



WWF-UK
FOREST
& TRADE
NETWORK

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Newsletter

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WWF-UK FTN NEWS

Members' stories needed!

We are looking to include more member successes in the forthcoming Summer 2009 Newsletter and the 2008/09 Annual Report. If you would like to contribute, contact James Horne: jhorne@wwf.org.uk

Free FSC training course still available

There is one free FSC training course still available to WWF-UK FTN members, for up to 15 members of staff. This will be on a first-come first-served basis, so if you're interested, contact James Horne as soon as possible: jhorne@wwf.org.uk

Member Feedback

If you have suggestions or feedback regarding this newsletter, we'd like to hear from you. Contact James Horne in the usual way: jhorne@wwf.org.uk

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WWF-UK FTN MEMBER NEWS STORIES

Forestry Commission rises to SSSI challenge across its England-wide estate

Way back in 2003 English Nature launched one of its most challenging programmes; bringing 95% by area of all the Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) across the country into recovering or favourable condition by 2010, and this from a situation of widespread decline and neglect.

The Forestry Commission, along with many other government bodies was charged with bringing this about, ably led by the Defra Major Landowners Group. The Forestry Commission, as befitted its long-held reputation for delivery and action, swung into action.

The Forestry Commission has responsibility for three distinct categories of SSSI under this target: SSSI on the Forestry Commission estate; SSSI where Forestry Commission woodland grant and expertise could bring about change; and those where a felling licence (or in some cases an Environmental Impact Assessment) was needed to effect the removal of unwanted trees from open habitats such as heaths and grasslands.

From the outset in 2003 the situation was far from desperate though. As a result of past investment and activity some 71% of the SSSI on the estate were in good condition. Nevertheless, reaching and maintaining target condition for

67,000ha of SSSI is no mean challenge. Beyond the area under their direct management, those woods and forests managed by others were also in pretty good shape, with again 71% meeting the stringent criteria of favourable condition laid down by English Nature at the time. This is likely to be a reflection of the considerable efforts of woodland owners, English Nature and Forestry Commission staff to maintain the interest and value of these woods and their wildlife.

The first task in 2003 was to cost up and measure the task. Across the Forestry Commission, estate staff worked with English Nature to agree work programmes and estimate costs. There was a very large area of SSSI needing attention. There were mires in Northumberland and Cumbria that needed restoring and drains infilling; heath land and bogs in the New Forest that needed remedial changes to drainage and the removal of rhododendron and birch; heaths in Dorset and Devon that needed fencing and grazing; and a host of smaller complex sites such as meadows, woods and geological sites that needed remedial action, new management regimes and capital investment to bring them into target condition. Working with English Nature and Forestry Commission staff, the work programme was eventually costed at some £7m for work on the estate. The majority of this additional funding was provided by Defra following a bid to secure the future of the SSSI. In addition, a similar sum was bid for and secured to address

SSSI off the Forestry Commission estate. These were mostly ancient woodlands in private or non-governmental hands. They were mostly in need of support for the reintroduction of management, the removal of rhododendron, the harvesting of planted conifers (and restoration to native trees), or, amongst the most difficult of challenges, managing the impact of the growing number of deer in the English landscape. Much of this latter challenge has been undertaken by supporting the excellent work of the Deer Initiative across the country.

The percentage across the Forestry Commission Public Forest Estate now regarded by Natural England (the successor body to English Nature and now champion of the target) in target condition lies at 97%, with every prospect of meeting 99.5% by the end of 2010. Of the other SSSI woodlands some 88% are in target condition as a result of hard work by Forestry Commission officers and by offering comprehensive grant support for the necessary work at a tempting 80% of costs. The Forestry Commission has in place initiatives to address deer management in the worst affected areas, along with a raft of other projects designed to reach sites and owners where grant aid alone is not the way forward. Forestry Commission expertise in timber harvesting and marketing has been used on Wildlife Trust sites, and on privately owned land, to the benefit of the site and to the financial benefit of all. We are also currently exploring ways in which the management of woodland SSSI, and indeed other ancient woodlands, can benefit both wood fuel provision to reduce the use of fossil fuels while supporting the conservation of rare woodland butterflies and other wildlife. The Forestry Commission is not complacent about reaching the target however and at present it looks as if we will struggle to bring about the 95% target on sites not within direct Forestry Commission control. Nevertheless £12 million will have been spent on woodland forest nature conservation by the time we hit the target in 2010.

It would be fair to say that the Forestry Commission has not only risen to the challenge, but the challenge has enabled them to rethink the nature of their support for wildlife and woodland management in woodland SSSI across England.

For more information, please contact Jonathan Spencer, Senior Ecologist, Forestry Commission Policy and Programme Group: jonathan.spencer@forestry.gsi.gov.uk

Saint-Gobain named as one of the Global 100 most sustainable corporations

Saint-Gobain has been ranked in the Global 100 list of most sustainable corporations in the world, which evaluates companies according to how effectively they manage environmental, social and governance risks and opportunities relative to their industry peers.

The leading international construction materials company is one of only 15 industrial corporations to rank on the list, which features companies listed in MSCI World – a global stock market index maintained by Morgan Stanley Capital International. First launched in 2005, the Global 100 is published every year during the Davos World Economic Forum.

Peter Hindle MBE, General Delegate for Saint-Gobain UK, Ireland and South Africa comments: “To be listed as one of the top 100 most sustainable corporations globally is testament to Saint-Gobain’s ongoing commitment to innovation and sustainability.

“Saint-Gobain is focused on the delivery of sustainable construction. As well as continually seeking ways to minimise the environmental impact of our businesses, we are constantly researching and developing new ways of harnessing, conserving and generating energy to help businesses and consumers across the world improve their own sustainability credentials.

“The development within Saint-Gobain Building Distribution of a Europe-wide Timber Procurement and Sales Policy, together with the membership of the WWF-UK Forest & Trade Network by the UK Building Distribution division, have contributed to this achievement.”

With an annual research and development budget of more than £350 million, Saint-Gobain leads the world in the design, production and distribution of materials for the construction industry – developing new materials, products and technologies to meet the environmental, energy and housing challenges facing society.

It registered over 300 patents last year alone and has pioneered developments in photovoltaic cell technology, low-E glazing and high-performance insulation.

Saint-Gobain's UK businesses, which include British Gypsum, Jewson, Saint-Gobain Glass, Isover and Weber, have worked together on many landmark projects including 30 St Mary Axe ('the Gherkin'), the St Pancras international rail terminal and the O2 arena.

For more information on Saint-Gobain please visit www.saint-gobain.co.uk.

Lonely Planet achieves FSC certification for its guides

The international travel publisher, Lonely Planet, in which BBC Worldwide is a majority shareholder, has recently achieved a milestone in their long-term journey to ensure all paper used in their products is sourced from credibly certified well-managed forests.



This month sees the publication of the first Lonely Planet book to carry the FSC logo. A further 30 Lonely Planet titles have been printed on FSC paper – a total of 750,000 units – which will be distributed globally.

Lonely Planet supports sustainable business practices, and is committed to the responsible purchasing of paper products.

This achievement continues to build on the pioneering work that BBC Worldwide have undertaken since they joined the WWF-UK Forest & Trade Network in 1995. They were the first publisher in the world to publish a magazine on FSC-labelled paper (BBC Wildlife Magazine in 1999).

For more information please contact David Halford, BBC Worldwide's Head of Ethical Sourcing and Environmental Policy, at: david.halford@bbc.com

Tetra Pak sells 100 million FSC labelled cartons

One year after launching the world's first FSC labelled food and liquid carton, Tetra Pak has sold over 100 million labelled cartons. The FSC Mixed Sources label printed on each carton offers assurance to consumers that the packaging material comes from responsibly managed forests and controlled sources.

The carton first appeared on UK supermarket shelves in Sainsbury's. In 2008, the packaging company expanded its sales of FSC labelled cartons to Italy, Denmark, Brazil and more recently the US, and estimates a fast growth will continue in 2009.

Several Tetra Pak paperboard suppliers have FSC Chain of Custody certification. The certification of Tetra Pak's converting plants has started and in some markets it has completed the certification of the entire supply chain from forest to supermarket shelf.

While it only represents a small fraction of Tetra Pak's carton sales, 100 million cartons is a significant volume. Furthermore, Tetra Pak's pledge to certify all of its production sites worldwide shows promising signs for the potential expansion of certified material.

