



GLOBAL  
FOREST  
& TRADE  
NETWORK

# WWF GFTN NEWSLETTER

JANUARY 2011



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*The GFTN is WWF's initiative to eliminate illegal logging and transform the global marketplace into a force for saving the world's valuable and threatened forests. By facilitating trade links between companies committed to achieving and supporting responsible forestry, the GFTN creates market conditions that help conserve forests while providing economic and social benefits for the businesses and people that depend on them. The GFTN considers independent, multi-stakeholder-based forest certification a vital tool in this progression and helps infuse the principles of responsible forest management and trade practices throughout the supply chain.*



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# MESSAGE FROM GFTN HEAD, GEORGE WHITE

## Marking two decades of advancing responsible forestry and trade

With the dawn of another New Year, endless possibilities lie ahead for all of us. This year, more than ever, the state of the world's forests are under the spotlight with the UN International Year of the Forests. With this global focus, I am excited to think about what

the Global Forest & Trade Network can accomplish this year, but I am also keenly reminded of all that has led up to this point.

Over twenty years ago a small but visionary group of companies in the UK banded together, bravely joining WWF on a journey to transform the global forest products industry into a force for safeguarding the world's valuable and threatened forests. Having sat on the other side of the desk all those years ago—leading sustainability efforts for J Sainsbury PLC—I am reminded of what the fervor of a committed few can truly accomplish and how those commitments were the start of something truly groundbreaking.

Now, 20 years later, we're commemorating a force that has grown into hundreds of companies in over thirty countries across the world, with GFTN participants representing over 19% of the share of forest products traded internationally each year. With continued momentum driven by a global focus on forests this year, I can only imagine the energy that will continue to drive the forest industry into a new era of responsible management coupled with environmental and social stewardship.

I invite you to join the GFTN on a journey over the next several months, reflecting on not only where we have been and the progress seen along the way—through updates like this newsletter—but also taking a look into the future and examining what's next for the forest products industry. Mark your calendars for a celebration at the end of September, where thought leaders from industry, the environmental community and the public and private sectors will come together in London, the place where this all started, to cast a vision for what the next decade will look like for the forest products industry. I believe the best is yet to come.

*George White*  
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# GFTN NEWS

## Australia joins global effort to combat illegal logging

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*It is estimated that Australia imports more than US\$845 million worth of illegal timber and wood products each year.*

European Commission

Joining the European Union, Switzerland and the United States, Australia has now introduced legislation

to ban illegal timber from entering the Australian marketplace. Senator Joe Ludwig, the Australian Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry, said the new laws will be instrumental in fostering global trade in legal timber products and will level the playing field between illegal and legal timber suppliers.

“Illegal logging is a major problem for many developing nations and directly threatens Australian timber jobs,” said Minister Ludwig. “After widespread industry consultation, the Australian Government will introduce legislation that carries penalties for importing illegally logged timber. Under the legislation, importers will now need to meet a due diligence test to ensure the timber they are sourcing has not been illegally logged.”

Instrumental in ushering in this new law was a coalition of timber merchants, retailers and environmental and social justice organizations who all banded behind the Greenpeace campaign “Say NO to Bad Wood”, including WWF and GFTN participants Bunnings, IKEA and Kimberly-Clark.

“Bunnings has pushed for this outcome since 2001 when we committed to a zero tolerance approach to illegal timber in our supply chain,” said Clive Duncan, General Manager, Marketing and Merchandising, Bunnings. “We welcome this announcement which matches our ongoing commitment to providing products that originate from legal and well managed forests.”

These new laws to ban illegal timber imports will ensure that Australia takes a leading role in the protection of the world’s most threatened forests, joining efforts like the EU’s “Due Diligence” regulation and the US Lacey Act.

“We commend the efforts by industry, the environmental community and the Australian government to put a stop to unfair competition that results from illegal logging,” said George White, Head of the GFTN. “However, for this legislation to truly be effective, there must be strict penalties to serve as a deterrent and enforcement actions that truly have teeth—sending a message throughout the global forest products industry that illegal timber is no longer welcome in the world’s leading markets.”

The new legislation will be introduced into Parliament in 2011 after a period of public consultation, during which WWF will provide continued feedback to ensure that the law is robust. Upon implementation, the Australian timber industry must clearly verify the legal origin of all timber products according to the requirements set out in the legislation, including products such as sawn timber, wood panels, pulp, paper, wooden furniture and composite products.

