

# IKEA cares about the forest

## Wood is one of the most important raw materials for IKEA. This is why we care so much about the forests it comes from.

We see wood as an excellent choice from an environmental point of view, provided that it comes from responsibly managed forests. Wood is renewable, recyclable and biodegradable. At IKEA, we try to treat wood as the valuable resource it is.

### MAXIMISING THE USE OF WOOD

Economising with resources is part and parcel of the IKEA approach to product development. It helps to save not only money, but the environment, too. The principle is always to make use of as much of the wood as possible, and designers and product developers are constantly searching for new techniques to get the best possible return from every tree trunk.

The most important wood species for IKEA are pine, spruce, birch and beech. The top five wood sourcing countries are Poland, Russia, China, Romania and Sweden.

Most IKEA outdoor furniture is made of acacia, a fast-growing and durable hardwood species, sourced mainly in Vietnam.

### IKEA FORESTRY REQUIREMENTS

IKEA does not accept illegally felled wood or wood from intact natural forests unless it has been certified as responsibly managed. Suppliers must be able to document the origin of their wood.

All our wood product suppliers are audited regularly. In 2010 supply chain audits showed that 97.1 percent of the wood meets the IKEA minimum requirements. Non-compliant suppliers are required to implement immediate corrective action.

24 percent of the wood comes from our preferred sources, forests verified as responsibly managed. This means that the wood is certified according to the FSC - with the full supply chain independently audited.

Today, the Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) certification system is the only one that meets IKEA requirements. IKEA supports FSC certification, and was one of the founding members of FSC in 1993.

### IKEA FOREST SPECIALISTS

IKEA has its own forest specialists who work in the field, close to both suppliers and forests. Their most important task is to promote responsible forest management by spreading information and knowledge.

IKEA forest specialists help source more wood from forests certified as responsibly managed. And they trace batches of timber all the way back to their origins to check that they come from the forests the suppliers have stated.

### WORKING WITH WWF

IKEA and WWF work together to increase the availability of FSC-certified wood and to tackle problems such as illegal logging.

We cooperate in projects in important wood sourcing regions such as Russia and China, Laos, Cambodia, Vietnam, Lithuania, Bulgaria, Romania and Ukraine.

The co-operation, started in 2002, has contributed to substantial increases of certified forest areas in China and Russia.

### LABELLING

IKEA labels our home furnishing products exclusively with the IKEA logo because we want our customers to know that this stands for products that are safe and produced with respect for people and the environment. As this applies to all of the IKEA range, we have chosen not to use labels for certification of social and environmental responsibility.



## Would you like to know more?

Please visit our web site [www.IKEA.com](http://www.IKEA.com) or contact your national IKEA media relations department. You can also read more about the WWF partnership on [www.panda.org/IKEA](http://www.panda.org/IKEA). This fact sheet was produced by IKEA Group Staff Sustainability in January 2011.