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Amended 21 June 2022

Development report



Estonian Forest Certification Council

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Introduction

The main aim of the Estonian Forest Certification Scheme is to contribute to the implementation of the principles of sustainable forest management in Estonia. The introduction of the scheme shall ensure compliance with PEFC principles in forest management and provide the purchaser of timber, wood and wood-based products with assurance that the wood comes from sustainably managed forests and the origin of PEFC-labelled wood and wood products can be verified at every stage of the supply chain.

Estonian Forest Management Certification Scheme includes the following documents:

PEFC EST 1002:2022, Group forest management certification – Requirements

PEFC EST 1003:2022, Sustainable forest management – Requirements

PEFC EST 1004:2022, Requirements for certification bodies operating PEFC forest management certification

Chain of Custody certification is operated according to:

PEFC ST 2002:2020, Chain of Custody of Forest Based Products – Requirements

PEFC ST 2001:2020, PEFC Trademark rules – Requirements

PEFC ST 2003:2020, Requirements for Certification Bodies operating Certification against the PEFC International Chain of Custody Standard

In addition, PEFC Estonia Forest Certification Scheme includes the following administrative procedures:

PEFC EST 1001:2020, Standard setting – Requirements

PEFC EGD 1005:2022, Issuance of PEFC trademarks usage licences by Estonian Forest Certification Council

PEFC EGD 1006:2022, EFCC Notification of Certification Bodies operating Chain of Custody and Forest Management Certification in Estonia against the requirements of the Estonian Forest Certification Scheme

PEFC EGD 1007:2022, Complaints and Appeals Settlement Procedure

See Annex 1: Overview of the differences between the Estonian Forest Certification Schemes 2015 and 2022.

Scope of the revision process

The Board of EMSN decided to start the process of the revision of the requirements for the PEFC Estonia Forest Certification Scheme at the meeting 24.10.2019. The relevant announcement can be found on EFCC website <https://pefc.ee/182-teade-pefc-eesti-metsasertifitseerimise-nouete-uelevaatamise-protsessiga-alustamise-kohta>.

A gap analysis was carried out; as a result, it was established that several international benchmark standards and guides and their structure have changed, new requirements have been added and several existing requirements have been specified. A stakeholder survey on the feedback on the implementation of current standards and amendment proposals had previously been carried out. Therefore; it was necessary to ensure the compliance of the Estonian Forest Certification Scheme with the requirements of international benchmark standards.

Consequently, at the General Meeting 21.01.2020 EFCC decided to start a full-revision of the scheme in accordance with clause 9.1 of the PEFC ST 1001:2017 standard (normal revision).

Stakeholder mapping

The EFCC mapped the stakeholders and their likely key issues; also, the disadvantaged and key stakeholders were identified and the constraints that might have prevented them from participating in the standard-setting activities were addressed.

See Appendix 2 and Appendix 3, Mapped Stakeholders

Although Agenda 21 identifies indigenous people as the key stakeholder group, it was found that since there were no indigenous peoples in Estonia, they could not be mapped as a key interest group. It was important to involve local governments as a key stakeholder in the process because their role in the developing and enforcing detail plans, including green networks, was also relevant in standard setting. The Association of Estonian Cities and Municipalities and the Association of Small Islands were also added to the list as affected stakeholders because the forest sector is often the main source of income in both rural areas and small islands and plays an important role in the functioning of the local community.

The key stakeholders are:

- Forest owners
- Business and industry
- Non-government organizations
- Scientific and technological community
- Workers and trade unions
- Local governments

An invitation to participate in the revision process of the forest management standard was sent to 48 organizations.

30.01.2020 a public announcement on the revision of the scheme was published on the EFCC website (<https://pefc.ee/183-teade-pefc-metsasertifitseerimise-nouete-uelevaatamisega-alustamise-kohta-ning-kutse-osalema-toeueruehma-toeoes/>) and the invitation was sent to all mapped target groups by e-mail 31.01.2020. In addition, the CEO of EFCC contacted personally several stakeholder groups to inform them of the revision process and ask for their participation.

The invitation stated that EFCC had started a revision of the PEFC Estonia Forest Certification Scheme and therefore, EFCC invited stakeholders to participate in the revision process of the PEFC National Forest Management Standard, for which EFCC would establish a working group.

The task of the standard working group was to review the content of the PEFC Estonia forest management criteria and ensure their compliance with the international PEFC sustainability criteria. The work covered the full scope of the PEFC International Forest Management Standard PEFC ST 1003: 2018 (including its Annexes 1 and 2).

