### Buy legal and sustainable biomass to heat your home!

**Biomass originates from a **LEGAL** source if it has been legally harvested, in accordance with the national legislation.**

**Biomass originates from a **SUSTAINABLE** source if it complies with the sustainability criteria.**

### Sustainable biomass supply

### HOW TO SECURE LEGAL AND SUSTAINABLE BIOMASS SUPPLY FOR HEATING IN THE WESTERN BALKANS?

- **Coming from PEFC and FSC certified forests** ([visit http://info.fsc.org/](http://info.fsc.org/) or [http://www.pefc.org](http://www.pefc.org) to find a certified retailer nearest to you)


www.heatwisely.com
58% of biomass consumed in the Western Balkans came from an unregistered source.

Even though biomass is renewable – there are limits to the amount of biomass that can be produced without harming areas under forests or food supply.

Major component of unregistered consumption is unregistered (illegal) logging by local communities near forest areas and by private forest owners.

**Illegal logging** is a term that describes forestry practices that do not conform to the laws. Illegal processing and export, the harvesting, logging without permission as well as logging in excess of quota are just some of the many examples of illegalities.

The effects of illegal logging are wide ranging: loss of habitat and biodiversity to erosion and land degradation, desertification and climate change to social disruption and economic impacts. Illegal logging also resolves in erosion and degradation of river basins and water quality.

To protect forest against illegal logging, restoring degraded forest areas through natural regeneration must be undertaken.