

Supply Base Report: Ardor OÜ

Re-assessment

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Completed in accordance with the Supply Base Report Template Version 1.5

For further information on the SBP Framework and to view the full set of documentation see <u>www.sbp-cert.org</u>

Document history

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- Version 1.2 published 23 June 2016
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1 Overview

Producer name:	Ardor OÜ
Producer address:	Tööstuse 7, 44201 Sõmeru, Estonia
SBP Certificate Code:	SBP-07-22
Geographic position:	59.355700, 26.434100
Primary contact:	Viljo Aros, +372 52 88 250,viljo.aros@warmeston.ee
Company website:	https://www.ardor.ee/
Date report finalised:	09 Jan 2024
Close of last CB audit:	19 Jan 2024
Name of CB:	Preferred by Nature OÜ

SBP Standard(s) used: SBP Standard 2: Verification of SBP-compliant Feedstock, SBP Standard 4: Chain of Custody, SBP Standard 5: Collection and Communication of Data Instruction, Instruction Document 5E: Collection and Communication of Energy and Carbon Data 1.5

Weblink to Standard(s) used: https://sbp-cert.org/documents/standards-documents/standards

SBP Endorsed Regional Risk Assessment: Not applicable

Weblink to SBR on Company website: N/A

Indicate how the current evaluation fits within the cycle of Supply Base Evaluations					
Main (Initial) Evaluation	First Surveillance	Second Surveillance	Third Surveillance	Fourth Surveillance	Re- assessment

2 Description of the Supply Base

2.1 General description

Feedstock types: Tertiary

Includes Supply Base evaluation (SBE): No

Includes REDII: Yes

Includes REDII SBE: No

Feedstock origin (countries): Estonia

2.2 Description of countries included in the Supply Base

Country: Estonia

Area/Region: Estonia

Sub-Scope: N/A

Exclusions: No

General description for Supply Base: Adjacent lands include grass lands, wetlands, water resources, urban spaces, transportation, and agriculture lands. Non-confidential information about SBP certified feedstock and feedstock groups is given in table 3.3 and section 3.4.

Estonia is a member of the European Union since 2004. The Estonian legislation is in compliance with the EU's legislative framework and directives. National legislative acts make references to the international framework. All legislation is drawn up within a democratic system, subject to free comment by all stakeholders^[1]. The Estonian legislation provides strict outlines in respect to the usage of forestry land. The Estonian Forestry Development Plan 2020^[2] has clear objectives and strategies in place to ensure the forestland is protected up to the standards of sustainable forest management techniques. The Ministry of the Environment coordinates the fulfilment of state duties in forestry. The implementation of environmental policies and its supervision are carried out by Estonian Environmental Board.

The forest is defined in the Forest Act. There are three main forest categories are described in this legislation: commercial forest, protection forest and protected forests. According to the ownership, forests are also divided into private forests, municipality forests and state-owned forests. The state-owned forest represents approximately 45% of the total forest area^[3] and is certified according to FSC and PEFC forest management and chain of custody standard in which the indicators related to forest management planning, maps and availability of forest inventory records are being constantly evaluated and addressed^[4]. The state forest is managed by State Forest Management Centre (RMK) which is a profit-making state agency founded on the basis of the Forest Act and its main duty lies in a sustainable and efficient management of state forest. Overall, there is 1 264 803 ha^[5] of FSC certified and 1 693 005 ha^[6] of PEFC certified forest. 56% or approximately 2 438 000 ha of the Estonian land territory has forest cover.^[7] Forestry Development Plan 2012-2020 and Yearbook Forest 2021, that gives annual reports and facts about the forest in Estonia, state that during last decade the cutting rate in Estonian forests is from 8 to 14 million m³ per year^[8]. The amount is in line with sustainable development principle when the cutting rate doesn't exceed the annual

increment and gives the potential to meet the long-term the economic, social and environmental needs. In 2020 the fuelwood share in was estimated to be 38.9 % from the total roundwood felling volume of 10.64 million m^3 .^[9]



The distribution of growing stock by tree species in Estonia is shown in Figure 1.

Figure 1 The distribution of growing stock by tree species (Yearbook Forest 2021).

For logging in any type of forest, it is required that a valid forest inventory or forest management plan, along with a forest notification issued by the Environmental Board, is available. All approved forest notifications and forest inventory data is available in the public forest registry online database^[10].

