



WWF-UK
FOREST
& TRADE
NETWORK



Winter 2008

Newsletter

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WWF-UK FOREST & TRADE NETWORK NEWS

Membership Fees

All members will have now received an invoice for the new membership year. Please ensure early payment, so that the activities planned for this financial year can take place.

Members' stories needed!

We are looking to include more member successes in the Spring 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

There is one free FSC training course still available to WWF-UK FTN members, for up to 15 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

Paperback – celebrating 25 years of putting paper back

The Paperback logo is a mobius strip, an endless loop that symbolises the company's aim – to complete the paper recycling loop by promoting and selling the paper it produced. It all started in 1982, when collecting waste paper for recycling provided a valuable source of income for many voluntary organisations, churches and so on. But without a market for the end product, prices fluctuated wildly, so three environmental activists decided to do something about it. By selling and promoting recycled paper, they reasoned, they could help stimulate demand and thus stabilise the market.

After a year of market research, business courses and market testing of recycled stationery products at a stall in Camden Lock Market, London, they were ready to go, and Paperback opened for business on the third floor of a building formerly occupied by printing presses in Hoxton. This is now an extremely fashionable area of London, full of pavement cafes and art galleries, but in 1984 it was run down and rents were low. Paperback was set up as an employee-owned company – a workers cooperative – which it remains to this day. As founder member Jan Kuiper puts it, *"having a real stake in the*

company's fortunes makes for a greater commitment among the people working here".

From small beginnings selling stationery by mail order (kick-started by an article in The Observer) and supplying community centres with duplicating paper (photocopying was still a rare luxury!) Paperback grew steadily, soon moving out of Hoxton into a purpose-built warehouse (part of a British Rail development) in Bow, east London – a move made possible by a financial injection from around 100 sympathetic lenders. It also moved quickly from selling existing recycled paper to working with mills to develop new grades.

The range of paper available at the time was very limited – fine for the Paperback stationery packs that came in a range of attractive designs and colours, but not so good for business use, and few companies and organisations outside the network of small printing cooperatives and alternative bookshops were willing to try it. In 1985, assisted by a government grant and technical backup from the Paper Industry Research Association, Paperback developed the first coated recycled paper, Sylvan Coat, in association with a UK paper mill. This was the first of many collaborations which

have helped transform the recycled paper market in the UK, not to mention the image of recycled paper itself. From selling to environmental organisations such as Friends of the Earth and Greenpeace, Paperback's owners found themselves supplying paper to Barclays Bank, NatWest, British Airways, Westminster Council, The Body Shop, Tesco and the BBC.

The market has of course changed completely since Paperback's early days. Green waste bins are now a normal part of office furnishings and local authorities collect last week's Mails and Guardians, which were printed on largely recycled paper in the first place. Nearly 40% of paper is now collected for recycling in the UK (compared with 28% in 1984), although more than 50% of this is sent abroad (especially to the Far East) for reprocessing, as our own paper industry contracts. Recycled paper has lost its homespun image; there is no longer any question of sacrificing high quality for the sake of environmental credibility, as exemplified by Context and Emerald, two of the company's products. And recycled paper is available not just from specialists such as Paperback – conventional paper companies have also now seen the sense in selling these ranges.

Of course the entry of the big conglomerates into a previously niche market is a mixed blessing for small firms. It not only means their ecological message is being taken more seriously, but it also makes it more difficult for them to compete for customers. This has been a recurrent pattern for the company since it was founded – a constant need to be a step ahead of the market. In the last 10 years, for example, Paperback became the first FSC-certified paper merchant in Europe. It followed this with the launch of a new range of natural-looking paper under the Cairn brand, name which has proven popular with retail companies such as John Lewis, Top Shop, Marks & Spencer, Sainsbury's and other customers such as EDF and the Royal Mail.

Trading conditions in the last two years have been particularly tough, and the number of paper mill closures in the UK has been unprecedented. This has been exacerbated by the credit crunch: there is uncertainty in the market, and reluctance to spend on advertising and promotion. Even so, the achievements of Paperback have been tangible: some 25,000 tonnes of recycled paper sold (equivalent to about 30,000 tonnes of waste paper diverted) and representing something like 375,000 trees.

A ringing endorsement for the company has come from Jonathon Porritt: *"A very happy 25th birthday greeting to Paperback! This workers' cooperative is one of those organisations that will be seen (hopefully not too late in the day!) to have built the foundations of a genuinely sustainable economy. For 25 years, they've sweated and innovated, grafted and crafted their way through good times and bad – with an absolute integrity and an unstinting commitment to help others understand and benefit from their own sustainability insights. Hang in there guys, it will all look very different in another 25 years". To find out more, visit Paperback's website at www.paperback.coop/*

Paper in – paper out: new closed loop paper recycling service for business

The Robert Horne Group has launched 'yoyo' – the first closed loop paper recovery and recycling service for the office paper market. At a time when environmental scrutiny of businesses is high, this new service provides a tangible method for companies to reduce their environmental impact by diverting paper waste away from landfill, as well as help reduce the carbon footprint associated with their paper consumption.

