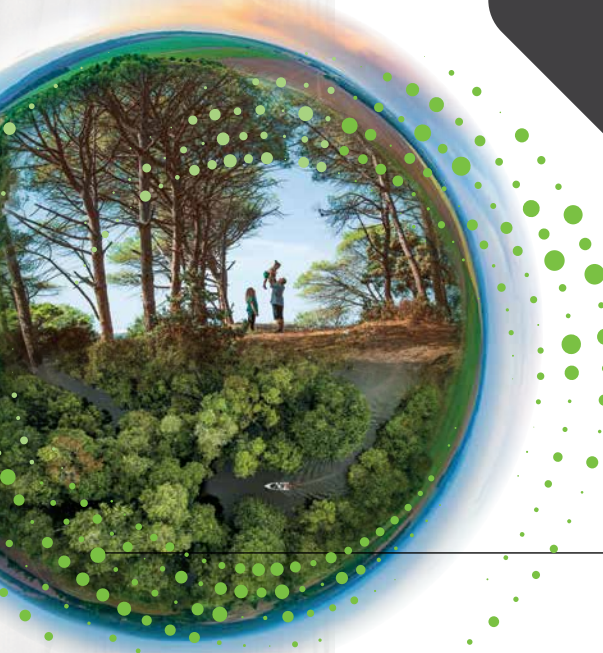


# PEFC ANNUAL REVIEW 2023

Raising the bar –  
and helping each  
other reach higher



Learn more:  
Page 2



PEFC Alliance  
2030 Strategy



## NEW STRATEGY

The **PEFC Alliance 2030 Strategy** was approved at the 28<sup>th</sup> General Assembly in Vancouver, Canada. Developed collectively by the entire PEFC Alliance, the Strategy outlines how PEFC aims to move forward to shape the organisation and address the evolving expectations that stakeholders place on certification.

Learn more:  
Page 2



## SFI ANNUAL CONFERENCE AND PEFC WEEK



### SFI CONFERENCE + PEFC WEEK

May 14-18, 2023 | Westin Bayshore Vancouver, Canada

In May, the PEFC Alliance gathered in Vancouver, Canada, for the **SFI Annual Conference and PEFC Week**. The joint event with our North American member SFI enabled us to share experiences and learn from each other. The week saw high-level sessions, exchange, and the first in-person PEFC General Assembly in four years.



# Highlights from 2023

Learn more:  
Page 16-17



## NEW MEMBERS

The PEFC Alliance welcomed five new members in 2023. **Mayr-Melnhof Holz**, **Mercer International**, **Precious Woods** and **HS Timber Group** joined PEFC as international stakeholder members, while the **Croatian Union of Private Forest Owners Associations (CUPFOA)** became the new PEFC national governing body for Croatia.







## ENDORSEMENT OF NATIONAL TREES OUTSIDE FORESTS REQUIREMENTS

The first PEFC national members have achieved endorsement for their national requirements for Trees outside Forests certification. In the **Netherlands, India, and Portugal**, people and organisations with trees growing outside of forests can now achieve PEFC certification of their sustainable management practices.

Learn more:  
[Page 3](#)

## NEW BOARD MEMBER

The 29<sup>th</sup> PEFC General Assembly, held virtually in November, welcomed **A.K. Bansal** to the PEFC International Board. Suzette Weeding was re-elected as Vice Chair and Lena Ek was re-elected as Board member.



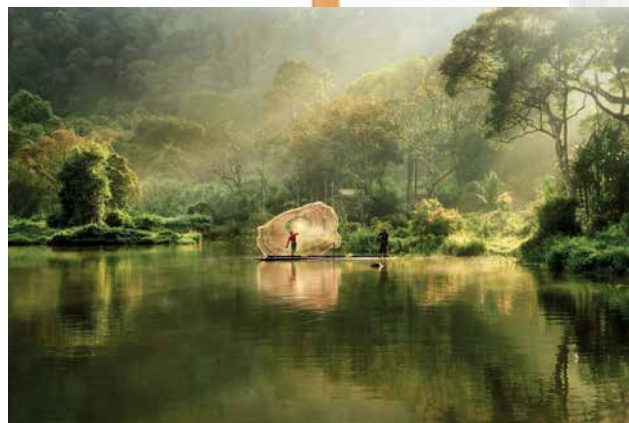
## EU DEFORESTATION REGULATION

A focus of our work in 2023 was the **EU Regulation on Deforestation-free Products (EUDR)**, which requires companies to exercise due diligence for their products, including sawn timber and wood-based materials, which must be legally produced and deforestation-free. A priority in 2023 and 2024 is to align our standards more closely with EUDR requirements.

Learn more:  
[Page 5](#)

## PHOTO CONTEST

The **2023 PEFC Photo Contest** was the first of its kind: a Best of the Best contest, looking for the best photo among winners and finalists of the past six years of photo contests. For the first time, choosing the winner was not in the hands of our jury, but of the public. The Award went to Keril Chairil, for his stunning image 'Morning Activities,' taken in Indonesia.



Learn more:  
[Page 12](#)



Moving forward together – innovation and collaboration within PEFC

# Moving forward together – innovation and collaboration within PEFC



We work to accelerate the uptake of forest certification globally through innovation within our requirements and alignment with upcoming legislation and regulations to facilitate compliance for PEFC-certified companies. We continue to establish new partnerships and strong regional collaboration, and strive for innovation in the forest and beyond.

## PEFC Alliance 2030 Strategy entered into force

The **28<sup>th</sup> PEFC General Assembly** approved the PEFC Alliance 2030 Strategy in May 2023. Developed by the entire PEFC Alliance through a series of

reviews, discussions, and projections with our members and stakeholders, the strategy sets the collective pace

for our organisation. It is built on a strong framework of four strategic pathways and 14 key performance indicators, while being externally orientated and impact focused.

