

Press Release for PEFC 'Carbon Storage in forests and wooden furniture' webinar

How the Wooden Furniture you Design, Make, and Sell stores Carbon and Combats Climate Change Webinar

Register now: www.treee.es/PEFCfurwebinar-22-1

Climate change is the greatest challenge confronting humanity in the 21st century. Without intervention, every person, and every country around the world will share the burden.

From how we source and use raw materials, to the way we use energy, if we are to avoid the most extreme effects of climate change, everyone must play their part. The furniture industry is no different. But what is the most meaningful way that the furniture industry can contribute to the fight against climate change?

According to the United Nations Environmental Programme (UNEP), **Forests are at the heart of human society's action to combat climate change and its impacts**, and meeting our global collective climate goals is impossible without them. As carbon sinks, trees absorb carbon dioxide (CO₂) from the atmosphere and store carbon in wood, removing significant volumes of CO₂. **Forests are estimated to remove over 7 billion metric tonnes of CO₂ from the atmosphere per year.** Even when wood is harvested from trees in forests, that wood continues to store carbon until the wood is burnt or decays. It means that the wooden furniture that you're now using in your homes and offices is currently storing carbon and will continue to do so throughout its lifetime, usually many decades.

To ensure that forests reach their full potential as a climate change solution, they must be managed sustainably. The sustainable management of forests secures their ability to absorb and remove CO₂ from the atmosphere and improves their potential to store it as carbon in their biomass. When forests are sustainably managed, they become net carbon sinks and absorb more carbon than they emit. Forest management also strengthens the capacity of people and communities living in and around forests to adapt to the worst effects of climate change.

Furniture designers, manufacturers, and retailers can play an essential part in the fight against climate change by sourcing wood from sustainably managed forests, which helps to increase the capacity of forests to store CO₂. The stored carbon will then remain in wooden furniture products throughout their lifetimes. So, how does it work? Do non-certified forests store CO₂ the same way as certified forests? How is carbon stored in wooden furniture and how much is stored?

PEFC's webinar "**How the Wooden Furniture you Design, Make and Sell stores Carbon and Combats Climate Change**" on **7 September at 10:00 AM CEST** will address these questions and to illuminate the role that PEFC can play in facilitating sustainable forest management certification for the furniture industry. We will demonstrate how furniture industry

stakeholders—from the forest owner all the way through the supply chain—can play a part in helping to combat climate change through sustainable forest management. We will take a look at actionable examples of how sustainably sourced wooden furniture is already helping to mitigate climate change—in certified forests, in furniture manufacturing plants, and in our homes—and we will walk through a method of calculating the carbon sequestration within wooden furniture.

PEFC is the world's largest forest certification system which helps protect forests by promoting sustainable forest management through forest certification. PEFC-certified forests are estimated to absorb 315 million tonnes of CO₂ every year. We are working everyday to bring sustainability to the global furniture supply chain, but we can't do it alone.

If you are a furniture designer, manufacturer, retailer, or simply wondering how you can play your part to combat climate change through meaningful furniture choices. Register to join us today: www.treee.es/PEFCfurwebinar-22-1

Agenda

Speakers:

- Francesco Negro, PhD – Expert in carbon storage in wood-based products and researcher at DISAFA, University of Torino, Italy. ([Publications](#))
- Michael Berger, CEO/Secretary-General of PEFC International

Part I: The relevance and the role of PEFC in combating climate change - Michael Berger

Part II: Carbon storage in wooden furniture – Francesco Negro,

1. *Brief introduction to CO₂ and the climate change crisis.*

What do CO₂ and related terms mean? carbon footprint, GHG, GWP, CO₂ eq, embodied carbon, carbon-neutral, climate positive.

2. *From tree to table*

- CO₂ storage in forests and wood. CO₂ storage in certified forests vs non-certified forests.
- Cascade use of wood with a focus on recycled wood.
- How to calculate carbon stored in wood-based products
- Case study: Calculation of carbon stored by wooden furniture in an apartment to demonstrate the role of wooden furniture and its relevance in mitigating climate change.
- Support the manufacturing sector in calculating the amount of carbon stored - brief examples

3. *Concluding remarks*

Part III: Open discussion and Q&A from the audience