



Wood-tracking Systems from Russia to China

WWF China & WWF Russia

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“Curbing Illegal Logging in Russia and Rewarding Legal Forestry in Russia and China”

Purpose:

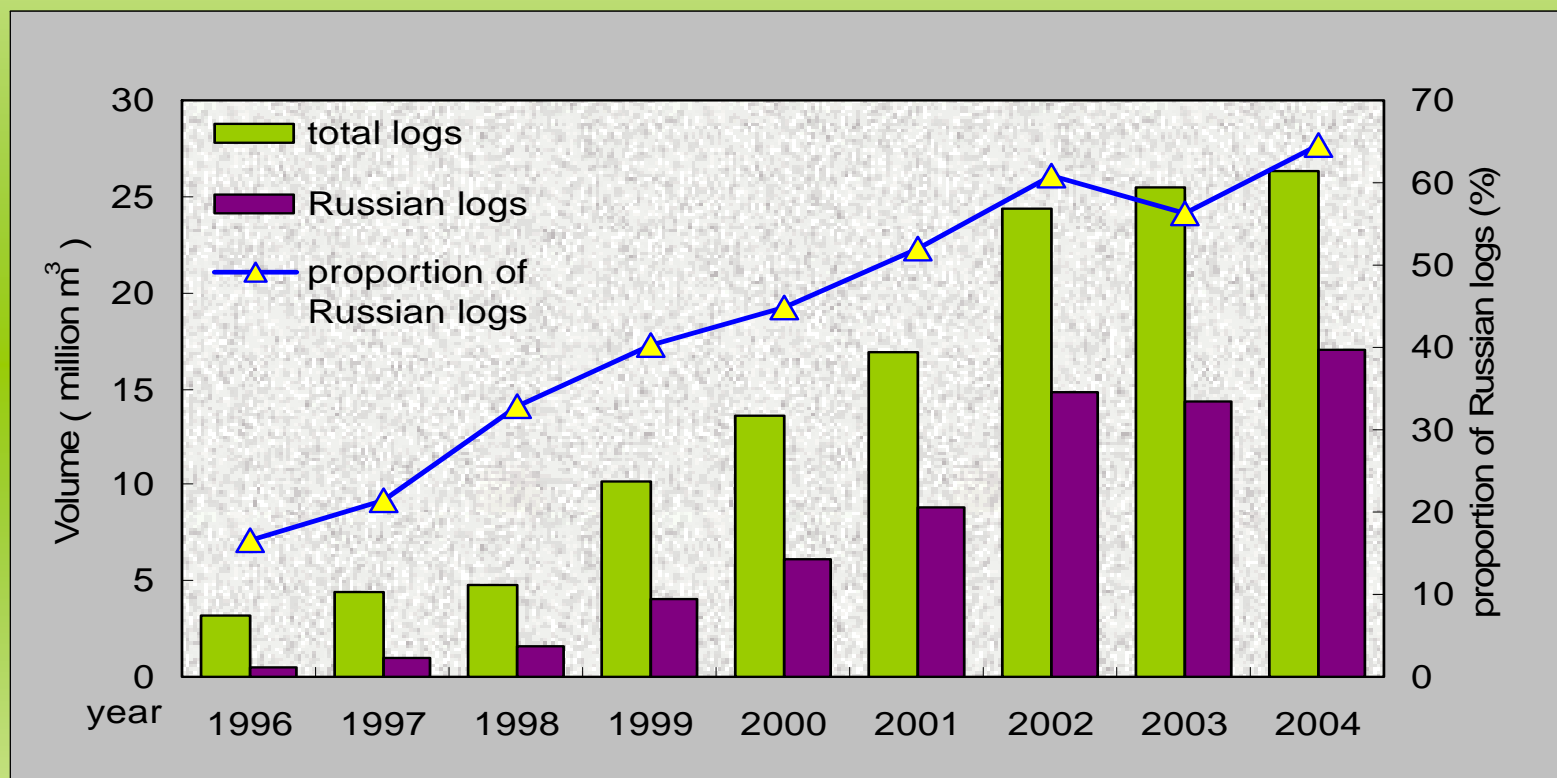
To promote use of practical systems to identify legally-sourced wood, especially in supply chains involving Russia and China.





