



## Pinchot Institute for Conservation: Forest Certification Pathways and Sustainability Criteria in the International Trade in Wood Biomass for Energy

### Project Overview

The Pinchot Institute will receive \$20,000 to convene a stakeholder dialogue on European Union sustainability criteria for forest-sourced biomass material. This effort will improve understanding, communication and coordination among stakeholders in the U.S. and Europe about U.S. forestry practices and sustainability programs. Specifically, the Pinchot Institute will convene a two-day workshop in the U.S. South featuring a field tour of certified and non-certified forests, engaging U.S. and European stakeholders to consider aspects of sustainable biomass procurement and methods of mitigating environmental risks along the supply chain. The project will provide an opportunity for EU authorities to inform pellet producers regarding current and anticipated sustainable sourcing requirements, and for US-based forest managers and pellet producers to highlight existing wood procurement pathways and sustainability practices (including SFI certified forest management and SFI fiber sourcing), and alignment with proposed EU rules. The Institute will also generate a publically available presentation and briefing book containing the lessons learned from the workshop.

The project will contribute to the SFI Standard revision process and the SFI program's alignment with EU requirements.

### Supporting the SFI Standard

The project will support a number of requirements in the SFI 2010-2014 Standard related to sustainable forest land management and fiber sourcing, including Objective 14: Legal and Regulatory Compliance; Objective 16: Training and Education; and Objective 17: Community Involvement in the Practice of Sustainable Forestry.

### Project Partners

The project is also supported by the International Energy Agency's Bioenergy task groups, The Programme for the Endorsement of Forest Certification, E.ON, Georgia Forestry Commission, Weyerhaeuser, MeadWestvaco Foundation, and Plum Creek.