

## Review of the FLEGT VPA Process 2015-2016

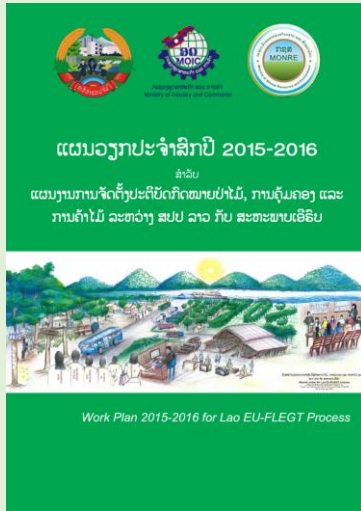
By: Dr. Khamfeua Sirivongs  
Head of FLEGT Standing Office for FLEGT VPA

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- Introduction
- Review principles
- Synthesis for each result

## Introduction



- Work plan 2015-2016 for Lao-EU FLEGT Process
  - Integrating activities of the overall VPA process, including all stakeholders and support programs
  - Work plan structured according to a results model
    - Result A: ): Institutional set-up for VPA negotiations
    - Result B: Develop Timber Legality Definition (TLD) and Timber Legality Assurance System (TLAS)
    - Result C: ): Pilot Timber Legality Definition (TLD) and Timber Legality Assurance System (TLAS)
    - Result D: Regional and REDD+ linkages
    - Result E: Cross-cutting topics (communication)

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## Introduction

### • M&E

Activity X	
Milestones set in past Quarter	Achievements of Milestones in past Quarter
Challenges in Making Progress towards Milestones	
Milestones set for next Quarter	

Current reporting format for quarterly M&E

- Quarterly review & planning of all FLEGT stakeholders (technical level)
  - Report to NSDC & TWG
  - M&E and reproduction of process and all activities complex and time consuming
- Last quarterly review made for Q1 2016
- M&E for whole year 2015/16 based on
  - Review for each result by core teams
  - Review undertaken at provincial planning workshops
- Change monitoring schedule from quarterly to every six months

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## Review Principles

- Synthesis for each Result
  - Key activities
  - Main achievements
  - Challenges
  - Recommendations

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## Review Result A

Key figures/activities	Main achievements	Challenges	Recommendations
<b>National Steering Committee guides VPA negotiation</b>	Second National Steering Committee Meeting held on 12 July 2016. NSC advises to link FLEGT to PM 15 and to continue improve the CoC system for wood processing as well as to be well prepared for the 3rd VDO conference between Lao and EU.	NSC only meets once a year	Ensure that NSC is informed and updated biannually about the FLEGT process
<b>Operate Negotiation Support and Development Committee (NSDC)</b>	A MAF decision 1868 on new NSDC members from the central and provincial levels (from SAY, ATT and KM).	Some of NSDC are not regularly involved and others were moved to other tasks or retired	NSDC members need to commit their time to FLEGT process and to involve actively

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## Review Result A

Key figures/activities	Main achievements	Challenges	Recommendations
<b>Operate the Negotiation Team for VPA negotiation</b>	Team for first face-to-face negotiation established and headed by VM of MAF, Dr Phouangparisack Pravongviengkham		Review of existing team and add some more members, depending on negotiation agenda. Stronger guidance from NSC
<b>Operate FLEGT Standing Office</b>	Head of FLEGT Standing office is officially assigned and acts according to the FLEGT Standing office ToR	Lack of manpower to support the head of FLEGT Standing office	FLEGT Standing office should be at the division level and staffed with capable personnel

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## Review Result A

Key figures/activities	Main achievements	Challenges	Recommendations
<b>Operate TWG</b>	TWG met at least every 2 months	Some TWG are assigned to be in the others work instead of FLEGT focus	TWG should commit their time and focus on the FLEGT and should not be moved to other tasks or responsibilities but can be added more TWG member from the relevant department. Create special supporting team More clearly communicate the link between PM15 and FLEGT VPA process
<b>Coordinate with FLEGT support programs</b>	FLEGT Support programs only partly coordinate with FSO to ensure the activity will be the same direction	Lack of communication between FSO and support programs but also between FSO and donors of support programs	All the support program should be better coordinated by FSO

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## Review Result A

Key figures/activities	Main achievements	Challenges	Recommendations
<b>Organize the involvement of NPA (CSO) in the process (NSDC &amp; TWG)</b>	Representatives of Lao CSO FLEGT were endorsed by DOFI At least 2 CSOs are involved in each TEG	Understanding of FLEGT process among NPAs is still limited	Stronger involve actively the NPAs into the process
<b>Prepare and conduct Video Conferences between Lao Negotiation Team and EU</b>	3 <sup>rd</sup> Video conference conducted successfully on 11 October 2016 under lead of VM of MAF Dr. Phouangparisack		Any further video conference or face-to-face meeting should be prepared with clear TOR

