Tropical Forest Trust (TFT) is focused on making the trade in timber from sustainably managed forests standard practice.

We work with partners at all stages of the supply chain – from forests, to mills and factories, to retail stores which sell tropical wood products.

TFT's model demonstrates that trade based on sustainable forest operations can profit retailers, suppliers, forest owners and forest dependent communities.

Who We Are

Since 1999, TFT has been working to conserve tropical forests through promoting sustainable forest management practices, and linking these forests to our Members' supply chains. Through this approach we help give value to tropical forests as functioning ecosystems rather than as land cleared for alternative uses.

We are a UK registered charity with over 60 staff working in Africa, Asia, Europe, North America and South America. The majority of our staff spends their days working in forests and factories providing the support and expertise necessary to improve forest sustainability.

Tropical Forest Trust

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TROPICAL FOREST TRUST

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TFT™
TROPICAL FOREST TRUST

Linking business with responsible forest management

TFT'S VISION

A world in which threatened tropical forests are conserved, providing livelihoods for over 800 million people and habitat for half of all terrestrial animal and plant species, and storing billions of tonnes of carbon that would otherwise fuel global warming.

How TFT Works

Our strategic approach to promoting sustainable forest management requires strong partnerships throughout all aspects of the forest products industry. Through TFT's Membership Program and TFT's Forests Program we work in partnership with companies to integrate best practices for selling, producing and sourcing 'good wood'.

TFT Members commit to excluding illegal wood from their supply chain and to sourcing wood from forests which are working towards independent certification. TFT Forest Program partners are committed to improving forest practices in the forests they own or manage, and aspire towards achieving independent recognition of those practices (for example, FSC certification). Members contribute financially to support our work both in the forest and in their supply chains.

TFT'S WOOD CONTROL SYSTEM

Ensures only wood from TFT forest projects is used in Members' TFT labelled products. Wood Control Systems monitor Members' tropical wood orders through the supply chain - from the tree, through the forest, to the factory and at all key points of manufacture. TFT Wood Control Systems are the most robust form of tropical timber origin verification available.

What does TFT do ?

TFT helps Member businesses - retailers and suppliers of tropical wood products - to find out where their wood comes from, and to link them with acceptable forest sources.

As a minimum first step, all wood must come from legally verified forest operations, but TFT Members are also committed to increasing the volume of wood that they source from well managed forests. TFT assists by improving the management practices in the forests which produce their wood, and describe this wood as from 'transition sources' - meaning in transition to independent certification.

TFT works in partnership with forest companies and communities to implement sustainable forest practices. Best practices protect and enhance environmental values, provide benefits for indigenous and other local communities, and ensure economically viability so that the environmental and social values have a secure future.

We are currently working in over 3 million hectares of forest around the globe to help improve practices towards independent certification by the Forest Stewardship Council (FSC).

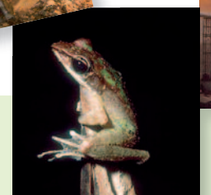
Why join TFT ?

TFT offers expert advice in implementing robust wood control systems that monitor the movements of wood throughout each Member's supply chain. Through working in the forest TFT helps increase the supply of sustainable wood and provides linkages from these forests to each Member's supply chain. TFT Members are recognized leaders in the promotion of sustainable forest management in the tropics.

How do we join ?

A company trading in wood products can apply to become a TFT Member if it is:

- Committed to sourcing tropical wood from well-managed forests
- Seeking a partner to work with on this task
- Prepared to make an appropriate financial contribution
- Open to allowing TFT to work closely with its supply chain partners

Please contact our Membership Program if you would like any more information.

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