Area of protected forests accounts to 30.3% of the total forest area whereas 17,5 % is considered to be under strict protection^[11]. The majority of protected forests is located on state property. The main regulation governing the preservation of biodiversity and the sustainable use of natural resources is the Nature Conservation Act^[12]. Estonia has signed the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) in 1992^[13] and joined the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) in 2007^[14]. There are no CITES protected tree species naturally growing in Estonia. There are no IUCN tree species growing in Estonia, that are critically endangered or endangered.^[15] In Estonia, it is permitted to access natural and cultural landscapes on foot, by bicycle, skis, boat or on horseback. Unmarked and unrestricted private property may be accessed any time and pick berries, mushrooms, medicinal plants, fallen or dried branches, unless the owner forbids it. On unmarked and unrestricted private property camping is allowed for 24 hours. RMK creates exercising and recreational opportunities in nature and in recreational and protection zones and provides education about the natural environment which are free to access.^[16]

[1] http://europa.eu/about-eu/countries/member-countries/estonia/index_en.htm

[2] Original title: "Eesti metsanduse arengukava aastani 2020"; approved by Estonians Parliament decision no 909 OE 15.February 2011.a

http://www.envir.ee/sites/default/files/elfinder/article_files/mak2020vastuvoetud.pdf

[3] http://www.rmk.ee/organisation/operating-areas

[4] http://www.rmk.ee/organisation/environmental-policy-of-rmk/certificates

- [5] FSC Facts and Figures, December 2023
- [6] PEFC Global Statistics, September 2023
- [7] State of Europe's Forests 2020. Published by: Ministerial Conference on the Protection of Forests in Europe FOREST EUROPE Liaison Unit Bratislava

- [9] https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/statistics-explained/index.php/Wood_products_-
- _production_and_trade#Wood-based_industries (2020)
- [10] http://register.metsad.ee/avalik/

[11] https://kliimaministeerium.ee/elurikkus-keskkonnakaitse/metsandus/metsastatistika (31.12.2023)

^[8] Yearbook Forest 2021 https://keskkonnaportaal.ee/et/metsa-aastaraamatud (all key figures, graphs and tables are bilingual)

- [12] https://www.riigiteataja.ee/en/eli/ee/530062021001/consolide/current
- [13] http://www.envir.ee/et/cites
- [14] http://www.envir.ee/et/iucn
- [15] https://www.iucnredlist.org/search?landRegions=EE&searchType=species
- [16] https://www.eesti.ee/eng/topics/citizen/keskkond_loodus/maa/metsandus_1

2.3 Actions taken to promote certification amongst feedstock supplier

Ardor OÜ is promoting FSC and PEFC certification for Sustainable Forest Management. We explain to our our suppliers its criteria and importance and give priority to FSC and/or PEFC certified suppliers. Ardor OÜ has prepared a supplier's code of conduct that will be signed with all suppliers. Amongst other this document promotes legal and sustainable forest management and excludes timber from undefined sources.

2.4 Quantification of the Supply Base

Supply Base

- a. Total Supply Base area (million ha): 2.44
- b. Tenure by type (million ha):1.20 (Privately owned), 1.24 (Public)
- c. Forest by type (million ha):2.44 (Temperate)
- d. Forest by management type (million ha):2.44 (Managed natural)
- e. Certified forest by scheme (million ha):1.26 (FSC), 1.69 (PEFC)

Describe the harvesting type which best describes how your material is sourced: N/A **Explanation:** Only tertiary feedstock is used.

Was the forest in the Supply Base managed for a purpose other than for energy markets? N/A **Explanation:** Only tertiary feedstock is used.

For the forests in the Supply Base, is there an intention to retain, restock or encourage natural regeneration within 5 years of felling? N/A Explanation: Only tertiary feedstock is used.

Was the feedstock used in the biomass removed from a forest as part of a pest/disease control measure or a salvage operation? N/A **Explanation:** Only tertiary feedstock is used.

What is the estimated amount of REDII-compliant sustainable feedstock that could be harvested annually in a Supply Base (estimated): 12300000.00 m3

Explanation:The estimation is based on the table "Table 19: Ind. 3.1 Increment in forest available for wood supply, 1990-2015" in the report "State of Europe's Forest 2020" net annual increment of the countries listed in the Supply base.

