### **Information Guide**



# PFEC Programme for Endorsing Forest Certification



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#### What is PFEC Certification?

PEFC (Programme for Endorsing Forest Certification) is the world's leading global alliance of national forest certification systems dedicated to promoting sustainable forest management. It is established in the year 1999. The main purpose of the PEFC Certification is promoting sustainable forest management through third-party certification.

The PEFC (Programme for Endorsing Forest Certification) is a multi-stakeholder international non-profit organization. the requirements that companies must meet to achieve PEFC Chain of Custody certification, to the steps stakeholders must follow when developing their own forest certification system, documents are necessary for the operation of the organization.

**International standards** are applied directly in the field. These include our standards for Chain of Custody, Trademarks and Certification Body Requirements for Chain of Custody, used by thousands of companies, certification bodies and accreditation bodies around the world.

**Forest management**: Forest Management Standard promotes ethical forest practises and works to assure that both wood and non-wood forest products are produced in accordance with the highest ethical, social, and ecological standards throughout the whole forest supply chain. Solutions based on forests have a lot of potential for achieving a more sustainable world. Stakeholder engagement is essential to the success of any certification system.

Chain of Custody: PEFC Chain of Custody establishes the link from the forest to the market, chase forest-based merchandise from property sources to the ultimate product. This customary covers the necessities that a company should meet so as to achieve success establish a sequence of custody of merchandise from forests and trees, and promote PEFC to customers on the root of forests and sustainably managed forest tree merchandise, recycled materials and PEFC controlled sources. It conjointly includes management necessities, as well as on health, safety and labour problems.

To prove its origins, the complete flow of wood material from the forest to the consumer must be documented and tracked. The Chain of Custody is a term used to describe this evidence (CoC).

#### What are the Focus Points of PFEC Implementation?

- Compliance with the laws & regulations.
- Workers' rights & employment conditions.
- Right of indigenous people.
- Relations with the communities.
- Forest benefits.
- Determining Environmental values & impacts.
- Proper management planning.
- Provision for monitoring & assessment.
- Ensuring high conservation value.
- Management activities implementation.



## What are the Documents Required for PEFC Certification?

- To demonstrate compliance with the PEFC Forest Management certification an organization should maintain and implement the documents as per the requirements of the Forest Management Standard. Some of the typical documents required for PEFC Forest management certification:
- Harvest & Cutting guidelines.
- Management Plan.
- Chemical usage form.
- Timber volume report form.
- Timber pre-harvest checklist form.

#### Which Organizations are eligible for PEFC Certification?

- This standard applies to forest ownership, organization or industry who wish to demonstrate that forest management in an environmentally, socially and economically viable manner.
- Ref.
  - 1) Paper Industry
  - 2) Furniture Industry
  - 3) Oil and Biodiesel Industries
  - 4) Biomass Power Generation Industries

#### How will PEFC Certification benefits your Organization?

- It reduces risk of forest fires.
- It facilitates to prevent deforestation.
- Conserve the biodiversity.
- Helps to mitigate climate change.
- Protects water & Soil.
- Improves productivity by reducing exploitation & use of forest.
- We will contribute to the creation of employment and the improvement of social welfare.
- Encourage development of rural area Approval by the PEFC Boards.

## What are the types of certifications offered by PEFC Certification?

The certifications offered by PEFC are of two types namely;

- Forest Management Certification
- Chain of custody Certification



#### Who is awarded the forest management certification?

The forest management certification is awarded to forest managers that meet with the regulatory requirements of the principle that is placed by PEFC and its criteria, their management skills are assessed.

#### Who is awarded the chain of custody certification?

Manufacturers, processors, and traders of PEFC- certified forest products are eligible for Chain of Custody certification. It ensures that PEFC materials and products are examined at every level of processing, so customers who buy items with PEFC claims may be convinced that they are truly PEFC certified.

## What is the other certification offered by PEFC Certification?

Project Certification – Individual articles or buildings of any size or scale that are constructed or refurbished are eligible for PEFC project certification.

Controlled forest – Controlled forest certification is intended to assist organizations to avoid wood types that are deemed unsuitable, Multi-site CoC – Granted to larger companies operating at multiple locations

#### Names of the Certification body can be given

- 1. Control Union Certifications
- 2. GCL International Ltd
- 3. GICIA India Pvt Ltd. (GIPL)
- 4. SGS
- 5. TÜV NORD CERT GmbH

#### What is the validity of the Certificate?

Certificate issued for 5 years and every year surveillance audit needs to be carried out



## How will PQSmitra help you with Hassle Free Implementation process for PFEC Certification?

PQSmitra has helped many organizations achieve this mark of excellence. The simple and practical method of system implementation help organizations to set up a robust and effective system. PQSmitra offers 100% support for documentation compliance in addition to onsite guidance for effective implementation. The implementation process is described below:

- Initial visits and review of the existing systems.
- Gap analysis and planning for the technical documentation related to standard.
- Training and Hand holding/ support for implementation.
- Management review meeting.
- Certification audit.
- Closure of non-conformities.
- Rewarded with PFEC Forest Management Certification.



#### PQSmitraService Features appreciated by clients



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