



PEFC

PEFC/01-00-01

2025 PEFC Annual Review

**Advancing sustainable forest management
through partnerships and impact**

2025

Highlights of the year

Strengthening focus areas

In 2025, we advanced our strategic priorities by opening a regional office in Gabon, launching the Indigenous Peoples Engagement Programme, and starting the implementation of our Development and Fundraising Strategy.

[READ MORE ON PAGE 4](#)

New and re-elected Board members

We were delighted to welcome Hlengiwe Msibi and Gilles de Boncourt to the PEFC International Board. The PEFC General Assembly elected Suzette Weeding as First Vice Chair and Guy Gleysteen as Second Vice Chair, and re-elected Eva Müller and Scott Robertson for another term.

New member and endorsements

The PEFC General Assembly endorsed the national forest certification systems of Türkiye and Lithuania, and the national forest management standard of Croatia. We also welcomed CMPC Celulosa S.A. as an international stakeholder member.

[READ MORE ON PAGE 3](#)

PEFC Forest Forum

In May, we welcomed participants from around the world to Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam, for the PEFC Forest Forum 2025 – a week of exchange, dialogue, and new perspectives.

[READ MORE ON PAGE 3](#)

Farewell to our outgoing Board members

We extend our sincere thanks to David Ford and Kurt Ramskogler for their years of dedicated service on the Board, and to Jan McAlpine for her valued contributions as a member of the Nominations Committee.

PEFC RED certification

The PEFC RED certification scheme is now recognised by the European Commission under the amended Renewable Energy Directive (RED III), providing companies with a clear and auditable way to demonstrate compliance with the Directive's sustainability and greenhouse gas saving criteria.

[READ MORE ON PAGE 15](#)

Aligning with the EU Deforestation Regulation

PEFC is EUDR aligned and is actively monitoring the changes from the European Commission. We are rapidly bringing our members onboard with 11 of them endorsed against our new benchmark standard.

A new look for PEFC

We began rolling out our new brand guidelines, bringing a refreshed and more consistent look to our communications. You will see the updated colours, fonts and visual elements throughout this Annual Review and across our online platforms.

PEFC-certified constructions on the world stage

PEFC-certified timber took centre stage at the 2025 Osaka Expo. Updates to the LEED v5 green building rating system enabled PEFC-certified wood to achieve LEED credits.

[READ MORE ON PAGE 17](#)

Engaging in key global and regional dialogues

PEFC contributed to major international events, including COP30, the IUCN World Conservation Congress, the Consumer Goods Forum, and the Indigenous Forestry Conference, and hosted events and webinars for our stakeholders and partners.

[READ MORE ON PAGE 11](#)

Navigating Global Trade – the PEFC Forest Forum 2025 in Vietnam

We welcomed our members, partners, and experts from around the world to Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam, for the PEFC Forest Forum 2025, organised in collaboration with the Vietnamese Academy of Forest Science (VAFS).

The event showcased how PEFC certification helps companies meet regulatory requirements while supporting long-term value, resilience and innovation in forest-based industries.

Under the theme “Navigating Global Trade: How PEFC certification strengthens forests and business resilience”, we explored how forest certification is evolving in response to growing demands, emerging technologies, and environmental challenges.

A two-day field trip into Vietnam’s forestry and manufacturing sectors provided first-hand insight into how local and international actors are advancing responsible practices in forestry, furniture production and rubber manufacturing.

“The PEFC forest certification system in Lithuania will allow forest owners and the timber industry to choose another approach of sustainable forest management, especially for small forest owners.”

ALFREDAS GALAUNÉ, NATIONAL SECRETARY FOR LITHUANIA



● New member and endorsed systems

At the Forest Forum, the PEFC General Assembly endorsed the national forest certification systems of Türkiye and Lithuania, and the national forest management standard of Croatia, which will become part of the Balkan Regional System.

This milestone opens the door for PEFC-certified forests in all three countries, strengthening sustainable forest management and market access.

We also welcomed CMPC Celulosa S.A., the pulp division of Chile-based forestry group Empresas CMPC, as a new international stakeholder member (ISM).

● Join us!

Join the PEFC Alliance as an international stakeholder member and help shape the world’s largest forest certification system. ISM membership gives your organisation a formal voice in our governance, access to global expertise, and opportunities to collaborate on innovative projects.

To ensure balanced representation across all three pillars of sustainability – environmental, social, and economic – we are particularly encouraging environmental and social NGOs to join our community.

JOIN US!

treee.es/ISM



Shaping the future of the PEFC system – early discussions



In the context of the PEFC 25+ strategic evolution, we engaged with our members and a wide range of stakeholders to begin shaping the future direction of our system. These initial discussions explored how PEFC can evolve from a requirements-based assessment approach to one that increasingly assesses performance and impact.

This shift reflects a more proactive approach, focused on improving forest conditions, supporting rural communities, strengthening disaster risk reduction, and embracing a nature positive perspective.

At the same time, we are exploring the integration of new technologies, including artificial intelligence, to enhance the effectiveness and credibility of our system.

This ongoing journey is grounded in PEFC's values: being ethical and responsible, collaborative, respectful, and empowering, forward-looking, and a thought leader.

● Join the conversation

We would welcome your input as this work progresses.

TO SHARE YOUR PERSPECTIVES, PLEASE CONTACT

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Driving impact with new expertise and programmes

In 2025, PEFC took a decisive step forward in strengthening its Development and Fundraising function with the appointment of a dedicated Senior Manager to lead the implementation of our Development and Fundraising Strategy. This reflects a deliberate commitment to building partnerships and institutional capacity to scale our impact.

Sustainable Forest Management is a practical tool to address climate change, biodiversity loss, and rural development challenges, while contributing to responsible global value chains and the Sustainable Development Goals. Continued investment in this area is essential. We invite current and prospective partners to work with us to advance this ambition. Together, we can mobilise the resources, expertise, and shared commitment required to deliver lasting impact for forests and the communities who depend on them.



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2025 also marks the launch of PEFC's Indigenous Peoples Engagement Programme (IPEP). The newly appointed Indigenous Peoples Engagement Manager will lead the programme that recognises and respects the inherent rights of Indigenous Peoples, including the right to self-determination, Free Prior & Informed Consent, and decision-making over their lands, territories, and resources, as well as their vital role in forest stewardship to halt deforestation and biodiversity loss, and as key partners for sustainable forest management. The creation of this initiative also affirms PEFC's commitment to more inclusive and equitable sustainable forest management.

The Indigenous Peoples Engagement Programme uses a Human Rights-based approach, fostering meaningful and ongoing engagement that strengthens full and effective participation and decision-making. It promotes deep respect for traditional and ancestral knowledge and mutual learning through a two-way exchange between Indigenous knowledge systems and technical approaches to forest governance.