The strategy was approved in a fitting setting in **Vancouver, Canada**, where **PEFC and our North American member the Sustainable Forestry Initiative (SFI) brought our annual flagship events together**, enabling us to share experiences, see diverse perspectives and learn from each other.

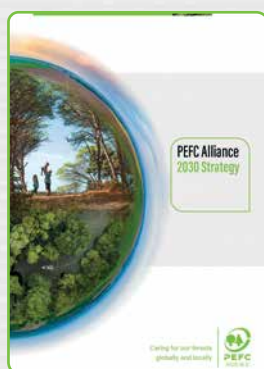


**4** Strategic Pathways

**14** Key Performance Indicators

**4** main Focus Areas

**1** Strategy for our Desired Impact by 2030



PEFC Alliance 2030 Strategy: [tree.es/2030strategy](https://tree.es/2030strategy)



Moving forward together –  
innovation and collaboration  
within PEFC

## Broadening our scope through carbon stock and emissions mapping



August 2023 saw the establishment of the PEFC Carbon Task Force, which is charting PEFC's path in the carbon landscape. Comprised of PEFC members and a Board representative, alongside invited external experts from the carbon markets and investment sector, the Task Force is working on strategic recommendations for PEFC.



Through our carbon-related work, we seek to better communicate the value of PEFC certification for forest ecosystem services and climate change mitigation and adaptation. We aim to enhance the benefits for PEFC certificate holders while broadening the scope of PEFC certification to include a spectrum of ecosystem services provided by forests, beyond traditional timber and non-timber products.

“Standard 1004 harmonises the requirements for certification bodies while leaving a margin for local conditions to be reflected.”

*Marta Martínez Pardo,*  
PEFC International  
Technical Manager



## Certification body requirements for sustainable forest management

We continued the development of **ST 1004, Requirements for Certification Bodies operating Sustainable Forest Management Certification**. In 2023, the draft standard went through two public consultations, with the feedback received during the first consultation leading to revisions of the standard.

This new standard will harmonise the requirements for certification bodies, ensuring consistency in the implementation of PEFC sustainable forest management certification worldwide. A hybrid between a Benchmark and International standard, it includes benchmark requirements to be further developed at national level, as well as requirements that certification bodies shall directly implement, helping to harmonise the operation of PEFC certification worldwide.

The standard will be finalised and enter into force in 2024.



Learn more:  
[treee.es/ToF-Pioneers](https://treee.es/ToF-Pioneers)

## Implementing Trees outside Forests certification on the ground

In 2023, the first national Trees outside Forests requirements achieved PEFC endorsement. With this step, our national members for the Netherlands, India, and Portugal enabled people and organisations in their countries to achieve PEFC certification for their trees growing outside of forests.

The occurrence and function of trees outside forests vary widely, ranging from urban trees within cities to trees growing on agricultural or settlement land. This diversity calls for requirements that are tailored to national needs, making Trees outside Forests certification a perfect fit for PEFC's bottom-up approach to standard setting.

More national Trees outside Forests requirements are under development and expected to achieve PEFC endorsement in 2024 and beyond.





Moving forward together – innovation and collaboration within PEFC

## Complying with the EU's revised Renewable Energy Directive (RED II)

PEFC has advanced in the recognition process to be a voluntary scheme that certified companies can use to declare their compliance with RED II.

RED II establishes sustainability requirements for forestry feedstocks and greenhouse gas criteria for biomass fuels that companies in the energy sector must comply with to be eligible for financial support by public authorities.



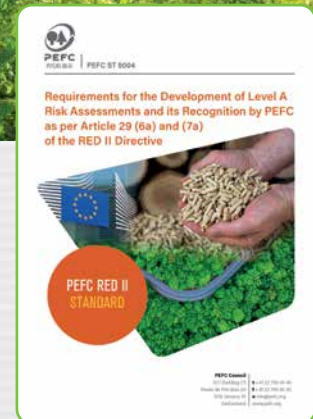
As part of the recognition process, we are developing several technical documents, forming the **PEFC 5000** series of standards, or PEFC RED II scheme, including the following documentation:



**PEFC ST 5002,**  
*Additional requirements for organisations sourcing forest biomass - RED II*



**PEFC ST 5003,**  
*Additional requirements for certification bodies providing certification against PEFC ST 5002 - RED II*



**PEFC ST 5004,**  
*Requirements for the Development of Level A Risk Assessments and its Recognition by PEFC as per Article 29 (6a) and (7a) of the RED II Directive*

The PEFC RED II scheme is based on the PEFC Chain of Custody standard to make it easier for organisations to integrate the RED II requirements within their chain of custody processes and audits. PEFC's recognition scope covers forest- and tree-based material, including recycled material and biomass fuels made of this material.

The PEFC RED II scheme documents are expected to be finalised and launched to the market in 2024.





Moving forward together – innovation and collaboration within PEFC

## Aligning our standards with the EUDR

The **EU Regulation on Deforestation-free Products (EUDR)** entered into force in June 2023, and aims to decrease the production and consumption of commodities and derived products linked to deforestation and forest degradation entering or leaving the EU market.



“Certification has a strong support function for companies working towards EUDR compliance.”

*Maja Drča, PEFC EU Representative*

To help PEFC-certified forest owners and companies comply with their EUDR obligations, we are working towards aligning our Sustainable Forest Management and Chain of Custody standards with EUDR requirements, including the development of a PEFC EUDR due diligence system.



