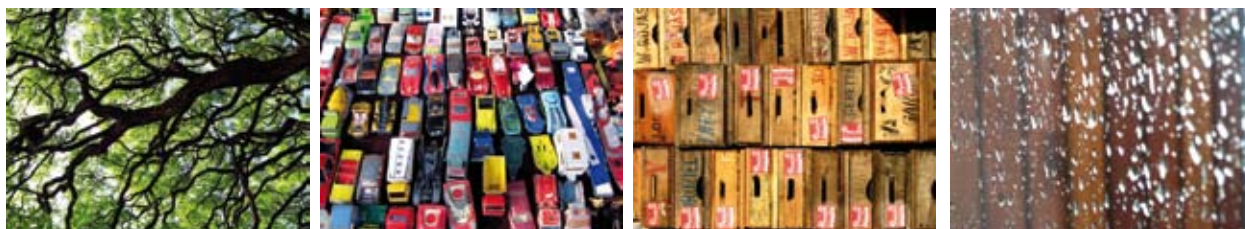


Sustainability Matters

April 2011

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The UN Year of Forests and its significance for investors

The UN has declared 2011 as the International Year of Forests. The aim of this initiative is to raise awareness among the general public of the importance of protecting forests and exploiting them in a sustainable way. Forests play a central role from both an ecological and an economical perspective. On one hand, they perform natural services such as filtering drinking water and carbon sequestration in biomass. On the other hand, they also provide numerous products of relevance to the economy. Forested areas worldwide are thus faced with various conflicts of interest. In many regions, forests are such an important source of income that short-term economic or political interests are given greater weight than long-term protection. However, since more and more companies are dependent on intact forests and their products, it is in their own interest to contribute to the sustainable exploitation of such forests. A further trend emerging is towards treating forests as a separate asset class. A prerequisite for this however is that the forests must be managed sustainably in order to make these investments truly consistent with sustainable and future-orientated development.

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2011: International Year of Forests

The UN has declared 2011 as the International Year of Forests. The international community is thus leaning towards recognising one of the most important ecosystems on our planet. Around a third of the earth's surface is covered by forest. As a result of forest clearance for agriculture and pasture farming, combined with deforestation for lumber and firewood, the current total wooded area worldwide is just under four billion hectares, or only around 64% of forest cover 8,000 years ago. What is more, another six million hectares disappear every year (UNESCO 2011). The UN statement sets out that forests and sustainable forest management contribute significantly to sustainable development, the fight against poverty and the achievement of the millennium development goals. Against this background, governments as well as regional and international organisations are being encouraged to support and promote related activities on both a national and an international level.

The forest is essential to human livelihood

Forests, particularly the tropical rainforests, are essential to human livelihood. They perform vital natural services and provide a whole range of products. Forests are thus essential for the local and global economy, because they save water and release it again. Forests also filter water, and thus render the expensive process of preparing drinking water unnecessary in many places. Forests are also essential for soil stability. In mountainous regions, forests act as a natural protection against landslides and rockfalls, something of economic importance to the travel and tourism infrastructure in particular. In climate regulation, forests act as carbon repositories and are thus natural CO₂ sinks. Forests also act as giant 'air conditioners' by converting the sun's energy into water vapour and thereby cooling the atmosphere. Of all the biological species known worldwide, around two thirds live in forest environments. Tropical rainforests, which cover only 6% of the earth's surface, house almost half of all species worldwide.

Forests even play an important role as local recreation areas. In Switzerland, four out of five people regularly go to the forest in winter, some of them several times a week. In summer the appeal is even greater. Forests are also an important economic factor. They are abundant sources of raw materials for wood and fibre products, chief among which is timber for the construction industry, cellulose manufacturing and heating, all sources of revenue. Most of the afforestation carried out over the past few decades was done for this reason. Against this, reforestation outside of the forestry trade is heavily neglected. Forests also provide non-wood products such as fruit, colorants or medicinal plants, however. For people in developing countries that are dependent on forests, forests are important sources of meat and fish. Non-wood products represent an annual trade volume of around 7.5-9 billion USD, whereas medicinal plants and the pharmaceuticals manufactured from them are worth an estimated 108 billion USD (Georg Schattney and Julian von Stockhausen. Article: Wald als Wirtschaftsfaktor).

