

Public Evaluation Report
FSC – Forest Management
Group Certificate No.: IMO-FM/COC-027679

Report No.: 07 2415 02

Fuyang Dahe Bamboo Forest Management Association

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Client

This report was generated for Fuyang Dahe Bamboo Forest Management Association (hereinafter called FDBF) for the estate managed by them.

This report is partially confidential (part B) and it may not be used for advertising purposes without the expressed written permission of the contractual partners. All following information was checked and authorised by the client.

Purpose of Inspection

The task was to carry out the evaluation of the forest management and group administration in accordance with the IMO standard control program accredited by FSC. This report is the basis for the decision on the certification by the Institute for Marketecology.

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ACRONYMS

AAC	Annual Allowable Cut
AI	Annual Increment
FDBF	Fuyang Dahe Bamboo Forest Management Association
FMU	Forest Management Unit
FSC	Forest Stewardship Council
NTFP	No Timber Forest Product
P&C	Principles and Criteria of the FSC
PSP	Permanent Sample Plot
GM	Group Management
PFEB	Protected Forest for Ecological Benefit

A: PUBLIC PART

1 Information about the company

1.1 Forest owner / group organization

Fuyang Dahe Bamboo Forest Management Association (FDBF) is a forest owner association that provides oversight and guidance to the forest owners who wish to let FSC certify the forests of their members. Their clients (buyers of the bamboo) who locally process the bamboo and export the final products finance them.

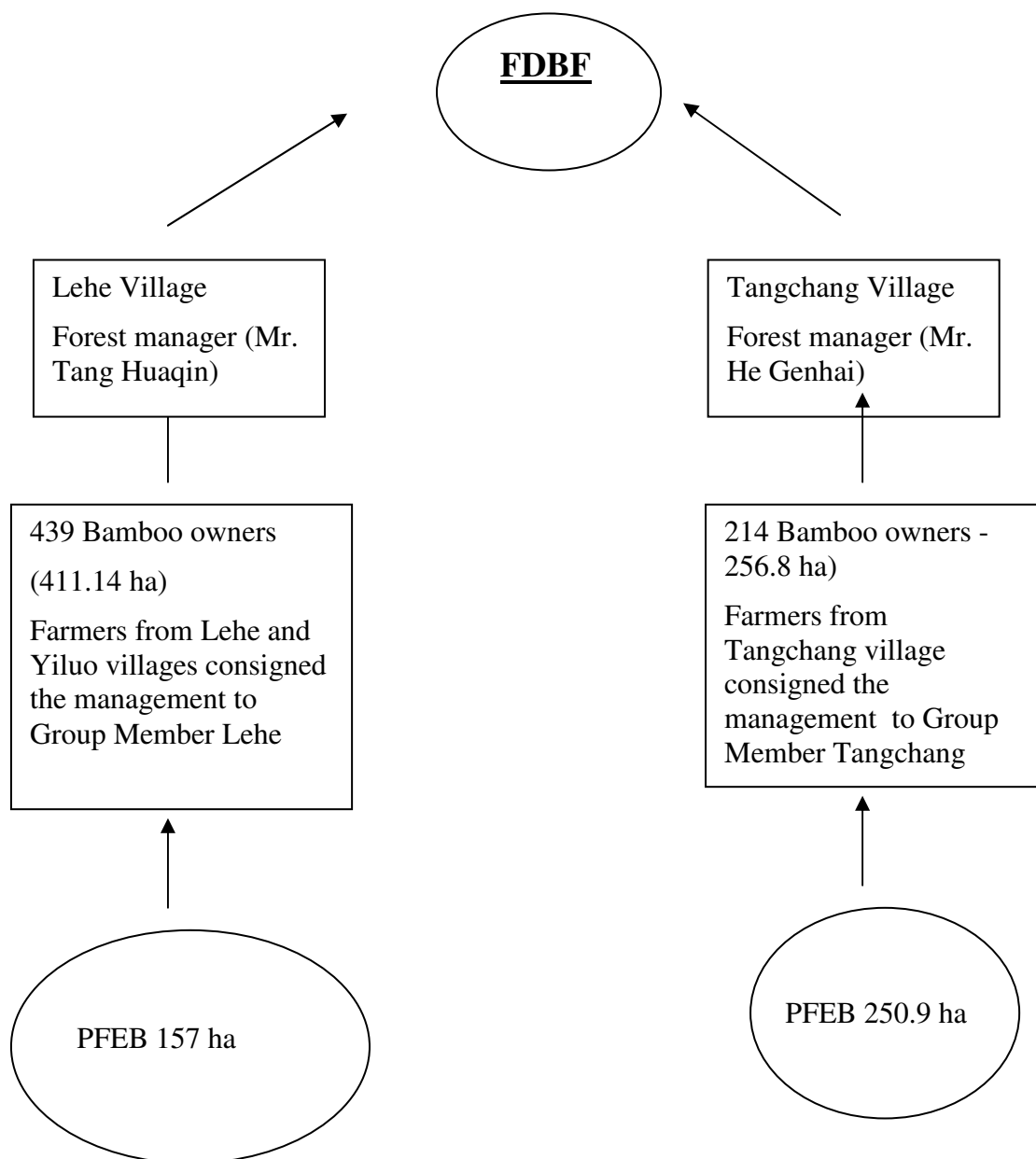
FDBF was established in 2007, with the objective of organizing local bamboo forests and protected forest resources for achieving and maintaining forest certification. There are currently 1,105.84 ha enrolled in this project. The properties of bamboo and wooden forests primarily belong to the Chinese state, which is the land owner. The use right is given to small farmers, who have got a license to manage the land.