The EUDR will remain a priority in 2024, and PEFC-certified forest owners and companies will soon be able to benefit from our practical solutions to enable them to successfully implement EUDR.

We explained the EUDR and PEFC's related work in a series of webinars.

Watch the recordings here: [treee.es/EUDR-webinars](https://treee.es/EUDR-webinars)



For more information on the EUDR and our related work, visit: [pefc.org/eudr](https://pefc.org/eudr)



## Our collective work in navigating through the EU legislation

“PEFC is here to support” remains a clear message of our Brussels representation. We support the European Union (EU) by sharing our expertise and experience to help achieve acceptance and feasible implementation of EU initiatives on the ground.

In 2023, we continued to communicate at events and through webinars about the value that voluntary forest certification can provide also in the EU context, looking for synergies between the mandatory and voluntary. We worked with decision makers, supply chains, researchers, and other stakeholders towards securing the recognition of the important role of forest certification in relevant EU initiatives.



We assist our members and certificate holders by translating the complex EU processes and legislation and aligning them, where and when needed, with our PEFC standards, making them fit for purpose.

In June, we welcomed the PEFC EU affairs Working Group in Brussels for a productive meeting and exchange with Brussels-based stakeholders, refining the vision for our collective actions in the EU election year 2024.

EU policies in our focus, like EUDR, RED II, Green Claims and Closer to Nature Forest Management, impact forest owners and businesses, and collective actions will be crucial for tackling them.

A clear message of our Brussels representation: “PEFC is here to support”

Moving forward together – innovation and collaboration within PEFC

## Assessing our impact on European forests



We have launched a three-year project to assess the impact of PEFC sustainable forest management certification in European forests.

The project will include a desk study and a field verification on the impact of different components of the **PEFC Sustainable Forest Management standard**. The two phases are separate, enabling the results of phase one to define phase two.

The goal is to determine where PEFC certification delivers, does not deliver, or has a neutral impact on European forests compared to non-certified forests, and to generate scientific evidence on the possible impacts of certification.



The study has active involvement from PEFC national members, international stakeholder members, and PEFC International Board members, and will be conducted in 2024.



## Global recognition and credibility

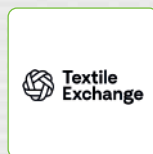
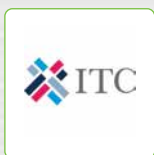
We go to great lengths to ensure we meet the highest international benchmarks for credible certification and ecolabeling.

PEFC is among the very few certification systems to be recognised as an official indicator for **SDG Target 15.2**: *“By 2020, promote the implementation of sustainable management of all types of forests, halt deforestation, restore degraded forests and substantially increase afforestation and reforestation globally.”*

In 2023, PEFC became a **C2CPII-recognised standard**, assisting companies in achieving **Cradle to Cradle certification**. This certification evaluates brands worldwide on their commitment to the circular economy, including the reduction of waste and hazardous chemicals, resource and energy efficiency, and social responsibility.

PEFC has already been recognised in other important benchmarks, such as the **Climate Bonds Initiative**, an investor-focused, Fair Trade-like labelling scheme for bonds, which leverages PEFC certification for its forestry criteria.

We are actively collaborating with stakeholders developing benchmarks or assessing PEFC’s performance against such benchmarks, including **WWF**, the **Consumer Goods Forum**, the **SPOTT indicators** by the Zoological Society of London, the **Textile Exchange**, **The Green Bond Principles**, and the **Standards Map** by the International Trade Centre.







# Helping each other reach higher – enhancing collaboration with sectors and partners

## Outreach and engagement with the market

In response to the pressing challenges of climate change, dwindling energy resources, and intensified pressure on our planet, sustainability is of increasing importance across all industry sectors. Forest-based products have an important role to play as the world moves away from fossil-based materials. At PEFC, we work with several sectors to increase their use of certified, forest-based materials for the benefit of our planet, whilst also helping industries reach their sustainability targets.

## Bringing the forest to our home with sustainable wooden furniture

**75%**

**of consumers** see sustainability as a crucial factor when buying furniture. (Study by PwC)

Homeowners, governments, and companies are increasingly demanding responsibly sourced wood for various timber products, including furniture. The furniture industry must adapt to meet these evolving consumer demands and shifting legislative requirements.

We are bringing wood suppliers and furniture manufacturers together to work towards a sustainable future for both the furniture industry and the world's forests.



### Carbon storage in wooden furniture

How does wooden furniture store carbon, and what difference does sustainable forest management make? In our webinar, Francesco Negro, Associate Professor at the University of Torino, Italy, and PEFC technical expert Hubert Inhaizer answered these and more questions, and explained how certified forests sequester CO<sub>2</sub> differently from unmanaged forests.

The webinar also introduced the Carbon Storage in Wooden Furniture booklet and calculator, enabling companies to calculate the amount of carbon stored in the wooden furniture they produce.



Try our free Carbon Storage Calculator and download the booklet: [treee.es/PEFC-CO2calculator](https://treee.es/PEFC-CO2calculator)

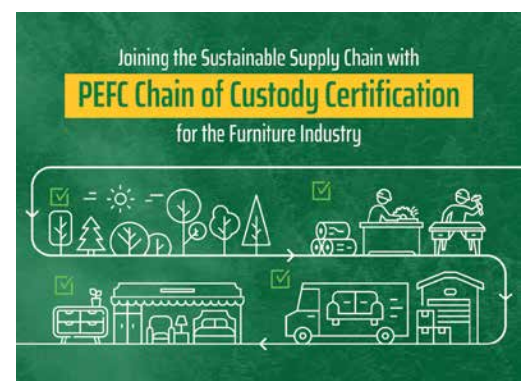
Watch the recording here: [treee.es/CarbonStorageWeb](https://treee.es/CarbonStorageWeb)



### Joining the sustainable supply chain with PEFC

Our latest chain of custody webinar for the furniture industry focused on how to meet demand for responsibly sourced furniture, comply with legislative and regulatory requirements and prove their responsible sourcing practices.