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## Transforming markets to protect the world's forests

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*Featuring some of the highest rainfall on the planet, the Chocó-Darién ecoregion has one of the world's most diverse assemblages of lowland plants and animals*

An essential tool in transforming the regional, national and global markets into a force that protects the world's most valuable and threatened forests, the GFTN expanded its presence to include Colombia, Ecuador, Panama and Venezuela in October 2010. The GFTN-Northern Amazon and Chocó Darién (NACD) will be an essential addition to driving credible certification in these priority eco-regions. "Considering that forests are a source of strategic resources, and that they provide personal wealth and environmental services—such as timber, non-timber products, shelter for communities, carbon capture—it is necessary to consider different strategies to protect them," said Miguel Pacheco, GFTN-NACD Coordinator. "By establishing a regional presence in these four countries, the GFTN will play a key role in halting illegal timber trade in the region by promoting responsible forest management."

Part of the "Inter-sectorial Pact for Legal Timber", an agreement signed in 2009 by the government and 24 organizations from the public and private sectors, civil society and consumers, the GFTN-NACD joins the Colombian government in efforts to stop the illegal timber traffic in Colombia and improve forest management.

"With the GFTN-NACD, we can counteract the threats of illegal logging and change the conditions for healthy forests to coexist with responsible trade," said Mary Lou Higgins, Director of WWF Colombia. "We are certain that GFTN will be the link that will allow us to effectively integrate the environmental, social and economic needs inherent in tropical forests in this region."

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## Huge step to save key Amur tiger habitats

By introducing a ban on Korean pine logging, the Russian government has made significant progress in safeguarding the endangered Amur tiger, of which there are fewer than 500 left in the wild. Rising global demand for Korean pine, a key species found in Amur tiger habitats, has led to a massive increase in logging, much of it carried out illegally, in Russia's remaining temperate forests.

To help regulate logging in these forests, Russia had previously listed Korean pine in Appendix III of CITES (the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora). This listing required exports of Korean pine to be accompanied by CITES permits, making it more difficult for illegal timber trade to continue.

With the adoption of a new version of the legal list of tree and shrub species prohibited for timber logging, the Russian government has taken more drastic measures to protect Korean pine. Historically the species has been harvested in excess of allowable limits by as much as 3.7 times.

"A ban on Korean pine logging is the best gift for the Amur tiger in the Year of the Tiger," said Igor Chestin, CEO of WWF-Russia. "Korean pine has crucial importance for tiger conservation: its cones are fodder for wild boars and wild boars are tiger's prey."

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**2010**  
**THE YEAR OF THE TIGER**  
**ACCORDING TO THE CHINESE**  
**CALENDAR, IN WHICH AS**  
**FEW AS 3,200 WILD TIGERS**  
**REMAIN, WHOSE SURVIVAL**  
**IS THREATENED BY FOREST**  
**LOSS AND POACHING**

# GFTN ON THE GROUND

## Building capacity through experience sharing

Achieving forest management certification can often be a time intensive and challenging process. Companies setting out on this journey can often benefit from the lessons learned by those who have blazed this trail

before them. Recognizing the value that exists in the experience and expertise inherent in a global network of committed companies, the GFTN programmes in North America and Russia organized a tour for GFTN-Russia participants of mills and forest lands of Domtar, the largest integrated manufacturer of uncoated freesheet in North America and a GFTN-North America participant.

During the visit, Russian companies were able to witness firsthand the forest management practices that Domtar employs in its forests, observing common equipment and techniques used in the field to ensure that these forests are well-managed. From witnessing culvert installations created to prevent stream degradation and sedimentation to the use of selective cuts and pre-commercial thinning and specific guidelines for road construction, the GFTN-Russia participants observed how to implement responsible forest management practices in line with the Forest Stewardship Council's (FSC) certification standards.

"This experience was an invaluable opportunity for Russian companies to learn from an industry leader what responsible forest management looks like on the ground," said Alexander Voropaev, GFTN-Russia Manager. "Domtar's commitment to responsible forestry and willingness to share their experience will serve to strengthen the ability of committed companies in Russia to also become leaders in the forest products industry."

Lewis Fix, Domtar's Vice President of Brand Management and Sustainable Product Development, echoed this sentiment and reaffirmed the company's commitment to lead the industry in responsible forestry and trade.