Based on the simple principle of paper in-paper out, customer's paper waste is taken away on the same vehicle that is delivering their new paper. The paper collected is then recycled into the new yoyo 100% recycled paper range.

Speaking at the launch of the new service, Tim Forster, Robert Horne's Divisional Director for business papers, commented, *"We know that businesses want to recycle their paper waste, but less than 50% of the UK's office paper waste is currently recycled, despite it making up approximately 85% of*

a typical office waste stream. One of the barriers to businesses adopting recycling schemes has been the uncertainty of the final destination of their paper. This is where yoyo is different. The paper collected is fed back into our paper fibre pool from which our range of yoyo paper is manufactured. Paper deliveries and waste collections are made at the same time by the same trucks, thereby reducing the environmental impact of the process. This is a truly closed loop system and the first of its kind for business customers."

Setting up the yoyo service begins with an initial waste audit by a PaperlinX specialist into the current paper usage of an office. A tailored combination of services is then recommended, including the right paper for each job and the correct disposal methods, based on the customer's requirements for confidential and non-confidential waste. Receptacles for paper recycling are issued to customers, depending on the security levels required. Three service levels are provided – 'Recycle' for non-confidential paper waste; 'Recycle Plus', where all waste is shredded after collection prior to being released for recycling; and 'Confidential', a fully certified high-security service with both on and off site destruction options. Desktop receptacles are also provided to encourage maximum recovery of paper waste.

Once collected via Robert Horne's logistics network (operated by The Delivery Co), the waste is sent to one of Europe's leading paper recycling plants in Germany – the balance of trade between Germany and the UK means that the same backfilling logistics principle is applied to the ships used. The paper fibre pool created is then used to make yoyo full circle; a 100% recycled paper.

Initial trials of the service in the UK have taken place over the last six months. Billy McIntosh, Facilities Director at Ipsos-Mori, has been using the service for five months. *"This matches our paper recycling requirements and fits with our desire to ensure that our paper is fed back into the fibre pool in the UK,"* he said.

Another customer buying into yoyo during the pilot phase is the University of Lincoln. Susanna Murray, Environmental Sustainability Officer at the University said, *"The service is really easy to set up and has helped us demonstrate our*

environmental responsibilities. We now feel in total control of our paper management, as the closed loop recycling system gives us the assurance that the paper we purchase has been produced from the pool of waste fibre to which we have contributed."

To demonstrate what carbon savings could be achieved through yoyo, a special carbon savings calculator is available on the yoyo website www.yoyopaper.com. Customers must select their market sector from a list and enter the number of employees in their company. The calculator then returns a result showing the estimated annual CO₂ (kgs and percentage) and cost savings (£s and percentage) of using the yoyo service. *For more information visit www.yoyopaper.com.*

All Polestar Group printing sites now have FSC accreditation

All eight Polestar UK gravure and web offset printing plants now have FSC and PEFC status. Each site has worked towards accreditation to meet the demands of an increasing environmental awareness within the marketplace, and the specific needs of its existing and potential customers.

With all companies accredited, Polestar is more able to meet its commitment to membership of the FTN in offering FSC paper, and paper from other certification schemes such as PEFC, to the exclusion of uncertified ones.

Polestar has UK two sites in Leeds and others in Wakefield, Sheffield, Nottingham, Colchester, Pershore and Exeter.

Gary Marshall, acting Group Environmental Adviser for Polestar said, *"While we can't take away the responsibility a customer has to its own market and customers, we are well-positioned to assist in labelling a product and discussing FSC paper with our customers."* *For more information on Polestar Group, go online to www.polestar-group.com/pages/homepage.asp*



WWF GLOBAL FOREST & TRADE NETWORK NEWS

Industry partnership launched to protect world's threatened forests

The Global Forest & Trade Network has launched a new national arm in India.

Ten companies – including Asha Handicrafts Association of Mumbai, Manglam Arts in Jaipur, TEDDY Exports of Madurai and ITC Ltd in Andhra Pradesh – that supply timber, wood products and paper to Europe and the US are planning to become the first Indian participants in the GFTN. Funded for the first two years by Homebase – one of the founders of the GFTN in the UK – GFTN-India will encourage trade links between companies committed to achieving responsible forestry, and will aim to create market conditions that support forest conservation while providing economic and social benefits for the businesses and people that depend on them.

New funding for GFTN-India will also come from the European Commission's Switch Asia programme, guaranteeing financial support for three years and demonstrating confidence in the methodology and in the potential to change behaviour in the wood processing industry.

Speaking at the launch, Richard McLellan, Head of GFTN at WWF International, said, *"This is an opportunity to protect India's economy and its forests. We welcome the chance to encourage forest certification and responsible forestry, and we are looking forward to working with the Indian government and with industry to develop credible certification for India's forests."* To read more, and to find a list of GFTN-India's potential participants, go online to <http://gftn.panda.org/index.cfm?uNewsID=151601>

WWF launches GFTN-Iberia

Soraya Rodríguez, the Spanish Secretary of State for International Cooperation, inaugurated the new GFTN-Iberia office in October at the Construtec 2008 construction trade fair.