PEFC technical experts Linda Matole and Lise Favre, and Kjell-Owe Ahlskog from certification consultancy Alcea Oy discussed the use of the PEFC standards and trademarks, and successes of group certification in Finland.



Watch the recording here: [treee.es/CoCWebinar23-Recording](https://treee.es/CoCWebinar23-Recording)



Helping each other reach higher /  
Outreach and engagement with the market

Today, **40%** of carbon emissions are attributable to the construction sector.

By 2050, **2/3<sup>rd</sup>** of the global population will live in cities. *(estimation)*

## Designing the future with sustainable timber

It is estimated that by 2050, two thirds of the global population will live in cities. The world will need to build sufficient dwellings to accommodate this growing urban population. The choice of materials matters, as today 40% of carbon emissions are attributable to the construction sector.

Wood has captured the interest of architects and builders, and is becoming the construction material of choice for low-carbon building.

PEFC is working with the built environment community to help ensure that this increased demand for wood does not come at the expense of the world's forests, but instead, helps secure a healthy future for them.



### Educating the specifiers of tomorrow at WCTE

PEFC supported the World Conference on Timber Engineering (WCTE) in Oslo, Norway, in June.

In his presentation **Rising demand for timber and forest protection – are they compatible?** our Chair Eduardo Rojas Briaies highlighted the huge potential engineered wood products, many of which are PEFC-certified, have in delivering low-carbon buildings.

The bi-annual conference serves as a hub for the latest scientific, technical, and architectural innovations in timber, and attracted over 900 delegates who engaged with 600 presentations.

To show conference delegates sustainable forest management in practice, PEFC Norway organised a forest field trip to Osломarka, near Oslo. Participants learned about advanced forestry operations and the status of forests locally and globally.

### Timber Cities: Transforming our Cities from Carbon Emitters to Carbon Sinks



Our annual construction webinar explored the benefits of using timber to build the cities of the future.

Three knowledgeable speakers discussed the advancement of low-carbon construction, the emergence of mass timber, and wood cities as a system solution for climate, nature, and people. The webinar was joined by built environment professionals from 29 countries.

Read more about our work with the construction sector:  
[tree.es/DesigningTheFuture](https://tree.es/DesigningTheFuture)





Helping each other reach higher / Outreach and engagement with the market

## A new perspective on sustainable packaging

As the need for packaging materials continues to rise, so does the need for sustainable solutions. It is time to look beyond minimising harm, and to actively promote the protection of our forests through responsible packaging.

We are working with a range of partners to broaden the approach on responsible packaging, bringing together **the three Rs** as part of a holistic sustainability solution that centres on forests.



### Renewable, Responsibly Sourced, Recycled.

2023 marked a decisive industry turn from plastic to paper-based packaging, answering the call for sustainability and compliance with evolving environmental regulations. Forest certification is instrumental in fulfilling this increased demand for forest resources in a sustainable manner.

Responsible packaging must be renewable, meaning that wood is harvested sustainably without harming forest ecology. It must be responsibly sourced, meaning that safe working conditions and fair labour practices are upheld throughout the chain of custody. Finally, the use of recycled materials helps to optimise raw material sourcing and to move towards circularity.



### Enhancing brand values together

In our webinar **PEFC certification: Enhancing brand values & forest sustainability**, we heard from three speakers from the packaging industry and brands that are leading the way in sustainable packaging. Together, we looked at the symbiotic relationship between brand values and environmental stewardship.

Step forward with us towards sustainable packaging.

Join us! Contact: [packaging@pefc.org](mailto:packaging@pefc.org)

Watch the recording here: [treee.es/PackWebRec](https://treee.es/PackWebRec)

Learn more about PEFC-certified responsible packaging: [treee.es/packaging](https://treee.es/packaging)



### Learning about market and membership perspectives

**76%** of respondents include PEFC in their procurement policy.

Every year, we conduct a survey, alternating between a member satisfaction survey and a market survey.

In 2022, we asked for the market's views on sustainability and certification. One notable finding that emerged from the responses of over 500 market actors is that 76% include PEFC in their procurement policy. The answers turned into seeds for forest revival, as we planted one tree for each completed questionnaire.

In 2023, our member survey focused on ranking initiatives that will contribute to delivering our PEFC Alliance 2030 Strategy, and sharing views on areas including the system assessment process, and our EUDR work. Nearly three quarters of respondents affirmed that PEFC International is effectively run and is servicing its members and stakeholders appropriately.

Watch out for the 2024 market survey, which we will announce on our social media channels.



Helping each other reach higher / Outreach and engagement with the market

## Responsible fashion starts in the forest

As the fashion industry is working to become more sustainable, it is looking to replace conventional, water- and energy-intensive materials. Man-made cellulosic fibres (MMCF) can play a key role in this transformation, but it is crucial that they come from a sustainable source.

As MMCF predominantly come from forest-based feedstock, potential risks that can arise at the forest level need to be addressed.

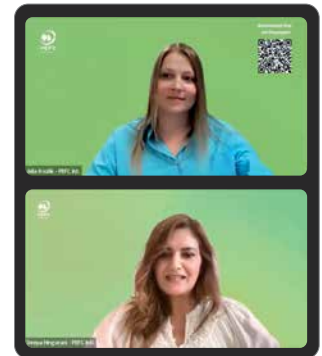
PEFC is working alongside the fashion industry, helping to shift sourcing practices, implementing traceability, and bridging the educational gap regarding fashion's impact on forests.