"Our commitment to responsible forestry and trade stems from a deep-rooted company belief in the importance of sustainability," said Fix. "This commitment and our participation in the GFTN have proven to be a compelling differentiator for us in a high-visibility commodity market."

Since 2008, Domtar has been working with the GFTN to advance responsible forestry and trade, achieving FSC certification for four of its production mills. With nearly half of the world's harvested timber used by the pulp and paper manufacturers, commitments from companies like Domtar play a crucial role in influencing the sustainability of this critical sector of the global forest products industry.

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*GFTN-Russia Manager Alexander Voropaev and GFTN-North America Programme Officer Jennifer Gerholdt in Domtar's certified forest.*





Available for the first time, GFTN's *Keep It Legal Russia Country Guide* provides specific guidelines on what documentation is required to establish legality when sourcing from Russia.

## New resource to combat illegal logging

Debuting at the twelfth annual St. Petersburg International Forestry Forum, the GFTN's *Keep It Legal Country Guide: Russia* is translated into Russian and English. Designed to help foreign companies acquiring timber, lumber, pulp, paper, plywood, wood boards, furniture or other products from Russia, the guide sets out to establish what legal requirements must be met in Russia.

"This manual is intended primarily for foreign companies, buying timber in Russia. Nevertheless, we are confident that it will be helpful to Russian companies seeking to exclude illegal materials from their supply chains," said Nikolai Smatkov, project coordinator for WWF-Russia's Forest Policy.

According to Shmatkov, the guidance will be useful in the work of agencies and departments of the Russian forest sector in improving the legal framework for ensuring the legality of Russian timber, as it reflects the strengths and weaknesses of the existing system.

This publication is particularly relevant in light of amendments to the US Lacey Act and the passing of timber legislation in the EU, Switzerland and Australia banning imports of illegal timber.

"Companies supplying timber to Europe and the US should consider *Keep It Legal* as an invaluable resource," said George White, Head of the GFTN. "Following the guidelines set out in this manual and in GFTN's *Guide to Legal and Responsible Sourcing* will enable companies to avoid serious problems with the law and avoid situations that may jeopardize their relationship with US, European and Australian customers."

For more information, contact:

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## GFTN Seeks Forestry Expert

### Application

#### Deadline:

13 February 2011

#### Location:

This position will be located in one of several WWF offices open to hosting this position.

Would you like to provide leadership and direction to the WWF Network in its efforts to create a level playing field for responsible operators in the forest products industry?

GFTN is now looking for an experienced Responsible Forestry Coordinator, who will be responsible for providing technical expertise and guidance on all aspects of forest certification, monitoring changes in trends and policy with regard to global forestry and conservation issues and coaching and mentoring the next generation of managers.

In addition to management experience within a global and network-based organisation, the Responsible Forestry Coordinator will need strong communication and programme management skills. A sound understanding of forest certification and the forest products industry is highly desirable.

Interested candidates should send a cover letter with their CV to

[recruitments@wwfint.org](mailto:recruitments@wwfint.org).

# CUTTING EDGE INSIGHTS

## Uncovering forests' tell-tale fingerprints

With increasing legislation governing trade in timber and timber products, how can companies be sure that they are purchasing legal timber? In early November 2010, nearly 100 people gathered in Eschborn,

Germany for a two-day conference, exploring a possible answer to this question—the role of genetic and isotopic fingerprinting in verifying the declared origin of wood.

Even to an expert, many commercial species of solid wood or veneer are often difficult to distinguish, sometimes between species, let alone by the origin. With new legislation governing timber trade coming to Europe and Australia and the existing US Lacey Act that bans imports of illegal wood, any methodology that would allow a purchaser to have greater confidence in the exact origin of a species that carries potential legal liability is welcome.

While DNA markers and chemical isotopes alone will not tell a purchaser or a prosecutor everything they need to know about a piece of timber or wood fibre, they can reveal a great deal about the origin or the declared origin of the material. Widely used in other applications, like matching DNA samples in forensic science or using chemical markers to determine the origin of agricultural products and food, applying genetic and isotopic fingerprinting techniques to timber would allow its origin to be checked independently from any documentation system.

“The benefits that genetic or isotopic fingerprinting offers to the forest products industry in verifying the true origin of timber is unparalleled at this time,” said Johannes Zahnen, GFTN-Germany Manager. “Standard methods for tracking timber, such as tags, ink and barcodes all have the potential to be tampered with or potentially forged, whereas these genetic or chemical markers are stored within the wood and cannot be altered.”

