



Introduction and Overview Results from Core Expert Retreat Meeting

Technical Working Group Meeting, Crowne Plaza, 02.08.2017

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Overview TLD Development after 1st face-to-face Negotiation

- Joint EU – Lao PDR Roadmap for FLEGT VPA Negotiation agreed on 27/04/2017
 - Roadmap contains agreed actions/elements and deadlines for both parties
 - Until 07/08/2017
 - Lao revise existing draft Timber Legality Definitions with contribution of national stakeholders
 - EFI Technical Mission to Laos in order to support further development of TLD's
 - Lao share revised draft Timber Legality Definitions
- Due to the ambitious timeline and experiences from the past, the FLEGT Standing Office proposed to start the revision process with a retreat of a core expert team, selected from each TEG
- Core expert team for TLD Wood Processing and Trade
 - MOIC/DIMEX (1) + MOIC/DoIH (1)
 - Furniture Association (1)
 - CITES Office DOF/MAF
 - FLEGT Standing Office (1)
 - Support: ProFLEGT (2)
- The result of the retreat is consulted today with all members of the TEG Wood Processing and Trade

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General Comments of EU for all TLDs

Type of comment	Current Response
Structuring and layout	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New matrix (organizations and verification methodology deleted) • Verifiers with reference number.
Verifier should be linked to the legal reference	More precise citation of laws, unified among TLDs.
Simplify the number of verifiers by using representative one	Verifiers have to be definitive and clear.

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Use of a new Matrix for revised Draft

Old matrix

PRINCIPLE 1.1		
Criteria 1.1.1		
Indicator 1.1.1.1	Verifier • xx • xx	
Legal references • xx • xx • xx	Responsible organization • xx • xx	Verification procedures • xx • xx

- Verification and responsible organization removed (will be described in a separate Annex of VPA)



New matrix

PRINCIPLE 1.1		
Criteria 1.1.1		
Indicators	Verifier	Legal references
1.1.1.1	1.1.1.1.1	Law No. xx/NA. Article 3.
	1.1.1.1.2	Decree No. xx/PM. Article 6.

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Matrix Elements: From the essential to the details

Matrix Element	Description
PRINCIPLE	Title/area of law and regulation enforcement
Criteria	Sub-title/sub-area of law and regulation enforcement to meet the requirement of the principle
Indicator	The detailed <u>legal requirements</u> to be complied with the criteria
Verifiers	Evidence/proof of compliance for meeting the requirement of the indicator
Legal references	Law and regulations to be verified for compliance with indicator

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Summary of Review

Adding new legal reference

Simplification of verifiers mainly by referring to reports containing specific information

Identification of gaps in existing regulations

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Update on recent legislations

- PM's order no.15, dated 13 May 2016
 - Strengthening the enforcement of forest law and relevant legislations against the illegal logging and smuggling.
 - Ban the exportation of logs, sawn wood, processed wood, stumpages, branch and tree harvested from natural forest
 - Ban the transit of any illegal timber or NTFP through the territories of Lao PDR
 - Extend the implementation of the PM's order no.31, dated 05 November 2013 on suspension of logging at Production forest and continue
 - Allow the timber logging **only from conversion/infrastructure areas.**

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Update on recent legislations (Continue)

- **Prime Minister Office:**

- PMO's notice no.769, dated 01 June 2016 to elaborate and strengthening the implementation of the PM's order no.15
- PMO's notice no.955, dated 08 July 2016
- PMO's notice no.1345, dated 07 September 2016
 - Confiscated the timber and timber products that could not verified the legal origin
 - The confiscated timber and timber products shall be proceed the auctions
 - Restructuring the wood processing factory
- PMO's notice no.1355, dated 07 September 2016 (Exportation of NTFP, Charcoal, Plantation and bamboo).
- PMO's notice no.1818, dated 18 November 2016 (Endorsement of wooden products allowed for export)

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Update on recent legislations (Continue)

- **Ministry of Finances:** Ministerial notice no.1669, dated 01 June 2016
- **Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry:** Ministerial notice no.0052, dated 31 May 2016 and Guideline no.0054, dated 09 June 2016

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Update on recent legislations (Continue)

- **Ministry of Industry and Commerce:**
 - Ministerial instruction no. 1050, dated 13 June 2016 (to implement PM's Order no.15)
 - Additional instruction no. 1102, dated 17 June 2016 (to elaborate point 4 of Instruction 1050)
 - Ministerial instruction no. 2143, dated 25 November 2016 (describe the procedure to inspect and verify wooden products to be exported)
 - Ministerial Decision no. 1833, dated 03 October 2016 (Endorsement of wooden products allowed for export)
 - Ministerial instruction no.0336, dated 13 March 2017 (describe the procedure to conduct the timber sale for confiscated timber).

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Next Steps

- Today's workshop
 - The legal framework on Wood Processing and Trade contains some gaps and inconsistencies
 - These gaps and inconsistencies are addressed in the following detailed presentation and discussion of the principles
 - Furthermore, they will be included in guiding questions for group works
 - The results and conclusions from today will be used to establish a new draft version 1.5
 - TWG Meeting, August 2, 2017
 - Draft version 1.5 will be presented, discussed and the result will be sent as draft 2.0 to the EU
- Coming Soon: Work on the next important elements of the TLAS, supply chain control and verification

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Thank You