For a simple management later on, the farmers consigned their use right of the bamboo forests to two villages (the basic administrative government in China) to manage the bamboo forest on behalf of them (farmers). By signing the consignment agreement, the farmers will give up their use and management right on the bamboo forest.

Two villages (Lehe and Tangchang) have obtained the bamboo forest ownership from 439 and 214 farmers by signing the use right consignment agreements (all the agreement were presented whilst audit). The village Tangchang is managing only forests of farmers from Tangchang. The village Lehe signed also use right consignments with farmers from the village Yilo. Lehe and Tangchang decided to enter the certification group as member to participate in the certification.

The day-to-day business and development of the management plan is done by the Yongchang Town Forest Station which provides technical forest service to the villages including Lehe and Tangchang.

Group Structure



In the group, FDBF developed a contract for the members signing up for enrolling the certified pool, the certification policy, the group management system and management plan. FDBF also monitors the members' activities and keeps documents. FDBF is currently controlled by Mr. Chen Guanjin, with his assistant, Mr. Zhao Li as the person in charge of the certification program.

To prepare the FSC process and manage the group in line with the FSC requirements, FDBF hired two foresters who work part-time for the project: Mr. Tang Huaqin, the forest engineer from Fuyang Forest Bureau, and Mr. He Genhai, head of local Forest Station. These two forester were contracted by the villages to work as the “ forest manager” and are also working for the group representative in order to maintain the FSC certification.

1.2 Motivation for Certification

The main objective of FDBF is to produce bamboo logs from bamboo forests by an

ecologically friendly use of the land and a socially responsible management. There is increasing demand from domestic market in China in using FSC certified bamboo to manufacture different products for export. This has motivated FDBF to become FSC certified.

1.3 Forest and management system

Properties included in the FDBF certification pool are mainly bamboo forests with patches of the secondary forests (Protected Forests for Ecological Benefit - PFEB) scattered in between. They are owned by the villages Lehe, Yilou and Tangchang.

There are no original natural forests remaining in this region. The resources covered in the group are 697.94 ha of bamboo forests and – as a second formation in this group – 407.9 ha of the secondary forests dominated by arborvitae, slash pine, masson pine, Loblolly pine, fir, cedar, with various broadleaf species, i.e. Acacia, Metasequoia, Sawtooth oak etc.

The PFEB are off limits to commercial timber harvesting and provide public services such as soil erosion control, water resources conservation etc. based on the National Forest Zoning Policy.

The PFEB are divided into the following types representing the dominant tree species.

- a) Bamboo
- b) Pine
- c) Fir
- d) Broadleaf
- e) Mixed forest

In extraordinary cases, a farmer who is not participating in the certification project can harvest some trees around his house if he has the permission from the local government. It is only possible for own use and the timber shall neither be used as firewood, for building modern houses or for making any tools, etc. Any commercial harvest of trees is prohibited by the forest laws. The auditors could confirm during the audit that there was not any tree harvested.

It is known that large area of bamboo flowering will generally result in the death of the bamboo forests and thus cause devastative impact to the region. This still remains as a challenge for forest managers as well as for scientists. However, to this particular species, the recorded history of thousand years has not revealed any devastation consequences due to flowering.

Although bamboo is not a tree but a grass, it grows in a forest and people manage bamboo as a forest. Its main product is timber. Consequently, a bamboo forest is defined as “forest” in the forest law of China. And, a bamboo forest and its products, bamboo logs can be FSC-certified (FSC-ADV-30-502 FSC certification of bamboo, 13 May 2004).

Typical Bamboo Management

Majority of bamboo in the certification pool is the species of *Phyllostachys heterocycla var. pubescens* (local name is Mao Zhu), the “timber” bamboo that is harvested and put into use as the raw material of many kinds of bamboo products, e.g. bamboo flooring. The bamboo has been growing naturally in this area for several hundred years and almost all of them are naturally generated. The productive mature age of the timber bamboo is about 5 to 6 years, and after then they will stop growing and the quality will decrease. Harvest of the aged bamboo can also promote bamboo shoot break out of the earth that actually benefit the natural generation of bamboo forest.