In 2023, we released our latest whitepaper, analysing how sustainable forest management proactively mitigates risks in the forests while generating a wide array of benefits. The whitepaper dives into the significance of sustainable sourcing in the fashion industry, focusing specifically on MMCF.

We introduced the whitepaper in a webinar, exploring the topic of forest-positive action, explaining practical steps for brands for responsible sourcing, and answering frequently asked questions.



Download the whitepaper: [tree.es/PEFCWhitePaper](https://tree.es/PEFCWhitePaper)



Watch the recording: [tree.es/WhitepaperWeb](https://tree.es/WhitepaperWeb)

### Witnessing sustainable forest management firsthand

We invited fashion brands and retailers to Swinley Forest just outside London, UK, to see sustainable forest management in practice and discover its positive impacts on biodiversity, forest regeneration, and climate change mitigation.

Alongside a forest tour with the forest operations supervisor, the field trip included a workshop to discuss possible solutions regarding the traceability of MMCF.

By working with the fashion sector, we aim to help brands achieve their sustainability targets, meet consumer expectations and upcoming legislations, and contribute to healthy and thriving forests.

To join our mission or learn more, contact us at: [textile@pefc.org](mailto:textile@pefc.org)

Read more about our work with the fashion sector: [tree.es/forestsstay](https://tree.es/forestsstay)





Helping each other reach higher /  
Outreach and engagement with the market

## Supporting sustainable rubber by empowering smallholders

Did you know that natural rubber is present in over 40,000 kinds of products, from medicine to transportation and apparel? In addition to being essential to modern life, natural rubber also plays a role in safeguarding our forests and supporting the livelihoods of millions of smallholders.

**85%**

of natural rubber is produced by six million smallholders.

*(Global Platform for Sustainable Natural Rubber (GPSNR))*

Natural rubber represents a

**US\$ 300 bn** supply chain involving **40 million people."**

*(International Rubber Study Group (IRSG))*

To learn more about sustainable natural rubber, visit: [rubber.pefc.org](http://rubber.pefc.org)

We are working closely with the rubber sector, helping smallholders and processing companies prove their sustainable practices through PEFC certification.

### Unlocking potential through regional collaboration

In 2023, we continued to support aspiring members in their work towards PEFC membership and the development of national forest certification standards, considering the special requirements needed for rubber and rubber wood. We organised study tours in Thailand for our potential future national members for Cambodia and Laos to engage with stakeholders and gain insights into the development of a national system.

We continued to engage in the Global Platform for Sustainable Natural Rubber (GPSNR) and natural rubber associations like the Association of National Rubber Producing Countries (ANRPC), supporting their EUDR inquiries and capacity-building initiatives for smallholders.



### Sharing best practice

Our latest Supporting Sustainable Rubber webinar showed how PEFC certification can help the rubber industry meet its sustainability goals.

The webinar focused on how natural rubber certification is relevant to the Sustainable Development Goals and environmental, social, and governance (ESG) efforts. Experts from PEFC International, PEFC Asia Pacific and The Federation of Thai Industries (F.T.I.), our national member for Thailand, shared information on upgrading natural rubber value chains with the PEFC framework, and presented case studies from Laos, Cambodia, and Indonesia.

Watch the recording here: [treee.es/SDG17web](http://treee.es/SDG17web)





Helping each other reach higher / Helping actors become ambassadors

## Helping actors become ambassadors

We engage with people around the world who are connected to forests, hearing their perspectives on the significance of forests and their sustainable management. By amplifying their voices, we empower them as ambassadors for sustainability and forest certification.



6 years

>47,000  
photographs

1 Best of the Best



*Keril Chairil,  
PEFC Photographer  
of the Year 2023*



## Hearing from photographers and forest lovers



Over the last six years, more than 47,000 photographs have been entered into our **Experience Forests, Experience PEFC Photo Contests**, and our juries had the tricky task of choosing the winners.

In 2023, the best photos of these six contests competed against each other in our very first **Best of the Best Photo Contest**. This time, choosing the winner was in the hands of the public.



First prize went to Keril Chairil, for his stunning image **'Morning Activities'**, taken at Situ Gunung Lake in West Java, Indonesia. The image captures the magical atmosphere at the forest lake in the early morning.

'Morning Activities' was the winner of our Experience Forests, Experience PEFC photo contest back in 2020, when it was judged the best out of the nearly 8,000 photos that were entered.



Beyond acknowledging photographic talent, the Best of the Best contest served as a platform to reconnect with our winning photographers, and to hear how forests continue to inspire their photography and their creative evolution over time.

A big thank you to the hundreds of forest and photography lovers who have cast their votes for their favourite forest photo. We were delighted that so many voted and promoted the contest, helping us spread the word about the importance of forests and their sustainable management.

Read the stories at:  
[treee.es/  
2023PhotoContest](https://treee.es/2023PhotoContest)





and helping each other reach higher

"We have a good relationship with the forestry company and because the forest is certified, we have permission to enter it to collect wild fruits and medicinal herbs."

**Sonia Carrasco,**  
Indigenous Mapuche woman who works as a gatherer in the forest, Chile

## Giving the word to the forest heroes

When speaking about forests, some promote that keeping them untouched is the only way to fight climate change and biodiversity loss. Yet when sustainably managed, our forests can do that and much more – from providing renewable materials to contributing to sustainable development.

Under the theme **Raising the Bar – and helping each other reach higher,** we demonstrate how certified, sustainably managed forests harmonise the different expectations of various stakeholders.

