

Implementing the sustainable procurement of African blackwood in collaboration with Tanzanian local communities

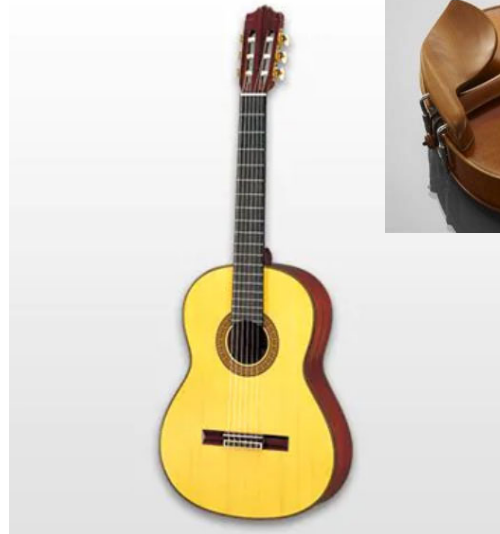


Yamaha Corporation

Timbers and Musical Instruments



Several timber species are utilized as the parts of musical instruments. Their utilization depends on the properties for maximizing the potential of instruments, thus the high-quality timbers should be required in the production process.

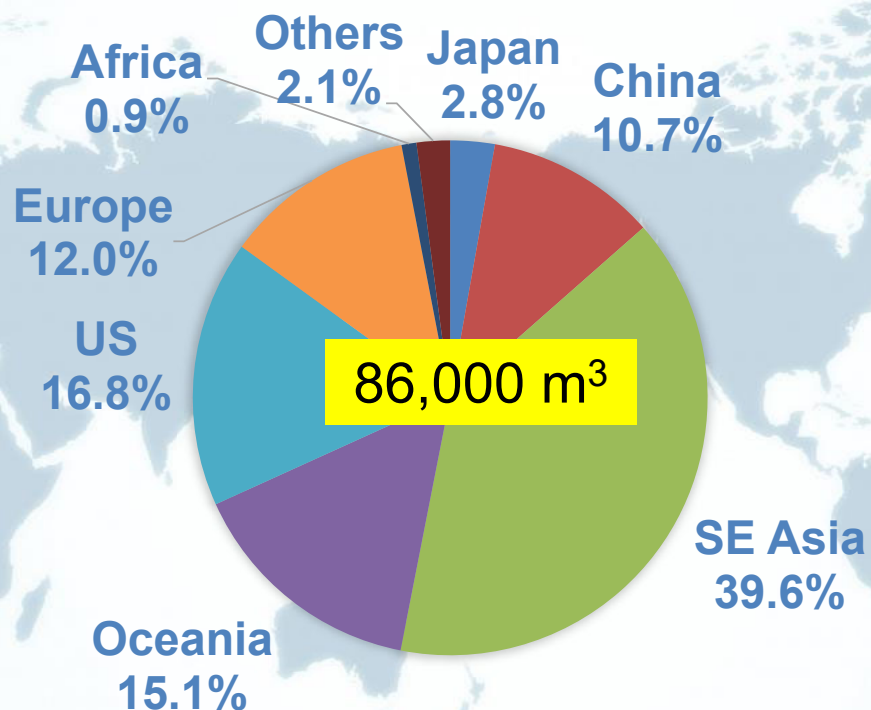


Where are our timbers coming from?



Total 86,000 m³ timbers are now coming from across the world.

Some valuable timbers originate the tropical countries such as Africa and South East Asia, which is necessary for musical instruments.



What is African blackwood?

Dalbergia melanoxylon

- African blackwood (English), Mpingo (Swahili)
- Heartwood is mainly used for the manufacture of clarinets, oboes and bagpipes.
- 1.1~1.3 g/cm³ (heartwood), 0.7~0.8 g/cm³ (sapwood)



Anthony B. C. (2016)

Where can we see African blackwood?

African blackwood is now widely distributed throughout tropical Africa, found in at least 26 sub-Saharan countries including Tanzania, Mozambique, Kenya, Ethiopia and Nigeria.



Anthony B. C. (2016)
Created by The African Plant Database initiative
(<http://www.vilge.ch/musinfo/bd/cjb/africa/help.php?langue=en>)
and other sources (CURTIS & MANNHEIMER, 2005).

