



PEFC EUDR Due Diligence System (DDS)

Supporting alignment with the EU Deforestation Regulation (EUDR)

Staying ahead of regulatory changes is crucial for businesses dealing with forest and tree-based products. The Programme for the Endorsement of Forest Certification (PEFC) EUDR Due Diligence System (DDS) helps companies navigate the complexities of the [EU Deforestation Regulation \(EUDR\)](#) to support compliance efforts while reinforcing responsible sourcing practices.

What is it?

The PEFC EUDR DDS is a voluntary module standard designed to support PEFC Chain of Custody certified organisations in demonstrating alignment with the EUDR. This service helps demonstrate that forest and tree-based materials are deforestation-free, produced under national legal requirements, and properly documented via a due diligence statement.

Available to organisations holding or applying for a PEFC Chain of Custody certificate, the module applies to both EU-based and non-EU entities whose products enter the EU market.

Preferred by Nature is accredited to conduct PEFC EUDR DDS audits for Chain of Custody certification holders worldwide.

What are your options?

Standalone audit



Conduct a dedicated audit for EUDR DDS certification.

Annual audit integration



Include the EUDR DDS assessment within your regular PEFC audit to optimise cost and efficiency.

Who can apply?

The PEFC EUDR DDS is available to all PEFC Chain of Custody certificate holders. It is **applicable to both EU-based and non-EU organisations placing products on the EU market.**

The PEFC EUDR DDS standard is relevant to both operators and traders working to align with the EUDR. It provides a structured due diligence framework tailored to organisations of all sizes to help them effectively meet regulatory obligations.

Why choose the PEFC EUDR DDS certification?



Regulatory alignment: Support your compliance efforts with the EUDR requirements with necessary due diligence statement on deforestation-free and legally products.



Integrated auditing: Extend your existing PEFC Chain of Custody certification by including the EUDR DDS standard to streamline compliance efforts within a single audit process.



Enhanced traceability: Establish a robust traceability system by collecting essential details, including product descriptions, geolocation of production plots and production dates.



Risk management: Identify and mitigate risks associated with deforestation, legal non-compliance and supply chain mixing through structured due diligence procedures.



Market credibility: Demonstrate responsible sourcing practices and compliance with EUDR requirements to reinforce trust among stakeholders and improve market access.



PEFC EUDR DDS claims

Once certified, organisations can use the 'PEFC-EUDR*' claim on relevant products. This verifies that the product has undergone due diligence and has been assessed as having no or negligible risk according to EUDR requirements.

**This claim is used alongside PEFC Chain of Custody claims and applies to 100% of the product within scope, regardless of PEFC-certified material percentage.*

Technology partner support

PEFC has partnered with leading technology providers to support certificate holders in meeting EUDR requirements. These partners offer a range of solutions, including:

- **Earth Observation & satellite monitoring:** [LiveEO](#), [Orbify](#), [Airbus](#)
- **Supply chain traceability & compliance:** [osapiens](#), [ProductDNA](#), [Marvin](#)
- **Timber traceability & digital measurement:** [Deeplai](#) ([TimberID](#)), [Timbeter](#)
- **Risk assessment & regulatory compliance:** [Supply Logica](#), [Ekwato](#)
- **Sustainable supply chain solutions:** [CommonShare](#)

These partnerships provide flexible options for integrating technology into your due diligence processes to complement the PEFC EUDR DDS service.

PEFC EUDR DDS standard

The service is based on the PEFC ST 2002-1:2024 standard and includes information collection, covering product descriptions, geolocation and production dates. It also involves risk assessment categorisation, classifying products as no risk, negligible risk or significant risk. For high-risk products, risk mitigation procedures are required. Additionally, the service ensures the submission of due diligence statements, documentation retention (minimum five years), and adherence to strict placement rules for the EU market.

How to get started



Scope identification

Determine which product groups fall under the EUDR DDS module and extend your Chain of Custody system accordingly.



Supply chain engagement

Work with suppliers to gather required data, such as geolocation, production dates and legal compliance documentation.



Due diligence and risk assessment

Assess risks by verifying product origins to ensure compliance with EUDR indicators and categorising risks as 'no or negligible risk' or 'significant risk'.



Risk mitigation

For significant risks, apply corrective measures such as additional documentation, audits or restrictions on market placement.

Audit and certification

Preferred by Nature will conduct an audit to confirm that your due diligence system meets all PEFC EUDR DDS requirements. Once verified, the statement is registered in the EU Information System, and your certificate is updated.

Partner with us

Preferred by Nature is an international, non-profit organisation with 30 years of experience helping businesses navigate sustainability and regulatory challenges. We support organisations in over 100 countries and manage more than 5,000 sustainability audits annually.

