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Newsletter Forestry and Wood Certification

No. 3/2005

Information contained in this newsletter is sent to approximately 14 000 recipients in 14 countries and is translated into 9 languages.

This bi-monthly newsletter provides information on progress in improving forest management around the world. Particular attention is given to credible forest certification, threats to forests such as illegal logging, trends in the investment sector and companies/ individuals showing leadership.

Contact the editor on hb@wwfdcp.org

IMPROVING FOREST MANAGEMENT IN EUROPE AND AROUND THE WORLD1
NGOs and Industry Urge EU to Ban Illegal Timber1
Illegal Harvesting a Problem in Romania, Bulgaria and Slovakia 2
Wood Laundering? Illegal Wood Imports to Switzerland and Austria2
WWF and IKEA Progress on Preserving Forests in Estonia3
Greenpeace Campaign to Protect Finnish Sámi Reindeer Forests3
FOCUS ON CHINA4
Forest Dialogue in China on Strategies Against Illegal Logging4
China's Rising Wood Imports a Threat to the World's Forests4
WWF China Forest & Trade Network is launched5
China Makes Steps Towards Sustainable Forest Management5
Toilet Paper Demand Upsets Wood Supplies in China6
FOCUS ON PAPER6
WWF Calls on the Tissue Sector to Take Environmental Leadership
Greenpeace Kleercut Campaign in Retail Stores7
No Longer Dirty? - Victoria's Secret Uses More Recycled Paper 7
Major Book Publishers Choose FSC in Europe7
First FSC Certified SC Paper for Magazines and Catalogues7
Updated list of European FSC Certified Pulp and Paper Companies
NEWS FROM FSC8
4th FSC Consumer Campaign in Netherlands
1.7 Billion Dollars FSC Certified Products in the UK
1.7 Billion Donais 1 Se Certifica i roducts ill tile OK
HCVE Guida for Transacl Forests in Polivia

BACKGROUND AND FACTS	9
CERTIFICATION ASSISTANCE	10

Forest Improving Management in Europe and Around the World

NGOs and Industry Urge EU to Ban Illegal Timber

Early April European timber companies joined FERN, Greenpeace and WWF in urging the European Union to adopt new legislation that outlaws imports of illegally sourced timber and associated wood products into the EU. A statement promoted by the three NGOs and signed by over 75 European timber companies was presented at a conference on illegal logging, governance and trade at the European Parliament.

Companies such as B&Q, Homebase and Habitat (UK), Castorama (France), IKEA and Skanska International (Sweden), Unital (Union of Italian Industries of Wood Furniture), JYSK Nordic (Denmark) and Puertas Luvipol (Spain) are calling for clear rules in Europe for fair competition and sustainable markets.

industry follows statement publication of a similar statement signed by some 180 non-governmental organisations and the release of a legislative proposal

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Forestry and Wood Certification (Corporate Responsibility) No. 3 – 2005 (May)

commissioned by FERN, Greenpeace and WWF in December 2004. The industry statement, NGO statement, legislative proposal and details of the conference are available at http://www.panda.org/epo and http://www.greenpeace.org/illegal-logging-seminar.

Source: Press release WWF, FERN, Greenpeace April 2005

Illegal Harvesting a Problem in Romania, Bulgaria and Slovakia

Illegal logging is widespread in Bulgaria, Romania and Slovakia and is therefore heading to be a major internal market issue unless it is addressed by the EU, according to three new reports released by WWF late March. The studies show that up to 45% of the total harvest in Bulgaria stem from illegal harvesting operations and the annual allowable cut is exceeded by 1.5 million m3. The estimated volume of illegal harvesting in Slovakia is as high as 10% and the allowable cut is exceeded by up to 16.8%. In Romania, gaps in the government statistics make it impossible to estimate the level of illegal logging.

Major factors contributing to illegal Slovakia. harvesting in Bulgaria and Romania are violations of legislation such as fraudulent use of permits, registration of high quality wood as low quality timber to avoid taxes, false records about the real volume of harvesting, evasion of controls and logging in protected areas. Other factors are linked with corruption, as well as shortage of human, financial and material resources. Often police or guards have little knowledge of timber controls and forest staff do not have appropriate incentives for good forest management.