Russia is the biggest wood supplier of China

China's Import of Logs in 1996-2004





Action I: Developing “Keep it Legal” Manual

Purpose:

Make all parts of supply chain to guarantee the wood is not illegally harvested.

A “Keep it Legal” manual that provides guidance on how to identify and address the risk of illegal timber entering a supply chain.





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This INVOLVES checking that the timber originates from a forest management unit in which the logging company has a legal right to harvest.

The manual PROPOSES that a Chinese buyer should do enough due diligence to ensure that the timber comes from a “known licensed source”.

It REQUIRES the purchaser to (a) know the geographic source of the timber, and (b) confirm that the logging company has a legal right to harvest.





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Five parts of the “Keep It Legal” (KIL) manual:

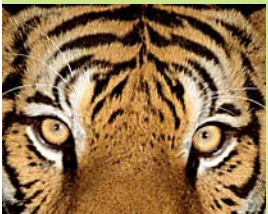
- background and explanatory information about the problem of illegal logging in China and in Russia;
- what you need to do to ensure you avoid buying illegally harvested or illegally traded wood?





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- information you should request from the exporting countries (scanned documents included);
- various appendices, providing more detailed information on the various topics and guidance towards further sources of help;
- factory visits and training seminars.
(FTN members and applicants)





Forest and Trade Network: Russia and China

FTN's mission: Promoting responsible purchasing policies by

- Developing environmental policies for the companies
- Preparing action plans to achieve responsible forest management
- Monitoring companies and reporting the progress

Russia FTN

- Established in 1999
- 23 members
- 6 million certified forest (10 million total)

