

PEFC ST 1003:2024 Alignment

Country: ITALY

Assessor: Ambra Scodro

Assessment start date: 27.06.25

Internal Review date: 04.07.2025

Internal Reviewer: Heidi Kagiali

Revision Summary

The revision request was submitted by PEFC Italy to PEFC on 14/02/2025, in line with the time-critical revision procedure described under "Procedures for the Management of the certification System and Standard Setting of PEFC Italy".

The urgency is justified by the alignment to the EUDR regulation.

The following documents have been revised:

PEFC ITA 1000; PEFC ITA 1001-1; PEFC ITA 1001-2; PEFC ITA 1001-3; PEFC ITA 1001-4; PEFC ITA 1001-5; PEFC ITA 1001-6.

The assessment confirmed the alignment to the PEFC ST 1003:2024 requirements.

PEFC Final Approval date:

24/07/2025

EUDR modifications				NGB to complete	Assessor feedback	
Modification number	ST 1003 2018 ref.	ST 1003 2024 ref.	PEFC modification description	Reference to system documentation including quotation of relevant text)	Compliant? YES / NO / N.A.	comments
			Scope			
1	Chapter 1: Scope, page 6	Chapter 1: Scope, page 8	Replacing “covering all their products and services” with “ covering all their forest and tree based products and services ”	PEFC ITA 1000 - Introduction - "This document describes the Italian PEFC (Programme for the Endorsement of Forest Certification Schemes) scheme for the certifications of sustainable management of forests and Trees outside Forests, covering all their forest and tree"	YES	The introduction is in line with PEFC ST 1003:2024
			Terms and definitions			
2	Chapter 3: Terms and Definitions, page 7	3.3, page 9	Introducing the definition of “ Agricultural plantations ” Agricultural plantations - Tree stands in agricultural production systems, such as fruit tree plantations, oil palm plantations, olive orchards and agroforestry systems. Note: Agricultural plantations are excluded from the definition of ‘forest’.	PEFC ITA 1000 : Updated definition of Arboriculture adding coherence with the concept of "agricultural plantation". New definition: Arboriculture : agricultural plantation where the cultivation of tree is aimed at the production of wood for industrial or energy use and which is freely reversible at the end of the cultivation cycle (Consolidated Text on Forests and Forest related supply chains - Legislative Decree No 34 of 3 April 2018)	YES	The definition matches PEFC ST 1003:2024 Also, it is clear how other definitions like Arboriculture and Agroforestry fit under the Agricultural plantation definition.
3	Chapter 3: Terms and Definitions, page 7	3.4, page 9	Introducing the definition of “ Agricultural use ” Agricultural use - Use of land for the purpose of agriculture, including for agricultural plantations, and includes livestock and set-aside agricultural areas.	PEFC ITA 1000 - 1.3.1 Definitions: Agricultural use: use of land for the purpose of agriculture, including for agricultural plantations, and includes livestock and set-aside agricultural areas.	YES	The definition matches PEFC ST 1003:2024
4	Chapter 3: Terms and Definitions, page 8	3.7, page 9	Introducing the definition of Ecologically important non-forest areas : Ecologically important non-forest areas a) Containing protected, rare, sensitive or representative non-forest ecosystems; b) Containing significant concentrations of endemic species and habitats of threatened species, as defined in recognised reference lists; c) Containing endangered or protected genetic in situ resources; d) Contributing to globally, regionally and nationally significant large landscapes with natural distribution and abundance of naturally occurring species.	PEFC ITA 1000 - 1.3.1 Definitions: Ecologically important non-forest areas: non-forest areas: a) Containing protected, rare, sensitive or representative non-forest ecosystems; b) Containing significant concentrations of endemic species and habitats of threatened species, as defined in recognised reference lists; c) Containing endangered or protected genetic in situ resources; d) Contributing to globally, regionally and nationally significant large landscapes with natural distribution and abundance of naturally occurring species.	YES	The definition matches PEFC ST 1003:2024

