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How will we use the forest in the future?

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| Erasmus+ team Finland | **23.5.2016** |  |

“Please, take care of our forests because they are our future.”

One of the biggest concerns on earth is destruction of rainforests. People don’t understand that it is estimated that within 100 years there will be no rainforests.  Without rainforests the greenhouse effect will  accelerate and climate change will destroy much more than just the rainforests such as glaciers around the antarctic and Greenland. This will cause the extinction of many endangered animals.

So, as you can see we need to focus on forests much more than we do now. Not only rainforests but all kind of forests. For example we need to plant new plants and trees after the felling. This way the natural cycles will continue and guarantee life of endangered animals whose lives depend on forests. There is no problem of using wood and other natural resources as a material of industry or as keeping our homes warm which we do in Finland. We just need to remember to give new life to the logging areas.

Wood is the most common natural resource on earth. It is used in hardwood floors, furniture, paper and as a home building material. There are also different kind of oils etc. that humankind  needs in daily life such as eucalyptus oil. In Finland and in other nordic countries we use wood as firewood for our bake ovens and fireplaces. Forest industry employees 35 000 persons only in Finland.

Trees produce food for people and animals. For example fruits, nuts, seeds and sap. Trees also enable cornucopia near the forest floor, from edible mushrooms, berries and beetles to larger game like deers, moose, rabbits, turkeys and fish.

Forests provide many natural medicines and increasingly inspire synthetic spin-offs. Theophylline comes from cacao trees and it is used as an asthma drug. About 70 percent of all known plants with cancer-fighting properties occur only in rainforests.