Fiber

What do we procure?
Around the world, we purchase wood and recovered fiber such as old corrugated containers (OCC) and office paper. We work with wood suppliers, private and public landowners and third-party businesses such as lumber yards and recyclers to supply our paper mills around the globe.

Why work with us?
We are one of the world’s leading buyers of wood; in 2014 alone, we purchased nearly 70 million tons of wood fiber in Brazil, China, France, India, Poland, Russia and the United States.

At our U.S. mills, International Paper uses more than five million tons of recovered fiber each year, making us one of the largest recyclers of paper in the country. Other locations, such as our Morocco and Turkey operations, also purchase large volumes of recycled fiber.

Our fiber suppliers are critical to our success, and we value long-term relationships with those who share our commitment to sustainable forestry. Our goal at each of our mills is to be the “Destination of Choice” for our suppliers.

Sustainability in action
We are committed to sourcing fiber from responsibly managed forests and we encourage reforestation. We also work with landowners to third-party certify their land to recognized standards to ensure that their land is managed on a sustainable basis. All the wood we purchase meets the requirements of our Global Responsible Fiber Procurement policy. In 2014, we bought more than 23 million tons of third-party certified fiber. We are committed to a 35 percent increase in certified fiber purchases by 2020, from a 2010 baseline.

International Paper recognizes the following certification standards for use in our global operations: SFI®, FSC®, PEFC, ATFS and Cerflor. We regularly work with fiber suppliers and landowners to support the procedures necessary for fiber certification.

Q: Does International Paper own the lands where it sources fiber?
A: In some parts of the world, such as Brazil, we do own large tracts of forestland. In fact, International Paper was once the largest private landowner in the United States. Today we maintain our dedication to responsible forest management, but source most of our fiber from privately-owned lands, which make up about 60 percent of forests in the United States. For more, please visit our Global Forest Ownership page.

Further Resources
Global Responsible Fiber Procurement Policy & Global Certification Policy:
www.internationalpaper.com/sustainability/policies-certifications/global-certification-procurement-policies

Sustainable Forestry Practices for Landowners