5	Chapter 3: Terms and Definitions, page 8	3.10, page 10	<p>Updating the definition of “Forest”</p> <p>Forest - Land spanning more than 0.5 hectares with trees higher than five metres and a canopy cover of more than 10%, or trees able to reach these thresholds in situ. It does not include land that is predominantly under agricultural use or urban land use source: FAO 2023).</p> <p>Note: Each regional, national or subnational standard may include the specific values for the criteria in their national forest definition. If such specifications for a country are not yet available, the standardising body is responsible to set the values according to the national framework.</p>	PEFC ITA 1000 -Definitions: Forest: areas covered by tree forest vegetation, whether or not associated with shrub vegetation, of natural or artificial origin at any stage of development and evolution, with an extension of not less than 2,000 square metres, an average width of not less than 20 metres and with a forest tree cover of more than 20 per cent (Consolidated Text on Forests and Forest related supply Chains - Legislative Decree No. 34 of 3 April 2018). It does not include land that is predominantly under agricultural use or urban land use	YES	The adapted definition is in line with PEFC ST 1003:2024
6	Chapter 3: Terms and Definitions, page 8	n.a.	Removing the definition of “ Forest conversion ”	PEFC ITA 1000 - 1.3.1 Definitions: removed definition	YES	No such a definition found within the ITA 1000 document
7	Chapter 3: Terms and Definitions, page 8	3.11, page 10	<p>Introducing the definition of “Forest conversion to agricultural use”</p> <p>Forest conversion to agricultural use: Change of forest to agricultural use whether human-induced or not.</p> <p>Note: Regeneration by planting or direct seeding and/or the human-induced promotion of natural seed sources, to the same dominant species as was harvested or other species that were present in the historical species mix is not considered a conversion to agricultural use.</p>	<p>PEFC ITA 1000 - 1.3.1 Definitions - Forest conversion to agricultural use: change of forest to agricultural use whether human-induced or not.</p> <p>Note: Regeneration by planting or direct seeding and/or the human-induced promotion of natural seed sources, to the same dominant species as was harvested or other species that were present in the historical species mix is not considered a conversion to agricultural use.</p>	YES	The definition matches PEFC ST 1003:2024
8	Chapter 3: Terms and Definitions, page 8	3.12, page 10	<p>Introducing the definition of “Forest conversion to other land use”</p> <p>Forest conversion to other land use Direct human-induced change of forest to non-forest and non-agriculture uses.</p>	PEFC ITA 1000 - 1.3.1 Definitions - Forest conversion to other land use: direct human-induced change of forest to non-forest and non-agriculture uses.	YES	The definition matches PEFC ST 1003:2024
9	Chapter 3: Terms and Definitions, page 9	3.13, page 10	<p>Introducing the definition of “Forest degradation”</p> <p>Forest degradation - Structural changes to forest cover, taking the form of the conversion of:</p> <p>a) primary forests or naturally regenerating forests into plantation forests or into other wooded land; or</p> <p>b) primary forests into planted forests.</p>	PEFC ITA 1000 - 1.3.1 Definitions - Forest degradation: structural changes to forest cover, taking the form of the conversion of: a) primary forests or naturally regenerating forests into plantation forests or into other wooded land; or b) primary forests into planted forests.	YES	The definition matches PEFC ST 1003:2024

