mutually recognized under the PEFC label. PEFC currently has member offices in 38 countries and >35 of these countries have a PEFC endorsed national scheme for certification of sustainable forest management. Every 5 years the national schemes have to be revised nationally and again re-assessed by PEFC thus guaranteeing continuous improvement. The PEFC Sustainability Benchmark is also subject to regular revision.

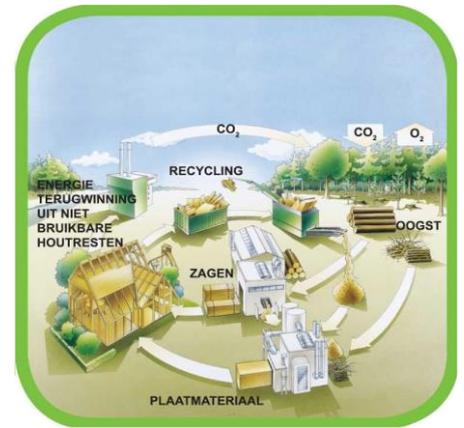
### What are PEFC's criteria?

The Benchmark criteria are not developed by PEFC itself, but consist > 250 criteria from international intergovernmental processes in which 149 countries in total have participated. Examples of these multistake-holder processes are: Forest Europe (European/temperate forests), ATO (African Timber Organization) and ITTO (The International Union for Conservation of nature) (Tropical). The Benchmark also contains references to numerous international conventions: Convention on Biodiversity CBD (Convention on Biological Diversity), CITES (Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora) and the KYOTO Protocol. In addition to economic and ecologic criteria, PEFC also demands strict social criteria:

- ✓ PEFC is the only system that requires compliance with all fundamental ILO (International Labour Organization) conventions in forest management worldwide
- ✓ Forest owners shall respect the ownership and use rights of local and indigenous people and assent them in advance about the management to perform
- ✓ Forest owners are required to make their management plans publicly available.

### What makes PEFC unique?

- ✓ PEFC maintains a strict separation of standard setting, certification and accreditation in order to assure independence. Independent certifiers must meet the requirements of PEFC sets and must be accredited by the Council for Accreditation which is accredited by the IAF.
- ✓ National PEFC schemes have always been developed with invitation and participation of all relevant stakeholders. All have an equal say in the consensus based decision making process.
- ✓ PEFC's provisions for regional and group certification make it the number one choice for small private and family forest owners.
- ✓ PEFC is the only scheme to have social requirements for companies in the Chain of Custody, protecting peoples' and workers' rights not only in the forest but through the whole timber, paper and biomass supply chains.



©PEFC 08.07.2015

**PEFC Netherlands**  
Kokermolen 11 (B)  
NL-3994 DG Houten  
T +31 (0)30 693 0040  
Info@pefcnederland.nl  
[www.pefcnederland.nl](http://www.pefcnederland.nl)

