

GFTN-VIETNAM FACT SHEET



BACKGROUND

Vietnam has emerged as an important player in wood processing industry. Currently, Vietnam has about 3,400 wood processing establishments. Its wood furniture products are exported to 120 countries, with export values in 2008 reaching USD2.8 billion. Vietnam is one of the largest wooden furniture export countries with a growth rate about 30 per cent per annum. Vietnam's secondary processed wood products exports have expanded significantly in recent years and in 2007 it became the largest tropical exporter of secondary processed wood products. In 2008, Vietnam's secondary processed wood products reached USD3.4 billion, up 13 per cent from 2007. Although, the global recession has lowered the purchasing power of the US and EU markets resulting in fewer export contracts, the 2010 exports of wood products reached USD 3.3 billion with the expectation that the global economy is rebounding. In addition to Vietnam's trade position, Vietnam has unique and diverse forest lands which include 16.2 million hectares of forest, including 10.2 million hectares of natural forest.

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

GFTN-Vietnam was established in 2006 as a partnership between WWF and Vietnam's Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development. The Vietnamese government, together with the large donor community in Vietnam, is exploring forestry as an effective way to improve forest productivity of rural areas, while at the same time empowering marginalized communities who live in proximity to the last natural forests of Vietnam.

GFTN-Vietnam's mission is to help redirect the Vietnam forest industry away from timber sourced from unsustainable and illegal forest management and towards sources that are proven to be both legal and responsible. This is achieved by working with major processors and traders of wood products who make a public, documented commitment to responsible forestry and credible forest certification. GFTN-Vietnam works to facilitate market links between GFTN-Vietnam participants and suppliers or buyers committed to eliminating unwanted timber out of their supply chains and also provides information and technical support needed to progress through a stepwise approach to forest and chain of custody certification.

WHO: COMPANIES GFTN-VIETNAM WORKS WITH

GFTN-Vietnam works with strategically chosen importers of softwood, hardwood, flooring, furniture, plywood and paper from WWF's Priority Places as well as other GFTN operating countries. Many of these companies are often the supplier to key consumer countries where GFTN operates.

QUICK STATS: GFTN-VIETNAM

- GFTN-Vietnam works with **15** companies with more than **29,000** employees
- GFTN-Vietnam participants manage **9,500** hectares of forests
- GFTN-Vietnam participants trade **462,000 m³** of forest products
- GFTN-Vietnam participants sell **US\$221 million** of forest products traded by participants

FOR MORE INFORMATION

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