The fresh bamboo shoots appear usually in March or April. The farmers near the village will write the year of birth of the bamboo and their names on the young bamboo trunk in June/July to declare their ownership. Since this is not a strict routine, some two-year old stems might be dated with the current year. Particularly in steep areas, they do not mark the years and sometimes not even the farmer's name. However, the age of bamboo can be estimated by colours: Young stems are fresh green and the nodes appear as white horizontal lines. As older it gets, as darker and more dirty the colour becomes, and the nodes become grey and black.

Sometimes bamboos of the same age might grow in little groups. The regeneration is vegetative or – very seldom – sexual regeneration. The natural differentiation of size of each single bamboo is obvious. Thus, the age of a bamboo forest is mixed since the young is growing right besides the old or middle aged ones. Consequently, there are no areas or stands which would be even aged.

When the bamboo culms reach their mature age, usually 5 years, the farmers harvest the bamboo by a simple traditional approach, the selective cutting and not by clear cut. The farmer usually comes each year to the site and selects the bamboos to be felled by quality and size, i.e. 10-15cm in diameter which significantly corresponds to the age. Another selection criterion might be density. There is no real measurement of them but long experience has shown that in average 20% of the volume can be sustained each year for harvest.

The farmers who are the owners of the bamboo or small companies log the bamboo. Axe is widely used as the effective tool for cutting bamboo. The worker chops the bamboo circularly 5 or 6 times on its base. Once fallen down, the basic node of the stump remaining on the ground – i.e. the basal diaphragm “skin”, typical for species of *Garminae*, which separates the intersections of the bamboo – will be cut through. This guarantees rapid decay of the stump and the roots and activates new vegetative regeneration.

About 10-15 felled poles – each one might have a length of six or seven meters and a weight of about 20 kg – are tied together on the small end using branches. The bundled branches serve also as a grip and are manually hauled downhill. In steep areas with sufficient yield per area, people construct channels of trimmed bamboo poles and use them as sledges for the logs.

In higher regions with snow, they sometimes trim the canopies of two year old bamboo in order to prevent lopsided growth or snow-break.

Once arrived at the forest road, small trucks transport the bamboo logs out of the forest to sawmills. Since there is just in time production, no significant quantities remain in the forest.

Overall, the nature-oriented management of the bamboo forest is low intensive so that the impact on the environment is very little.

Management Plan

Both of the two group members have written management plans with standardized management plan format developed by FDBF that meets FSC requirements. There are written sections covering: geology and soils, land use history, management goals, forest resource information, deed and tax information, road and access system, landowner compliance procedures, wildlife habitat; and silviculture. The current format also includes topographic maps of the property, soils and forest stands, as well as inventory/survey data, stand map with species, structure, groundwater bodies, forest areas with protective function (PFEB), other areas with special functions or services.

The management plan will be updated as needed or every five years; a regular schedule is set up for reviewing the planning strategies and incorporating into revision of the annual work planning as well. The management plan has also followed legal requirements and permitted effective management.

FDBF's stated goal is to implement a standardized group management system and management plan format in that all member properties meet all FSC requirements as soon as possible, and it has made an impressive attempt at this in the short time since deciding on FSC certification only one year ago.

All properties have an annual allowable cut (AAC) calculation as part of their management plan and have a work schedule detailing when certain areas are recommended for harvest. The AAC is calculated based on both the annual increment and the quota approved by the governmental forestry authority.

Table 1. Summary of Forest Areas

Member	Total area [ha]	Bamboo	Other secondary natural forest
Lehe	598.14	441.14	157.0
Tangchang	507.7	256.8	250.9

1.4 Connection to the environment and to the socio-economics

Environmental connection

The estate of FDBF is located in the subtropical Monsoons weather region. The quarterly winds are strong, and climate is gentle and wet. The four seasons of the climate are clearly distinguished. The annual rainfall averages from 1400-1800 mm which is widely spread over both South West and North East Monsoons. The temperatures range from -3°C to 27°C . The main soil types are red yellow earth, yellow brown earth, and meadow black earth.

Soil types of the forested and planted area are red yellow earth, yellow brown earth, and meadow black earth. The land territory is low mountains and hills in the south and west of Fuyang, and plains in the north and east.

In DBF fertilizer was seldom utilized in past as the bamboo has been adapted to the soil type for growth in a long history. Chemicals including herbicide and pesticide were also not applied because the bamboo stands present very few serious insect or disease problems. As no clear cutting and weeding are implemented in this area, good erosion control is obtained. Erosions caused by roads constructions and maintenance is not a problem since logging works are carried out by man power and there is no need to build new roads in the bamboo forest.

Being the major part of the secondary forest in Fuyang, the bamboo forests grows with scattered trees and bushes which usually distribute on upper slope of the hill or in middle of the bamboo forest. Bamboo between the forests functions as corridor for wildlife, e.g. wild pigs or birds. There are also many plant species growing under the permanent bamboo canopy and very light impacts on them due to the traditional management.

