



DOUBLE CERTIFICATION FSC and PEFC – ESTIMATIONS MID 2017 AND CORRECTIONS 2016

January 2018

Several foresters in different parts of the world have chosen to use both FSC and PEFC certification for their forest management units to provide evidence for their sustainable forest management practices.

From a statistical point of view, this means that their respective certified forest area appears in both the PEFC as well as in the FSC statistics. This poses a challenge for the calculation for the total national certified area in several countries as well as for the calculation of the total global certified area, as adding up FSC and PEFC certified forest area leads to inflated figures.

PEFC and FSC have therefore decided to work together to provide a more accurate, mutually agreed estimate for the total global certified area. Estimates concerning total global certified area and double certification as of end of December 2016 were published in May 2017.

In response to request by stakeholders, the two organizations agreed to publish future estimates with a cut-off date of 30 June of every year.

By mid 2017, FSC reported a total certified area of 199 million hectares (end 2016: 196) and PEFC of 304 million hectares (end 2016: 302).

The methodology to collect mid-2017 data was refined and also led to a more precise figure for double certification for the end of 2016. Based on the refined methodology PEFC and FSC conclude that by the end of 2016, some 70,1 million hectares (or 14%) of global forest area was double certified, increasing to 71,1 million hectares by mid 2017 (still 14%).

In terms of total global certified forest area, this mean that at the end of 2016, 427.7 million hectares were certified, increasing to 431.4 million hectares in mid-2017.

Currently, double certification exists in 31 countries (see below).

Please note that the data provided only concerns forest area certified to FSC or a PEFC-endorsed system, and the below should be regarded as best possible estimates (*in the case of Canada, the 31 December 2016 data was used*).

While no agreed historical data exist, PEFC estimated the total double certified forest area in 2012 to have been 39 million hectares.

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PEFC and FSC agreed estimates for double certified forest area in end 2016 and mid 2017 by country (in hectares):

	End 2016 (revised)	Mid 2017
Australia	1.040.000	1.074.071
Belarus	7.672.207	8.023.853
Brazil	2.500.000	2.491.572
Canada	17.491.172	17.491.172
Chile	1.908.549	1.908.549
China	0	45.730
Czech Republic	50.751	50.751
Denmark	208.794	208.762
Estonia	1.011.494	1.063.407
Finland	1.233.000	1.281.799
France	24.612	24.612
Germany	893.111	895.682
Ireland	376.108	376.108
Italy	32.569	51.582
Japan	0	44.651
Latvia	845.038	845.308
Luxembourg	13.500	15.348
Malaysia	126.940	126.940
New Zealand	0	5.272
Norway	411.000	411.000
Poland	6.870.607	6.917.105
Portugal	245.267	249.782
Russian Federation	8.964.595	9.157.130
Slovenia	9.000	13.000
Slovak Republic	106.041	88.098
Spain	157.641	131.828
Sweden	7.200.000	7.200.000
Switzerland	208.949	208.949
United Kingdom	1.400.000	1.410.288
United States	8.886.456	8.819.910
Uruguay	253.671	488.142
TOTALS	70.144.072	71.067.491