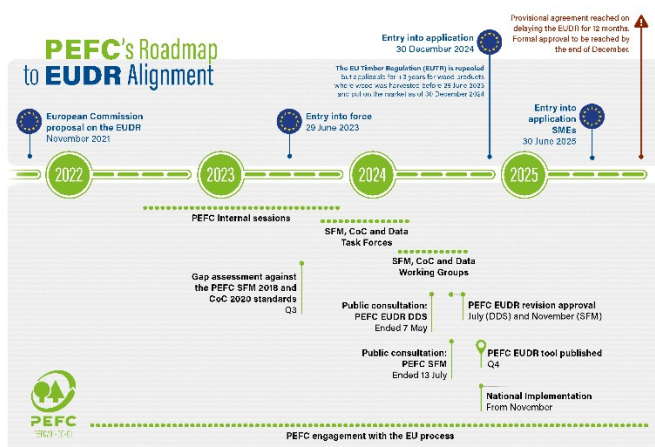
By choosing Preferred by Nature for your PEFC EUDR DDS support, you gain a trusted partner dedicated to sustainability compliance and responsible forestry practices. Additionally, our training and seminars offer insights into the PEFC EUDR DDS programme. This equips your team with the knowledge and tools to effectively align with these requirements.



PEFC EUDR DDS Q&A

How is PEFC working with the European Commission?

PEFC has a dedicated EU Affairs representative and regularly engages with the European Commission through established working groups. The organisation supports the EUDR's objectives and is actively involved in discussions on its implementation.



What are the key EUDR requirements that PEFC is aligning with?

PEFC is aligning with EUDR by addressing requirements related to geolocation data, risk assessment, supply chain due diligence and legal compliance. Specific adjustments to the PEFC Sustainable Forest Management and Chain of Custody standards are being implemented.

How can PEFC support businesses in complying with EUDR traceability requirements?

The PEFC Chain of Custody system already includes detailed data on certified organisations, products and species. PEFC is enhancing its database to better support companies in meeting EUDR traceability and geolocation data requirements.

How do I know if my products are subject to the EUDR and can be included in the PEFC EUDR DDS?

The PEFC EUDR DDS applies to organisations holding or applying for a PEFC Chain of Custody certificate that place relevant forest and tree-based products on the EU market. The standard includes due diligence requirements to verify that products are deforestation-free, legally produced and documented.

If your products are made from forest and tree-based materials and enter the EU market, they are likely subject to EUDR requirements and can be included in the PEFC EUDR DDS scope.

Preferred by Nature has also developed our own [EUDR Scoping Tool](#). This self-assessment tool, available in English, French, German and Spanish, will help you determine your obligations under the regulation.

Can I get certified to the PEFC EUDR DDS only?

No, the PEFC EUDR DDS is a voluntary module that must be added to an existing PEFC Chain of Custody certification. It is not a standalone certification.

Will the PEFC EUDR DDS guarantee compliance with EUDR?

No, only the competent authorities of EU Member States can verify compliance with EUDR. The PEFC EUDR DDS provides a framework to support compliance but does not guarantee it.

Will all materials with a PEFC EUDR claim need to be 100% PEFC certified?

The PEFC-EUDR claim applies to all materials within the product scope. The PEFC EUDR DDS requires traceability, geolocation data and legal compliance for both certified and non-certified materials.



Does PEFC EUDR DDS come with an extra fee?

PEFC does not charge an additional fee for using the EUDR DDS standard. However, certification assessments require additional auditing. The cost will depend on the audit type (on-site, document-based, or field visit) and scope as determined by Preferred by Nature. Additionally, companies may choose to work with the PEFC technology partners at an extra cost.

What about confidentiality?

Preferred by Nature ensures confidentiality of all commercial and operational data. However, organisations classified as non-SME operators or traders must publicly report on their due diligence system annually.

How can I get certified to the PEFC EUDR DDS?

Certificate holders must request a scope extension from Preferred by Nature to include the PEFC EUDR DDS. A desk-based audit is required at a minimum, either during the next surveillance audit or as separately arranged.

When can certification be refused?

Certification is refused when Preferred by Nature concludes that the audited company does not meet the PEFC EUDR DDS requirements, including due diligence, traceability or risk assessment measures.

When is certification terminated?

Certification may be terminated if an organisation fails to correct non-conformities within the required timeframe or if it does not meet PEFC EUDR DDS obligations.

Can I change the scope of the certification?

Yes, you can extend the scope of your PEFC EUDR DDS certification. Preferred by Nature must assess conformity with applicable requirements before approving any scope modification.

What are the rights and duties of applicants and clients?

To learn about Preferred By Nature's clients' rights and duties, please check, the [Certification Agreement](#).

What is the procedure for complaints and appeals?

For complaints management, all complaints and appeals will be processed using the Preferred by Nature's [Dispute Resolution Policy](#).

What about impartiality and confidentiality?

Preferred by Nature's Quality Management System includes [several policies](#) that allow our organisation to provide assurance services credibly in compliance with accreditation requirements.

These include the [Impartiality Policy](#), which ensures impartiality, transparency and independence in all of our activities, and the [Confidentiality Policy](#), describing our rigorous approach to safeguarding confidential data and information provided by our clients.

For more information, download the [PEFC EUDR FAQ](#).



Get in touch with us

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