Tetra Pak has committed to source paperboard only from Chain of Custody certified board mills by 2015. The company also plans to certify the Chain of Custody of all its own converting and printing plants worldwide by 2018.

Mario Abreu, Supply Chain Environmental Director for Tetra Pak International and member of the FSC Board of Directors, said: "The main raw material we use is paper. We believe that the sustainable use of renewable resources – like wood fibres – is of utmost importance. And we want to convey this message to consumers in the clearest possible way.

Today, FSC is the best proof of sustainable forestry. That's why our ultimate goal is to have all the paper in our packaging certified to the highest standards – currently set by FSC."

B&Q and Cikel challenge illegal logging in Brazil

B&Q has joined forces with ethical timber manufacturer and GFTN-Brazil member, Cikel, to help clean up the reputation of the Brazilian timber market. They hope their efforts will encourage others to follow suit.

Cikel, whose lumber mills are scattered throughout the Amazon rainforest, are supplying B&Q with Forest Stewardship Council (FSC)-assured timber for flooring. Those of Cikel's forests that are not yet FSC certified are working towards this with the assistance of GFTN-Brazil.

The FSC has thrown its support behind the partnership. Charles Thwaites, Executive Director, said: "B&Q has been a valued supporter of FSC for many years, both through the promotion of FSC-certified timber products within its stores and for the financial contributions they have made to us as a charity. Achieving the chain-of-custody certificate, which requires much hard work and dedication from a large number of staff, is yet more proof of the company's commitment to sourcing timber from responsibly managed forests. I congratulate all those involved."

Unfortunately, this is a rather isolated case of two companies working together to create a responsible and transparent supply chain that helps stem illegal logging. Illegal and 'bad practice' logging are rife in the Amazon rainforest; the practice damages not just the environment, but also the local communities in affected areas.

The FSC supports the approach taken by Cikel, which sources exotic rainforest timber using techniques designed to minimise impact on the rainforest and its environment. For its work, the company has been issued an FSC Forest Management Certificate, which guarantees that key agreed principles and rules of responsible timber harvesting are adhered to.

Cikel also ensures that its projects are not to the detriment of local communities and has set up a number of initiatives to benefit them, particularly in the area of education. For example, thanks to Cikel support Casa Familiar Rural (Rural Familiar House) from the Quilombola community in Baião provides courses on Familiar Agriculture.

Cikel also develops projects with the municipal schools of the cities of Goainésia, Portel and Ananindeua in Pará state

and Itinga do Maranhão in Maranhão state. These focus on environmental education for teenagers, where they learn the meaning of lower impact forest management. They also receive tuition on environment preservation and are taught to adopt correct environmental practices.

Cikel and other members of GFTN-Brazil are in the minority when it comes to responsible logging in Brazil. However, it is hoped that the transparent and responsibly sourced supply chain between Cikel and B&Q will act as an example to other Brazilian companies. They will see that abandoning bad practice and developing environmentally and community-friendly practices will not only be ecologically sound, it may even increase the productivity of their businesses through partnerships with successful companies from overseas. Cikel urges companies from the rest of the world to re-enforce this message and refuse to source supplies from companies insensitive to the impact logging has on the rainforest and its communities. This message needs to get across to loggers who are involved in bad or illegal practices sooner rather than later, in order to preserve the Brazilian rainforest and maintain a good standard of life for its communities.

A spokesperson from B&Q shared this sentiment: "[It is] more vital than ever to set a good example to other businesses. The UK has recently been found to be the world's second largest importer of illegal timber. We need to demonstrate that you can sell good quality products sourced from responsibly managed supply chains.

"B&Q are incredibly proud to have formed this partnership with Cikel. It means that we can supply our customers with excellent tropical flooring sourced from a company who has responsibly sourced the timber from which it is made."

Cikel, with B&Q, are leading the way. The Brazilian company employs and educates 2,500 people within the local community where they work, which indirectly benefits around 9,000 people and families. Their educational programmes, which help the community understand and implement responsible agriculture, teach the workforce valuable skills to enable them to be more aware of their living environment. It is hoped that other organisations, both at source and those involved in distribution, will follow suit and take up the baton of responsibility, to clear up a damaging practice.

FOOTBALLS BOOST EFFORTS TO SAFEGUARD FORESTS IN CONGO BASIN

With rampant illegal logging, vague logging concession boundaries and massive blocks of pristine forest destined for the chainsaw, how do you avoid an ecological disaster? WWF is defending forests and people in several ways, including through an unexpected tactic – donating 10 leather footballs to a logging company in the Congo Basin.



The WWF Central African Forest and Trade Network, CAFTN, is a platform for partnership between forest managers/processors and other stakeholders committed to responsible forest management and certification. The WWF-Central Africa Regional Programme Office, through the CAFTN, signs individual agreements with concerned logging companies, as well as develops time-bound action plans for progress to FSC certification. Both parties jointly assess the impacts of logging activities on wildlife and the local population, and develop an action plan that addresses environmental, social and business needs.

WWF CAFTN works closely with forest management units, or helps to create them in the engaged logging company. Experts in these units work on providing support and the necessary framework to understand forest regulations, forestry exploitation mechanics, social development issues and environmental management. For this to happen, WWF staff undertake evaluation visits to the concessions. After evaluation, in some cases companies need on-the-site training, workshops and sometimes institutional support. Depending on the needs of the logging concession, a plan of action is established to help achieve FSC certification.

It is within this framework that the Société d'Exploitation Forestière et Agricole du Cameroun, SEFAC Groupe, a logging company based in the South-east of Cameroon, received FSC certification in September 2007, thereby putting 314,655ha of its 405,421ha forest concession under responsible forest management. As a mark of encouragement, WWF-UK FTN on 31 December 2008 donated 10 leather footballs to the company for use in its football league, which includes participants from the surrounding community, including the Baka people.

According to SEFAC's managers, the 10 balls received from Julia Young of WWF-UK FTN are veritable New Year gifts that will boost the company's certification efforts. "It will encourage sporting activities that bring together Baka pygmies and Bantus within the context of FSC certification. The balls are indeed awareness raising materials," explained Seraphin Sengoum, a sociologist working for Groupe SEFAC. Julia was lucky enough to visit SEFAC in 2008, and hear first hand about the work being done locally. Giorgio Coates, Groupe SEFAC's Commercial Director, says the balls will reinforce team spirit just as certification has demonstrated the virtues of teamwork.



More than one million ha of forests in the Congo Basin came under FSC certification in 2008. WWF hopes that by 2012, 7 million ha of forest in the region

will be certified while another 5 million ha will be progressing towards credible certification.

According to Jim Leape, Director General of WWF International, FSC certification is one of the most important strategies developed over the last 15 years. During a visit to part of the Congo Basin in 2008, Mr. Leape said "Absolutely, we have to find ways to conserve the forest and at the same time meet the economic and social needs of surrounding communities. And certified forestry is a proven strategy for doing that".

NEW WWF-UK FTN MEMBER

We are pleased to welcome Crest Nicholson plc as the latest member to join the WWF-UK Forest & Trade Network, adding to our portfolio of businesses loosely grouped in the construction sector. Crest Nicholson is a home builder whose mission is to be the market leader in the design and delivery of sustainable housing and mixed use communities. Crest Nicholson also participates in the Next Generation house-builders' benchmarking group, which sets out key performance areas for delivery of sustainable housing in the UK.

Julia Young, WWF-UK FTN Manager, said, "We hope that their commitment to examining their timber use through the FTN will act as a signal to other groups, including the public sector, of the importance of addressing the use of natural resources in build projects."

You can find out more about Crest Nicholson at:

<http://www.crestnicholson.com/default.aspx>



WWF GLOBAL FOREST & TRADE NETWORK NEWS

Environmentally and socially responsible trade financing mechanisms key to conserving world's forests

Leaders in the financial services industry and the environmental community held a first-of-its-kind summit during March in Washington DC to explore how sustainable investing and financing mechanisms could help advance the conservation of the world's forests.

The Trade Finance Opportunity conference took place at the WWF-US headquarters in Washington. It brought together leading experts from financial institutions, trade groups, environmental organisations and other groups with an interest in supply-chain issues to raise awareness of the issues and opportunities associated with environmentally and socially responsible financial practices, with a special emphasis on the coffee and forestry sectors.