At the same time, opinions and feedback were requested on the scope of the standard and the standard setting procedure (PEFC EST 1001: 2020). No comments or suggestions were received from the stakeholders.

20.02.2022 follow-up message sent.

All invited organizations did not decide to participate in the working group; however, the working groups include a broad range of stakeholders reflecting the principles of sustainable forest management in the society.

The Board of EFCC established a working group on March 9, 2020, consisting of representatives of various stakeholder organizations.

See Annex 4, Members of the Revision Working Group of the Forest Management Standard Working Group as of 01.01.22.

This group was responsible for the revision of the Estonian national forest management standard. The tasks of the standard working group were as follows:

- a) to develop updated requirements for sustainable forest management that confirm with the international PEFC sustainability criteria and can be adapted to Estonian conditions;
- b) agree on the principles and wording of the text of the standard and formulate a new revised forest management standard;
- c) make a proposal to the EFCC Board for organising a public consultation;
- e) to review the proposals made for the revision of the standard as a result of the public consultation;
- f) reach a consensus on the content of the standard;
- g) submit the final draft standard to the EFCC Board for approval.

The first meeting of the working group took place on 10 March 2020. Presentations were made on the PEFC certification scheme, the standard revision process and timetable; also, the standard-setting procedures were discussed. The working group proposed amendments to the standard governing the standard-setting process (PEFC EST 1001:2020), which was subsequently approved by the Board.

At the first working group meeting the working group elected Gunnar Reinapu as its moderator.

Also, a steering group was set up at the first meeting of the standard working group. The working group composition according to key stakeholders is as follows:

Forest owners: State Forest Management Center, Estonian Private Forest Association
Business and wood industry: Estonian Forest and Wood Industries Association,
Graanul Invest AS

Non-government organizations: Estonian Chamber of Agriculture and Commerce, NGO Estonian Forest Society

Scientific and technological community: University of Tartu, Estonian University of Life Sciences
Workers and trade unions: NGO Estonian Forest Workers' Trade Union, NGO Estonian Forest Service Association

Local governments: Saarde local municipality

In the period of 10.03.2020 to 27.04.2022 (25 months), 30 working group meetings took place of which 4 were contact meetings.

Documentation and disclosure of documents

The whole process of the scheme revision has been documented. The following documents are available:

- Standard-setting procedure
- Stakeholder mapping
- Setting up the working group, its members, including their participation in each meeting of the group
- Feedback received and an overview of the processing of the feedback
- All draft and final versions of the standards
- Working group meetings
- Evidence on the consensus on the final draft standard
- Evidence related to the revision process
- Approval of the scheme documents by the Board and final approval by the General Meeting of EFCC.

The documented information shall be retained by EFCC until the completion of the next review or revision of the documents of the Estonian Forest Certification Scheme or at least five years after the publication of the standard. Documented information is available to stakeholders on the EFCC website or upon request.

A sub-page was created on the EFCC website for the standard revision process:

<https://pefc.ee/avasta-pefc/pefc-skeemi-dokumendid>

Materials related to the revision process of the Forest Management Standard - notices, agendas and minutes of the working group meetings, updated lists of the working group members, tasks of the working group, background materials, etc were published on the website.

At the intermediate stage (09.02.2021) the working group requested expert assessment and feedback on the enquiry draft standard and complemented the standard in accordance with the submitted proposals.

Group certification standard

Working Group II was set up for the revision of the group forest management certification standard including

- Estonian Private Forest Association (group certificate holder) - Kristel Pern, Kertu Kekk and Mari Tuvikene
- Central Cooperative of Private Forests (group certificate holder) - Priit Põllumäe

- Gunnar Reinapu, moderator of the forest management standard, representative of the Private Forest Centre and forest owner
- Eve Rebane, CEO of EFCC

Four meetings took place; also, comments/suggestions were submitted by e-mail. 17.03.22 the completed enquiry draft was sent to all PEFC forest management group entities, certification bodies and accreditation bodies for comments and feedback. One comment was received from the accreditation body.

The first public consultation on the enquiry draft forest management standard

The Working Group of Forest Management Standard decided unanimously to agree on the wording of the enquiry draft standard at the meeting 24.05.2021 and proposed EFCC to send it for public consultation. The first public consultation took place from 28.10.2021 to 27.12.2021.

The public consultation was announced in a press release on the EFCC website (<https://pefc.ee/teade-60-paeevase-arvamuskuesitluse-laebiviimiseks-uue-pefc-eesti-jaetkusuutliku-metsamajandamise-standardi-osas/>) and sent to all stakeholders identified during the stakeholder mapping (including the organizations that were not part of the standard working group).