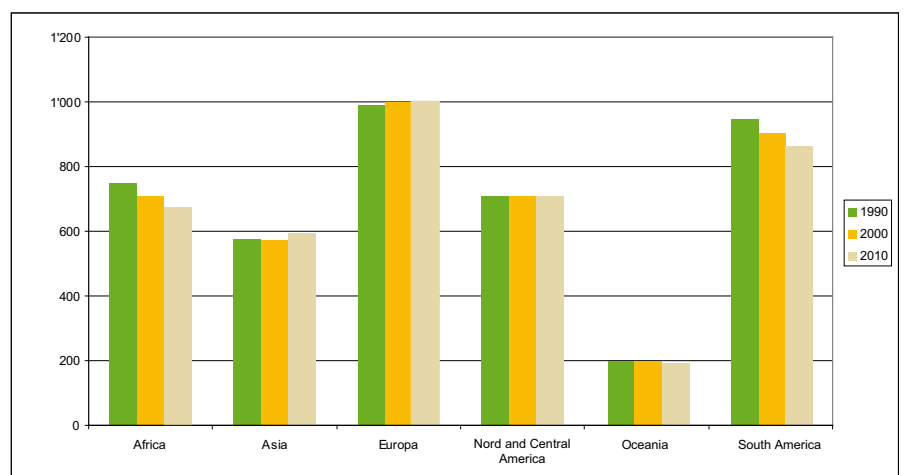
Forests as an area of conflict between different interests

Global deforestation – predominantly the transformation of tropical forests into farmland – may be slowing down, but it is still happening at a rapid pace. Over the past ten years, around 13 million hectares of forest were converted to be used for other purposes, in order to acquire agricultural land for the production of palm oil, soya or sugar cane. Only in Asia and Europe has the area of forested land risen, slightly (Figure 1). One major driving force is the increasing demand (driven by the increasing wealth) of industrialised nations for cosmetics and meat products: palm oil is an ingredient in many cosmetics and soya is used worldwide as feed for farmed livestock. In numerous regions of the world, forests are an important source of income and protecting them is often in conflict with economic or political interests.

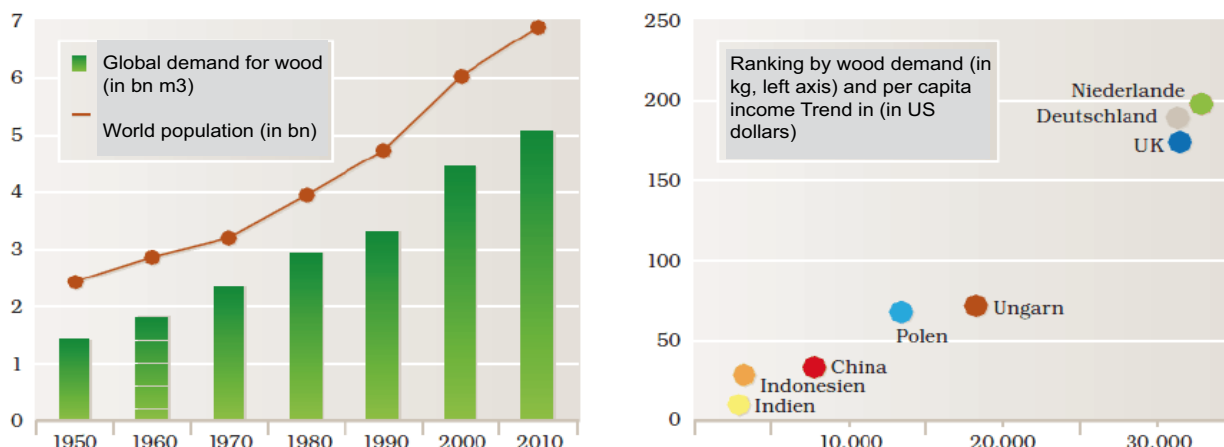
Increases in the world's population place an additional pressure on forests. Figure 2 shows how global demand for wood is increasing in linear proportion with the world's population. The growing demand for wood is however juxtaposed with a supply that is becoming ever-increasingly scarce. Demographic migrations and industrial progress are thus pushing even the renewable resource of wood to its limits.

Conflicts over forests and land rights represent a further hurdle to protecting forests. Corruption, coupled with the failure to implement national forestry laws or to implement them properly, are also reasons for which global forested areas are declining further. Illegal lumbering is also on the agenda. Voluntary projects to support countries in the tropics in passing and strengthening forestry laws are an important step in the right direction. One example of such an initiative is the EU project "Forest Law Enforcement Governance and Trade", known as FLEGT. On the demand side, efforts are already being made to prohibit illegal wood imports and to prevent them to the greatest extent possible by requiring importers to declare the type and origin of all wood they import. Certification procedures such as FSC or PEFC can help in this process. In Switzerland, forests enjoy better legal protection than in many other places abroad. There is however a conflict of interest surrounding forests in Switzerland as well, such as the movement to have the ban on deforestation relaxed in order to expand city districts. In Western and Central Europe, the concept of the multifunctional forest economy takes pride of place; under this model,

Figure 1: Trends in forest area, 1999-2010 (million ha)



Source: FAO (2011)

Figure 2: Rise in demand for wood coupled with population and wealth growth

Source: www.dasinvestment.com appeared on 11/11/2009.

