

A group of people, including men in hats and a woman in a yellow vest, are walking through a forest of tall, thin trees. The trees have a unique, tiered appearance. In the foreground, a large tree trunk is visible, showing signs of decay or insect damage. The ground is covered in green grass and ferns. The sky is clear and blue.

New Generation
Plantations
Review 2014

The New Generation Plantations (NGP) platform is coordinated by the World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF), with the participation of the following organizations: **CMPC, Fibria, Forestry Commission Great Britain, Governo do Acre (Brazil), Kimberly-Clark, Masisa, Mondi, Portucel, State Forest Administration of China, Stora Enso, Suzano** and **UPM**.

Review coordinators: Anna Koivisto and Luis Neves Silva
Words: Barney Jeffries
Design: Tess Wood

All photos © NGP participants except:
p.9 © Laurence Crossman-Emms/Oneplanet Adventure & UPM Tilhill;
p.16 capybara © James Frankham/WWF-Canon;
p.17 jaguar © Y.-J. Rey-Millet / WWF-Canon;
p.21 rubber tapper, Acre © Edward Parker/WWF-Canon

250

MILLION
HECTARES OF
NEW PLANTATIONS
COULD BE NEEDED
BY 2050

Plantations: Part of the solution

Our planet has only a limited amount of land. But as populations and incomes rise, our demands for food, fuel and products made from natural materials like wood are growing. That's putting increasing pressure on forests and other important natural ecosystems.

WWF's *Living Forests Report* projects that wood harvesting could triple over the next four decades. Under scenarios where plantations do not replace forests or other valuable natural ecosystems, this demand could be met by nearly doubling the area of tree plantations by 2050, as well as expanding the area of natural forest used for commercial wood production.

Put another way, that means around 250 million hectares of new plantations – an area larger than western Europe, or more than twice the total area of South Africa. Expansion on such a massive scale has huge environmental, social and economic implications. It's essential that we do it right.

That's where the New Generation Plantations (NGP) platform comes in. Set up by WWF in 2007, NGP brings together companies and government forest agencies from around the world to explore, share and promote better ways of planning and managing plantations.

In places, plantations have had – and continue to have – negative impacts on forest ecosystems and biodiversity, and on the rights and livelihoods of indigenous people and neighbouring communities. We want to see a new generation of plantations that benefit people and nature – that contribute to the welfare of local communities and work in harmony with natural ecosystems.

The NGP platform is a place for sharing knowledge about good plantation practices and learning from each other's experience, through events such as study tours, workshops and conferences. As well as improving their own practices, participants seek to advance plantation management more widely by sharing information and leading by example. Beyond the core group of participants, NGP engages with other plantation companies and governments, along with civil society organizations, other land users, major buyers of forest products and the finance sector.

By working and learning together, NGP aims to make the next generation of plantations a force for good – socially, environmentally and economically. This review shares some recent explorations and experiences.