The CEO of EFCC summarized the proposals made for the enquiry draft standard and the working group discussed the proposals at its meetings 31.01.22, 26.01.2022 and 09.02.2022. A public consultation report was drafted including the working group's responses to the proposals. The report was published on EFCC website (https://pefc.ee/wp-content/uploads/2022/06/PEFC-EST-1003_2022_60-paevase-avalikustamise-tagasiside-aruanne_Tooryhma-vastustega38623.pdf) and also emailed to all proposers.

The proposed changes to the forest management standard were only minor changes or specifications, the consequences of which were considered predictable; therefore, formal pilot testing was not carried out. It was found that pilot testing was not necessary to assess the auditability of the requirements for the forest in the current standard because the experience in using the standard could replace pilot testing.

The CEO of EFCC presented the amendments to the standard to various stakeholders by giving presentations in the following trainings:

- 11.03.2021. in a training for the clients and assessors of the Estonian Accreditation Centre
- 19.08.2021 in a training for the teachers of Luua Forestry School
- 03.11.2021 on an information day of the Estonian Private Forest Association for forest owners and decision-makers
- 24.11.2021 in a training for the foresters of the Central Cooperative Private Forest

On December 10, 2021 during the public consultation period a public seminar was held for forest owners and other stakeholder groups where the requirements of the revised standard were introduced and the principles and techniques of biodiversity conservation were discussed on the example of the revised standard.

The second public consultation and pilot testing regarding the requirements for the certification of Trees outside Forests

At the same time, the working group developed requirements for the certification of Trees outside Forests; therefore, the second public consultation was carried out from 16.03.22 to 15.04.22. to receive feedback on the requirements for the certification of the Trees outside Forests (PEFC EST 1001: 2020, 6.5.2.).

On 16 March 22, a 30-day public consultation was announced on the extended scope of the revised PEFC Estonia Sustainable Forest Management Standard - requirements for the certification of Trees outside Forests: <https://pefc.ee/teade-30-paevase-arvamuskusitluse-labiviimiseks-uupefc-eesti-jatkusuutliku-metsamajandamise-standardi-laiendatud-reguleerimisala-mitemetsamaal-kasvavate-puude-sertimiseks-kehtestatud-noue/>.

The enquiry draft for the second public consultation was published on the EFCC website between 16.03.22 and 15.04.22. The public consultation was announced in a press release on the EFCC website (<https://pefc.ee/teade-30-paevase-arvamuskusitluse-labiviimiseks-uupefc-eesti-jatkusuutliku-metsamajandamise-standardi-laiendatud-reguleerimisala-mitemetsamaal-kasvavate-puude-sertimiseks-kehtestatud-noue/>) and an e-mail was sent to the stakeholders identified during stakeholder mapping for the second public consultation and feedback, for a total of 73 people, including the organizations that had not nominated a representative to the Forest Standard Working Group.

No comments or suggestions were made on the enquiry draft standard. A report on the feedback of the public consultation was drawn up (https://pefc.ee/wp-content/uploads/2022/05/PEFC-EST-1003_2022_30-paevase-avalikustamise-tagasiside-aruanne_26.04.2225119.pdf).

Pilot testing

A pilot testing of the requirements for the certification of Trees outside Forests was carried out by an accredited certification body within the period of 22.03.22-22.04.22. According to the assessment provided in the audit report the PEFC Estonia Sustainable Forest Management Standard is auditable, assessable and unambiguous and can be successfully used for the certification of Trees outside Forests. The report set out some of the recommendations and issues which were discussed by the working group at its meeting 14.04.22.

Reaching consensus on the final draft

The procedures of EFCC for the development of the PEFC forest management standard require a consensus to be reached in the steering group of the standard as a precondition for EFCC to make a final decision on the approval of the standard. At the meeting on 27 April 2022 the working group agreed on the content of the standard PEFC EST 1003:2022, reached a consensus on the decision on the PEFC Estonia sustainable forest management standard and submitted it to the EFCC Board for approval.