"WWF welcomes the natural treasures that Bulgaria and Romania will bring to the EU and underlines that the EU has a responsibility to assist new member states to create conditions which make abuse of natural resources less attractive and less likely", said Duncan Pollard, Head of WWF European Forest Programme.

WWF also calls on the Governments of the affected countries to address the problem as a priority, as well as to reform the forest and conservation legislation. The Bulgarian state forest administration, the National Forestry Board, has already announced its commitment to address the issue and to seek cooperation with WWF on this.

Source: WWF Press release, European Policy Office, Brussels March 2005

Wood Laundering? Illegal Wood Imports to Switzerland and Austria

Switzerland and Austria are deeply enmeshed in the global trade in illegal wood. According to two recent WWF reports, 8% of the imported wood to Switzerland and 5 – 10% of total timber imports to Austria are estimated to come from illegal sources. The true origins are obscured by transports through third countries.

Each year up to 1 million cubic meters of illegal wood come into Switzerland and up to 3 million cubic meters to Austria - wood that is logged while dodging national laws in Eastern Europe, South East Asia, Africa and South America

"The true scale has been totally underestimated," said Hans-Peter Fricker, CEO of WWF-Switzerland. A key reason is that illegal wood usually arrives via several other countries, where it is processed. The timber trade through these so-called transit countries is a special focus of these reports. "The problem is more known with regard to

"The problem is more known with regard to tropical timbers, however there is more and more illegal timber coming from Eastern



Forestry and Wood Certification (Corporate Responsibility) No. 3 – 2005 (May)

Europe and Russia, either directly to Austria, or via transit countries" said Marc Alexander Gross, forest expert from WWF Austria.

"The trade with illegal wood not only damages the environment, but also hurts the people," emphasizes Claude Martin, Director General of WWF International.

WWF has called on the Swiss and Austrian governments to ban the import and use of illegally logged wood.

Sources: Press releases WWF Switzerland, WWF Austria March 2005; WWF Report "Illegal wood and Switzerland"; http://www.wwf.ch/wwfdataarchive/downloads/672.pdf WWF Report "Illegal wood and Austria" http://www.wwf.at/downloads/Illegaler_Holzeinschlag_und_oesterreich.pdf.

WWF and IKEA Progress on Preserving Forests in Estonia

The Rakvere Private Forest Cooperative in Estonia recently got the first FSC group certificate in the country. The certificate covers 575 hectares of forest with an annual cutting volume of 3170 m3. The certification process was supported by the WWF/IKEA Co-operation on projects. The overall certified forest area in Estonia is now 1.1 million hectares, which is approx. 50% of the total forestland in Estonia. According to the recent WWF report The Effects of FSC-Certification in Estonia, FSC certification has increased the sustainability of Estonian silvicultural management practices. Key ecological improvements are a better protection of high conservation value, forests with enhanced regeneration of broadleaved trees and more dead wood left in the forest.

Also resulting from the WWF/IKEA cooperation in Estonia is the practical toolkit for group certification for private forest owners. The toolkit helps small forest owners and group leaders with practical guidance concerning the certification process. The toolkit aims to encourage private forest owners to cooperate more and to enhance sustainable management practices in Estonia.

Source: ELF, WWF March 2005 www.elfond.ee. To access the toolkit please contact hb@wwfdcp.org

Greenpeace Campaign to Protect Finnish Sámi Reindeer Forests

Greenpeace is currently conducting a campaign to protect the forests of Northern Finland upon which both the indigenous Sámi peoples and non-Sámi Finnish reindeer herders are dependent for their traditional livelihoods in using these forests. Already in February WWF Finland, Greenpeace and the Finnish Association for Nature Conservation (FANC) had sent a joint letter to Mr. Juha Korkeaoja, Minister of Agriculture and Forestry, in which they stated that current forestry practises and planning processes in Upper Lapland should be changed in order to safeguard traditional reindeer herding and Sami people's cultural rights.