Rodney Taylor
Director, Forests, WWF International

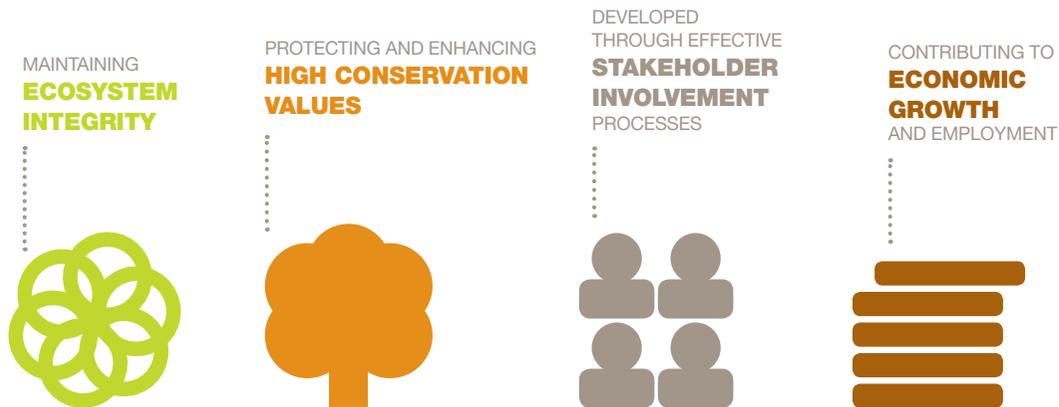
THE EVOLVING NGP CONCEPT

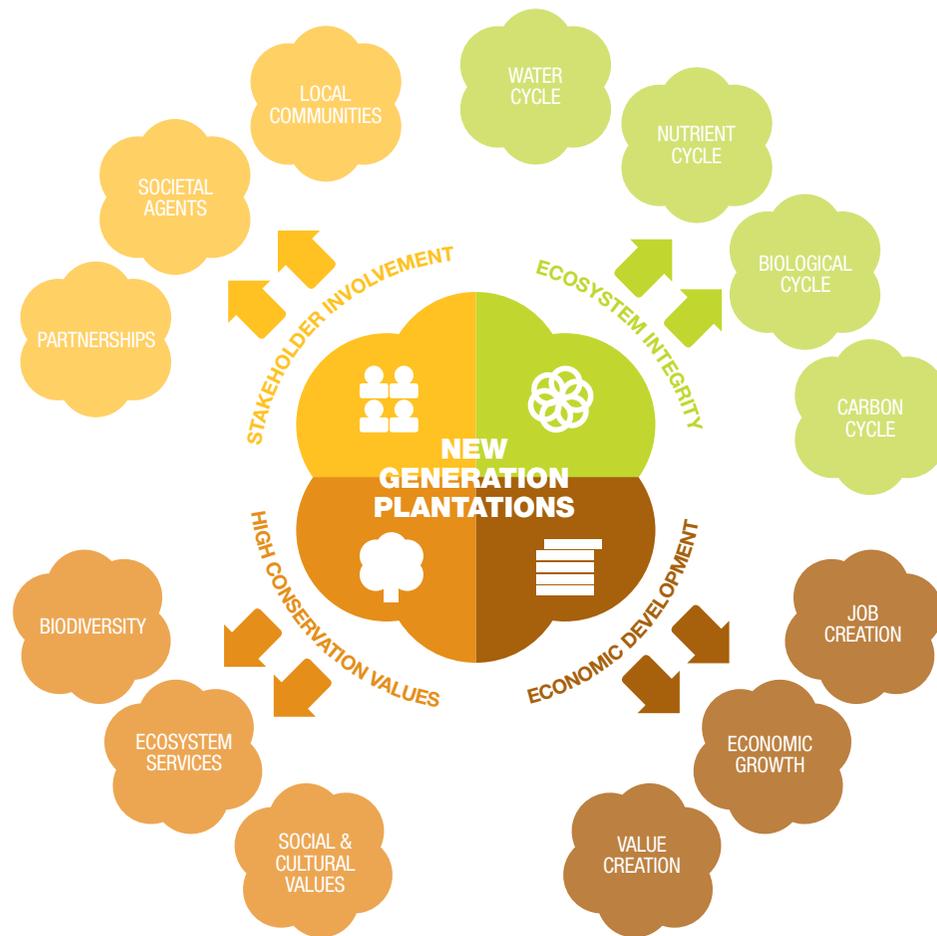
NGP isn't about setting a standard that guarantees specific requirements have been met – participants use tools such as Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) and ISO certification to offer assurance of responsible forest management and business practices. Instead, we put forward a vision and a concept that evolves as our knowledge and experience grows.

NGP started with the premise that well-managed plantations in the right places can help conserve biodiversity and meet human needs, while contributing to sustainable economic growth and local livelihoods. And we identified four key principles, agreeing that plantations should:

- Maintain **ecosystem integrity**
- Protect and enhance **high conservation values**
- Be developed through effective **stakeholder involvement** processes
- Contribute to **economic growth** and employment.

Over the last few years, our understanding of each of these principles has expanded and deepened.





Ecosystem integrity

Maintaining ecosystem integrity means making sure plantations don't upset natural cycles – for water, nutrients, carbon and biodiversity. Increasingly, NGP participants are looking beyond their own operations toward maintaining and restoring ecosystems on a larger landscape scale. An important future area to explore is how plantations can play a role in building resilience and adaptation to climate change. Actions NGP participants have taken include:

- Establishing plantations on degraded land, and restoring native forest alongside
- Removing plantations from wetland areas
- Restoring natural vegetation in important water catchment areas
- Creating biodiversity corridors
- Measuring carbon sequestered in plantations.

High conservation values

Protecting areas of high conservation value (HCV) – for biodiversity, ecosystem services or cultural and social values – is a condition of FSC certification. The HCV concept is widely recognized – for example by certification schemes for agricultural commodities – which enables NGP to engage with other land users, providing opportunities for conservation initiatives on a significant scale. NGP participants have run a number of projects to protect, restore and enhance HCV areas, including:

- Maintaining and restoring large areas of native forest
- Enhancing habitats within a World Heritage Site in South Africa
- Protecting unique vegetation such as palm savannahs in Uruguay and araucaria forests in Chile
- Developing conservation plans for Natura 2000 sites and priority habitats in Portugal.

Stakeholder involvement

Social issues have become an increasingly important concern for NGP participants. We believe that engaging with stakeholders means far more than simply carrying out consultations and obtaining the consent of communities affected by plantations. It's about really getting to know our neighbours, talking and listening to them, and empowering them to meet their needs and achieve their aspirations. NGP participants have put this into practice through schemes such as:

- Providing grazing land for cattle producers
- Clarifying land-tenure systems
- Opening up recreational and educational opportunities
- Improving quality of life for contract workers
- Supporting projects led by local indigenous communities.

Economic development

Plantation companies should be profitable businesses. They create jobs, often in poor rural areas. But we can do far more than this. NGP participants are actively looking at ways to support inclusive green growth and share benefits with local communities. These include:

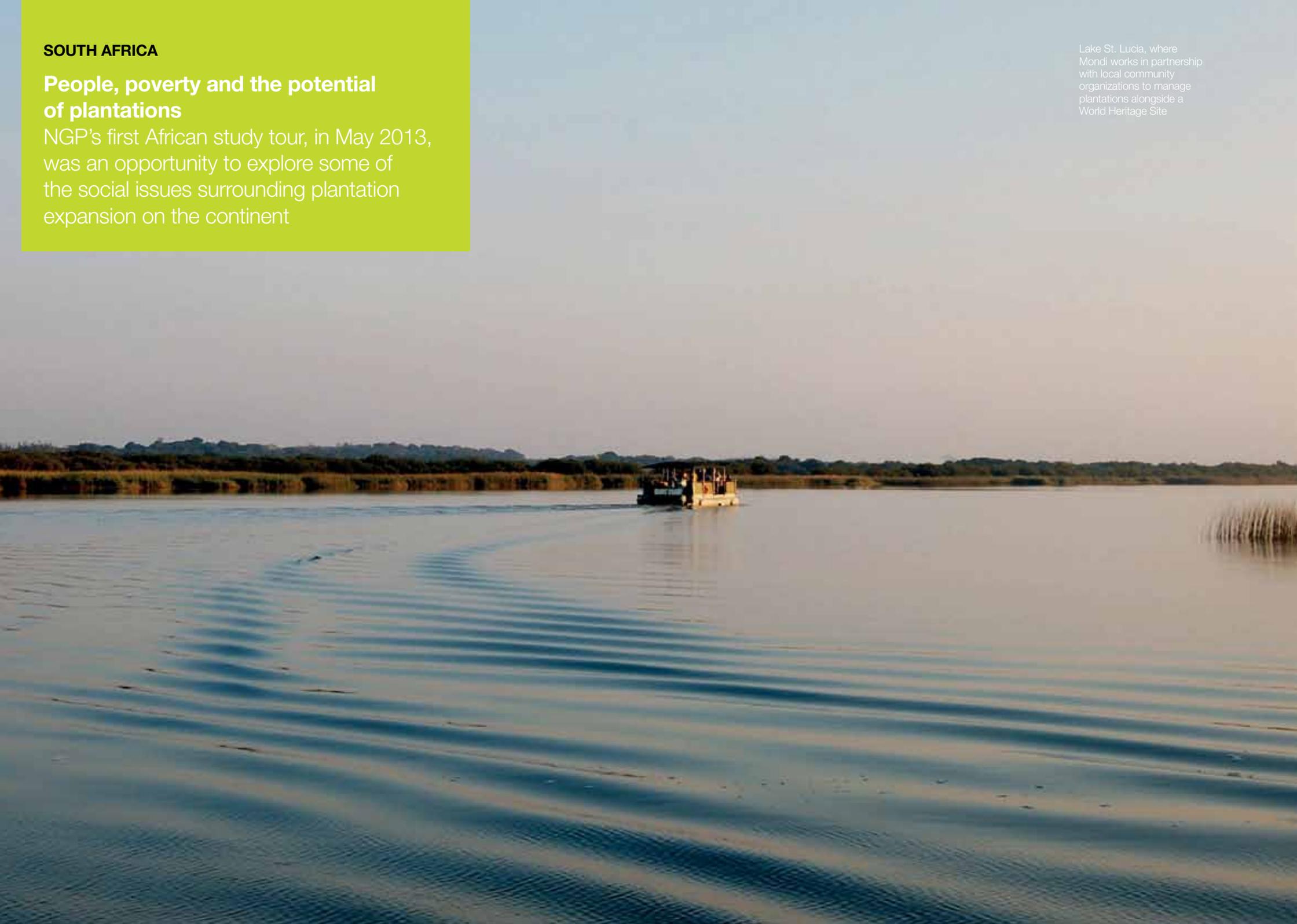
- Training local people in forestry operations and prioritizing local contractors
- Setting up community-run tree nurseries
- Providing financial, technical and marketing assistance to local small businesses, and using their services
- Enabling smallholders to produce wood, and to achieve FSC certification
- Creating opportunities for other economic activities around plantations, such as honey production.

SOUTH AFRICA

People, poverty and the potential of plantations

NGP's first African study tour, in May 2013, was an opportunity to explore some of the social issues surrounding plantation expansion on the continent

Lake St. Lucia, where Mondi works in partnership with local community organizations to manage plantations alongside a World Heritage Site



“Apart from the dramatic views, Kranskop felt like a day back in the office. Many of the issues are very similar. Community ownership can build resilience, provide jobs and keep people in rural areas. But whether in Scotland or South Africa, communities may need support and capacity to engage with the commercial forestry sector. It’s refreshing to see how constructively Mondi has embraced this challenge. Despite differences in context, sharing lessons internationally has huge value.”

Bob Frost, Community Development Policy Advisor,
Forestry Commission Scotland



The view from Kranskop, where Mondi has transferred land back to local community owners



Plantations can provide jobs and opportunities in rural areas plagued by poverty

Plantations are going to expand massively in Africa in the coming decades – for better or worse.

Responsible forest plantations have the potential to make a significant contribution to poverty alleviation, job creation and sustainable development. They could also bring environmental benefits: charcoal and fuelwood use is the biggest driver of forest degradation in Africa, so fast-growing plantations can take pressure off natural forests. But in areas plagued by poverty and poor governance, far less positive realities exist – from land grabs and habitat loss to exploitative labour practices and conflicts with communities.

NGP’s visit to KwaZulu Natal, South Africa was a chance to explore these issues, and learn from South Africa’s well-established plantation forest industry. Around 40 people took part in the tour, including NGP participants, observer companies with plantation interests in Africa, representatives from several of WWF’s African offices, and other NGOs. The tour was hosted by NGP participant Mondi and WWF-South Africa.

In recent years, Mondi has been working hard to put right the mistakes and injustices of the past. It’s a century since the South African government began forced removals of indigenous people from their land – and it’s only now that restitution is finally taking place. As a large landowner, Mondi has found itself the subject of 82 land claims.

Around a quarter have been settled so far, and the company is working with communities and government to finalize the rest by the end of 2014.

We visited one of the first plantations to be restored to community ownership, on the edge of a spectacular escarpment near Kranskop. The land has legally been transferred to two community trusts, then leased back to Mondi. The company pays the trusts an annual rent and a stumpage fee for the timber it harvests – this fee effectively means the community is getting a share of the profits, which gives them a stake in the success of the business.

While Mondi is still in charge of forestry operations, the work is gradually being handed over to local contractors. The idea is that, when Mondi’s lease expires after 20 years, local people will have the skills and capacity to manage the plantations on their own. Since Mondi will still need wood for its paper and packaging business, they’ll have a ready-made buyer – and Mondi will have a reliable supplier. It’s a win-win situation.