GFTN-Iberia is an alliance of some 20 Spanish and Portuguese companies aiming to eliminate illegal logging practices through the promotion of FSC certification and the conservation of the world's most threatened forests.

Seventeen Spanish and Portuguese companies participated in the launch, including Leroy Merlin, Lafarge Cement and Amorim. These GFTN participants are committed to promoting socially and environmentally responsible forest management through measures that enhance sustainable consumption of forest products such as wood, paper and cork.

"This is an essential alliance to halt illegal and unsustainable logging practices," commented Felix Romero, WWF-Spain's Head of Forest Programme. *"The commitment made by these companies will significantly contribute to improving the conservation of forests throughout the world."* Read more at: http://gftn.panda.org/newsroom/press_releases/index.cfm?uNewsID=148601

Shanghai hosts GFTN-China's annual meeting

The GFTN-China annual meeting 2008 took place in November in Shanghai. It was attended by participants in, and applicants to, GFTN-China, as well as other enterprises and organisations showing special interest in the Lacey Act (which bans illegal wood exports to the US), and forest certification.

The first half of the meeting was focused on training. Issues included the Lacey Act, forest certification, purchasing of green products, and legal supply of timber. Adrian Emch from Sidley Austin LLP gave an elaborate interpretation of the Lacey Act and its potential influence on exporting enterprises in China. In addition, officials from the Rainforest Alliance, PEFC and TFT introduced the current status of FSC, PEFC and TAPP in China respectively. Read more at: http://gftn.panda.org/gftn_worldwide/asia/indonesia_ftn/index.cfm?uNewsID=151301

GFTN-NA holds its first annual meeting...

The GFTN in North America (GFTN-NA) held its first annual meeting in October at the WWF-US headquarter in Washington DC. Attendees discussed the various issues North American companies face in connection with responsible forest products trade, and how the GFTN helps companies source credibly certified wood and paper products from well-managed forests.

Nearly 20 influential companies attended, including Wal-Mart, Procter & Gamble, Johnson & Johnson, Domtar, and newest participant Williams-Sonoma Inc, as well as The Coca-Cola Company, Sears-Canada, Tetra Pak, Hewlett-Packard, USAID, Forest Stewardship Council-US and Rainforest Alliance.

Presentations covered topics including the amended Lacey Act banning illegal wood imports, strategic forest products sourcing, how to implement a responsible purchasing programme, and credible certification. Attendees discussed practical solutions to major challenges and how to effectively communicate a company's environmental commitment to employees, suppliers and other stakeholders.

... and launches its first advisory group

In August the GFTN-NA formed its first advisory group – the primary role of which is to provide guidance and feedback on strategy to ensure the organisation's continued leadership and impact in promoting responsible forest management and trade. The group will also assist the GFTN-NA in its efforts to provide assistance and expertise to North American companies committed to responsible forest products purchasing and trade.

The 2008-2010 Advisory Group comprises Courtney Lowrance of Citigroup, Dale Kavalew of Procter & Gamble, Fran Raymond Price of the Nature Conservancy, Richard Donovan of Rainforest Alliance and Tom Flynn of Wal-Mart. For further information about the annual meeting and the advisory group, *contact Jennifer Gerholdt:*

Jennifer.Gerholdt@wwfus.org

Green Design gets green light in Indonesia

In a country where the demand for housing is more than 1.2 million units per year and where it's estimated that each home requires a quarter of a hectare of harvested forest to supply its timber, GFTN-Indonesia is engaging with the Green Design Indonesia Community to explore and expand local demand for sustainable timber products. The demand from the building industry, coupled with the growing need to protect the natural resources that sustain it, encouraged GFTN participation in the Green Design Seminar, held in Bandung, West Java, earlier this year.

"The sustainability of the forest industry, impacts on biodiversity and environmental damage are still major issues facing Indonesia", said Irwan Gunawan of GFTN-Indonesia. *"The GFTN programme is tackling the problem by promoting the demand for timber from well-managed forests."*

GFTN-Indonesia is also working with the Green Design Indonesia Community, which includes architects, interior designers, property consultants and civil engineers. As these experts develop their understanding of the role they can play in demanding responsibly and locally produced timber products, they can in turn influence their clients – including property companies, new housing/building projects, furniture manufacturers, and urban construction projects – to use local material.

While the international market is increasingly looking for responsibly sourced products, there is still a large domestic market in Indonesia which puts pressure on forest resources. The recent design seminar was one of the first initiatives to extend a process which would allow progressive Indonesian designers to make sure their products for the domestic market are sourced as responsibly as those being demanded internationally.