We bring the forest heroes – from forest owners and managers to smallholders and forestry workers – into the spotlight. We see certified forests from their perspective, and learn firsthand what difference PEFC certification

has made to them, their forests and everybody living and working in them.

Alongside all those people on the ground, we want to show the positive change that PEFC brings, and how together we are Raising the Bar and helping each other to reach higher.



## Learning about forests and health on International Day of Forests



Under the theme **Healthy forests for healthy people,** 2023 International Day of Forests cherished forests for the many things they do for our health, as well as what we can do to keep our forests healthy.

For this special occasion, we spoke to different people who work in or with forests on a daily basis, shedding light on the enormous importance of healthy forests for human health and wellbeing.

We encountered various perspectives, ranging from a forest bathing guide in Belgium to a CEO of a Spanish Forestry Association and a Head of Landscape Conservation in Indonesia, painting a mosaic of the many benefits of forests for physical and mental health.



"The essential micro-oils emitted by the trees help reduce stress and anxiety."

**Michel Quicheron,**  
forest bathing guide from Belgium



"To take care of forests, the most important thing is to manage them."

**Juan Miguel Villarreal,**  
CEO of the Forestry Association of Navarra



"Globally more than a billion people are dependent on medicine produced from forest plants."

**Michael Berger,**  
PEFC International CEO



"I want to keep our forests healthy so my children and future generations can enjoy forests as much as I do."

**Jasmine Doloksaribu,**  
Head of Landscape Conservation at Asia Pulp & Paper Sinar Mas

Read more and watch the videos:  
[tree.es/ForestDay](https://tree.es/ForestDay)





# PEFC membership

## Statistics, facts & figures

>28,000 companies in the world benefit from PEFC's chain of custody certification

**295 million** hectares of forest are PEFC-certified globally

**44 national & regional forest certification systems** are endorsed by PEFC

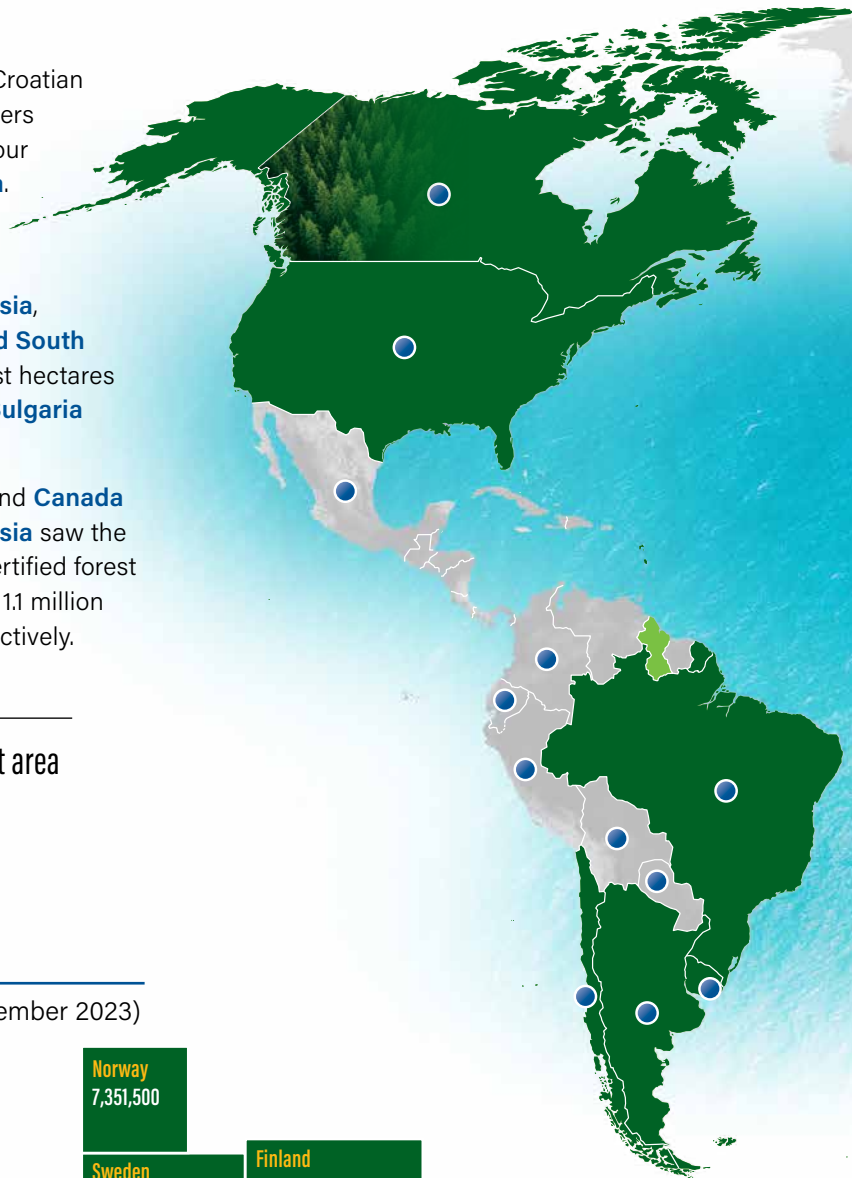
**10 systems** are under assessment

In 2023, we welcomed The Croatian Union of Private Forest Owners Associations (CUPFOA) as our national member for **Croatia**.

