



UTGA visitors at the PG Bison factory

UTGA GROWERS VISIT KENYA

Uganda Timber Growers' Association (UTGA) with support from Gatsby Africa Foundation organized a 4-day trip to Kenya from Monday, 27th June to Friday, 1st July, 2022, in order to expose UTGA members to wood markets, processing and value

addition initiatives in the East African region. The trip objective was to allow UTGA members to interface with the Kenyan market players who are regional buyers of wood and also for members to appreciate wood value addition initiatives in Kenya, even if the country is wood deficient.

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They also visited Plantech seedling nursery



Industry event: Growers at Serena Hotel Nairobi



A firefighter works against a fire in Athens, Greece

The World is burning!

Fire in Europe and America!
& the need to grow more trees!

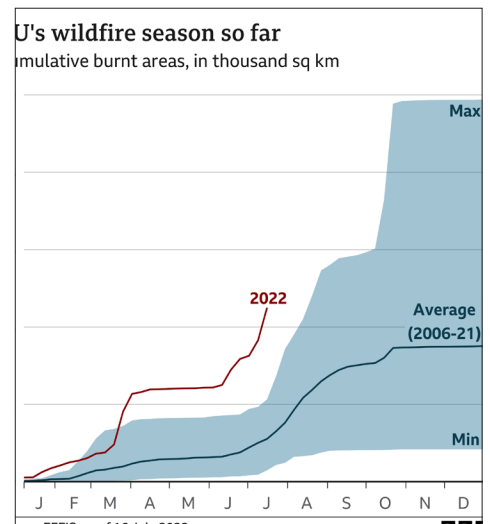
In June and July 2022, heatwaves struck Europe, North Africa, the Middle East, and Asia, as temperatures climbed above 40 degrees Celsius (104 degrees Fahrenheit) in places and broke many long-standing records. This latest record-breaking heat wave, sparked real climate anxiety. Wildfires spread rapidly, while soaring temperatures warped roads and caused train tracks to buckle. More than 1,000 people died due to the heat in Spain and Portugal alone. Roads in France were under threat of melting and rail lines in danger of buckling. Runways at airports were forced to shut down. Wildfires spread across countries as many evacuated their homes. This large

area of extreme (and record breaking) heat was another clear indicator that emissions of greenhouse gases by human activity caused weather extremes that impact our living conditions," said Steven Pawson, chief of the Global Modeling and Assimilation Office at NASA Goddard Space Flight Center.

FIRES IN EUROPE & AMERICA

There were wild fires in United

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The visitors at a finger jointing machine

UTGA forestry visit to Kenya

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Participants were welcomed to the event by the Gatsby Africa Forestry Program Director Jack Steege who shared a brief background about Gatsby, which in regards to commercial forestry, works to introduce innovative technologies, business models and public-private partnerships to transform the regional commercial forestry sector, protect the environment to benefit millions of citizens.

Panel sessions were held for discussion by different panelists on different topics which included;

Panel session 1: Opportunities for innovation in primary wood processing in East Africa.

Panelists were: Chris du Toit, a timber processing specialist, Charles Kamiti from Komaza, John Ferguson – Busoga Forestry Company and Edward Mupada – Uganda Timber Growers SACCO.

Panel session 2: Unlocking growth in furniture and joinery using East African wood with panelists; Hitesh Mediratta



A timber drying kiln at Komaza



Twin band saw at Komaza



Finger jointing up to 40ft at Komaza

from Kenya Association of Manufacturers (KAM), Sintalo Nang'iyio from ASHUT Engineers (Furniture), Eluid Gathecha from Elifurni Furniture, Naeem Biviji from Studio Propolis and Mariko Takeuchi from Margin Innovation.