More on the details of the Greenpeace campaign below:

Full Greenpeace Report:

http://weblog.greenpeace.org/forestrescue/archives/2005/03/lapland_state_o.html

Metsähallitus:www.forest.fi/smyforest/foresteng.nsf/tiedotteetlookup/2992F3B7B2E29E7AC2256FBF00481495

Greenpeace report - Pulp Friction: How Stora Enso is pulping reindeer forests.

http://weblog.greenpeace.org/forestrescue/docs/storaenso_report_final_web.pdf

Shareholder resolution (English, Finnish, Swedish):

www.storaenso.com/CDAvgn/main/0,,1_-4418-3262-,00.html Copy of the Xerox letter to Greenpeace:

http://weblog.greenpeace.org/forestrescue/docs/xerox_letter.pdf



Forestry and Wood Certification (Corporate Responsibility) No. 3 – 2005 (May)

Focus on China

Forest Dialogue in China on Strategies Against Illegal Logging

Early March more than 120 forest products company representatives. government officials and conservationists gathered in China to coordinate actions to halt illegal logging. Major companies from Europe, North America, Africa and Asia participated, did officials from the European as Commission, China, the United States, Japan, Indonesia, Malaysia, The Philippines and the World Bank.

The meeting was convened by The Forests Dialogue, an international coalition of private landowners, forest products companies, conservationists, retailers, foreign assistance organizations, unions, and academia.

According to the AF&PA Up to 30 percent of hardwood lumber and plywood traded globally could be of suspicious origin. As much as 17 percent of round wood traded internationally could be illegally harvested. "Forest products companies, manufacturers, governments, and consumers are all part of the wood supply chain," said Weiguang Lu, Chairman of Shanghai An Xin Flooring Company Ltd., one of the largest solid wood flooring companies in China. "We all must work together to eliminate illegal logging. Government policies alone cannot stop illegal logging. Businesses also embrace responsible purchasing."

"As a responsible nation, China would like to cooperate with other countries to eradicate

illegal logging and illegal trade", said Su Ming, Deputy Director General, International Forestry Cooperation Center, State Forestry Administration, P. R. China.

"Illegally cut wood depresses the price of forest products on the global market by an average of 7 to 16 percent and presents unfair competition to those companies that respect the law," said Cassie Phillips, Vice President of Sustainable Forestry at Weyerhaeuser Company and Co-chair of the dialogue.

Sources: Forest Dialogue Press release March 10 2005; figures on global trade impacts and scales of illegal logging from the AF&PA's commissioned study "Illegal Logging and Global Wood Markets: The Competitive impacts on the US Wood Products Industry". (November 2004) For the above document, presentations and summaries from the meeting and background information on The Forests Dialogue go to http://www.theforestsdialogue.org

China's Rising Wood Imports a Threat to the World's Forests

Because of its rapidly rising demand for wood, China is set to lead the world's wood market and this will have devastating impacts on some of the planet's outstanding forests unless major changes are made in the country's current policies, a new WWF report released early March warns.

According to the report China's Wood Market, Trade and the Environment more than half of the timber imported by China comes from countries such as Russia, Malaysia and Indonesia, which are all struggling with problems such as overharvesting, conversion of natural forests and illegal logging. China is one of the major destinations for wood that may be illegally harvested or traded, it says.

The report indicates that while the average Chinese citizen uses 17 times less wood than a person in the US, China's wood imports



Forestry and Wood Certification (Corporate Responsibility) No. 3 – 2005 (May)

have dramatically increased over the past ten years and will continue to do so to meet the demand of the country's huge population and rapid economic growth.

The report also found that measures taken by the Chinese government to protect its forests – including a ban on logging – after the 1998 devastating Yangtze River flooding have resulted in a significant drop in China's domestic wood production.

The country's forests and plantations will provide less than half of China's expected total industrial wood demand by 2010, and this puts more pressure on the forests of the countries that export timber, the report stresses.

WWF calls on both governments and the private sector to take concerted measures to promote imports and purchases of wood from well-managed forests.

