



## Forest Stewardship Council • Milestones



# Environmental effects

## Milestones



Photocredits: © FSC

The year 2009 was a year of milestones for FSC. In September, FSC celebrated the 1,000th Forest Management (FM) certificate marking tremendous movement towards its mission to further strengthen the positive impact that FSC generates at the forest level.

The 1,000th Forest Management certificate was issued to Associação de Agricultores de Charneca (Grupo ACHARsgf), a small farmers association in Chamusca, Portugal. The certificate, valid from 21 September 2009 to 20 September 2014, covers 4,535 hectares and harvesting of timber and non-timber forest products including coniferous and non-coniferous wood, nuts, and natural cork.

The past year was also marked by significant achievements in North America. The area of US and Canadian forest certified to FSC standards surpassed the 100 million acre (40 million hectare) mark in June 2009, representing a 40 percent growth since January 2008. In the past four years, the area of FSC certified forestland in the US and Canada nearly



“The Government of Portugal is strongly committed to increasing forest certification. With the highest social and environmental requirements in the forestry sector, FSC certification is a very good example for responsible forest management. The Ministry of Agriculture strongly encourages forest owners in Portugal to follow the example of ACHARsgf and achieve the certification for their operations.” António Manuel Soares Serrano, Minister of Agriculture, Rural Development and Fisheries of Portugal

tripled. In the Canadian Boreal forest alone, FSC certification has resulted in the protection of some 7.5 acres (3 million hectares) of forestland previously intended for logging.

In 2009, FSC certified forest area reached 20 Mln ha in Russia due to significant growth since 2005. At current, 15 of the 20 biggest Russian forest companies are FSC certified. Around 75 per cent of certified forests are located in the European part of Russia while 15 per cent is in Siberia and 10 per cent in the Russian Far East.

At the end of 2009, over 117 million hectares of forests around the world are certified to FSC standards, and FSC Forest Management certificates are issued in over 80 countries worldwide.

“Responsibly managing forests can halt deforestation and degradation. That is important for millions of people who depend on forests for their livelihoods. The FSC trademark on timber and paper is a guarantee to consumers like us that they come from responsibly managed forests.”



Adrie Papma, Director, Operations and Alliance Building, Oxfam Novib