FORESTS AND ENERGY

Forests are nature's powerhouse and a vital resource for meeting the world's renewable-energy demand.









Forests provide fuel for heating, cooking and industrial needs and protect watersheds to enable hydroelectric generation.



2.4 billion
people
worldwide use
woodfuel to
cook meals,
sterilize
drinking water

and heat homes.



65 million people displaced from their homes by disasters depend on woodfuel for their basic energy needs.



Woodfuel provides 40% of today's global renewable energy supply

– as much as solar, hydroelectric and wind power combined.



Clean, efficient stoves will improve the health of millions of people affected by harmful smoke from rudimentary stoves.



In Africa, woodfuel is a main source of energy for two-thirds of all households.



More than 700 million women are engaged part-time in woodfuel collection, production and trade.



Wood energy will be crucial for meeting the Sustainable
Development Goal of ensuring access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all by 2030.



Almost 900 million people, mostly in developing countries, are engaged in the wood-energy sector on a part- or full-time basis.



The popularity of wood energy is growing in developed countries. The production of wood pellets leapt by 42% from 2012 to 2015.



About 50% -1.86 billion m³ - of global wood production is used for energy.

Key actions to increase sustainable woodfuel production and use



Develop policies to encourage long-term investment in wood energy



Support technology transfer and efficient, well-regulated trade



Increase the area of sustainably managed forests



Encourage the use of clean, cheap, efficient stoves



Share information with policy-makers and the public



