

GFTN-BOLIVIA FACT SHEET



BACKGROUND

Bolivia has 53 million hectares of forest, of which 28.8 million are considered permanent productive forests distributed throughout seven productive regions across the country. Between 1990 and 2010, Bolivia lost an average of 279,950 hectares per year, around 5 million hectares total.

Bolivia has experienced a recovery in forestry production, forest product exports and national consumption in spite of global economic crisis. In 2010, exported forest products reached USD 237 million, increasing by 33 per cent compared to last year. Furniture, doors, panels, and decking account for over 82 per cent of the total forest product exports. Bolivia's major export markets include the US, UK, Chile, and China.

Since 1993 when WWF began efforts in training and community forest management in Bolivia, Bolivia has certified more than one million hectares of its forests.

WHAT: GLOBAL FOREST & TRADE NETWORK – BOLIVIA (GFTN-BOLIVIA)

WWF has been working in Bolivia since 1970 and WWF Bolivia's Forestry Program established the Global Forest & Trade Network - Bolivia (GFTN-Bolivia) in 2005 to support Bolivian companies in achieving FSC certification, as well as increasing indigenous community forest management capacity and their integration into the national and international markets, promoting a new type of world trade—environmentally responsible forest products. GFTN-Bolivia's objective is to disseminate information and promote responsible forest trade by linking the Bolivian forest with the local and international markets, thereby increasing the demand for environmentally responsible wood products that are either certified or in progress to certification.

WHO: COMPANIES GFTN-BOLIVIA WORKS WITH

The GFTN-Bolivia offers a unique, credible and transparent framework within which both progressive buyers and producers can demonstrate best practices to stakeholders such as Bolivian forest companies and communities, shareholders, NGOs, customers, governments, banks and investors. Since 2007, GFTN-Bolivia has organized yearly Business Missions. During the first Business Mission, a dozen participants from Europe and Asia participated and generated business in the amount of US\$ 700,000; in 2008, a delegation of 32 business men and women from Latin America, Europe and Africa came to participate, recording sales in the amount of US\$ 6 million. In 2009, 38 foreign and national company representatives (10 of them from community enterprises) participated recording sales of US\$ 12 million.

QUICK STATS: GFTN-BOLIVIA

- GFTN-Bolivia works with **15** companies employing over **2800** people
- GFTN-Bolivia participants support **200** local families in community operations
- GFTN-Bolivia participants manage **60,000** hectares of credibly certified forests and further manage **140,000** hectares in progress to certification
- GFTN-Bolivia participants sell **\$32 million** in forest products annually
- GFTN-Bolivia participants trade **190,000m³ RWE** of forest products

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Contact: María del Carmen Carreras, GFTN-Bolivia Coordinator

Email: mcarreras@wwfbolivia.org

Tel: + 591 (3) 343 0609

URL: www.panda.org/bolivia/ftn