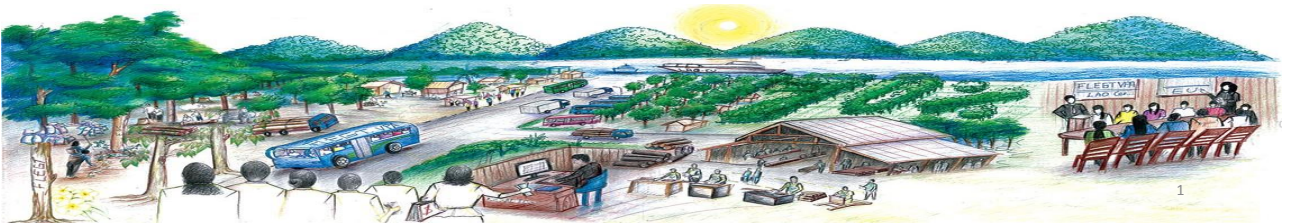


An Update on Lao-EU FLEGT VPA Process

in Technical Working Group (TWG) Meeting
Crown Plaza Hotel, 2 August 2017

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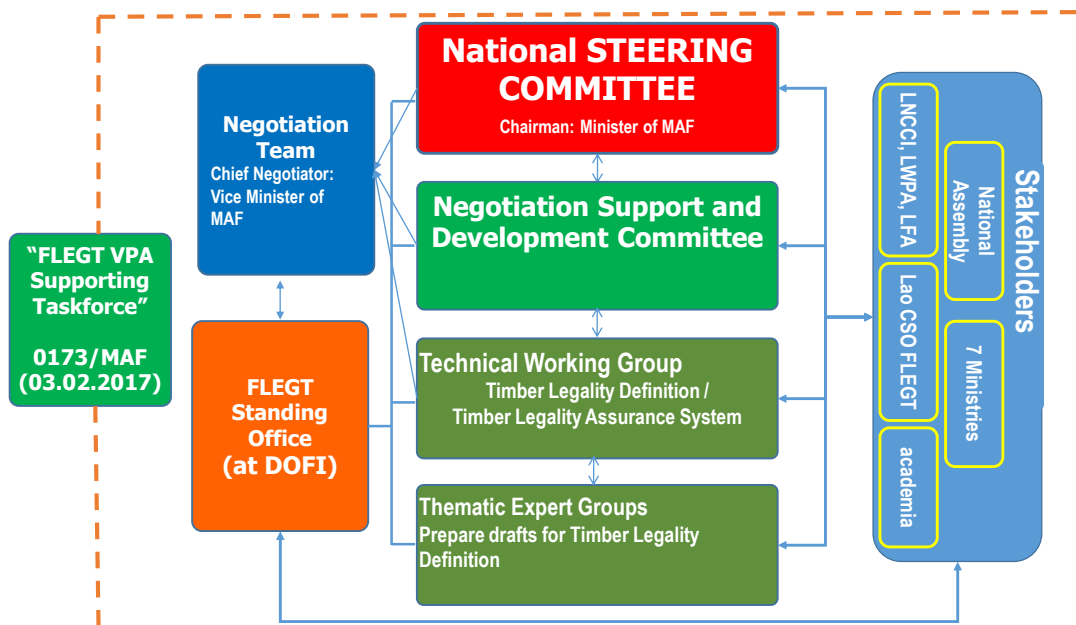
1. History.
2. Organizational Structure.
3. Achievement/work done.
4. Roadmap.
5. Next Step.

1. History:

- 2010** • TWO Ministers of MAF and MOIC submitted Letter of intention on FLEGT VPA to EU.
- 2011** • Baseline study on “Timber Flow Study” in Laos completed.
- 2012** • Vice Ministers of MAF, MOIC and MONRE submitted Letter of Intention to prepare FLEGT VPA Negotiation.
- 2013** • GIZ “Project to Support the Lao-EU FLEGT Process, (ProFLEGT)” established.
 - FLEGT VPA Standing Office established under Department of Forest Inspection, the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry.
- 2014** • The 1st and 2nd Video Conference between Lao PDR and EU.
 - Three (3) pilot provinces of FLEGT were approved (Sayaboury, Khammoune, Attapeu Province).
- 2015** • Lao-EU FLEGT VPA Process approved (Notification No.986/PMO; Decision 65/PM; 2598/MAF; 1868/MAF; **0173/MAF, 2017**).