"The GFTN's effort in promoting the availability of sustainable timber in Indonesia is good news for us," said Green Design Indonesia Community programme coordinator Ronny Tanumihardja. *"We are willing to pay higher prices for timber from well-managed forests and really hope that we can engage with responsible local timber producers through GFTN in the future."* *For further information contact Dita Ramadhani:* dramadhani@wwf.or.id

Latest version of HCVF toolkit for Vietnam

The concept of High Conservation Value Forest (HCVF) was initially developed by the Forest Stewardship Council. One of 10 criteria for forest certification, HCVF refers to forests that need to be appropriately managed in order to maintain or enhance their status. This depends on the individual characteristics of the particular area according to its social, environmental and economic impacts. Vietnam's rich biodiversity offers many opportunities for HCVF identification.

In 2004, WWF and the Tropical Forest Trust developed an HCVF Toolkit for Vietnam. This year WWF and The Nature Conservancy (TNC) upgraded the toolkit (version 1.4) and tested it in So Pai and Ha Nung state forest enterprises in Gia Lai Province, and in Ben Hai SFE in Quang Tri Province.

In August WWF and TNC organised a workshop in Hanoi, and as a result a final toolkit version will be created. With financial support from TNC, this will be published and delivered by the end of the year, and will also be available on the internet. *For further information contact Mr Le Thien Duc: duc. lethien@wwfgreatermekong.org*

Bolivian communities benefit as certification increases

The Cururu indigenous community is the first in Bolivia to achieve FSC group certification of its community forest operation. This marks a significant advance in the certification process as it evolves to address the complexities of achieving certification under challenging circumstances.

Initially, the FSC promoted individual certification – of single companies and single communities. But with an increase in demand from buyers for responsibly sourced products and the relatively high costs of certification, it became necessary to allow practical variations in approaching this achievement. Group certification in Bolivia enables local communities to form associations and build a cost share structure for attaining certification.

As part of the Guarayos Indigenous Communal Lands association, the Cururu community operation was examined as a case study to be published in a manual on building forest resource manager models (FRMM). The FRMM is the national adaptation of the FSC's group certification model, and is being promoted through this manual which was initiated by WWF and the International Finance Corporation, and produced by the Bolivian Council for Voluntary Forest Certification.

"The GFTN aims to promote the use of the FRMM and other group certification models in Bolivia," said María del Carmen Carreras, GFTN-Bolivia coordinator. *"This model greatly benefits many communities by giving them an opportunity to become credibly certified and part of both local and international markets."* *For further information contact María del Carmen Carreras: mcarreras@wwfbolivia.org*



OTHER WWF/FORESTS NEWS

For all the following stories, visit www.panda.org/about_wwf/what_we_do/forests/news/index.cfm

Peru aims for zero deforestation

From BBCNews.co.uk: The Peruvian government says it can reach zero deforestation in just 10 years with the help of funds from western governments. It has taken its ambitious proposal to the UN talks on climate change at Poznan. The government claims more than 80% of Peru's primary forests can be saved or protected. *Read more at <http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/world/americas/7768226.stm>*

FSC General Assembly 2008

From FSC.org: The FSC General Assembly, held in Cape Town in November, reaffirmed that the efforts of the FSC network will guide the organisation into an even stronger future. The gathering was notable for the strong commitment and engagement of FSC members, directors, supporters and staff, and for its focus on solutions that led to the amendment and approval of most policy motions. *Read more at www.fsc.org/general-assembly-2008.html*

Wine drinkers may hold the key to lynx's survival

From Telegraph.co.uk: Wine drinkers have been urged to choose bottles stopped with cork to help save the world's rarest big cat.

The cork forests of Spain and Portugal, home to the critically endangered Iberian lynx, are under threat because of the increasing use of plastic stoppers and screwtops among wine producers. Falling demand for cork means that it is often more profitable to destroy the cork oak forests and replace them with other less environmentally-friendly forms of forestry and agriculture.

Latest figures published by WWF show that there are only 150 Iberian lynx left, with just 30 breeding females.

Read more at www.telegraph.co.uk/news/worldnews/europe/spain/1417192/Wine-drinkers-hold-the-key-to-lynxs-survival.html

Brazil falls short with forest emission reduction ambitions

Brazil's revised national climate change plan, which for the first time defines goals for reducing emissions from deforestation in the Amazon, is commendable but still short on ambition and detail, WWF-Brazil says.

The plan was released to coincide with the UN climate change talks in Poznan, Poland, in advance of the Copenhagen meeting in December next year, where an international climate agreement is expected to replace the Kyoto Protocol. *Read more at www.panda.org/index.cfm?uNewsID=151801*

Questions raised about EC illegal timber plans

From Timber Trades Journal: The European Commission's proposals to stop illegal timber entering the EU leaves a number of unanswered questions, according to the European Timber Trade Association (FEBO).

FEBO welcomed the proposals but asked a number of questions at a recent parliamentary evening attended by representatives from the Commission, the European Parliament, sector federations and businesses. Dr Rudolf Luers, CEO of the German Timber Trade Federation who represented FEBO at the event, said the European timber trade would face the commission's proposals with responsibility.