Much different from the normal forest management, the bamboo forest has no requirement for planting, thinning, weeding, fertilizing, use of chemicals and can be naturally

regenerated The only human impact is the selective cutting by axe, skidding by manpower in a short period each year and transportation on roads by trucks.

Socio-economic connection

Bamboo forest as the community forestry is one of the leading industries in this region. After many years in practice, bamboo sawmills and relevant secondary processing now play a major role in the economic and social development in this area. Besides the actual harvesting jobs in the forest, more people are working in the corresponding processing industry. This means a great economic benefit, and contributions are expected to the local society. In addition, the group has included some PFEB forest in the certification scope. They will receive considerable subsidies from the government for wildfire prevention, wild animal protection, water body conservation, forest survey etc.

Under the group certification scheme, FDBF will create the economic opportunity to promote the growing of an industrial-forest group in the region, where small bamboo producers can be connected to local and international markets.

1.5 Products and wood use

1.5.1 Products of the forest

The products are bamboo logs (*Phyllostachys heterocycla var. Pubescens*), the annual harvest is approximately 3,000m³ per year. The average diameter is 15 cm, the average length 7m. There is only one quality; no specific assortments are defined.

Other parts of bamboo, i.e. the canopy with the branches that can be used for the production of brooms, will be directly sold from the forest and removed by the villagers for personal use. They are not sold with any FSC declaration. Locals also collect bamboo shoots which will not be marketed as certified. No other NTFPs or other minor products are used.

1.5.2 Basis for harvesting of timber

According to the Harvesting and Regeneration Administration Protocol of China, FDBF has to get approved for five years by the local Forestry Authority for timber harvesting (Table 2), where detailed AAC that FDBF must not exceed each year except situations when unregulated felling occasionally occurred. The AAC is designed based on monitoring the increment of PSP set up by FDBF and the principle of Chinese Forest Law regarding that the cutting volume must be less than the increment in the same forest management unit.

In FDBF's management plan, all cutting is specified as selective cutting according to the traditional operation which allow the sustainable low impact bamboo production.

1.5.3 Final point of certificate

The final point of the certificate is the logged bamboo pole when put on the truck in the forest. However, the poles will be weighed after arrival at the sawmill and the loggers will be paid according to weight.

2 Certification process

2.1 Standards

The "Principles and Criteria of FSC International" are the basic standards and minimum requirements which are valid for the FSC certification world-wide. This standard is supposed to be adapted to the regional situation by regional FSC working groups. It also needs to be adapted if non timber forest products are managed. If no regional working group exists, the adaptation to a local standard has to be done by IMO.

For China, the regional FSC working group was established in April 2007 and no accredited standard was available at the time of the audit, therefore the generic standard of IMO which is accredited by FSC was used as basis. By sending this standard to the stakeholders, comments were sought about the standard and the need for regional adaptation.

In order to harmonise with neighbouring countries and standards for similar situations, the generic standard for China of SmartWood, was taken into consideration for the adaptation process. The co-auditor (also being the local expert) evaluated the legal situation in China and has included a list of applicable laws. Based on all information available a local standard for China was adapted, which is available on the webpage of IMO.

Certification checks whether all parts of the guidelines are fulfilled in a satisfactory way. No special parts of the guidelines are weighted more or less than others. Any non-compliance with the guidelines results in a condition or precondition.

2.2 Contractual basis

Certification according to the FSC requirements is only possible based on a clear contractual basis. The inspection contract defines the duties of both parties and gives the right to use the logo for the company after the certificate was issued.

With the application to IMO in October 2006 and the signature of the contract, FDBF confirms its will to get certified for the forest in its management scope and the timber sales according to FSC.

2.3 Stakeholder process

FSC certification controls whether forest management will meet all needs concerning ecological, economic and social aspects. Therefore the demands of any group who is dependent on forests or engaged in forest protection must be considered. To include these needs into the certification process, representative stakeholders are informed and asked for comments about the guidelines and the performance of the audited company.

Stakeholder consultation is obligatory for any FSC certification. The comments of stakeholders are incorporated in the evaluation questionnaire and checked during the audit of the company, the public hearing and interviews.

The stakeholder process is important to identify any conflicts between forest management and regional stakeholders with ecological, social or economical interests in the forests. Local people were also invited to participate.

2.4 Audit (including pre-evaluation and stakeholder consultation)

The aim of the audit is fact finding. The management system was evaluated by field visits and detailed document control in the office. In case of non compliance at single samples additional samples will be necessary.

The majority of forests sampled were bamboo forest. However, various protected forest were visited, too. Since there are only 2 members in the group, no random sampling was applied. The spot checks were carried out to both members without any exclusion. 6 of total 59 bamboo and forest stands were selected for field visit, which are relevant to total area of 58 ha and 43 farmers (or owners).

The majority of forests sampled were bamboo forests. However, various protected forest were visited, too. The selection criteria for the sites to be visited were chosen according to bamboo harvesting, proximity to protected forests and in the area of both resource managers in order to get a representative overview of the area.