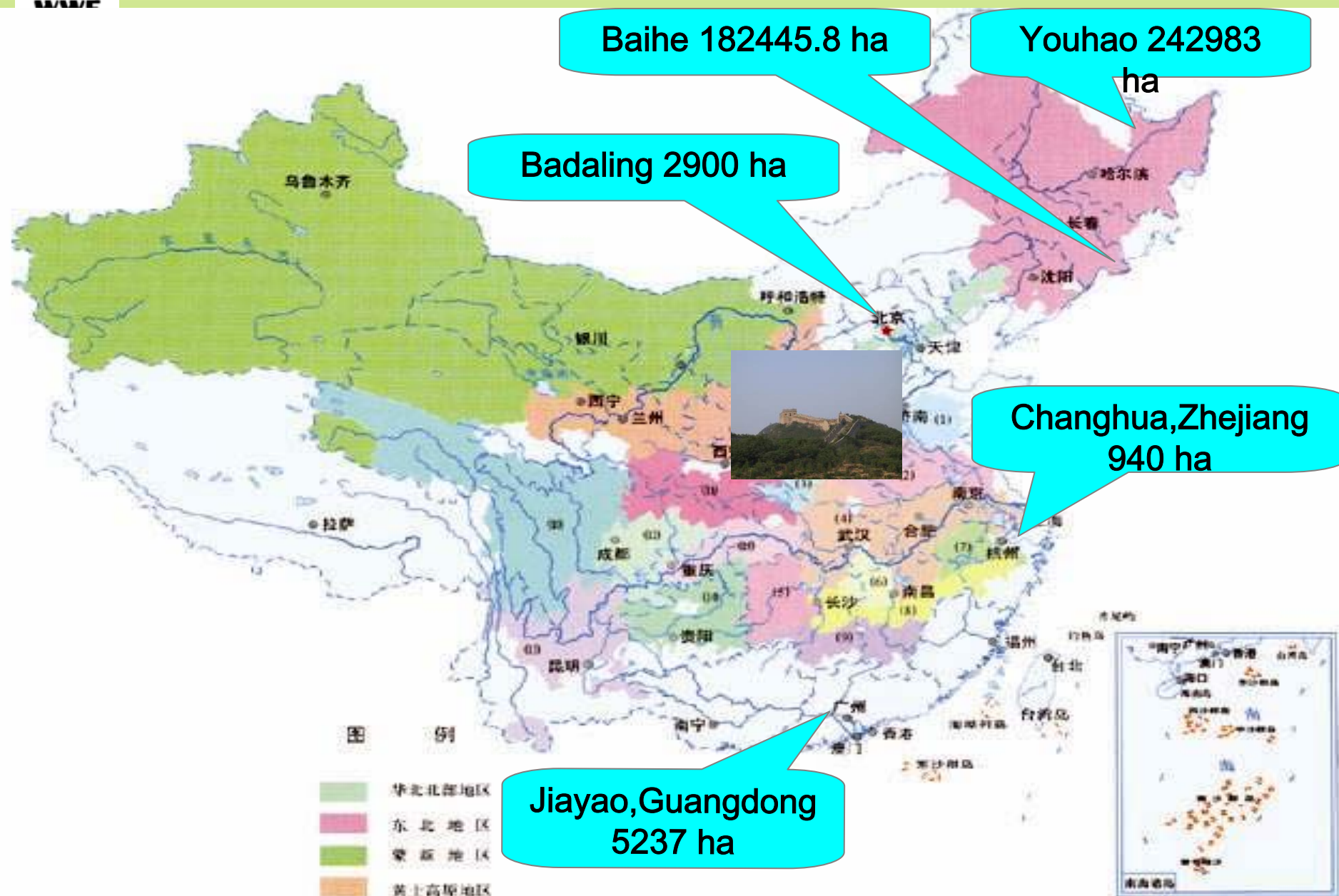
China FTN

- Established in 2005
- 8 members
- 420,000 certified forest (430,000 total)





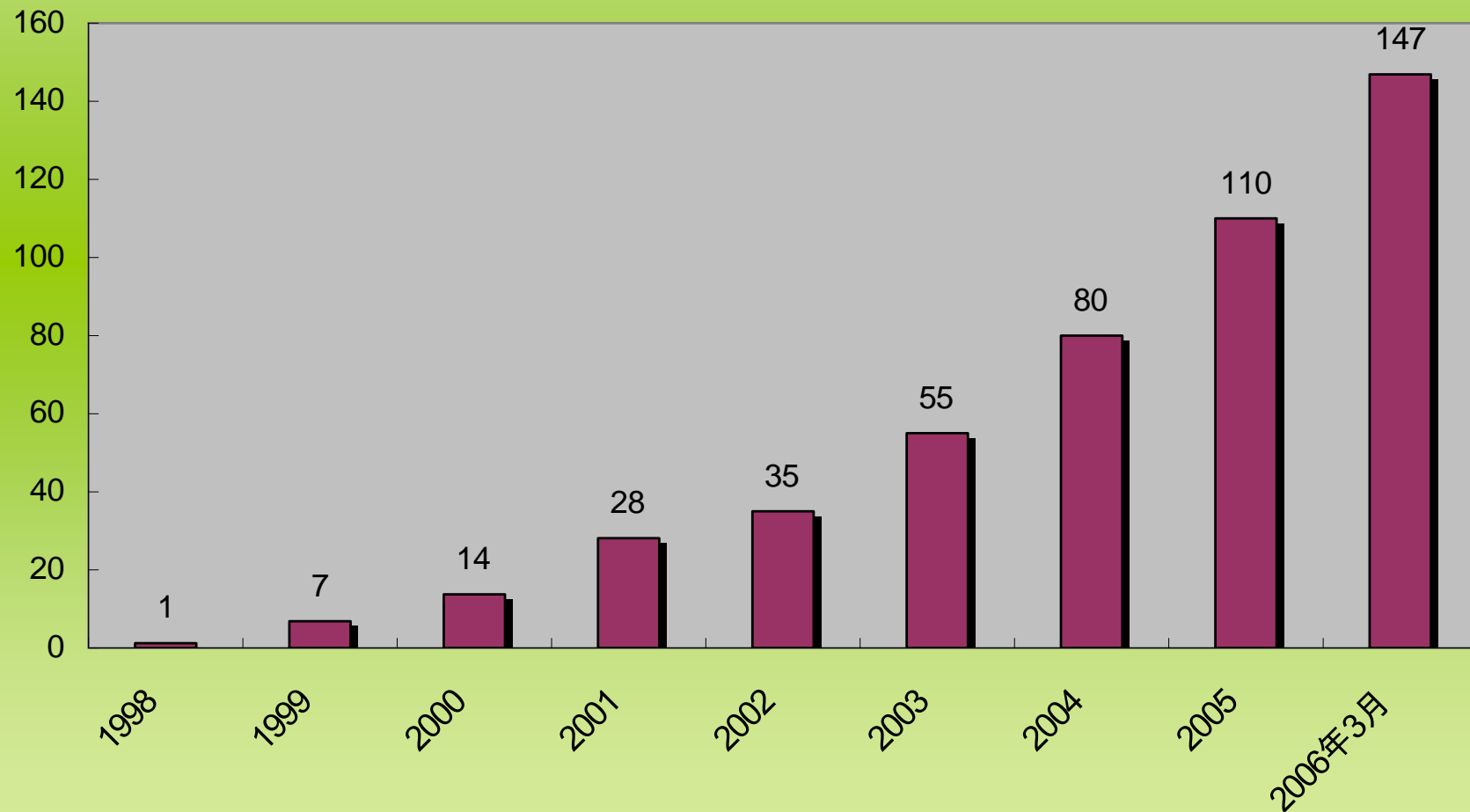
Forest Management Certification in China





