



News

Woodmark Update

Woodmark News has been re-launched! We hope that you will find the newsletter informative and useful. We will tell you about the latest certification projects undertaken by Woodmark as well as more general information about developments in FSC certification. We will also inform you of other related projects Woodmark is working on.

Your contributions or suggestions on what is most useful to you are most welcome. Please contact us at wm@soilassociation.org or the postal address above. You can also be added to our electronic mailing list for future editions of the newsletter.

Pre-assessment in Romania

Woodmark has recently carried out a pre-assessment for FSC certification in Romania at Vanatori-Neamt Forest Park in the Carpathian Mountains.

The park is a pilot area under the Romanian Biodiversity Conservation Management Project, which aims to explore new approaches to protected area management in the country. The Park Manager, Oliviu Iorgu, and his team are working with the local Forest Districts to adopt a number of innovative approaches to working with local communities and adapting forest management to benefit biodiversity.



A particular aim is to reintroduce European bison to the area, which today occupies a restricted range in central Europe.

Romania recently announced that it aims to certify over one million hectares of forest. Woodmark will be working to help ensure that the experience of Vanatori-Neamt Forest Park can be used to help other forest managers in their progress towards successful FSC certification.

Woodmark first in Denmark

Woodmark issued a FSC certificate to Barritskov Forest on the coast of East Jutland in Denmark in July this year. It is the first FSC certificate Woodmark has issued which includes timber and Non-Timber Forest Products in a combined FSC and organic assessment.



Barritskov Estate, Denmark. FSC and organic certified by Woodmark for forest management, chain of custody and Non-timber forest products (NTFPs).

The forest, with beech, oak and ash, covers over half the 690 ha Barritskov Estate. Bark, leaves, berries and fungi are all harvested, and in future non-timber products such as the leaves of the ivy, woodruff and blackberry, will be marketed as organic as well as FSC. A separate department has been set up by the estate to investigate their potential as medicinal herbs.

The news comes hot on the heels of the Danish Parliament's announcement that public institutions will try to buy FSC –certified tropical timber, a clear indication of support for FSC in Denmark¹.

1. For information about the Danish Parliament's announcement, please contact Jacob Andersen, Nepenthes Tel: (+45) 26 24 12 75, e-mail: ja@nepenthes.dk
2. FSC Denmark interim contact details: Jens Kanstrup Tel: (+45) 86 13 52 32

Croatian Certification

Croatia's forests reflect the country's diverse conditions. There are mixed stands of beech and fir in the mountains, high quality oak in the lowland plains and slow growing pine and evergreen oak on the rocky slopes along the coast of the Aegean Sea.



Director Josip Smiljanec and Production Manager Stjepan Poljak at Drvo Macelj (SA-coc-1176) with beech logs from Uprava Suma Zagreb Forest (SA-fm/coc-1165). Sawn timber is exported to Italy.

Forest covers nearly 2.5 million hectares and accounts for around 43% of the national land area. These forests are largely of natural origin and are home to wolf, bear and lynx.

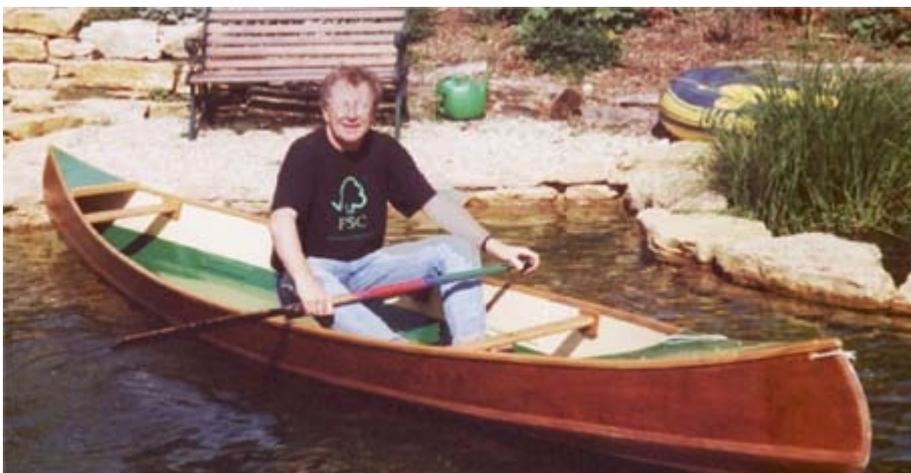
The forests are managed to multiple-purpose objectives protecting watersheds, maintaining valued landscapes, providing employment and producing high quality timber.

Woodmark is now working with the State Forest Enterprise, Hrvatske Šume, on a programme to certify all the state forest covering around 2 million hectares. The most recent area to complete certification is Uprava Šuma Zagreb (SA-fm/coc-1176), which provides an important recreational resource for the people of the capital.

Croatian foresters have a long tradition of forest management and detailed silvicultural knowledge. FSC certification complements this knowledge and experience by providing an opportunity to integrate further social and biodiversity aspects into approaches to forest management. It will also make high quality FSC certified European hardwood and softwood products available to world timber markets.