Such measures include responsible procurement policies, use of systems to trace wood from its source to final use, forest certification, enforcement of government policies and regulations to prevent the import of products containing illegally-sourced wood, and cooperation with other nations to combat illegal trade of forest products.

Source: WWF Press release March 8 2005; Report by Z. Chunquan, R. Taylor, and F. Guoqiang. Science Press USA and WWF Intl. 2004. For the full report go to: http://panda.org/about_wwf/what_we_do/forests/publications/publication.cfm?uNewsID=18790&uLangId=1

WWF China Forest & Trade Network is launched

The new China Forest and Trade Network (FTN) launched early March is part of a global WWF initiative to facilitate market links between companies committed to

responsible forestry and purchasing of forest products.

The China FTN already has 6 applicant companies and will focus on companies with significant forestry and/or wood processing capacity as well as companies that are using wood from valuable and threatened forests around the world. The targets of China FTN by the end of 2007 are:

- 500,000 hectares of credibly certified forests
- 30 strategically chosen companies sourcing wood responsibly
- 2 strategically chosen plantation companies adopting best practices for enhancing biodiversity

Source: WWF Global Forest and Trade Network March 8 2005

China Makes Steps Towards Sustainable Forest Management

China's decision to certify two state-owned forests marks a significant step towards responsible forest management. The Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) certification of forests in China's Heilongjiang and Jilin Provinces – totalling an area of 420,000 hectares – were supported by WWF China, IKEA and the German Investment and Development Company (DEG). China's State Forestry Administration, the Chinese Academy of Forestry, the General Bureau of Forest Industry of Heilongjiang Province, Heilongjiang Academy of Forestry, and Jilin Forestry Department also assisted in the process.

"By working with government agencies, the forestry industry, NGOs and the media, Chinese businesses are now becoming increasingly aware of the importance of responsible forest management", said Dr Zhu Chunquan, WWF China's Forest Programme Director.



Forestry and Wood Certification (Corporate Responsibility) No. 3 – 2005 (May)

http://www.chinadaily.com.cn/english/doc/2005-02/15/content_416507.htm

Source: China Daily, February 15, 2005

The Youhao Forestry Bureau is a furniture supplier of IKEA, while the Baihe Forestry Bureau is exporting a large volume of wooden flooring and doors to Japan, the US and Europe.

Over 90 companies now have Chain of

Source: WWF Press release April 19 2005

Custody (CoC) certification.

Toilet Paper Demand Upsets Wood Supplies in China

China's use of toilet paper is putting pressure on precious wood supplies. This is the finding of a recent survey on paper consumption in Shanghai.

Wang Yueqin, vice-director of Shanghai Paper Trade Association said: "While I am happy to see many young people adopt paper tissue for its convenience, which is a sign to reflect our social development and has helped improve our industry to some part, I am beginning to worry about the large wood consumption. The 140,000 tons of tissues and toilet paper Shanghai uses every year consumes some 80,000 tons of wood pulp, equal to about 300,000 tons of wood."

Wang said that the Association has been advocating using paper more economically. "We are also trying to encourage the application of new materials and technology to save wood," he said.

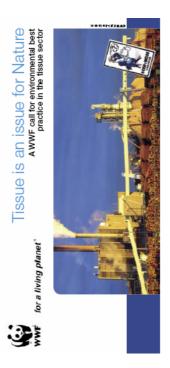
A factory in Jiangsu Province has invented technology to make toilet paper and tissue from straw, and another one in Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region can produce tissue from the dregs of sugarcane, said Wang.

Wood pulp used to produce various kinds of paper has become the third largest product imported by China after petroleum and steel, he said.

"In 2003, China imported some 6.03 million tons of wood pulp and consumed some 8.2 million tons."

Focus on Paper

WWF Calls on the Tissue Sector to Take Environmental Leadership



WWF is currently investigating the European Tissue Sector. So far WWF has approached SCA, Georgia - Pacific, Kimberly-Clark, Procter&Gamble and Metsa Tissue and asked them to show leadership on transparency and environmental best practice. **WWF** will produce consumer guide for environmental products tissue towards the end of 2005.

