



WWF

BRIEFING

2015

UK

A photograph of a lush green forest. In the foreground, there are dense green trees and foliage. In the background, a person is seen climbing a tall, thin tree trunk. The person is wearing a light-colored shirt and dark pants. The overall scene is vibrant and natural.

**YOU NEED FORESTS,
FORESTS NEED YOU**

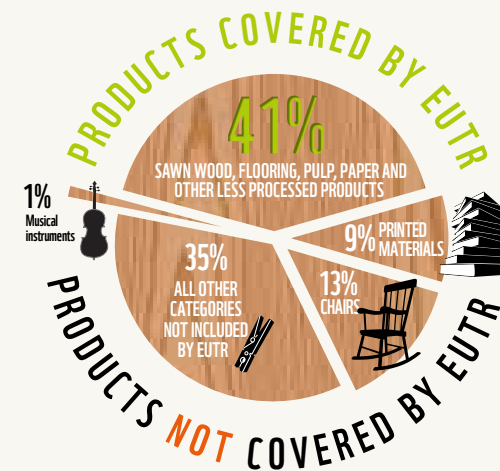
PARLIAMENTARY BRIEFING

BUSINESS AND GOVERNMENT CAN WORK TOGETHER TO ENABLE THE TRANSITION TO A MARKET THAT SUPPORTS ONLY SUSTAINABLE TIMBER

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THE CHALLENGE

- The UK is the second largest importer of timber and wood products in Europe.
- To stop imports of products made from illegally logged timber, the European Timber Regulation (EUTR) came into force on March 3, 2013.
- However, less than half the value of wood-based products imported into the EU is covered by the EUTR.
- Major missing product groups include chairs, printed materials and musical instruments.
- There is no legal requirement for businesses to procure timber and wood products from sustainable sources.



THE OPPORTUNITY

- A market in 100% legal and sustainable timber would level the playing field for businesses engaged in responsible trade in forest products and drive sustainable forest management in producer countries.
- The UK has a history of leadership on legal and sustainable timber. This gives it an excellent opportunity to use its influence to ensure global action for sustainable timber and positive benefits from trade.
- The UK Government and many businesses have already made commitments to procure sustainably-sourced timber and wood products. But we are far from 100% coverage.
- The EUTR is due its first statutory review in December 2015. This gives the UK Government an opportunity to use its influence to ensure all wood based products are included in the scope.
- Government leadership combined with action from industry, the finance sector and civil society could enable a market in 100% sustainable timber.

THE EVENT
IS HOSTED
BY WWF IN
ASSOCIATION
WITH

Kingfisher



M&S

SAINT-GOBAIN

ACHIEVING A 100% SUSTAINABLE TIMBER AND TIMBER PRODUCT MARKET IN THE UK

WITH INPUT AND ADVICE FROM INDUSTRY AND INDEPENDENT EXPERTS, WWF-UK HAS IDENTIFIED A COMPLEMENTARY SET OF PROPOSALS THAT COULD MOVE THE UK MARKET TO A SUSTAINABLE FOOTING. CIVIL SOCIETY, PUBLIC, PRIVATE AND FINANCE SECTORS SHOULD BE BROUGHT TOGETHER TO SET A NATIONAL GOAL OF A 100% SUSTAINABLE TIMBER MARKET BY 2020.

1. The UK Government must achieve 100% compliance with its timber procurement policy. It should better monitor implementation, redress non-compliance and expand the policy to the broader public sector.
2. A voluntary agreement should be established between government and UK business that sets the goal of a 100% sustainable market by 2020. This must include clear targets, technical support and space for collaboration.
3. Establish a UK Government-backed transparency mechanism to measure overall progress, reward the good performers and highlight the bad.
4. In order that a 100% sustainable market does not exclude small-scale producers, and will support rural development, the UK Government should build on efforts to provide access to technical assistance, development and other finance for small forest enterprises.
5. All banks and investors should apply robust policies to all their business, including trade finance, to ensure that they are only supporting a sustainable market by 2020.

We need your input to make sure forests have a future, for more information and to put your weight behind the campaign, please contact us either by phone Julia Young 01483 412468 or Julie Stoneman 01483 412293, or email forestcampaign@wwf.org.uk.

Join our campaign wwf.org.uk/saveforests