The event was co-hosted by The Finance Alliance for Sustainable Trade (FAST) and WWF's Global Forest & Trade Network, with support from the World Bank, the International Finance Corporation (IFC) and the Citi Foundation.

Read more at: http://www.panda.org/what_we_do/how_we_work/conservation/forests/news/?159081/Environmentally-and-Socially-Responsible-Trade-Financing-Mechanisms-Key-to-Conserving-Worlds-Forests

GFTN-France

Less than a month after the start of GFTN-Iberia, GFTN-France re-launched in Paris, with support from seven leading companies: Setragroup, Berrywood, Leroy Merlin, Fournier (Mobalpa), Castorama, Nature et découvertes and the Regional Council Nord Pas de Calais. GFTN-France was originally launched in 1999 as 'Club Proforêt'; its re-launch reflects an increased focus on promoting responsible tropical timber trade between France and the Congo Basin. Under this new, more focused vision, GFTN-France and GFTN-Central Africa will develop coordinated activities among participants to more effectively leverage GFTN's impact in transforming the global timber trade.

The 24 Iberian and French companies that are now part of the GFTN network are not only industry leaders looking to transform their purchasing and trade policies, but are also pioneers in developing markets for Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) products. In Iberia, Leroy Merlin offers a wide range of FSC-certified home improvement products and Lafarge Cement is the first company in its sector to use FSC-certified cement sacks and pallets. Likewise, Puertas Luvipol has launched its first FSC tropical wooden door and Benito Sistemas de Carpinteria offers an FSC-labelled window. In France, Carrefour has certified 80% of its garden furniture line.

For more information contact:

Iberia: Felix Romero Cañizares (fromero@wwf.es)

France: Jean Bakouma (jbakouma@wwf.fr)

FSC-certified forests double in Congo Basin

October was a dynamite month for forest certification in the Congo Basin. Three companies – Rougier-Gabon, Precious Wood, and GFTN Central Africa (GFTN-CA) Participant Pallisco – received FSC certification for over 1.5 million ha, more than doubling the total area certified in the Congo Basin to almost 3 million ha.

For Pallisco, FSC Chain of Custody certification and Forest Management certification for 341,708 ha is the culmination of four years' hard work. As one of the largest forest management companies in Cameroon, Pallisco's certification contributes to FSC's growing momentum in the Congo Basin.

Pallisco's progress is another step in the transformation of the forest products trade between Cameroon and Europe. Since 2005, Pallisco and GFTN-CA have worked side-by-side to implement ecological practices and social programmes necessary to meet the requirements of FSC certification. Over the years, Pallisco has assessed the social and environmental impacts of their logging operations and implemented activities to mitigate those impacts. This work has included enhancing Reduced Impact Logging practices, conducting wildlife surveys, negotiating on the multiple uses of the highly valuable tree species moabi (African pearwood, *Baillonella toxisperma*), and working with local NGOs to build capacity for communities around Pallisco's concessions. Pallisco's certification brings the GFTN-CA portfolio of credibly certified forests to 848,323 ha, or 30% of FSC-certified forests in the Congo Basin.

GFTN-CA's work with Pallisco illustrates the importance of responsible forest management as a conservation tool in the Congo Basin. In July 2008, Jim Leape, Director General of WWF-International, journeyed to the Congo Basin to observe WWF's work in the region. Included in his visit was a study tour to GFTN-CA participant SEFAC's recently certified logging concession.

"I think FSC certification is one of the most important strategies we have developed over the last 15 years because we absolutely must find ways to conserve the forest and at the same time meet the economic and social needs of surrounding communities", Mr. Leape said. "And certified forestry is a proven strategy for doing that. It is very exciting to see that strategy work here in Central Africa."

For more information contact:

Elie Hakizumwami (Ehakizumwami@wwfcarpo.org)

New hope for threatened forests of Borneo

In a significant gesture that is likely to have long-term conservation implications for the area, the Sabah Forestry Department (SFD) in Malaysia recently scaled up its commitment to eliminate illegal logging in the Ulu Segama-Malua forest reserve by pledging 241,098 ha to credible certification. Located on the island of Borneo, Ulu Segama-Malua is part of one of the most threatened forest ecosystems in the world. It provides critical habitat to 25% of the total

orang-utan population of Sabah. Because this is the largest orang-utan habitat in north-eastern Borneo, it is essential that responsible management practices in the area provide for the survival of these endangered apes. Working collaboratively with GFTN-Malaysia, the SFD has agreed to achieve forest certification and to create strict conservation areas of orang-utan habitat.

The SFD has had a long and productive relationship with WWF. "SFD has consistently been a great supporter of sustainable forest management since 2007," said WWF-Malaysia CEO, Dato' Dionysius S.K. Sharma. "WWF-Malaysia has made an official partnership with the SFD through the GFTN to assist FMU17A in achieving FSC certification. The world's forests remain under threat from deforestation, illegal logging and poor forest management. Realising these threats, the SFD demonstrates an exemplary action to the industry and movement towards sustainable forest management."

For more information contact: Ivy Wong (Iwong@wwf.org.my)

Lower impacts, lower costs: Reduced Impact Logging in Brazil

Lower impacts and lower costs through Reduced Impact Logging (RIL) techniques were the focus of two workshops conducted in Brazil last November. The events brought together Brazilian logging companies, environmental law enforcers, NGO representatives, and managers of protected areas with GFTN-Brazil and the Tropical Forest Institute (IFT). Held in the municipality of Paragominas, in the state of Pará, the workshops provided hands-on training in best practices that can assist companies in achieving credible certification.

WWF-Brazil has documented declines in the rate of deforestation in the Brazilian Amazon over recent years. However, a worrisome reversal happened between August 2007 and July 2008, when approximately 1.2 million ha of Brazilian rainforest were destroyed. With this destruction comes a loss in biodiversity and in ecosystem services such as climate regulation, carbon stock retention, soil protection, and medicinal plants, as well as subsistence benefits provided by non-timber forest uses. Much of the wood coming from this region is either illegally or irresponsibly harvested, emphasizing the need to develop improved forest management in the region. To address this crisis, GFTN-Brazil has been working

with companies in the Brazilian Amazon to help them progress through GFTN's stepwise approach to achieving credible certification.

By organising training courses – such as the ones on Reduced Impact Logging – GFTN-Brazil staff hope to emphasise the ecological and economic benefits to be gained through implementing best practices. Participants said the workshops increased their forest management capacity – teaching them how to reduce ecological impacts through the application of techniques and procedures that decrease the damage and waste generated by conventional logging. RIL is a systematic approach to planning, implementing, monitoring and evaluating logging that has been proven to minimize impacts on forests. RIL sets clear conditions that maintain the ecological functions of the forest while sustaining their economic benefits.

Irresponsible logging often focuses on getting the highest quantity of valuable species out of the forest as fast as possible, with little regard for the social or environmental implications. In contrast, RIL aims to minimize soil erosion, protect watersheds, and increase logging efficiency by reducing waste and limiting the impacts of logging on non-selected trees and vegetation. The RIL workshop emphasised skills in pre- and post-harvest assessment and planning, mapping, precise tree cutting, waste disposal, record keeping, construction and maintenance of ecologically sensitive roads and skid trails, and efficient and safe use of labour and machinery.

For more information contact:

Sergio Safe de Matos Junior (sergiosafe@wwf.org.br)

FSC-certified forests owned by GFTN-China forest participants reach one million ha

In October 2008, FSC certification was achieved for 116,217 ha of forest of Fujian Yong'an Forestry (Group) Joint Stock Co., Ltd and 230,405 ha of forest of Heilongjiang Muling Forestry Bureau. Both of them are GFTN-China participants. There are now over one million ha of FSC-certified forests owned by GFTN-China forest participants, marking a significant step for GFTN-China in its wide scale promotion of FSC certification in China.

Read more at:

http://gftn.panda.org/newsroom/press_releases/?153581/FSC-certified-forests-owned-by-GFTN-China-forest-participants-have-gone-beyond-1000000-ha

China Flooring Holding Co., Ltd. wins WWF conservation award

China Flooring Holding Co., Ltd. (Nature) has received the Merit Conservation Supporter award from the WWF China Program Office for its outstanding performance in the WWF GFTN-China programme. Nature has positively implemented its action plan since it joined GFTN-China in October 2005 with a strong responsible social and environmental corporation strategy. Three of its factories and four of its major suppliers have got FSC Chain of Custody certification, and one of the suppliers has got FSC-FM certification with over 200,000 ha of forest.

