

Romanian Forest Certification Scheme 2017 – Annex 12

PEFC-RO DST 8012:2017



**Requirements for Certification Bodies
and Auditors**
for assessing forest certification in Romania

March 2017

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Content

Content	3
Introduction and general information	3
Sustainable Forest Management Certification	4
1.1. Requirements for Certification Bodies	4
1.2. Tasks of Certification Bodies	4
1.3. Requirements for the Auditors	5

Introduction and general information

The requirements for certification bodies and auditors have to be classed as need for certification bodies to be accredited in an international framework.

In addition to general requirements in the scope of the accreditation process PEFC Romania specifies some complementary requirements.

The requirements defined in this document apply to certification bodies which want to audit according to the PEFC system regulations in Romania.

The requirements are defined both for certifications bodies operating forest certification (Annex 12) and for certification bodies auditing the Chain of Custody regulations (Annex 13).

Sustainable Forest Management Certification

1.1. Requirements for Certification Bodies

The certification bodies have to fulfil the following requirements:

- Certification bodies have to be independent and impartial third parties, which are not involved in the process of drawing up the technical documents.
- Certification bodies have to be independent from the certified unit
- Accreditation in compliance with EN 45011 (ISO Guide 65) or ISO 17021 for the Romanian forest management standards, as “accredited certification” according to PEFC with an independent national accreditation body, which is a member of EA (European co-operation for Accreditation) or IAF (International Accreditation Forum);
- Notification in the form of a written contract with PEFC Romania (see Appendix 14)
- Employment of professionally competent auditors (see chapter 1.3.)
- Good knowledge of the corresponding certification criteria.
- Competent in forestry issues concerning economic, ecological and social implications, as well as the certification criteria.
- The certification process has to be conducted according to the stipulations in EN 45011 (ISO Guide 65), and the auditing process according to ISO 19011:2002
- Developed a set internal procedure for the certification process.
- The issued certificates have to list the accreditation number, the name and the accreditation symbol of the accreditation body, which has conducted the certifications as "accredited certifications." Re-audits must be conducted after five years at the latest, and a monitoring audit has to be conducted on an annual basis, not exceeding 12 months.

1.2. Tasks of Certification Bodies

The tasks of certification bodies are:

- Evaluation of individual and group certification, regarding conformity with the requirements of sustainable forest management made by this certification scheme.
- Issuing of a certificate in the case of positive evaluation.
- Conducting on-site inspections.
- Inspection of the certificate holder's logo use, or the participating forest owner's logo use, in the range of annual audits according to the guidelines for use of the PEFC logo (PEFC ST 2001:2008: PEFC Logo usage rules - requirements) and informing PEFC Romania in case of non-conformities.

1.3. Requirements for the Auditors

- Informing PEFC Romania about issuing of certificates, the termination/revocation of a certificate, as well as its validity and applicability.

1.3. Requirements for the Auditors

The auditors have to fulfil the following requirements:

- Graduate of forestry school, at a university or at technical college.
- Several years of professional experience, at least 2 of which must have been in the forest sector.
- Practical experience in auditing (at least 5 audit days as co-auditor with PEFC, thereof 3 days at on-site-audits).
- Good knowledge of the national technical documents of PEFC.
- Have to be independent from the certified unit.
- General requirements for auditors according to ISO 19011:2002.
- Participate in annual training, organized by PEFC Romania.