A similar process is under way near Lake St. Lucia. The plantations we visited here are run by SiyaQhubeka Forests (SQF), a partnership between Mondi and black empowerment organizations. SQF aims to support the socio-economic development of local black communities, while still operating as a successful enterprise.

Mondi also supports new and emerging businesses within the forestry value chain and from neighbouring communities. They provide funding in the form of equity, loans, asset finance and start-up capital, as well as business development support and market linkages. One business we heard from was Khulanathi (which means “grow with us”), a small-scale timber growing company. Around 3,000 local people grow eucalyptus in woodlots of a couple of hectares on land unsuitable for other crops. Mondi pays a premium for wood from small growers because of the social benefits.

Ultimately, investing in local communities is in everyone’s interests. During the study tour, we heard several times that “you can’t protect forestry with a fence.” Because, after all, “A box of matches is very cheap.” In a fire-prone country like South Africa, it’s not hard for someone with a grievance to cause untold damage. And in poor rural areas, it’s not hard to find someone with a grievance.

That’s why it’s so vital for plantation companies to secure their social licence to operate, by cultivating good relationships and sharing the benefits with local communities. The long-term success of plantations in Africa – and indeed anywhere – depends on it.



COMMUNITY NURSERIES

In Brazil, Fibria has set up a network of community tree nurseries to supply seedlings for its forest restoration work. These have created jobs in poor rural areas, particularly for women, and boosted household incomes by 30-40% in many cases.



30-40%

INCREASE IN HOUSEHOLD INCOME FOR FAMILIES INVOLVED IN COMMUNITY TREE NURSERIES



SUPPORTING SMALLHOLDERS

FSC certification gives producers a market advantage as well as bringing environmental and social benefits, but the costs for small producers can be high. Suzano has helped groups of smallholder suppliers in Brazil become certified, covering 22,400 hectares of plantations and 13,000 of natural rainforest to date. Portucel has helped small private forest owners in Portugal achieve certification through outreach work and paying a premium for certified wood.



13,000

HECTARES OF NATURAL ATLANTIC RAINFOREST ECOSYSTEMS



22,400

HECTARES OF PLANTATIONS



LOCAL OWNERSHIP

Forestry Commission Scotland has supported a community on the Isle of Mull to take over a former state-owned plantation. The community now owns the land and manages the forestry operations, with revenues going into community initiatives such as affordable housing, renewable energy schemes and educational activities.

125,000

TONNES OF TIMBER OVER 20 YEARS WILL FUND COMMUNITY PROJECTS



UPM Tihill's plantation at Coed Llandegla in Wales hosts a mountain biking centre that attracts 200,000 visitors a year and employs 20 local people



CHILE

Restoring more than just forests

NGP's second study tour to Chile discovered great progress – but the process of restoring native forests and the plantation industry's relationships and reputation is only beginning

More than 35,000 hectares of native forest previously converted to plantations is to be restored in Chile



“How do we move from small units to large-scale restoration, from tens of hectares to hundreds of thousands? If we don’t dream about that, we’re not going to accomplish it.”

Professor Antonio Lara, Austral University



Masisa is restoring native temperate rainforest in the Valdivian Coastal Reserve



Araucaria (monkey puzzle) trees, part of an area of high conservation value managed by CMPC

A lot can change in three years. When NGP first visited Chile in 2010, the country had less than 280,000 hectares of FSC-certified plantations, all belonging to Masisa, an NGP founding participant. Chile’s other major plantation companies – CMPC, which had just joined NGP, and Arauco – were taking their first steps toward sustainability, after many years of conflict with environmental and social NGOs.

Fast-forward to November 2013 and NGP’s second Chile study tour. In the intervening time, CMPC company Forestal Mininco and Arauco both achieved FSC certification, bringing the total certified area in Chile to more than 2 million hectares (out of a total industrial plantation area of around 2.6 million).

But certification came with conditions. The companies are obliged to restore any areas of native forest converted on their land since 1994 – more than 35,000 hectares in total. They also need to protect and enhance areas of high conservation value. CMPC alone has identified more than 350 areas of high conservation value on its land, covering around 11,000 hectares.

Over the coming decade, then, we’re going to be seeing forest restoration on an unprecedented scale in Chile. NGP came to see how we can make the most of this opportunity, to learn from practical examples in the field, and to share experiences and ideas with colleagues from around the world.

The tour included visits to several of the sites CMPC and Masisa are restoring. We visited the Valdivia Coastal Reserve, where Masisa is working with The Nature Conservancy and a local community cooperative to restore 3,500 hectares of native temperate rainforest that was felled by another company in the 1990s. We also saw how CMPC is actively restoring a unique but severely degraded population of araucaria or monkey puzzle trees.

Restoration requires more than just felling the plantations and letting the native forest regenerate. The NGP participants are prioritizing areas for restoration that will bring the biggest ecological and social gains – for example through creating wildlife corridors, securing water resources, improving degraded soils, and providing recreational and landscape benefits. Companies are working closely with academics, particularly from Austral University in Valdivia, to trial the most effective methods for different sites.

There are social issues to consider too. Some areas earmarked for restoration are used (not always legally) for collecting firewood or grazing cattle, for example – so it’s important to understand local people’s needs and provide alternatives. Local communities have also been involved in collecting seeds for planting native trees, and some community tree nurseries are being established – a model that’s been successfully used by NGP participants in Brazil.