The members participating at the consensus meeting reached a consensus on the answers to the questions and proposals made by a member of the steering group and consequently, amended and specified the 27.04.2022 version of the standard. One representative of the NGO

in the steering group (Ülle Läll - Estonian Chamber of Agriculture and Commerce) did not agree with the approval of the document in its current wording; therefore, at first, it was impossible to reach a consensus. According to clause 6.4.6 of the standard PEFC EST 1001: 2020, Standard setting – requirements, it was suggested to use voting to decide on the approval of the text of the standard. However, Mart Kelk, the other NGO representative in the steering group (NGO Eesti Metsaselts) was in favor of approving the standard; also, the NGO representatives in the working group (NGO Ühinenud Eesti Metsataimetootjad, NGO Eesti Metsaüliõpilaste Selts, SA Loodushoiu Fond) were in favor of the approval of the standard. Consequently, it demonstrates that there was no conflict of opinion within the working group. NGO Organic Estonia did not submit an opinion on the due date.

Working group submitted the standard to the EFCC Board for approval. The evidence on the consensus has been recorded in the minutes of the meeting and the minutes can be found on the EFCC website: https://pefc.ee/wp-content/uploads/2022/05/Juhtruhma-konsensuse-leidmise-koosoleku-protokoll_27.04.22-Sagadis.pdf, https://pefc.ee/wp-content/uploads/2022/05/Konsensuse-otsus_allkirjastatud.pdf; https://pefc.ee/wp-content/uploads/2022/06/PEFC-SFM-ST-Juhtruhma-koosoleku-PROTOKOLL_01.06.2022-1.pdf.

Approval and endorsement of the documents of PEFC Estonia Sustainable Forest Management Standard and Estonian Forest Certification Scheme

Documents were sent to the Board and General Meeting of the EFCC 27.04.2022. The Board of EFCC approved the documents of PEFC Estonia Sustainable Forest Management Standard and other documents of the scheme at its meeting on 04 May 20, 2022 and submitted them to the General Meeting of EFCC for approval.

The General Meeting of the EFCC approved the Estonian Forest Certification Scheme at the meeting of 04 May 2022 and decided to submit the scheme to the PEFC Council for endorsement.

Voting results: For: 7 votes, against: 0 votes, abstention: 0 votes.

Due to the initial review of the documents by PEFC International, considered necessary to modify the structure of the standard. No substantive changes were made to the text of the standard. The working group discussed amendments to the Standard at its meeting on 01.06.2022. The steering group reached a consensus on the changes at its meeting on 01.06.2022, after which it was decided to submit the standard to the EFCC board for approval.

Due to the need for direct transposition and immediate implementation of the PEFC International standards PEFC ST 2001:2020, PEFC ST 2002:2020 and PEFC ST 2003:2020, it is necessary to amend the dates of entry into force of the previously approved procedures PEFC EGD 1005:2022 and PEFC EGD 1006:2022.

The Management Board approved the amendments to the forest management standard and the amendments to the entry into force dates of PEFC EGD 1005:2022 and PEFC EGD 1006:2022 at its meeting on 21.06.2022 and submitted them to the General Meeting of EFCC for approval. The General Meeting of EFCC approved the amendments at the meeting on 21.06.2022 (with

voting results: For: 5 votes, against: 0 votes, abstention: 0 votes) and decided to submit the amended documents to the PEFC Council for endorsement.

The date of entry into force and the transition date of the scheme documents

The date of the entry into force of the standards and procedures is 04.05.2023 and the transition date is 04.05.2024.

PEFC EGD 1005:2022 and PEFC EGD 1006:2022 will enter into force on 21.06.2022 and the transitional period will not apply.

The date of the next periodic review is 04.05.2027.

Publication of standards

The PEFC Estonia Sustainable Forest Management Standard and other documents of the Estonian Forest Certification Scheme will be published on the EFCC website within 14 days of the approval of the scheme.

The documents were published on 05.05.2022 (<https://pefc.ee/avasta-pefc/pefc-skeemi-dokumendid>).

Timeline of the revision process of the PEFC Estonia Sustainable Forest Management Standard can be found in Appendix 5.

An overview of the changes introduced in the documents of the scheme can be found in Annex 6.