10	Chapter 3: Terms and Definitions, page 9	3.28, page 13	<p>Updating the definition of “Forest plantation” to “Plantation forest”</p> <p>Plantation forest - Planted forest that is intensively managed and meets, at planting and stand maturity, all the following criteria: one or two species, even age class, and regular spacing. It includes short rotation plantations for wood, fibre and energy, and excludes forests planted for protection or ecosystem restoration, as well as forests established through planting or seeding which at stand maturity resemble or will resemble naturally regenerating forests.</p> <p>Note: Application of the definition requires consideration of national forestry terminology and legal requirements.</p>	PEFC ITA 1000 - 1.3.1 Definitions - Plantation forest: planted forest that is intensively managed and meets, at planting and stand maturity, all the following criteria: one or two species, even age class, and regular spacing. It includes short rotation plantations for wood, fibre and energy, and excludes forests planted for protection or ecosystem restoration, as well as forests established through planting or seeding which at stand maturity resemble or will resemble naturally regenerating forests.	YES	The definition matches PEFC ST 1003:2024
11	Chapter 3: Terms and Definitions, page 10	3.16, page 11	<p>Introducing the definition of “Geolocation”</p> <p>Geolocation - Geographical location of a plot of land described by means of latitude and longitude coordinates corresponding to at least one latitude and one longitude point and using at least six decimal digits; for plots of land of more than four hectares used for the production of forest and tree based products, this shall be provided using polygons with sufficient latitude and longitude points to describe the perimeter of each plot of land.</p>	PEFC ITA 1000 - 1.3.1 Definitions - Geolocation: geographical location of a plot of land described by means of latitude and longitude coordinates corresponding to at least one latitude and one longitude point and using at least six decimal digits; for plots of land of more than four hectares used for the production of forest and tree-based products, this shall be provided using polygons with sufficient latitude and longitude points to describe the perimeter of each plot of land.	YES	The definition matches PEFC ST 1003:2024
12	Chapter 3: Terms and Definitions, page 10	3.22, page 12	<p>Introducing the definition of “Naturally regenerating forest”</p> <p>Naturally regenerating forest - Forest predominantly composed of trees established through natural regeneration; it includes any of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) forests for which it is not possible to distinguish whether planted or naturally regenerated; b) forests with a mix of naturally regenerated native tree species and planted or seeded trees, and where the naturally regenerated trees are expected to constitute the major part of the growing stock at stand maturity; c) coppice from trees originally established through natural regeneration; d) naturally regenerated trees of introduced species. <p>Note: Application of the definition requires consideration of national forestry terminology and legal requirements.</p>	PEFC ITA 1000 - 1.3.1 Definitions - Naturally regenerating forest: forest predominantly composed of trees established through natural regeneration; it includes any of the following: a) forests for which it is not possible to distinguish whether planted or naturally regenerated; b) forests with a mix of naturally regenerated native tree species and planted or seeded trees, and where the naturally regenerated trees are expected to constitute the major part of the growing stock at stand maturity; c) coppice from trees originally established through natural regeneration; d) naturally regenerated trees of introduced species.	YES	The definition matches PEFC ST 1003:2024
13	Chapter 3: Terms and Definitions, page 11	3.24, page 12	<p>Updating the definition of “Non-wood forest products” with removing the text “and Trees outside Forests source: following FAO 2017)”</p>	PEFC ITA 1000 - 1.3.1 Definitions - Non-wood forest products: products consisting of goods of biological origin other than wood, derived from forests.	YES	The definition matches PEFC ST 1003:2024
14	Chapter 3: Terms and Definitions, page 11	3.25, page 12	<p>Introducing the definition of “Non-wood products from TOF areas”</p> <p>Non-wood products from TOF areas - Products consisting of goods of biological origin other than wood, derived from trees.</p>	PEFC ITA 1000 - 1.3.1 Definitions - Non-wood products from TOF areas: products consisting of goods of biological origin other than wood, derived from trees.	YES	The definition matches PEFC ST 1003:2024