Feedstock

Reporting period from: 01 Jan 2023

Reporting period to: 31 Dec 2023

- a. Total volume of Feedstock: 1-200,000 tonnes
- b. Volume of primary feedstock: 0 N/A
- c. List percentage of primary feedstock, by the following categories.
 - Certified to an SBP-approved Forest Management Scheme: N/A
 - Not certified to an SBP-approved Forest Management Scheme: N/A
- d. List of all the species in primary feedstock, including scientific name:
- e. Is any of the feedstock used likely to have come from protected or threatened species? N/A
 - Name of species: N/A
 - Biomass proportion, by weight, that is likely to be composed of that species (%):
- f. Hardwood (i.e. broadleaf trees): specify proportion of biomass from (%):
- g. Softwood (i.e. coniferous trees): specify proportion of biomass from (%):
- h. Proportion of biomass composed of or derived from saw logs (%):
- i. Specify the local regulations or industry standards that define saw logs: N/A
- j. Roundwood from final fellings from forests with > 40 yr rotation times Average % volume of fellings delivered to BP (%):
- k. Volume of primary feedstock from primary forest: N/A
- I. List percentage of primary feedstock from primary forest, by the following categories. Subdivide by SBP-approved Forest Management Schemes:
 - Primary feedstock from primary forest certified to an SBP-approved Forest Management Scheme: N/A
 - Primary feedstock from primary forest not certified to an SBP-approved Forest Management Scheme: N/A
- m. Volume of secondary feedstock: 0 N/A
 - Physical form of the feedstock:
- n. Volume of tertiary feedstock: 1-200,000 tonnes
 - Physical form of the feedstock: Offcuts, Shavings, Sawdust (dry)
- o. Estimated amount of REDII-compliant sustainable feedstock that could be collected annually by the BP: 100000.00tonnes

Proportion of feedstock sourced per type of claim during the reporting period				
Feedstock type	Sourced by using Supply Base Evaluation (SBE) %	FSC %	PEFC %	SFI %
Primary	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Secondary	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Tertiary	0.00	70.59	29.41	0.00

Other	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

3 Requirement for a Supply Base Evaluation

Note: Annex 1 is generated by the system if the SBE is used without Region Risk Assessment(s). Annex 2 is generated if RED II SBE is in the scope.

Is Supply Base Evaluation (SBE) is completed? No

N/A

Is REDII SBE completed? No

4 Supply Base Evaluation

Note: Annex 2 is generated if RED II is in the scope.

4.1 Scope

Feedstock types included in SBE:

SBP-endorsed Regional Risk Assessments used: Not applicable

List of countries and regions included in the SBE:

4.2 Justification

N/A

4.3 Results of risk assessment and Supplier Verification

Programme

N/A

4.4 Conclusion

5 Supply Base Evaluation process

6 Stakeholder consultation

N/A

6.1 Response to stakeholder comments

7 Mitigation measures

7.1 Mitigation measures

7.2 Monitoring and outcomes

8 Detailed findings for indicators

Detailed findings for each Indicator are given in Annex 1 in case the Regional Risk Assessment (RRA) is not used.

Is RRA used? N/A

9 Review of report

9.1 Peer review

N/A

9.2 Public or additional reviews

10 Approval of report

Approval of Supply Base Report by senior management				
Report Prepared by:	Kaire Toomingas	Compliance Specialist	09 Jan 2024	
	Name	Title	Date	
The undersigned persons confirm that I/we are members of the organisation's senior management and do hereby affirm that the contents of this evaluation report were duly acknowledged by senior management as being accurate prior to approval and finalisation of the report.				
Report approved by:	Viljo Aros	Quality and Environmental manager	09 Jan 2024	
	Name	Title	Date	

Annex 1: Detailed findings for Supply Base Evaluation indicators

Annex 2: Detailed findings for REDII Section 1. RED II Supply Base Evaluation

Section 2. RED II detailed findings for secondary and tertiary feedstock

10.1 Verification and monitoring of suppliers

Wood industry residues do not need to meet the sustainability requirements of the RED-II directive, but it is crucial to prove that these materials are indeed residues and not intentionally produced.

Ardor has a list of approved suppliers which includes their name, legal address, type of supplier (producer, trader) and feedstock type. All suppliers have to sign a Supplier Code of Conduct and suppliers delivering wood industry residues have to submit a self-declaration stating, that the supplied materials are residues.

10.2 Feedstock inspection and classification upon receipt

Visual inspection is applied to all suppliers and raw materials upon receipt at the gate. All deliveries are weighed and a sample is taken for determination of moisture.

10.3 Supplier audit for secondary and tertiary feedstock

Tertiary feedstock suppliers do not undergo supplier audits.