Timber laminating at PG Bison

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The world is burning

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Kingdom & France, fires in Greece, fires in Spain & Portugal, fires in Slovenia and fires in the United States. These countries have continued their efforts to combat devastating forest fires that have been going on for days especially after temperatures exceeded record levels in France, Britain, Iran and China. In France, Greece, Portugal and Spain, fires ravaged thousands of hectares and forced thousands of residents and tourists to flee, while the death of many fire service members was recorded.

Experts attribute the causes of the heatwave to global warming, with the increase in greenhouse gas emissions, in terms of intensity, duration and frequency. Record-breaking heat continued to affect parts of western Europe, with UK temperatures exceeding 40°C (104°F). On Tuesday, 19th July 2022, several weather stations across London, Lincolnshire and Nottinghamshire broke the 40°C barrier, with a top temperature of 40.3°C in Coningsby, Lincolnshire. A further 39 stations across central and southern England also broke the previous highest temperature of 38.7°C, which was set in July 2019.

Standing forests address the impacts of climate change as they absorb greenhouse gases, regulate water flows and protect coastal communities from extreme events and sea level rise. Sustainable forest conversion, preserving the forest carbon sink, and restoring forests have the potential to avoid more than one-third of global emissions and mitigate climate change.

All of this should come as a shock to no one. Climatologists have been sounding the alarm for decades, warning of the increasing frequency and intensity of heat waves and droughts.

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Summary from World Forestry Congress

After the 15th World Forestry Congress in Seoul, Korea, held in May 2022, the likely future forestry landscape has become a lot more clearer as summarised below by a forestry expert who attended:



The status quo

The world is in a fragile state:

1. Soil degradation through erosion, nutrient depletion and physical changes to soil properties
2. Water quality degradation through sedimentation, chemical pollution, and water temperature changes
3. Water availability challenges, fueled by large world population combined with climate change where excessive flooding will lead to short term disruption in provision of portable water.
4. Biodiversity depletion; anthropocene period causing the 6th mass extinction in the history of the world
5. Air pollution leading to climate change at devastating rates
6. Technology/digital solutions are booming in all industries across the globe
7. World population is stabilizing/decreasing except in Africa.
8. Small holders are playing an ever increasing role in the world's economic foot print: 80% of the world's food is produced by small holders, 80% of all deforestation in the world is caused by agriculture expansion.
9. Small holders produce 30% of the world's wood, 50% of charcoal and 85% of natural rubber.
10. Small holders are often operating illegally, unsustainably or both.

Consequence

Fueled by the COVID-19 pandemic, there is a paradigm shift into how the forestry world of the future will function:

1. From sustainability to a circular bio-economy
2. From corporates to small holders supported by corporates
3. From natural forests to plantations
4. From solid wood to engineered wood by products
5. From forestry to agroforestry and carbon trading
6. From illegal/unsustainable small holder forestry to legal and circular economic small holder operations
7. From forest reduction to forest regeneration (expand/restore). Its estimated that global forest area will

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UTGA visit to Kenya

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Panel session 3: The role of timber in building sustainable cities in East Africa. Panelists were: Mugure Njendu from GAPL Kenya, Wakina Mutembei from BuildX Studio, Simon Bosch from FairVentures Worldwide and Caroline Ray from Arup.

Panel session 4: Bringing the value chain together. Panelists were: Government of Kenya representative, Ciiru Waweru W. – Funkids, Dennis Kavuma – UTGA, Mutheu Mbondo – Trade & Promotion Officer Swedish Embassy and Jack Steege – Gatsby Africa.

Panel session 5: Planning with the industry. Panelists were: Chris du Toit, a

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Participants at the Industry event



Multiple products at Elifurni



A modern planer & moulder



Log sorting at the Komaza sawmill



The sawmill has provided multiple jobs

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When asked if this type of heat wave comes as a surprise to him, climatologist Michael Mann, said in an email, "Sadly, not. We have seen a recurring pattern of a very wavy jet stream this summer. That pattern is associated with the extreme events seen now in the U.S. and Europe." When the first Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) was released in 1990, it addressed the potential increase in heat waves, stating, "Some scientists believe that in a warmer climate the earth can be expected to experience more variable weather than now, with a likelihood of more floods and drought, more intense hurricanes or typhoons, and more heat waves." In its Special Report: Global Warming of 1.5°C, the IPCC noted that "Limiting global warming to 1.5°C instead of 2°C could result in around 420 million fewer people being frequently exposed to extreme heat waves and about

65 million fewer people being exposed to exceptional heat waves, assuming constant vulnerability."