Within sites, some of the features and variables, or timing of activities, included:

- Two active selecting harvests;
- Mix-aged Bamboo forests;
- Riparian areas, wildlife habitat and natural features;
- Conservation areas/ bush land;
- Reservoir surrounding;
- PSP in Bamboo forest;
- PSP in protected forest;
- Water monitoring spot.

Pre-Audit at Dec 14 and 15, 2006

Main Audit in Aug 25007

Date	Topic	Participants
Morning Aug 22, 2007	Opening meeting, document review	Mr. Chen Guanjin, head of FDBF. Mr. Larry Liu, Co-chairman, Board of Directors; Mr. Daniel Smith, partner; Mr. Tu Jianmin, General Manager assistant (Factory) Mr. Zhao Li, Assistant manager (Field) f the group WaC, TP, Mrs Cheng Zhegiong (ZC) from IMO China as interpreter
Afternoon Aug 22, 2007	Public Stakeholder Meeting. Document review.	Mr. Zhu Xigen, Head of Fuyang Forestry Administration. Mr. Wang Anguo, chairman of Bamboo Industry Association of Linan; Mr. Lu Xinglong, director of Environment Monitoring station. Mr. Ma Naixun, Professor of Subtropical Forest Science Institute. Mr. Yang Xiaosheng, Professor of Subtropical

		Forest Science Institute. Mr. He Genhai, director of Yongchang Forestry station. Mr. Zhou Jian, Forest Resource Management Office WaC, TP, ZC
Aug 23, 2007	In the morning, field visit to Chai Tang Wan bamboo forest stand # 11, check bamboo cutting and skidding onsite. Interview workers. Sample plot # Z-01, Bamboo stands # 13 and 14. Stand # 16 Protected forest/bushland. In the afternoon, visit to a protected forest stand # 26, checking natural regeneration and biodiversity. Visit to water monitoring spot, a secondary forest surrounding reservoir.	Mr. Chen Guanjin, head of FDBF. Mr. Larry Liu, Co-chairman, Board of Directors; Mr. Daniel Smith, partner; Mr. Tu Jianmin, General Manager assistant (Factory) Mr. Zhao Li, Assistant manager (Field) of the group WaC, TP, ZC
Morning Aug 24, 2007	Field visit to Bamboo stand # 38 and protected forest. Bamboo stand # 56 with skidding sledge. Interview with workers and a farmer. Group management Documents review	Fan Donggeng, He Genhai TP, ZC Zhao Li and WaC
Afternoon Aug 24, 2007	Document review, identify findings, closing meeting.	All staff and managers

The IMO team consisted of one international IMO forestry expert and one Chinese co-auditor. The international expert is qualified by a forestry education in Germany and Switzerland (university degree and Staatsexamen) and seven years of inspection work for IMO in chain of custody and forestry management certifications. He is a member of the German national FSC working group and participates actively in the development of national standards and other work.

The Chinese expert has a Bachelor's of Science degree in forestry from 1982. He has over 20 years of practical experience in forest conservation and management. He received additional training from the World Bank, Canada International Development Agency and Canada Forest Agency in forest project management. He also participated in FSC certification auditor training provided by FSC accredited certification bodies GFA Terra Systems and the Rainforest Alliance's SmartWood Program and has participated in a number of FSC certification conferences and workshops. He has participated in 7 different types of FM certification assessment, and been lead auditor for more than 12 COC audits in the past years.

Mrs Cheng from IMO China accompanied the team and translated for the international auditor during the main audit.

The forest management was inspected for all aspects in the field, wherever the activities were taking place. The concepts of biodiversity, worker welfare and safety and long term planning of the forest areas were important subjects of the audit. The results were documented and the detected non conformities were discussed on site. The results are summarised in the internal report.

In the office, the operation structure and the business policy were analysed by discussions with the management and other employees. Documentation was checked through a comprehensive file control.

2.5 Certification decision

The certification decision will be taken by an independent council of IMO, the IMO certification committee. This decision is based on all available information from the report, checklist, comments or company data. A formal complaint procedure is open for anybody who is not satisfied with the decision.

3 FSC stakeholder process

For identifying the stakeholders, different sources at state, provincial and local level were used. The first proposal of stakeholders was made by FDBF. The auditors checked the list and added addresses.

Stakeholders were informed prior to the audit in writing and many of them were also personally contacted by interviews and public hearing during the main audit. Minutes were taken.

3.1 Reaction of the Stakeholders

The list of the contacted persons and institutions can be found in the annex. Since a public hearing was planned from the very beginning, no written comments were submitted. The hearing took place with 18 people (including interviews) for 6 hrs in total. The comments were positive.

Before the audit, the FSC contact person for China provided IMO with the list of the members of FSC national working group China so that the stakeholders who are working on the national or regional level could be contacted by e-mail on 26.07.2007. They gave neutral comments lack of local knowledge of the specific forest.