The graphs are based on the World Bank Development Report, FAO, and on IWC calculations. Link: <http://www.dasinvestment.com/pdf.p?id=6381>

the forest is intended to provide various products and services. Here too, necessary prioritisations lead to conflicts that must be resolved through dialogue.

At the international climate negotiations in Cancun last December, protecting the forests was one of the items to be discussed. One proposal was to promise poorer countries money if they protected their forests. This does however require a definition of exactly when a wooded area counts as a forest. It is furthermore important to take full account of the interests of the local population.

Investors can invest in forests directly and indirectly

For numerous industries, forests are a quintessential foundation for the economy. For example, the tourism industry relies on forests and landscapes remaining intact, and pharmaceutical companies rely on biodiversity being maintained and on the medicinal plants that grow as a result. Agriculture and forestry, the paper industry and the construction, energy or furniture industry (wood products, wood as an energy source, etc.) are unthinkable without intact forests. At the same time, it is precisely these industries that draw particularly deeply on the forest ecosystem. Consumers can support sustainable forest management by being more stringent about buying wood from FSC-certified producers, for example. Forested areas certified by independent third parties with regard to sustainability requirements have soared in recent times. Owing to sustained international pressure and the media presence of this topic, this trend is set to continue further in the future.

For a considerable time now, forests have been an investment topic – for both institutional and private investors. In the context of climate investment, forests play a relatively small role from an investor perspective compared with investments in renewable energies and environmental technologies, including in the international climate regime applicable until 2012. It is here that most forest projects co-financed via the CO₂ markets take place in the so-called ‘voluntary market’. These projects include forestation and reforestation projects for natural forests and for commercial forest management. The certificates issued from such projects (VERs or Verified Emission Reductions) are mostly sought by companies that are seeking to compensate for their business activities over and above the extent required by law. Under the European Emission Trading

System (EU ETS), these certificates are not accepted. Demand for the inclusion of such projects in the compliance market for the period after 2012 began to be expressed during the last few years and also during the latest climate negotiations in Cancun; this in turn has led to increased interest in this type of projects from private investors. In Cancun, the decision was taken to launch a forest protection programme under the name of “Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Degradation” (REDD). This gives the carbon dioxide stored in forests an economic value, which should discourage deforestation. Forest protection could be either incorporated into emissions trading in the form of CO₂ certificates or a fund could be created into which industrialised nations could make payments. No agreement has yet been reached as to the definitive form to be adopted to finance this initiative.

Of far greater importance are investments in commercial forest management. Forests as an investment class present a whole range of advantages. Since biomass is continually increasing, a majority of the growth in forest investments can be attributed to the biological growth of trees. The price of land has also risen over time. Another advantage is the fact the price of wood is almost entirely independent of macroeconomic factors, stock market trends or other investment classes (Neue Zürcher Zeitung, 2. Dezember 2005). The risks are also relatively easy to quantify and insure against and are barely higher than for other project investments. The main risks to which plantations are exposed are vermin, fire and storms. Wood is irreplaceable as a basic commodity, which also ensures that demand remains stable.

Investors can invest in forests either directly or indirectly. Indirect investments comprise holdings in companies involved in the forestry or wood industry in the form of shares or certificates. These are companies that not only exploit forests and produce wood but also are active throughout the entire value chain. They include paper manufacturers, wood technology companies and firms that are involved in sustainable forest management. It is precisely for this type of investment that it is essential to examine the sustainability performance provided by the firms in question. For example, cellulose and paper manufacturers are energy-intensive industries and produce relevant environmental effects due to the chemicals they use.

Direct investments in forests are very widespread, especially in the USA. Traditional wood-producing countries include the southern part of the USA, New Zealand, Australia and Chile.