There have been four more assessment reports since then, with the language growing stronger and stronger about how the world needs to



Fires wrecked havoc in especially forested landscapes

The world is burning

limit warming to 1.5°C above the pre-industrial average or it will face dire consequences. But there is still time, scientists say, to avoid tens of thousands of deaths and to reduce the suffering of millions. "There is no such thing as too late when it comes to climate change. Every tenth of a degree matters," Caroline Brouillette, the National Policy Manager for the Climate Action Network Canada told CBC News.

"There's a difference between something being extremely hard and something being impossible. Limiting warming to 1.5°C is definitely a massive social and economic undertaking that

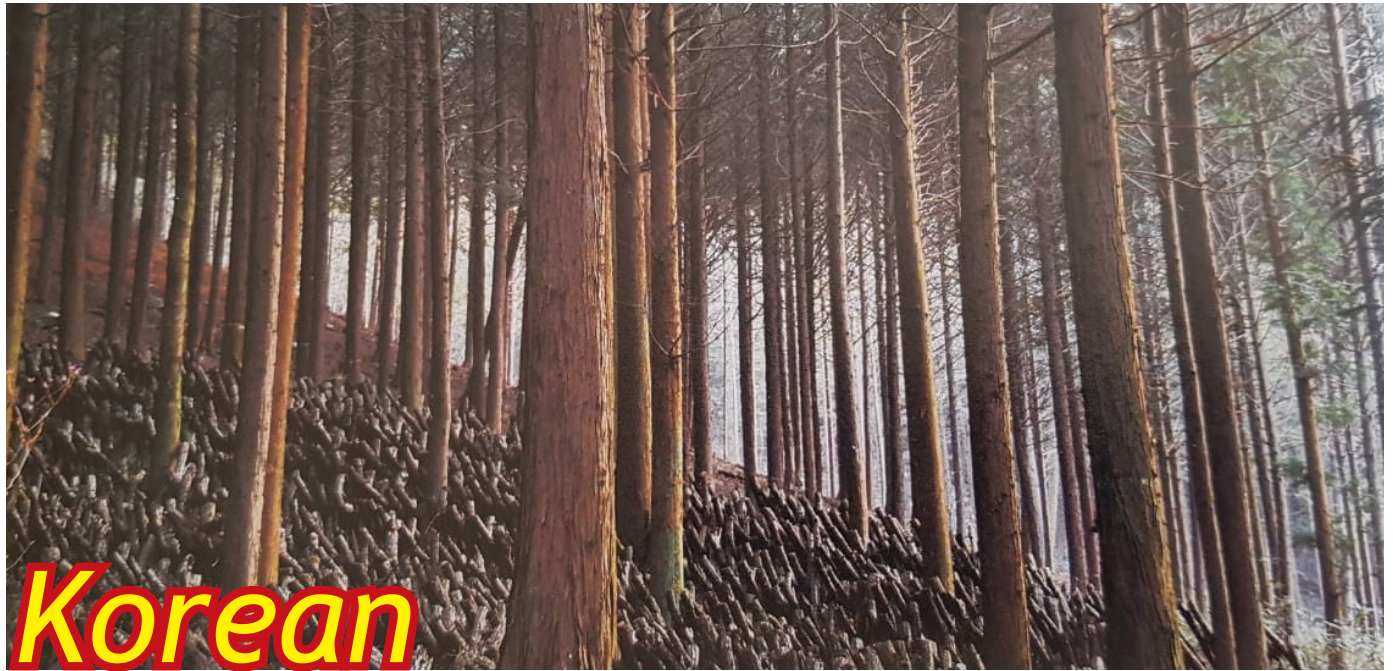
got to be done. At a climate meeting in Berlin, UN Secretary General, António Guterres blunt with his climate messaging told representatives of 40 countries that this decade has to be of decisive climate action. That means trust, multilateralism and collaboration.