15	Chapter 3: Terms and Definitions, page 11	3.27, page 12	Introducing the definition of “ Other wooded land ” Other wooded land - Land not classified as forest spanning more than 0,5 hectares, with trees higher than five metres and a canopy cover of 5% to 10%, or trees able to reach those thresholds in situ, or with a combined cover of shrubs, bushes, and trees above 10%, excluding land that is predominantly under agricultural use or urban land use. Note: Application of the definition requires consideration of national forestry terminology and legal requirements.	PEFC ITA 1000 - 1.3.1 Definitions - Other wooded land: Other wooded land: land not classified as forest, excluding land that is predominantly under agricultural use or urban land use. The Italian National Forest Inventory defines other wooded land as: land not classified as Forest, spanning more than 0.5 hectares, with trees higher than 5 meters and a canopy cover of 5-10%, or trees able to reach these thresholds in situ; or with a combined cover of shrubs, bushes and trees above 10%. It does not include land that is predominantly under agricultural or urban land use. It includes areas with trees that will not reach a height of 5 meters in situ and with a canopy cover of 10% or more, e.g. some alpine tree vegetation types, or vegetation of arid zones.	YES	The definition is in line with PEFC ST 1003:2024
16	Chapter 3: Terms and Definitions, page 11	3.29, page 13	Introducing the definition of “ Planted forest ” Planted forest - Forest predominantly composed of trees established through planting and/or deliberate seeding, provided that the planted or seeded trees are expected to constitute more than 50% of the growing stock at maturity; it includes coppice from trees that were originally planted or seeded. Note: Application of the definition requires consideration of national forestry terminology and legal requirements.	PEFC ITA 1000 - 1.3.1 Definitions - Planted forest: Forest predominantly composed of trees established through planting and/or deliberate seeding, provided that the planted or seeded trees are expected to constitute more than 50% of the growing stock at maturity; it includes coppice from trees that were originally planted or seeded.	YES	The definition matches PEFC ST 1003:2024
17	Chapter 3: Terms and Definitions, page 11	3.30, page 13	Introducing the definition of “ Primary forest ” Primary forest - Naturally regenerating forest of native tree species, where there are no clearly visible indications of human activities, and the ecological processes are not significantly disturbed. Note: Application of the definition requires consideration of national forestry terminology and legal requirements.	PEFC ITA 1000 - 1.3.1 Definitions - Primary forest: naturally regenerating forest of native tree species, where there are no clearly visible indications of human activities, and the ecological processes are not significantly disturbed.	YES	The definition matches PEFC ST 1003:2024
18	Chapter 3: Terms and Definitions, page 11	3.34, page 13	Updating the definition of “Trees outside Forests TOF)” Trees outside Forests TOF) - Trees growing outside areas of forest land. Such areas will normally be classified as other wooded land, agricultural use or urban environment.	PEFC ITA 1000 - 1.3.1 Definitions - Trees outside Forests (TOF): trees growing outside areas of forest land. Such areas will normally be classified as agricultural use (agroforestry) or urban areas (linear or diffuse trees, parks and gardens and urban forests).	YES	The definition is in line with PEFC ST 1003:2024
Chapter 4 - Context of the national standard and the organisations applying a PEFC endorsed standard						
19	Chapter 4, page 14	4.3.3, page 15	Introducing new requirement on geolocation: 4.3.3 The organisation shall maintain an inventory of geolocation data related to the certified area where forest and tree-based products are harvested. Note: The geolocation data can be limited to active operational sites of the organisation.	PEFC ITA 1000 - Introduction - The organisation shall maintain an inventory of geolocation data related to the certified area where forest and tree-based products are harvested. The geolocation data can be limited to active operational sites of the organization.	YES	The requirement is in line with PEFC ST 1003:2024
Chapter 6: Planning						
20	Chapter 6: Planning, page 15	6.2.5, page 16	Updating requirement 6.2.5 with removing text “degradation and”	PEFC ITA 1000 - 3.4 Management plans must specify ways and means to minimise the risk of damage to natural ecosystems and take into account the results of scientific research.	YES	The requirement has been adapted in line with PEFC ST 1003:2024

