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## Spanish Forest Certification Scheme Endorsed

Spain's forest certification scheme today joins 11 other national schemes that have already been endorsed by the PEFC Council - the global umbrella for the mutual recognition of forest certification schemes. PEFC endorsed schemes already account for over 43 million hectares of independently certified forests making PEFC the world's leading forest certification scheme for sustainable forest management.

Mr Gunneberg, Secretary General of the PEFC Council, said "The Spanish scheme underwent a thorough consultation and independent assessment process before being approved by the 18 member schemes as meeting the stringent requirements of the PEFC Council. The process took just under a year and we are delighted that the Spanish Scheme developed by a wide range of stakeholders, has passed through all the assessment hurdles successfully."

The Spanish Scheme joins national schemes from Austria, Belgium, Czech Republic, Finland, France, Germany, Latvia, Norway, Sweden, Switzerland and the UK, all of which have been developed to promote the environmentally appropriate, socially beneficial and economically viable management of forests

Welcoming today's decision, Mr Nicasio Guardia, Chairman of PEFC España said "Through independent certification, the public can now be provided with assurances, that the forest environment in Spain will be maintained and enhanced for current and future generations to enjoy and benefit from. Timber products from certified forests managed to the Spanish Forest Certification Scheme will in future be identifiable through the PEFC label (see above), which is only available via a chain of traceability, and consumers and specifiers buying products with this label will be supporting and promoting sustainable forest management".

**ENDS**

[For more information contact:](#)

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## Editors Notes

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The Pan European Forest Certification (PEFC) Council, an international, non-profit, non-governmental organisation, promotes the independent third party certification, of environmentally appropriate, socially beneficial and economically viable management of forests.

This is achieved through nationally or regionally multi stakeholder developed, independent third party forest certification schemes, based on the criteria, indicators and operational level guidelines developed by the Ministerial Conference on the Protection of Forests in Europe, an ongoing process.

In addition PEFC provides a framework and umbrella for the mutual recognition of national, independent forest certification schemes so developed. PEFC is the world's largest certification system with more than 41 million hectares and this area is increasing rapidly. It provides a logo for timber products from such schemes, allowing customers and the general public to make a positive choice for sustainable forest management.

Schemes already endorsed:

<b>AUSTRIAN</b>	Forest Certification Scheme
<b>BELGIAN</b>	Forest Certification Scheme
<b>CZECH</b>	Forest Certification Scheme
<b>FINNISH</b>	Forest Certification Scheme
<b>FRENCH</b>	Forest Certification Scheme
<b>GERMAN</b>	Forest Certification Scheme
<b>LATVIAN</b>	Forest Certification Scheme
<b>NORWEGIAN</b>	Living Forest Standards and Certification Scheme
<b>SWEDISH</b>	Forest Certification Scheme
<b>SWISS</b>	Q Label Holz Scheme.
<b>UK</b>	Certification Scheme for SFM

Schemes currently undergoing assessment process:

- Denmark Forest Certification Scheme