The proposals require timber traders to exercise due diligence to ensure they are not handling illegally felled material. But he said the harmonisation of a due diligence system was unclear, as were the costs which businesses will face. Dr Luers also asked whether timber trade federations could play a role as monitoring organisations and whether different timber products would be treated differently and what role might sustainability certificates play in risk evaluation. *Read more at www.tjonline.com/story.asp?sectioncode=17&storycode=57829&c=2*

Chinese officials convicted of environmental crimes

From ITTO Tropical Timber Market Report (Japan):

The China Daily has reported that 368 officials have been convicted of environmental mismanagement. The Supreme People's Procurator, Song Hansong, said that there was a higher incidence of breach of duty among supervising land use, mineral resources and forest management officials. He noted that the cases involved 1,467 deaths, 154 injured and a 1.6 billion yuan loss.

The largest numbers of officials investigated were from forestry departments. *Read more at www.illegal-logging.info/item_single.php?item=news&item_id=3028&approach_id=8*

SGS Qualifor's accreditation in Poland reinstated

From FSC.org: The accreditation of SGS Qualifor has been reinstated in Poland and the organisation will now continue to work with FSC certificate holders. SGS Qualifor is accredited by FSC to carry out independent certification around the world, but in April 2008, FSC suspended SGS's accreditation for carrying out forest management and chain of custody certification in Poland. *Read more at [www.fsc.org/news.html?&tx_ttnews\[tt_news\]=79&tx_ttnews\[backPid\]=107&cHash=9b8cf87f31](http://www.fsc.org/news.html?&tx_ttnews[tt_news]=79&tx_ttnews[backPid]=107&cHash=9b8cf87f31)*

Amazon deforestation trends on the increase

Deforestation in Brazil's Amazon forest has flipped from a decreasing to an increasing trend, according to new annual figures released by the country's space agency INPE. From August 2007 to July 2008, Brazil deforested 11,968 sq km in the area designated as the Legal Amazon. This is a 3.8% increase over the previous year and an unwelcome surprise following declines of 18% over the previous period. *Read more at www.panda.org/index.cfm?uNewsID=151501*

ACP-EU urged to deal with illegal logging

From NBC.com: Civil society and members of the Papua New Guinea Eco-Forestry Forum are calling on the 16th ACP/EU meeting to deal with the issue of illegal logging.

Forum chairman Ken Mondiai called on the European Parliament and the Council of Ministers to push for the introduction of a proposed bill to ensure sustainable forest management. But, he said, the bill presented to the European Parliament in October this year failed to address the issue of legality of timber products in PNG and other developing countries. The bill failed to comply with the requirements of the constitution on forests, climate, biodiversity and the rights of people, "and therefore is weak and inadequate". *Read more at www.nbc.com.pg/news/articles/2008/11/25_ACP-EU_urged_to_deal_with_illegal_logging.htm*

Russian national FSC standard approved

From FSC.org: The FSC has delivered a positive accreditation decision for one new FSC regional forest stewardship standard – the Russian National FSC Standard. This standard is approved subject to conditions to be fulfilled within the timelines specified in a report to the FSC Executive Director. Since no preconditions were raised, the standard came into effect as from November. *Read more at [www.fsc.org/news.html?&tx_ttnews\[tt_news\]=78&tx_ttnews\[backPid\]=107&cHash=d77a17987b](http://www.fsc.org/news.html?&tx_ttnews[tt_news]=78&tx_ttnews[backPid]=107&cHash=d77a17987b)*

FSC still the best!

WWF believes that responsible forest management is necessary for the maintenance of biodiversity and ecosystems services, both on individual sites and within the wider landscape. WWF sees credible forest certification as an important tool to promote responsible forest management and purchasing of forest products from well-managed forests. In collaboration with the World Bank, WWF has developed the Forest Certification Assessment Guide (FCAG) to assess the quality and credibility of certification schemes.

In order to review its position on credible certification schemes, WWF commissioned an assessment using the FCAG to assess the two global certification systems – the FSC's and the Programme for Endorsement of Certification (PEFC). The assessment focused on the rules set by these

systems internationally, supplemented by an assessment of a sample of national FSC and PEFC standards/schemes in Germany, Australia and Chile.

The assessment showed that few changes had been implemented at the international level in either scheme since the last WWF assessment in 2005. *Read more and download the report at <http://gftn.panda.org/index.cfm?uNewsID=150601>*

New head of FSC policy and standards appointed

FSC has appointed Hans Joachim Droste as the new Head of Policy and Standards for FSC IC. He will continue the work of former Head of Unit, Andre Giacini de Freitas. Bringing years of extensive experience to the job, Mr Droste will lead the development of international standards and policies.