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Strengthening transparency and collaboration in sustainable forest management



In February 2025, PEFC International conducted an on-the-ground system integrity visit to Malaysia, hosted by the Malaysian Timber Certification Council (MTCC), our national member for Malaysia, with representatives of the Netherlands' Timber Procurement Assessment Committee (TPAC) participating as observers. The visit provided first-hand insights into the implementation and governance of the Malaysian Timber Certification Scheme (MTCS).

The delegation engaged stakeholders on key issues including free, prior, and informed consent (FPIC), mapping quality, and opportunities to further strengthen sustainable forest management practices. Input from Indigenous communities offered valuable perspectives on the impact of certification.

An independent consultant conducted a comprehensive evaluation of the scheme's implementation. The resulting report outlined practical recommendations to further strengthen FPIC processes, improve the clarity and accessibility of maps, enhance complaint and dispute mechanisms, and reinforce certification and auditing practices to help strengthen both the MTCS and the PEFC system.

MTCC built the recommendations into their system review, with a workshop on the learning points from the field mission held for forest industry leaders and accreditation body and certification body personnel in October. Further in-country integrity work is planned for 2026 between PEFC International and MTCC.

LEARN MORE:

treee.es/MTCCfieldvisit

Digital transformation for a stronger operational backbone



We modernised our core operational systems in partnership with Swisscom, a leading Swiss telecommunications and IT services provider, moving from fragmented tools to an integrated digital backbone covering finance, CRM and reporting. The project created a single, coherent system tailored to the needs of an international non-profit, improving collaboration and transparency.

The objective was to enable decision-grade information: consistent data, clear ownership, and faster access to reliable figures.

In practice, this improved traceability and reporting quality, and provided clearer insights. Time previously spent producing and checking data has shifted towards analysis and action, strengthening internal coordination and strategic focus.

The transformation has also gained external recognition, with Swisscom selecting PEFC as a case story of how a non-profit organisation can leverage digital transformation to strengthen governance and decision-making.

LEARN MORE AND WATCH THE VIDEO

treee.es/Swisscom

“With the expertise of Swisscom, we turned transformation into opportunity, and data into direction. PEFC is moving forward with clarity, unity, and purpose.”

HEIDI KAGIALI,
FORESTRY AND CONSERVATION MANAGER,
PEFC INTERNATIONAL

Strengthening regional collaboration in the Congo Basin



We continued to strengthen our engagement in the Congo Basin by opening a regional office in Gabon, bringing us closer to our members and partners in the region.

As interest in sustainable forest management certification grows in the Congo Basin, the new regional office strengthens PAFC's visibility and accessibility for companies, public authorities and civil society. It also supports closer collaboration with our national members: PAFC Gabon, PAFC Cameroon and PAFC Congo.

Led by local coordinator Lucas Millet, the office supports the development of certification tools on emerging topics such as carbon and agroforestry, facilitates knowledge exchange, and explores opportunities in additional countries, including the Central African Republic and the Democratic Republic of Congo.

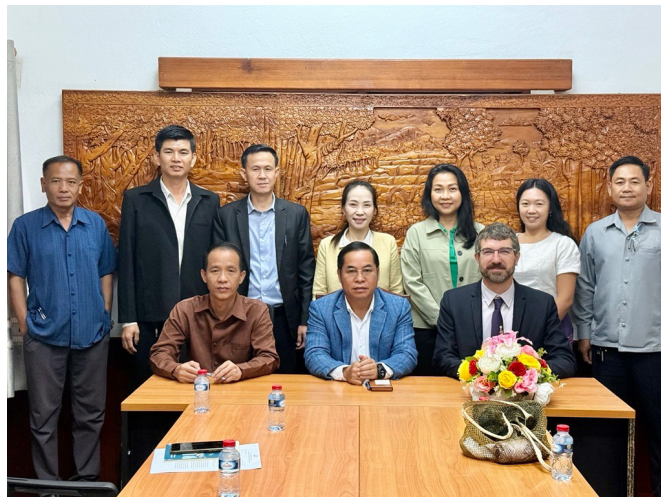
● Regional collaborations on the rise

The Pan African Forest Certification (PAFC) Congo Basin system is a regional forest certification system endorsed by PEFC. This collaborative approach enables members to share resources and expertise while strengthening their collective visibility and impact.

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Laying the foundations for forest certification in Lao PDR



2025 marked the beginning of the development of a national forest certification system in Lao PDR. The initiative originated from private-sector requests, demonstrating clear demand for a credible and internationally recognised certification system.

The project is implemented by Lao's Department of Forestry, under the Lao Landscapes and Livelihoods Project, in cooperation with the Vietnam Academy of Forestry Science (VAFS), PEFC's national member in Vietnam, and PEFC International. The project is supported by the World Bank, Global Environmental Facility and the Canadian Clean Energy and Forest Climate Facility.

The Lao Forest Certification System will support sustainable and transparent forest sector practices, promote sustainable forest management, strengthen protected area management and enhance livelihoods in selected landscapes in Lao PDR.

The Lao Forest Certification System is expected to be submitted for PEFC endorsement in 2027.

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Enhancing cooperation with certification and accreditation bodies



PEFC welcomed experts from around the world to our first in-person gathering of accreditation and certification bodies. The meeting fostered open collaboration and the exchange of insights on the implementation of PEFC standards.

The transition from RED II to RED III and upcoming accreditation requirements prompted discussions on how these developments may impact the PEFC RED standards. Participants expressed strong interest in PEFC RED certification and its potential to support companies navigating evolving regulatory requirements. We presented our new RED database, FREDII, marking a significant step in the digitalisation of certification systems, with plans to expand these innovations across the full PEFC system.

Technology was a central theme, with presentations demonstrating how digital tools and satellite data can enhance transparency and reliability in auditing.

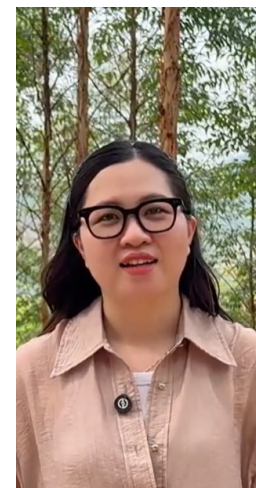
Updates were also provided on accreditation developments, including the evaluation of the PEFC EUDR DDS standard, as well as ongoing work in sustainable forest management and chain of custody, covering circular economy, project certification, trees outside forests, and approaches to demonstrating positive impact.

The meeting provided a valuable opportunity to exchange insights and strengthen collaboration. We look forward to a second edition in 2026.

“Working closely with accreditation bodies and certification bodies on the development and implementation of our standards is key for our success.”

ROB SHAW, HEAD OF STANDARDS AND INTEGRITY,
PEFC INTERNATIONAL

Telling the stories from the forest



At PEFC, our mission goes far beyond developing standards – it is about making a tangible, positive difference in the world’s forests and for the people who depend on them.

We speak to people around the world living and working in forests and hear how certification and sustainable forest management make this difference.

