

PEFC Checklist - Sustainable Forest Management (PEFC ST 1003:2018)

1 Scope

This checklist covers requirements for sustainable forest management as defined in PEFC ST 1003:2018, *Sustainable Forest Management – Requirements*.

Any inconsistencies between this text and the original referred to document will be overruled by the content and wording of the technical document.

2 Checklist

PEFC benchmark requirement	YES / NO*	Reference to system documentation (including quotation of relevant text)
Context of the national standard and the organisations applying a PEFC endorsed standard		
4.1 General		
The requirements for sustainable forest management defined by regional, national or sub-national forest management standards shall:		
a) include management and performance requirements that are applicable at the forest management unit level, or at another level as appropriate, to ensure that the intent of all requirements is achieved at the forest management unit level; Note: An example of a situation where a requirement can be defined as being at another level (e.g. group/regional) is monitoring of forest health. Through monitoring of forest health at regional level, and communicating of results at the FMU level, the objective of the requirement is met without the necessity to carry out the individual monitoring of each forest management unit.	Yes	LFCS ST 1002 includes both, management as well as performance requirements. All the requirements are applicable at the forest management unit level. In cases, where the requirement can also be applied at another than forest management unit level, this is stated in a note to the requirement.
b) be clear, performance based and auditable;	Yes	LFCS ST 1002 requirements are clear, objective based and auditable.
c) apply to activities of all forest operators in the defined forest area who have an impact on achieving compliance with the requirements;	Yes	LFCS ST 1002, ch. 1.2 LFCS ST 1002, ch. 4.3
d) require record-keeping that provides evidence of compliance with the requirements of the forest management standards;	Yes	LFCS ST 1002, ch. 4.5
e) specify "100% PEFC certified", or another system specific claim, as claim to be used to communicate the origin of products in an area covered by the standard to customers with a PEFC chain of custody; Note: System specific claims of PEFC endorsed standards and PEFC Council approved abbreviations of such claims and the claim "100% PEFC certified", and their translations into languages other than English, are published online on the PEFC website www.pefc.org .	No	Proposal: A new requirement on communication of the PEFC status of certified timber shall be developed. 4.6-4.8
f) require that where owners/managers of forests are selling products from areas other than covered by the standard, only	No	Proposal: To develop a new

PEFC benchmark requirement	YES / NO*	Reference to system documentation (including quotation of relevant text)
products from areas covered by the standard are sold with the claim "100% PEFC-certified" or a system specific claim;		requirement
g) require that claims on the origin of products in an area covered by the standard are only made by forest owners/managers covered by a PEFC recognised certificate issued against the standard;	No	Proposal: To develop a new requirement
h) specify requirements concerning the information which need to be provided to a PEFC chain of custody certified customer;	No	Proposal: To develop a new requirement
i) include an overview of applicable legislation, if requirements of this benchmark are not reflected in the regional, national or sub-national standard, because they are already addressed through the legislation.	No	<p>Proposal: To develop an Annex to the standard with a list of applicable legislation.</p> <p>It is expected that some of the PEFC international requirements will be met by the Luxembourgish legislation. Therefore, there needs to be a specific list of the legislation which forms a part of normative requirements or the specific legislation shall be referenced in a specific requirement of the standard.</p> <p>4.2 / Annex II</p>
4.2 Understanding the needs and expectations of affected stakeholders		
The standard requires that the organisation shall determine:		
a) the affected stakeholders that are relevant to the sustainable forest management;	No	<p>Proposal: To require to identify relevant stakeholders and their expectations.</p> <p>In principle, there are two options:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) To have all requirements in SFM standard and then state that specific requirements can be met at the group level; b) To have this requirement only in a document for group certification and argue that "group" certification is the only applicable model in the scheme (then this needs to apply to all BENELUX countries).
b) the relevant needs and expectations of these stakeholders.	No	Proposal: To require to identify relevant stakeholders and their expectations.

PEFC benchmark requirement	YES / NO*	Reference to system documentation (including quotation of relevant text)
		See above.
4.3 Determining the scope of the management system		
4.3.1 The standard requires that the organisation shall determine the boundaries and applicability of the management system to establish its scope.	No	Proposal: To identify the scope and boundaries of the "management system". See options under 4.2.1a.
4.3.2 The standard requires that forest management shall comprise the cycle of inventory and planning, implementation, monitoring and evaluation, and shall include an appropriate assessment of the social, environmental and economic impacts of forest management practices. This shall form a basis for a cycle of continuous improvement.	Partially	<p>This is not a new PEFC requirement.</p> <p>LFCS ST 1002, ch. 5.1.1, 5.1.2</p> <p>The assessment of social, environmental and economic impacts and continuous improvement is not explicit. It is argued that this is implicitly included in the management planning.</p> <p>Proposal: To include reference to the impact assessment in 5.1.1 – 5.1.2</p>
5. Leadership		
5.1 The standard requires that the organisation shall provide a commitment:		
a) to comply with the sustainable forest management standard and other applicable requirements of the certification system;	No	<p>PEFC standard does not require the organisation's commitment.</p> <p>Proposal: To develop a new requirement. See options under 4.2.1a.</p> <p>Chapter 4.1</p>
b) to continuously improve the sustainable forest management system.	No	<p>PEFC standard does not require the organisation's commitment.</p> <p>Proposal: To develop a new requirement. See options under 4.2.1a.</p> <p>Chapter 4.1</p>
5.2 The standard requires that this commitment shall be publicly available.	No	<p>PEFC standard does not require the organisation's commitment.</p> <p>Proposal: To develop a new requirement. See options under 4.2.1a.</p> <p>Chapter 4.1</p>