The German Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Consumer Protection are a firm supporter of the technology having seen it used increasingly within their jurisdiction. With ten years of development behind the technology there are now extensive “maps” of isotopes and genetics for major agricultural species—thanks to funding by the Ministry and commercial use by a number of German and other European retailers.

The isotopic technique compares various stable isotopes within the cellular structure of the wood fibre that is being tested. Based on reference samples, the test can reveal the likeliest match if a reference sample exists. If the origin has been declared and a reference sample exists for the declared origin, the probability of the sample coming from the declared location can be calculated.

On the other hand, the genetic technique examines the genetic variability within species. Trees do not move quickly, but they do move—at least their descendants move and carry certain genetic variations with them. The differences are not apparent to the naked eye, hence the consistency seen amongst large samples of timber of the same species. But to a geneticist with the right equipment, subtle variations can be identified.

For both systems, the degree of accuracy very much depends on the reference samples that can be compared. For species such as *Swietenia* (Big Leaf Mahogany), a reasonably complete map exists for the wild populations across Latin America. A relatively good map also exists for Cameroon, with GFTN Participant and forest

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*Genetic and chemical fingerprinting techniques can provide the forest products industry with a new way to verify the origin of their timber products.*



concessionaire TRC having helped supply samples of *Entandrophragma cylindricum* (Sapele) and *Iroko* (*Chlorophora excelsa*).

With funding from the German Government set to continue for at least another two years, the role of isotope and genetic testing in origin verification looks set to grow. Biodiveristy International, based in Kuala Lumpur, is set to develop an open access database for reference materials in 2011. This should allow the various, and still limited, reference data sets to be drawn together to allow faster and cheaper comparisons of samples. In 2011, an ITTO project will commence across seven Congo Basin countries to develop reference material for future testing and analysis.

Accuracy is an issue for both systems, they need to be accurate to be of use commercially or by enforcement agencies but to be accurate more reference material is needed. Where there is good reference material the tests can narrow down an origin to within 200 kilometers with a high degree of confidence.

“Genetic and isotope testing alone are not a substitute for secure chains of custody supported by robust legal systems from the forest floor to the retail store,” said George White, Head of the GFTN. “However, they are a useful supplement in testing an assumption about the origin of a wood product. In a world where there are penalties for those who import illegal wood, knowing precisely where it came from is a great advantage—something that won’t be lost on those seeking to comply with the law or those looking to enforce it.”

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## GFTN & CREDIBLE CERTIFICATION

### Joining forces to offer FSC-certified carton packs in Switzerland

Tetra Pak, the world’s leading food processing and packaging solutions company and GFTN-Sweden participant, has joined forces with GFTN-Switzerland participant Coop to offer carton packages bearing the FSC label on the Swiss retailer’s shelves. Starting with a range of packages for Coop stores in 2010, Tetra Pak plans to offer around 340 million FSC-labelled packages

next year, representing around 60 per cent of its annual sales in this market.

The launch of FSC-labelled cartons in Switzerland marks another step towards Tetra Pak’s goal of having all its packages bear the FSC label, which is today considered the highest standard for the sustainable sourcing of wood fibres. The FSC label aims to assure consumers that the wood fibres in the package are traceable all the way through the supply chain back to the forest and that the paperboard used in the package comes from well-managed forests.

“Tetra Pak is committed to sustainable development and is working together with suppliers, customers, consumers and NGOs to create an environmentally responsible supply chain—starting with the forests all the way down to the retail shelf,” said Josef Meyer, Commercial Director, Tetra Pak Switzerland.

Currently, only 5 per cent of the global forest stocks are FSC certified, and Tetra Pak is working with its partners to support an increase in supply. Since the introduction

**340 MILLION**  
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PACKS WILL BE AVAILABLE  
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of the world's first FSC-labelled liquid food cartons in the UK in 2007, Tetra Pak has introduced FSC-labelled cartons in several markets around the globe, with the total number exceeding 2.3 billion in 2009. Tetra Pak Switzerland joins the company's operations in Belgium, China, France, Germany, Italy, Luxembourg, the Netherlands and the UK in offering customers FSC-labelled packaging.

"We have been working worldwide with Tetra Pak for years, and we are delighted that Tetra Pak Switzerland is now FSC certified," said Guido Fuchs, Managing Director of FSC Switzerland. "The commitment that Tetra Pak shows for people and the environment sets standards for an entire industry."