South Brazil, Colombia, Peru, Uruguay and Paraguay are also beginning to play an increasingly important role as wood-producing countries, however. The investors involved here are mainly institutional investors in forest plantations. Plantations are easy to manage and maintain, which is crucial for investors. For the furniture industry, for example, obtaining straight branches is important. This is easier to manage on a plantation. However, plantations themselves hold great potential for socioeconomic conflict (e.g. land purchases, resettlement of people) and ecological risks (e.g. exposure to vermin, combating vermin via pesticides, soil destabilisation via monocultures and the replacement of primary forests). This makes sustainable exploitation of plantations all the more important. The involvement of institutional investors in the forests investment class has led to the development of 'TIMOs' (timber investment management organisations). TIMOs are specialised investment managers that carry out the purchase, sale and exploitation of forests on behalf of investors. TIMOs also ensure diversification in terms of countries of origin and types of wood. In this manner, investors can stipulate when they want to achieve their first revenues, and the internal rate of return (IRR) for which they are aiming.

The arrival of TIMOs has contributed to a sharp increase in the amount of money invested in the forests investment class. The decisive factor for sustainable investments in forests – for both direct and indirect investments – is the manner in which those forests are exploited. Having forest holdings certified by the FSC can ensure their forests will be exploited sustainably. This includes adhering to relatively strict principles and having that adherence independently verified. This involves an associated added cost and thus leads to higher prices for wood products. Nevertheless, direct and indirect investments make sense from a sustainable and long-term perspective only if the forest management and the different woods involved meet strict social and ecological requirements.





News on the investment theme of **climate protection**

Forests and their significance in protecting the climate

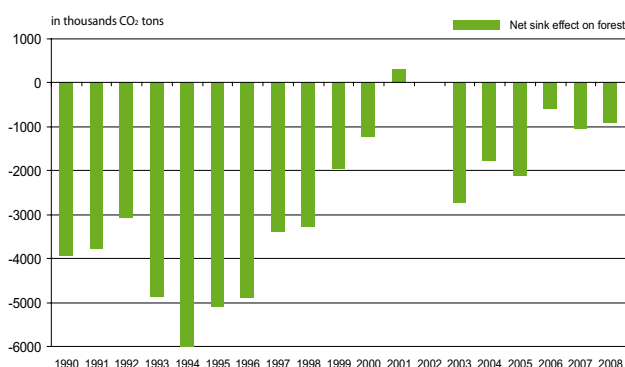
Forests act as repositories for carbon. If they are burned away, a large part of the carbon stored in them is released into the atmosphere as carbon dioxide (CO₂). Continuing destruction of the forests is thus playing a major part in the global rise of CO₂ levels. Various approaches to preserving the forests have been discussed as part of international climate politics. Chief among these approaches are afforestation and reforestation, i.e. planting trees in areas that currently have no tree cover or have not had it for a long time. The contribution this makes to save the climate is that the CO₂ released into the atmosphere is absorbed back into biomass. What is even more interesting from a climate protection perspective, however, is the amount of deforestation this avoids, since young forests do not store the same quantity of carbon and cannot replace the wide range of contributions old forests make to the ecosystem (e.g. by preserving biodiversity). Financial incentives to reduce deforestation are currently being discussed in international climate politics under the keyword REDD (Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Degradation). The ability of forests to absorb carbon is often referred to as a 'sink'. However, forests act as genuine carbon sinks only if the net balance of all growth and destruction is positive, and thus the size of the carbon reservoir in the forest increases. Since 1990, Switzerland has been required by the UN Framework Climate Convention to supply information on the CO₂ balance of its forests. This balance is calculated taking into account the CO₂ absorption as a consequence of tree growth, minus the losses occurring from use of the forest and natural wastage, plus the CO₂ stored in the dead wood (FOEN 2010; Forest and Wood Journal 2010). Figure 3 shows that, with the exception of 2001 and 2002, Swiss forests act as net CO₂ sinks. Owing to increased use and mortality over the past few years, however, this sink function has become less effective.

Following the discussions on the finite quantities of fossil fuels such as oil, coal and gas, wood has grown in importance in recent years as an energy source and above all as a renewable raw material. The EU Directive on renewable energies that sets out binding targets for the use of renewable energies has led to wood as a natural resource regaining prominence. In Switzerland, around four percent of final energy consumption derived from wood used as an energy source in 2009 (FOEN 2010: Jahr-

buch Wald und Holz 2010). Wood can form part of a modern, climate-friendly energy mix alongside other renewable energy sources. When treating wood as a natural resource and an energy source, it should also be borne in mind that forests must be exploited in a sustainable manner. In developing countries in particular, however, this is not always the case. Future supplies of wood as an energy source taken from sustainable forest management are therefore limited.