PEFC benchmark requirement	YES / NO*	Reference to system documentation (including quotation of relevant text)
5.3 The standard requires that responsibilities for sustainable forest management shall be clearly defined and assigned.	No	LFCS ST 1002, ch. 4.1
6. Planning		
6.1 Actions to address risks and opportunities		
6.1.1 The standard requires that the organisation shall consider risks and opportunities concerning compliance with the requirements for sustainable forest management. Size and scale of the operations of the organisation shall be considered.	No	No requirement in the I.standard. Proposal: to develop a new requirement.
6.1.2 The standard requires that inventory and mapping of forest resources shall be established and maintained, adequate to local and national conditions and in correspondence with the requirements described in this international benchmark standard.	YES	LFCS ST 1002, ch. 5.1.1, 5.1.2
6.2 Management plan		
6.2.1 The standard requires that management plans shall be:		
a) elaborated and periodically updated or continually adjusted;	Yes	LFCS ST 1002, ch. 5.1.2, 5.1.3
b) appropriate to the size and use of the forest area;	No	LFCS ST 1002, ch. 5.1.2 and 5.1.3 define different requirements for planning for forest owners below and above 50 ha. However, the requirements are not explicit. Also the use of forests is not mentioned.
c) based on applicable local, national and international legislation as well as existing land-use or other official plans; and	No	No new requirement. No reference is made to compliance of the planning with legislation and existing land-use plans.
d) adequately covering forest resources.	partially	LFCS ST 1002, ch. 5.1.2, 5.1.3 Not new requirement. Although not explicit, it could be argued that 5.1.1 requires the plan to adequately cover forest resources.
6.2.2 The standard requires that management plans shall take into account the different uses or functions of the managed forest area.	Partially	LFCS ST 1002, ch. 5.1.2 Not explicit (except the "long-term" objectives).
6.2.3 The standard requires that management plans shall include at least a description of the current forest management unit, long-term objectives, and the average	YES	LFCS ST 1002, ch. 5.1.2

PEFC benchmark requirement	YES / NO*	Reference to system documentation (including quotation of relevant text)
annual allowable cut, including its justification.		
6.2.4 The standard requires that the annually allowable use of non-wood forest products shall 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.	No applicable	<p>During the last endorsement, it was argued that “Within the Luxembourg conditions, exploitation of non-timber forest products is not within the responsibility of the forest owner/manager. Hunting and fishing are regulated, monitored, and controlled by the state authorities”.</p> <p>This argument was accepted.</p>
6.2.5 The standard requires that management plans specify ways and means to minimise the risk of degradation and damage to forest ecosystems.	Partially	<p>This is not completely a new requirement and relates to 5.2.4 of the previous version of PEFC ST 1003.</p> <p>LFCS ST 1002, ch. 5.2.2 covers the requirement but does not refer explicitly to forest management plans.</p>
6.2.6 The standard requires that management plans shall take into account the results of scientific research.	Partially	<p>This is not completely a new requirement and relates to 5.6.14 of the previous version of PEFC ST 1003.</p> <p>It was argued that “Taking into account the socio-economic conditions of Luxembourg, research is primarily carried out by governmental bodies in cooperation with other entities. The role of forest owners, mainly due to their size, in forestry research is rather limited in providing access of those research institutions to their properties”.</p> <p>Proposal: To add some general requirement that forest management planning shall consider scientific research.</p>
6.2.7 The standard requires that a summary of the management plan, appropriate to the scope and scale of forest management, shall be publicly available and shall include information on the general objectives and forest management principles.	NO	<p>This is not included in the standard. During the last endorsement it was argued that the except public forests, the FMUs are too small, that public forests respond to public accessibility to information.</p> <p>However, this was not accepted and the assessment resulted in minor non-conformity.</p> <p>Proposal: to find a wording on</p>