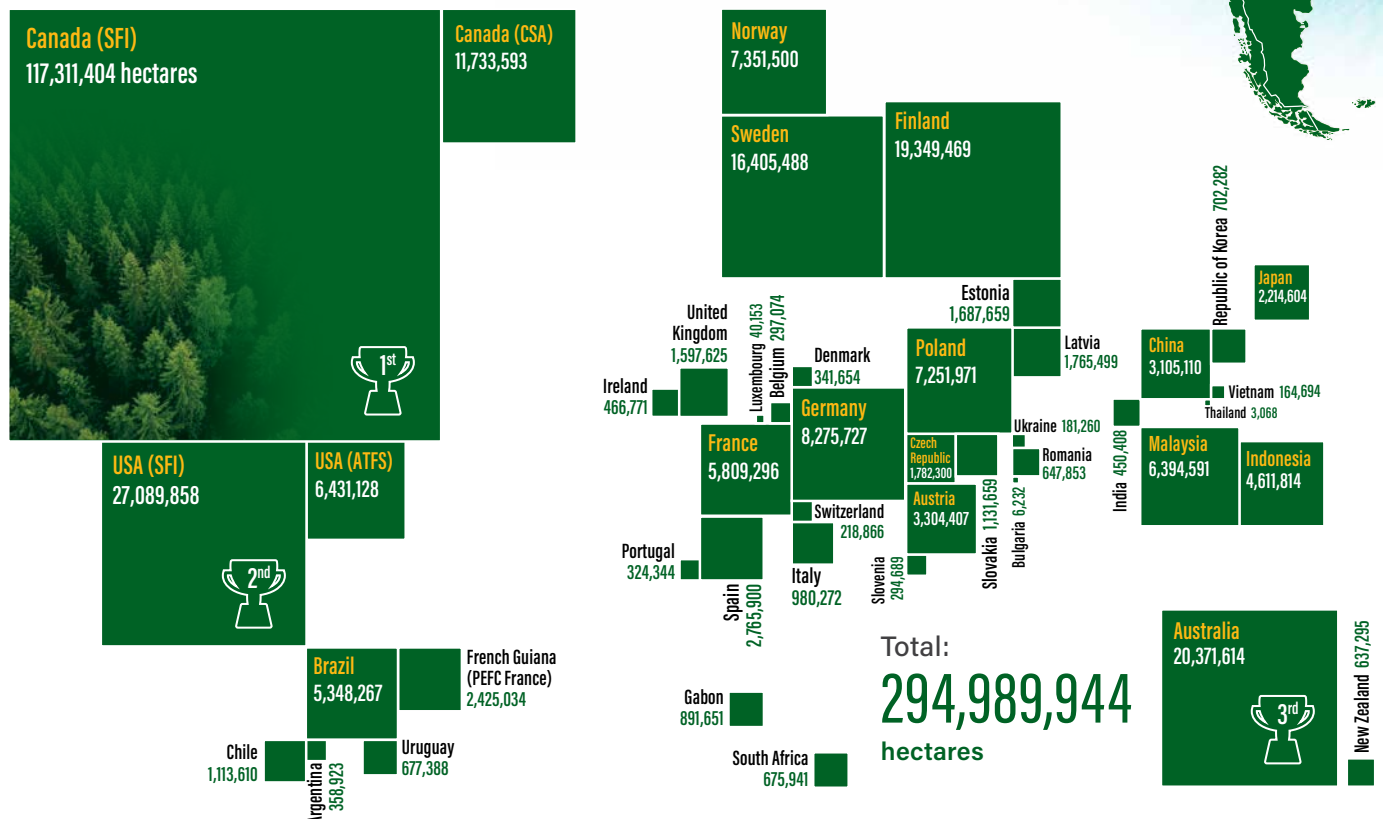
PEFC-certified forest area increased on all continents (**Europe, Asia, North America, Central and South America**, and **Oceania**). First hectares were certified in **Slovenia, Bulgaria** and **Thailand**.

Our members for the **USA** and **Canada** (SFI), **Australia**, and **Indonesia** saw the biggest increase in PEFC-certified forest area, growing by 3.5 million, 1.1 million and 839,000 hectares, respectively.

In 2023, PEFC-certified forest area worldwide grew by nearly **+7,000,000 hectares**



PEFC-certified forest area per country (as of 31 December 2023)









**Endorsed members and systems** (as of 31 December 2023)

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
Bulgaria	Council for Sustainable Forest Management and Certification in Bulgaria
Cameroon	Cameroonian Association of the Pan African Forestry Certification
Canada	PEFC Canada, Sustainable Forestry Initiative (SFI)
Chile	PEFC Chile
China	China Forest Certification Council (CFCC)
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
Hungary	Hungarian Forest Certification Non-profit Ltd.
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
Luxembourg	PEFC Luxembourg
Malaysia	Malaysian Timber Certification Council (MTCC)
Netherlands	PEFC Netherlands
New Zealand	New Zealand Forest Certification Association (NZFCA)
North Macedonia	The Council for Sustainable Forest Management in the Republic of Macedonia
Norway	PEFC Norway
Poland	PEFC Poland
Portugal	PEFC Portugal
Republic of Congo	PAFC-Congo
Republic of Korea	Korea Forestry Promotion Institute (KoFPI)
Romania	PEFC Romania
Slovakia	PEFC Slovakia
Slovenia	Institute for Forest Certification

Country	Name
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.)
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 2023)

Country	Name
Belarus	Republican Association of Forest Certification System
Croatia	CUPFOA, Croatian Union of Private Forest Owners Associations
Ghana	Working Group on Forest Certification
Guyana	Guyana Forestry Commission (GFC)
Lithuania	Center of Sustainable Forest Management
Myanmar	Myanmar Forest Certification Committee (MFCC)
Russia	PEFC Russia
Turkey	Association for Sustainable Forest Management, Forest Products and Services Certification