In 2025, forest owners and managers in Vietnam, Austria and Sweden opened a window into their daily work and spoke about their connection to the forest and the passion that drives them. Their experiences show that sustainable forestry is not one-size-fits-all, but is shaped by local needs and realities.

For some, certification has helped restore biodiversity. For others, it has improved safety through access to proper equipment. Many value the structure, guidance and long-term vision that certification provides.

Together, these stories demonstrate how PEFC is raising the bar for sustainable forestry.

HEAR THEIR STORIES FROM THE FOREST:

treee.es/ForestStories

Expanding certification for Trees outside Forests



In 2025, PEFC Italy, PEFC France, and PEFC Bulgaria submitted their Trees outside Forests (TOF) requirements for PEFC endorsement. This will bring the total number of endorsed national TOF standards to seven, alongside the Netherlands, India, Portugal, and the UK.

This milestone opens the door for PEFC-certified trees growing outside forests in these countries, enabling the demonstration of sustainable management in urban areas and agroforestry systems.

The first Chain of Custody certificate fully linked to TOF was issued in 2025 in the Netherlands, while the first TOF Group certificate was issued in India, marking an important step forward in advancing sustainable TOF management.

Throughout the year, we engaged stakeholders at key international events to promote Sustainable Forest Management and TOF certification. These events provided opportunities to share expertise, contribute to policy and technical discussions, and strengthen collaboration across forestry, agroforestry, and urban forestry communities.

At the *World Congress on Agroforestry* in Kigali, we co-organised a side event with FAO and FF-SPAK on supporting smallholders through market-based instruments.

We also shared our experience on urban forestry certification at the *European Forum on Urban Forestry* in Zurich and participated in a panel on sustainable urban infrastructure at *Green Cities are Great* in Sofia.

TOF certification has been part of PEFC's Sustainable Forest Management benchmark standard since 2018, broadening the reach of certification and supporting locally adapted solutions through our bottom-up approach.

**TO COLLABORATE WITH US,
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Strengthening the role of sustainable forest management in decarbonisation

PEFC continued to engage on carbon and the role of sustainable forest management in decarbonisation, both in forests and across supply chains. We supported our members and contributed to key discussions with stakeholders and policymakers by responding to public consultations and speaking at relevant events. This work helps us stay up to date with emerging developments and shape PEFC's future direction in this rapidly evolving area.

We published ***How PEFC certification strengthens forestry carbon projects***, highlighting how forest certification can improve the credibility, quality, and long-term impact of forestry carbon initiatives. As interest in nature-based solutions continues to grow, forestry carbon projects are increasingly expected to deliver more than carbon credits alone. Buyers, investors, and stakeholders want confidence that climate claims are backed by responsible practices, strong governance, and lasting safeguards.

PEFC certification supports this by providing an established, independent framework for sustainable forest management. It helps forest owners and project developers strengthen carbon projects through clear requirements for responsible management, transparent planning, and robust monitoring. Independent, third-party audits can also help reduce risk and build trust in how forests are managed, how decisions are documented, and how impacts are tracked over time.

PEFC certification supports wider co-benefits that are increasingly expected alongside carbon outcomes. Certified forest management contributes to biodiversity conservation, ecosystem health, and responsible practices that consider workers and local communities. This helps ensure forestry carbon projects deliver climate benefits that are not only measurable, but also meaningful and lasting.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, YOU CAN DOWNLOAD THE PUBLICATION HERE

treee.es/pefc-carbon

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Enhancing supply chain transparency through partnerships



PEFC supports certified organisations through collaborations with leading Earth Observation (EO) and Traceability solution providers.

This approach enables certificate holders to choose from a range of vetted technologies offering expertise in areas such as EUDR compliance, Earth Observation applications, and timber traceability to strengthen supply chain transparency.

Building on this approach, we are further deepening our engagement with the European Union Agency for the Space Programme (EUSPA). By assessing the potential of satellite-based information to complement certification data, we aim to enhance impact demonstration, support credibility, and contribute to the broader use of EO technologies in sustainable forest management.



Advancing responsible construction through PEFC Project Sourcing



In 2025, we took an important step forward in supporting PEFC-certified products that help shape a sustainable built environment. Work progressed on the revision of the PEFC Project Certification standard, now called the PEFC Project Sourcing standard, developed by a multi-stakeholder task force and building on more than 15 years of experience.

The new standard responds to growing demand from the construction sector for sustainable, verified, traceable low-carbon materials that can be implemented at scale.

During development, the task force gathered real-world feedback through site visits to projects in the United Kingdom and the Netherlands. Insights from construction professionals and certification body representatives helped ensure the standard will be practical to implement.

The revised framework introduces a fit-for-purpose approach tailored to the construction sector. A core innovation is the introduction of a 70% PEFC-certified content threshold at the project level, alongside a requirement that at least 70% of component-level content consists of materials certified by PEFC or other recognised certification schemes. This approach ensures that all certified and controlled timber is treated equally, thereby promoting the broader use of certified materials.

Project Sourcing certification enables organisations to demonstrate the responsible sourcing of forest and tree-based materials in construction contexts where traditional chain of custody systems do not fully accommodate project-based procurement models, particularly where procurement responsibilities sit with independent contractors.

The standard also strengthens the reporting and traceability link between responsibly managed forests and green building initiatives, aligning with major building rating schemes such as LEED and BREEAM.

A public consultation in late 2025 generated strong stakeholder engagement and valuable feedback. The draft standard is being tested through pilot projects in early 2026, including the restoration of the historic British Royal Navy warship HMS Victory, and Elephant Park H11B in London. Insights from these pilots will inform the finalisation of the Project Sourcing standard and the Requirements for Certification Bodies, with approval targeted for May 2026.

Read more about our work with the construction sector on [page 17](#).

TO EXPLORE COLLABORATION OPPORTUNITIES, PLEASE CONTACT

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Engaging in global forest, biodiversity and climate dialogues



In 2025, PEFC continued to engage in key international processes shaping forests, biodiversity and climate action, with a particular focus on the IUCN World Conservation Congress and the UN climate change process.

At the IUCN World Conservation Congress, we took part in discussions on how sustainable forest management and verified sourcing can contribute to biodiversity goals alongside protected areas and restoration efforts. These discussions highlighted the role of managed forests in supporting landscape resilience, livelihoods and long-term conservation outcomes, and the importance of credible, locally adapted systems in translating global biodiversity objectives into practice.

We also contributed to a number of events linked to the UN climate change process, including dialogues in the lead-up to the UN Climate Change Conference (COP). In these settings, we underscored the role of sustainable forest management and responsible sourcing in supporting climate mitigation and resilient supply chains, while maintaining clarity on the respective roles of certification, policy and national reporting frameworks.

Across both biodiversity- and climate-focused platforms, we emphasised certification as a practical tool that supports implementation on the ground, enhances transparency, and reduces risk for market actors. Particular attention was given to the role of production forests, smallholders and locally governed systems in delivering outcomes at scale.