He made his first appearance in his new position at the FSC General Assembly in November. *"We have a lot of good work planned for the next year, and I look forward to working closely with the global FSC network,"* he said. *Read more at [www.fsc.org/news.html?&tx_ttnews\[tt_news\]=80&tx_ttnews\[backPid\]=107&chash=bb7d9ba397](http://www.fsc.org/news.html?&tx_ttnews[tt_news]=80&tx_ttnews[backPid]=107&chash=bb7d9ba397)*

WWF's Travel Helper makes it easy to count and cut your CO2

WWF and Swiss firm routeRANK have launched an online European travel planner designed to help fight climate change. The WWF Travel Helper will provide information on travel times and connections, and will also reveal the carbon footprint of each option. While WWF hopes it will encourage travellers to choose the lowest carbon option, it will also allow users to neutralise the carbon emissions of all modes of transport.

Travel websites usually only consider one transport means at a time, but the WWF Travel Helper addresses the entire route and fully integrates road, rail and air transport into a one-stop shop. Aimed primarily at consumers and individual business people, *it can be accessed at <http://travel.panda.org>*. *Read more at www.panda.org/about_wwf/where_we_work/europe/news/index.cfm?uNewsID=151182*

Living Planet analysis shows looming ecological credit crunch

The world is heading for an ecological credit crunch as human demands on the planet's natural capital reach nearly a third more than it can sustain.

That's the stark warning contained in the latest edition of WWF's Living Planet Report, the leading statement of the planet's health. Global natural wealth and diversity continue to decline, and more and more countries are slipping into a state of permanent or seasonal water stress. This occurs when the demand for water is greater than the available quantity during a determined time period or when its use is restricted because of its poor quality.

James Leape, WWF International Director-General, said the world was struggling with the consequences of over-valuing its financial assets. *"But a more fundamental crisis looms ahead – an ecological credit crunch caused by under-valuing the environmental assets that are the basis of all life and prosperity."* *To read more and download the report, go to www.panda.org/about_wwf/where_we_work/latin_america_and_caribbean/news/index.cfm?uNewsID=150461*

Crisis in the DRC

The humanitarian crisis in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) has resulted in urgent WWF action to support displaced people and the local environment, as well as to evacuate the rangers who protect the country's mountain gorillas. *"The situation is chaotic to say the least,"* said Diane Walkington, head of WWF's species programme. *"We are trying to help the many people who are victims of this catastrophe while avoiding an ecological disaster."*

WWF is supporting the efforts of aid and humanitarian agencies to help the people forced to flee their homes due to fighting between rebel forces and the Congolese army. Estimates put the number of displaced people at more than 250,000. The charity's current priority is to locate camps where displaced people have fled to, and to provide them with supplies of wood from tree plantations. *Read more at www.wwf.org.uk/news_feed.cfm?uNewsID=2352*

Top UK store withdraws tropical rainforest flooring

From EIA.org: Retailer Next has withdrawn some of its hardwood flooring from sale following concerns it was made of rainforest timber from an illegal logging hotspot. Next was one of a number of UK retailers which made 'green' claims about its flooring – but it failed to provide evidence of its legality, according to a survey by the Environmental Investigation Agency (EIA). *Read more and download the report Buyer Beware at www.eia-international.org/cgi/news/news.cgi?t=template&a=481&source=*

AHEC: legal and sustainable forest management

From lemn.fordaq.com: The American Hardwood Export Council has explained its views on illegal logging and its actions to provide reliable assurances that American hardwoods come from legal and sustainable sources.

Illegal logging is a critical concern for the American hardwood industry. In addition to the deleterious impacts on biodiversity and other globally important environmental services and the damage caused to the overall reputation of the international wood industry, illegal logging has a direct impact on market access for American hardwood suppliers.

A recent study on the competitive impacts of illegal logging concluded that illegal forest activity represented between 5% and 10% of global industrial roundwood production. The study suggests that as much as 23% to 30% of hardwood lumber and plywood traded globally could be of suspicious origin. The availability of significant volumes of illegal wood internationally depresses prices for US wood products by between 2% and 4%. In certain important markets, illegal material also affects the ability of US producers to export. *Read more at http://lemn.fordaq.com/fordaq/news/forestmanagement_AHEC_18251.html*

Paraguay extends commitment towards zero net deforestation

The government of Paraguay has honoured its commitment to support WWF by extending the country's Zero Deforestation Law for a further five years. This means that no further forests will be lost, either through not clearing any additional forest or by reforesting equivalent areas to those which have been deforested.

Until 2004, Paraguay registered the highest deforestation rate in the Americas and second in the world. Nearly seven million hectares of Atlantic Forest were lost to slash and burn for agricultural and ranching use in close to four decades. *Read more at www.wwf.org.uk/what_we_do/press_centre/index.cfm?uNewsID=2472*

Chainsaw milling project addresses community forest work

From ITTO Tropical Timber Market Report (Japan):

In May, Guyana started work on a project that focuses on chainsaw milling in Guyana and Ghana. This work is partly financed by the European Union and implemented by Tropenbos International. The Ghana Forestry Commission and the Forestry Research Institute of Ghana are the local partners on the ground in Ghana and Iwokrama International Centre for Rainforest Conservation and the Forestry Training Centre are the implementing partners in Guyana.

