

# PEFC certification in Latvia





# PEFC – The Programme for the Endorsement of Forest Certification

**PEFC – The Programme for the Endorsement of Forest Certification**  
- is a leading global alliance of national forest certification systems. As an international non-profit, non-governmental organization, PEFC are dedicated to promoting sustainable forest management through independent third-party certification.

In 1999, small- and family forest owners from Europe came together to create a forest certification system that would enable them to demonstrate their excellence in sustainable forest management. 20 years on, PEFC is the largest forest certification system in the world! 56 national members.

# Facts and Figures

**280** million hectares  
of forests globally  
are PEFC-certified

**750 000** forest  
owners  
are PEFC-certified globally



**56** countries with a  
PEFC national member

**20 000** companies  
in the world  
benefit from PEFC Chain of  
Custody certification

# The main reasons for certification

- Certification is one of the tools being used to demonstrate our social, environmental and economical responsibility.
- The main reason for certification is also market demand even though the industry is not willing to pay additional price premium for certified wood.

# Latvia

- Capital: Riga
- Population: 1,8 million
- Languages: Latvian.
- Area: 64,589 km<sup>2</sup>
- Forest cover: 52 % (the 4th in Europe)



# PEFC

## PEFC structure in Latvia:

- PEFC International
- National represent – PEFC Latvia  
Council
- Main desidions – Members meeting
- Council, chairman
- Boar – executive rights

# Description of the situation in Latvia

- Largest forest management certification system
- Accessible for all forest owners
- Forest Management Certification is performed according to the National standard
- PEFC Contractor certification

# Description of the situation in Latvia (2)

- The Latvian scheme originally achieved endorsement in 2001.
- In 2008 consequently lost its endorsement status.
- PEFC International announced the endorsement of the Revised Latvian Forest Certification System in March 2011.
- The last Latvian Forest Certification System re-endorsement in 2024.

# The new FM certification system documentation

- Structure according ISO
- Requirements according the international standard
- New chapters
- Plantation forests
- TOF (Trees outside forests) – aim to go

# Statistics of PEFC in Latvia

- FM – 15 certificates (+1), 1.76 milj. ha (50% from Latvian forest area), incl. 3 group certificates (+1)
- COC- 88 certificates (-1) (incl. 15 multi-site and 1 producer group)
- 30 Forestry Contractor certificates

# Certification organizations

- FM certification – 5 organisations
- COC certification – 4 organisations
- Forest Contractor certification – 1 organisation

Thank you!

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