PEFC benchmark requirement	YES / NO*	Reference to system documentation (including quotation of relevant text)
		public availability of FMPs or some kind of regional plans.
6.2.8 The standard requires that the publicly available summary of the management plan may exclude confidential business and personal information and other information made confidential by applicable legislation or for the protection of cultural sites or sensitive natural resource features.	NO	This is not a new requirement and in the previous revision and PEFC endorsement it was argued that the regional plans are publicly available. This is linked to 6.2.7.
6.3 Compliance requirements		
6.3.1 Legal compliance		
6.3.1.1 The standard requires that the organisation shall identify and have access to the legislation applicable to its forest management and determine how these compliance obligations apply to the organisation. Note: For a country which has signed a FLEGT Voluntary Partnership Agreement (VPA) between the European Union and the producing country, the "legislation applicable to forest management" is defined by the VPA agreement.	No	This is not completely a new requirement and relates to 5.7.1 of the previous version of PEFC ST 1003. LFCS ST 1002, ch. 4.2 However, it is not explicit that forest owner shall identify and have access to all relevant legislation. Proposal: To include the applicable legislation in an Annex to the standard. This would avoid that forest owner shall identify and have access to this legislation.
6.3.1.2 The standard requires that the organisation shall comply with applicable local, national and international legislation on forest management, including but not limited to forest management practices; nature and environmental protection; protected and endangered species; property, tenure and land-use rights for indigenous peoples, local communities or other affected stakeholders; health, labour and safety issues; anti-corruption and the payment of applicable royalties and taxes.	No	This is not completely a new requirement and relates to 5.7.1 of the previous version of PEFC ST 1003. Reference to international legislation and anti-corruption legislation is new. LFCS ST 1002, ch. 4.2 Proposal: To add reference to anti-corruption legislation. To discuss whether all international legislation is implemented through the national legislation.
6.3.1.3 The standard requires that where no anti-corruption legislation exists, the organisation must take alternative anti-corruption measures appropriate to the risk of corruption.	No	See 6.3.1.2 Argumentation should be developed that Luxembourg has an effective anticorruption legislation.
6.3.1.4 The standard requires that measures shall be implemented to address protection of the forest from unauthorised activities such as illegal logging, illegal land use, illegally initiated fires, and other illegal activities.	Yes	LFCS ST 1002, ch. 4.4 During the last endorsement, it was argued that "Within the socio-economic conditions of Luxembourg, the Government is

PEFC benchmark requirement	YES / NO*	Reference to system documentation (including quotation of relevant text)
		primarily responsible for protection of forests from illegal activities. Forest owners have no or very limited legal rights to intervene against other entities making illegal activities. Therefore the requirement is focused on “assistance to a law enforcement bodies”, especially informing the law enforcement bodies about any illegal activities”.
6.3.2 Legal, customary and traditional rights related to the forest land		
<p>6.3.2.1 The standard requires that property rights, tree ownership and land tenure arrangements shall be clearly defined, documented and established for the relevant management unit. Likewise, legal, customary and traditional rights related to the forest land shall be clarified, recognised and respected.</p> <p>Note: Guidance for the handling of tenure arrangements can be obtained from the FAO Voluntary Guidelines on the Responsible Governance of Tenure of Land, Fisheries and Forests in the Context of National Food Security.</p>	Yes	LFCS ST 1002, ch. 5.6.1
<p>6.3.2.2 The standard requires that forest practices and operations shall be conducted in recognition of the established framework of legal, customary and traditional rights such as outlined in ILO 169 and the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, which shall not be infringed upon without the free, prior and informed consent of the holders of the rights, including the provision of compensation where applicable. Where the extent of rights is not yet resolved, or is in dispute, there are processes for just and fair resolution. In such cases forest managers shall, in the interim, provide meaningful opportunities for parties to be engaged in forest management decisions whilst respecting the processes and roles and responsibilities laid out in the policies and laws where the certification takes place.</p>	N/A	
<p>6.3.2.3 The standard requires that forest practices and operations shall respect human rights as defined by the Universal Declaration on Human Rights.</p>	No	<p>The standard does not include an explicit requirement for respect to the human rights.</p> <p>It could be argued that the issue is sufficiently covered by the legislation.</p>
6.3.3 Fundamental ILO conventions		
<p>6.3.3.1 The standard requires that forest practices and operations shall comply with fundamental ILO conventions.</p> <p>Note: In countries where the fundamental ILO conventions have been ratified, the requirements of 6.3.3.1 apply. In countries where a fundamental convention has not been ratified and its content is not covered by applicable legislation, specific requirements shall be included in the</p>	YES	<p>It can be expected that the compliance is covered by the legislation in force.</p> <p>The standard requires compliance with the legislation.</p>