21	Chapter 6: Planning, page 15	6.3.1.2, page 16	Updating requirement 6.3.1.2 with adding text “, trade, customs”	PEFC ITA - 2.1 The obligation to comply with existing regional, national international regulations on forest management practices; agriculture and agroforestry; nature and environmental protection, protected and endangered species; propriety, tenure and land-use rights for indigenous peoples, local communities or other affected stakeholders; health, labour and safety issues; crop damage compensation; anti-corruption, trade, customs	YES	The requirement has been adapted in line with PEFC ST 1003:2024
Chapter 8: Operation						
22	Chapter 8: Operation, page 18	8.1.4, page 19	Following the further structured forest conversion related definitions, the former 8.1.4 is separated into two requirements, first addressing the ‘forest conversion to agricultural use’: 8.1.4 The standard requires that forest conversion to agricultural use shall not occur.	PEFC ITA 1001-1 LG 1.2 - Forest conversion to agricultural use shall not occur. (...)	YES	The requirement is in line with PEFC ST 1003:2024
23	Chapter 8: Operation, page 18	8.1.5, page 19	Following the further structured forest conversion related definitions, the former 8.1.4 is separated into two requirements, second addressing the ‘forest conversion to other land use’: "8.1.5 The standard requires that forest conversion to other land use shall not occur unless in justified circumstances where the conversion...."	PEFC ITA 1001-1 LG 1.2 - (...) Forest conversion to other land use shall not occur unless in justified circumstances where conversion... •complies with applicable national and regional land use and forest management policy and legislation and must be the result of national or regional spatial planning issued by a government or other official authority including consultation with relevant stakeholders; •affects a small portion (no larger than 5%) of the forest category within the certified area; •not have a negative impact on ecologically important forest areas, such as culturally and socially significant areas, or other protected areas; •does not destroy areas with significantly high carbon stocks; •contributes to long-term conservation, economic and social benefits.	YES	The requirement is in line with PEFC ST 1003:2024
24	Chapter 8: Operation, page 18	8.1.6, page 19	Introducing new requirement on forest degradation: 8.1.6 The standard requires that human-induced forest degradation shall not occur. Note 1: Plantation forests established by converting primary forest or naturally regenerating forests after 31 December 2010 are not eligible for certification. Note 2: Planted forests established by converting primary forest after 31 December 2010 are not eligible for certification. Note 3: This requirement is not applicable for plantation forests established for protection or ecosystem restoration, as well as forests established through planting or seeding which at stand maturity resemble or will resemble naturally regenerating forests Note 4: Incorporation of the definition into regional, national or subnational standards may consider the context of national forestry terminology and legal requirements. This can result in system-specific clarifications and guidance, as long as this delivers at minimum an equivalent outcome to the intended outcome of the definition.	ITA 1001- new GL 1.4 Human-induced forest degradation shall not occur. Note 1: Plantation forests established by converting primary forest or naturally regenerating forests after 31 December 2010 are not eligible for certification. Note 2: Planted forests established by converting primary forest after 31 December 2010 are not eligible for certification Note 3: This requirement is not applicable for plantation forests established for protection or ecosystem restoration, as well as forests established through planting or seeding which at stand maturity resemble or will resemble naturally regenerating forests	YES	The requirement is in line with PEFC ST 1003:2024

25	Chapter 8: Operation, page 19	n.a.	Removing the former 8.1.6 requirement on converting severely degraded forest into forest plantations	ITA 1001-1 erased ex GL 1.4	YES	The requirement has been adapted in line with PEFC ST 1003:2024
Appendix 1						
26	Appendix 1, page 27	n.a.	Removing the interpretation option for the former 8.1.4 requirement on forest conversion	ITA 1001-2, ITA 1001-3. ITA 1001-4 the interpretation is not present	YES	This is now covered by ITA 1001- new GL 1.4
27	n.a.	Appendix 1, page 27	Introducing the interpretation option for the 8.1.7 requirement on afforestation with the text “ with plantation forests ” The requirement for the “reforestation and afforestation of ecologically important non-forest ecosystems” means that ecologically important non-forest ecosystems reforested or afforested with plantation forests after 31 December 2010 in other than “justified circumstances” do not meet the requirement and are not eligible for certification.	ITA 1001-2, ITA 1001-3. ITA 1001-4 - 1.pi.e Note: Reforestatio+E40n and afforestation with plantation forests established in ecologically important non-forest ecosystems or forest areas after 31 December 2010 are not eligible for certification.	YES	The requirement has been implemented in line with PEFC ST 1003:2024 across the 3 documents.
28	Appendix 1, page 28	n.a.	Removing the interpretation option for the former 8.1.6 requirement on requirement on converting severely degraded forest into forest plantations	ITA 1001-2, ITA 1001-3. ITA 1001-4 the interpretation is not present	YES	No such a requirement found within the PEFC Italy SFM standards
Appendix 2 - TOF						
29	Appendix 2, page 30	Appendix 2, page 30	Updating the interpretation option for the 6.2.5 requirement on management plans linked to Modification #20.	ITA 1000 - 3.4 - Management plans must specify ways and means to minimise the risk of damage to natural ecosystems and take into account the results of scientific research. Same approach used in ITA 1001-2, 1001-3 and 1001-4	YES	The requirement is in line with PEFC ST 1003:2024
30	Appendix 2, page 30	Appendix 2, page 30	Updating the interpretation option for the 6.3.1.2 requirement on management plans linked to Modification #21.	ITA 1000 - 2.1 - The obligation to comply with existing regional, national and international regulations on forest management practices; agriculture and agroforestry; nature and environmental protection, protected and endangered species; propriety, tenure and land-use rights for indigenous peoples, local communities or other affected stakeholders; health, labour and safety issues; crop damage compensation; anti-corruption, trade, customs and the payment of royalties and taxes is a prerequisite.	YES	The requirement is included under ITA 1000 as it is valid across all scopes.
31	n.a.	Appendix 2, page 30	Introducing the interpretation option for the 6.2.4 requirement on allowable use of non-wood products 6.2.4 The standard requires that the annually allowable use of non-wood products from TOF areas shall be included in the management plan where management covers commercial use of non-wood products from TOF areas at a level which can have an impact on their long-term sustainability.	ITA 1000 - 3.4- The annually allowable use of non-wood forest products and non-wood products from TOF areas must be included in the management plan where forest management covers commercial use of non-wood forest products at a level which can have an impact on their long-term sustainability	YES	The requirement is in line with PEFC ST 1003:2024