3.2 Comments on the guidelines

No comments were made on IMO's generic standard.

3.3 Comments on the forest enterprise

a) WWF China	No direct knowledge of FSC requirements and the Group
b) Fuyang Environment Protection Bureau	The bamboo forests distributed in the upstream of the rivers in Fuyang and contribute greatly to protect the water resource and maintain the water quality. Benefit from the protected forests and large areas of bamboo, Fuyang city now has a very good environment with high quality of air, drinkable water in the river.

c) Fuyang Forestry Administration	Following the principle that conservation and productive development can coexist together, the FDBF has set up new relations with the forests and people who live here. The incorporation of informal forest activities to formal schemes that include the forest management plans, has demonstrated new ways to make a better use of the forests and to share the forest benefits to all people at different levels.
d) Subtropical Forest Science Institute	The certification scheme of FDBF has integrated the ecological protection and economic benefits together. The bamboo forest here in Fuyang are mix-aged, naturally regenerated, selective cut. No negative impact was observed in the past.
e) Bamboo Forest Industry Association	With participatory practices, local development strategies and group forest certification in the region, FDBF created the economic opportunity to promote the growing of the bamboo industry where small wood producers can be connected to local and international markets.
f) Fuyang Forest Resource Management Office.	Bamboo forest in Fuyang is a important part of our natural resource not only in its economic value but in environmental protection and social benefits.
g) Local government	FDBF scheme is welcomed.

3.4 Results of the stakeholder process

The comments were positive or neutral and confirmed the information given by FDBF concerning the activities and the good relationship with the workers and other people living nearby. Several times it was stated that FDBF would make great progress in terms of social and ecological management if FDBF can become certified.

4 Required actions and improvements

The determination of the conditions is the essential result of the audit. The situation in the company is compared with the FSC Principles & Criteria and any deviation from the standard is described in the internal report. Any identified weak points will result in a “corrective action request (CAR)”, i.e. condition (c).

In case of major violations from the guidelines this CAR will be a pre-condition (PC) which must be fulfilled before the certificate can be issued.

In case of minor deviations, conditions are issued which are to be fulfilled in a specific period of time.

In the case of insignificant possibilities for improvement which are not directly connected to the guideline, recommendations are expressed which are not binding.

Legend	No. /Year	current number and date
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of the tables:	Deadline	Deadline to which the condition must be fulfilled, otherwise it will be intensified (for example to a pre-condition from this moment on).
	Status	Field for internal control

4.1 Conditions regarding FSC – group management (GM).

When the audit took place, FDBF had the group management system available.

No./Year Indicator	Conditions 2007 for FDBF	Deadline	Status
1/07 c (Group 1.3.5.)	Those parts of the FSC policy relevant for sub-contracted workers shall be added to the contract as annex.	04/2008	
2/07 c (G 2.5.2)	The periodic update of the group management system shall be defined.	04/2008	
3/07 c (G 4.1.4)	The procedure of ‘Members with frequent deviation from the goals of the group’s policy or the certification requirements should be inspected more often.’ shall be specified.	04/2008	
8/07 c (G 2.5.3)	The group management shall be checked at least annually. The result shall be presented to IMO. Frequency of checks to the management system must be specified, and results of the checks be documented.	08/2008	

4.2 Conditions regarding Principle 4 (Safety and Worker’s Rights)

No./Year	Conditions 2007 for FDBF	Deadline	Status
4/07 c (4.2.4 & 4.2.8)	The safety equipment should be appropriate for the working conditions. The workers shall be equipped with boots.	04/2008	

4.3 Conditions regarding Principle 6 (Ecology and Environment)

No./Year	Conditions 2007 for FDBF	Deadline	Status
5/07 c (6.7.5)	Garbage in the forest or adjacent water bodies shall be removed.	08/2008	

4.4 Conditions regarding Principle 7 (Management Plan)

No./Year	Conditions 2007 for FDBF	Deadline	Status
6/07 c (7.1.3a)	Maps shall be designed for easy identification of the forests and objects.	08/2008	

4.5 Conditions regarding Principle 8 (Monitoring)

No./Year	Conditions 2007 for FDBF	Deadline	Status
7/07 c (8.3.2)	Any use of the FSC logo and marketing material (brochures, Internet etc.) as well as the declaration on invoices must be submitted to IMO before printing or publishing.	12/2007	
8/07 c I 8.3.2	For sales of certified material the certification number of Fuyang must be included on the sales document (invoice and delivery note).	04/ 2008	

4.6 Recommendations

No./Year (Reference)	Recommendations for FDBF	Status
A/07 (8.2.1c,d, 8.2.3)	Before installing any additional sample plots, the Zhejiang Forestry College should be consulted.	

