

Paper Sourcing Policy

August 2020

Introduction

Paper sourcing policy (August 2020)

Bonnier Books UK is a major UK publisher with sales of £80m. Home to 13 adult and children's imprints, we publish across a wide variety of genres for different ages. From crime to reading group fiction; memoir to self-help; activity to reference – we believe every book matters.

We are owned by Bonnier Books, a family-owned company headquartered in Sweden and a top-15 world publisher. With a heritage stretching back to 1837, when Albert Bonniers Forlag published its first work *Proof that Napoleon never existed*, Bonnier Books has grown to include a great variety of publishing houses and book retailers across Europe. Originating from, and headquartered in, Stockholm, Bonnier Books is currently present in Sweden, Denmark, Finland, Norway, Germany, Poland and the UK.

As part of the Bonnier family, Bonnier Books UK takes its environmental impact very seriously. We are committed to environmental sustainability - not only in recognition of the expectations of our authors, customers and staff, but because it is the right thing to do.

In 2019 we produced over 44.5 million books, working with over 90 manufacturing partners, supplying goods to over 413 customers in over 50 global locations. We recognise that this is a global challenge and that there is no quick fix. However, we continuously strive to achieve the highest ethical standards, incorporating integrity and transparency into our business practices and challenging ourselves to achieve consistent and lasting improvements.

The scope of this policy covers all Bonnier Books UK print paper purchasing and outlines some of the ways in which we aim to reduce our global environmental impact. We aim to review this annually and update at least every 3 years with the ultimate aim of reducing our carbon emissions by 25% by 2025.

Sustainable Paper Sourcing

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We make books and understand the value of paper. With deforestation^a being the second largest source of CO₂ emissions, we recognise that forests and other natural ecosystems are critical for carbon storage, biodiversity protection, water supply, mitigation of natural hazards, adaptation to climate change and sustaining the well-being of indigenous peoples and local communities.^b Implementing and maintaining a robust and responsible paper sourcing policy (covering all of our print and manufacturing suppliers) is essential in enabling us to reach our environmental goals.

In 2019 our paper sourcing had a little way to go:

- 78% of the paper used in the manufacture of our UK trade division books was FSCTM^c certified with the remaining 22% from Book Chain Project: Grade 3^{*d} sources.
- 63% of Igloo Books' papers were from Book Chain Project: Grade 3^{*} sources.

However in 2020, 100% of our book papers are from certified or sustainable and responsible sources:

- 100% of the paper used in the manufacture of our UK trade division books are FSCTM certified.
- 100% of Igloo Books' papers are from Book Chain Project: Grade 3^{*} sources.

Bonnier Books is an active participant in The Book Chain Project which includes their Forest Sourcing Tool (formerly known as PREPS: Publishers' database for Responsible Environmental Paper Sourcing). We use their paper database in order to help audit and maintain our paper sourcing policy in all our print decisions. In addition, The Book Chain Project is a valuable resource in providing key information and guidance on sustainability and carry out annual fibre testing on finished products to audit the supplier paper data.

Supplier Standards

Paper sourcing policy (August 2020)

We have a rigorous code of conduct that we expect all suppliers to sign up to. Print suppliers are required to not only maintain the appropriate Chain of Custody certification (FSC), but also comply with all local government regulations and sign up to The Book Chain Project Code of Conduct.

The Book Chain Project provides a publishing industry Code of Conduct for labour and environmental standards. It states the publishers' commitments to their suppliers and what they expect from their suppliers in return. The Code of Conduct is based on existing internationally-recognized codes and laws. This clearly sets out our mandatory minimum requirements for our manufacturing partners and we will not work with any supplier who will not sign and commit to comply with these standards.

New suppliers are required to provide up-to-date annual audits including ICTI, SMETA, SA 8000, WCA, BSCI, and PRELIMS before we agree to engage with them.

Our European print suppliers, must conform to the EU Timber Regulation which aims to reduce illegal logging by ensuring that no illegal timber or timber products can be sold in the EU. This was created as part of the EU's FLEGT Action Plan.

The EU Timber Regulation came into force on 3 March 2013. It prohibits operators in Europe from placing illegally harvested timber and products derived from illegal timber on the EU market. 'Legal' timber is defined as timber produced in compliance with the laws of the country where it is harvested⁴. Although printed paper is currently out of the EUTR's scope, Bonnier Books require suppliers to conform as part of our aim to push our environmental goals beyond compliance.

Supplier Standards

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We have recently embarked on a full audit of our carbon footprint of the papers we use as part of a global production sustainability strategy. This means that we will actively be able to choose papers with lower CO2 emissions in our print decisions, as well as introducing spot fibre testing of our products to enforce our paper sourcing policies.

Our policy is to work in partnership with our suppliers to support and promote best practice, including helping with corrective action plans to raise standards where required. However, should a supplier continuously fail to comply with our standards, we will take decisive action which will ultimately result in them being removed from our approved supplier list and Bonnier Books UK will cease to work with them.

For more information about Bonnier Books UK's Paper sourcing Policy, please contact Karina Stevens (Production Director, Group) at Karina.Stevens@bonnierbooks.co.uk

Notes

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^a**Deforestation:** the permanent removal of trees to make room for something besides forest. This can include clearing the land for agriculture or grazing, or using the timber for fuel, construction or manufacturing. Forests cover more than 30% of the Earth's land surface, according to the World Wildlife Fund (Livescience.com, 06 November 2019)

^b**Accountability Framework Initiative:**

Source <https://accountability-framework.org/core-principles/>

^c**FSC:** The Forest Stewardship Council is an international non-profit, multistakeholder organization established in 1993 that claims to promote responsible management of the world's forests.

^d**The Book Chain Project:** [The] Forest Sourcing Tool collects and analyses the origins of tree fibres used in paper and board, helping publishers identify responsible forest sources for their books. We hold data on over 3,000 paper and board brands from 300 paper mills around the world. Book Chain Project Grade 3* means that papers are risk assessed and from known, legal and responsible sources.

<https://bookchainproject.com/process#fs>

^e **Source:** <http://www.euflegt.efi.int/what-is-the-eu-timber-regulation-#:~:text=The%20EU%20Timber%20Regulation%20came,timber%20on%20the%20EU%20market,&text=The%20regulation%20applies%20to%20timber,products%2C%20including%20pulp%20and%20paper.>

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