

Summary of the verification scheme

Name of the system	SGEC(Sustainable Green Ecosystem Council)
Related Area	All over Japan
Overview of verification	Party responsible for issuing verification
	Name: SGEC Location: National Land Afforestation Promotion Organization, 2F, 2-7-5 Hirakawacho, Chiyodaku, Tokyo 102-0093, Japan Communication: e-mail: info@sgec-eco.org TEL: 03-5276-3311 FAX: 03-5276-3312
	Outline of issuing process
	Application for verification submitted to the certification body (At moment, there are three certification bodies) – Inspection by the certification body (document/on-site) – Inspection Committee within the certification body – Inspection report submitted – SGEC Auditing Committee – Issuance of Certificate
	The system shall verify legality and sustainability.
Scheme to check legality at the time of logging	Definition of legality
	To be logged legally in accordance with the forest-related laws.
	Relevant laws
	(Example) Relevant to the Forest Law – Municipal Forest Plans System and Advance Notification System on Intended Logging, Change Order System on Logging Plan/Operation Advisory System, Adjacent Land Development Permit System, Protection Forest System, Protective Facility District System
	Details of presumed illegal activities
	Violation of the above relevant laws
	Documents to verify legality, procedure of their retention/verification
	Documents; Forest certification inspection report, Forest certificate, Certified forest products handling certificate Retention/verification; Retained by the SGEC Secretariat.
	Scheme implemented by the third party, administrative authority, etc. to ensure reliability
	Details of the examination are disclosed to the public. Certification bodies carry out management/certification once a year.
Scheme to check for sustainability	Definition of sustainability
	To be produced from a forest under sustainable forest management.
	Documents to verify sustainability, procedure of their retention/verification
	Documents; Forest certification inspection report, Forest certificate, Certified forest products handling certificate Retention/verification; Retained by the SGEC Secretariat.
	Scheme implemented by the third party, administrative authority, etc. to ensure reliability
	Details of the examination are disclosed to the public. Certification bodies carry out management/certification once a year.
Scheme of separative custody management	Real picture of the dealings, from logging to export
	Timber logged from forests with the SGEC certification are separated and labeled for trading during all the manufacturing processes.
	Procedure for ensuring separative custody management
	Conforming to the SGEC certified forest products distribution system. Under this system forest products from SGEC certified forests are separated and labeled for management during the manufacturing and distribution processes.
	Scheme implemented by the third party, administrative authority, etc. to ensure reliability.
Future Task and Perspectives	Details of the examination are disclosed to the public. Certification bodies carry out management/certification once a year.
	Criticisms against the system and recognition of problems
	Criticized as lacking international recognition due to the short time after establishment.
	Remediation procechure
	To endeavor to promote information exchange with international certification systems. To participate in preparation of international and objective evaluation standards. To proactively ask for evaluation based on the international evaluation standards for certification.
	Future perspectives
Reference Author	In three years since establishment in June 2003, the area certified under SGEC has reached 330 thousand hectares. This indicates an interest in using domestic timber and, also, an trust in legal timber. We will make efforts to contribute to world-wide promotion of use of legal timber.
	Web site
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