


PEFC: The best way to develop nationally appropriate and internationally recognised forest certification – Ben Gunneberg



“PEFC – The best way to develop nationally appropriate and internationally recognised forest certification”

Zhejiang, China, July 2004.

Ben Gunneberg
Secretary General, PEFC Council
Programme for the Endorsement of Forest Certification schemes



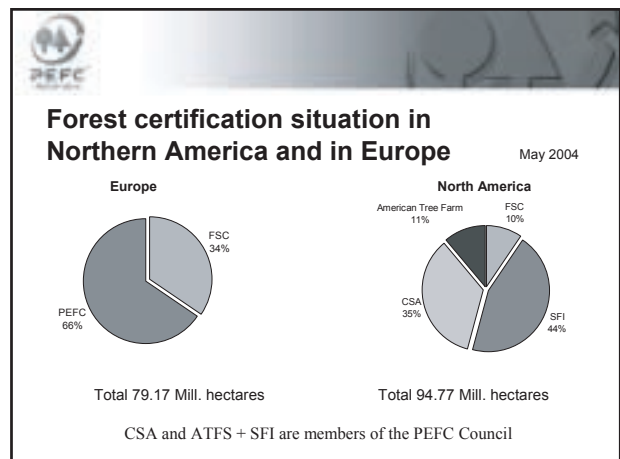
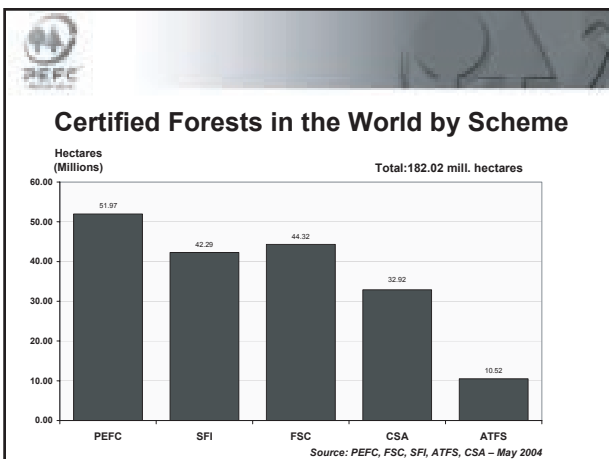
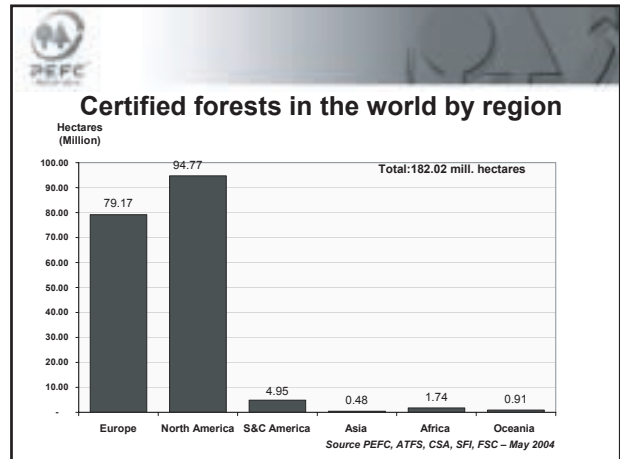
Areas to be covered:

- Certification to date
- PEFC- What it is and how it works - Mutual recognition
- Building blocks of forest certification
- Conclusions


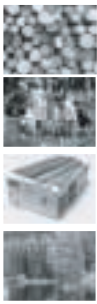


Areas to be covered:


- Certification to date



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▪ **PEFC – What it is and how it works**




PEFC – Framework for Development and Mutual Recognition of Forest Certification Schemes