To date, Nature is the only one of the 21 participants of GFTN-China to win the WWF Merit Conservation Supporter award. WWF hopes other GFTN-China participants can learn from Nature to make the ongoing active engagement to eliminate illegal logging and improve the management of valuable and threatened forests.

Read more at: <http://gftn.panda.org/newsroom/?153582/China-Flooring-Holding-Co-Ltd-Achieved-Merit-Conservation-Supporter-2008-Award-from-WWF-China>

OTHER WWF/FORESTS NEWS

For more forestry related stories, visit http://www.panda.org/what_we_do/how_we_work/conservation/forests/

Massive majority want EU illegal timber law

European citizens overwhelmingly want stricter controls on illegally sourced timber, according to a poll commissioned by WWF and Friends of the Earth (FoE) Europe.

With an overwhelming 92% of respondents believing it is important that a new EU wide law is introduced to halt the trade in illegal timber and timber products on the European market, WWF and FoE Europe are urging the European parliament and EU governments to act accordingly and adopt a strong legislation without further delay.

Read more at: http://www.panda.org/wwf_news/?160821/Massive-majority-want-EU-illegal-timber-law



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Lacey Act implementation plan revised – FSC remains best tool for legality

From FSC.org: The US Department of Agriculture's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) has revised its phase-in plan to enforce the amended Lacey Act. FSC certified companies are best positioned to meet the newly required declaration that is set to combat the illegal trafficking of timber into the country.

Read more at: <http://www.fsc.org/fsc-news.html>

Benn calls for tougher stance on illegal timber

From TTJ Online: Environment secretary Hilary Benn has called for tougher European laws to tackle illegal logging. Mr Benn signalled that the government wants to make it an offence to import illegally produced timber into the European Union.

His statement came as the government prepared, on April 1, to implement its new timber procurement policy which stipulates that government departments, agencies and other bodies will only be able to buy wood and timber products originating from independently verified legal and sustainable sources or from a licensed country.

Read more at: <http://www.ttjonline.com/story.asp?sectioncode=14&storycode=58875&c=1>

FSC certification terminated for VIBO

From FSC.org: FSC has terminated its accreditation of Fundación Vida para el Bosque (VIBO) for both forest management and chain-of-custody certification. As of 11 March 2009, the Mexican-based certification body is not allowed to carry out any certification for FSC.

Read more at: <http://www.fsc.org/fsc-news.html>

Sao Paulo's industry commits to legal wood use to protect Amazon

Brazil's most industrialised and populous state – Sao Paulo – has committed itself to the use of legal and certified wood in a move which could help preserve the country's vast endangered forests.

Under the Legal Timber Commitment, a voluntary agreement brokered with help of WWF-Brazil and Sao Paulo's authorities, businesses will develop mechanisms which demand that their suppliers acquire wood in compliance with environmental legislation and Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) standards.

"The project involves training buyers on how to identify the origin of wood they are purchasing, working to eliminate illegal wood and to increase certified wood from their suppliers," says WWF-Brazil's CEO, Denise Hamú. The agreement also aims to develop studies and sustainable products adequate to the construction.

The agreement has been signed by dozens of companies operating within the state of Sao Paulo, plus representatives from the government and third sector.

The state and municipal government will also commit themselves to buy wood only from legal or certified sources.

Read more at: http://www.panda.org/what_we_do/how_we_work/conservation/forests/news/?159061/Sao-Paulos-industry-commits-to-legal-wood-use

Review of FSC Principles and Criteria

From FSC.org: The FSC International Centre is calling for individuals to participate on the Advisory Group for the Review and Revision of the FSC Principles and Criteria (P&C). In 2008, FSC commenced a comprehensive review and revision of its P&C and formed a P&C Review Working Group to undertake this process. The FSC Board of Directors also requested that FSC establish an additional Advisory Group for this process. The intent of the Advisory Group is to support the P&C Review Working Group in ensuring that the views of all FSC stakeholder groups receive due consideration.

Read more at: <http://www.fsc.org/fsc-news.html> 5

Forest clearing linked to human and tiger deaths in Sumatra

Most violent incidents between people and tigers in Sumatra's Riau Province in the past 12 years have occurred near forests being cleared by paper giant Asia Pulp & Paper (APP) and associated companies, according to a new analysis of human-tiger conflict data.

The analysis, conducted by the group Eyes on the Forest, found that since 1997, 55 people and 15 Sumatran tigers (*Panthera tigris sumatrae*) have been killed due to conflict in Riau Province. Another 17 tigers have been captured and removed from the wild. Read more at: <http://www.panda.org/?159162/APPs-forest-clearing-linked-to-12-years-of-human-and-tiger-deaths-in-Sumatra>

Read more at: http://www.panda.org/what_we_do/how_we_work/conservation/forests/news/?159162/APPs-forest-clearing-linked-to-12-years-of-human-and-tiger-deaths-in-Sumatra

Tigers not deterred by selective logging

Recent research conducted by WWF shows that selectively logged forests may be able to support a high population density of tigers in Malaysia, and in turn boost the role of protected areas in tiger conservation.

Researchers carried out the nine-month survey in a forest reserve in Kelantan – an area which has been selectively logged since the 1970s. Using camera traps, they obtained a tiger density estimate of 2.59 adult tigers per 100 km². The resulting research article was published in the conservation journal, *Oryx*.

Read more at: <http://www.panda.org/?158821/Tigers-not-deterred-by-selective-logging>

New US paper purchasing toolkit recommends FSC

From FSC.org: A new online resource guide for paper users in the US recommends that buyers should look out for the FSC logo. The Environmental Paper Network (EPN) launched WhatsInYourPaper.com to assist and guide consumers and companies to use "environmentally superior paper". EPN is a coalition of environmental organisations that support socially and environmentally sustainable transformations within the pulp and paper industry.

Read more at: <http://www.fsc.org/fsc-news.html>

Greenpeace warns against inadequate disclosure for listed forestry companies

From Greenpeace.org: A new report by Greenpeace China exposes the loopholes in the Hong Kong Stock Exchange's rules on environmental disclosure for listed forestry companies. Most listed companies that claimed to be "environmental friendly" were only so by default, thus misleading investors. Greenpeace is urging Hong Kong regulators to beef up disclosure standards and listing requirements on forestry companies to address deforestation, climate change and pollution issues.

Download the report at: <http://www.greenpeace.org/china/en/press/reports/in-the-green-or-in-the-red-en>

FSC certification offered by Swedish economic association Södra

From FSC.org: The Swedish economic association Södra has decided to offer FSC certification to its members following a strong increase in demand for FSC certified products. FSC certification of forest owners gives Södra greater earning capability by enabling it to offer products that are FSC certified to pulp and timber customers alike. As a result, Södra will give its members a price premium for their FSC certified timber. With more than 50,000 forest owners in southern Sweden, the economic association owns just over half of all privately-owned forest in the area and a group of companies that trade in national and international markets.

Read more at: <http://www.fsc.org/fsc-news.html>

Update on FSC licensing charges

From FSC-UK: In recognition of the pressures placed on companies by the recession, the decision was recently taken by the FSC International Centre to postpone the introduction of licensing charges for certificate holders. These charges would have replaced the annual accreditation fee from July this year for new certificate holders and then progressively for existing certificate holders from January 2010. For the time being, companies will continue to support FSC through the payment of the annual accreditation fee, collected by certification bodies at the anniversary of each certificate.

However, there remains a strong case for non-certificate holders who use FSC's trademarks to be registered as such and, where appropriate, to pay a charge for trading on 'the FSC brand'. The charge will cover such matters as the registration itself, training in and verification of the correct use of our trademarks, as well as contributing towards policing the catalogues and websites of those who attempt to exploit the FSC name and logo without permission. In Britain, the administration of trademark registration for non-certificate holders will be the responsibility of FSC UK, and we will endeavour to keep you abreast of developments as they take place.