- Demander (musical instrument) : **Resource reduction**
 - High-quality timbers
 - The only one species which can meet requirements for the musical instruments
 - CITES, all existing *Dalbergia* species has been restricted worldwide
- Supplier (forest) : **Resource reduction**
 - Only one valuable species in local forest
 - Long term for regeneration
 - Extremely low material yield, less than 10% in sawmill



No substitution,
concerning the
sustainability



Low benefit due to
the value of logs,
over harvesting

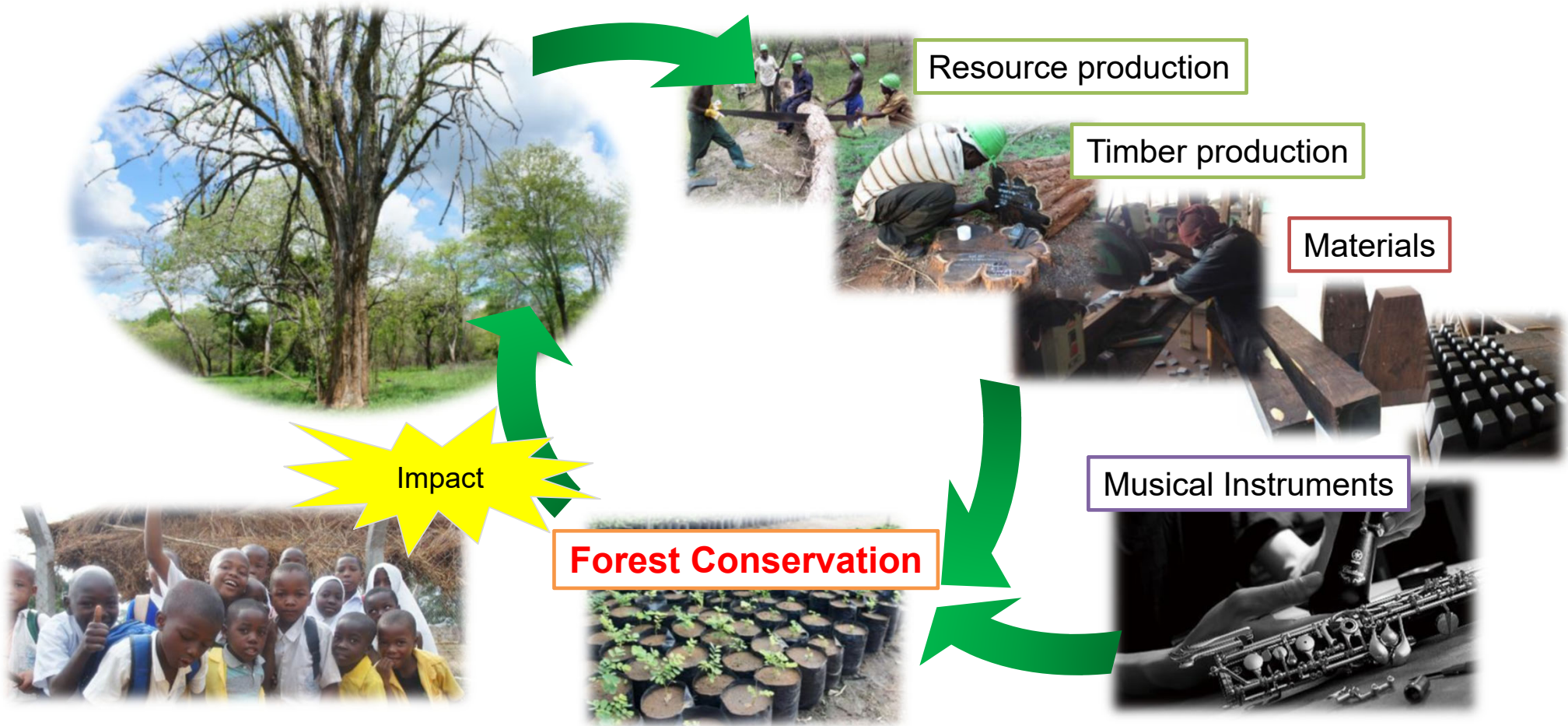
- Sustainable development of both local communities and natural resource
 - Creating Long-term profit, producing suitable quality timbers based on forest conservation
 - Suitable forest management by local communities
 - Promoting job creation by the activities of propagating and planting the valuable species
 - Maximizing the profit from forestry activity focusing on improving the local incentive
 - Expanding short-middle term profit by implementing stable timber trade and utilization
 - Creating the new value chain via the present business provided to local areas
 - Develop the local industries relevant to effective material use with improving the forest value



Business model harmonized with local forest



Effective timber production and utilization can implement the sustainable development.



Enrichment plantings as the pilot activity in African blackwood conservation

- Nursery area was constructed in the local village in 2017
- Seedlings have been cultivated by local villagers
- Since 2017, ca. 3,500 seedlings has been planted and survived (80% survivals)



- African blackwood can survive under various conditions
 - The potential of this species is growing in our study, such valuable tree will be the solution of current problems in African areas we well as local communities.

However....

- Local forestry is still facing on the several problems
 - Financial problem for implementing suitable forest management
 - Huge gap between original growth trait and required qualities



Thank you very much for your kind attention.



Thank you very much.

Asante sana.

ありがとうございました。