Beyond these flagship processes, we participated in international forums and expert discussions on sustainable timber value chains and the evolving interface between biodiversity, climate, and markets. Through this targeted external engagement, PEFC reinforced its position as a trusted and constructive actor in global forest debates.

In 2026, we will take part in COP17, COP31, and several other international congresses.

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**LEARN MORE ABOUT OUR
CONTRIBUTION AT PAST EVENTS**

treee.es/EventReports

EXPLORE OUR UPCOMING EVENTS

treee.es/Events

Delivering PEFC's global voice from Brussels to the world



 PEFC's presence at EU level is central to strengthening our role and recognition within EU policies and regulations, achieved through continued dialogue with EU institutions and key stakeholders.

In February, our Board met in Brussels for a week of strategic discussions and high-level engagements with EU institutions, diplomatic representatives and partner organisations, including European Commission Cabinets, focusing on upcoming forestry-related initiatives and on how PEFC certification can support the implementation of the EU goals on the ground.

The PEFC Breakfast Dialogue discussed *"Global trade with local impact: how to build inclusive and collaborative sustainability?"* with diplomatic representatives, EU institutions, and international organisations, forward perspectives on sustainable sourcing and global supply chains in the context of evolving international policies.

In November, the PEFC EU Affairs Working Group met for its annual EU Policy Engagement meeting, connecting members with EU decision makers and stakeholders. Discussions focused on key initiatives including the EU Deforestation Regulation (EUDR), the Nature Credits Roadmap, Closer-to-Nature Forest Management, the Nature Restoration Law, and the EU Forest and Bioeconomy Strategies for 2030.

Beyond these annual meetings, PEFC continued to contribute throughout the year to all development stages of EU policies.

We increased our contributions to numerous EU consultations and reports that help formulating the legislation, also by collecting more PEFC data and figures relevant for EU policy.

Thanks to our strengthened EU representation in Brussels, our voice is becoming louder and is increasingly recognised through our acceptance as a member in EU expert groups, such as the EU Expert Group on Nature Credits, in high-level events, like the Polish EU Presidency Conference, and through various speaking engagements.

In a year marked by legislative simplification at EU level, yet sustained ambition in forest-related objectives, PEFC was proud to contribute practical expertise through structured dialogue, supporting sustainable forests and forest-based value chains in the EU and beyond.

TO ENGAGE WITH US AT THE EU LEVEL, PLEASE CONTACT

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Providing recognised solutions to society through the market

Sustainable forest management creates a lasting impact when it is reflected throughout the value chain. In 2025, we continued working closely with a wide range of sectors, including furniture, biomass, construction, textiles, rubber, and packaging, to promote responsibly sourced forest and tree-based materials.

Across these sectors and beyond, PEFC certification provides assurance that materials come from responsibly managed sources, supporting both environmental goals and market expectations.



Promoting responsible sourcing in the furniture sector



As global demand for sustainable products continues to grow, the furniture sector plays a key role in promoting responsible sourcing and transparent supply chains.

Ensuring that wood used in furniture comes from sustainably managed forests is essential to protect forest ecosystems while meeting consumer expectations.

PEFC and the ASEAN Furniture Industry Council (AFIC) further strengthened their collaboration through a strategic four-year sustainability roadmap aimed at advancing responsible procurement and supply chain transparency across the ASEAN region. AFIC represents the interests of the furniture industry and related businesses across Southeast Asia.

A key milestone of this collaboration was the ASEAN

Furniture Design Award 2025, presented at STYLE Bangkok in April. Under the theme “Seat for the Future”, emerging designers developed innovative seating concepts, with a strong emphasis placed on the use of renewable materials. The award went to Singaporean designer Raihan Syahmi for the “Heritage 60 Stool”, recognised for its full-cycle sustainable concept integrating PEFC-certified timber and circular design principles.

This partnership reflects a shared commitment to advancing sustainable forest management and promoting traceable, deforestation-free timber products in response to growing demand.

TO LEARN MORE ABOUT OUR FURNITURE PROGRAMME, PLEASE CONTACT

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READ MORE

treee.es/PEFCFurniture

Advancing sustainability reporting together



As sustainability reporting continues to gain importance, driven by regulations and stakeholder expectations, companies are required to not only meet but exceed the evolving non-financial reporting standards.

We have strengthened our collaboration with companies to support them in meeting these growing demands and demonstrating a clear commitment to responsible forest management and ethical sourcing.

PEFC provides rigorous standards designed to help companies manage their environmental impact. Our requirements address critical areas such as climate change mitigation, deforestation, reforestation, biodiversity protection, and controlled chemical use.

PEFC also promotes strong social responsibility by requiring adherence to high standards in labour practices and community wellbeing, and provides companies with a set of requirements to uphold these standards. At the governance level, PEFC certification ensures transparency, accountability, and effective stakeholder engagement across the supply chain.


Acting as a trusted partner in sustainability reporting, PEFC aligns with 14 key ESG topics, enabling companies to credibly manage and disclose their environmental and social impacts while strengthening overall corporate governance.

FOR MORE DETAILS ON HOW PEFC CERTIFICATION CAN HELP YOU ACHIEVE YOUR ESG GOALS, PLEASE CONTACT


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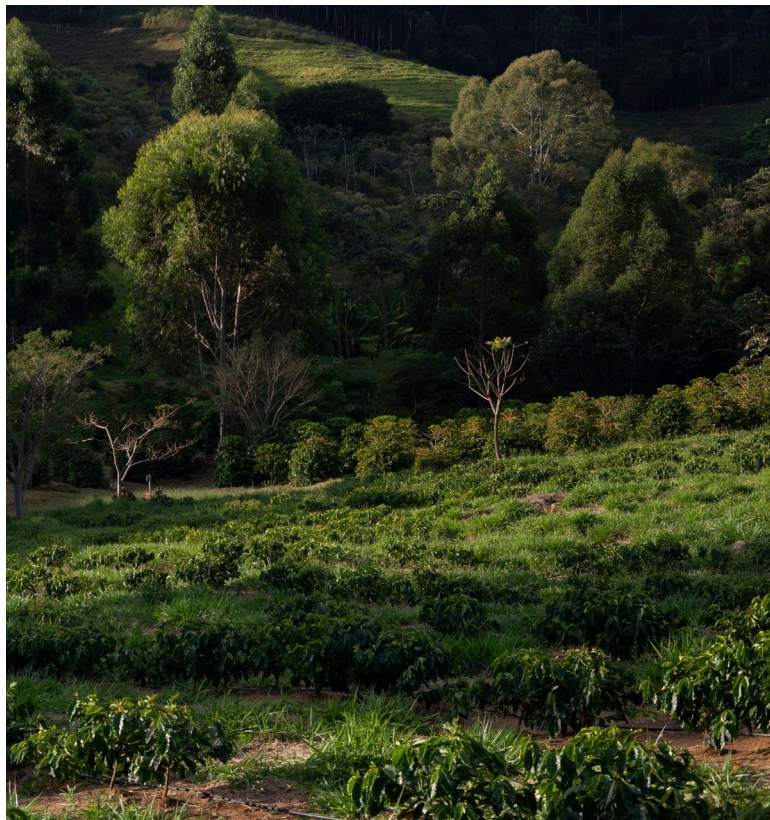
Download the ESG brochure:
treee.es/SR-download



Advancing sustainability reporting. Together.
Supporting companies to deliver sustainability progress with PEFC forest certification.