5 Summary of the strengths and weaknesses

5.1 List of strengths in relation to the FSC-guidelines

1. All pre-conditions from the pre-evaluation from December 2006 were closed at the main audit.
2. Property and use right of the bamboo forests are clear and legal. FDBF has clear defined their pool of certification with members and forest properties. The group management system has been established which is sufficient for the initial stage when FDBF become certified with limited number of forest properties in its pool.
3. Management of the protected forest is included and protected in FDBF, primarily with self generated native species, in or near the bamboo forest and along the water courses. Diversity of species in the protected forest areas and within the bamboo forests will be stimulated. (see 1.3)
4. Local communities believe FDBF's bamboo forest management will be beneficial to them in terms of income, reduction of soil erosion, better roads for bamboo transportation, etc. (see 2.4)
5. Much different from the normal forest management, the bamboo forest management is fully nature oriented, is operating clear-cut free and does not need any planting, thinning, weeding, fertilizing, use of chemicals, and is fully naturally regenerated. (see 1.4)
6. A systematic compilation of the flora, including rare and endangered species required by FSC certification has been established.
7. Measures to reduce the environmental impact of the bamboo forest and processing activities are already in place. These can be further strengthened when necessary.
8. Since qualified personnel will be in charge of the group management and members, a well organised management structure with sufficient documentation will likely be established with the help of staff foresters.

5.2 List of weaknesses in relation to the FSC-guidelines

The weak points are minor. Besides some lacks in the documentation of the group management, they refer to appropriate safety equipment, garbage in the forest and unclear maps. They are mainly caused by incorporating the historic informal traditional bamboo forest activities into formal schemes required by the group management system, forest management plans, ecological and environmental concepts. Many good approaches have been developed but none of them has been implemented systematically.

6 Decision for Certification

6.1 Recommendation for certification (inspection team)

Considering the entire situation and the conditions listed it is assumed that the company will fulfil the FSC standards completely. Thus, recognition of FDBF in the field of Forest Management and Chain Of Custody is recommended.

November 2007

Wang Dong, BSc Forestry, co-auditor, national expert
Thomas Papp-Váry, MSc Forestry, lead auditor

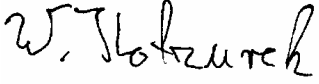
6.2 Positive certification decision

The IMO certification committee followed the recommendation of the auditors and the peer reviewer and issued the certificate for the following company and assortments:

Forest company	Assortment	Annual production	Certification
Fuyang Dahe Bamboo Forest Management Association	Bamboo logs	About 3000 cubic meters	FSC: IMO-FM/COC-027679

6.3 Authorisation

By authorisation of this report, the client accepts the correctness of this report (public and internal part) and obliges himself to follow the relevant FSC standard, to the punctual fulfilment of the conditions and to the consideration of the recommendations.

Contents checked and approved by	
Institute for Marketecology Institut für Marktökologie Weststr. 51 CH-8570 Weinfelden Tel. +41-(0)71 626 0 626 Fax +41-(0)71 626 0 623 Weinfelden, 2. December 2007	Client Place, Date
 (W. Kotzurek)	Signature

Public Annex: Stakeholders FSC Certification FUYANG July/August 2007

Organisation	main interest
Local Stakeholders FUYANG	
Forest Administration Bureau, # 22 of Dasinong, Fuchun Street, Fuyang, Postcode 311400	Forestry
Environment Protection Bureau, # 34 of Xinbei Street, Fuyang, 311400	Environmental
Subtropical Forest Research Institute, # 73 of Daqiao Street, Fuyang, 311400	Forest ecology
Forest Resource Monitoring Station, # 22 of Dasinong, Fuchun Street, Fuyang, 311400	Forest ecology
Subtropical Forest Research Institute, Xin Jin Village, Longgang Town, Linan, 311400	Forest ecology
Bamboo Forest Association of Linan, # 46 of Baojin Road, Linan, 311322	Economic
Yongchang Forest Station, Yongchang Town, Fuyang, 311423	Forestry
Zhejiang Forest University, # 252 of Yijin Street, Linan, 311300	Forest ecology
Shouxiang Forest Station, Longgang Town, Linan, 311300	Forestry
Lehe Village, Yongchang Town, Fuyang	Social
Hangzhou Liyao Bamboo Product Co., Ltd, # 61 of Qingnan Street, Hengfan, Linan, 311307	Economic
Hangzhou Dahe Bamboo Co., Ltd., Industrial Zone of Hengfan, Linan, 311307	Economic
National Stakeholders	
Technical Director, FSC China	
WWFC China, Room 1609, Wenhua Gong, Beijing Working People's Culture Palace (Laodong Renmin Wenhua Gong Dongmen), Beijing, 100006	Environmental
Forest Program, WWF-China	Environmental
Shanghai Chance Management	Economic
Forestry Managing Headquarter, APP China	Economic
Chinese Green Times	Social
Forest Program, WWF-Chin	Environmental
Division of Scientific and technological, Sichuan Provincial Forestry Department	Social
Forest Program, WWF-China	Environmental
Division of Bilateral Cooperation, International Forestry Cooperation Centre, SFA	Social
China Association for NGO Cooperation	Social
Guangxi Provincial Forestry Department	Social
Forest Program, WWF-China	Economic
Research Institute of Forestry Policy and Information, CAF	Environmental
Chinese Timber Distribution Association (CTDA)	Economic
International Network for Bamboo and Rattan	Environmental
Division of International Cooperation, CAF	Economic
IKEA China	Economic