Chain of Custody (CoC) Certification in China

COC No. Increased Trend from 1998 to 2006





Distribution of COC Certified Companies





Launching Ceremony of FSC China National Initiative Process on March 28, 2006





Current Situation

Government/SFA

Multi-Stakeholders

Leading Group on
Forest Certification

Working Group on
Forest Certification

Forest Certification
Division in SFA

FSC Working
Group

National Standards

FSC Standards

National Forest Certification
Scheme





Action II: Case Study on Practical Systems to Identify Legally-sourced Wood from Russia to China

Purpose:

This action seeks to support forest managers, processors, traders and factories in selected supply chains to deliver products containing “verified legal” timber.





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Companies that source wood and wood products in Russia and in China, face a high risk of procuring products that contain illegally-harvested wood.

Systems for the supply of “verified legal” wood from Russia and to Chinese manufacturing facilities could diminish this risk





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Activities:

- Identify potential supply chains for demonstration “verified legal” wood in cross-border Russia-China setup;
- Review the purchasing policy, documents, and operations of the key players along the chains;





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- ❖ Conduct costs-and-benefits case study for the “verified legal” wood supply from Russia to China;
- ❖ Demonstrate feasibility of verified legal cross border trade;
- ❖ Develop recommendations to stakeholders in China on improved methods for legal verification of wood supply;
- ❖ Promote results of pilots in Russia and China.





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This will involve the design and implementation of systems to -

1. verify that the timber was legally harvested and traded, and
2. track the timber from stump to factory to ensure that it is not mixed with illegally harvested timber.

This project will serve as – (a) a pilot to develop and apply practical, credible and affordable legal verification systems, and (b) as a case study on potential side-benefits (e.g. elimination of unnecessary intermediaries, enhancing quality and wood flow controls along the supply chain).





Action III: Improve cross-border collaboration between customs agencies in China and Russia

Activities:

- Analyze current methods for control of trans-boundary timber shipments and compilation of customs statistics along Russian-China border;
- Develop suggestions on improved methods for control of trans-boundary timber shipments;





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- Conduct experts consulting workshop;
- Submit the final recommendations with WWF's analysis and suggestions to unify customs procedures and statistical calculations to the state customs agencies of both countries.





Action IV: Produce a Video Highlighting the Impacts of Illegal Logging

Purpose:

To educate companies and individuals about possible solutions and practical systems to identify legally-sourced wood, especially in supply chains involving Russia and China, as well as showing negative impacts of illegal logging





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Target Audience:

Decision makers and executives in the wood products industry:

By documenting positive responses and suggesting practical actions that businesses can take, the video may motivate forest managers, timber traders, manufacturers and retailers to curb their involvement in the illegal timber trade and support responsible forestry.





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Target Audience:

Government officials:

They play a crucial role in regulating the timber trade within and between the two countries. By educating and motivating the officials about illegal logging across the Russia-China border we hope to address this alarming issue.





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