The wild fires left a scale of destruction in many areas



Property and lives were lost to the fires

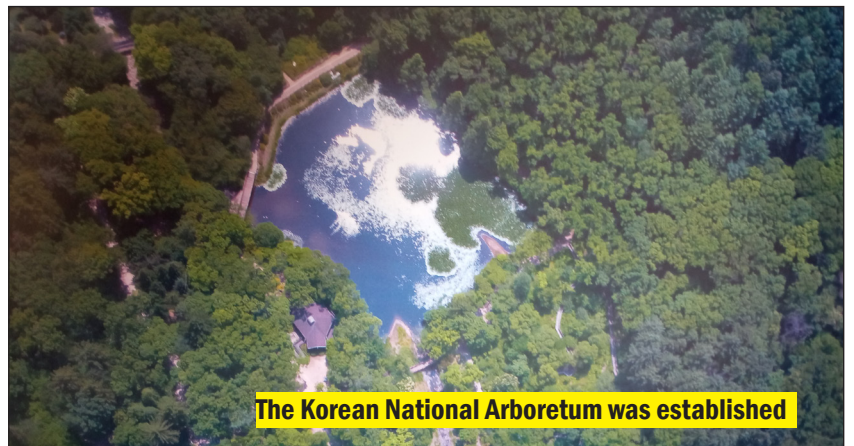


Korean Forestry: restored glory

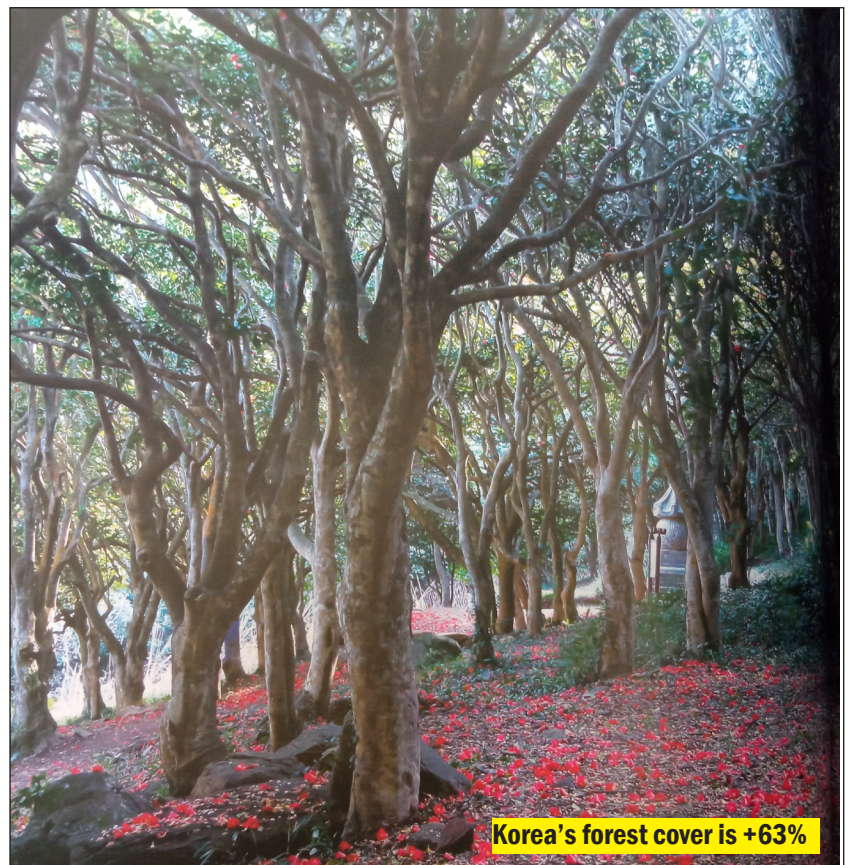
Korea is a forest-rich nation, with 63 percent of its land being covered by lush green forests. The barren and degraded land of Korea has been restored into forests teeming with life since 1973, thanks to the collective efforts of the people.