Annex 1

Overview of the 2015 and 2022 versions of the Estonian Forest Certification Scheme

PEFC Estonia Forest Certification Scheme 2022	PEFC Estonia Forest Certification Scheme 10.08.2015
PEFC EST 1001:2020, Standard setting – Requirements	Annex 11, Standard setting procedures
PEFC EST 1002:2022, Group forest management certification – Requirements	EST 2 The procedure requirements for the certification of forest management and chain of custody
PEFC EST 1003:2022, PEFC Estonia Sustainable forest management – Requirements	Estonian National Forest Certification Scheme
PEFC EST 1004:2022, Requirements for certification bodies operating PEFC forest management certification	The qualification requirements and certification procedures for external auditors and certification bodies of PEFC EST 3
	PEFC EST 4 Guidelines for Certification Bodies and Auditors to conduct Forest Management and Chain of Custody certification
PEFC EGD 1005:2022, Issuance of PEFC trademarks usage licences by Estonian Forest Certification Council	Issuance of PEFC Logo use licenses by EFCC
PEFC EGD 1006:2022, EFCC Notification of Certification Bodies operating Chain of Custody and Forest Management Certification in Estonia against the requirements of the Estonian Forest Certification Scheme	Notification of Certification Bodies for Chain of Custody and Forest Management Certification in Estonia against the requirements of the Estonian Forest Certification Scheme
PEFC EGD 1007:2022, Complaints and Appeals Settlement Procedure	EST 2 The procedure requirements for the certification of forest management and chain of custody
	PEFC EST 4 Guidelines for Certification Bodies and Auditors to conduct Forest Management and Chain of Custody certification
PEFC ST 2001:2020, PEFC Trademark rules – Requirements	PEFC ST 2001:208 v2, PEFC Logo usage rules
PEFC ST 2002:2020, Chain of Custody of Forest and Tree Based Products – Requirements	PEFC ST 2002:2013, Chain of Custody of Forest Based Products – Requirements
PEFC ST 2003:2020, Requirements for Certification Bodies operating Certification against the PEFC International Chain of Custody Standard	PEFC ST 2003:2012, Requirements for Certification Bodies operating Certification against the PEFC International Chain of Custody Standard

Annex 2 *Mapped stakeholders*

Stakeholder	Organization
Forest owners	Eesti Erametsaliit
	RMK
	Luuva Metsanduskool
	KÜ Eramets
	Eesti Evangeelne Luterlik Kirik
	Järvelja Metskond SA
Business and Industry	Eesti Metsa- ja Puidutööstuse Liit
	Eesti Puitmajaliit
	TÜ Eesti Puidumüügikeskus
	Eesti Taastuvenergia Koda
	Eesti Mööblitootjate Liit
	Eesti Trüki- ja Pakenditööstuse Liit
Scientific and Technological Community	Tartu Ülikool
	Tallinna Tehnikaülikool
	Eesti Maaülikool
Workers and Trade Unions	Eesti Metsateenijate Ühing
	Eesti Metsatöötajate Ametiühing
Indigenous people	Not relevant
NGOs	Eesti Looduskaitse Selts
	Eesti Metsaselts
	Eesti Looduseuurijate Selts (Metsandusseksioon)
	Eesti Orienteerumisliit
	Eesti Põllumajandus-Kaubanduskoda (Keskühistu Eramets)
	MTÜ Eesti Keskkonnahariduse Ühing
	Arengukoostöö Ümarlaud

	Organic-Estonia MTÜ
	Eesti Jahimeeste Selts
	Eesti Keskkonnaühenduste Koda, sh:
	<i>Stockholmi Keskkonnainstituudi Tallinna Keskus SA</i>
	<i>SA Keskkonnaõiguse Keskus</i>
	<i>Eesti Roheline Liikumine</i>
	<i>Pärandkoosluste Kaitse Ühing</i>
	<i>Eestimaa Looduse Fond</i>
	<i>Balti Keskkonnafoorum</i>
	<i>Eesti Ornitoloogiaühing MTÜ</i>
	<i>Tartu Üliõpilaste Looduskaitsering „Sorex“</i>
	<i>Nõmme Tee Selts</i>
	<i>MTÜ Läänerannik</i>
	Eesti Loodusturismi Ühing
Local municipalities	Eesti Linnade ja Valdade Liit
	Saarde Vald
	MTÜ Väikesaarte Liit
Others	NCS Estonia OÜ
	Metrosert AS
	NepCon
	BM Certification Estonia OÜ
	SA Eesti Akrediteerimiskeskus
	SA Erametsakeskus
	Eesti Metsaüliõpilaste Selts

Annex 3

Mapping of stakeholders involved in the revision of the PEFC Estonia Forest Certification Scheme

1. According to clause 6.2.1 of PEFC EST 1001:2020, EFCC shall identify stakeholders relevant to the objectives and scope of the standard setting activities by means of stakeholder mapping. It shall define which stakeholder groups are relevant to the subject matter and how. For each stakeholder group the EFCC shall identify the key stakeholders, their likely key issues and which means of communication would be best to reach them.

