



Sustainable management of forest resources and environmental protection

Information for our clients

In the last financial year 2001-2002, the Pallisco company has exploited 90.000 m³ of timber : Pallisco and CIFM have processed some 65.000 m³ of logs into sawn timber/planning boards and sold some 15.000 m³ locally. As a results of public forest auctions in June 2001, Pallisco now manages 144.700 ha of forest and its partners 158.700 ha, giving a total of 303.400 ha which Pallisco harvests on a fifteen years renewable period.

Sustainable forest management has become a major subject in forested countries throughout the world since the world conference in Rio de Janeiro in June 1992 (Earth Summit), and its importance was reaffirmed ten years later at the second conference in Johannesburg in September 2002.

Forest policy in Cameroon is evolving progressively each year towards a stricter legislative framework in favour of the preservation of the forests potential, local manufacturing and the restriction of the exporting of logs (notably under the World Bank encouragement). As a result of these measures, the Cameroonian State controls its wood sector more efficiently (methods and procedures of forest attribution and exploitation, environmental and social impacts, exports) thus ensuring a better durability of its forest potential and the development of its industries.

These national choices have nevertheless generated economic difficulties due to unsuitability between the countries resources and manufacturing capacities, and reinforced by a fiscal pressure (yearly taxes based on surface area, stumpage tax, logs sawmilling tax, added tax on exports in logs) and an increasing competition on tropical wood markets.

Pallisco and CIFM maintain the development of their activities in forestry and wood manufacturing within this legislative, fiscal, economic and environmental context.

The insurance of a reliable resource in the longterm allows Pallisco to continue its actions, which were started in 1998, in favour of its forest potential, environmental protection, respect for Cameroonian laws, local development of populations and external relationships (institutions, technical centres, local NGOs). In order to maintain and develop its works in forestry management while at the same time answering to current law requirements, Pallisco created with external supports its own forest management department integrating environmental protection.

In operation since January 2002, this department allows Pallisco to have a better control on each element of the sustainable management of forest resources, such as data collecting (cartographic, forestry, hunting, biological, socio-economic) and processing in order to plan forestry harvesting with the integration of environmental protection.

Through these actions, Pallisco is engaged in a sustainable management approach of its forestry resources which in the long run the company would enable it to certify its forest. This commitment proves to Pallisco's and CIFM clients that its wood products (logs and sawntimber) originate from :

- a legal and controlled origin (Pallisco and its partners),
 - an on-going sustainable forest management plan (legal and programmed cuttings),
 - in the long run a well-balanced harvesting of forestry resources (forestry management plan),
- that takes into account those elements linked with the environment (biology, fauna, socio-economic).

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