PEFC benchmark requirement	YES / NO*	Reference to system documentation (including quotation of relevant text)
forest management standard.		
6.3.4 Health, safety and working conditions		
6.3.4.1 The standard requires that forest operations shall be planned, organised and performed in a manner that enables health and accident risks to be identified and all reasonable measures to be applied to protect workers from work-related risks. Workers shall be informed about the risks involved with their work and about preventive measures.	Partially	LFCS ST 1002, ch. 5.6.6 The standard does not require to identify risks.
6.3.4.2 The standard requires that working conditions shall be safe, and guidance and training in safe working practices shall be provided to all those assigned to a task in forest operations. Working hours and leave shall comply with national laws or applicable collective agreements. Note: Guidance for specifying national standards can be obtained from the ILO Code of Good Practice: Safety and Health in Forestry Work.	Partially	LFCS ST 1002, ch. 5.6.6 The standard does not refer to working hours and leave.
6.3.4.3 The standard requires that wages of local and migrant forest workers as well as of contractors and other operators operating in PEFC-certified areas shall meet or exceed at least legal, industry minimum standards or, where applicable, collective bargaining agreements. Note: Where wages are below the living wage of a country, steps should be taken to attain increased wages towards a living wage level over time in addition to increases for inflation.	No	The standard does not refer to wages. Although there is a reference to the compliance with labour laws.
6.3.4.4 The standard requires that the organisation is committed to equal opportunities, non-discrimination and freedom from workplace harassment. Gender equality shall be promoted.	No	The standard does not refer to equal opportunities, non-discrimination and gender equality.
7. Support		
7.1 Resources		
7.1.1 The standard requires that the organisation shall determine and provide the resources needed for the establishment, implementation, maintenance and continual improvement of the sustainable forest management system.	No	The standard does not include a requirement relating to the issue.
7.2 Competence		
7.2.1 The standard requires that forest managers, contractors, employees and forest owners shall be provided with sufficient information and kept up-to-date through continuous training in relation to sustainable forest management, as a precondition for all management planning and practices described in this benchmark.	Yes	LFCS ST 1002, ch. 5.6.4
7.3 Communication		
7.3.1 The standard requires that effective communication and consultation with local communities, indigenous peoples and	YES	LFCS ST 1002, ch. 5.6.8

PEFC benchmark requirement	YES / NO*	Reference to system documentation (including quotation of relevant text)
other stakeholders relating to sustainable forest management shall be provided.		
7.4 Complaints		
7.4.1 The standard requires that appropriate mechanisms are in place for resolving complaints and disputes relating to forest management operations, land use rights and work conditions.	YES	LFCS ST 1002, ch. 5.6.8
7.5 Documented Information		
7.5.1 The standard requires that the organisation's management system shall include documented information required by the standard and determined by the organisation as being necessary for the effectiveness of the sustainable forest management system.	No	The standard does not include specific requirements for the management of "documented information".
7.5.2 The standard requires that the documented information is relevant, and updated as appropriate, to the activities of the organisation.	No	The standard does not include specific requirements for the management of "documented information".
8. Operation		
8.1 Criterion 1: Maintenance or appropriate enhancement of forest resources and their contribution to the global carbon cycle		
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.	Yes	LFCS ST 1002, ch. 5.1
8.1.2 The standard requires that the quantity and quality of the forest resources and the capacity of the forest to store and sequester carbon shall be safeguarded in the medium and long term by balancing harvesting and growth rates, using appropriate silvicultural measures and preferring techniques that minimise adverse impacts on forest resources.	Partially	Included in LFCS ST 1002, ch. 5.1. However, no reference to carbon sequestration is made.
8.1.3 The standard requires that climate positive practices in management operations, such as greenhouse gas emission reductions and efficient use of resources shall be encouraged.	No	No reference to "climate positive practices".
8.1.4 The standard requires that forest conversion shall not occur unless in justified circumstances where the conversion:		
a) is in compliance with national and regional policy and legislation applicable for land use and forest management and is a result of national or regional land-use planning governed by a governmental or other official authority including consultation with affected stakeholders; and	NO	LFCS ST 1002, ch. 5.1.4 The standard makes reference to national legislation and approval processes behind it. It should be noted that the definition of forest conversion changed.
b) entails a small proportion (no greater than 5 %) of forest	No	See above

PEFC benchmark requirement	YES / NO*	Reference to system documentation (including quotation of relevant text)
type within the certified area; and		Reference to 5 % of forest type in the certified area is new. This requires some interpretation of whether it applies to specific certified FMU or group/regional certificate of all certified area in the country.
c) does not have negative impacts on ecologically important forest areas, culturally and socially significant areas, or other protected areas; and	No	See above
d) does not destroy areas of significantly high carbon stock; and	No	See above. new requirement
e) makes a contribution to long-term conservation, economic, and social benefits.	No	See above
8.1.5 The standard requires that afforestation of ecologically important non-forest ecosystems shall not occur unless in justified circumstances where the conversion:		
a) is in compliance with national and regional policy and legislation applicable for land use and forest management and is a result of national or regional land-use planning governed by a governmental or other official authority; and	No	New PEFC requirement. No reference in the standard.
b) is established based on a decision-making basis where affected stakeholders have opportunities to contribute to the decision-making on conversion through transparent and participatory consultation processes; and	No	See above
c) does not have negative impacts on threatened (including vulnerable, rare or endangered) non-forest ecosystems, culturally and socially significant areas, important habitats of threatened species or other protected areas; and	No	See above
d) entails a small proportion of the ecologically important non-forest ecosystem managed by an organisation; and	No	See above
e) does not destroy areas of significantly high carbon stock; and	No	See above
f) makes a contribution to long-term conservation, economic, and social benefits.	No	See above
8.1.6 The standard requires that if conversion of severely degraded forests to forest plantations is being considered, it must add economic, ecological, social and/or cultural value. Precondition of adding such value are circumstances where the conversion:		
a) is in compliance with national and regional policy and legislation applicable for land use and forest management and is a result of national or regional land-use planning governed by a governmental or other official authority; and	No	New PEFC requirement. No reference in the standard. However, it can be assumed that the role of "forest plantations" in Luxembourg is very limited. In addition, this requirement is some kind of "exemption" from