Another climate-friendly and unlimited energy source is solar energy. Sunlight can be used to generate heat and also to generate electricity, via the use of solar panels. In contrast to wood as an energy source, solar energy is not exactly criticised for the ecological and social problems it causes. The disadvantage of using solar energy, however, is the fact that, unlike other energy sources (such as those used in thermal power stations), it cannot be used around the clock, as the sun does not shine 24 hours a day. In Switzerland, around 5.7% of energy demand is currently covered by the so-called new renewable energy sources (sun, wood, biomass, wind, geothermal energy and environmental heat). Around 3.7% comes from biomass (wood and biogas). Smaller proportions are met by solar energy (0.1%) and wind energy (0.004%). Since numerous aid and research programmes exist to provide extensive support to the continuing development and establishment of renewable energies in the energy mix, it seems reasonable to assume that these energy sources will gain in importance.

Figure 3: Annual net sink effect in Swiss forests 1990-2008

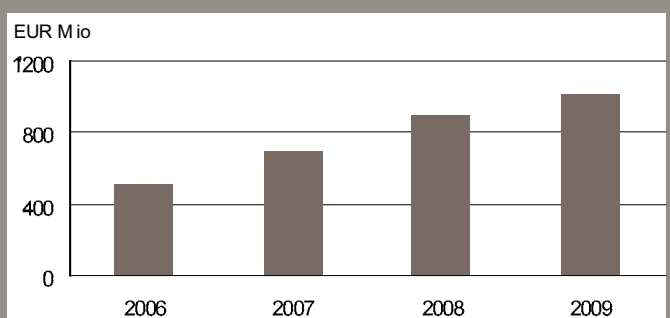


Source: BAFU 2010: Federal Office for the Environment

Solarworld AG

One company set to take advantage of this development is the German group SolarWorld. It is one of the world's largest solar energy companies and encompasses every step in the value creation chain for solar cells, from the raw material silicon to solar energy systems finished and ready for installation. As shown in Figure 4, SolarWorld was also able to achieve financial success via its future-orientated products, in spite of rising competitive pressure from the manufacturers of renewable energy technologies, primarily solar technologies.

Figure 4: Trends in turnover of solarworld 2005-2009



Solarworld Annual Report 2009



News on the investment theme of **Smart Mobility**

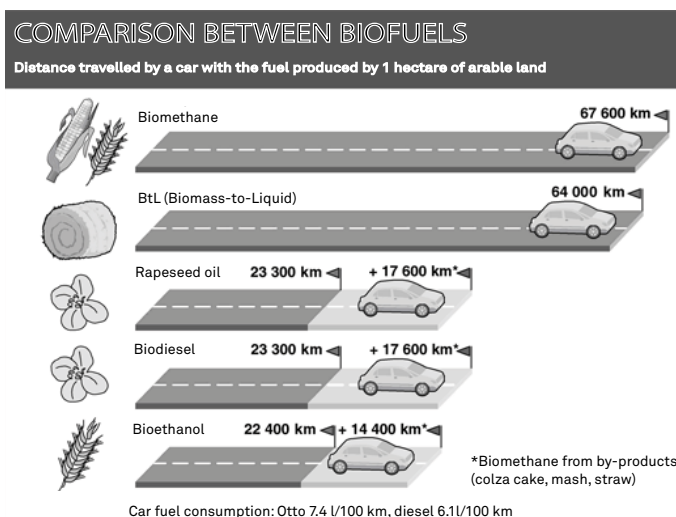
Forests in focus as a biofuel

The increase in global mobility has brought the issue of ecologically sustainable fuels back to the forefront, since fossil fuels such as crude oil and natural gas remain at the centre of attention in this regard. Efforts such as those taken by the EU, namely the guidelines on renewable energies, are steps in the right direction. In the transport sector, all Member States are required to meet the goal of using renewable energies to meet 10% of their requirements alongside conventional energy sources. Here, biofuels play the most important role amongst renewable energies used in motorised transport (EU, memo 10/247). A general distinction is drawn between first-generation and second-generation biofuels. First-generation biofuels include biodiesel (from oilseed), biogas (from organic waste) and bioethanol from sugar and starchy plants. Since they are manufactured from the edible parts of plants and growing these plants requires the use of fertile arable land, they are in competition with food production. They are also criticised with regard to their ecological use and the greenhouse gas savings they actually generate. The problem is that rainforests are often cut down in order to clear the space for the palm oil plantations required to produce palm oil for biodiesel. Cutting down forests, together with other changes in the use of the land such as planting cereals for biodiesel production, are problematic issues that should be taken seriously.

