



Case study // Round Table SDG 15: Sustainable Forest Management and the SDGs

IKEA Wood Direction – Having positive impact on people, society and planet.

IKEA of Sweden AB - Inter IKEA Group

Level: regional

Summary

IKEA has launched a new IKEA direction with three roads towards 2025:

1. Make IKEA affordable for people who cannot afford IKEA today
2. Reach and interact with many more of the many people, where they are
3. Create a positive impact on people, society and the planet

What will that mean for an important material as wood in IKEA?

IKEA has already taken steps toward having a positive impact, with focus on the goal to be forest positive by 2020 (SDG15). The audience will be informed about the way forward (SDG12), with IKEA's clear ambition to go through a transitional change of becoming a circular business, our commitment to the Climate agreement (SDG 13) and our continuous work of improving production in becoming more sustainable by reducing its environmental impacts and becoming a great place to work by providing decent work (SDG 8).

Situation

Becoming a circular business is a transformational change for IKEA and one of its biggest ambitions and challenges for the future.

It will impact the business in all aspects: from how it develops products, source materials, develop the IKEA supply chain, and set up logistics, to how and where it meets its customers. This will enable IKEA to prolong the life of products and materials.

Strategy

To make this a reality, we must design all of our products from the very beginning to be repurposed, repaired, reused, resold or recycled. It's about seeing our products as raw materials for the future and eliminating waste across the entire value-chain using renewable, recycled, efficient and innovative materials and technologies.



Results and impact

Wood as a material fits perfectly into the scope of circular design and IKEA believes that wood will continue to be an important material in order for IKEA to succeed with the circular vision. Moreover, IKEA also sees that by combining the design capability of durability with the right wood species (based on rotation time) it has an opportunity to really contribute to the climate agenda by using its products as carbon storage and therefore contribute in fulfilling a climate positive agenda.

In addition, IKEA will continue to have an everincreasing role to develop the industry and production that it is reliable on.

Social Impact - IKEA will continue to work on our ambition to create decent work with IWAY as its guiding tool. IWAY is IKEA's Code of Conduct for suppliers of products, materials and services to IKEA. It defines the minimum requirements on suppliers and service providers for Environment and Social & Working Conditions. IKEA also uses IWAY in its work to further secure our sub supply chain. Moreover IKEA sees the importance being involved in securing fair & living wages, taking the lead in responsible recruitment of migrant workers and supporting young workers. IKEA also works closely with its suppliers to promote community engagement.

Environmental Impact - IKEA recognises that it will have a role to continue on the path of developing and innovate with our partner's resource efficient production techniques. "Making more from less" is in IKEA's DNA but has to be empathised even further as we also continue to make the production more efficient with regards to energy, waste and water management.

Maybe IKEA most important initiative is that we will start communicating much more with our customers to create awareness on how we together are contribution to a positive impact on people, society and planet.

Challenges and lessons learned

Cooperation, partnership and stakeholder engagement is key to success while sharing an open and change driven agenda.

Contact

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