## Sustainability at International Paper



## **Global Responsible Fiber Procurement Policy**

International Paper recognizes the intrinsic environmental, social and economic values of forested landscapes and we are committed to delivering the products our customers want, while ensuring the responsible stewardship of the world's natural resources. We purchase wood fiber, recovered fiber and finished paper for use in the manufacture of our products. As a result we have a responsibility to our employees, customers and other stakeholders to ensure that these products contain wood fiber that has been responsibly managed and harvested. We are committed to the following:

- Using wood fiber from responsible sources which include the following
  - o Fiber from certified forests.
  - Fiber sourced through third-party certified procurement systems, or supply chains that are covered by a form of legal verification or legal assurance including chain of custody.
  - o Pre and post-consumer recovered fiber.
- Avoiding unacceptable wood fiber sources from our supply chain including
  - Fiber that has been illegally harvested or acquired.
  - Fiber sourced from forests in which high conservation values are threatened by management activities, unless the area is certified, or the forest is being managed to ensure those values are maintained.
  - Fiber sourced from the conversion of high conservation value forests to plantations or other non-forest uses.
  - Fiber from sources which are known to be involved in the violation of human rights including conflict timber.
  - o Fiber where the source forest's district of origin is unknown

This policy covers International Paper facilities and forest management operations globally. International Paper operations outside of North America may use regionally relevant fiber procurement policies but they are all based on, and must comply with this global policy. Although we cannot require our joint venture partners to adopt our specific standards and policies, our operational framework requires employees appointed to the management boards of joint ventures to encourage the adoption of equivalent policies and processes to our own.

Genetically modified organisms (GMOs) resulting from forest biotechnology, are not commercially available in the United States, Europe, or Brazil, and International Paper is not procuring wood fiber from forests that utilize this forest biotechnology.

## **Definitions**

**Conflict timber** is fiber that was traded in a way that drives violent armed conflict or threatens national or regional stability.

**Plantation** means forest areas lacking most of the principal characteristics and key elements of native ecosystems which result from the human activities of either planting, sowing, or intensive silvicultural treatments.

## **High Conservation Values**

- Areas containing globally, regionally or nationally significant concentrations of biodiversity values (e.g. endemism, endangered species, refugia)..
- Globally, regionally or nationally significant large landscape-level areas where viable populations of most if not all naturally occurring species exist in natural patterns of distribution and abundance.
- Areas that are in or contain rare, threatened or endangered ecosystems.
- Areas that provide basic ecosystem services in critical situations (e.g. watershed protection, erosion control).
- Areas fundamental to meeting basic needs of local communities (e.g. subsistence, health).
- Areas critical to local communities' traditional cultural identity (areas of cultural, ecological, economic or religious significance identified in cooperation with such local communities).