Korean history of forest restoration and success in forest management is acclaimed for setting an outstanding example to the world. The world-renowned environmental writer Lester Brown mentioned in his book **“Plan B 2.0 – Rescuing a Planet Under Stress and a Civilization in Trouble”** (2006) that Korea is a reforestation model for the world. The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) reported in the Committee

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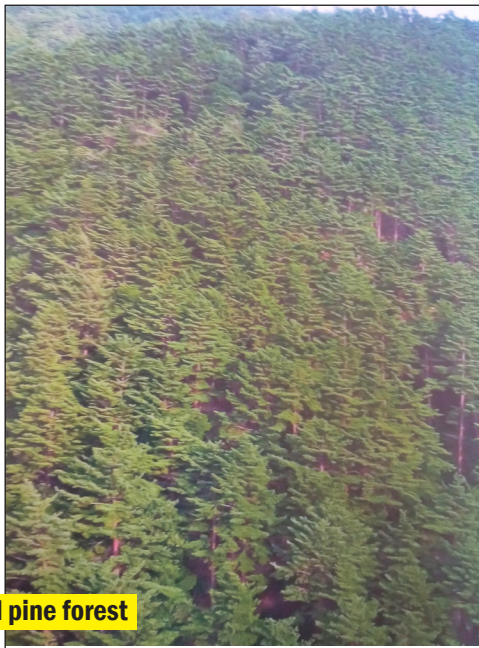
The Korean National Arboretum was established



Korea's forest cover is +63%



A Korean red pine forest



Koreans raising seedlings for planting

Restoration of Korean forestry

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on Forestry (COFO 25) held in October 2020 that Korea recorded the highest growth rate in average growing stock per unit area of forests in 25 years, from 1990 to 2015.

Today in Korea, anyone can easily enjoy a rest in richly forested woodlands. Koreans are proud of their forests, which are serving them in various aspects of their lives. As part of its response against the COVID -19 pandemic, the Korea Forest Service (KFS) is striving to wisely and sustainably utilize well-managed forests under the K-Forests vision's slogan: "Find a new way of life through forests, improve livelihoods with forests, and create a new future with forests." This article has introduced you to the beautiful forests of the Korean Peninsula. You are encouraged to personally pay a visit to the forests, talk a walk in their woody glades and admire the giant trees bearing hopes for the future that Koreans nurtured with great care.



A cypress healing forest



Modern technology being used at the Plantech nursery



Usage of small pieces of wood to make beautiful furniture at Elifurni

UTGA visit to Kenya

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timber processing specialist, Naeem Biviji from Studios Propolis and Mariko Takeuchi from Margin Innovation.

Field visits were carried out to the following:-

1. **Plantech Kenya Ltd**, a seedling nursery located in Naivasha which propagates seedlings of vegetables, herbs, cut flowers and trees, for growers of all sizes throughout all of Kenya.
2. The team visited **Komaza woodmill** which primarily processes eucalyptus wood using high technology that reduces splitting. All timber is kiln dried and sawdust is collected for biomass use.
3. The team visited **Elifurni Furniture**; a joinery, furniture and cabinet making entity. These are secondary processors who make furniture, cabinets, doors among other products using cypress and eucalyptus wood which are sourced from FSC certified local tree growers able to grade their timber.
4. **PG Bison**; They produce MDF boards, furniture ready for set up by customers (custom made), lamination of boards to give them a neat 3D finish, kitchen set ups, wardrobes, among other products.
5. **Woodways Kenya Ltd**; One of the oldest furniture manufacturing companies in Kenya that uses mostly imported timber i.e., mature pine from Scandinavian countries Finland and Luna wood from Russia.



