

WWF and IKEA partnership

Over 30 percent of Earth's land area is covered with forests. They are among the most notable areas of biological diversity. The forests also offer a variety of possibilities to mankind – wood, nutrition from animals, grazing, medicines, and so on. Today, we are rapidly losing forests along with the endangered animals living there. Responsible forest management can help counteract some of the most severe problems, such as forest degradation and illegal logging.



What we do...



11 PROJECT COUNTRIES

- Bosnia-Herzegovina
- Bulgaria
- Cambodia
- China
- Indonesia
- Laos
- Lithuania
- Romania
- Russia
- Ukraine
- Vietnam

WWF and IKEA are committed to promoting responsible forest management to secure forest values for both present and future needs. This is why we have joint forest projects in 11 countries around Europe and Asia that spread knowledge and develop tools to a variety of stakeholders. We focus on four key areas to obtain better forest management so that raw materials can be extracted without destroying the forests' biological and social values:

Combat illegal logging:

Illegal logging threatens some of the most valuable forests across the globe because of the growing demand for timber and wood-based products. It involves tribal communities, governments, companies as well as consumers.

Support credible forest certification:

Forest certification provides a system for inspecting and tracking timber, pulp and other forest products to ensure compliance with strict guidelines.

Promote responsible timber:

The illegal trade of wood and timber products drives deforestation, costing the global economy billions of dollars every year. It is often caused by weak law enforcement and a lack of timber tracking systems.

Map and protect High Conservation Value Forests (HCVF):

Identifying areas of high conservation value helps stakeholders decide which areas must be given higher priority for protection than others. The value can be social, cultural and ecological.



...and what we've achieved

Since the start in 2002, the IKEA and WWF cooperation has contributed to improved forest management over vast areas in Europe and Asia. Below are some examples of achievements.

Combat illegal logging

- In Romania, a national timber tracking system was developed on our initiative – an important tool to combat illegal logging.
- Russian and Chinese customs have established a successful co-operation in order to combat illegal logging.

Support credible forest certification

- With our support, the FSC certified forest area in Russia has expanded from 3.2 hectares in July 2005 to over 30 million hectares in May 2011.
- In China, the FSC certified forest area is now close to 3 million hectares, of which WWF has supported around two million hectares. Nine forest management enterprises in the Amur tiger habitat region have achieved FSC certification.
- In Romania and Bulgaria, Forest Certification Information Centres have been established, offering information and technical support for FSC certification to foresters, wood processing companies and the public.
- Hundreds of farmers have been introduced and trained on forest management in a unique project in the Greater Mekong region (Laos, Cambodia and Vietnam). It has contributed to the first FSC certification system for rattan products.

Promote responsible and legal timber trade

- A manual of customs control and wood-based product classification was published in cooperation with the Russian State Customs Academy to help fight illegal export.
- In Vietnam, a gap analysis on timber legality requirements has been conducted



for rattan and acacia suppliers. Training materials are developed based on this.

Map and protect High Conservation Value Forests (HCVF)

- In Romania, Bulgaria and the Ukraine, HCVF has become a well-known concept. Maps have been developed and more than 100,000 hectares have been identified.
- In Vietnam, priority restoration sites with high values in reconnecting the forest landscape have been identified in Quang Nam and Quang Tri.

Other achievements

- In Latvia and Lithuania, six demonstration forests have been established to show forest owners the benefits of responsible forestry management.
- In Laos and Cambodia, rattan nurseries have been constructed and a community based rattan management and production model have been developed. In Cambodia, the first rattan species field guide has been launched. Also, all of the hundred villages in the Greater Mekong project have set up Village Rattan Producer Groups, developed business plans and started handicraft production.

GLOBAL FOREST & TRADE NETWORK

IKEA is a participant of the Global Forest & Trade Network (GFTN), a WWF initiative to eliminate illegal logging and drive improvements in forest management. www.gftn.panda.org

LIVING FOREST CAMPAIGN

The partnership supports WWF's Living Forest Campaign to convene a high level debate about the value of forests to a "one planet" economy. Download four chapters:

http://wwf.panda.org/what_we_do/how_we_work/conservation/forests/publications/living_forests_report/

Contact:

For more information on the WWF and IKEA partnership, visit www.panda.org/IKEA, www.IKEA.com or contact WWF at wwf-ikea-projects@wwf.se