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2. Organizational Structure:



3. Achievement/work done:

- 2015 • The first (1st) National Steering Committee (NSC) Meeting was held in October 2015, in Luang Prabang Province.
- 2016 • Chief of Negotiation Team from Laos and EU met in April 2016 on preparing for the 1st face-to-face Negotiation on FLEGT VPA.
- The second (2nd) National Steering Committee (NSC) Meeting was held in July 2016, in Luang Prabang Province.
- Head of FLEGT VPA Standing Office appointed in July 2016.
- The 3rd Video conference between Lao PDR and EU.
- **5 draft TLDs and Product Scope submitted to EU for the first Negotiation.**

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3. Achievement/work done:

- 2017 • EFI mission on preparation for first negotiation.
- 2017 Annual Workplan Workshop held in Attapeu Province.
- 1st Negotiation Meeting (JEM1 and TWG1) held on 24-28/4/2017.
- Workplan with core team for TLD revision established in 5/2017.
- TLD on (1) Production Forest; (2) Conversion Area; (3) Plantation; (4) Labour obligations in Forestry and Wood Processing; and (5) Wood Processing and Timber Trade revised 5-7/2017.
- EFI mission and TEG Meeting on Production Forest, Conversion Area and Wood Processing and Timber Trade, 25-27/7/2017.
- 1st Laos-FAO-EU FLEGT Networking Event, 28/7/2017.
- **Technical Working Group (TWG) Meeting 2/8/2017.**

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4. Roadmap:

Joint EU – Lao PDR Roadmap for FLEGT VPA Negotiation
 Draft prepared at JEM 1 and agreed at TWG 1 on 27/04/2017

No.	Date	Action/element
1	05/05/2017	Lao share draft product coverage annex (version presented in JEM1) together with list of products not allowed for export according to Lao regulation
2	15/06/2017	All suggestions on Timber Legality Definitions 1, 2, 3, 7, 8 (version 31.12.2016) answered in the agreed table and forwarded to EU
3	08/07/2017	EU send feedback on answers regarding Timber Legality Definitions 1, 2, 3, 7, 8
4	15/07/2017	Lao share draft Timber Legality Definitions 1, 2, 3, 7, 8 revised according agreed comments from EU during JEM 1/TWG1, the EU's written feedback of 08/07/2017 and contributions of national stakeholders
5	17/07/2017	Start of EFI Technical Mission to Laos in order to support further development of TLD's and product scope and joint assessments
6	07/08/2017	Lao share draft Timber Legality Definitions 1, 2, 3, 7, 8 revised according agreed comments from EU (including clarifications provided during EFI mission) and contribution of national stakeholders

4. Roadmap:

Joint EU – Lao PDR Roadmap for FLEGT VPA Negotiation
 Draft prepared at JEM 1 and agreed at TWG 1 on 27/04/2017

No.	Date	Action/element
9	Beginning of September	VC#4 to review progress on TLDs and product scope and agree on date for JEM2/TWG2
10	05/10/2017	Start of EFI Technical Mission to Laos in order to support further development of TLDs, product scope and joint assessments
11	16/10/2017	Lao share Document package for JEM2/TWG2 including drafts of Timber Legality Definitions 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8 and first draft of TLAS annex on supply chain controls and verification
12	10/11/2107	EU send feedback on Timber Legality Definitions 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 7, 8 and TLAS annexes
13	End of November 2017	Second Joint Expert Meeting (JEM2) and TWG2 in Laos (#3 Brussels)
14	31/12/2017	Advanced versions of all TLDs available

4. Roadmap:

TLAS Component:

1. Timber Legality Definition
- 2. Supply Chain Control System**
- 3. Verification System**
4. FLEGT Licensing
5. Independent Monitoring

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5. Next Step:

- 1. Retreats on Timber Legality Definitions** (especially TLD Conversion Area)
- 2. TLD Development** (TLD on Imported Timber and Confiscated Timber)
3. Supply Chain Control System
4. Verification System
5. FLEGT Licensing
6. Independent Monitoring

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Thank you