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    graph TD
      A[Defines requirements for development of national forest certification schemes] --> B[Provides assessment and mutual recognition of independent national forest certification schemes]
      B --> C[Provides common PEFC Logo for labelling of products originating from certified forest mutually recognised by the PEFC Council]
      A <--> D[PEFC Council Technical Document & Annexes (www.pefc.org)]
      B <--> D
      C <--> D
  
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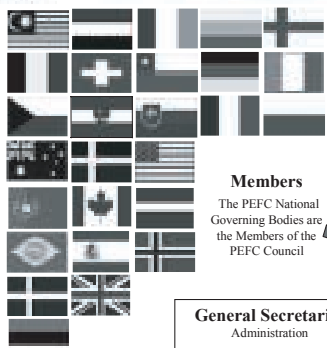
Promoting Sustainable Forest Management
for more info: www.pefc.org



PEFC Council member countries



Promoting Sustainable Forest Management
for more info: www.pefc.org


Members
The PEFC National Governing Bodies are the Members of the PEFC Council

Extraordinary Members:
CEI-Bois (Sawmilling and Panelboard Industry)
CEPF (Woodland Owners)
CEPI (Paper Industry)
ELO (Landowners)
ENFE (Forestry Contractors)
FEBO (Timber Traders)
FECOF (Community Forests)
UEF (Forest Managers)
USSE (Southern European Forest Owners)

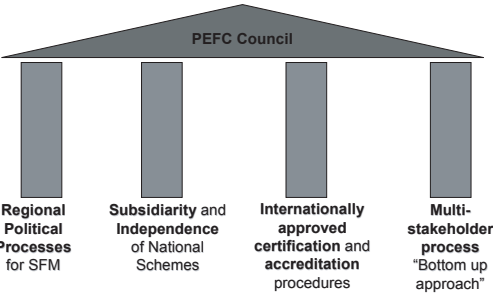
General Assembly
The highest decision making Forum

General Secretariat
Administration

Board Of Directors
(3 + 10 Members)



PEFC basic pillars



Regional Political Processes for SFM

Subsidiarity and Independence of National Schemes

Internationally approved certification and accreditation procedures

Multi-stakeholder process "Bottom up approach"



Intergovernmental processes for SFM



COUNTRIES PARTICIPATING IN THE INTERGOVERNMENTAL PROCESSES FOR SFM CRITERIA & INDICATORS

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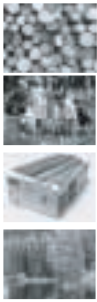
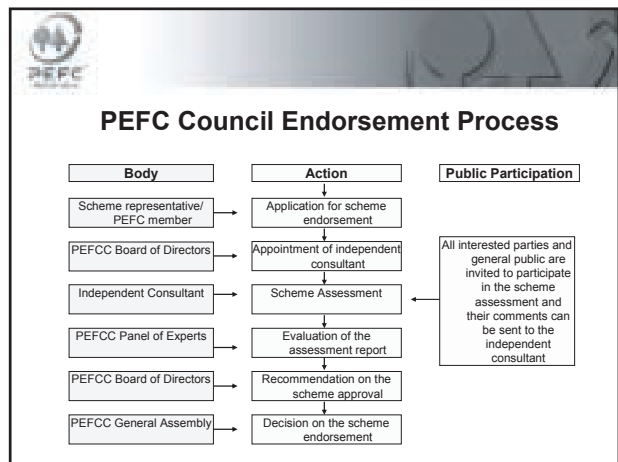
Certified forests of PEFC Endorsed Schemes

	Certified forest area (ha)	Number of Chain of Custody Certificates	Number of PEFC Logo Users
Austria	3 924 000	265	134
Belgium	206 524	9	11
Czech Republic	1 932 045	93	94
Denmark	7 444	0	4
Finland	22 298 165	80	92
France	3 330 005	472	4835
Germany	6 883 046	399	6360
Italy	0	2	2
Japan	0	1	3
Latvia	27 698	13	212
Netherlands	0	2	0
Norway	9 149 100	5	16
PEFC Council	0	0	19
Spain	188 289	11	8
Sweden	3 756 624	48	116
Switzerland	258 648	111	0
UK	9 125	35	12
Total	51 970 715	1544	11 918