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## Bovis sets sustainable timber standards

Bovis Lend Lease, one of the world's leading project management and construction companies and a GFTN-UK participant, has achieved full FSC project chain of custody certification on behalf of its clients Legal & General Property (L&G) and Mitsubishi Estate Company (MEC) for Central Saint Giles in central London.

This is a first for Bovis Lend Lease, since it set itself the target in 2009 for all projects to achieve the certification. The recently completed, £200 million (\$US 308 million) project, Central Saint Giles is an office-led, mixed-use development with nine new restaurants and private and affordable residential around London's newest piazza. The project used approximately 1,600 m<sup>3</sup> of timber and 92.8 per cent of that was certified as FSC or recycled. The remaining timber used was from well managed sources.

"This is a real achievement for Legal & General Property and Mitsubishi Estate Company and our partners on this project," said Simon Wilkes, Head of Development at Legal & General Property. "We have almost 700,000 square feet of development at Central Saint Giles and to deliver that with full FSC certification is no mean feat. All the stakeholders involved with the project had to work extremely hard to gain the certification and this gives an indication of the strength of the partnership and our commitment to sustainability."

"We set out to obtain full certification for Central Saint Giles from the start," said Steve Fennel, Project Director, Bovis Lend Lease. "Legal & General Property and Mitsubishi Estate Company, were extremely supportive of our aim. With the help and endorsement of development managers, Stanhope Plc, they reviewed the design specifications from architect, Renzo Piano, and made alterations where needed. This meant we were able to move forward and with the help of all trade contractors manage the procurement and delivery of timber to the site as required by the FSC Standard."

The project was audited regularly by BM TRADA—an FSC accredited certification body—to verify that all timber used was compliant and that the Bovis Lend Lease procedures were being effectively managed.

Bovis Lend Lease has an established reputation for responsible timber procurement in the UK and has been an active member of WWF's GFTN-UK since 2000, consistently improving its procurement of timber to credibly certified sources during this time. It is also targeting FSC certification on a number of other projects under construction.

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*The Centra Saint Giles development is Bovis Lend Lease's first project to receive full FSC project chain of custody certification, with 100 per cent of the timber coming from FSC-certified or well managed sources.*

# GFTN MARKET LINKS

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## Reaching across continents to safeguard the Amazon

Rapidly expanding global markets for meat, soy, timber, and biofuel are contributing to accelerated rates of deforestation in the Amazon and increasing pressure on these forests' natural resources and environmental services upon which millions of people depend. WWF

is working to develop far reaching and powerful partnerships with governments, civil society and the private sector to promote transformational processes that are needed to safeguard the Amazon's valuable and threatened forests. This transformational approach cannot be more clearly seen than in WWF's GFTN, where companies are reaching across continents to work together to promote responsible forestry and trade.

GFTN staff from Latin America and the Caribbean traveled to Europe with the intent of fostering stronger links between responsible producers in Bolivia, Peru and Panama and buyers committed to responsible procurement throughout France, Germany and the United Kingdom (UK).

These efforts to drive responsible trade are starting to see results as market links were formed between participants in GFTN-UK with companies in the newly launched GFTN presence in the Northern Amazon and Chocó Darien (NACD), spanning Colombia, Ecuador and Panama. In one such instance, Saint-Gobain Building Distribution, a GFTN-UK participant, entered into negotiations with Refocosta, a GFTN participant in Colombia, to acquire FSC-certified eucalyptus to be used in door and door frames.

"We are committed in our efforts to increase trade of timber products from responsible sources in Latin America and believe that the GFTN is driving lasting and positive change for the Amazon by facilitating these trade links," said Raúl Dancé, Trade Marketing Specialist for GFTN-Latin America and Caribbean (LAC).

With the level of awareness and acceptance of certified forest products increasing in the European market, Dancé hopes that these trade links will become the first of many, as more European companies seek to comply with the due diligence regulation by seeking certified timber from responsible producers like GFTN participants in Latin America and the Caribbean.

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# GFTN NOTES FROM THE FIELD

## Russia, tigers and the urgency of responsible wood sourcing

In October, I had the opportunity to witness firsthand the effects of illegal and unsustainable logging as I visited forests throughout the Russian Far East, one of the world's remaining forest frontiers—home to fewer than 500 remaining Amur tigers and a global hotspot for illegal logging. I accompanied forestry experts from the Amur Branch of WWF Russia to wildlife refuges and

protected forests, which were being stripped of their last mature Mongolian oak, ash and Korean pine trees by illegal loggers.