PEFC benchmark requirement	YES / NO*	Reference to system documentation (including quotation of relevant text)
		8.1.4, especially the 5 % limit.
b) is established based on a decision-making basis where affected stakeholders have opportunities to contribute to the decision-making on conversion through transparent and participatory consultation processes; and	No	See above
c) has a positive impact on long-term carbon sequestration capacity of forest vegetation; and	No	See above
d) does not have negative impacts on ecologically important forest areas, culturally and socially significant areas, or other protected areas; and	No	See above
e) safeguards protective functions of forests for society and other regulating or supporting ecosystem services; and	No	See above
f) safeguards socio-economic functions of forests, including the recreational function and aesthetic values of forests and other cultural services; and	No	See above
g) has a land history providing evidence that the degradation is not the consequence of deliberate poor forest management practices; and	No	See above
h) is based on credible evidence demonstrating that the area is neither recovered nor in the process of recovery.	No	See above
8.2 Criterion 2: Maintenance of forest ecosystem health and vitality		
8.2.1 The standard requires that health and vitality of forest ecosystems shall be maintained or enhanced and degraded forest ecosystems shall be rehabilitated wherever and as far as economically feasible, by making best use of natural structures and processes and using preventive biological measures.	Yes	LFCS ST 1002, ch. 5.2
8.2.2 The standard requires that adequate genetic, species and structural diversity shall be encouraged or maintained to enhance the stability, vitality and resilience of the forests to adverse environmental factors and strengthen natural regulation mechanisms.	Yes	LFCS ST 1002, 5.4.3-5.4.8, 5.4.10, 5.4.11, 5.4.12
8.2.3 The standard requires that use of fire shall be limited to regions where fire is an essential tool in forest management for regeneration, wildfire protection and habitat management or a recognized practice of indigenous peoples. In these cases adequate management and control measures shall be taken.	Partially	LFCS ST 1002, ch. 5.2.6 The standard does not make reference to “adequate management and control measures.
8.2.4 The standard requires that appropriate forest management practices such as reforestation and afforestation with tree species and provenances that are suited to the site conditions or the use of tending, harvesting and transport techniques that minimise tree and/or soil damages shall be applied.	Yes	LFCS ST 1002, 5.4.3-5.4.8, 5.4.10, 5.4.11, 5.4.12
8.2.5 The standard requires that the indiscriminate disposal	Partially	LFCS ST 1002, 5.2.3

PEFC benchmark requirement	YES / NO*	Reference to system documentation (including quotation of relevant text)
of waste on forest land shall be strictly avoided. Non-organic waste and litter shall be collected, stored in designated areas and removed in an environmentally-responsible manner. The spillage of oil or fuel during forest management operations shall be prevented. Emergency procedures for the minimisation of risk of environmental harm arising from the accidental spillage shall be in place.		No reference is made to emergency procedures.
8.2.6 The standard requires that integrated pest management, appropriate silviculture alternatives and other biological measures shall be preferred to minimise the use of pesticides.	Partially	LFCS ST 1002, 5.2.4 However, reference to “integrated pest management” is missing.
8.2.7 The standard requires that any use of pesticides is documented.	No	LFCS ST 1002, 5.2.4 No explicit requirement for records keeping. However, 5.2.4 includes references to legislation that could cover the requirement.
8.2.8 The standard requires that the WHO Class 1A and 1B pesticides and other highly toxic pesticides shall be prohibited, except where no other viable alternative is available. Any exception to the usage of WHO Class 1A and 1B pesticides shall be defined in the national/regional standard.	Partially	LFCS ST 1002, 5.2.4 The standard makes reference to the legislation. It needs to be checked whether the list of approved pesticides includes any WHO 1A or 1B pesticide.
8.2.9 The standard requires that pesticides, such as chlorinated hydrocarbons whose derivatives remain biologically active and accumulate in the food chain beyond their intended use, and any pesticides banned by international agreement, shall be prohibited. Note: “Pesticides banned by international agreements” are defined in the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants.	Yes	No chlorinate hydrocarbons are allowed to be used in Luxembourg.
8.2.10 The standard requires that the use of pesticides shall follow the instructions given by the pesticide producer and be implemented with proper equipment by trained personnel.	Yes	LFCS ST 1002, 5.2.4 However, no reference is made to proper equipment and training.
8.2.11 The standard requires that where fertilisers are used, they shall be applied in a controlled manner and with due consideration for the environment. Fertilizer use shall not be an alternative to appropriate soil nutrient management.	YES	LFCS ST 1002, 5.2.5 However, it should be discussed whether there is a need to use fertilisers.
8.3 Criterion 3: Maintenance and encouragement of productive functions of forests (wood and non-wood)		
8.3.1 The standard requires that the capability of forests to produce a range of wood and non-wood forest products and services on a sustainable basis shall be maintained.	Yes	LFCS ST 1002, ch. 5.3
8.3.2 The standard requires that sound economic performance shall be pursued, taking into account possibilities for new markets and economic activities in	Yes	LFCS ST 1002, ch. 5.3

