
GFTN-IBERIA FACT SHEET



BACKGROUND

Iberian countries (Portugal and Spain) are two of the major tropical timber consumers in the European Union (EU). The Iberian market is the second largest importer of tropical sawn wood in the world. Spanish and Portuguese data indicates that 10 per cent of imported wood products are coming from countries where illegal logging is a major issue. Iberian markets import sawn wood from the Congo Basin and Latin American countries as well as finished products like flooring and furniture coming from Asian (China, Vietnam and Indonesia) and Latin American countries. Portugal and Spain are extremely important in driving responsible forest management in Central Africa, the Amazon, and to a lesser extent Borneo. Iberian companies practicing responsible purchasing of forest products can therefore contribute to the promotion of responsible management in some of the world's most valuable and threatened forests.

WHAT: GLOBAL FOREST & TRADE NETWORK – IBERIA

The Global Forest & Trade Network-Iberia (GFTN-Iberia) is the regional arm of WWF's GFTN, a global initiative to eliminate illegal logging and improve the management of valuable and threatened forests. Transitioning the Portuguese and Spanish markets towards responsible timber, paper and cork consumption is essential to conserving the world's valuable forests. The GFTN-Iberian will work to create market and policy conditions which reduce the Iberian footprint in the world's forests.

WHO: COMPANIES GFTN-IBERIA WORKS WITH

The GFTN-Iberia consists of Spanish and Portuguese companies committed to responsible forestry and trade. GFTN-Iberia works in partnership with buyers, suppliers, producers, independent experts, and certification support service providers in Spain and Portugal to reduce the footprint of these markets in the Congo Basin, Amazon, Borneo, and Russian forests. GFTN-Iberia works with consumers and producers to increase the conservation of cork oak forests in the Mediterranean Region and to promote responsible management of eucalyptus and pine plantations in Iberian landscapes. GFTN-Iberia also engages European retailers that sell tropical products like flooring and garden furniture, importers and end-manufacturers that are answering to a demand from the public, and the construction industry, which requires high volumes of tropical timber and softwood coming from Eastern Europe or plantation areas in countries like Brazil.

QUICK STATS: GFTN-IBERIA

- **16 companies**
- **6 million m³** of forest products traded by participants
- **US\$834 million** of forest products are traded by participants
- **27,694 hectares** of cork oak forests managed by participants, **15,841 hectares** of which is FSC certified.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

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