The restoration work the companies are doing, and the skills, knowledge and relationships they’re acquiring in the process, offer great opportunities for conservation, society and the companies themselves. Recuperating ecosystem integrity and restoring ecosystem services is a big part of this – with all the benefits that brings for nature, human well-being and the economy.

But there’s also a big opportunity to restore trust between the forest sector and society. Conversion from forests to plantations was a big issue in Chile, so restoration can be a way to redress this. Those who’ve been working in this area for a while note that there’s been a huge change in thinking, in company culture, in the language used. After years of mistrust and conflict, companies, NGOs and communities are much more open to working together.

The restoration movement in Chile is only just beginning. What further progress will we see in another three, thirty or three hundred years?

NGP RESTORATION PROJECTS



RAINFOREST RESTORATION

NGP participants Fibria, Suzano, Stora Enso and Kimberly-Clark are supporting efforts to restore and connect remnants of the Atlantic rainforest in Brazil. The Atlantic Forest Restoration Pact aims to restore 15 million hectares of the forest by 2050.

15,000,000

HECTARES OF ATLANTIC RAINFOREST AIMING TO BE RESTORED BY 2050

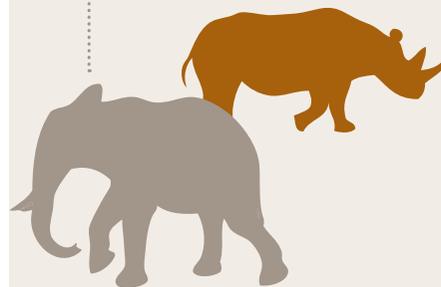


WETLAND REHABILITATION

Mondi has transferred 4,500 hectares of its commercial plantations to the iSimangaliso Wetland Park, a World Heritage Site in South Africa. The land has been restored to native vegetation, helping regenerate important wetlands and extend the habitat for wildlife including rhinos and elephants.



INCREASING HABITATS FOR A WIDE RANGE OF SPECIES



PALM CORRIDORS

In Uruguay, UPM is restoring the unique palm savannah ecosystem by protecting young and mature trees and connecting isolated patches of palms.



CONNECTING PALMS THROUGH BIOLOGICAL CORRIDORS





DESERT TREES

FuturaGene, a Suzano subsidiary, is aiming to reverse the tide of desertification in Gansu province, China. Working with local farmers, government and academic institutions, the company is running field trials to test which species grow best in desert conditions and develop suitable management practices.



28

TYPES OF WOODY PLANTS WERE TESTED AT THE BEGINNING OF THE PROJECT



Field trials in Gansu, China: could plantations reverse desertification and provide income for local farmers?

BRAZIL

Plantations and living landscapes

Plantations are bringing environmental, social and economic regeneration in the Brazilian Cerrado

Farmers in Mato Grosso do Sul are getting more from the same amount of land by integrating cattle production with tree plantations



“After every NGP study tour we come back restless, inspired and, at the same time, comforted because during those intensive weeks we are able to share so much and benchmark on the differences and similarities in what ‘responsible forest management’ stands for in our own countries. This ‘learning by sharing’ process is truly rewarding and continuously adds something to our experience.”

Paula Guimarães, Forest Certification Manager, Portucel



Plantations on tired pasture can help restore degraded soils



The area of plantations in Mato Grosso do Sul jumped from less than 200,000 hectares in 2007 to more than 700,000 hectares in 2013

Raising cattle, smelting iron, making honey and growing vegetables aren't exactly the core business of forestry companies. But they all featured in NGP's study tour to Mato Grosso do Sul, in Brazil's Cerrado savannah, in April 2014. Our theme for the week was Integrating a landscape approach into forestry and agriculture practices. We wanted to see how plantations can look beyond the forest fence to have a greater positive impact on the surrounding natural and socio-economic landscape.

The Cerrado is a hugely important conservation hotspot. The world's richest savannah, it contains 4-5% of all species on Earth, including 8% of all mammals. It's also a vital water source. But over the last four decades, almost half the Cerrado's 200 million hectares of grasslands and forests have been converted to agriculture, mainly cattle pasture. Vast areas of pasture are now so degraded that they're virtually useless for raising cattle.

But the conditions are ideal for growing eucalyptus to meet a rapidly increasing demand for wood for pulp, timber, and charcoal for the steel industry – demand that would otherwise largely be met from natural forest. Plantations on tired pasture help restore organic matter to the soil, benefit wildlife and sequester carbon. The area of plantations in Mato Grosso do Sul has jumped from less than 200,000 hectares in 2007 to more than 700,000 hectares in 2013 – contributing to a 148% rise in the state's GDP in the last eight years. Despite the growth in plantation area, food production has also increased – without any conversion of native forest in the state.

NGP participant Fibria, which hosted the tour, has been actively restoring native forest alongside its plantations. Giant anteaters, tapirs, jaguars, armadillos, maned wolves and other threatened species are frequently spotted around its plantations. In 2013, surveys on the company's properties in Mato Grosso do Sul found 70 mammal, 456 plant, 332 bird, 35 amphibian and 37 reptile species – a significant increase on the previous year.

Wildlife is using the plantations too: on one farm NGP visited, 164 bird species were recorded within the native Cerrado vegetation, and 112 within the eucalyptus. While plantations can never be equivalent to natural forests, the evidence suggests that they can play an important role in supporting biodiversity as part of a landscape mosaic.

Fibria also aims to have a positive social influence in the areas where it operates through its programme for rural development. We visited several communities where people have increased and diversified their incomes as a result of the company's support. They included dairy farmers who have massively increased their productivity through better grazing systems, beekeepers who use the eucalyptus flowers for honey, and vegetable growers who now supply schools and hotels. We also visited a community-run nursery that grows native trees, partly to supply Fibria's restoration work.