In terms of the ecobalance, when taking account of all relevant environmental effects caused by the combustion of biofuels, only a small percentage of biofuels show a positive balance. A study by EMPA came to the conclusion that only biofuels from waste products and residual materials actually reduced the environmental and CO₂ burden under current production techniques (EMPA 2007, Ecobalance of Energy Products). These fuels also include second-generation biofuels. For these fuels, cellulose from plant residue (stems, leaves, etc.) or leftover wood, slurry, compost or food waste is converted to sugar via digestion by enzymes. The result is an ecologically efficient fuel. As shown in Figure 5, biomass is used particularly effectively for the fuels of biomethane and BTL (biomass-to-liquid) – both second-generation fuels. When manufacturing such fuel from wood, however, the risk remains that this biofuel production will be in competition with forest conservation.

In reaction to the attributes of biofuels that are critical from a sustainability perspective, the European Commission approved a system in June 2010 for certifying sustainable biofuels (EU Commission memo 10/247, June 2010). The Commission thereby encouraged the economy, governments and NGOs to introduce voluntary certification systems for the sustainability of biofuels. The Commission will check whether these systems are reliable and are tested in a tamper-proof manner. The memo also stipulated which types of land may not be used for the manufacture of biofuels. These types include natural forests, nature reserves, wetlands and turf moors. Converting forests into oil palm plantations was also expressly excluded. The focus was also placed clearly on biofuels offering high greenhouse gas savings. The only biofuels now accepted are those that – in comparison with Otto and diesel fuels – emit at least 35% less CO₂ equivalents. This reduction will be raised to 50% in 2017. The European Commission is thus taking a step in the right direction in order to take the promising energy source that is biofuel in a verifiably more sustainable direction. This certification system still has to prove its value in practice.

Figure 5: Second-generation biofuels give greater yields

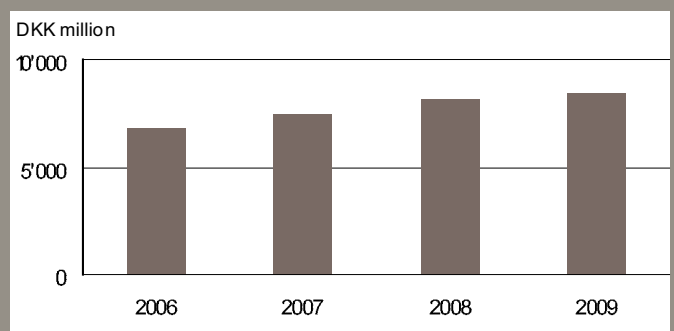


Source: Fachagentur Nachwachsende Rohstoffe e.V.

Novozymes A/S

The Danish biotechnology company Novozymes is making a contribution towards promoting second-generation biofuels. Its activities include the research and distribution of enzymes and microorganisms essential for the development and production of second-generation biofuels. By collaborating with major players such as the Round Table on Sustainable Fuels, Novozymes is making an important contribution towards the sustainable development of biofuels. Novozymes is thus contributing to the development of technologies important for sustainable fuel sources and in so doing is combining financial success with sustainable products.

Figure 6: Revenue trends for Novozymes 2006-2009



Source: Novozymes Annual Report 2009



News on the investment theme of Sustainable Consumption

Rising demand for sustainable wood products

As consumers, we are dependent on the forests in a number of ways: we buy wood and paper products, enjoy game, fish and forest

fruits, and use forests as local recreation areas. A less obvious aspect is the fact that we often owe the development and manufacture of plant-based pharmaceuticals to the genetic diversity of forests and that we owe our clean drinking water to forests' filtering action. At the same time, our consumer behaviour has repercussions on forests: Owing to deforestation and the planting of monocultures, the percentage of trees and genetic diversity in forests is being reduced, and emissions from industry and transport are downgrading the quality of the forests. This restricts not only consumer choice. In conflicts over the rights to land, as has already been described, human rights are all too often breached.

Sustainable (i.e. socially and environmentally acceptable) exploitation of forests is eminently important – on not only ecological and social but also economical grounds. This was acknowledged as early as the beginning of the 18th Century, when large areas of forest were destroyed. It is not for no reason that the concept of sustainability originates from forest management. Sustainable forestry preserves the biological diversity, productivity, capacity for rejuvenation and vitality of forests, and respects local laws and human rights. The Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) plays an important role in this regard: in 1993, it introduced the FSC seal, a certification system accepted worldwide that sets out standardised principles and criteria for sustainable forest management. Independent certification firms regularly audit forestry firms that have been certified.