The main stakeholders participating in the development of the Sustainable Forest Management Standard	The expected key issues for the stakeholder	The best communication tools for stakeholder engagement
Forest owners	<p>Forest owners are the target group whose activities are most directly affected by the requirements of the sustainable forest management standard. It is important for forest owners to ensure</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • long-term, sustainable and diverse management of forest resources • (long-term) profitability of forest management • balance between economic, environmental and social objectives <p>There are about 110,000 private forest owners in Estonia of which about 200 owners have their forests certified according to the PEFC scheme (about 270 thousand ha). The entire state forest has been certified (1.03 million ha, including the forest of Luua Forestry School).</p>	<p>EFCC mapped stakeholders and asked for their feedback on the requirements for the revision of the standard.</p> <p>A letter and an e-mail were sent to stakeholders inviting them to participate in the work of the sustainable forest standard working group.</p> <p>In case the stakeholders did not provide feedback on the invitation by the due date, the contact details were checked and the invitation was sent again with the materials attached.</p>
Business and industry	<p>Transparency in the chain of custody, access to as much sustainably grown material as possible and a stable business environment are important for</p>	

	wood and wood-based businesses and industries.	
Non-governmental organizations (NGOs)	<p>In the course of stakeholder mapping, EFCC identified 48 NGOs, companies and other organizations that might be interested in sustainable forest management and diverse use of the forest.</p> <p>Topics relevant to NGOs vary widely, including the use of forests and the use of wood and wood-based products, the personal right of use and recreation, as well as the use of ecosystem services based on, for example, contracts with forest owners.</p> <p>The standard working group may add members in the course of its work and consult with experts in the revision process of the Standard.</p>	
Scientific and Technological Community	<p>Scientific and technological community provide information on forests and their dynamics, the various aspects of sustainability and the possibilities for using technology in the planning, implementation and monitoring of the activities and in the development of forest-related products and services.</p> <p>It is important for the Scientific and Technological Communities to integrate the potential of science-based knowledge and technology as a part of the content debate on sustainable forestry in the standards.</p>	
Workers and Trade Unions	<p>Forests provide employment and livelihoods for those working in the forest as well as for those working with materials and services from the forest.</p> <p>Employment and job opportunities, skills development and safe working conditions, as well as proper working conditions are the key issues for workers and their stakeholders.</p>	
Local municipalities	The local government is the organiser of the development (general) plans; also, it	

	<p>initiates and develops plans on the local level (detailed, thematic and special planning).</p> <p>Spatial planning creates preconditions for the development of a democratic, long-term, balanced spatial development, land use, high-quality living and built environment that takes into account the needs and interests of the members of the society, promoting environmentally friendly and economically, culturally and socially sustainable development. The task of the local government is to designate the green network in the plans and to specify the conditions and restrictions to ensure the operation of the green network.</p> <p>For the local government, the relation to the certification is important in the planning process (it also sets the conditions for land use) and in ensuring sustainability at the local level.</p>	
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2. According to clause 6.2.3 of PEFC EST 1001:2020 EFCC shall identify disadvantaged stakeholders and key stakeholders and address any constraints to their participation in standard setting activities.

Stakeholders (a and b)	Constraints to the participation of a stakeholder in standard setting activities and addressing these constraints
<p>a) Disadvantaged stakeholders</p>	<p>Disadvantaged participants may be stakeholders operating far from Tallinn/centres of attraction who do not have good transport connection to centres of attraction or have to bear high transportation costs to Tallinn.</p> <p>If necessary, the following measures shall be taken to address the constraints to participation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) allow online participation in the meeting (eg Skype); b) provide the stakeholder representative with written materials of the working group meeting; c) organize some of the meetings outside Tallinn in other Estonian centres of attraction; d) hold one-to-one meetings with the scheme coordinator and/or working group leader. e) negotiate for the reimbursement of the transport costs with EFCC if it is necessary to ensure the personal presence of a stakeholder representative at the meeting.
<p>b) Key stakeholders</p>	<p>EFCC considers it important that all key stakeholders identified in the stakeholder mapping participate in the revision of the standard.</p>

	<p>Stakeholders have an opportunity to influence the results of the standard setting by participating in the work of the standard working group and providing input, comments and amendments to the enquiry draft during the public consultation.</p>
<p>c) Affected stakeholders</p>	<p>Estonian forests are very diverse and therefore of interest to a number of different stakeholders. Also, forests provide various products and services. Estonian Sustainable Forest Management Standard has been developed with a broad range of stakeholders and includes various principles of sustainable forestry.</p> <p>Each stakeholder group has equal opportunities to influence the decision-making process and possible voting situations. No stakeholder group can make up a majority and no key stakeholder group can be excluded from decision-making.</p> <p>If the standard working group discusses issues, the results of which may affect the living and/or working conditions of a specific stakeholder group (eg forest owners' forest management or the operating conditions of the forest industry), these stakeholders should be involved in the standard setting process.</p>

