

# Rattan



A FILM  
FROM  
IDRC

**Audience:** Forestry workers, development officers, ecologists

**Languages:** English (French version is available)

**Length:** 18 minutes

**Formats:** 16-mm film or VHS or BETA video; NTSC, PAL, or SECAM signals

**Subject:** Rattan products, primarily furniture, are popular in Western markets. Rattan, a vine that clings to branches in Asian forests, is now being exhausted. Clear-cutting of the forest is preventing the natural regeneration of rattan, which no longer has a suitable environment for growth.

Rattan supplements the income of the numerous labourers who harvest it. It also supports a varied processing industry that employs thousands of Southeast Asian crafts workers, in addition to providing jobs in specialized export firms.

An Asian researcher tells how rattan has always been part of his environment. He outlines methods of using and processing rattan, then describes the research he has undertaken with other colleagues to protect this valuable resource.

From the forest to the laboratory, then back to the plantation, the viewer is invited to discover this material, which is now used in furniture ... but for how much longer?



## INQUIRIES AND LOANS

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This videocassette can also be borrowed from most Canadian Embassies or High Commissions in developing countries.