

3	MATERIALS ASPECTS	3.2 SELECTION OF MATERIALS
		MA 6 SUSTAINABLE FOREST PRODUCTS
	EXCLUSIONS	None.
	OBJECTIVE	Encourage the use of timber from well-managed forests.
	CREDITS ATTAINABLE	1
	PREREQUISITES	None.
	CREDIT REQUIREMENT	1 credit for demonstrating at least 50% of all timber and composite timber products used in the project are from sustainable sources/recycled timber.
	ASSESSMENT	<p>The Client shall provide a report prepared by a suitably qualified person quantifying the amount of forest products used that are from sustainable source/recycled timber, as a percentage of all timber products used. The unit may be mass/volume/dollar value but shall be consistent throughout the assessment of this credit. 1</p> <p>The timber should conform to the requirement of sustainable forestry practice guidelines and accredited by recognised organisations, such as the non-profit Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) [1] or the American Forest and Paper Association (AFPA) [2] or “known licensed sources” [3]. The Client shall also demonstrate compliance with the specification for the recommended sustainable source (e.g. FSC or AFPA) 2</p>
	BACKGROUND	<p>Timber is the most ecologically benign construction material. However, there are hardwoods which are being extracted from virgin forests in an unsustainable manner, destroying valuable forests and ecosystems. Similarly, some softwoods, such as redwood and cedar, are being depleted. Where forests are being harvested in an unsustainable manner, the result is the extinction of indigenous species and the clearance of vegetation that would otherwise help regulate the amount of CO₂ in the atmosphere. Improved forestry practices can be encouraged by seeking timber from sources where the forests are well managed.</p> <p>Hong Kong uses only imported timber and is one of the largest importers of tropical hardwoods. The construction sector in Hong Kong is a major consumer of hardwoods from tropical rainforests, with a large proportion used wastefully and ending up at landfill sites. Timber should originate only from well-managed sources and should be reused whenever possible. Guidelines, templates and implementation measures to help organisations develop purchasing policies and practices that help conserve forest resources are available [4]. PNAP No. ADV-5 [5] gives guidance for alternatives to the use of hardwoods in order to reduce the amount of tropical hardwood timber used in building projects.</p> <p>A Works Bureau Technical Circular (WBTC) [6] establishes the revised policy requiring the use of metallic site hoardings and signboards in</p>

- 1 Forest Stewardship Council. <http://www.fsc.org/>
- 2 American Forest and Paper Association. <http://www.afandpa.org/>
- 3 Architectural Services Department, General Specifications for Building 2007, Section 13, Carpentry and Joinery, 13.01.03.
- 4 World Wildlife Fund. http://www.wwf.org.uk/wwf_articles.cfm?unewsid=2968
- 5 Buildings Department, Practice Note for Authorized Persons, Registered Structural Engineers and Registered Geotechnical Engineers PNAP No. ADV-5 153, Tropical Hardwood Timber. <http://www.bd.gov.hk/english/documents/pnap/ADV/ADV005.pdf>
- 6 Works Bureau. Technical Circular No. 19/2001. Metallic Site Hoardings and Signboards.

Q29. SA 8c, Must the design option with the best air ventilation performances be adopted in order to obtain the credit?

Q30. SA 9, For BEAM Plus New Buildings Version 1.1 and 1.2, can windows of neighbouring sensitive buildings be excluded from the VDF daylight study if...

Q31. SA 10, 11 & 12, If site formation and infrastructure works have commenced before 1 April 2010 (the release of BEAM Plus for New Buildings), can the said works be excluded in the assessment of the credits in BEAM Plus New Buildings Certification?

Q32. SA 10, 11, 12 & 13, If site formation and infrastructure works have commenced before 1 April 2010 (the release of BEAM Plus for New Buildings), can the said works be excluded in the assessment of the credits in BEAM Plus New Buildings Certification?

Q33. SA 14, For BEAM Plus New Buildings Version 1.1 and 1.2, please clarify the assessment criteria if the project proponent intends to only provide a space (e.g. A/C platform) for the future installation of A/C equipment?

Q34. SA 14 and SA 15, For BEAM Plus New Buildings Version 1.1 and 1.2, for developments with more than one building, if the neighbouring building(s) within the site is/are regarded as sensitive receiver(s), shall it/they be considered in the above assessments?

Q35. SA 15, For BEAM Plus New Buildings / Existing Buildings Version 1.1 and 1.2, what should be submitted during the provisional Assessment stage to demonstrate the compliance for this credit?

Q36. SA 15 – For BEAM Plus New Buildings Version 1.1 & 1.2, projects being located at urban fringe areas with more than 50% of their project boundaries facing rural context, will the environmental zones be considered as E2 or E3?

Material Aspects

Q1. MA P1, For BEAM Plus New Buildings Version 1.1 and 1.2, what documentation is required to show the use of virgin forest products is avoided by reusing old timber products?

Q2. MA P1 and MA 6, For BEAM Plus New Buildings Version 1.1 and 1.2, what documentation is required to prove the timber is from a sustainable source?

In the event the timber products are not purchased from a supplier who is an "accredited company", the following basic evidences should be produced to demonstrate the products:

- (i) conform to sustainable forestry practice guidelines;
- (ii) be accredited by recognised organisations; and
- (iii) in compliance with the specification set down by the organisation.

Provided that the timber products are sourced from a supplier already accredited by the Approval Organisations, i.e. FSC, AFPA, PEFC or other "known licensed sources" according to the respective protocol (accredited company), and the timber products purchased are issued with the Certificate under the COC (Chain of Custody) system, it is acceptable that the following documents as proof to demonstrate the timber products as purchased from the timber supplier and used in the project site are from a sustainable source: -

1. Invoice plus Delivery Note (DN) from the supplier of the timber products purchased - on the invoice & DN, it should be marked with the reference Certificate No.; a note which has the effect of confirming the products in the invoice and delivery note are certified; the pack no. of the timber products (see the samples – Attachment A1 and A2);

2. A copy of the COC Certificate of the certified timber supplier; AND

3. Photographic evidence of the timber products.

(Released on 29 November 2019)

Q3. MA P3 and MA 10, If the demolition works of the existing buildings were completed by third party, can the developer waive the relevant assessment in related to demolition works for attaining BEAM Plus certification?

Q4. MA P4, For BEAM Plus New Buildings Version 1.1 and 1.2, could provision of refuse storage and materials recovery chamber (RS&MRC) for development with the minimum total usable floor space of different building types be exempted?

Q5. MA P4, For BEAM Plus New Buildings Version 1.1 and 1.2, could provision of refuse storage and materials recovery room (RS&MRR) on every domestic floor for residential development be exempted?