PEFC benchmark requirement	YES / NO*	Reference to system documentation (including quotation of relevant text)
connection with all relevant goods and services of forests.		
8.3.3 The standard requires that management, harvesting and regeneration operations shall be carried out at a time, and in a way, that does not reduce the productive capacity of the site, for example by avoiding damage to soil and retained stands and trees.	Yes	LFCS ST 1002, ch. 5.3.1, 5.3.2, 5.2.2, 5.4.3-5.4.8, 5.4.10, 5.4.11
8.3.4 The standard requires that harvesting levels of both wood and non-wood forest products shall not exceed a rate that can be sustained in the long term, and optimum use shall be made of the harvested products.	Yes	LFCS ST 1002, ch. 5.3.2
8.3.5 The standard requires that adequate infrastructure such as roads, skid tracks or bridges shall be planned, established and maintained to ensure efficient delivery of goods and services while minimising negative impacts on the environment.	Yes	LFCS ST 1002, ch. 5.3.3 – 5.3.5
8.4 Criterion 4: Maintenance, conservation and appropriate enhancement of biological diversity in forest ecosystems		
8.4.1 The standard requires that management planning shall aim to maintain, conserve or enhance biodiversity on landscape, ecosystem, species and genetic levels.	Yes	LFCS ST 1002, ch. 5.4
<p>8.4.2 The standard requires that inventory, mapping and planning of forest resources shall identify, protect, conserve or set aside ecologically important forest areas.</p> <p>Note: This does not prohibit forest management activities that do not damage the important ecologic values of those biotopes.</p>	Partially	<p>LFCS ST 1002, ch. 5.4.1</p> <p>The legislation in force defines protected areas that are consistent and in compliance with the PEFC requirements http://data.legilux.public.lu/file/eli-etat-leg-memorial-2004-10-fr-pdf.pdf , Art 17 and 13, Art 36-38, Art 39-45, Art 46-48, Annexes 1-8.</p> <p>To be checked whether the legislation covers all attributes of “ecologically important forest areas”</p>
<p>8.4.3 The standard requires that protected, threatened and endangered plant and animal species shall not be exploited for commercial purposes. Where necessary, measures shall be taken for their protection and, where relevant, to increase their population.</p> <p>Note: The requirement does not preclude trade according to CITES requirements.</p>	Yes	<p>LFCS ST 1002, ch 5.4.2</p> <p>It should be noted that there are no protected and endangered species in the forests in Luxembourg that could be used for commercial exploitation. Therefore the requirement is focused on protection of those species from management activities.</p>
8.4.4 The standard requires that successful regeneration shall be ensured through natural regeneration or planting that is adequate to ensure the quantity and quality of the forest resources.	Yes	LFCS 1002, ch 5.4.3 – 5.4.8

PEFC benchmark requirement	YES / NO*	Reference to system documentation (including quotation of relevant text)
<p>8.4.5 The standard requires that for reforestation and afforestation origins of native species that are well-adapted to site conditions shall be preferred. Only those introduced species, provenances or varieties shall be used whose impacts on the ecosystem and on the genetic integrity of native species and local provenances have been scientifically evaluated, and if negative impacts can be avoided or minimised.</p> <p>Note: CBD (Convention on Biological Diversity) Guiding Principles for the Prevention, Introduction, and Mitigation of Impacts of Alien Species that Threaten Ecosystems, Habitats or Species are recognised as guidance for avoidance of invasive species.</p>	Yes	LFCS 1002, ch 5.4.3 – 5.4.8
8.4.6 The standard requires that afforestation, reforestation and other tree planting activities that contribute to the improvement and restoration of ecological connectivity shall be promoted.	partially	LFCS ST 1002, 5.4.3 – 5.4.8, 5.4.10, 5.4.11, 5.4.12 However, the requirements do not explicitly refer to “ecological connectivity”.
<p>8.4.7 The standard requires that genetically-modified trees shall not be used.</p> <p>Note: The restriction on the usage of genetically-modified trees has been adopted by the PEFC General Assembly based on the Precautionary Principle. Until enough scientific data on genetically modified trees indicates that impacts on human and animal health and the environment are equivalent to, or more positive than, those presented by trees genetically improved by traditional methods, no genetically-modified trees will be used.</p>	Yes	LFCS ST 1002, ch. 5.4.9
8.4.8 The standard requires that a diversity of both horizontal and vertical structures and the diversity of species such as mixed stands shall be promoted, where appropriate. The practices shall also aim to maintain or restore landscape diversity.	Yes	LFCS ST 1002, ch. 5.4.5 -5.4.8, 5.4.10 – 5.4.13
8.4.9 The standard requires that traditional management practices that create valuable ecosystems on appropriate sites shall be supported, where appropriate.	Yes	LFCS ST 1002, ch. 5.4.13
8.4.10 The standard requires that tending and harvesting operations shall be conducted in a way that does not cause lasting damage to ecosystems. Wherever possible, practical measures shall be taken to maintain or improve biological diversity.	Yes	LFCS ST 1002, ch. .5.4.14, 5.2.2, 5.3.1
8.4.11 The standard requires that infrastructure shall be planned and constructed in a way that minimizes damage to ecosystems, especially to rare, sensitive or representative ecosystems and genetic reserves, and that takes threatened or other key species – in particular their migration patterns – into consideration.	Yes	LFCS ST 1002, ch. 5.3.3, 5.3.4
8.4.12 The standard requires that, with due regard to management objectives, measures shall be taken to control	YES	LFCS ST 1002, ch. 5.4.15, 5.4.16