Establishing plantations on degraded pasture doesn't necessarily mean forestry replacing livestock: combining the two can provide multiple benefits. We visited a farm where cattle now graze between rows of eucalyptus. The trees provide shade – improving the animals' welfare and meaning they grow faster and fatter – as well as reducing erosion and improving soil quality.

The farm supports two cows per hectare – against an average of 0.3 on degraded land in the state – along with 400 trees. The trees are thinned every four years, with the wood sold for charcoal; the remaining large trees are sold as high-value timber for the furniture industry. Farmers can earn as much from timber as from beef – effectively they double their income, while producing more from the same area of land.

For a planet where land is a finite and increasingly precious resource, there are lessons to be learnt in Mato Grosso do Sul.



FOREST MOSAICS

Fibria, Suzano, Stora Enso and Kimberly-Clark are supporting the Sustainable Forest Mosaics Initiative in Brazil's Atlantic forest. The mosaic concept uses a science-based landscape approach to fit together different land uses – such as plantations, agriculture and nature reserves – and balance social, environmental and economic needs.



CATTLE GRAZING

Cattle ranching is a traditional way of life in Uruguay, but foreign investment into large-scale agriculture and forestry has driven up land prices. Montes del Plata (a joint venture of Stora Enso and Arauco) is working with local ranchers to provide grazing on 178,000 hectares of its forested and set-aside land. UPM runs a similar scheme, supporting 375 cattle producers.

CATTLE GRAZE ACROSS
178,000
HECTARES OF FORESTED
AND SET-ASIDE LAND



PROTECTED AREAS

Forestal Argentina, part-owned by Masisa, has set up a network of nine protected reserves covering an area of nearly 4,000 hectares on its lands alongside the Uruguay River in Argentina – a major contribution to maintaining this relatively small but significant habitat.





CONSERVATION PLANS

In Portugal, Portucel has conservation action plans for its plantations that take account of the landscape features and values, neighbouring areas and the interconnectivity of important areas for biodiversity.

PROMOTE STRUCTURAL DIVERSITY



PRESERVE AND ENHANCE WILDLIFE CORRIDORS



Jaguars are among 70 mammal species spotted around Fibria's plantations in Mato Grosso do Sul

PARTICIPANTS WORKING TOWARD BETTER PLANTATIONS

NGP participants manage 10 million hectares of land worldwide. Half of this is made up of plantations, with the rest consisting of managed semi-natural forests, conservation areas and land awaiting planting. Together they account for around a third of all FSC-certified plantations.

NGP participants also source wood from other suppliers, including several thousand small growers.



CMPC

CMPC is one of the leading Latin American companies in the production and marketing of forest products, pulp, paper, tissue and paper products.

- CMPC companies own and manage 991,921 hectares of forests in Chile, Brazil and Argentina, of which 626,794 are plantations. Plantations are 90% FSC certified.
- CMPC also sources wood from smallgrowers on around 50,000 hectares.
- In Chile, 90% of plantations were established on eroded lands previously used for agriculture. In Brazil and Argentina, all its plantations are on land previously used for cattle ranching or agriculture.

“Being part of NGP involves a formal commitment to work according to the values of NGP. I would emphasize three aspects in which Forestal Mininco has improved: the relationship and communication with neighbours, local community and stakeholders; identifying and managing sites of high interest for the community, the environment or social value; and caring for water, protected zones and native forest.”

Luis De Ferrari, Assistant Manager Forest Health and Biosecurity, Forestal Mininco (Empresas CMPC)



Fibra

Fibra is the world's largest producer of eucalyptus pulp. It produces 5.3 million tonnes a year from forest plantations in the Brazilian states of São Paulo, Minas Gerais, Rio de Janeiro, Espírito Santo, Mato Grosso do Sul and Bahia.

- Fibria manages 836,000 hectares of forests in Brazil, of which almost 500,000 hectares are eucalyptus plantations. Plantations are 87% FSC certified.
- The company has set aside 343,000 hectares of native forests for environmental conservation.
- Fibria sources wood from 1,700 smallholders on 100,000 hectares.
- Plantations are on land formerly used for cattle grazing and coffee growing.

“Fibra was created four years ago out of two older companies, and a lot has changed in our culture. Bring part of NGP is good for us. Thinking ahead to 2050, we know we are going to need to produce more forest products – but with more social and environmental value added. We believe we’re on the right pathway. The big challenge is to turn willingness into practice, and individual actions into collective transformation.”

João Augusti, Environmental Manager, Fibria



Masisa

Masisa is a wood products company headquartered in Chile with manufacturing operations in Chile, Argentina, Peru, Brazil, Venezuela, Mexico and the United States.

- Masisa manages 390,711 hectares of forests in Chile, Brazil, Argentina and Venezuela, including 224,589 hectares of plantations. Plantations are 92% FSC certified.
- Masisa sources wood from 130 Brazilian smallholders occupying 7,500 hectares.
- Plantations are located mainly in previous agricultural crop areas and degraded lands.

“From NGP, we have learned to think beyond timber production to see how plantations can serve to maintain the integrity of ecosystems. Our participation in NGP overlaps with FSC certification, and I think it has reinforced the improved social and environmental performance we have developed with certification. The relationship with the social environment in the planning and execution of operations is now particularly important.”