Supporting business compliance and market transformation through PEFC RED certification



In 2025, we reached an important milestone in aligning with the amended Renewable Energy Directive (RED III). The PEFC RED certification scheme is now recognised by the European Commission for both RED II and RED III, providing companies with a clear, auditable way to demonstrate compliance with the Directive's sustainability and greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions saving criteria.

Built on an ISO-based structure and 27 years of experience, PEFC RED combines the International Chain of Custody system with PEFC's internationally recognised Sustainable Forest Management principles.

For companies working across the biomass supply chain, from sourcing and processing forest biomass to trading and energy production, PEFC RED certification provides independent, third-party verification that forest and tree-based biomass used for electricity, heating and cooling meets the EU RED's sustainability and GHG criteria.

Compliance is particularly relevant for companies operating in the EU or under the EU Emissions Trading System (EU ETS), where RED-compliant biomass is considered zero-rated emissions at the point of combustion. PEFC RED certification can also indirectly support Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism (CBAM) compliance by strengthening monitoring, reporting and verification systems needed to demonstrate lower embedded emissions.

Organisations already certified under PEFC Chain of Custody can integrate RED requirements into existing systems, reducing administrative burden. Within six months of its launch, 109 companies achieved PEFC RED certification, demonstrating strong market acceptance and underlining the value of PEFC certification across the biomass supply chain.

TO FIND OUT MORE ABOUT PEFC RED CERTIFICATION, INCLUDING WHO CAN GET CERTIFIED AND THE STEPS TO CERTIFICATION, VISIT:

treee.es/PEFC-RED-Scheme

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT US AT

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Forests and Fashion: driving responsible fibre sourcing



As awareness of fashion’s environmental footprint grows, so does demand for sustainable fibres. Sourcing fibres from sustainably managed forests is a tangible way for businesses to advance sustainability and climate action.

We continue to raise awareness of these solutions through collaboration with partners across the textile and fashion sectors.

During the Textile Exchange Conference 2025 in Lisbon, PEFC Portugal and PEFC International organised a field visit to the Talhadas forests in Sever do Vouga. The visit brought together sustainability leaders from the fashion industry to gain first-hand insight into how sustainably managed forests support responsible sourcing for textiles and apparel.

The visit highlighted the importance of collaboration between the forestry and fashion sectors. In Talhadas, support from the Inditex Group is contributing to reforestation, biodiversity restoration, and local communities, demonstrating how sustainability and ESG commitments can translate into tangible, on-the-ground impact.

Discussions focused on responsible sourcing of man-made cellulosic fibres (MMCFs), nature-based solutions and traceable supply chains, highlighting the role of PEFC certification in strengthening circular economy approaches and resilient forest-based value chains.

WORK WITH US ON PROMOTING FOREST FIBRES FROM SUSTAINABLY MANAGED FORESTS. CONTACT US AT

textile@pefc.org

Advancing sustainable rubber supply chains in Southeast Asia



PEFC strengthened its engagement with the rubber sector in Southeast Asia, supporting responsible sourcing, sustainable land use, and more transparent supply chains.

Building on earlier work in Vietnam, PEFC tools and standards were applied in Cambodia, helping to integrate sustainability principles from plantation management through to processing and supply chain governance.

A key milestone in Cambodia was the first PEFC EUDR Due Diligence System (DDS) certification, achieved by Chu Se – Kampong Thom Rubber Joint Stock Company (Chu Se K). This follows earlier progress in 2023, when the same group became the first company in Cambodia to obtain PEFC Chain of Custody certification, demonstrating continued progress in aligning rubber supply chains with PEFC tools and EUDR requirements.

PEFC will continue working with stakeholders across the rubber sector to strengthen transparent, resilient, and sustainable supply chains in the region.

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Sustainable timber construction: from forests to the global stage

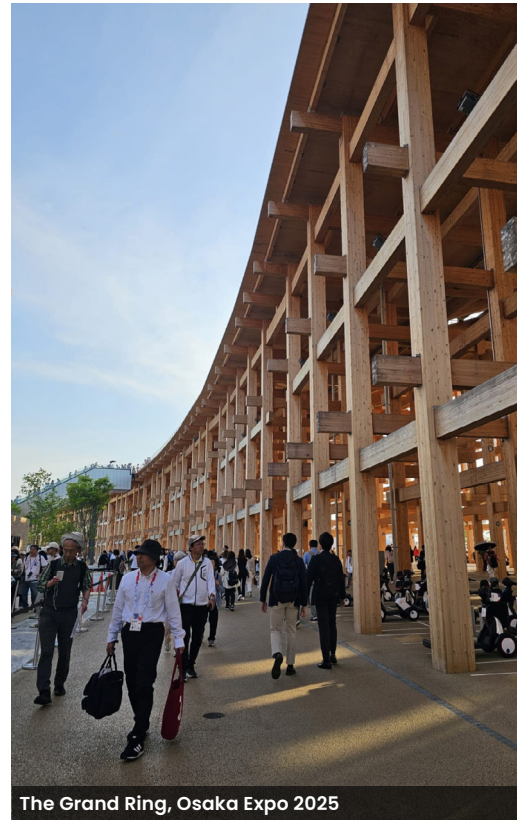
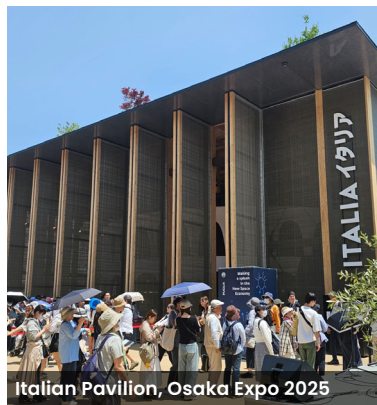
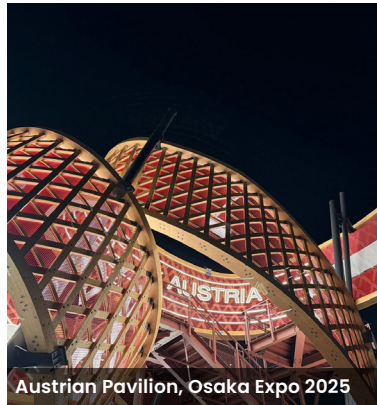
Timber is gaining momentum as a key material for sustainable construction. Valued for its versatility, renewability, and ability to store carbon, wood offers practical solutions for reducing the environmental footprint of the built environment.