May 2004

- Continued Growth of World's largest forest certification scheme**
- 13 schemes out of 27 already endorsed which amount to almost **52 million hectares** and 1544 chain of custodys with another 14 candidate schemes in various stages of development
 - Australia, Canada, Chile, Italy, Portugal and Luxembourg have submitted their schemes for the assessment process
 - Development of International Chain of Custody Standard – out to consultation at present.
 - Association membership in International Accreditation Forum (IAF) achieved.
 - Seeking membership to ECOSOC for UNFF participation and also intergovernmental processes.
 - New Member applications – Russia, Slovenia?

PEFC – The Mutual Recognition framework

Building blocks for internationally credible national forest certification schemes



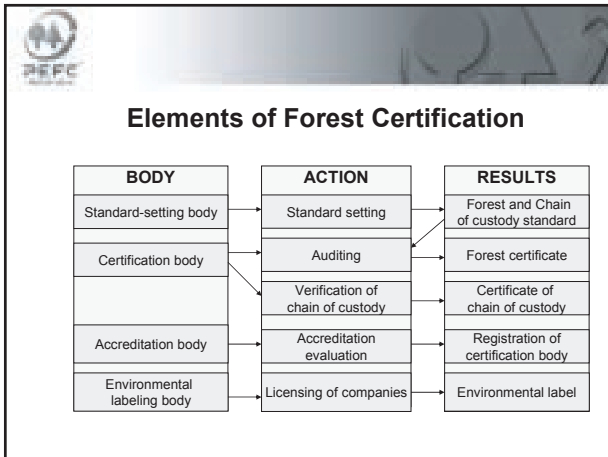
What is Forest certification?

An assessment from an independent, qualified and accredited expert who verifies in writing that the forest management practices comply with a series of collectively agreed performance standards for sustainability

What is Chain of Custody certification?

An assessment from an independent, qualified and accredited expert who verifies in writing that the wood flow accounting system, applied by an enterprise to trace the flow of wood from certified forests through the enterprise, meets the exacting requirements of the certification scheme

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The Target is credibility

Credible certification systems must have the following characteristics:

- 1. Separate independent bodies for**
 - Standard setting** (incl. the definition of Criteria and Indicators of Sustainable Forest Management)
 - Accreditation of certification bodies**
 - Dispute settlement**
- 2. Peer review between accreditation bodies** to guarantee equally high quality of accreditation (i.e. International Accreditation Forum – IAF.)

In PEFC System

Standard setting: National Working Groups

Certification: Certification companies accredited by national accreditation bodies to do the work

Accreditation: National Accreditation bodies (i.e. SWEDAC in Sweden, COFRAC in France, etc.)

Environmental labelling: National PEFC Governing bodies on behalf of PEFC Council

Dispute Settlement: Independent Dispute Settlement Board set up by National Governing Body to deal with disputes not covered by the accreditation or certification bodies dispute settlement procedures

Content of Forest Certification Scheme

Forest Certification Scheme

- Scheme description and implementation
- Sustainable Forest Management standard
- Chain of Custody standard
- Requirements for certification bodies