For more information, please contact [Rosie Teasdale](mailto:rosie@fsc-uk.org), Deputy Director, FSC UK Working Group, at: tel: 01686 413 916, or e-mail: rosie@fsc-uk.org

Good news for responsible forest management in Congo Basin

From FSC.org: The French forestry company PASQUET Group has achieved FSC certification for its forest management concession in Cameroon. In a country rife with illegal logging and high deforestation rates, the new certificate demonstrates a positive trend in responsible forest management. Furthermore, the company is successfully tracking the FSC timber to its newly certified timber trading operations in France for export to international markets including Spain, France, and the UK.

Read more at: <http://www.fsc.org/fsc-news.html>

Chain of Custody workshop announced

From PEFC.org: The workshop offers participants the unique opportunity to share experiences, develop a deeper understanding of the Chain of Custody, and help shape the criteria of the revised Chain of Custody Standard, scheduled to take effect in 2010.

Read more at: http://www.pefc.org/internet/html/news/4_1154_64/5_1105_1997.htm

Forest certification scheme revises core documents

From TTJ online: PEFC International has announced a comprehensive revision of its core documents. The documents deal with PEFC's global criteria for sustainable forest management and its standard setting procedures at a national level. PEFC International is calling on stakeholders to nominate candidates for a working group dedicated to the revision, to be finalised in the autumn of 2010.

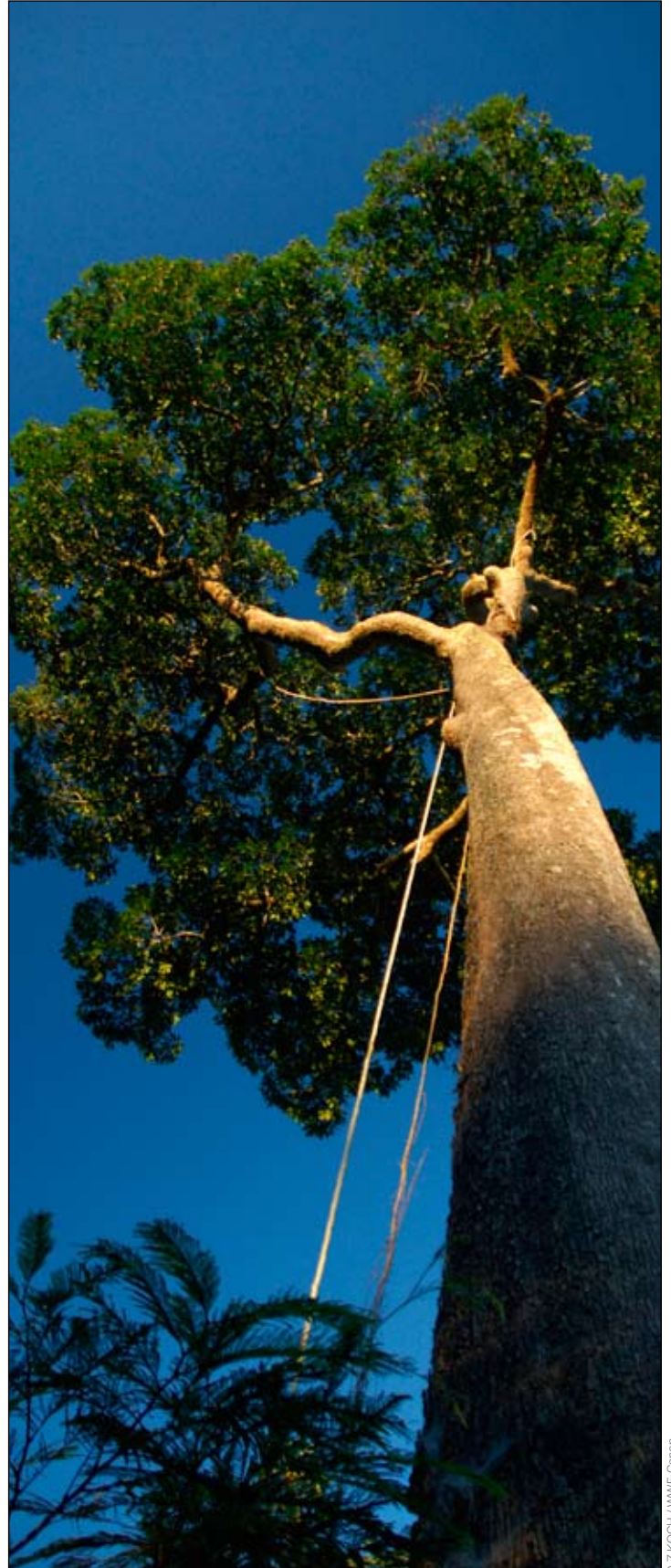
Read more at: <http://www.ttjonline.com/story.asp?sectioncode=17&storycode=58615&c=1>

Malaysia launches timber policy

From TTJ online: Malaysia has launched a nationwide timber policy designed to boost production of value-added wood products.

The long-term policy, launched by Plantation and Commodities Minister Peter Chin and the Deputy Prime Minister Najib Razak in February, aims to double the value of annual exports to M\$53m by 2020. By this date, the National Timber Industry Policy foresees 60% of the value of exports will be derived from the shipment of further processed timber products.

Read more at: <http://www.ttjonline.com/story.asp?storyCode=58506§ioncode=17>



ICILA suspended for FSC forest management certification in Cameroon

From FSC.org: The FSC accredited certification body ICILA has been suspended from undertaking FSC forest management certification activities in Cameroon.

As of 23 February 2008, ICILA is no longer allowed to sign new contracts or issue new FSC certificates during the suspension period. Current FSC certificates issued by ICILA prior to the suspension period will remain valid. However, the Italian based certification body may not pursue any new certification audit, nor issue or re-issue new FSC certificates.

Read more at: <http://www.fsc.org/fsc-news.html>

Palm oil plans for Indonesia promote FSC certification

From FSC.org: The World Resource Institute (WRI) has launched an innovative project in Indonesia to divert new oil palm plantations onto degraded lands, and bring forests that were planned for conversion into FSC certified forestry. The POTICO Project (Palm Oil, Timber, Carbon Offset) is designed to curb the conversion of natural forest to palm oil plantations.

Read more at: <http://www.fsc.org/fsc-news.html>

China and EC sign timber deal

From TTJ online: The Chinese government has signed an agreement with the European Commission (EC) to deal with issues of verifying legally sourced timber and improving supply chain transparency.

According to the International Tropical Timber Organisation's latest market report, the EU-China bilateral co-ordination mechanism on Forest Law Enforcement and Governance is expected to encourage the development of shared approaches to timber legality verification.

The agreement was signed by Zhu Lieke, Vice-Minister of the Chinese State Forest Administration and Commissioner Dimas of the EC. It is likely that the systems established by countries negotiating FLEGT Voluntary Partnership Agreements with the EU will feature highly.

Read more at: <http://www.ttjonline.com/story.asp?sectioncode=17&storycode=58497&c=1>

Finnish log purchases down 32%

From TTJ online: Finnish forest industry log purchases from private forests were down 32% in January, compared to a year ago. Total purchases were 1.3 million m³, which was 16% up on December.

Read more at:

<http://www.ttjonline.com/intextlinkresult.asp?linkid=6010>

Traceable timber amendments strengthen Europe's illegal logging proposals

WWF believes that Europe's proposed new timber regulations have been transformed from a ramshackle statement of intent to a credible framework for controlling the illegal trade in timber, following the European Parliament environment committee's acceptance of key amendments improving traceability, monitoring and enforcement.

"The amendments give all players in the timber supply chain clearer indications about the system they need to establish to prove the legality of their timber – and provide clearer and more certain consequences to those who continue to flout the rules," said Anke Schulmeister, Forest Policy Officer at WWF.

"We congratulate the committee for having the foresight to recognise the inadequacies of the draft regulation proposed by the European Commission and having the courage to do the necessary carpentry to this draft law."

Today's amendments give operators of the supply chain clear indications about the traceability system they need to establish. They also improved investigative capabilities in European countries, which hold responsibility for stopping illegal products at the borders and applying penalties.

WWF believes this is a milestone to stop massive forest destruction worldwide, and a much needed improvement of the new EU timber law proposed by the European Commission.

