

A vertical strip of images on the left side of the slide. From top to bottom: a misty forest with tall trees, a stack of cut logs, a stack of lumber, and various wood products like plywood and panels.

Sustainability criteria for biomass in the UK

Emily Fripp

Managing Director (Efeca)

Project Director (CPET)

Introducing the UK Government's Timber Procurement Policy (TPP)

- *“Only timber and wood-derived products originating from an independently verifiable Legal and Sustainable source (which can include from a licensed FLEGT partner) will be demanded for use on the government estate – appropriate documentation will be required to prove it”*
- Evidence will be assessed against the ‘UK Government’s TPP Definition of Legal and Sustainable’



Renewable energy policy in the UK

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- Renewables Obligation (RO)
 - Provides incentives for large-scale renewable electricity generation by requiring UK suppliers to source a proportion of their electricity from eligible renewable sources
- Renewable Heat Incentive (RHI)
 - Pays commercial, industrial, public, not-for-profit and community generators of renewable heat



Upcoming 'Land Criteria' for virgin woodfuel

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- Based on the UK Government's TPP definition of Legal and Sustainable
- Likely to enter into UK law in April 2014 and require
 - From April 2014, report on performance of compliance against 'Land Criteria'
 - From April 2015 ensure compliance against 'Land Criteria'
- However, European Commission *may* publish mandatory SFM criteria 2014/15

How to demonstrate compliance?

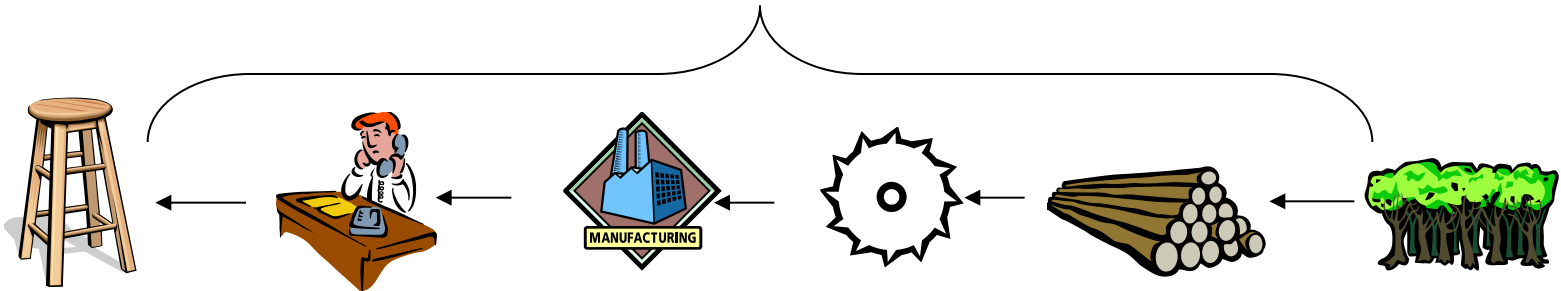
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- Evidence of compliance with Definition of Legal and Sustainable includes:
 - Category A (Forest certification schemes approved by CPET) - most straightforward!
 - Biomass certification scheme review 2014?
 - Category B (equivalent credible evidence)
 - Note that for woodfuel, mass balance of 70% sustainable, 30% legal allowed

Category B evidence

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Supply chain information Checklist 1



Legality: Checklist 2 (Forest source information on legality)

Sustainability: Checklist 3 (Forest source information on sustainability –challenging to demonstrate & requires 3rd party verification)

Checklist 3: Forest source information on sustainability

- A locally applicable definition of sustainability is required
- Specific requirements for how the definition was developed (multi-stakeholder process etc)
- Overall criteria
 - Forest management must
 - minimise harm to ecosystems
 - maintain forest productivity
 - ensure forest ecosystem health and vitality
 - maintain biodiversity
 - Include social criteria

Checklist 3: Forest source information for sustainability

Product			
Name of supplier			
Contact person	Government dept	Contract number	Date
<small>Definition of sustainability</small> A locally applicable definition of sustainability must be provided. Evidence that the definition of sustainable forest management (SFM) used is acceptable. And similar definitions which exist in the country. This may be a standard, a set of criteria, a code of practice or some other similar document which sets out the requirements for forest management. The term 'standard' is used to cover all of these.			
S1 There must be a definition of sustainable based on a widely accepted set of international principles and criteria defining sustainable or responsible forest management at the	How does the standard used comply?	Mechanism for verification	Evidence provided or available

How to demonstrate compliance through Category B

- Site specific evidence for Checklist 3
 - Management Plans, e.g. Forestry Commission England Woodland Management Plan
 - Forest Stewardship Plans?
- Potential for suppliers risk based assessment (state/counties) for each P&C in Checklist 3? Combination of below – but Checklist 3 must be complete!
 - Implementation of BMPs?
 - Contractor training?
 - Biodiversity risk assessments?
 - FSC Controlled Wood?



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Contact us
cpet@efeca.com

efeca
economics
climate
environment