

ASSOCIATION SURVEY FOR KNOWLEDGE (ASK)

AUSTRALIA

(Summary)



Prepared by GTF

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This Survey seeks to better understand the challenges faced by forest and wood-based industry and trade associations around the world.

The survey was developed in collaboration with our project partners: FAO (Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations) and WRI (World Resources Institute).

The survey results are anonymised and non-attributable except at regional level.

The seven associations interviewed mainly draw their membership from Australia though two also have members in New Zealand and one has producer members in Fiji and Papua New Guinea. All of the associations represent members from all over Australia though Australian members are mainly from New South Wales, Victoria and Queensland. The seven associations have a combined membership of 1,809 companies, 88% of which are estimated to be small or micro businesses.

A broad range of services are provided, ranging from market information, to exhibitions and trade fairs and a range of external communications. All associations prioritize relations with Government or public affairs.

The **challenges** faced by all company members include:

- I. For Australian producers, cheap imports are a significant financial challenge.
- II. The lack of enforcement of relevant technical product and building standards is an area of government policy that is frustrating members of all associations.
- III. There is a high degree of FSC and PEFC CoC certification among Australian producers and major importers. There are very low levels of certification among secondary processors and furniture makers and importers.
- IV. There was some dissatisfaction with the Australian Government's failure to change the Illegal Logging Prohibition regulation to recognize FSC and PEFC certification as "deemed-to-satisfy" the due diligence requirements of the Regulation.
- V. There was strong support for Australian industry-developed guidance, tools and resources to assist importers with compliance.

The full report is available upon request. Please contact GTF at: ASK@gtf-info.com



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