Processing wood and using wood at the Komaza sawmill



Beautiful wooden floor using teak parquets



Beautiful furniture at Elifurni

Uganda's Climate outlook for June to August 2022

A guide to tree growers

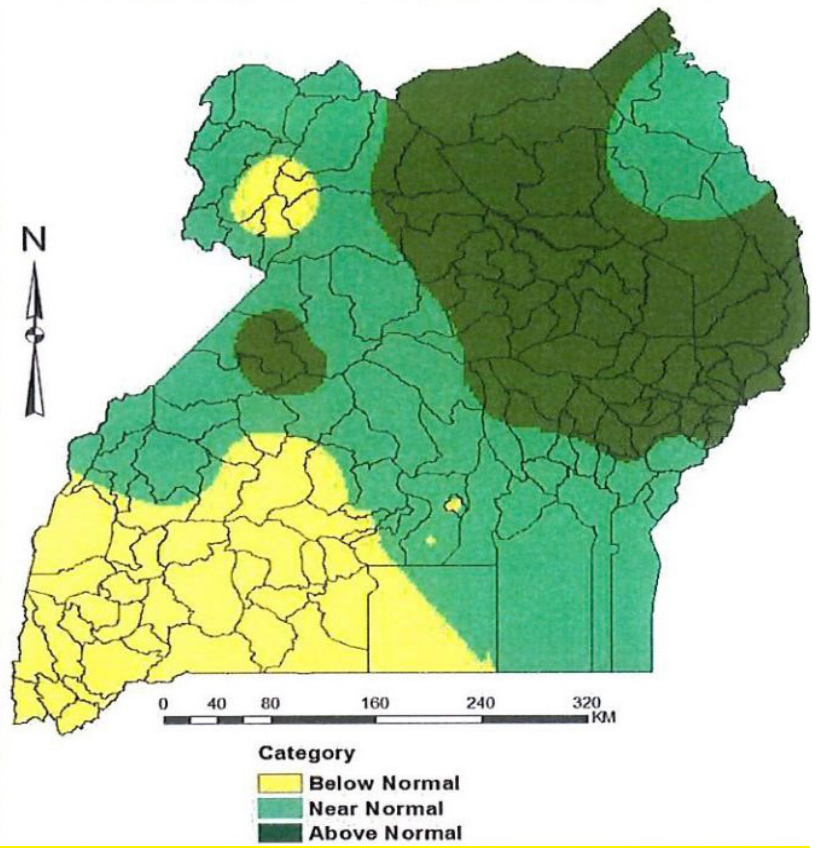
It was observed that the major physical conditions likely to influence the weather conditions over Uganda include: -

1. Sea surface temperatures over the equatorial Pacific ocean that have reflected La Nina conditions.
2. An increased chance for the development of a negative phase of the Indian Ocean dipole.
3. The influence of regional circulation patterns, topographical features and large inland water bodies.

General forecast

Overall, there is an increased likelihood of near normal rainfall with a tendency to above normal conditions over the Northern and Eastern regions including the Lake Victoris basin. The Western and Central parts of Uganda are expected to experience near normal rainfall with tendency to below normal while the rest of the country has a likelihood of experiencing near normal rainfall.

Rainfall Outlook for June to August (JJA) Season 2022



Expected spatial distribution of rain for the June-August 2022 season

Thoughts from XV World Forestry Congress held in Korea

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increase from 4 billion ha to 5 billion ha by 2050

8. Communities and indigenous people will have an ever increasing mandate to influence the management and harvesting of forests.