PEFC benchmark requirement	YES / NO*	Reference to system documentation (including quotation of relevant text)
the pressure of animal populations on forest regeneration and growth as well as on biodiversity.		
8.4.13 The standard requires that standing and fallen dead wood, hollow trees, old groves and rare tree species shall be left in quantities and distribution necessary to safeguard biological diversity, taking into account the potential effect on the health and stability of forests and on surrounding ecosystems.	Yes	LFCS ST 1002, ch. 5.4.17
8.5 Criterion 5: Maintenance or appropriate enhancement of protective functions in forest management (notably soil and water)		
8.5.1 The standard requires that protective functions of forests for society, such as their potential role in erosion control, flood prevention, water purification, climate regulation, carbon sequestration and other regulating or supporting ecosystem services shall be maintained or enhanced.	YES	LFCS ST 1002, ch. 5.5
8.5.2 The standard requires that areas that fulfil specific and recognised protective functions for society shall be mapped, and forest management plans and operations shall ensure the maintenance or enhancement of these functions.	Yes	LFCS ST 1002, ch 5.5.1
8.5.3 The standard requires that special care shall be given to forestry operations on sensitive soils and erosion-prone areas as well as in areas where operations might lead to excessive erosion of soil into watercourses. Techniques applied and the machinery used shall be suitable for such areas. Special measures shall be taken to minimise the pressure of animal populations on these areas.	Yes	LFCS ST 1002, ch. 5.2.2, 5.5.3
8.5.4 The standard requires that special care shall be given to forestry operations in forest areas with water protection functions to avoid adverse effects on the quality and quantity of water resources. Inappropriate use of chemicals or other harmful substances or inappropriate silvicultural practices influencing water quality in a harmful way shall be avoided. Downstream water balance and water quality shall not be significantly affected by the operations.	No	LFCS ST 1002, ch. 5.5.4, 5.5.5 However, the new requirement for controlling the downstream water balance is not covered.
8.5.5 The standard requires that construction of roads, bridges and other infrastructure shall be carried out in a manner that minimises bare soil exposure, avoids the introduction of soil into watercourses and preserves the natural level and function of water courses and river beds. Proper road drainage facilities shall be installed and maintained.	Yes	LFCS ST 1002, ch. 5.3.3, 5.3.4
8.6 Criterion 6: Maintenance or appropriate enhancement of socio-economic functions and conditions		
8.6.1 The standard requires that forest management planning shall aim to respect all socio-economic functions of forests.	Yes	LFCS ST 1002, ch. 5.6.
8.6.2 The standard requires that adequate public access to forests for the purpose of recreation shall be provided, taking into account respect for ownership rights, safety and the	Yes	LFCS ST 1002, ch. 5.6.2

PEFC benchmark requirement	YES / NO*	Reference to system documentation (including quotation of relevant text)
rights of others, the effects on forest resources and ecosystems, as well as compatibility with other functions of the forest.		
8.6.3 The standard requires that sites with recognised specific historical, cultural or spiritual significance and areas fundamental to meeting the needs of indigenous peoples and local communities (e.g. health, subsistence) shall be protected or managed in a way that takes due regard of the significance of the site.	Yes	LFCS ST 1002, ch. 5.6.3
8.6.4 The standard requires that management shall promote the long-term health and well-being of communities within or adjacent to the forest management area, where appropriate supported by engagement with local communities and indigenous peoples.	Yes	LFCS ST 1002, ch. 5.6. Within the conditions of the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg, the role of long-term health and well-being of "local communities" is a primary role of government at the national level as well as local municipalities.
8.6.5 The standard requires that the best use shall be made of forest-related experience and traditional knowledge, innovations and practices such as those of forest owners, NGOs, local communities, and indigenous peoples. Equitable sharing of the benefits arising from the utilization of such knowledge shall be encouraged.	Yes	LFCS ST 1002, ch. 5.6.8 Luxembourg is very small country with cca 90.000 hectares of forests. From this point of view any Luxembourg based knowledge is to be considered as "local". Over the centuries of active forest management of forests in Luxembourg, the knowledge on forest management does not stay with "local people" but was either codified in the legislation or included in textbooks on forest management. The view of third parties is ensured through 5.6.8.
8.6.6 The standard requires that management shall give due regard to the role of forestry in local economies. Special consideration shall be given to new opportunities for training and employment of local people, including indigenous peoples.	Yes	LFCS ST 1002, 5.6, ch. 5.6.4
8.6.7 The standard requires that forest management shall contribute to research activities and data collection needed for sustainable forest management or support relevant research activities carried out by other organisations, as appropriate.	Yes	LFCS ST 1002, ch. 5.6.9 Taking into account the socio-economic conditions of Luxembourg, research is primarily carried out by governmental bodies in cooperation with other entities. The role of forest owners, mainly due to their size, in forestry research is rather limited in providing access of those research institutions to their properties.