Under broad daylight—in the Tayozhny Wildlife Refuge—we witnessed illegal loggers extracting large diameter Mongolian oak and ash. Unfortunately, high levels of corruption within the regional forest authorities allow the actions of those who can legitimately be described as timber “mafia” to proceed unchecked.

At the Amur River Protected Forest, we visited a logging site where more than six times the permitted volume of Korean pine had been removed. The threats to Korean pine are so severe that the tree has now been listed on CITES Appendix III, and in November 2010, the Russian government added Korean pine to its list of trees that are banned from logging.

### Imminent Threats

Last year, it was estimated that as much as three quarters of all oak, ash and Korean pine from the Russian Far East was harvested illegally. These species are often harvested without a permit, in strict, “no-harvest” areas or others’ concessions. When permits do exist, it is common for harvesting to extend outside of delineated areas, to exceed the allowable volume to be cut or to underreport the amount extracted. In many instances, companies receive a permit for “intermediate logging”, which is intended to improve forest stands by removing uncompetitive, poorly-formed trees, but instead practice “high-grading”—taking the best, oldest trees. Oak and pine provide key food for tigers’ prey, which include deer and boar. No prey, no tigers.

According to Dr. Yuri Darman, Head of WWF-Russia’s Amur office, at current rates of logging, much of the mature oak and ash present in these temperate forests could be gone in as little as two years, jeopardizing not only the health of these forests but the endangered species like the Amur tiger that depend on them for survival. Faced with these imminent threats and little hope in political will and governance stepping in on time to solve this immense problem, Darman shares that the region’s only immediate hope lies in companies committed to responsible sourcing who demand legality, traceability and FSC-certified products.

### Part of the Solution

Now sitting more than 8,000 miles away, I am keenly conscious of the problem of illegal logging in the Russian Far East, which can seem distant and insurmountable. But for any company sourcing products from China made with oak, ash or pine, this is a challenge that cannot be ignored.

In the 1990s, China enacted a logging ban in most of its natural forests, so most natural forest species such as oak and ash used in Chinese-manufactured products must be



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*GFTN-North America's Linda Kramme shares insights gleaned from her trip to the Russian Far East and what responsible companies abroad can do to make a lasting change in this remaining forest frontier.*

**500  
AMUR TIGERS OR LESS  
REMAIN IN THE RUSSIAN  
FAR EAST, INCREASINGLY  
THREATENED BY HABITAT  
LOSS AND POACHING**



*Illegal loggers in the Tayorzny Wildlife Refuge practicing “high-grading”, when permits only exist for “intermediate logging” to improve forest stands through thinning.*

imported. Russia is the primary exporter of roundwood to the Chinese industry, providing more than 50 per cent of the annual supply. These Russian log imports are particularly desirable to manufacturers in northeast China’s Heilongjiang province, where furniture and flooring is the dominant industry. With such high levels of demand across the border, illegal logs can often find a willing buyer that is ready to manufacture it into a product that ultimately reaches an unwitting end consumer.

However, you can be part of the solution. By preferably demanding independent legality verification and, better yet, FSC chain-of-custody certification, you can mitigate the potential legal and reputational risks inherent in sourcing wood from this part of the world. Especially for oak, ash and pine, if suppliers cannot or will not provide you with traceability documentation that includes country and region of origin, this presents an extremely high risk to your company in light of the Lacey Act. GFTN Managers and WWF staff in the region can provide guidance on risk mitigation measures, including alternative sources available. Similarly, by shortening the supply chain between the Russian Far East, China and your company, you can improve the potential for establishing traceability through an intact chain of custody.

With a complex and continually evolving landscape governing trade in timber and timber products, it is more important than ever before to have clear visibility into your supply chains and establish systems to track the timber used in your products from the forest floor to your door. Avail yourself of resources such as the country guides in GFTN’s Guide to Legal and Responsible Sourcing and the expertise available on the ground from GFTN and WWF forestry staff across the globe, and together, we can make a lasting change and help protect some of the world’s richest and most vulnerable forests.