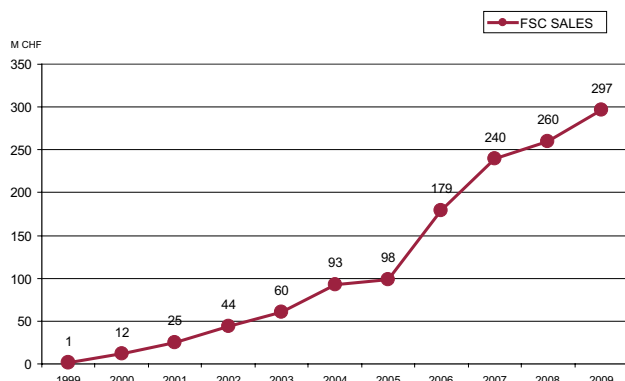
Since that time, sustainable forest management has acquired considerable economic significance. The chart below shows that for Switzerland, for example, turnover from FSC-certified wood and paper has grown steadily and has sometimes downright exploded: during the past ten years, turnover from FSC-certified products from the Swiss partners of WWF Global Forest & Trade Network Switzerland went from zero to 297 million CHF. Worldwide, the WWF Global Forest & Trade Network

encompasses around 400 companies, which themselves generate 16% of global turnover from wood products.

It is highly likely that demand for sustainable wood products will rise yet further: the growing world population and increasing levels of affluence will generate greater demand for wood. Whereas in 1950 only one and a half billion cubic metres of wood was consumed, this figure was almost three billion in 1980 and over five billion in 2010. This trend is furthermore heightened by the increasing numbers of major industry sectors switching to renewable and climate-neutral raw materials, such as the energy and agriculture industries. The growing demand for wood increases the pressure put on forests, which in turn makes it ever more important to manage them sustainably.

Companies that rely on FSC products or that recycle wood products are in a good position to meet rising demand and can thus safeguard their own revenues. They also enjoy a good reputation thanks to the FSC certificate, as sustainable business is very much in demand in light of the growing awareness and commitment among the population. On the other hand, companies that generate negative ecological headlines or are bogged down by controversies regarding human rights will suffer harm to their image and therefore will also feel the pinch financially.

Figure 7: FSC turnover for wood and paper for GFTN Switzerland

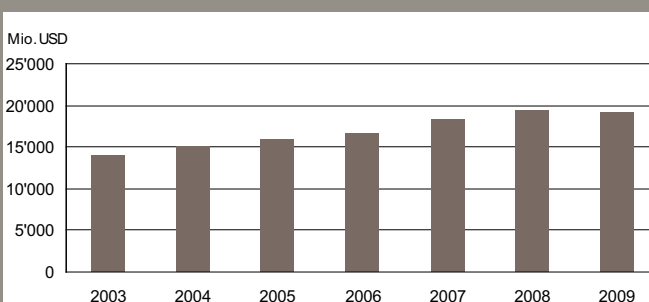


The turnover from FSC-certified wood and paper from partners of WWF Global Forest & Trade Network (GFTN) Switzerland positively exploded in the years from 1999 to 2009. WWF GFTN Switzerland is part of the WWF Global Forest & Trade Network, to which around 400 companies belong. They represent 16% of global turnover from wood products, or 62 billion USD. Source: WWF Switzerland, March 2010.

Kimberley-Clark

One company that understood how to integrate this major trend to its advantage is Kimberly-Clark. The US company is a global health and hygiene corporation predominantly known for its personal hygiene products, kitchen towels and various health products. Kimberly-Clark has come out in favour of sustainable consumption aimed at reducing the impact on the environment throughout all stages of a product's life. Accordingly, the company strives to avoid packaging and uses recycled fibres or at least sustainably produced primary fibres for its paper products. Thus, Kimberly-Clark manufactured its paper products for the North American market in 2009 using 22% recycled, 21% FSC-certified and 55% independently certified primary fibres. In the long term the company is aiming to obtain all its wood fibres (i.e. fresh fibres) from certified suppliers, bearing the FSC label as far as possible.

Figure 8: Net turnover for Kimberley-Clark between 2003 and 2009



Source: Kimberly-Clark Annual Reports 2007 and 2010



News on the investment theme of **Water**

Forests are of great significance to the water cycle

The interactions between forest ecosystems and the natural water cycle are numerous. Forests are influenced by water in all its forms – by precipitation,

which drains into the ground, and by interaction with groundwater, streams, rivers and lakes. In exchange, forests have a positive influence on the natural availability of water and on water quality.

