

Pulp Mill Restoration

COVEY CASE STUDY

UNIDO contracted Covey Consulting to investigate ways of restoring a Syrian pulp and paper mill (Dier Ez-Zur) to operation.

The mill had been built several years before and included a straw pulp mill, a waste paper plant and two paper machines. Problems with the cleaning of the straw had made the pulp mill inoperative and shortage of waste paper meant that the paper machines could only operate occasionally.

Our investigations showed that various relatively inexpensive measures could bring the pulp mill into operation, either in its original form or with conversion to DARS recovery.

However, the main problem would remain the supply of raw materials for the pulp mill. We found that the tree plantations from which it was hoped to supply the mill had growth problems and there was no guarantee that the timber would be made available to the mill rather than to other local users.

Similarly, although we found means to either improve straw cleaning or to convert the mill to lime pulping of straw, we also discovered that the quantity of surplus straw available was inadequate and that there were serious logistical problems in transporting what straw was available to the mill between the time of harvest and the time when the straw would spoil.

