

The Metafore FCRC: Now the most comprehensive forest certification web tool

Source: Metafore (www.metafore.org)

The Forest Certification Resource Center (FCRC) has added recent data records, and now includes more than 1,100 certified forests totaling more than 24 million hectares, as well as 8,000 certified business locations worldwide.

Recently Metafore reached an agreement with the Programme for the Endorsement of Forest Certification schemes (PEFC) to include their entire international data set in the FCRC, and this data is the last piece necessary to make the FCRC the only destination for all widely recognized forest certification programs. PEFC delivered test data and we are currently developing an electronic data bridge that will allow for quick and efficient updates. This process has resulted in the double benefit of standardizing the data collection and delivery for Sustainable Forestry Initiative (SFI) and Canadian Standards Association (CSA) as well. PEFC is pleased to have the opportunity to appear on the FCRC, which is used heavily in the North American market. Along with featuring their data on the FCRC, PEFC is considering a portal as well.

The FCRC database was upgraded and new product categories related to paper and printing were added to reflect the tremendous growth of certified locations in these sectors. Another upgrade is the new query capacity to analyze important trends in forest certification, including what market sectors are adopting certification and changes in certified land areas regionally and internationally. The SFI portal was also upgraded with a new appearance and data display.

We are developing technology for managing the site's sponsorship package, and will be furthering talks with potential sponsors in the paper industry sector.

To learn more about the FCRC contact fcrc@metafore.org.