PEFC works closely with the built-environment community, helping to link construction with sustainable forest management. This connection was brought to the global stage, as PEFC-certified timber featured prominently at the Osaka Expo.

The event welcomed nearly 30 million visitors, showcasing cultural diversity, innovation, and sustainable solutions, with wood playing a central role in the vision for a low-carbon built environment.

PEFC-certified timber featured in eight national pavilions and public spaces across the Expo site, including the Grand Ring, the world's largest wooden architectural structure. Several buildings were designed for disassembly and reuse, reinforcing circular economy principles and contributing to the UN Sustainable Development Goals.

To further support circularity, Osaka Expo launched the Reuse Matching Project, facilitating the redistribution and reuse of materials after the event and ensuring that resources continue to deliver value beyond the Expo.



● Recognition in LEED v5

Recent updates to the US Green Building Council's LEED v5 green building rating system enabled PEFC-certified wood and paper products to achieve LEED credits. This development strengthens the role of certified wood in the built environment, giving specifiers greater choice while supporting sustainable forest management and driving global demand for responsibly sourced timber.

2025 also saw key steps in advancing the PEFC Project Sourcing standard, responding to growing demand for sustainable, traceable low-carbon construction materials at scale. Find out more on [page 10](#).

TO LEARN MORE AND JOIN OUR CONSTRUCTION PROGRAMME, PLEASE CONTACT

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“The use of PEFC-certified wood in the Osaka Expo country pavilions was inspiring to see and illustrated how responsibly sourced timber can contribute to a more sustainable future. Through our collaboration, we have demonstrated the importance of certification and showcased PEFC's key role in supporting healthy forests to a global audience.”

FABIENNE SINCLAIR,
HEAD OF MARKET ENGAGEMENT,
PEFC INTERNATIONAL

Enabling sustainable packaging and sourcing solutions



The packaging sector is accelerating its shift towards fibre-based solutions, driven by regulatory pressure, brand commitments and growing scrutiny of environmental claims. As demand increases, companies need practical, scalable ways to source responsibly across complex global supply chains. PEFC provides a system companies use to verify, demonstrate, and defend responsible sourcing decisions.

● Strengthening supply chain transparency and engagement

PEFC was recognised in the 2025 Sustainability Awards by Packaging Europe for its role in advancing certification and supply chain transparency. This reflects growing adoption by brands seeking credible, independently verified sourcing solutions.

We engaged with retailers and brand manufacturers at the Consumer Goods Forum Sustainable Retail Summit, together with our North American member the Sustainable Forestry Initiative (SFI). Discussions focused on deforestation- and conversion-free sourcing, supply chain transparency, and alignment with regulatory developments such as the EU Deforestation Regulation (EUDR).

PEFC-certified packaging continues to grow in visibility, with brands using certification to support credible sustainability communication and demonstrate progress towards sourcing commitments.

EXPLORE THE CASE STORIES:

treee.es/CaseStories

TO WORK WITH US OR SUBMIT YOUR CASE STORY, CONTACT US AT

packaging@pefc.org

● Speeding up supplier verification

The PEFC Certification Verification API is gaining traction as companies look to streamline supplier checks. It enables real-time verification of certification status, supporting due diligence and enabling faster, more reliable sourcing decisions.

TRY IT OUT:

treee.es/API

● Work with us!

We work with industry to strengthen transparency and trust in certified supply chains. Stakeholder input is central to our system revision, helping ensure it remains robust, credible and aligned with market needs.

Contribute to this work by joining a working group or becoming an international stakeholder member.

CONTACT US:

info@pefc.org



Statistics, facts & figures



296 million

hectares of forest are PEFC certified globally

51 countries

have national forest certification systems endorsed by PEFC

46 countries

have PEFC-certified hectares of forest

PEFC has **33**

international stakeholder members around the world

2025 saw increases of PEFC-certified forest area in **Africa, Europe** and **Oceania**. The largest increases were seen in the **Republic of the Congo** (+2.2 million ha), **Chile** (+730,000 ha), and **Cameroon** (+610,000 ha).

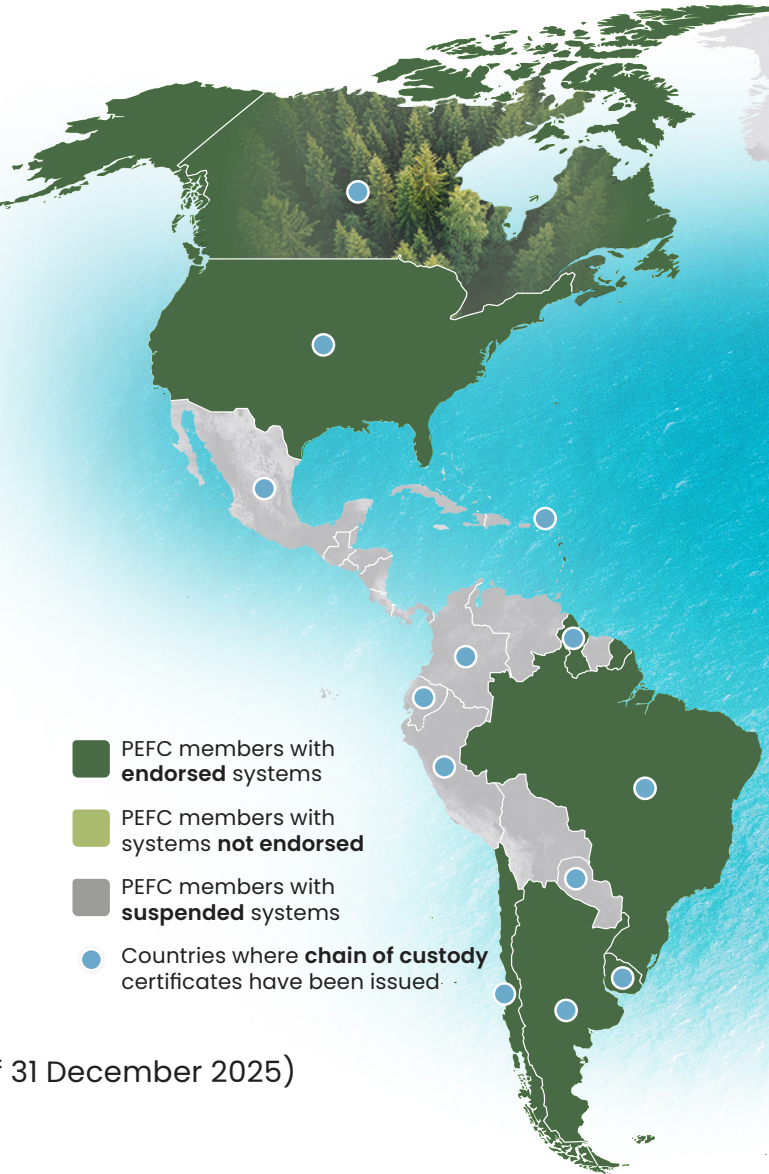
Worldwide, there was a slight decrease of -1.2 million hectares of PEFC-certified forest area in 2025.