Quo vadis? Forest Industries

1. Green building industry will soon boom, most of the world's future mega cities will develop in Africa due to population growth. The challenge for Africa is to move to green building, following the rest of the world.
2. Paradigm shifts in terms of building styles and

a migration to more wooden buildings in Africa is pertinent. Shift from plastics/concrete/steel to paper and wood. Shift from wood to food, medicines, and carbon eco systems.

3. Carbon Finance will play a significant role in realizing this because timber is rapidly gaining importance as a carbon dioxide removal technology.

4. Forest traceability systems that are credible, simple and transparent. Supply chains will become "smart" driven by carbon footprint reduction and costs

Forests:

1. Beyond forest certification, the bio circular forest industries (production, transformation, use and conservation of wood resources while promoting retention of value and reduction

of environmental impacts) should be more focused on a positive carbon footprint.

2. Reconfiguring the value chain has left fewer players and more for the producers on the ground

3. Digital trading for all forest products and services will become the norm

4. Focusing strongly on carbon trading, the market will stabilize over the next decade because of consensus on the rules of the game making many opportunists disappear from the system.

5. The wood sources are from natural forests to plantations/ semi-natural forests.

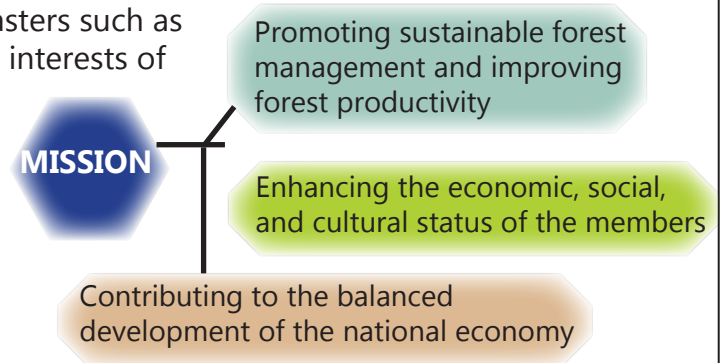
6. There is limited (if any) harvesting in tropical forests due to economic, environmental and social challenges.

With permission from Michal Brink, CEO, CMO

THE FORESTRY COOPERATIVE OF KOREA: LESSONS

The National Forestry Cooperative Federation of Korea (NFCF) was established in 1962 and has been working for reforestation, dealing with national disasters such as forest fires and landslides, enhancing rights and interests of forest owners and workers, improving the safety and quality of life of the people and balanced national development. The NFCF devotes itself to revitalizing forest circulation management by planting, tending and using trees so that forest owners, forest workers and all people can enjoy the benefits of the country's forests, a vitally important asset in the era of climate change.

The NFCF has earned the trust and goodwill of the people of South Korea by innovating and practicing ESG management, promoting good



business practice for sustainability, improving the distribution structure of domestic forest projects and the revitalization of forestry cooperative finances.

MAIN FUNCTIONS

Private forest management consulting

- Providing and distributing technological services to promote private forest management
- Management support for increasing income for forest owners and workers.

Forest product distribution

- Producing and providing forest products and supporting import/export.
- Protecting producers and consumers by improving distribution structure.

Forest resource creation

- Nurturing commercial forests to promote their economic and ecological values.
- Utilizing forest biomass and acquiring overseas forest resources.

Forest management infrastructure development

- Understanding forest civil engineering projects such as forest roads, erosion control, and restoration of damaged areas.
- Establishing forest recreational areas and developing mountainous villages.

Forestry financing support

- Providing policy funds to forest owners and workers.
- Providing funding through mutual financial services.

MAIN FUNCTIONS

1949: The Central Forest Cooperative Federation, Provincial Forestry Federations, and Local Forestry Cooperatives were established.

1953: In accordance with the Temporary Measures for Forest Protection, local village forestry associations were organized.

1962: With the enactment of the Forestry Act, the Forestry Federation of Korea, Forestry Cooperatives, and village forestry associations system was established.

1973: Execution of the government's afforestation plan.

1978: Arrangement of forestry technology guide.