Woodmark people



Woodmark chain of custody inspector, Rod Nelson, in a canoe he made from FSC certified white oak and ply.

The wood was kindly provided by Clarks Wood Company, Bristol, UK.

Woodmark Projects

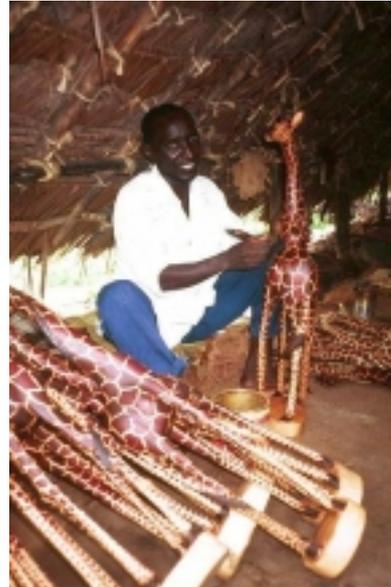
Kenya carves out a place in certification

In June this year Woodmark worked with WWF International, UNESCO and Kew Gardens People and Plants Initiative on a unique project. It was designed to further explore ways in which FSC certification can be used to promote responsible wood consumption within the Kenyan woodcarving industry, while helping to protect diminishing resources of indigenous tree species in natural forest.



The woodcarving industry in Kenya supports over 60,000 carvers and their families and generates an income of over US\$20 million but has been a contributory factor in the decline of *Dalbergia melanoxylon* (ebony) and *Brachylaena huillensis* (muhuhu/mahogany) in the region.

Project co-ordinator David Maingi is now working with carvers of the Malindi carving co-operative and local farmers to establish a system to supply carving needs from local farm woodlots, using alternative “Good Wood” species such as neem and mango.



This innovative work will be a challenge locally in Kenya but should help to forge new ways of looking at FSC certification by linking off site conservation benefits with the certification of wood produced by small-scale producers within the community. Woodmark will continue to contribute to the development of this important project.

Woodmark Partners

Svensk SkogsCertifiering

Woodmark has been working closely with Svensk SkogsCertifiering (SSC) in Sweden since 1997 to deliver FSC forest and chain of custody certification. SSC has been a pioneer in promoting FSC certification in Sweden and has certified over 1.7 million hectares under Woodmark’s guidance and FSC accredited systems. SSC also works with ISO14001 accredited organisations and can help to deliver both FSC and ISO14001 for clients.



In addition to carrying out certification work SSC has helped to promote sustainable forest management and forest certification world wide through its International Training Programme. Delegates from Africa, Asia, South-East Asia, Central America, and South America have all participated, and many are now at the forefront of developing sustainable forest management and FSC certification in their own countries. SSC is now working to develop practical follow up projects in some of these regions. Woodmark aims to continue supporting SSC in these and other projects to help improve access to FSC certification worldwide.

New Woodmark Certificates

Current Woodmark certificates are in the following countries: Belgium, Croatia, Czech Republic, Denmark, Germany, Italy, Russia, Solomon Islands, Swaziland, Sweden, U.K. and Zambia. For a full listing, please contact Woodmark directly.

Latest certificates issued are as follows:

Forest management + chain of custody

<i>Woodmark Licensee</i>	<i>Certificate code</i>	<i>Country</i>	<i>Area in hectares</i>
Severn Trent Water Ltd.	SA-fm/coc-1175	UK	814
Uprava Suma Zagreb	SA-fm/coc-1176	Croatia	74,373
Barritskov Estate	SA-fm/coc-1177	Denmark	372

Chain of custody only

De Små Savværker-Barritskov ApS	SA-coc-1178	Denmark	-
Pilana Krasno d.o.o.	SA-coc-1179	Croatia	-
Protektor Bandag Katalinic d.o.o.	SA-coc-1180	Croatia	-

Forest Assessments planned /underway

If you have comments about any of the below or would like further details, please contact us.

Jumbo Charcoal	Namibia	61,130
Prešov State Forest District	Slovakia	48,000
Hrvatske Šume	Croatia	2 million
Exmoor National Park Authority	UK	1000
Oyoko Abohen Woodworks Ltd.	Ghana	150
Vanatori Neamt Forest Park	Romania	31,611

Events / Meetings

Certified Forest Products International Conference and Showcase

This has been postponed. Further details are available from the website at:
www.cfpconference2001.org

EcoSylva Ltd

Woodmark licensees and other correspondents will notice the name "EcoSylva Ltd" in some documents relating to the Woodmark programme.

EcoSylva Ltd. is an environmental consultancy specialising in forestry projects worldwide. Based in the UK, EcoSylva Ltd is working in close co-operation with the Soil Association and runs the Woodmark programme on behalf of Soil Association. If you would like clarification, please contact Woodmark at wm@soilassociation.org or at the address at the top of this newsletter.