A brochure detailing key issues where environmental leadership is needed by the companies is available from www.panda.org/forests/tissue;

Source: WWF European Forest Programme April 2005



Forestry and Wood Certification (Corporate Responsibility) No. 3 – 2005 (May)

Greenpeace Kleercut Campaign in Retail Stores



As part of its Tissue Campaign Greenpeace launched its tour of Canadian cities in

Ontario, calling on supermarket shoppers to stop buying Kleenex brand tissue products. Activists wearing Forest Crimes Unit uniforms return Kleenex brand products to their manufacturer Kimberly-Clark. On the Kleenex Forest Destruction Tour, shoppers are called upon to take action against K-C and to help stop the destruction of Canada's Boreal Forest. More information: www.kleercut.net

Source: Greenpeace Canada March/April 2005

No Longer Dirty? - Victoria's Secret Uses More Recycled Paper

Five months after San Francisco-based environmental activist organization ForestEthics launched a campaign against Victoria's Secret, the cataloguer has begun mailing clearance books printed on 100% recycled paper. The 60-page clearance catalogues, printed on recycled paper composed of 80% post-consumer content, hit mailboxes in March.

Source

http://catalogagemag.com/news/Victorias_Secret_green_031 6/ Source: Catalog Age March 16, 2005 In Metafore In Focus Newsletter -- March 21, 2005

Major Book Publishers Choose FSC in Europe

More European book publishers, backed by the growing support and demand of highprofile authors, are responding to the call to go FSC on their paper sourcing. Best-selling authors, J.K.Rowling's sixth Harry Potter sequel and Frank Schatzing's repeat print run for "Der Schwarm", are among the latest titles to be released on 30% FSC certified paper. The Greenpeace Book Campaign was launched in 2003 to encourage UK book publishers to stop sourcing from the world's threatened ancient forest regions and to start developing 'ancient forest friendly' solutions such as recycled paper and/or virgin fibre certified to the standards of the Forest Stewardship Council. Around 200 authors are supporting the campaign worldwide.

The German magazine "Der Spiegel" is now also available on 30% FSC certified paper. GGP Media, printer of "Der Schwarm" and Europe's major book producer, has been FSC-certified specifically to realize this book on FSC-paper.

For more information on FSC Certified products and the Greenpeace Book campaign, please visit: www.fsc.org and www.greenpeace.org/international/campaigns.

Source: FSC Germany and Greenpeace UK, News + Notes Vol. 3 - Issue 3 - - March 31st, 2005

First FSC Certified SC Paper for Magazines and Catalogues

SCA's papermill in Austria, SCA Graphic Laakirchen, is the first supplier to offer FSC certified Super-Calendered (SC) paper for magazines and catalogues. All Laakirchen's products - GraphoPrestige, GraphoGrande and GraphoGravure for gravure printing and GraphoNova and GraphoSet for offset printing – can be delivered as FSC certified. "There is a demand for FSC-certified SCpaper on the market and we are very happy to be able to meet that demand", says Mark President of SCA Laakirchen. The first deliveries will be shipped in May 2005.

Source: Press release SCA FOREST PRODUCTS AB April 2005



Forestry and Wood Certification (Corporate Responsibility) No. 3 – 2005 (May)

Other recent FSC Certifications in the Paper Sector

- 1. <u>Paper Resources Ltd.</u> of the UK are acting as an importer and distributor for FSC certified papers. They currently have available FSC certified 100% post consumer reclaimed fibre papers with a chain of custody in the UK. See the UK product finder for details www.fsc-uk.info/products.asp.
- 2. <u>Domtar (Canada)</u> has upgraded its coated lightweight paper for magazine, catalogue and book publishers. The Domtar Schooner product is the latest to achieve FSC certification, and has been improved to 84 Brightness. For more information: www.domtar.com
- 3. <u>Neenah Paper</u>, a leading North American manufacturer of premium uncoated writing, text and cover papers, has received FSC chain-of-custody certification for its ENVIRONMENT® Paper's 100 Percent Post-Consumer Fibre options. For more information, visit www.neenahpaper.com.
- 4. OJI Paper Co. Ltd., the largest paper manufacture in Japan, announced that Albany Plantation Forest Company of Australia Pty. Ltd. had attained FSC certification. Harvested FSC-certified eucalyptus is to be processed into woodchips and then imported into Japan.
- 5. Select products of the Premium Printing Papers division of *Fraser Papers* have been awarded FSC chain-of-custody (COC) certification for paper containing 100% post-consumer fibre.

