

# Global Timber Markets

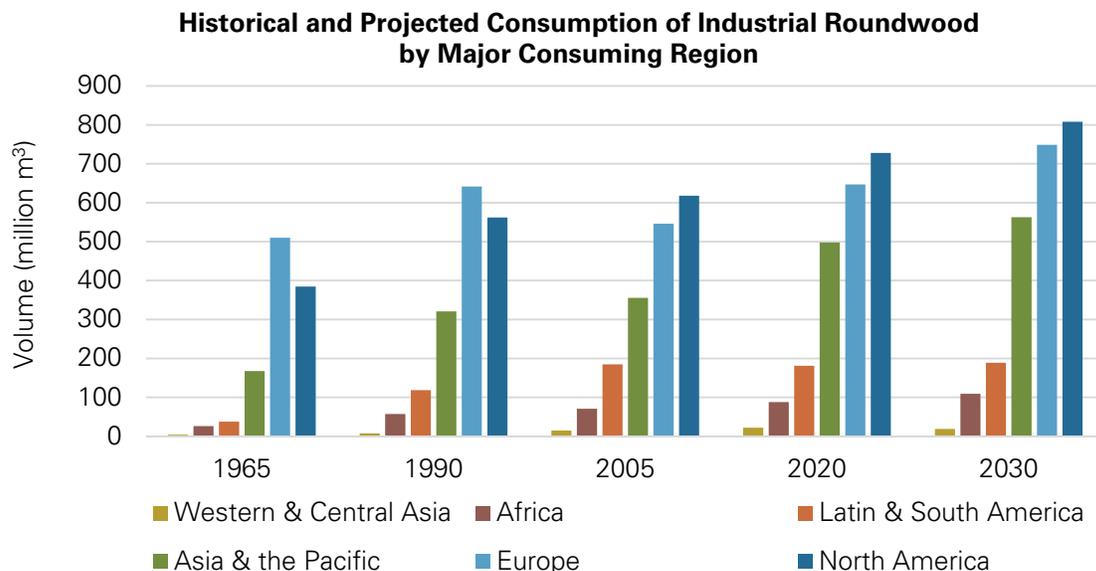
## A Demand Perspective: Executive Summary

Note: This is a summary of a full report available by request under the “In-Depth Reports” section on our Research web page.

### Executive Summary

Demand for wood products is a key driver for timberland investment. Every day, millions of people around the globe consume products made of wood such as furniture, grocery bags, and toilet paper, to name a few. In addition, wood products are widely used in construction and manufacturing processes. Recently, wood biomass has emerged as a feedstock for generating renewable energy for industrial purposes.

Worldwide, population dynamics, economic activity, and environmental policies will continue to drive up demand for industrial roundwood. Total consumption of roundwood is projected to be greatest in Europe and North America. Roundwood consumption in Asia & the Pacific region is expected to increase rapidly, so that by 2030 it will reach a level comparable to Europe and North America. The projected increase in the Asia & the Pacific region largely reflects increasing consumption in China and India.



Sources: FAO, 2009, 2015

Per capita consumption of industrial roundwood is greatest in North America, and is projected to remain fairly flat through 2030. Per capita consumption is expected to increase significantly in Europe however, in part reflecting declining population projections for the region and in part reflecting a recovery in consumption following break up of the former Soviet Union. In the Asia & the Pacific region, per capita consumption is expected to remain flat at less than 10% of the North American level, as population growth keeps pace with growth in roundwood consumption.

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