Read more at: <http://panda.org/?156601/EU-Parliament-committee-passes-test-on-illegal-logging-law>

WWF statement regarding the PEFC governance review and the new PEFC stakeholder forum

Please click on the following link to download the document: http://www.panda.org/what_we_do/how_we_work/conservation/forests/our_solutions/responsible_forestry/?156561/Analysis-of-the-FSC-and-PEFC-Systems-for-Forest-Certification-Using-the-FCAG-2008--Summary-of-the-report-by-Martin-Walter

US revises Lacey Act enforcement schedule

From TTJ online: The US Department of Agriculture has revised the phase-in schedule for enforcement of the Lacey Act amendments which effectively criminalise the import of illegally felled wood.

The department made the decision to lengthen the period of each phase from three months to six months after receiving 124 comments about the phase-in plan. The phase-in will also be based on products' degree of processing.

Sawn timber and joinery products will be in phase two (1 April - 30 September 2009), panels in phase three (1 October - 31 March 2010) and furniture and paper in phase four (1 April - 30 September 2010).

Read more at: <http://www.ttjonline.com/story.asp?storyCode=58418§ioncode=17>

Indonesia lifts ban on logging of natural forests for pulp and paper

From Mongabay.com: Indonesia has reversed a ban on paper and pulp companies harvesting wood from natural forests, reports the International Tropical Timber Organization in its Tropical Timber Market Report for 1-15 January.

The decision by the forestry ministry to reverse the ban signals a shortage of wood from forest plantation projects for the pulp and paper industry. Last year, plantation companies apparently delayed new plantation projects and over-harvested existing plantations.

Read more at: <http://news.mongabay.com/2009/0122-indonesia.html>

First FSC certificates granted in Gabon

From FSC.org: The first FSC certificates ever to be granted in Gabon were issued in October 2008 for two tropical forest concessions that span a combined area of 1,304,962 ha. Home to the second largest forest in the Congo Basin in Africa, Gabon holds some of the world's most biodiverse rainforests.

Rougier Gabon and Precious Woods Gabon each achieved FSC certification for managing their concessions in accordance with the strict social, environmental criteria of the FSC Principles and Criteria.

Read more at: <http://www.fsc.org/fsc-news.html>

Amazonian nomads flee loggers' bulldozers

From Survival International (UK): A tribe of 300 Amazon nomads, called the Aw, is fleeing from bulldozers as their last forest is rapidly destroyed. Around 60 members of the tribe have no contact with outsiders. Survival International has launched an urgent campaign for the protection of the Aw, who are one of the last truly nomadic hunter-gatherer tribes in Brazil.

Read more at: <http://www.survival-international.org/news/4167>

UK and China forge green design partnership

From Building.co.uk: Thames Gateway Institute for Sustainability and engineers, Arup, have signed an agreement with Tongji University in China to jointly promote sustainable design and construction. The signatories, including University College London Provost Malcolm Grant and Arup Global Research Director Jeremy Watson, said the agreement would help both countries become leaders in environmental technology.

Read more at: <http://www.building.co.uk/story.asp?storycode=3133005>

DRC cancels nearly 60% of timber contracts

From ITTO Tropical Timber Market Report (Japan): After a review of 156 logging deals in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), the government has cancelled nearly 60% of timber contracts in the country's rainforests, reported the BBC. The investigations, backed by the World Bank, were conducted with the view to exposing corruption and enforcing environmental standards. The investigations concluded that only 65 of the existing deals were viable. The government notified the relevant companies of the cancelled contracts and indicated new contracts would be issued for 90,000 sq km of forest area.

Sarawak to resist pressure from Europe

From Malaysia Star (Malaysia): Sarawak will not bow to pressure from the Europeans on timber certification, said Chief Minister Tan Sri Abdul Taib Mahmud. He said European NGOs had their own agenda in pressuring the state to meet their demands on timber certification. He also noted that timber trade with Europe made up only 2% of the state's total exports. Taib said Sarawak was negotiating with the Japanese, who were traditional and long-term buyers of logs and timber products, on a timber certification system.

Read more at: <http://thestar.com.my/news/story.asp?file=/2009/2/1/nation/3170849&sec=nation>

Gabon bans harvesting of four species

From TTJ online: Gabon's government has banned the harvesting of four timber species, according to the latest International Tropical Timber Organisation market report. Afo, douka, moabi and ozigo harvesting have been banned from the start of the year and producers have been given three months to dispose of their stocks. Moabi is a major species for the French market, but there is an oversupply in the country at the moment. However, it is thought the ban could affect the viability of some Gabonese concession areas.

Read more at: <http://www.ttjonline.com/story.asp?storyCode=58259§ioncode=17>

Obama's inaugural invitations printed on FSC certified paper

From FSC.org: Great news for the Forest Stewardship Council (FSC)! President-elect Barack Obama's one million inaugural invitations were printed on FSC certified paper. This high-profile use of FSC certified paper represents a milestone for FSC, demonstrating recognition of the importance of FSC certification at the highest levels of the US government and setting a precedent for subsequent procurement decisions. "We are very proud that President Obama and his team chose an FSC certified paper for his invitations. We see this as an indication of the seriousness of his commitment to change," said FSC Executive Director Andre de Freitas.

Read more at: <http://www.fsc.org/fsc-news.html>

ITTO publishes action plan

From International Tropical Timber Organisation: A three-year action plan has been published by the International Tropical Timber Organisation (ITTO) with an aim of boosting the production of legal and sustainable tropical timber.

The plan, composed by an ITTO working group nominated by producer and consumer countries, is intended to help deliver the objectives of the UN International Tropical Timber Agreement. It lists increased production, further processing and export of value-added products as key targets.

Read more at: <http://www.itto.or.jp/live/PageDisplayHandler?pageld=201>

Malaysia to sign VPA

From TTJ online: Malaysia will soon have a Voluntary Partnership Agreement (VPA), according to the head of the European Commission delegation in the country. Vincent Pickett is reported by the Bernama news agency as saying that discussions are close to being finalised.

Read more at: <http://www.ttjonline.com/story.asp?storycode=58085>

Minister extends deadline to clear forest for pulp material

From EoF News: The Ministry of Forestry has allowed the pulp and paper industry to source its raw material from natural forest. This runs counter to government plans to end such sourcing by 2009 under a Minister of Forestry Decree stipulated in 2004.

Read more at: http://eyesontheforest.or.id/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=215&Itemid=6&lang=english

Largest group of forest owners achieves FSC certification

From FSC.org: The recent certification of Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources' Managed Forest Law (MFL) in the United States makes it the largest forest management group to date to achieve FSC certification. MFL has the most landowners of any single certified group, with over 40,000 privately-owned forest parcels.

Read more at: <http://www.fsc.org/fsc-news.html>



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Indonesia jails MP for corruption

From BBC News website: Indonesia has jailed a prominent sitting member of parliament on corruption charges. Al-Amin Nasution was convicted by the corruption court on several counts of bribery relating to protected forest land in Indonesia's Riau province. The conviction is a sign of changing times in Indonesia's battle with corruption.

Corruption has often been blamed for eating away at Indonesia's precious remaining forest. The story told by the prosecution was breathtakingly audacious. Al-Amin Nasution had accepted bribes from local officials in Riau in return for signing over protected forest land for development.

Read more at: <http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/world/asia-pacific/7812919.stm>

Greater Mekong a biological treasure trove: more than 1,000 new species discovered in a decade

Over 1,000 new species have been discovered in the Greater Mekong region of south-east Asia in just the last decade, according to a new report launched by WWF.

First Contact in the Greater Mekong reports that among the 1,068 species newly identified by science, between 1997 and 2007, were the world's largest huntsman spider, with a leg span of 30cm, and the startlingly hot pink coloured cyanide-producing 'dragon millipede'.

While most species were discovered in the largely unexplored jungles and wetlands, some were first found in the most surprising places. The Laotian rock rat, for example, thought to be extinct 11 million years ago, was first encountered by scientists in a local food market, while the Siamese Peninsula pitviper was found slithering through the rafters of a restaurant in Khao Yai National Park in Thailand.

Read more at: <http://www.panda.org/index.cfm?uNewsID=152622>

National forest management standard for Papua New Guinea approved

From FSC.org: Following the closure of preconditions set by the National Standards Accreditation Committee for the FSC Board of Directors, the FSC Executive Director delivered a positive accreditation decision for one new FSC standard – the National Forest Management Standard for Papua New Guinea. Since no further preconditions were raised, the standard came into effect as of 8 December 2008.

The FSC Executive Director approved the report submitted by the Policy and Standards Unit (PSU). This standard is approved but subject to conditions to be fulfilled within the timelines specified in the report to the satisfaction of the FSC Executive Director.