Carlos Ramírez de Arellano, Management System and Certification Officer, Masisa Forestal



Mondi

Mondi is an international packaging and paper group, with production operations across 30 countries and over 25,700 employees. Its key operations and interests are in central Europe, Russia and South Africa.

- Mondi manages 2.4 million hectares of forests in Russia and South Africa. This includes 200,000 hectares of plantations in South Africa.
- Mondi sources wood from 300-500 South African smallholders.
- Plantations are established on grasslands, degraded grasslands and old agricultural areas, and are 100% FSC certified.

“We were a founding member of NGP and our performance has improved significantly – not directly from NGP, but in association with NGP. It is a useful vehicle for coordinating best practice and benchmarking our sustainability performance, in a non-threatening environment. NGP has provided Mondi with a platform to engage some of our key customers on sustainability issues: the concept is applicable to all land use (agriculture and forestry) and is of interest to investors and customers.”

Peter Gardiner, Natural Resources Manager, Mondi



Portucel

Portucel manages eucalyptus plantations in Portugal, where natural forests have not existed for centuries. It is a leading producer of pulp, and fine printing and writing paper. It is also Portugal's largest producer of energy from biomass.

- Portucel manages 124,000 hectares of forests in Portugal, of which 100,000 hectares are plantations. Plantations are near-100% FSC-certified.
- The company sources wood from 20,000 small forest owners, covering 35,000 hectares.
- Portucel is in the early stages of a project to establish plantations in Mozambique within a 356,000-hectare concession area.

“Even though our forest management model is built on good management practices and recognized by certification, NGP has opened different perspectives on environmental and social issues. The opportunity to look at other realities, learn and interchange experiences has influenced our mindset towards a more holistic and innovative approach. Portucel has co-hosted meetings involving companies, NGOs, financial institutions and members of civil society, coming from several countries, to present and promote the NGP concept.”

Paula Guimarães, Forest Certification Manager, Portucel



Stora Enso

Stora Enso is the global rethinker of the paper, biomaterials, wood products and packaging industry. It offers customers innovative solutions based on renewable materials. Stora Enso employs some 29,000 people worldwide, and sales in 2013 amounted to €10.6 billion.

- Stora Enso manages 1.1 million of hectares of forests in Scandinavia, Russia, Eastern Europe, Latin America and Asia. This includes 334,000 hectares of plantations.
- Plantations exist on former cattle pastures or degraded lands and are near-100% FSC certified.

“NGP shows that a group of forward-looking companies together with an NGO can create messages which reach beyond the original group and enhance responsible use of the Earth's natural resources.

Being part of NGP has increased motivation of plantation managers and other staff by helping them to see their work in a broader international context and providing an opportunity to receive feedback and learn from others through hosting and participating in study tours. Every learning experience makes some difference.”

Antti Marjokorpi, Senior Vice President – Forest Sustainability, Stora Enso



Suzano

Suzano is the second largest producer of eucalyptus pulp in the world and leader in the paper market in Latin America.

- Suzano manages 850,000 hectares of forests in Brazil, including 360,000 hectares of plantations. Three-quarters of plantations are currently FSC certified.
- Plantations exist on degraded or abandoned pastures or agricultural lands.
- Suzano sources from approximately 300 outgrowers, mostly smallholders. The company is supporting smallholders to become FSC certified – 40,000 hectares has achieved certification to date.

“Companies are used to exchanging information between themselves, but in a more formal and rather superficial way. With NGP, sensible subjects such as social conflicts, use of chemicals, water and biotechnology can be discussed in a transparent, trusting and open manner. As companies we all have strengths and weaknesses, and can learn from each other. Sharing knowledge and experience through NGP is helping us improve our sustainable forest management practices.”

Estevão do Prado Braga, Corporate Relations on Sustainability, Suzano

UPM

Fibre- and biomass-based raw materials and recyclable and biodegradable products are cornerstones of UPM’s businesses: UPM Biorefining (pulp, biofuels and timber), UPM Energy, UPM Raflatac (labels), UPM Paper Asia, UPM Paper ENA (Europe and North America) and UPM Plywood.

- UPM manages about 2 million hectares of forests in Finland, UK, USA and Uruguay, including 335,000 hectares of plantations.
- UPM’s plantations exist on degraded or abandoned pastures and are 100% FSC certified.
- UPM manages FSC group certification schemes in three countries.

“NGP gathers the most important stakeholders together with a shared interest for responsibility, best practices and continuous improvement. NGP creates a valuable working culture between environmental NGOs and companies. It meets global megatrends and demonstrates the role of plantations as sustainable solutions. NGP is a learning process – case studies and study tours always give new valuable information.”

Timo Lehesvirta, Director – Forest Global, UPM

Kimberly-Clark

Kimberly-Clark is one of the world’s leading manufacturers of personal care products, through brands such as Kleenex and Huggies. By 2025, it aims to replace at least half the fibre it sources from natural forests with alternative fibre sources.

- Kimberly-Clark’s manufacturing used 4.4% of all the market pulp produced in 2012.
- The company aims to source 100 per cent of its wood fibre from third-party-certified suppliers by 2015.
- Currently, around two-thirds of its fibre is FSC-certified or recycled.

“Being part of NGP has really helped me to clearly understand plantation forestry issues and what to focus on in deliberations regarding future development of plantations. Since we are highly dependent on sourcing fiber from plantation forests to make our tissue and personal care products, we are able to talk more intelligently to interested stakeholders about what good sustainable plantation forestry is, why it is an important component of sustainable forestry, and to dispel common misperceptions about them being sterile or ‘green deserts’.”

