



Certification – Do governments have a role?



Environmental Manager

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• International trade with wood products

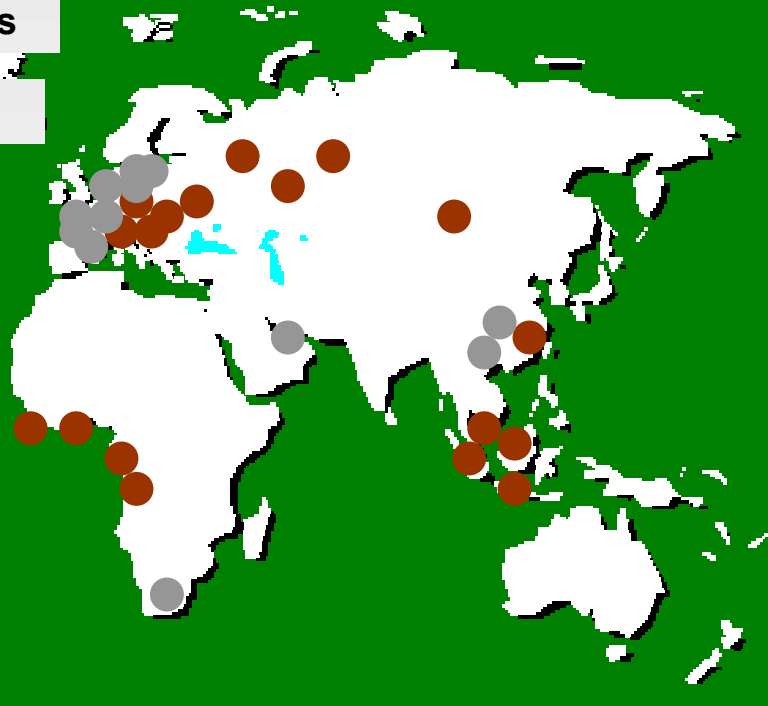
• Sale of building materials in Denmark

• 60% of turnover outside Denmark

• Turnover 2005 – 700 mill. Euro

• 1700 employees

• First Environmental Policy in 1991



● Procurement office

● Sales office

Back to basics – what is it we want?



- Promote use of wood – because it is environmentally-friendly
- Enhance and expand SFM
- Eradicate illegal wood
- Support, in particular, tropical regions in implementing SFM

Is certification the right tool?

Yes to certification

– but do we tend to forget its limitations?

- A handy market tool for proof of legality and sustainability
- Enables consumers to distinguish between wood products
- Focus on origin of wood
- Voluntary??

- Not yet clear evidence of impacts on the ground – can we measure?
- Some environmental aspects are not taken into consideration
- It has sidetracked our attention away from serious problems like deforestation
- It has not been successful in natural tropical forests

Let us not forget the rationale behind certification!

Can public procurement policies facilitate implementation of SFM?



- Prudent public procurement policies can help us move in the right direction
- Policies should be designed to have impact on the ground – and not made only to ease our conscience and please the public
- The starting point is that wood is basically an environmentally-friendly material
- Rigid procurement policies can result in substitution and have an adverse effect on SFM implementation in the tropics
- Lower “threshold” for natural forest tropical woods beginning with *Verification for legal origin*
- Recognition of realistic *phased approaches to certification*

What else can governments do?

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- Establish credible legal systems in some producer countries
- Simpler SFM legislation and better control in some producer countries
- Create attractive climates for implementing SFM - when SFM becomes easier, certification will follow
- Take the process of SFM and the role of certification to UN, EU, G8, ASEAN, WTO – we need workable solutions at global level
- Support producer countries – make it attractive to do things right!
- Consumer information based on facts rather than feelings

What can a timber trader do?



Trade plays a vital role in driving SFM and certification, but there has been too much emphasis on pure trade measures as the solution to all problems. We need actively involved governments.

DLH Environmental targets:

- Known origin by 2007
- Turnover of certified wood equal to level of certified forests

Good Supplier Program

DLH's Basic Values

SFM is the basis of our long-term business!

Work with governments, the public and the NGO's because we have basically the same interests!



Thank You!

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