

Monthly Newsletter

SEPTEMBER 2026 · #1

Thank you for agreeing to receive this monthly roundup over the summer. This is the first issue — just in time for the beginning of autumn, as the deadline for implementing the EUDR (European Union Deforestation Regulation) is fast approaching.

Going forward, I'll summarise the most important updates related to the EUDR, FSC/PEFC certification, EcoVadis, and other ESG requirements once a month, along with practical recommendations for companies' day-to-day operations.

1. News & Updates

EUDR

Simplification changes by the EU have clarified certain EUDR requirements and deadlines, but these changes **do not apply equally to all companies**.

For companies dealing in timber and timber products that are subject to the EUDR, the **30 December 2026 deadline still applies regardless of the company's size**.

Four months may seem like plenty of time. However, compiling geolocation data from suppliers, ensuring traceability, and establishing a functional due diligence system takes time.

Important! FSC or PEFC certification alone does not ensure full compliance with the EUDR. It can help meet certain requirements, but it does not replace the due diligence and system establishment required by the EUDR.

FSC

The requirements of the **FSC Trademark Standard V3-0** took effect on 1 July this year. They include changes to the use of FSC trademarks and are also related to the new EU requirements regarding greenwashing. The transition period from the old to the new standard runs **until 1 January 2029**.

Other ESG Regulations

PPWR (Packaging and Packaging Waste Regulation) — Starting 12 August 2026, new requirements for packaging design, recyclability, reusability, labelling, and waste reduction will take effect.

ECGT (Empowering Consumers for the Green Transition) Directive — Starting 27 September 2026, requirements regarding environmental claims and sustainability labelling will be strengthened to reduce greenwashing.

2. How to Prepare?

- **Assess your EUDR readiness:** Can you provide all the necessary information about suppliers and origin?

- **Test the EU EUDR information system:** Have you registered and trialled the test environment?
- **Review your use of FSC trademarks:** Do your marketing materials and product labelling comply with the latest FSC-STD-50-001 V3-0 standard?
- **Assess the impact of the PPWR:** How will the new requirements affect the packaging your company uses?

If you don't know where to start, that's the first gap you should address!

3. From Practice

A trend I regularly observe: companies with FSC or PEFC certification often assume that this automatically ensures compliance with the EUDR as well.

That is not the case.

FSC/PEFC and EUDR requirements overlap, but the EUDR also requires specific evidence, including **geolocation data and information on legality**.

The greatest risk in December will not be for companies without FSC/PEFC systems in place, but for those who have assumed that their **existing systems are sufficient**.

One thing to do next

In September, I'm offering free 15-minute consultation calls to forestry and wood processing companies to briefly assess your company's EUDR readiness and discuss the most important next steps.

Sign up for a call: calendly.com/toms-goodimpactsolutions/15min