The project's activities include an overview of chainsaw milling practices through research and dialogue, and capacity building for sustainable forest management at community level. On a wider scale, the project will contribute to the reduction of poverty and promotion of livelihoods in forest-dependent communities, a reduction of illegal logging, and the conservation and sustainable management of tropical forests. *Read more at www.illegal-logging.info/item_single.php?item=news&item_id=2993&approach_id=8*

Demand for African natural resources can ensure sustainable use

African countries could turn the demand for their natural resources, currently driving deforestation and other destruction, into a force for higher returns from sustainable development. *"Certified sustainable forestry yields far better*

returns for companies, communities and Congo Basin countries than illegal logging ever will," said Andre Kamdem, Head of WWF's Green Heart of Africa initiative. "The yield is for ever, whereas allowing a one-off plunder of natural resources usually damages future returns."

More than 100 delegations from Congo Basin countries, NGOs and multilateral agencies attended the recent World Forum for Sustainable Development in Brazzaville, Congo. Talks focused on conservation, sustainable use and benefit sharing of natural resources as well as the vulnerability of ecosystems in the face of climate change. *Read more at www.panda.org/about_wwf/what_we_do/forests/news/index.cfm?uNewsID=149061*

Malaysian logging plans threaten rhinos and tigers

Habitats of the critically endangered Sumatran rhino and the endangered Malayan tiger are under threat from a plan to clear nearly 19,000 hectares of forest in north-east Malaysia.

The Terengganu state government is proposing to extract all commercially valuable timber in 12,630ha of forest, adjacent to the 6,130ha of forest reserve currently being cleared for the construction of two hydropower dams.

The Tembat and Petuang forest reserves act as a water catchment area for Tasik Kenyir, the largest man-made lake in South-east Asia. Home to the Sumatran rhino and Malayan tiger, they are being cleared to build the Puah and Tembat dams. The forest reserves also fall within the dam catchment area. *Read more at www.panda.org/about_wwf/what_we_do/forests/news/index.cfm?uNewsID=150341*

Un-contacted Indians spotted 'fleeing forest destruction'

From Survival-International.org: The last un-contacted Indians in South America outside the Amazon Basin have been spotted, apparently fleeing from the rapid destruction of their forest home.

The forest where they live is being destroyed at a faster rate than the Amazon. The area is being illegally bulldozed to open up the land for cattle ranching. *Read more at www.survival-international.org/news/3924*

Ghana and EU agreement to end illegal logging

From irinnews.org: A long queue of trucks loaded with timber, freshly sawed from Ghana's fast-depleting forests, lines up at Accra's Tema harbour to offload to ships bound for Europe. No-one at the port knows if the timber delivered by the trucks is legally or illegally acquired. Customs official James Klutse makes a final check on the number of logs per truck. "My job is simple – to make sure I have the right number of logs," he says. "The source of the timber isn't my headache."

Up to 80% of Ghana's forests have been destroyed by illegal logging, according to the World Bank. The Ghana Forestry Commission estimates that US\$256 million in illegal timber leaves the country each year, most of it to Europe, Ghana's biggest timber consumer. The Ghanaian government and the EU are trying to put a stop to this by signing a Voluntary Partnership Agreement under which they agree to cooperate and ensure that timber – at every stage of the export process – is properly licensed. *Read more at www.irinnews.org/Report.aspx?ReportId=81361*

Indonesia: new bylaw to monitor log products

From the Jakarta Post: Jakarta's city council has passed a tougher version of its bylaw on forest product distribution to help tackle illegally logged timber trade in the capital. The bylaw gives officials authority to monitor forest products, Councillor Ben Sitompul, who worked on the bylaw revision, said. "It will allow the officers to record forest product distribution so that we can have clear information on how many logs are coming in and out of Jakarta," he added. *Read more at www.thejakartapost.com/news/2008/10/31/new-bylaw-monitor-log-products.html*

GFTN GLOBAL TOTALS (AS OF OCTOBER 2008)

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



NEW GFTN PARTICIPANTS

Williams-Sonoma joins Global Forest & Trade Network

Williams-Sonoma Inc, which includes the Pottery Barn, Pottery Barn Kids, PBteen, West Elm, Williams-Sonoma Home and Williams-Sonoma brands, is a leading US retailer of products for the home. By joining GFTN, it has committed to increase the proportion of wood products in its supply chain that originate from credibly certified forests, and to phase out unknown and unwanted wood sources for its brands in the US and Canada.

