



VII Sustainable timber

The City Council's responsible policy on the procurement of timber comes in response to its wish to decrease the city's environmental impact on the planet by contributing to the rational management and sustainable use of forest resources.



Responsible procurement of timber

At the proposal of the Barcelona Municipal Council for the Environment and Sustainability, in 2004, the City Council passed a responsible policy on the procurement of timber which involves the incorporation of sustainability criteria in the procurement of all wood products, whether for the upkeep of public areas, works, the supply of furniture or other areas:

- The procurement of timber that is illegally felled or from countries at war has been abolished.
- A system of prioritisation has been established which awards more points to the most demanding forest certifications: more points are given for FSC certification (Forest Stewardship Council), and then for PEFC (Pan European Forest Certification), among others.

This is a pioneer initiative in Spain.

In the last two years, 2,310 m³ of certified timber have been procured.

RESOURCES OF THE +SUSTAINABLE CITY COUNCIL PROGRAMME



Training and advisory sessions

The Programme offers training sessions on the state of the planet's forests, forest certification and the City Council's policy for the responsible procurement of timber. Likewise, advice is given to local workers who are responsible for procuring timber or derivatives.

- For further information:
ajuntamentsostenible@bcn.cat

“Fes-te amic dels boscos” (Become a friend of the forests) guide

Barcelona City Council and Greenpeace have been working together in recent years to promote the rational, sustainable use of forest resources. The policy on the responsible procurement of timber has allowed public procurement of certified timber for our parks and gardens, for markets and libraries, funeral services. The environmental education guide “Fes-te amic dels boscos” (Become a friend of the Forests) is a new result of this collaboration: it seeks to promote a change in citizens' habits and consumption. It gives information, advice, recommendations to be able to decide in everyday life, to exercise our power of choice and purchase in the forests' favour.



GREENED-UP REGULATIONS AND SPECIFICATIONS

- Institutional Declaration on Responsible Policy on the Procurement of Timber (2003)
- Mayoral Decree of Responsible Policy on the Procurement of Timber (2004)
- All Parks and Gardens contracting (as of 2003)
- The procurement of solid wood by the Funeral Services (as of 2004)

GOOD PRACTICES ↓

The sustainable procurement of timber

→ Procurement of certified timber – Funeral Services

The Funeral Services is one of the biggest consumers of timber in the Council area: in 2004, it purchased 1,055 m³ of solid wood. As a result of the local commitment to a responsible policy for the procurement of timber, the service has incorporated environmental criteria in its procurements and has managed to ensure that the supply of African timber comes from a merchant currently in the process of obtaining FSC accreditation.



→ The procurement of timber for Parks and Gardens

Since 2003, Parks and Gardens has been applying the criteria established by the Decree on the responsible procurement of wood for all public procurement. In 2004, among others, stakes and planks certified with the PEFC stamp and benches, protective fences and signage bearing the FSC stamp were purchased. In total, in the first year of applying the new policy on the responsible procurement of wood, Parks and Gardens purchased over 16 m³ of certified wood.

→ Document on the purchase of platforms– District of les Corts

In 2004, in the district of les Corts, criteria governing the responsible procurement of wood were introduced to the specifications for the hiring of platforms and as a result a company that put in a bid with PEFC-certified platforms won the tender.

NOTE!



Barcelona in support of the Forests

In February 2004, WWF/Adena, a conservationists group, presented in Barcelona its campaign entitled “Ciutats pels boscos” or Cities in Support of the Forests, which aims to help put a stop to the deterioration of forest ecosystems through public responsible consumption of wood and derivatives. Furthermore, Adena has also created the interactive observatory called “Ciutats pels boscos” in order to arouse and assess the local city and town councils’ interest (with over 20,000 inhabitants) in conserving the planet’s forests. Thanks to its active policy on responsible procurement of timber, Barcelona City Council has been on the Observatory’s Green List since the start of the campaign.

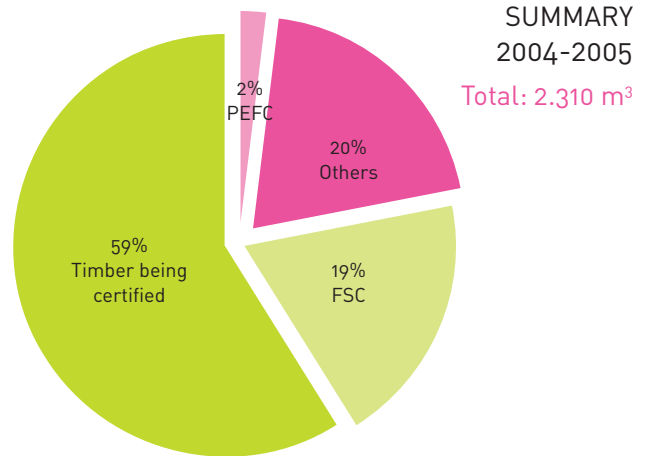
Campaign and observatory → www.wwf.es/bosques_comercio/observatorio_wwfadena.php

FOLLOW-UP INDICATORS ↓

→ **Certified timber tendered 2004-2005**

Years 2004 and 2005 were the first two in which a responsible policy for the procurement of timber was applied by Barcelona City Council, and the overall results —both as regards the number of departments involved and the total of certified timber procured— are satisfactory.

Eight offices —institutes, sectors or districts— have taken on this new policy and the result is a total of 2,310 m³ of certified timber acquired.



Benches made of certified timber in Parc de la Ciutadella ↓