Heilongjiang Provincial Forestry Academy	Environmental
Heilongjiang Provincial Forestry Department	Environmental
Beijing Forestry Society	Environmental
Institute of Sociology, Chinese Academy of Social Sciences	Social
Beijing Green Panel Consulting Ltd.	Economic
Research Institute of Forestry Policy and Information, CAF	Economic
Zhejiang Forestry University	Social
Research Institute of Forestry Policy and Information, CAF	Environmental
Beijing Forestry University	Environmental
WWF-China	Environmental
Ph.D, CAF	
SFS	
Beijing Forestry University	
IUCN	
WWF-China	Environmental
Chinese Green times	Environmental
Chinese Academy of Social Sciences	Social
APP	Economic
APP Marking Shanghai	Economic
Greenpeace	Environmental
Greenpeace China	Environmental
Forestry policy coordinator	Environmental
Forest Trends	
TFT	Environmental
CTDA	
Friends of Nature	
China Council, CCPEF	
Department of Accreditation, CNCA	
Stora Enso	Economic
Stora Enso	Economic
Tropical Forest Trust	Environmental
B&Q	Economic
Ph.D, Research Institute of Forestry Policy and Information, CAF	
China Representative, Tropical Forest Trust	Environmental
GreenWood Resources	
Greenpeace	Environmental

I. REGISTRATION FORM (PUBLIC PART)

ENGLISH SUMMARY and BASIC INFORMATION TO BE SUBMITTED TO FSC

Part I: Certification details - to be completed by IMO		
	Template version:	<i>M-templates-en-Jun07 (File name and date)</i>
1.	Registration code	IMO generic standard China; downloadable via www.imo.ch
2.	FSC Standard	IMO generic standard China; downloadable via www.imo.ch
3.	Scope of certificate	Forest Management (FM/COC): Semi-natural forest and bamboo forest
4.	Type of certificate	Group
5.	Report No.	07 2415 02 (audit on 22-24.08.2007)
6.	Previous reports with audit dates	Pre-audit 06 2415 01 (14/15.12.2006)
7.	Auditor(s)	1. Thomas Papp-Váry (lead auditor) 2. Wang Dong (local expert)
8.	Qualification	1. MSc forestry, Forstassessor. Administrative coordinator of Dep. of Forestry and Timber since 2000; lead auditor since 2002 2. BSc Forestry, COC lead auditor for CU since 2005, IMO auditor since 2006

1.	Part II: Company details - to be checked by client	
2.	Company name	Fuyang Dahe Bamboo Forest Management Association
3.	Forest workers (incl. contractors)	100
4.	Latitude/Longitude	N 29°, 44', 45'' / E 119°, 25', 22 ''
5.	Total <u>number</u> of FMUs in scope of certificate (individual company)	FMU - Forest Management Unit is a clearly defined forest area [...], managed by a single managerial body AND to a set of explicit objectives which are expressed in a self-contained multiyear management plan. 2
6.	Number of members (groups)	653
7.	Total managed area of company / group	1106 ha
8.	Tenure	Forest: Private owned 698 ha, community owned 408 ha
9.	Total forested area	1106 ha
10.	thereof	2 FMUs 100 - 1000 ha [total area 1106 ha]
11.	thereof managed as plantation	0 ha
12.	thereof managed by natural regeneration	1106 ha
13.	thereof managed by replanting	0 ha (replanting = planted forest = Pflanzung)
14.	thereof protected	a) thereof 408 ha for conservation

	from commercial timber harvesting	b) thereof 0 ha for NTFP or services
15.	Chemicals and pesticides used	none
16.	Forest Zone	subtropical
17.	Species composition	<u>Bamboo 63%</u> <i>Phyllostachys heterocycla var. pubescens</i> (local name is Mao Zhu) <u>Conifers & various broadleaf trees 37%: NOT used commercially</u> <i>Cunninghamia lanceolata</i> / Shamu / Chinese fir <i>Pinus massoniana</i> / Mawei song / Masson pine = Chinese red pine. Various broadleaf species.
18.	Forest products - timber:	Logs of non-coniferous wood (Type 0312)
19.	Approximate annual allowable cut by main commercial species	3'000 m ³ bamboo
20.	Basis for annual allowable cut	permanent sample plots and survey
21.	Annual production of main commercial wood species	3'000 m ³ bamboo
22.	Main commercial non-timber products	none
23.	Annual production of commercial Non Timber Forest Products	none
24.	Processing products timber and NTFP	none
25.	High Conservation Value Forests total:	none
26.	High Conservation Values by category:	none