Annex 4

Members of the Revision Working Group of the Forest Management Standard Working Group
(as of 01.01.2022)

Organization	Representative	Alternate member
Tornator Eesti OÜ	Martin Tishler	
HD Forest AS	Kristi Nigul	
KÜ Eramets	Priit Põllumäe	
Eesti Erametsaliit MTÜ	Mari Tuvikene	
Eesti Erametsaliit MTÜ	Kristel Pern	
Riigimetsa Majandamise Keskus	Rainer Laigu	
Timberwise OÜ	Janek Kronberg	
Sihtasutus Järvelja Öppe- ja Katsemetsakond	Tanel Piir	
Ühinenud Metsaomanikud MTÜ	Kadri-Aija Viik	Anett Reilent
Luu Metsanduskool	Veiko Belials	
Eesti Metsa- ja Puidutööstuse Liit MTÜ	Henrik Välja	Pille Meier
Graanul Invest AS	Marti Piirimäe	Mihkel Jugaste
Tartu Ülikool (Tippkeskus EcolChange ja Horisont2020 EFFECT)	Jaan Liira	
Eesti Maaülikool	Kristiina Aun	
Eesti Metsateenijate Ühing MTÜ	Elor Ilmet	Kaarel Tiganik
Eesti Metsatöötajate Ametiühing MTÜ	Jaan Aiaots	
Organic Estonia MTÜ	Krista Kulderknup	Helen Arusoo
Eesti Põllumajandus-Kaubanduskoda	Ülle Läll	Priit Põllumäe
MTÜ Eesti Metsaselts	Mart Kelk	
MTÜ Ühinenud Eesti Metsataimetootjad	Tõnu Lukas	
Saarde vald	Kadri-Aija Viik	
BM Certification Estonia OÜ	Ülo Roop	Rait Hiiepuu
NCS Estonia OÜ	Renal Lastik	Björn Sild
SA Eesti Akrediteerimiskeskus	Eire Endrekson	
Metrosert AS	Evelin Kurmiste	
MTÜ Eesti Metsaüliõpilaste Selts	Andres Raido Roosileht	
Forestry expert, working group moderator	Gunnar Reinapu	
Eesti Metsasertifitseerimise Nõukogu MTÜ	Eve Rebane	
Eesti Jõujaamade ja Kaugkütte Ühing	Siim Umbleja	
Eesti Taastuvenergia Koda	Mihkel Annus	
Loodushoiu Fond SA	Pille Ligi	

Annex 5

Timeline of the revision process of the PEFC Estonia Sustainable Forest Management Standard.

<i>Period</i>	<i>Stage</i>	<i>Comment</i>
24.10.2019	Start of the review process.	The Board decided to start with the review of the scheme, gap-analyse were conducted, stakeholder mapping was carried out, a proposal for standard setting was made, the requirements for the standard setting were updated.
21.01.2020	Start of the revision process.	The general meeting decided to start the revision process.
30.01.2020, 20.02.2020 follow-up message	Public announcement of the start of the revision process.	Stakeholders were invited to participate in the revision of the forest management standard, provide feedback, make proposals on the scope of the revision of the standard and the procedures for standard setting.
09.03.2020	Setting up the forest management working group.	The board set up the working group.
10.03.2020 – 27.04.2022	Working group meetings.	Meetings of the forest management working group of PEFC Estonia Sustainable Forest Management Standard (30 meetings in total). 09.02.2021 additional experts were involved in standard setting process.
24.05.2021	The working group submitted the standard to EFCC for initiating public consultation.	
May 2022	Decision of the PEFC Council to extend the revision period for six months.	The new deadline for the completion of the revision is 14.05.2022.
Sept 2021 – April 2022	Development of the group forest management certification standard.	
28.10.2021 - 27.12.2021	Public consultation for 60 days.	
11.03.2021, 19.08.2021,	Presentations to introduce the revised forest	Presentations in the following trainings:

