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PAPER SOURCING POLICY

DK is the world's leading illustrated reference publisher, producing highly visual, photographic non-fiction for adults and children. As a diverse organisation operating worldwide, we are committed to environmental responsibility. This policy highlights some of the ways in which we aim to meet the high expectations of our customers in our sustainability endeavors.

Sustainable Paper Sourcing

DK recognises the importance of forests and the services which they provide such as clean water and air, raw materials, and biodiversity. As deforestation is the second largest source of CO₂ emissions, we know that combating deforestation through responsible paper sourcing policies is essential.

Our goal is to source 100% of our paper from FSC (Forest Stewardship Council) certified sources by the end of 2020. In 2017 82% of our paper was from FSC certified sources.

We are a founder participant in The Book Chain Project actively utilising their Forestry Sourcing tool to assess and understand the pulp sources of the papers we are using. We require all our paper to meet an industry standard rating of grade 3 or higher, which means that papers are risk assessed and from known, legal, and responsible sources¹. See Appendix I below for details of the The Book Chain Project PREPS grading system.

DK and Penguin Random House in both the UK and USA are FSC certified publishers ([FSC-C100141](#); [FSC-C018179](#)) in the category of Books and Printed Material. When producing books in regions outside the US and EU, we comply with applicable laws, including the U.S. Lacey Act and the EU Timber Regulations which ban illegal logging and trafficking of wildlife, including plants and plant products.

Supplier Standards

We strive to procure paper from suppliers who source responsibly. All of our North American and European suppliers are certified to an internationally recognized Chain of Custody Standard such as SFI, PEFC, or FSC. Suppliers must comply with local government regulations. We expect our suppliers to respect the rights of their workers and the local indigenous populations, as well as protect the forests and other natural resources.

With clear preference to FSC certified fiber when available we require our printers and paper suppliers to avoid any controversial fiber. See Appendix II below for details.

Working closely with our supply chain, we ask that fiber composition records of the paper they supply are maintained to ensure traceability. To verify that these requirements are consistently met, we conduct fiber analysis sample testing throughout the year and address any discrepancies with our suppliers.

¹ Please refer to the PREPS Process Document, Issue 20, November 2013 at <http://prepsgroup.com/home>

¹ *Recycled fiber* is defined as fiber that has been recovered from post-consumer waste (including domestic, distribution, retail, industrial and demolition waste). Fiber from pre-consumer waste, that is secondary and subsequent manufacturing, is treated as virgin fiber.

² Accepted schemes are: FSC and PEFC (PEFC includes endorsed schemes such as AFS, SFI, CSA, MTCC, Cerflor, and Certfor).

Appendix II

Controversial sources include fibers and/or producers which are associated with:

- The loss of High Carbon Stock (HCS) landscapes, such as primary, intact, old grown, tropical rainforests, tropical peatlands, and peatland forests.
- The loss of High Conservation Value (HCV) landscapes, such as habitats for endangered wildlife species.
- The conversion of natural forests to plantations, which negatively impacts biodiversity and carbon stocks.
- Land conflicts, such as the violation of the local community rights and the rights of indigenous communities.
- Failing to obtain the Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC) of the indigenous and local communities
- The use of Genetically Modified Organisms (GMOs)
- The violation of human rights, such as child labor and forced labor.
- Producers and fiber associated with the use of elemental chlorine and harmful water and air pollution.

Source: [*"A New Chapter for the Publishing Industry: Putting Promises into Practice"*](#), Rainforest Action Network