The number of PEFC Chain of Custody certificates increased across **Europe, Central and South America, Asia, Africa, and Oceania**, with over 500 additional companies certified. First certificates were issued in the **British Virgin Islands, Malta, the Marshall Islands, Qatar, and Sri Lanka**.

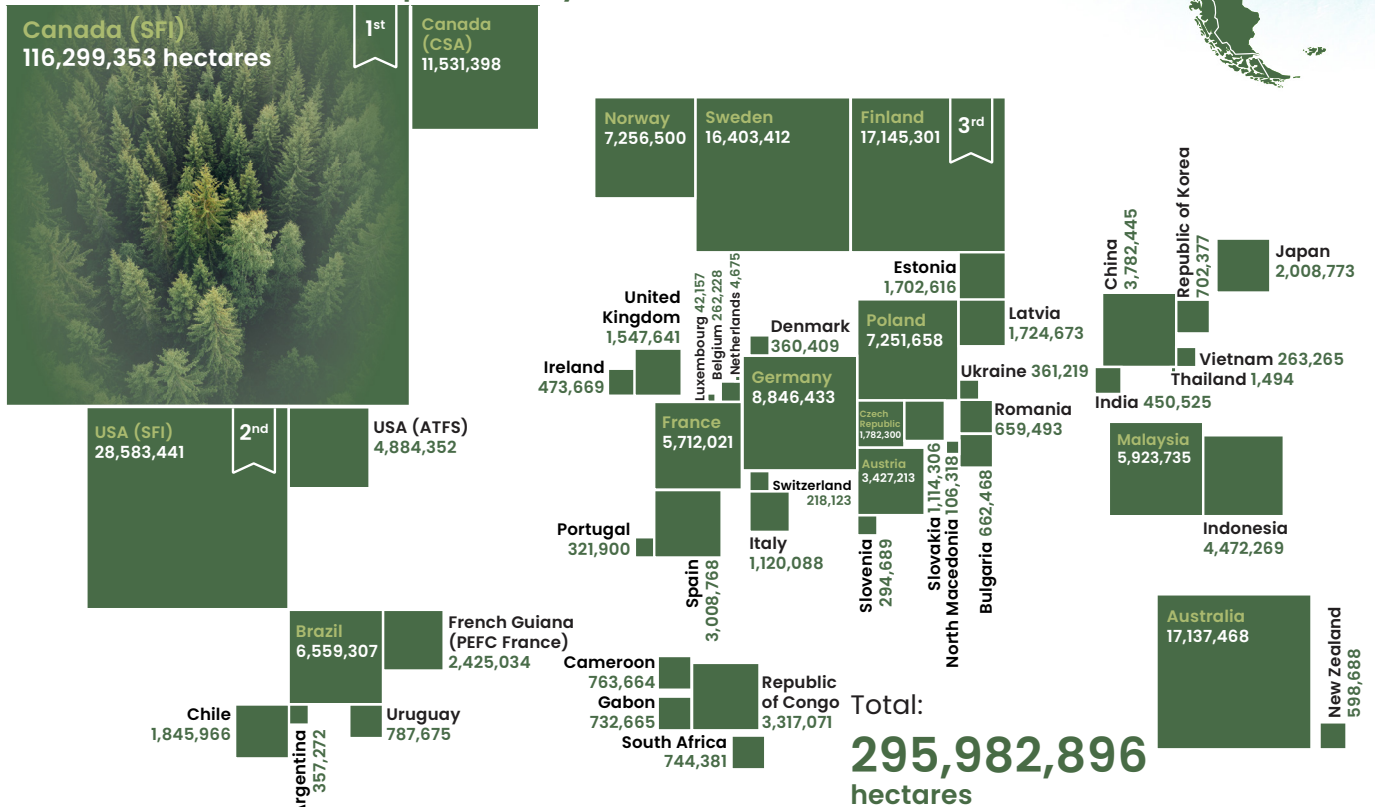
MORE PEFC STATS

treee.es/pefc-stats

- PEFC members with **endorsed** systems
- PEFC members with systems **not endorsed**
- PEFC members with **suspended** systems
- Countries where **chain of custody** certificates have been issued



PEFC-certified forest area per country (as of 31 December 2025)



PEFC members

Endorsed members and systems (as of 31 December 2025)

Country	Name
Argentina	Argentine Forest Certification System (CERFOAR)
Australia	Responsible Wood
Austria	PEFC Austria
Belgium	PEFC Belgium
Bosnia and Herzegovina	Association of Private Forest Owners "Naša Šuma"
Brazil	Instituto Pró Manejo Florestal/PEFC Brasil
Bulgaria	Council for Sustainable Forest Management and Certification in Bulgaria
Cameroon	PAFC Cameroon
Canada	PEFC Canada, Sustainable Forestry Initiative (SFI)
Chile	PEFC Chile
China	China Forest Certification Council (CFCC)
Croatia	Croatian Union of Private Forest Owners Associations
Czech Republic	PEFC Czech Republic
Denmark	PEFC Denmark
Estonia	Estonian Forest Certification Council
Finland	PEFC Finland
France	PEFC France
Gabon	PAFC Gabon
Germany	PEFC Germany
Guyana	Guyana Forestry Commission (GFC)
Hungary	Hungarian Forest Certification Non-profit
India	Network for Certification and Conservation of Forests (NCCF)
Indonesia	Indonesian Forestry Certification Cooperation (IFCC)
Ireland	PEFC Ireland
Italy	PEFC Italy
Japan	SGEC/PEFC Japan
Latvia	PEFC Latvia
Lithuania	Center of Sustainable Forest Management
Luxembourg	PEFC Luxembourg
Malaysia	Malaysian Timber Certification Council (MTCC)
Netherlands	PEFC Netherlands
New Zealand	New Zealand Forest Certification Association (NZFCA)
North Macedonia	Regional Centre for Forestry and Rural Development (REFORD)
Norway	PEFC Norway
Poland	PEFC Poland
Portugal	PEFC Portugal
Republic of Congo	PAFC Congo

Endorsed members and systems (as of 31 December 2025)

Country	Name
Republic of Korea	Korea Forestry Promotion Institute (KoFPI)
Romania	PEFC Romania
Slovakia	PEFC Slovakia
Slovenia	Institute for Forest Certification
South Africa	South African Forestry Assurance Scheme (SAFAS)
Spain	PEFC Spain
Sweden	PEFC Sweden
Switzerland	PEFC Switzerland
Thailand	The Federation of Thai Industries (F.T.I.)
Türkiye	Association for Sustainable Forest Management, Forest Products and Services Certification
Ukraine	Association National Voluntary Forest Certification System
United Kingdom	PEFC UK
United States	PEFC USA: American Tree Farm System (ATFS), Sustainable Forestry Initiative (SFI)
Uruguay	PEFC Uruguay
Vietnam	Vietnamese Academy of Forest Science (VAFS)