03.11.21, 24.11.21	management standard to target groups.	a training for the clients and assessors of the Estonian Accreditation Centre; a training for the teachers of Luua Forestry School; an information day of the Estonian Private Forest Association for forest owners and decision-makers; a training for the foresters of the Central Cooperative Private Forest
10.12.2021	Webinar	Introducing the new enquiry draft standard to the public.
13.01.2022, 26.01.2022, 09.02.2022	Discussion of the proposals received from the public consultation in the working group, a decision to send the standard for pilot testing in terms of the auditability of the requirements for the certification of Trees outside Forests.	
16.03.22 - 15.04.22.	II public consultation for 30 days.	The second period of public consultation was carried out to get feedback on the requirements for the certification of Trees outside Forests
22.03.22 - 22.04.22	Pilot testing, discussion of the results in the working group 14.04.2022.	The pilot testing was carried out in terms of the auditability of the requirements for the certification of Trees outside Forests; discussion in the working group in 14.04.2022.
27.04.2022	Reaching a consensus on the sustainable forest management standard and submission of the standard to the Board of the EFCC for approval by the working group.	
04.05.2022	Approval of the sustainable forest management standard by the Board	The Board approved the documents of forest management standard and other documents of the scheme at its meeting.
04.05.2022	Approval of the forest management standard and	The General Meeting approved the Estonian

	the Estonian Forest Certification Scheme by the General Meeting	Forest Management Standard and Estonian Forest Certification Scheme and made a decision on submitting the scheme to the PEFC Council for assessment and endorsement.
06.05.2022	Completion of the revision, submission of the Estonian Forest Certification Scheme to the PEFC Council for endorsement.	
01.06.2022	Working Group meeting. Reaching a consensus on the Sustainable Forest Management Standard and submission of the standard to the Board of the EFCC for approval	Meeting of the forest management working group of PEFC Estonia Sustainable Forest Management Standard
21.06.2022	Approval by the Board of amendments to the Forest Management Standard and amendments to the entry into force of PEFC EGD 1005:2022 and PEFC EGD 1006:2022	At its meeting, the Board approved amendments to the Forest Management Standard and procedures PEFC EGD 1005:2022 and PEFC EGD 1006:2022
21.06.2022	Approval of the Forest Management Standard and PEFC EGD 1005:2022 and PEFC EGD 1006:2022 by the General Meeting	The General Meeting approved the amendments of Estonian Forest Management Standard and PEFC EGD 1005:2022 and PEFC EGD 1006:2022 and made a decision on submitting the documents to the PEFC Council for assessment and endorsement.

Annex 6

Overview of the changes introduced in the documents of the scheme

PEFC Estonia Forest Certification Scheme 2022	Amendments
PEFC EST 1001:2020, Standard setting – Requirements	The standard has been revised as a result of the changes made in the benchmark standard; the ISO high-level structure and design have been taken as the basis. The institution of the steering group has been added and the procedure for reaching a consensus has been specified.
PEFC EST 1002:2022, Group forest management certification – Requirements	The standard has been revised as a result of the changes made in the benchmark standard, the ISO high-level structure and design have been taken as the basis. Major changes have been introduced in the specification of the sampling process.
PEFC EST 1003:2022, PEFC Estonia Sustainable forest management – Requirements	The standard has been revised as a result of the changes made in the benchmark standard, the ISO high-level structure and design has been taken as the basis. The scope of the standard has been extended; in addition to the forest, it is also possible to certify Trees outside Forests. The distinctions for large and small forest owners have been repealed. The standard includes more aspects related to biodiversity. The revised standard provides an opportunity to take a holistic approach to forest management.
PEFC EST 1004:2022, Requirements for certification bodies operating PEFC forest management certification	In the interest of clarity and better traceability, the requirements of the 2015 standards PEFC EST 2, PEFC EST 3 and PEFC EST 4 have been consolidated into one standard. No significant changes have been introduced, except for some minor specifications.
PEFC EGD 1005:2022, Issuance of PEFC trademarks usage licences by EFCC	The procedure has been updated on the basis of the specified new procedure of the PEFC Council. Minor changes have been made in the license application process (the application is submitted directly through the logo generator; also, contracts by different categories have been drawn up).
PEFC EGD 1006:2022, EFCC Notification of Certification Bodies operating Chain of Custody and Forest Management Certification in Estonia against the requirements of the Estonian Forest Certification Scheme	Some minor specifications have been made in the procedure (supply chain report has been updated), no major changes have been introduced.

PEFC EGD 1007:2022, Complaints and Appeals Settlement Procedure	For the sake of clarity and better traceability, the procedure has been consolidated in one document. Some minor specifications have been made in the procedure, no major changes have been introduced.
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