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## Review Result B

Key figures/activities	Main achievements	Challenges	Recommendations
<b>Legal Framework review and related legislation drafting for supporting the TLAS</b>	Forestry legality compendium completed, published on flegtlaos.com and used for TLDs development Draft Decision on COC in wood processing and trading completed and submitted to MOIC	Lack of some experiences and skills on practical development of TLDs Forestry legality compendium is still not used widely	Improve the matrix of TLDs to ensure the linkages of all elements of the TLDs Promote again use of Forestry legality compendium
<b>Timber flow study on existing timber tracking systems in Laos</b>	Timber flow study in Attapeu Province completed and the results were presented to related sectors of Attapeu Province	Lack of basic principles for data storage and data reconciliation	Use the information from timber follow study to improve COC in logging operation and wood processing

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## Review Result B

Key figures/activities	Main achievements	Challenges	Recommendations
<b>Improve Lao timber tracking systems with private sector</b>	Training of trainers plan formulated for trainings of enterprises and MOIC, POIC on COC in wood processing and trading	Less companies than expected which are interested in attending the training	Explain and provide clear benefits and incentive of complying with COC in wood processing and trading
<b>Review existing supply chain control and verification in production forest</b>	Study of supply chain control and verification (including FSC certification) in production forest areas completed and results are being applied for the TLD development of harvesting operation in conversion areas	Logging ban since several years makes checking of actual data in the field difficult	Application of adapted chain of custody (CoC) procedures from harvesting operation in production forest areas in conversion areas

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## Review Result B

Key figures/activities	Main achievements	Challenges	Recommendations
<b>Develop and implement draft TLD in pilot conversion areas</b>	Nam Hinboun Hydropower Dam, Khounkham District (Thonglom), Khammouane Province was selected as pilot conversion area	Implementation of field activities has been delayed	<p>Get formal approval for pilot areas</p> <p>It is essential to have more pilot sites than Thonglom, including other investment types like mining, agriculture</p> <p>Continue work on conversion areas. Improve methodologies for boundary demarcation, pre-harvest inventory and monitoring of logging in conversion areas to include in future TLAS (Regulation 0112/DOF)</p>

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## Review Result B

Key figures/activities	Main achievements	Challenges	Recommendations
<b>Enhancing private sectors involvement in FLEGT VPA, in particular TLD development</b>	<p>Study results of use of small diameter logs completed and presented to stakeholders</p> <p>Training center concept established</p> <p>Companies were involved in TEG of development of Decision on COC</p>	<p>To get more companies involved in the process</p>	<p>Provide capacity building measures to wood processing companies to upgrade their skills and knowledge of wood processing through public private partnership project (PPP)</p> <p>Broader involvement of private sector in consultation process for Decision on COC</p>

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## Review Result B

Key figures/activities	Main achievements	Challenges	Recommendations
<b>Legality standards of Lao PDR</b>	<p>General structure of timber legality standards (8 legality standards) developed and used for TLD</p> <p>Matrix of TLD consisting of principles, criteria, indicators, verifiers, legal references, responsible organization and verification procedures agreed and applied for development of 6 TLDs</p>	<p>Lack of some experiences and knowledge of TLD development</p>	<p>Finalize TLD's and develop draft for supply chain control and verification according agreed roadmap with EU</p> <p>Improve the matrix of TLDs to ensure the linkages to other elements of the TLAS as supply chain control and verification</p>

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## Review Result B

Key figures/activities	Main achievements	Challenges	Recommendations
<b>TLDs development by TEGs</b>	<p>TLDs completed and submitted to EU</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The third draft TLD “Production forest area LL1-3”.</li> <li>• Second draft TLD “Labor obligations in wood processing”.</li> <li>• Second draft TLD “Plantation”</li> <li>• First draft TLD “Wood processing and timber trade”</li> <li>• First draft TLD “Conversion areas”</li> </ul> <p>First draft TLD “Village use forest” drafted for further consultation with stakeholders.</p>	<p>Staff changed from time to time creating discontinuity in drafting TLDs</p>	<p>All TLDs finalized and incorporated into Annexes of VPA</p> <p>Draft supply chain control and Verification procedures for VPA Annex</p>

