Wood Trade in Korea

4 April, 2016
Contents

- History of Forest in Korea
- Wood Trade in Korea
- Forest Governance against Illegal Logging
History of Forest in Korea
Land Use and Flora

Status of National Land Use

- Forest: 6,370,304 ha (64%)
- Upland: 782,101 ha (8%)
- Paddy field: 1,189,464 ha (12%)
- Others: 1,647,872 ha (16%)

Total: 10 million ha

Major Flora in Korean Peninsula

1. Sub-boreal forest
   Mixed forests: spruce trees, Korean pines, etc.

2. Cool temperate forest
   Mostly pine forests but a few broad-leaved deciduous forests: deciduous broad-leaved trees, oak trees, pine trees, bamboos, etc.

3. Warm temperate forest
   Broad-leaved deciduous forests, conifer and deciduous mixed forests, and pine forests: evergreen broad-leaved trees, Camellia japonica, etc.
Forest Land Ownership

Forest Land Area by Ownership

- Private forest: 68% 4,352,647 ha
- Public forest: 8% 487,721 ha
- National forest: 24% 1,529,936 ha

Total: 6.4 million ha

Growing Stock by Ownership

- National forest: 148.5 m³/ha
- Private forest: 117.7 m³/ha
- Public forest: 123.4 m³/ha
Driving Forces on Successful Rehabilitation

- **Public Participation**
  - *Sanlimgye* (a kind of forest community)

- **Strong Leadership**
  - Reforestation as a national agenda

- **Implementation of Policies**
  - Korea Forest Service
  - Forest Protection Law
  - Forest Planning

- **Economic Growth**
  - Substituting firewood with fossil fuel
Public Participation

Girls and soldiers planting trees
Miraculous Forest Rehabilitation

**PAST**
- GNI per capita in 1953 = USD 67
- Growing stock per ha = 6 m³

**PRESENT**
- GNI per capita in 2010 = USD 20,759
- Growing stock per ha = 126 m³

**Seongbuk-dong area, Seoul, Republic of Korea in the 1950s and present**
Wood Trade in Korea
Import & Export of wood products

(million US$)
Korea imports 84% of Wood Products. (3,366 million USD, 2014)

- Logs (716 mil US$): New Zealand, Canada, USA
- Plywood (709 mil): China, Malaysia, Indonesia
- Sawn wood (640 mil): Chile, China, Canada
- Particle Board (199 mil): Thailand, Romania, Malaysia
- Veneer (126 mil): China, Malaysia, New Zealand
- Fiberboard (58 mil): China, Thailand, Indonesia
Forest Governance against Illegal Logging
Legal Logging in Korea

Transparent forest logging permit system

Logger

Permit

Regional Authority

Performance Reporting

Homeland forest management & administration
Strict search & prevention of illegal logging
Legal Logging in Korea

Strict regulation for logging permit
- Ecologically healthy and sustainable forest management

Logging permit is issued only ......(general situation)

- to mature forests over the regulated harvesting age
- no more than 50 hectares for clear cutting
- When accepting the reforestation duty of the logging area
- Upon the provision of a blueprint and measured scale map for logging
Permission of Cutting of Standing Timber etc.

- Persons who intend to cut standing timber or to extract and collect forest products **shall obtain permission** the head of the regional forest service. (government).

- This shall also apply where it is intended to alter any such important matters, as prescribed by Presidential Decree, among the permitted matters.
Efforts to prevent illegal logging

Preventing distribution of illegally-logged timbers

Law (『Act on the Sustainable Use of Timbers』) for the sustainable usage of wood (Amended in May, 2013)

Implies the responsibilities of the central government and regional authority to ban the distribution and usage of illegally-logged timbers

Guidance and promotion of banning the distribution and usage

KFS is considering the implementation of the system
ACT ON THE SUSTAINABLE USE OF TIMBERS

Countermeasures against illegally felled timber

- The State and local governments shall establish and implement measures to prevent distribution or use of timber illegally cut inside or outside the Republic of Korea.

- The Minister of the Korea Forest Service shall, in cooperation with local governments and agencies and organizations related to forest and the timber industry, provide guidance and conduct publicity activities to prevent the distribution and use of illegally cut timber.
We Consider Amendment of Act

Example)

Roundwood import (Radiata Pine) → Request legality documents to importers → Grant import, if legitimate

If NO:
- Request additional documents to prove legality
- If NO: Illegally logged timber. Stop import
Thank You!!

http://www.forest.go.kr