1980: An independent forestry cooperative act was enacted, and the Forestry Federation of Korea was renamed the Central Forestry Cooperative Federation (CFFC).

1989: Decision of Forestry Cooperatives president and CFFC president changed from appointment to election system.

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1993: Reorganized as a forestry cooperative comprising of forest owners and forestry workers.

2000: In accordance with the government's reform plan on cooperatives, CFFC was reorganized as the National Forestry Cooperative Federation.

2015: Election of the Cooperatives presidents nationwide.

2022: The 60th anniversary.

HIERARCHY

One head office with **9** departments, **20** branch offices and **3** subsidiaries, **142** cooperatives with **395,171** Cooperative members and **425,416** Associate members.

THEMES

1) New Information and Technology on Forest Management

NFCF provides information and technology on forest management for a happier future of the forest owners and forestry workers, leads private forest management based on proxy management complexes, and nurtures forestry technicians through specialized training to secure a stable forestry workforce.

- Forest Management Support
- Proxy Management
- Establishment of forest management complexes
- Introduction of public-benefit direct payment system in forestry
- Publication of the monthly magazine "Sanrim (Forest)"
- Education/Training
- Forest Cultural Events
- Social Contribution
- Overseas cooperation

2) Development of forests with high economic and public value

NFCF develops forests with high economic and public value, establishes efficient and environmentally friendly forest management foundations, actively responds to forestry environment changes such as the Framework Convention on Climate Change, etc., through providing and distributing eco-friendly energy



Lessons from the forestry cooperative of Korea

using forestry biomass; and expanding overseas forest resources development projects to secure forest resources. It looks at these areas: -

- Forest Management Plans
- Seedling Production
- Tree Planting
- Forest Tending
- Forest Resources Inventory
- Forest Protection
- Overseas Forest Resources Development
- Factual surveys and safety inspections
- Forest Management Business Planning
- Forest Road Businesses
- Erosion Control Work
- Forest Basin Management
- Forest Welfare and Recreation Facilities
- Urban Forest Creation
- Public-private partnership forest management projects
- Disaster Management Agency
- Forest Carbon Offset Project

3) Forest Products, the gift of nature

They collect, select, process and package forest products and directly deliver them to consumers to raise the competitiveness of their products, improve distribution structures and expand distribution infrastructure continuously. They also contribute to increasing the income of forest owners and cooperative members through providing distribution information quickly and establishing a direct transaction system of forest products by

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Lessons from Korea's forestry

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looking at the following areas: -

- Forestry harvesting
- Forestry cooperative café
- Domestic wood distribution
- Forest product distribution facilities
- Online shopping mall
- Tree Market
- Development and supply of forest mushroom spawns
- Training and guidance in forest mushroom cultivation
- Forest biomass
- Forestry equipment support center

4) Providing stable financial services for forestry workers

They provide forest business funds to forest owners and forestry workers to support stable forest management and protect the rights and interests of union members. In particular, they actively support mountain-secured loans, which other financial institutes avoid, to provide a "differentiated" service of NFCF to its members.

- Mutual Financing

In order to grow into a sound local finance for forest owners and residents, they provide a variety of financial services including savings, loans, bank transfers, CD/ATM, open banking, digital finance (internet/smart banking, tele-banking, firm banking), simply payment (PAY), automatic transfers, Giro, CMS (cash management service), credit/check card services, etc. In addition, by operating deposit protection fund system, they are securing the reliability of savings.

- Receiving (deposit) products
- Policy fund support
- Depositor Protection
- Protection of customers' assets and private information

5) Creating future value of forests with an eco-friendly funeral culture

They are also working on creating future value of forests that will be passed down to future generations by leading an eco-friendly funeral culture through operating natural burial forests that help create healthy and dense forests by minimizing damage and efficiently utilizing forests in: -

- Operation of funeral homes.
- Forestry Cooperative Funeral Service.
- Operation of eco-friendly natural burial forests.
- Graveyard management services.

