

Summary of the verification scheme

Name of the system	National Forest Certification Scheme of China (both for forest management and chain of custody), which is still under developing.
Related Area	China.
General overview of verification	Party responsible for issuing verification
	Independent and third party certification body (bodies) accredited by both Certification and Accreditation Administration (CNCA) and State Forestry Administration (SFA).
	Outline of issuing process
	Application–preassessment-main assessment-peer review-certificate issuance–surveillance.
	The system shall verify legality only /or both sustainability
Scheme to check for legality at the time of logging	Both legality and sustainability.
	Definition of legality
	Meeting relevant laws and regulations, and having forest harvesting certificate.
	Relevant laws
	Forest Law of the People's Republic of China, Regulations on Implementation of Forest Law of the People's Republic of China, Criminal Law of the People's Republic of China, Explanation on Several Issues of Concretely Applying Relevant Laws Concerning Dealing with Criminal Cases of Damaging Forest Resources by the Supreme People's Court, Import and Export Commodities Inspection Law of the People's Republic of China.
	Details of presumed illegal activities
	Logging exceeding the harvesting quota, logging not in the approved stand, logging without any forest harvesting certificate, activities damaging forest resources, stolen logging and severe deforestation.
	Procedures for retaining and verifying the evidence
	Check whether there is any forest harvesting certificate.
	Scheme implemented by the third party and so on to ensure reliability
	National Forest Certification Scheme of China (both for forest management and chain of custody), which is still under developing.
Scheme to check for sustainability	Definition of sustainability
	Sustainability is an attempt to provide the best outcomes for the human and natural environments both now and into the indefinite future. It relates to the continuity of economic, social, institutional and environmental aspects of human society, as well as the non-human environment. It is intended to be a means of configuring civilization and human activity so that society, its members and its economies are able to meet their needs and express their greatest potential in the present, while preserving biodiversity and natural ecosystems, and planning and acting for the ability to maintain these ideals in a very long term.
	Procedures for retaining and verifying the evidence
	Conducting environmental, social and economic impact assessment.
	Scheme implemented by the third party and so on to ensure reliability
	National Forest Certification Scheme of China.
Scheme of separative custody management	Real picture of the dealings, from logging to export
	Checking stamp labeling (seal) from logging (forest harvesting certificate, labeling and document), transportation (timber transportation certificate, labeling and document), selling (timber selling certificate, labeling and document), processing (timber processing certificate, labeling and document), and labeling and document for any further custody chain (from product packaging, product transportation, product marketing and product export).
	Procedure for ensuring separative custody management
	Check whether there is any certificate, labeling and document before timber processing and whether there is any labeling and document throughout the latter custody chain (from logging to end-users).
	Scheme implemented by the third party and so on to ensure reliability
	National Forest Certification Scheme of China.
Future Task and Perspectives	Criticisms against the system and recognition of problems
	As the scheme is still under developing, it is too early to judge the scheme.
	Remediation procedure
	Not applicable at the moment.
	Future perspectives
Reference Author	Generally good.
	Web site: www.forestry.gov.cn
	Name: Professor Mr. Lu Wenming
	Title: Director of Division of International Cooperation
	Organization: China Academy of Forestry
	Email: luwenmingcaf@126.com