

Asia Pacific Forest Week

Public Procurement Policy for Legally Sourced Timber in Japan

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(source: Forestry Agency of Japan)

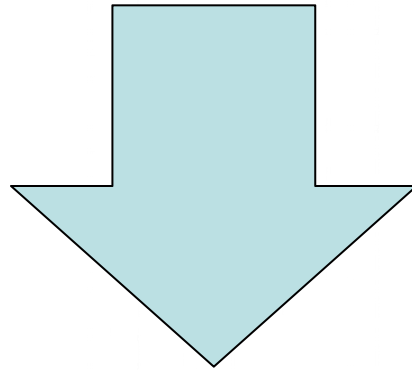
Development of Green Procurement Policy for Timber in Japan

- 1994: green procurement of timber and timber products;
- 1996: Green Procurement Networking by Japanese government and industry associations;
- 2000: Green Purchasing Law (effective in April 2001) for promoting environmentally-friendly materials and products for public procurements
- July 2003: Japan Green Procurement Survey Standardization Initiative (JGPSSI) ;
- July 2005: Gleneagles Summit, Japanese Government agreed to include measures against illegal logging into Japanese Government Initiative on Addressing Climate Change;
- February 2006, Guidelines for Verification on Legality and Sustainability of Wood and Wood Products
- April 2006: Japanese government added goho woods to the list of “environmentally-friendly materials” defined by Green Purchasing Law

Objectives of the Green Purchasing Law

Goods and Services that contribute to reducing environmental loads (Eco-Friendly Goods and Services)

- Promoting Greener Purchasing by Public Organizations
- Providing Information on Eco-Friendly Goods and Services



Establishment of an Environmentally Friendly and Sustainable Society

Three ways to verify legality/sustainability

For verification of legality and sustainability of wood and wood products, Forestry Agency of Japan developed a guideline which allows three ways to verify legality and/or sustainability.

1. Use of Forest Certification Systems such as : PEFC, SGEC, FSC
2. Use of Evidence issued by Certified Industrial Organisations
such as : National or regional wood industry associations/cooperatives
3. Verification system established and owned by individual corporations

Application of "Goho Wood"

"Goho Wood" = Legality verified timber

Participants in Goho Wood scheme (May 6 2013)

- ✓ **Authorizing Associations: 143**
- ✓ **Authorized companies: 8,995 (>50% JFWIA)**

Coverage of timber supply:

- ✓ **No official tracking of volume of Goho Wood.**
- ✓ **Japan Lumber Importers Association (60% of total imports) in 2011: 49% of all imports; 88% of plywood**
- ✓ **75% of total plywood imports (Forest Agency 2012.11)**

Scope of GOHO Wood

- Paper: e.g. print paper;
- Stationery: e.g. notebook, envelope, etc.
- Office furniture: e.g., chairs, desks, shelves, ect.
- OA equipments: e.g., recorder, etc.
- Indoor moulding, bed,etc.
- Material for public facility: e.gl., board, plywood, etc.

Goho wood policy implementation

- **Domestical timber**

- legality or sustainability certification is required for certificate;
- Industry associations carry out the certification for their members.

- **Imported timber**

- Require to source certified timber;
- Recognize or endorse the products from member companies of foreign associations, e.g., Indonesia's BRIK and SKSHH, Malaysian exporters holding export declaration, SGS verified companies in PGN and the Russian companies recognized by Japanese associations and their partners.

Annual Growth of Certification organisations and certified corporations



Domestic Production: 8.2 M³
 Domestic processing: 13.1 M³ Imported materials: 1.3 M³ source: JFWIA)

2006 2013

Annual Trade Volume of Legality Certified Wood



Approaches for Avoiding Illegal wood/ Enhancing Legal Wood

**Negative approach
applying DDS**

**Europe, USA,
Australia**

**Positive approach
by green
purchasing law**

Japan

**High
Risk**



**Low
Risk**



Different Approaches

- Europe, USA, Australia and Japan are countries where forestry policy and legislative governance is adequate and the risk of domestic illegal wood production is little.

- Europe, North America and Australia have high level of self-supply of wood. therefore, the impact of restriction of wood import upon domestic wood industry is rather little.

—————→ **(negative approach is effective)**

- Japan's rate of wood self-supply is low. The country is now promoting domestic wood production. Therefore, the restriction on wood import should be aligned with with the domestic policies.

(positive approach is effective)

The advantage and disadvantage of positive and negative approach should be considered well for implementing policies.

Thank You!