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## NEW GFTN PARTICIPANTS

### GFTN-China expands reach of responsible forestry and trade

For the past six years, GFTN has engaged with the forest products industry in China to advance responsible forestry through driving improvements in forest

management and promoting responsible procurement. The momentum of these efforts continues to build as Asia Timber, East Win Supply Chain Management, Jiusheng Wood Company and Whalen Furniture joined GFTN-China late last year, bringing the total number of companies committed to achieving and supporting responsible forestry in China to 27.

“We are pleased to welcome these new participants as they will be instrumental in driving improvements in forest management where they source their wood, including priority ecoregions such as the Amazon, Congo Basin, Borneo and Russia,” said Jin Zhonghao, GFTN-China Manager.

GFTN will work with each company to develop a responsible purchasing policy and a system to establish traceability and increase the amount of certified timber in their supply chains.

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## Forest producers join GFTN-Iberia to protect cork oak habitats



© TANYA PETERSON / WWF-CANON

*Portugal's cork oak forests serve as home to endangered species like the Iberian lynx and imperial eagle.*

APF Certifica Group Scheme, a group of forest producers committed to responsible forest management joined GFTN-Iberia, formalizing their pledge to responsibly manage Portugal's cork oak forests. This commitment will play an important role in protecting these forests, which are home to endangered species such as the Iberian lynx and Iberian imperial eagle. Located in the central area of Portugal, where the biggest and densest cork oak forests are located, APF Certifica helps small producers achieve FSC group certification and provide better access to information and technical support.

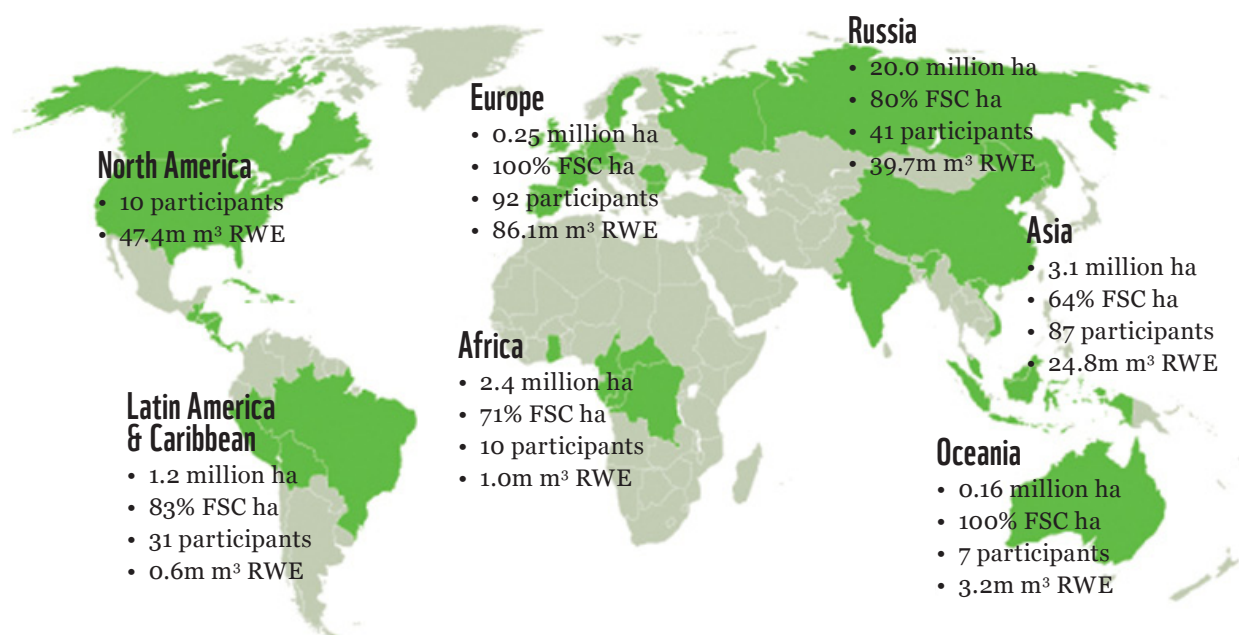
The GFTN will help these forest owners identify high conservation values within their forests and develop management plans to maintain and enhance these values. By working with these small producers, the GFTN will increase the amount of credibly certified cork and consequently, preserve a important habitat in southern Europe.

"Cork oak forests are among some of the top biodiversity habitats in the Mediterranean and in Europe, while at the same time, providing the backbone of Portugal's entire economy," said Luis Neves de Silva, GFTN-Iberia Coordinator in Portugal. "We hope that by increasing Portugal's certified cork supply, Portugal's cork forests will be preserved."