**System News 2023**

**Received endorsement:**

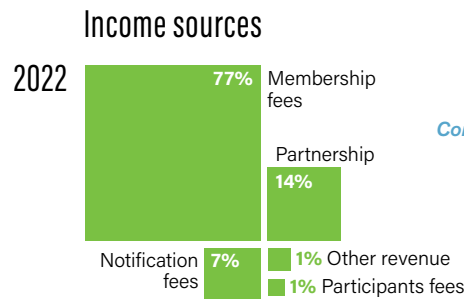
- PEFC Netherlands (Trees outside Forests)
- Network for Certification and Conservation of Forests (NCCF) (Trees outside Forests)
- PEFC Portugal (Trees outside Forests)
- Sustainable Forestry Initiative (SFI) (Chain of Custody)

**Maintained endorsement:**

- American Tree Farm System (ATFS)
- Argentine Forest Certification System (CERFOAR)
- PEFC Belgium
- Instituto Pró Manejo Florestal
- PEFC Chile
- Estonian Forest Certification Council
- PEFC Finland
- PEFC Latvia
- PEFC Norway
- PEFC Poland
- PEFC Portugal
- Responsible Wood
- PEFC Sweden
- PEFC UK

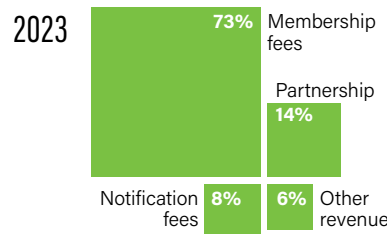
**Budget summary:**

In 2022, PEFC operated on a total income of about CHF 5.8 million.

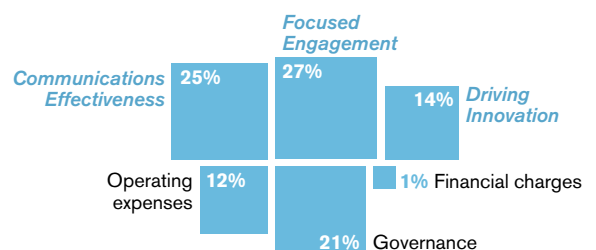
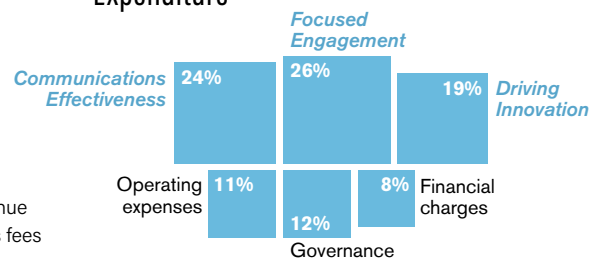


**Budget summary:**

In 2023, PEFC operated on a total income of about CHF 5.6 million.



**Expenditure**





**International Stakeholder members:**

- APP Timber
- Arauco
- Asia Pacific Resources International Holdings Ltd. (APRIL Group)
- Association Technique Internationale des Bois Tropicaux (ATIBT)
- Bioenergy Europe
- Building and Wood Worker's International (BWI)
- Confederation of European Forest Owners (CEFO)
- Confederation of European Paper Industries (CEPI)
- Double A
- European Confederation of Agricultural, Rural and Forestry Contractors (CEETTAR)
- European Panel Federation (EPF)
- European Pulp Industry Sector Association AISBL (EPIS)
- European Timber Trade Federation (ETTF)
- European Tissue Symposium (ETS)
- HS Timber Group
- International Council of Forest and Paper Associations (ICFPA)
- International Family Forestry Alliance (IFFA)
- Mayr-Melnhof Holz
- Mercer International
- Metsä Group
- Mondi
- Olam International
- Precious Woods
- Purinusa Ekapersada (APP)
- Regional Community Forestry Training Center for Asia and the Pacific (RECOFTC)
- Sappi
- Smurfit Kappa
- Stora Enso
- Suzano Pulp and Paper
- Union of Silviculturists of Southern Europe (USSE)
- UPM-Kymmene Corporation
- WestRock Company
- Weyerhaeuser Company

**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**

David Ford  
Suzette Weeding

**BOARD MEMBERS**

Dradjad Wibowo  
Gerald Pffiffinger  
Kurt Ramskogler  
Fatimah Mohammad

Lena Ek  
Sara El Kadri  
Guy Gleysteen

Eva Müller  
Scott Robertson  
A. K. Bansal



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**Office of the Secretary General**



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CEO and Secretary General



**Sandrine Laffitte**  
Office Manager/  
PA to the CEO



**Gill Parker**  
Finance Manager



**Stephan Decaillet**  
Senior Finance Manager

**Market Engagement**



**Fabienne Sinclair**  
Head of Market Engagement



**Hannah Prins**  
Communications Manager



**Julia Kozlik**  
Market Engagement Manager



**Hilary Khawam**  
Built Environment Manager



**Anja Gehr**  
Communications Officer



**Jon Horton**  
Market Engagement Manager



**Deepa Hingorani**  
Market Engagement Specialist

**Advocacy**



**Thorsten Arndt**  
Head of Advocacy

**Member Services**



**Rémi Sournia**  
Member Services Manager



**Thomas Seyvet**  
Member Services Officer

**Technical**



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Technical Manager



**Rob Shaw**  
Senior Integrity Manager



**Hubert Inhaizer**  
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**Linda Matole**  
Technical Officer



**Lise Favre**  
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**Simon Flinn**  
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**Nga Ha**  
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**Luca Saccone**  
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**PEFC Asia Pacific**



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Southeast Asia Manager



**Benson Yu**  
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**Thipphasone Khamsenesouk**  
Office Manager



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**Rungnapa Wattanavichian**  
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**Pham Thi Thu Thao**  
Market Engagement Officer



**Maja Drča**  
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