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TWO SIDES FAST FACTS

AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND PAPER PRODUCTION

Contrary to popular thinking, going paperless or using less paper **does not save trees.**

- The total weight of paper and paperboard production in Australia increased by 2%, from 3.16 million tonnes to 3.22 million tonnes¹
 - + The Paper production also provides a jobs rich environment, with the use of renewable energy providing opportunity already seen in a wide range of Asian paper mills.
- Most of Australia's wood (83.4%) is harvested from planted forests²
 - + Paper production and consumption helps prevent these private forests from being sold and lost to non-forest use eg. agriculture or infrastructure development.
- 10.6 million hectares of native and planted forests certified in Australia. This consists of 10.1 million hectares certified under the Australian Forest Certification Scheme (AFCS) and 900,000 hectares under the Forest Stewardship Council (FSC). This totals to includes about 400,000 hectares of forests certified under both schemes²
- More than half of all fibre used in Australia to make paper now comes from recycled material. Australia is one of the leading countries in the use of recovered paper for paper production² whereas only 12% of plastics are recycle³
- The proportion of waste paper recycled increased from 28% in 1990 to 85% in 2016, while the proportion of paper disposed in landfill has declined since the mid-2000s⁴
- The benefits of preserving and generating forest land over using land for infrastructure or agriculture include:
 - + Prevention of soil erosion
 - + Improved water quality – fighting salinity
 - + Providing habitat for native birds and wildlife
 - + Reducing the use of fertiliser and chemicals



A total stock of 21,949 million tonnes of carbon was stored in Australia's forests at the end of June 2016. Of this forest carbon store:

- New Zealand's net stocked planted production forest covered an estimated 1.71 million hectares⁵
- New Zealand has a total of 10.1 million hectares of forests, covering 38% of the land area, forest's have increased by 27%⁵
- Harvesting trees from native forests in Australia is NOT for the pulp and paper industry but for the timber industry to build homes, commercial buildings and general consumption products⁶

Two Sides encourages responsible paper consumption. Double-sided printing in the office and separate collection schemes will reduce costs and improve sustainability

As you have read, there are two sides to paper and you should now feel confident about using it. Paper is made from renewable resources, recyclable and produced by an environmentally-conscious industry whose future depends on planting more trees than it consumes and which is progressively improving standards in the whole supply chain

The best way to act as an environmentally responsible company is to ensure your paper suppliers are sourcing their raw material in a local, responsible and sustainable manner

SOURCES

1. Australia's State of the Forests Report 2018
2. Department of Agriculture and Water Resources. Australia's forests at a glance 2015
3. National Waste Report, 2018
4. Australian Plantation Statistics 2018
5. New Zealand Forest report 2015
6. VicForests 2015