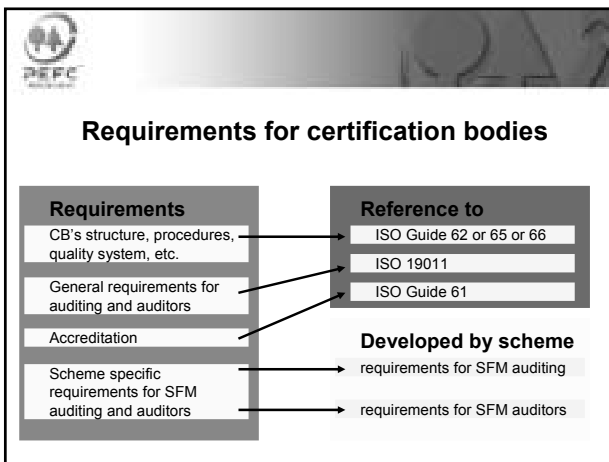
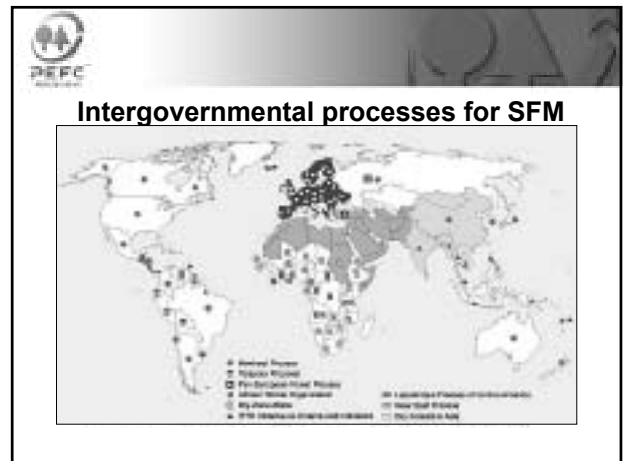
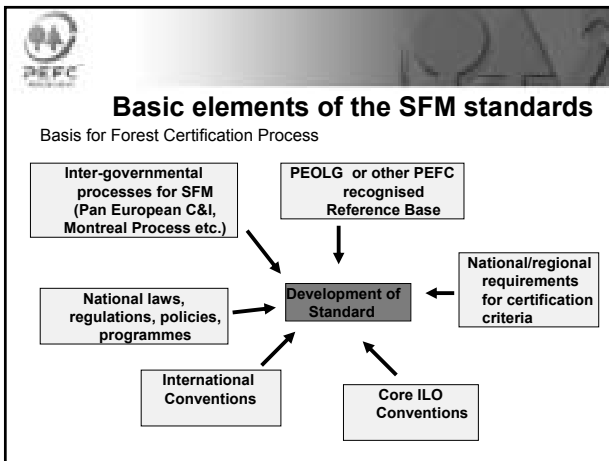
Basic requirements for standard setting process

- PEFC Council is framework for development and mutual recognition of national or sub-national forest certification schemes
- National forest certification schemes must be developed in open and transparent process

Open and transparent standard setting process

- Forum (e.g., committee, council, working group) shall be created to which interested parties are invited to participate in the process. The invited parties should represent the different aspects of sustainable forest management
- The interested parties' participation and views will be documented and considered in an open and transparent way.
- Achieving a consensus shall be the objective
- Information on the development process shall be available to all stakeholders and to the public
- The standards must be tested via pilot projects

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- ### Certification body
- Independent third party organisation
 - Qualified and competent in forestry, SFM and wood chain
 - Certification Bodies' structure, procedures and qualification must be meet international standards for certification bodies (ISO Guide 62, 65, 66)

- ### Accreditation body
- Confirm that certification body is independent and competent to carry out the certification
 - National accreditation bodies (CNAB, SCC, UKAS, FINAS, etc) provides accreditation for different certification systems (ISO 9001, 14001)
 - Accreditation body independent from PEFC
 - Follows ISO Guide 61 – requirements for accreditation
 - Membership in IAF or EA ensures international harmonisation



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Conclusions


Forest certification is today's reality. It brings Sustainable Forest Management improvements and benefits to market players

PEFC respects and adheres to the regional political processes on Sustainable Forest Management

PEFC operates a bottom up process respecting principles of subsidiarity and independency

PEFC uses normal certification and accreditation procedures

PEFC is the world's largest forest certification umbrella



For More information

Visit the PEFC Council website www.pefc.org and download these brochures in Chinese.



Thank you for your attention