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## Review Result B

Key figures/activities	Main achievements	Challenges	Recommendations
<b>Define and agree on product scope</b>	<p>The draft product scope on wood and wood products to be exported to EU and other market destinations drafted and submitted to EU.</p>	<p>Lack of some experiences and knowledge of product scope development</p>	<p>Finalize the product scope based on the comments made by EU and inputs from key stakeholders</p> <p>Scientific names for timber species are introduced for log lists, input/output forms for wood processing, confiscated timber and custom forms</p>

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## Review Result C

Key figures/activities	Main achievements	Challenges	Recommendations
<b>Set up organizational structure in pilot provinces</b>	PSC and PCC in pilot provinces are installed including private sector	Involvement of civil society at provincial level difficult Some sectors are not yet represented at provincial level (e.g. Finance, DPI, DEM, DPWT)	Review and adapt membership of PSC and PCC taking into account the thematic focus of provinces

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## Review Result C

Key figures/activities	Main achievements	Challenges	Recommendations
<b>Explain, test and evaluate draft TLD and draft models for TLAS timber tracking systems</b>	Contribution of pilot provinces to draft TLDs (production forest, plantation) Timber Flow Monitoring as an intermediate step to a future TLAS has been introduced in the pilot provinces with workshops Procedures for small-holder plantation registration assessed	Obtaining data from sector agencies is challenging Tools/forms for data collection are inconsistent and data management in offices weak, consequently, data collection was unsystematic and fragmentary Provincial offices have not yet taken over full ownership of TFM	Extend activities <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Conversion timber</li> <li>• Confiscated timber</li> <li>• Wood processing</li> </ul> Improve data collection and data management Strengthen TFM for the implementation of PM15 in the province

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## Review Result C

Key figures/activities	Main achievements	Challenges	Recommendations
<b>Work of support programs in pilot provinces to support FLEGT VPA</b>	<p>A study on timber flows at district level has been undertaken in Mahaxay by RRDPA</p> <p>Community consultations took place in ATT and KHA, organized by LBA and VFI</p> <p>VFI has established an office with a coordinator in KHA and ATT</p>	<p>Coordination and integration of the work of all support programs in the overall VPA process is still limited</p>	<p>Better coordination of the support programs in the pilot province through the FLEGT standing office, including projects implemented by CSOs</p>
<b>Trainings for provincial stakeholders</b>	<p>Capacity development plans have been established and trainings held, e.g. GPS (inventory, plantation registration), English courses, and etc.</p>	<p>Training plans could not completely be implemented</p> <p>Find a good trainer for certain courses</p>	<p>Undertake further needs assessments and design and implement appropriate trainings necessary for piloting activities.</p>

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## Review Result D

Key figures/activities	Main achievements	Challenges	Recommendations
<b>Co-operation program between DOFI (Lao PDR) and Forest Protection Department (FPD) of Socialist Republic of Vietnam</b>	<p>MoU between Attapeu province and Kon Tom province was signed in October 2016 for 6 areas of cooperation</p> <p>Wood product export data from international customs checkpoint Napao collected (Lao –Viet Nam)</p>	<p>Language barriers</p>	<p>Formalize the dialogue on timber legality definition with VN on a higher level</p>

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## Review Result D

Key figures/activities	Main achievements	Challenges	Recommendations
<b>Discuss and further advance FLEGT approaches in a South-South dialogue</b>	Participation of stakeholder representatives at 6 events: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The Asia Pacific Forestry week in Thailand and the Philippines</li> <li>2. Multi-Stakeholder study tour to an FSC certified SFM in Kon Toum Vietnam, May 2016</li> <li>3. Chatham House “6<sup>th</sup> Illegal logging update and stakeholder consultation meeting”, June 2016</li> <li>4. ASOF meeting on 3rd August 2016, Vientiane.</li> <li>5. 5<sup>th</sup> Sub-Regional Training Workshop on TLAS, December 2016, Jakarta, Indonesia</li> </ol>	Regional cooperation and information exchange still limited	Continue exchange of experience on VPA negotiation Study tour on wood processing and trade to Indonesia ProFLEGT & CliPAD Study Tour to Germany/13.05. – 26.05.2017 Exchange with Ghana and Liberia

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## Review Result E

Key figures/activities	Main achievements	Challenges	Recommendations
<b>Communications</b>	Various communications materials produced and distributed among stakeholders to highlight the progress of Lao-EU FLEGT process  News on Lao-EU FLEGT process and its activities well covered on local media	It is sometimes difficult to invite the same journalists to join the workshops and meetings to maintain the momentum  Coordination of communication activities among support programs	Coordination among different programs  Strengthen communication between central and local level (pilot provinces)
<b>M&amp;E System</b>	M&E workshops conducted	Due to workload and other commitment, various M&E workshops were not held as planned	Better M&E system should be designed taking into consideration the simplicity to implement

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Thank You