PEFC benchmark requirement	YES / NO*	Reference to system documentation (including quotation of relevant text)
9. Performance evaluation		
9.1 Monitoring, measurement, analysis and evaluation		
9.1.1 The standard requires that monitoring of forest resources and evaluation of their management, including ecological, social and economic effects, shall be periodically performed, and results fed back into the planning process.	Yes	LFCS ST 1002, ch. 5.1.1, 5.1.2 The standard includes requirements for inventory and monitoring of forest resources and for management planning. This partially covers the requirement.
9.1.2 The standard requires that health and vitality of forests shall be periodically monitored, especially key biotic and abiotic factors that potentially affect health and vitality of forest ecosystems, such as pests, diseases, overgrazing and overstocking, fire, and damage caused by climatic factors, air pollutants or by forest management operations.	Yes	LFCS ST 1002, ch. 5.2.1
9.1.3 The standard requires that where it is the responsibility of the forest owner/manager and included in forest management, the use of non-wood forest products, including hunting and fishing, shall be regulated, monitored and controlled.	N/A	Not applicable. Within the Luxembourg conditions, exploitation of non-timber forest products is not within the responsibility of the forest owner/manager. Hunting and fishing are regulated, monitored, and controlled by the state authorities.
9.1.4 The standard requires that working conditions shall be regularly monitored and adapted as necessary.	No	New PEFC requirement. Partially covered by the compliance with the legislation.
9.2 Internal audit		
9.2.1 Objectives		
The standard requires that an internal audit programme at planned intervals shall provide information on whether the management system		
a) conforms to • the organisation's requirements for its management system; • the requirements of the national sustainable forest management standard	No	The standard does not require internal audits. The internal audits within the group certification could be used to satisfy the requirement.
b) is effectively implemented and maintained.	No	See above
9.2.2 Organisation		
The standard requires that the organisation shall:		
a) plan, establish, implement and maintain an audit programme(s) including the frequency, methods, responsibilities, planning requirements and reporting, which shall take into consideration the importance of the processes concerned and the results of previous audits;	No	See above

PEFC benchmark requirement	YES / NO*	Reference to system documentation (including quotation of relevant text)
b) define the audit criteria and scope for each audit;	No	See above
c) select the auditors and conduct audits to ensure objectivity and the impartiality of the audit process;	No	See above
d) ensure that the results of the audits are reported to relevant management;	No	See above
e) retain documented information as evidence of the implementation of the audit programme and the audit results.	No	See above
9.3 Management review		
9.3.1 The standard requires that an annual management review shall at least include		
a) the status of actions from previous management reviews;	No	The standard does not require management review. The review within the group certification could be used to satisfy the requirement.
b) changes in external and internal issues that are relevant to the management system;	No	See above
c) information on the organisation's performance, including trends in: • nonconformities and corrective actions; • monitoring and measurement results; • audit results;	No	See above
d) opportunities for continual improvement	No	See above
9.3.2 The standard requires that the outputs of the management review shall include decisions related to continual improvement opportunities and any need for changes to the management system.	No	See above
9.3.3 The standard requires that documented information as evidence of the results of management reviews shall be retained.	No	See above
10. Improvement		
10.1 Nonconformity and corrective action		
10.1.1 The standard requires that when a nonconformity occurs, the organisation shall:		
a) react to the nonconformity and, as applicable: i. take action to control and correct it; ii. deal with the consequences;	No	The standard does not require management of non-conformities. The management of non-conformities within the group certification could be used to satisfy the requirement.
b) evaluate the need for action to eliminate the causes of the	No	See above

PEFC benchmark requirement	YES / NO*	Reference to system documentation (including quotation of relevant text)
nonconformity, in order that it does not recur or occur elsewhere, by: i. reviewing the nonconformity; ii. determining the causes of the nonconformity; iii. determining if similar nonconformities exist, or could potentially occur;		
c) implement any action needed;	No	See above
d) review the effectiveness of any corrective action taken;	No	See above
e) make changes to the management system, if necessary.	No	See above
10.1.2 The standard requires that corrective actions shall be appropriate to the effects of the nonconformities encountered.	No	See above
10.1.3 The standard requires that the organisation shall retain documented information as evidence of:		
a) the nature of the nonconformities and any subsequent actions taken;	No	See above
b) the results of any corrective action.	No	See above
10.2 Continual improvement The standard requires that the suitability, adequacy and effectiveness of the sustainable forest management system and the sustainable management of the forest shall be continuously improved.	No	See above

* If the answer to any question is no, the application documentation shall indicate for each element why and what alternative measures have been taken to address the element in question.