Source: WWF GFTN April 2005

Updated list of European FSC Certified Pulp and Paper Companies

An updated list of all FSC-certified pulp and paper companies in Europe as of March 2005 is now available from FSC. It contains information on pulp and paper producers, printers and wholesalers. The list is intended for companies and organisations in Europe

that are interested in producing or using FSC-labelled office and printing papers and printed matter that bear the FSC-logo.

Available at: http://www.fsc-deutschland.de/docs/service/prod/overview_neu_eng.pdf

News from FSC

4th FSC Consumer Campaign in Netherlands

The 4th FSC consumer campaign started in April in the Netherlands. Eight non-governmental and developmental organizations, eight major retailers and around 16 companies have pledged their support towards the campaign, either in communicating the message through their promotional activities and materials or featuring the campaign materials at their retail outlets.

Survey results of the previous campaigns showed a significant jump in the recognition of the FSC label amongst consumers: 33% of consumers spontaneously mentioned FSC in 2004 without prompt as compared to 1% in 2001 while 63% of consumers registered a higher level of recognition for FSC label as compared with other labels surveyed in 2004, up from 12% in 2001.

Source: FSC International; FSC Netherlands April 2005 For more information, please contact FSC Netherlands at info@fscnl.org or visit FSC Netherlands website: www.fscnl.org; www.fscnl.org

1.7 Billion Dollars FSC Certified Products in the UK

Last year their sales of FSC certified products in the UK exceeded 1.7 billion dollars. The United Kingdom (UK) has a large market for certified products, in terms



Forestry and Wood Certification (Corporate Responsibility) No. 3 – 2005 (May)

of both volume and value. Each year FSC UK assists in a project called the Ethical Purchasing Index which aims to track the size of the market for ethical products using sales data from nine major retailers.

Source: News + Notes Vol. 3 - Issue 2 - February 28th, 2005

HCVF Guide for Tropical Forests in Bolivia

A guide aligned to the FSC Principle 9 to support the work on High Conservation Valued Forests (HCVF) has been finalized and distributed among various forests stakeholders and FSC certified operations in Bolivia to strengthen the forest management in tropical forests. The guide provides information related to issues on biodiversity, ecosystems, hydric systems and social issues. For more information, please contact: cfvbol@scbbs-bo.com

Background and Facts



The Forest Stewardship Council is currently the only credible timber certification system supported by WWF. The FSC label makes it possible for buyers to choose forest products that come from forests managed to the highest environmental and social standards and from legal sources. As global system FSC offers market incentives for improving forest management around the world.

Key Statistics

Status: April 2005

Total area of FSC certified forests: 53.083.912

hectares

Number of countries with FSC forests: 65

FM certificates: 694

COC certificates: 3785

Further details on

http://www.fsc.org/en/whats_new/fsc_certificates

Programme Information

For Information on the Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) www.fsc.org
Global Forest And Trade Network www.panda.org/forestandtrade
Forests For Life Programme, WWF www.panda.org/forests4life; www.panda.org/forests/goodwood

Certification Basics

An Introduction to Forest Certification: (2001) http://www.proforest.net/objects/introtocert.pdf

NGO Positions on Certification Systems

Behind the logo (2001) -In-depth report of the four biggest forest certification schemes (CSA, FSC, PEFC & SFI) analyses the strengths and weaknesses of each scheme and aims to provide companies, governments and NGOs with the facts needed for informed decision making.