32	Appendix 2, page 31	Appendix 2, page 31	Introducing the interpretation for the 8.1.4 requirement on forest conversion to agricultural use 8.1.4 TOF Agriculture area established by forest conversion to agricultural use after 31 December 2010 are not eligible for certification.	ITA 1001-5 LG 1.4 - Agroforestry area established by forest conversion to agricultural use after 31 December 2010 are not eligible for certification	YES	The requirement is in line with PEFC ST 1003:2024
33	Appendix 2, page 31	Appendix 2, page 31	Introducing the interpretation for the 8.1.5 requirement on forest conversion to other land use 8.1.5 Non-agriculture TOF area established by forest conversion after 31 December 2010 in other than “justified circumstances” do not meet the requirement and are not eligible for certification. Note: For TOF Agriculture category, see 8.1.4	ITA 1001-6 GL 1.3 - Urban Green Areas established by a forest conversion or by the conversion of ecologically important non-forest ecosystem after 31 December 2010 in other than “justified circumstances” do not meet the requirement and are not eligible for certification.	YES	The requirement is in line with PEFC ST 1003:2024
34	Appendix 2, page 32	n.a.	Removing the interpretation for the former 8.1.6 requirement on requirement on converting severely degraded forest into forest plantations	Non present in the standard the concept of "conversion of severely degraded forests"	YES	No such a requirement found within the PEFC Italy SFM standards
35	Appendix 2, page 32	Appendix 2, page 32	Updating the interpretation option for the 8.3.1 requirement on non-wood products by removing “forest” from the TOF interpretation	ITA 1000 - Introduction - harvesting levels of both wood and non-wood products from TOF areas shall not exceed a rate that can be sustained in the long term, and optimum use shall be made of the harvested products. the capability of the TOF area to provide wood products, non-wood forest products and/or services from trees on a sustainable basis shall be maintained.	YES	The requirement is in line with PEFC ST 1003:2024
36	n.a	Appendix 2, page 32	Introducing the interpretation option for the 8.3.4 requirement on harvesting levels of non-wood products 8.3.4 The standard requires that harvesting levels of both wood and non-wood products from TOF areas shall not exceed a rate that can be sustained in the long term, and optimum use shall be made of the harvested products.	ITA 1000 - Introduction - harvesting levels of both wood and non-wood products from TOF areas shall not exceed a rate that can be sustained in the long term, and optimum use shall be made of the harvested products. the capability of the TOF area to provide wood products, non-wood forest products and/or services from trees on a sustainable basis shall be maintained.	YES	The requirement is in line with PEFC ST 1003:2024