For more information, contact:

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## GFTN AT A GLANCE





# GFTN GLOBAL STATS

## 20.5 MILLION

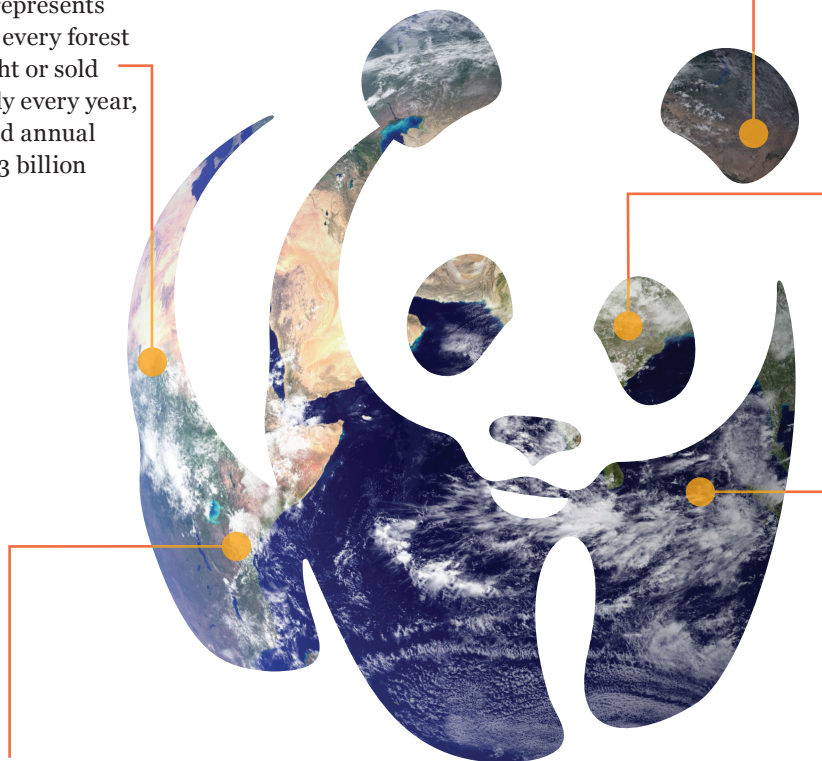
The amount of FSC-certified hectares of forest managed by GFTN participants, with 6.1 million hectares in progress towards credible certification

## 19%

Trading by GFTN participants represents 19 per cent of every forest product bought or sold internationally every year, with combined annual sales of US\$73 billion

## 203 M<sup>3</sup>

The volume of timber and fibre traded by GFTN participants, totalling 13%



## 275+

GFTN encompasses more than 275 participating companies, employing 2.8 million people worldwide.

## \$95 MILLION

The estimated value of the 205 trading deals between GFTN participants

# GFTN TOOLBOX

## Guide to Legal and Responsible Sourcing

WWF, June 2010

Combines the wisdom previously contained in GFTN's resources on legality and responsible procurement into a single, more in-depth resource to help companies navigate the complex and fast-changing regulatory and legislative landscape governing trade in timber and timber products. Bookmark this indispensable resource:

<http://gftn.panda.org/sourcing>

## Exporting in a Shifting Legal Landscape

WWF, June 2010

GFTN's guide to legal exports, *Exporting in a Shifting Legal Landscape*, is aimed at companies that currently export, or intend to export, forest products to the US market. Download the PDF:

<http://gftn.panda.org/resources/tools/?193890>

## WWF Guide to Buying Paper

WWF, November 2007

This guide makes it easy for an organization to understand the environmental impacts of paper-making and to source responsibly produced paper products. View this report at:

[http://assets.panda.org/downloads/wwf\\_paper\\_guide\\_1.pdf](http://assets.panda.org/downloads/wwf_paper_guide_1.pdf)

## External Tools:

### FSC Certificate Search Database:

[http://www.fsc.org/en/getting\\_involved/buy\\_sell](http://www.fsc.org/en/getting_involved/buy_sell)

### Forest Certification Resource Centre:

<http://www.certifiedwoodsearch.org/searchproducts.aspx>

### Transparency International:

<http://www.transparency.org/>

### Illegal Logging:

<http://www.illegal-logging.info>

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### Why we are here

To stop the degradation of the planet's natural environment and to build a future in which humans live in harmony and nature.