Read more at: <http://www.fsc.org/fsc-news.html>

FSC accredits National Initiatives in Nepal, Norway and Honduras

From FSC.org: The National Initiatives in Nepal, Norway and Honduras have achieved FSC accreditation and will lead forest certification efforts in their countries. The accreditation verifies that they meet FSC's strict requirements and will guide forest owners and companies in the supply chain to support responsible practices and purchasing.

Read more at: <http://www.fsc.org/fsc-news.html>

EC and Vietnam establish FLEGT Technical Working Group

From ITTO Tropical Timber Market Report (Japan):

The Vietnamese Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development and the European Commission have agreed to establish a bilateral Technical Working Group on Forest Law Enforcement Governance and Trade (FLEGT).

The aim of the working group is to jointly investigate the options for combating illegal logging and related trade and the possibility of negotiating a FLEGT Voluntary Partnership Agreement between Vietnam and the EU. Vietnam is a major exporter of processed timber products to the EU and has recently been criticized for importing illegally harvested timber to supply its booming furniture sector. With legislative initiatives against the trade in illegal timber products being developed in

the US, the EU and other consumer markets, the Vietnamese industry is seeking ways to maintain and expand its market position by guaranteeing the legality and sustainability of its timber products. The EU has recently completed negotiations for a FLEGT Voluntary Partnership Agreement with Ghana and is currently negotiating such agreements with Malaysia, Indonesia, The Congo and Cameroon.

Review of forest certification schemes published

From DEFRA: The results of the 2008 review of forest certification schemes, which monitors continued compliance with UK government's timber procurement policy, are now available. It concludes that the Forest Stewardship Council (FSC), Programme for the Endorsement of Forest Certification (PEFC), Canadian Standards Association (CSA) and Sustainable Forestry Initiative (SFI) (the latter two are now endorsed by PEFC) continue to deliver evidence of sustainability.

Read more at:

<http://www.proforest.net/cpet/activities-and-news>

Countries prepare for Lacey Act

From TTJ online: Guyana and Indonesia are exploring ways for their timber industries to meet the requirements of the revised Lacey Act in the US, which criminalizes the import of wood products from illegally logged forests, says the International Tropical Timber Organization's latest market report.

By July 2009 traders must be able to show that timber meets the US government's approval.

Read more at: <http://www.ttjonline.com/story.asp?sectioncode=17&storycode=58030>

GFTN GLOBAL TOTALS (AS OF FEBRUARY 2009)

GFTN hectares/percentage of GFTN hectares that are FSC-certified located across 34 countries



FSC GLOBAL UPDATES

FSC certified forest area by continent (as of December 2008):

Europe: 48,696,556 ha

North America: 37,168,457 ha

South America and Caribbean: 11,601,685 ha

Africa: 5,195,542 ha

Asia: 2,572,263 ha

Oceania: 1,600,361 ha

Total FSC certified area: 106,834,864 ha

Maps and data on FSC – December 2008:

http://www.fsc.org/fileadmin/web-data/public/document_center/powerpoints_graphs/facts_figures/08-12-31_Global_FSC_certificates_-_type_and_distribution_-_FINAL.pdf

FSC certified forests by country – December 2008:

http://www.fsc.org/fileadmin/web-data/public/document_center/powerpoints_graphs/facts_figures/08-12-31_Global_FSC_certificates_-_type_and_distribution_-_FINAL.pdf

Regional totals: FSC Chain of Custody certificates – December 2008:

http://www.fsc.org/fileadmin/web-data/public/document_center/powerpoints_graphs/facts_figures/08-12-31_Global_FSC_certificates_-_type_and_distribution_-_FINAL.pdf

Regional totals: FSC forest management certificates – December 2008:

http://www.fsc.org/fileadmin/web-data/public/document_center/powerpoints_graphs/facts_figures/08-12-31_Global_FSC_certificates_-_type_and_distribution_-_FINAL.pdf

For more information visit: www.fsc.org



UPCOMING GFTN AND EXTERNAL EVENTS

For an updated list of GFTN events, *click on the following link:*
<http://gftn.panda.org/newsroom/events/index.cfm>

Illegal Logging Update and Stakeholder Consultation Number 14:

The 14th in the series of illegal logging update meetings organised by Chatham House will take place on 29 and 30 June 2009.

For more information, please visit: http://www.illegal-logging.info/item_single.php?item=event&item_id=156&approach_id=8

2009 WWF GFTN-Iberia business trade mission

The Iberian Forest and Trade Network (IbFTN) is organizing a business trade mission for those companies that are GFTN participants and are interested in establishing trade relations with certified Portuguese producer companies or those in the process of obtaining credible certification via their membership of the IbFTN.

The business trade mission, which will take place from 18-20 May 2009, includes technical visits to:

- cork production forests in the Tagus River region
- two of the world's major industrial companies in the Santa Maria da Feira Municipality
 - Amorim Revestimentos manufactures coverings for interior decoration, floors and walls, using natural raw materials such as cork and wood.
 - Cork Supply Portugal, which is part of the Cork Supply Group, is involved in the production and sale of natural cork stoppers.

The objective of the business mission is to show the potential supply from companies in the Portuguese cork industry which are members of the FTN.

If you are interested in attending, please contact James Horne:
jhorne@wwf.org.uk

Moral fibre event 2009 – Does our future depend on corporate responsibility?

This is an event run by the Trade and Industry Forum of The Stationers' and Newspaper Makers' Company in the City of London on 15 June from 6pm.

The event will bring together a panel of top environmental policy managers from the corporate, retail, print, paper, packaging and publishing industries and offers a great opportunity for debate with a diverse audience mainly drawn from these sectors. The event will include a presentation, a question-and-answer session and a reception/dinner. It will take place in the Great Hall which can accommodate up to 250 people.

These events are always well attended. *For more information, please James Horne:* jhorne@wwf.org.uk

WWF-UK FTN Retail Sector Meeting:

The next WWF-UK FTN Retail Sector meeting is taking place on 7 May 2009 from 1pm at J Sainsbury's HQ in London.

Please contact James Horne if you are interested in attending, or being sent the minutes of this meeting: jhorne@wwf.org.uk

WWF-UK FTN Construction Sector Meeting:

The next WWF-UK FTN Construction Sector meeting is taking place on 2 June from 11am at Bovis Lend Lease's Hanover Square office in London.

Please contact James Horne if you are interested in attending, or being sent the minutes of this meeting: jhorne@wwf.org.uk

USEFUL WWF DOCUMENTS AND REPORTS

Analysis of the FSC and PEFC Systems for Forest Certification Using the FCAG 2008 – a summary of the report, by Martin Walter

WWF, February 2009

In collaboration with the World Bank, WWF developed the Forest Certification Assessment Guide (FCAG) in 2006, to assess the quality and credibility of forest certification schemes.

In recognition of the dynamic nature of forest certification, in 2008 WWF commissioned an assessment using the FCAG of the two global certification systems: the FSC (Forest Stewardship Council) and PEFC (Programme for Endorsement of Certification Systems), to help review its position on credible certification. The assessment focused on the rules set by these systems internationally, supplemented by an assessment of a sample of national FSC and PEFC standards and schemes – in Germany, Australia and Chile – to permit evaluation of elements that could not be assessed at international level.

View the summary of this report at: http://assets.panda.org/downloads/2009_01_27_final_fcag_summary.pdf

Amazon forests standing: a matter of values

WWF, February 2009

This report, carried out by the Copernicus Institute of the University of Utrecht on behalf of WWF, shows that the revenue currently received from economic activities in which the natural environment remains intact is not high enough to offset the non-sustainable activities. Finding mechanisms to secure global payments for the forest's ecological services would provide a major impetus to both preserving the forest and funding and delivering proper management.

View this report at: http://assets.panda.org/downloads/wnf_amazonerapport_def.pdf

Good practice guidelines for HCV assessments

WWF, December 2008

This document sets out good practices for identifying and managing High Conservation Values (HCVs) and HCV forests and areas. It provides detailed guidance on the HCV assessment process, and should be of particular use to HCV practitioners involved in planning and conducting such an assessment, and to certifying bodies auditing HCV identification reports and management plans. Particular emphasis is placed on requirements to maintain the robustness and credibility of the process, which should be a priority for forest or land-use managers implementing an HCV management plan. This document will be particularly useful for assessments of large, complex or controversial cases.