Non-endorsed members (as of 31 December 2025)

Country	Name
Belarus	Republican Association of Forest Certification System
Ghana	Working Group on Forest Certification
Greece	General Directorate of Forests and Forest Environment
Myanmar	Myanmar Forest Certification Committee (MFCC)
Russia	PEFC Russia

System News 2025

Received endorsement:

Croatian Union of Private Forest Owners Associations
Center of Sustainable Forest Management (Lithuania)
Association for Sustainable Forest Management, Forest Products and Services Certification (Türkiye)

Maintained endorsement:

PEFC Romania	The Federation of Thai Industries (F.T.I.)
PEFC Canada	PEFC Italy
PEFC Spain	Council for Sustainable Forest Management and Certification in Bulgaria
Korea Forestry Promotion Institute (KoFPI)	

International Stakeholder members:

APP Timber	Confederation of European Paper Industries (CEPI)	HS Timber Group
Arauco	Double A	International Council of Forest and Paper Associations (ICFPA)
Asia Pacific Resources International Holdings Ltd. (APRIL)	European Confederation of Agricultural, Rural and Forestry Contractors (CEETAR)	International Family Forestry Alliance (IFFA)
Association Technique Internationale des Bois Tropicaux (ATIBT)	European Panel Federation (EPF)	Mayr-Melnhof Holz
Bioenergy Europe	European Pulp Industry Sector Association AISBL (EPIS)	Mercer International
Building and Wood Worker's International (BWI)	European Timber Trade Federation (ETTF)	Metsä Group
CMPC Celulosa S.A.	European Tissue Symposium (ETS)	Mondi
Confederation of European Forest Owners (CEPF)		Olam International
		Precious Woods
		Purinus Ekapersada (APP)

Extraordinary members:

European Confederation of Woodworking Industries (CEI-Bois)
European Landowners' Organization (ELO)
Fédération Européenne des Communes Forestières (FECOF)
Manufacturers of Educational & Commercial Stationery European Association (MECSEA)
Union of European Foresters (UEF)

PEFC Board members

Chair

Eduardo Rojas Briales

Vice chairs

Suzette Weeding *Re-elected*

Guy Gleysteen *Re-elected*

Board members

A. K. Bansal

Dradjad Wibowo

Eva Müller *Re-elected*

Fatimah Mohammad

Hlengiwe Msibi *New*

Gilles de Boncourt *New*

Gustavo Andrés Zurita

Sara El Kadri

Scott Robertson *Re-elected*

Thomas Schenker

PEFC International team

Ambra Scodro
National Systems
Assessment Officer

Ana Canha
Communications Design
Officer

Anja Gehrer
Communications Officer

Arianna Oggioni *New*
Forestry and Conservation
Officer

Benson Yu
China Manager

Claire Pham
RED II Coordinator

Clémentine Lazignac *New*
HR Generalist

Deepa Hingorani
Market Engagement
Specialist

Fabienne Sinclair
Head of Market Engagement

Eric Oller Farias *New*
Certification Programme
Officer

Gill Parker
Finance Manager

Hannah Prins
Communications Manager

Heidi Kagiali
Forestry and Conservation
Manager

Hilary Khawam
Built Environment Manager

Huong Maggi
Project Certification, RED,
Data and Standards Officer

Isaac Lievevrouw
EU Policy and
Communications Officer

Jamila Akhundova
Market Engagement Officer

Jon Horton
Market Engagement
Manager

Julia Kozlik
Market Engagement
Manager

Lise Favre
Trademarks, Standards and
Certification Operations
Officer

Lucas Millet
PAFC/PEFC Congo Basin
Coordinator

Maja Drča
EU Representative

Maria Luisa Vasquez Coda *New*
Indigenous Engagement
Manager

Marta Martínez Pardo
Certification Programme
Senior Manager

Michael Berger
Secretary General/CEO

Nga Ha
Carbon & Standards Officer

Pham Thi Thu Thao
Market Engagement Officer

Remco van Merm
Development and
Fundraising Senior Manager

Rémi Sournia
Head of Member Services

Richard Laity
South Pacific Programme
Manager

Rob Shaw
Head of Standards and
Integrity

Rungnapa Wattanavichian
Development Coordinator

Sandrine Laffitte
PA to the CEO and
Administrative Officer

Shawn Goh
Market Engagement
Manager

Simon Flinn
Data Analyst Officer

Stephan Decaillet
Head of Finance and
Administration

**Thipphasone
Khamseusouk**
Admin and Laos Coordinator

Thorsten Arndt
Head of Advocacy

Wikkie Netten
Southeast Asia Market
Engagement Manager

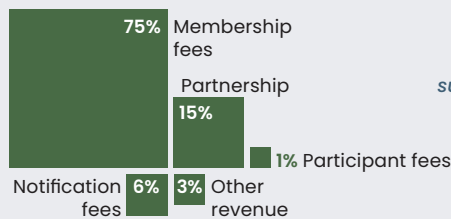
Financial information

Budget summary:

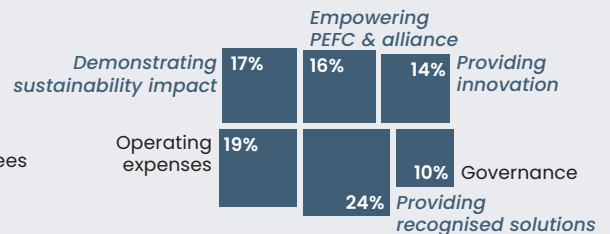
In 2024, PEFC operated on a total income of about CHF 5.9 million.



Income

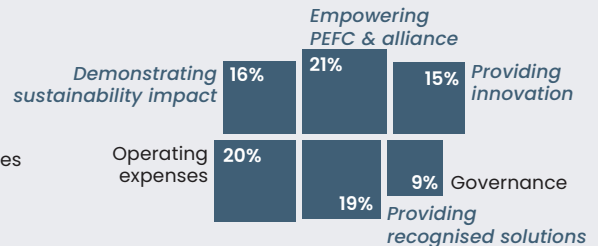
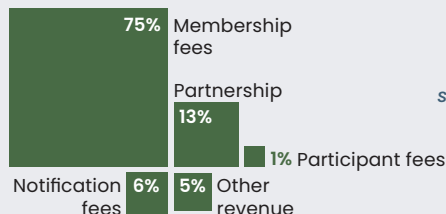


Expenditure



Budget summary:

In 2025, PEFC operated on a total income of about CHF 6.4 million.



This Annual Report takes the place of the Performance Report. It was prepared in accordance with the provisions of the Swiss GAAP, FER/RPC 21.



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