The balancing influence on the availability of water arises as a result of the fact that forest floors absorb water like a sponge during heavy rain. Forests thus prevent floods occurring, and this also has a regulatory effect on erosion and mudslides, which often accompany flooding. One decisive factor for the existence of floods is on the one hand the quantity of water present on the surface, in streams and rivers, and on the other hand how much rain is absorbed into the layers of the soil. Forests can do both. Their dense system of leaves, thickets and roots prevent rain flowing off at surface level. A large part of rainfall vaporises while still on leaves and is returned to the atmosphere immediately. The particular properties of the forest floor ensure that rainwater sinks in and is stored for a long time in the porous cavity system between tree roots.

The influence of forests on water quality stems from the fact that forests carry out the important function of filtering ground and drinking water. Compared with groundwater, which is obtained from densely-populated areas used intensively for agriculture, the water collected under forested areas is of immensely better quality. Often, it can be used directly as drinking water without any treatment. Managing forests in harmony with nature will support and preserve this effect.

Forests accordingly perform important natural services to protect the water cycle. Mankind's activities do however have a considerable effect on the environment and thus pose increasingly severe demands on forest ecosystems to counteract these environmental effects. At the same time, forests are being damaged by human activities and pollutants and their regulatory function is thus being inhibited. Sulphur, nitrogen oxides and ammonium in particular are transported through the atmosphere to forested areas and cause the forest floor to turn acid. In consequence of this increased acidity, tree roots find it harder to obtain the nutrients they need, and harmful metal ions such as magnesium and aluminium are leached out of the forest floor and into the groundwater. Finally, tree roots are damaged in such a way that the forest's capacity for storing water is diminished.

These examples clearly show that forests cannot absorb man-made harmful effects to the natural environment by itself. To help it do so, modern technologies must be used to purify exhaust gases before they are released into the atmosphere, to process waste water and to produce drinking water.

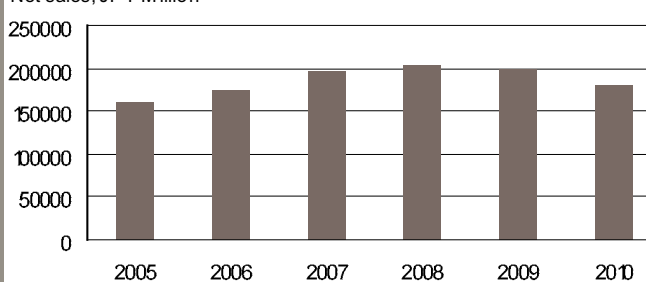
Kurita Water Industries Ltd.

One company in the 'efficient water technologies' sector that has committed to regenerating service water and thus performing a similar function to forests is Kurita Water Industries Ltd. This group is based in Tokyo, Japan and was founded in 1949. It employs just under 4,500 people, is present on all five continents and in 2010 generated turnover of 178,520 million yen, or 1,594 million euros (Figure 9).

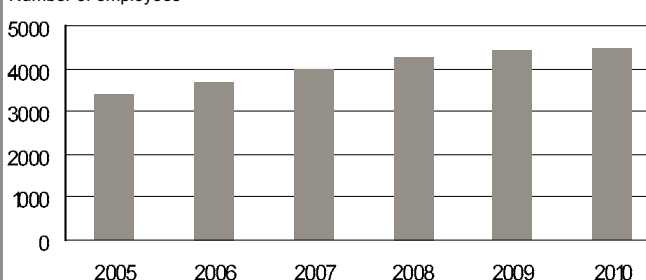
The company's overarching philosophy is one of researching the properties of water, using them, and creating an environment in which people and nature are in harmony. The company's broad range of technologies and services in the water and environmental sector means it is taking the best possible step in this direction. Kurita Water Industries is involved in four areas of business:

- * In the 'water treatment facilities' sector, Kurita sells technologies for treating water, purifying waste water and obtaining water. These include special systems for generating the highly pure water essential for manufacturing pharmaceuticals and waste water treatment systems that treat dirty water from homes and industry so that it can be reintroduced into natural bodies of water.
- * In the 'water treatment and chemistry business', Kurita provides process and coolant water optimisation for industrial processes. It also develops and manufactures chemical-based methods for removing toxic substances such as dioxins or heavy metals from industrial process water.
- * Kurita is also one of the leading companies in the 'soil and groundwater purification' sector. The company is contributing to implement measures to protect the soil and ground water against contamination in order to enable the land to be used successfully over a longer period of time.
- * The fourth sector encompasses Kurita Water Industries' other activities, including the maintenance and repair of water treatment facilities and optimising the efficiency of those facilities.

Net sales, JPY Million



Number of employees



Source: Kurita Water industries website

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