Download this document at <http://gftn.panda.org/index.cfm?uNewsID=149822>

WWF-UK FTN Annual Report 2007-08

WWF, November 2008

This is the WWF-UK Forest & Trade Network's fourth annual report, which covers the management, activities and achievements of its members in 2007/08.

View this report at: http://public.ftn.wwf.org.uk/filelibrary/pdf/wwf_ftn_annual_report_2007-2008.pdf

Promoting responsible trade of Bolivia's lesser-known timber species

WWF, November 2008

Responsible forest management can work hand in hand with nature reserves and conservation, giving local people an economic stake in defending the managed forest without compromising its ecological integrity and future productivity.

In Bolivia, numerous indigenous and rural communities, as well as private companies and forest concessions, work under this model. In fact, Bolivia has over five million acres of tropical forests certified to the stringent environmental and social standards of the FSC – more than any other country. Responsible forestry and forest certification cannot succeed in the tropics without developing appropriate uses and markets for lesser-known timber species. Consumers are accustomed to purchasing a very limited range of timber species, and are generally unaware that thousands of useful wood species exist.

http://assets.panda.org/downloads/lkts_brochure_english_1.pdf

Illegal logging and the EU: An analysis of the EU export and import market of illegal wood and related products

WWF, July 2008

This study highlights the ineffectiveness of the EU Forest and Law Enforcement, Governance and Trade (FLEGT) licensing scheme in stopping trade in illegal wood. Even if all voluntary partnership agreements negotiated by the EU with partner countries under FLEGT were included, about 90% of illegal wood would still enter EU markets. No such negotiations are planned with countries such as Russia and China, and many products manufactured from illegal wood, such as furniture and other ready-processed wood products or paper, are not covered by FLEGT regulations. The report also traces the 10 main routes of the illegal wood trade.

View this report at: http://assets.panda.org/downloads/illegal_wood_for_the_european_market_july_2008.pdf

Bolivian certified woods

WWF, July 2008

This is a promotional catalogue of Bolivian woods harvested from certified forests and processed through Chain of Custody in compliance with world-recognised standards. The document contains summarised information regarding the properties and characteristics that are essential when promoting wood and wood products. It also contains current contact information regarding certified forest operators.

View this catalogue at: http://gftn.panda.org/gftn_worldwide/latin_america/bolivia/index.cfm?uNewsID=139501

Green carbon guidebook

WWF, May 2008

In this guidebook, WWF sets out what an appropriate meta-standard framework must encompass in terms of technical and methodological elements and implementation procedures to guide project developers and investors. WWF identifies issues for which adequate guidance exists, and shows where to find it. The guidebook discusses topics for which further development is encouraged. It describes how WWF is already testing and contributing to emerging guidance through two field-based pilot forest carbon projects.

View this guidebook at: http://www.panda.org/news_facts/publications/index.cfm?uNewsID=135062

WWF guide to buying paper

WWF, November 2007

This guide makes it easy for any organisation to understand the most important environmental impacts of paper-making and to source responsibly-produced paper products, thus reducing an organisation's environmental footprint.

View this guide at: http://assets.panda.org/downloads/wwf_paper_guide.pdf

Natural capital – financing forest certification in Malaysia

WWF, September 2007

This report from WWF/GFTN sets out challenges and opportunities involved in financing forest certification in Malaysia.

View this report at:

http://assets.panda.org/downloads/natural_capital.pdf

EU government barometer 2007

WWF, April 2007

WWF's first barometer on illegal logging and trade was carried out in early 2004, as a means of gauging the commitment of EU governments to implementing the FLEGT action plan agreed in 2003. The barometer is now undertaken annually to assess how the actions are being progressed by EU member states, and this is the fourth review. This year, as in previous years, there are some positive actions to report – but at a general level, progress towards meeting the commitments is unacceptably slow.

View this report at: wwf.org.uk/barometer/intro.asp

Keep it legal – best practices for keeping illegally harvested timber out of your supply chain

WWF, October 2006

This manual has been developed by the GFTN for use by organisations wishing to extend a programme of responsible purchasing to further address difficulties arising from possible trade in illegal forest products. The manual adds detail to legality issues encountered by companies adopting a responsible purchasing programme.

WWF intends the manual to become the first point of reference for all parts of the timber supply chain seeking to establish what represents current best practice with respect to buying, processing and selling legal timber and timber products. It consolidates the work of many different parties, including companies at the forefront of efforts to avoid use of illegally harvested timber.

Download Keep it legal as a PDF: <http://gftn.panda.org/resources/?82060/Keep-it-legal-Best-Practices-for-Keeping-Illegally-Harvested-Timber-Out-of-Your-Supply-Chain-English-Chinese>

Guide to responsible purchasing of forest products – second edition

WWF, September 2006

The GFTN has developed this guide for use by a purchasing organisation wishing to develop a programme for the responsible purchasing of forest products. The guide lays out a generic approach for developing and implementing a responsible purchasing policy.

Download the Guide to responsible purchasing of forest products – second edition as a PDF: <http://gftn.panda.org/resources/tools/?80500>



USEFUL WEBSITES

WWF Global Forest & Trade Network

<http://gftn.panda.org/index.cfm>

Includes links to the GFTN Responsible purchasing guide for forest products, as well as GFTN members, contacts lists and latest news.

WWF Paper Toolbox

http://www.panda.org/how_you_can_help/greenliving/climate_forests_oceans/forests_action/business/reducing_paper/paper_toolbox/

WWF offers a one-stop paper toolbox to help guide paper producers as well as commercial and individual paper buyers, and to help reduce the environmental footprint of paper production.

Shrink!

A network of more than 50 European environmental non-governmental organisations has launched this project, which addresses the madness of over-consumption of paper. Individuals as well as corporate and institutional paper users are invited to pledge to cut their paper consumption here: <http://www.shrinkpaper.org/take-the-pledge.htm>

WWF International forest news and publications

http://www.panda.org/what_we_do/how_we_work/conservation/forests/news/

WWF forest position statements

http://www.panda.org/what_we_do/how_we_work/conservation/forests/publications/position_papers/

WWF-UK forest research information

http://www.wwf.org.uk/what_we_do/safeguarding_the_natural_world/forests/index.cfm

Guidance for High Conservation Value Forest assessments

http://assets.panda.org/downloads/hcvf_brochure_012007.pdf

One Planet Future

www.wwf.org.uk/oneplanet

WWF's One Planet Future campaign shows how individuals, government and business all have their part to play in making sure we are living within the means of the planet's resources.

Joint ENGO statement on Forest Law Enforcement, Governance and Trade (FLEGT)

www.panda.org/downloads/europe/controllingtimberimportsintotheeu.pdf

FSC certificate and product search database

www.fsc-info.org

The FSC certificate search site enables users to verify the status of FSC-registered certificates. The information is managed directly by the FSC-accredited certification bodies. Information on certificates is now available in near real-time.

Forest Certification Resource Centre

www.certifiedwoodsearch.org/searchproducts.aspx

Confirmation of FSC certification of a company by certification number or company name.

Transparency International

www.transparency.org/news_room/in_focus/2008/cpi2008

The Global Corruption Report offers an annual, systematic analysis of corruption, and reports on the state of corruption around the world. The 2008 report focuses on corruption in judicial systems and includes recommendations for practitioners, actors in the judiciary, and civil society on how to fight corruption in the sector.

Illegal logging

www.illegal-logging.info

This Chatham House site is a central point of information on all aspects of the international debate on controlling illegal logging and other forest crimes. It contains summaries of the key issues and documents, and links to other relevant sites.

FSC-UK Working Group

www.fsc-uk.org

For any information regarding FSC certification or Chain of Custody, contact the FSC-UK advisory service at

info@fsc-uk.org

FSC Global Risk Assessment

<http://globalforestrisk.nepcon.net/>

This is a free tool providing information about the risk of sourcing controversial wood from more than 150 countries. It is under development by NEPCo, in cooperation with the Forest Stewardship Council and the Rainforest Alliance. This tool is especially targeted at FSC-certified companies which verify that they don't source non-FSC-certified material from controversial sources.



wwf.org.uk

for a living planet[®]

The mission of WWF 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
- reducing pollution and wasteful consumption



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