Follow up report: Footprints in the Forest (2004) – In depth report on Canadian Standard's Association (CSA), Forest Stewardship Council (FSC), Programme for the Endorsement of Forest Certification (PEFC), Sustainable Forestry Initiative (SFI), Australian Forestry Standard (AFS), Sistema Brazileiro de Certificação Florestal (CERFLOR), Certificación Forestal (Certfor) and the Malaysian Timber Certification Council

Make Your Own Judgement About Certification Schemes

(MTCC). http://www.fern.org/

Assessing Forest Certification: A Practical Guide: (2002)

http://www.proforest.net/objects/Assessing%20Forest%20Certification/assessing%20schemes.pdf



Forestry and Wood Certification (Corporate Responsibility) No. 3 – 2005 (May)

Certification Assistance

All aspects of certification and more on responsible forest management:



Where to Sell and Buy Certified Timber

Global search for FSC certified timber and products:

<u>www.certifiedwood.org</u>: This database allows you to search by type of timber and timber species, by product type and supply chain position and country.

On <u>www.fsc-info.org</u> you can search for FSC certified species all over the world. Search mechanism include species (open query), tenure and country.

Global search for FSC Forest Management and Chain of Custody certificate holders www.fsc-info.org.

On <u>www.certifiedwood.org</u> you can confirm certification status of a company

Global search for FSC certified forests:

<u>www.certifiedwood.org</u> The advantage of this certified forest list is the contact details like telephone numbers are included.

Most up to date information on which forests and which companies are certified can be found on the main FSC International website www.fsc.org - however here information is mainly aimed at providing an overview rather than to help establish contact.

Check approved FSC certifiers on www.fsc.org

For a comprehensive list of FSC-certified producers and wholesalers of office and publication paper as well as printers in Europe for to www.panda.org/forestandtrade;

Assistance With Group Certification

A Practical Guide to Developing a Group Scheme for FSC-Accredited Certification of Forests: *Final Draft* (2001)

http://www.proforest.net/objects/gscheme2.pdf

Responsible Investment

For Investment guidelines by the Worldbank/ WWF Alliance go to

http://www.panda.org/downloads/forests/wwfinvestmentpol7oct03final.pdf

Learning From Others

400 companies are part of the WWF co-ordinated Global Forest and Trade Network (GFTN), committed to responsible forest management and trade. They represent a wide range of actors including forest owners, timber processors, construction companies, retailers, investment agencies and local authorities. Members vary from small family-owned businesses to world scale leading companies such as IKEA and the Home Depot. They are committed to gradually producing, trading and/or sourcing independently certified forest products. Find more information about GFTN at: http://www.panda.org/forestandtrade/

To learn from the experiences of other companies who are already part of the network get in touch with one of the forest and trade network co-ordinators. Contact details can be found on http://www.panda.org/forestandtrade

Multiple Solutions for the World's Forests by WWF

WWF works on forest conservation through a multiplicity of approaches and strategies which are pursued together with regional and global partners: Credible Forest Certification, High Conservation Value Forests, combating illegal logging and forest crime, preventing forest fires, restoring damaged and degraded forests and forest protection. WWF's Forests for Life Programme has developed position papers on global forest issues which are available on. For more information go to www.panda.org/forests4life

The <u>World Bank/ WWF Alliance</u> was formed in 1998 and draws on the comparative institutional strengths of the partner institutions:

- the Bank's access to policy dialogue, convening power, analytical capacity and financing operations,
- WWF's strong field presence, private sector partnerships, public trust and forest



Forestry and Wood Certification (Corporate Responsibility) No. 3 – 2005 (May)

conservation expertise.

By combining the strengths of the Bank and WWF, and their partners, the Alliance is uniquely positioned to effect changes in forest policy and practices, to help safeguard biodiversity, and alleviate poverty. With forests being depleted globally at a rate of 28 hectares per minute, the stakes are high. Urgent, significant and coordinated actions on a global scale are needed to arrest the precipitous and relentless declines in forest cover, the concomitant loss of biodiversity, and the effects on the livelihoods of forest-dependent people.

For more information on the World Bank/ WWF Alliance go to www.forest-alliance.org