Edward “Skip” Krasny, Manager – Sustainable Forestry Programs, Kimberly-Clark Corporation

China Green Carbon Foundation

Founded in 2010, the China Green Carbon Foundation (CGCF) is a non-profit public-funding foundation dedicated to combating climate change by increasing China’s forest carbon sink, mainly through reforestation. Businesses and individuals contribute to the fund by buying voluntary carbon credits. CGCF is part of the Chinese government’s State Forestry Administration.

- CGCF manages 80,000 hectares of plantations.
- The areas were barren mountains before plantations were established. Those lands are now covered by forests.

“We now apply NGP concepts to China’s forest sustainable management practices, and have learnt to keep a rational balance between economic output and conservation value. As a result of being part of NGP, we always put stakeholder involvement and protection of high conservation values as our priority when we initiate a project.”

Being part of NGP has changed our thinking. Plantation is not just planting only. We must consider benefits to the community, human beings, and forests or nature. We now work together with the local community to get better understanding and reach more consensus.”

Li Nuyun, General-Director, State Forestry Administration of People’s Republic of China



Governo do Acre (Brazil)

The state government in Acre, in the Brazilian Amazon, is committed to conserving the rainforest and promoting sustainable livelihoods. The state is planting productive native species such as rubber, Brazil nut trees and açai trees.

- The 45,000-hectare Antimary State Forest is the only protected area in Brazil with FSC certification, and includes forestry concessions.
- The state owns 3,000 hectares of plantations which are run by small growers to produce latex and açai.

“Acre is one of the poorest states of the Brazilian Amazon, but has been considered a model in the search for sustainable solutions in reconciling land use and environmental preservation. NGP provides a unique chance to meet large companies and development institutions and learn from successful experiences.”

Through NGP we have seen highly professional models of forest plantations. This has forced us, as a public institution, to think about better ways of working with public, private and community partnerships to support a more efficient forest plantation sector in Acre.”

Marky Lowell Rodrigues de Brito, Director of Forestry Development, Acre State, Brazil



Forestry Commission (UK)

The Forestry Commission manages public forests in England, Scotland, Northern Ireland and Wales, and develops and promotes sustainable forest management.

- The Forestry Commission manages 873,000 hectares of woodland, of which 785,700 hectares are plantations.
- One hundred years ago, the forest cover of the UK had shrunk to less than 5% of land area after 5,000 years of deforestation. In 1919, the newly created Forestry Commission was charged with increasing the forest area through state planting and providing grants to landowners. Today forest cover is about 12.3%, mostly planted forests of non-native conifers.

“NGP has set what we are doing in the UK in an international perspective and helped us appreciate some of the global issues more fully. We’ve seen that there are a lot of common and transferable solutions and examples of good practice.”

Richard Howe, Head of International Forestry, Standards and Certification, Forestry Commission



WWF

WWF is one of the world’s largest and most experienced independent conservation organizations, with over 5 million supporters and a global network active in more than 100 countries.

WWF’s mission is to stop the degradation of the planet’s natural environment and to build a future in which humans live in harmony with nature, by conserving the world’s biological diversity, ensuring that the use of renewable natural resources is sustainable, and promoting the reduction of pollution and wasteful consumption.

“NGP has created a space to build trust and bridges between different worlds, a comfort zone for open discussion and exchange.”

It has been a learning curve for WWF. The WWF forest network, comprising staff from many national organizations, is now much more knowledgeable about plantations, their risks and benefits, and how we can use them to reinforce our conservation work. We’ve also learnt more about how large plantation companies operate, their agendas and mindsets.

We see the same learning process among the companies. They learn both from each other, by seeing how others are doing faced with similar issues, and from better understanding of the concerns of other stakeholders through WWF.”

Luis Neves Silva, NGP Manager, WWF International

“The NGP platform has given us the opportunity to better understand plantations, the work companies do in the field and the challenges they face. Our relationship through NGP with plantation companies working in WWF priority places for conservation in South America has enabled us to improve our work. We believe it is an opportunity to work with them to achieve our conservation goals, and for them to work with us to improve their sustainability.”

Cecilia Alcoreza, NGP South America Focal Point, WWF-Chile

THE NEXT PHASE

Sustainability is a journey, not a fixed destination. NGP is an evolving process of self-discovery and collaborative, practical learning. As we strive for continuous improvement and adapt to new environmental, social and economic realities, the best practices of today won't be good enough for tomorrow.

Since 2007, NGP has built trust and respect among participants, creating a platform between WWF, private and public sectors. We've grown in understanding of each other, building a common ground where we can work together. We've come a long way. But we've come to realize just how far we still have to travel. Rural poverty and injustice, ecosystem degradation and biodiversity loss, ever-increasing global demand for food, fuel and fibre and the pressure this places on a finite planet: these are huge global challenges. Even with some of the world's biggest plantation companies on board, NGP participants alone can't provide the long-term solutions at the scale we need.

In the coming years, we'll increasingly focus on reaching out to new audiences, opening up the circle to take our message to others, broadening our base of support, linking with existing networks of fellow travellers.

A proverb that we heard in South Africa resonates with everyone involved in NGP:

***“If you want to travel fast, travel alone.
If you want to travel far, travel together.”***

Join our journey at www.newgenerationplantations.org

33%

OF FSC-CERTIFIED
PLANTATIONS
WORLDWIDE
ARE MANAGED BY
NGP PARTICIPANTS



New Generation Plantations are forest plantations that:

- **maintain ecosystem integrity**
- **protect and enhance high conservation values**
- **are developed through effective stakeholder involvement processes**
- **contribute to economic growth and employment.**

www.newgenerationplantations.org