"Retailers and consumers both have a role to play in saving the forests and the people and animals depending on them," said WWF-US President and CEO Carter Roberts. *"Knowing and caring about the source of wood products is an important first step. With this agreement, Williams-Sonoma is demonstrating leadership and a strong commitment to responsible business practices that we hope will serve as an example that other companies will follow."* **Read more at:** <http://gftn.panda.org/index.cfm?uNewsID=149081>

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FSC GLOBAL UPDATES

FSC certified forest area by continent (as of September 2008)

Europe: 48,076,616 hectares

North America: 35,641,047 hectares

South America and Caribbean: 11,600,043 hectares

Africa: 3,491,157 hectares

Asia: 2,136,915 hectares

Oceania: 1,586,173 hectares

Total FSC certified area: 102,531,951 hectares

Maps and data on FSC – September 2008

http://www.fsc.org/fileadmin/web-data/public/document_center/powerpoints_graphs/facts_figures/08-09-15_Global_FSC_certificates_-_type_and_distribution_-_FINAL.pdf

FSC certified forests by country – September 2008

http://www.fsc.org/fileadmin/web-data/public/document_center/powerpoints_graphs/facts_figures/08-09-15_Global_FSC_certificates_-_type_and_distribution_-_FINAL.pdf

Regional totals: FSC chain of custody certificates – September 2008

http://www.fsc.org/fileadmin/web-data/public/document_center/powerpoints_graphs/facts_figures/08-09-15_Global_FSC_certificates_-_type_and_distribution_-_FINAL.pdf

Regional totals: FSC forest management certificates – September 2008

http://www.fsc.org/fileadmin/web-data/public/document_center/powerpoints_graphs/facts_figures/08-09-15_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>

WWF-UK FTN paper sector meeting

The next WWF-UK FTN Paper Sector meeting starts at 11am on 23 January at the headquarters of Homebase in Milton Keynes. Contact James Horne or Anna Jenkins if you wish to attend or receive the minutes of this meeting:
jhorne@wwf.org.uk; annajenkins@ethicalchange.co.uk

WWF-UK FTN retail sector meeting

The next WWF-UK FTN Retail Sector meeting starts at 1pm 29 April at J Sainsbury's headquarters in London. Contact James Horne if you wish to attend or receive the minutes of this meeting: jhorne@wwf.org.uk

Chatham House illegal logging update

The 13th in the series of illegal logging update meetings organised by Chatham House will take place on 19 and 20 January. The provisional agenda is now available; details of some speakers are still to be settled, but the session titles will remain the same. Anyone wishing to suggest ideas for sessions or speakers, or to give a presentation, should contact Alison Hoare: alhoare@chathamhouse.org.uk

The meeting is free and open to all, but pre-registration is essential. Registration is now open; email your name and organisation to the Energy, Environment and Development Programme at Chatham House: eedp@chathamhouse.org.uk A link to provisional agenda can be found at www.illegal-logging.info/uploads/Agenda13thILDraft13Nov.pdf

USEFUL WWF DOCUMENTS AND REPORTS

Good Practice guidelines for HCV assessments

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 preservation, 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 (LKTS). Consumers are accustomed to purchasing a very limited range of timber species, and are generally unaware that thousands of useful wood species exist. *View this brochure at:* 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 concluded, 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 most important properties and characteristics essential in promoting wood and wood products. It also contains current contact information regarding certified forest operators.

View this report 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 (MSF) 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, and it discusses topics for which further development is encouraged. The guidebook describes how WWF is already testing and contributing to emerging guidance through two field-based pilot forest carbon projects.

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

Deforestation, forest degradation, biodiversity loss and CO2 emissions in Riau, Indonesia

WWF, February 2008

This study finds that in central Sumatra's Riau Province, 4.2 million hectares of tropical forest and peat swamp have been cleared in the last 25 years. Forest loss and degradation, and peat decomposition and fires, are behind average annual carbon emissions equivalent to 39% of annual UK emissions.

View this report at: www.panda.org/about_wwf/what_we_do/forests/news/index.cfm?uNewsID=125780

The Amazon's vicious cycles: drought and fire in the greenhouse

WWF, December 2007

This report reveals the dramatic consequences for the local and global climate as well as the impacts on people's livelihoods in South America. *View this report at:* www.panda.org/about_wwf/what_we_do/forests/news/index.cfm?uNewsID=118741

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 their environmental footprint. *View this report at:* http://assets.panda.org/downloads/wwf_paper_guide_1.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 implement 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:* www.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 efforts 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:* www.panda.org/about_wwf/what_we_do/forests/publications/index.cfm?uNewsID=82060

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:* www.panda.org/about_wwf/what_we_do/forests/publications/index.cfm?uNewsID=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, GFTN members and contacts lists and latest news.

WWF Paper Toolbox

www.panda.org/about_wwf/what_we_do/forests/what_you_can_do/business/paper_toolbox/index.cfm 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

www.panda.org/about_wwf/what_we_do/forests/news/index.cfm

WWF forest position statements

www.panda.org/about_wwf/what_we_do/forests/publications/position_papers/index.cfm

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 Forests assessment

www.panda.org/about_wwf/what_we_do/forests/our_solutions/protection/tools/hcvf_toolkit/index.cfm

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 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.

Forest Stewardship Council UK

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://gra.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 are not sourcing 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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WWF-UK

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