

EFI EU FLEGT Facility

VPA progress in Asia &
some insights gained from
VPA processes

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Vientiane, 28 July 2017



EFI EU
FLEGT
Facility

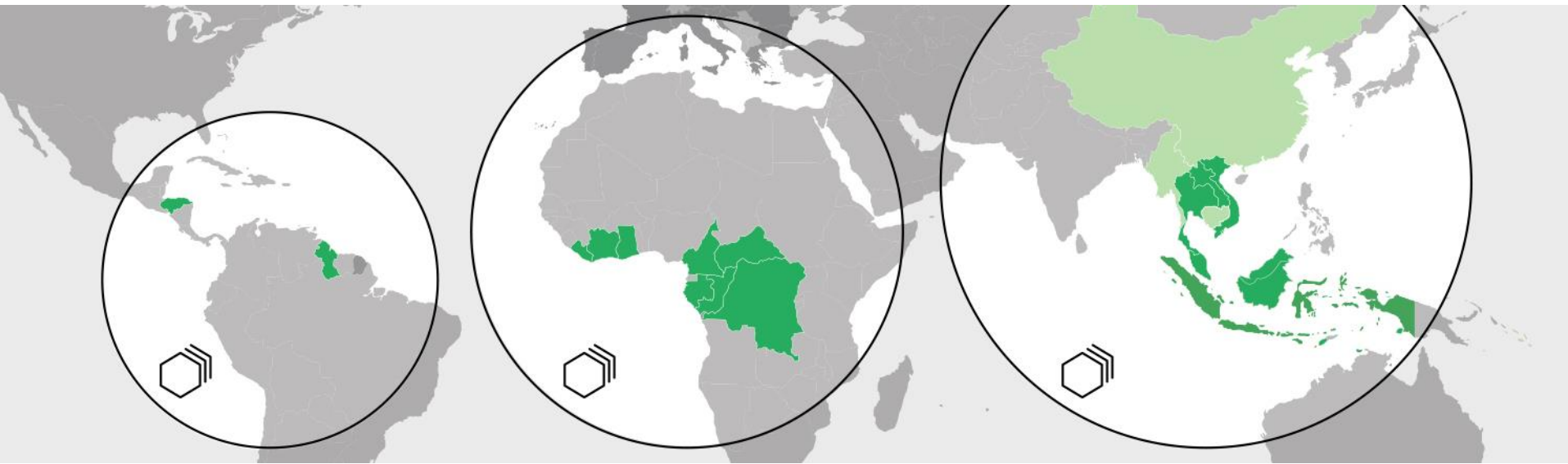
EU FLEGT Facility

- Funded by the EU (EC + MS)
- Hosted by the European Forest Institute (EFI)
- Supports the EC, EU member states, VPA countries and regional organisations in implementing the FLEGT Action Plan

Type of support:

- **Governance and technical expertise**
- **Support in VPA negotiations and implementation**
- **Support to FLEGT-REDD synergies**
- **Support to regional forest governance processes**
- **Communication support**
- **Etc.**

Supporting 3 regions and 18 countries



15 VPA countries

- Guyana
- Honduras

- Cameroon
- CAR
- Congo
- Côte d'Ivoire
- DRC
- Gabon
- Ghana
- Liberia

- Indonesia
- Laos
- Malaysia
- Thailand
- Vietnam

3 regions

- Africa
- Asia
- Central & South America

Other countries

- China
- Myanmar
- Cambodia

Collaboration with other organisations

FLEGT and VPA processes are supported by a range of organisation, working on a variety of issues, including

- Technical assistance
- Advocacy
- EUTR
- Monitoring
- Legality
- Coordination and stakeholder platform building
- Civil society support
- Private sector support
- ...

VPA
processes in
Asia

VPA negotiation, implementation & FLEGT licensing in Asia

	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Indonesia	Negotiation					Implementation				Operational	
	Start: Mar				Initial: May		Sign: Sept	Ratify: Mar/Apr		FLEGT Licensing: Nov	
Malaysia	Start: Apr										
Vietnam			Info/ prep	Start: Nov							Initial: May
Lao PDR					Info/ prep	Formal request to start					Start: April
Thailand					Information / Preparation		Formal request to start				Start Jun

Lessons &
insights from
VPA
processes

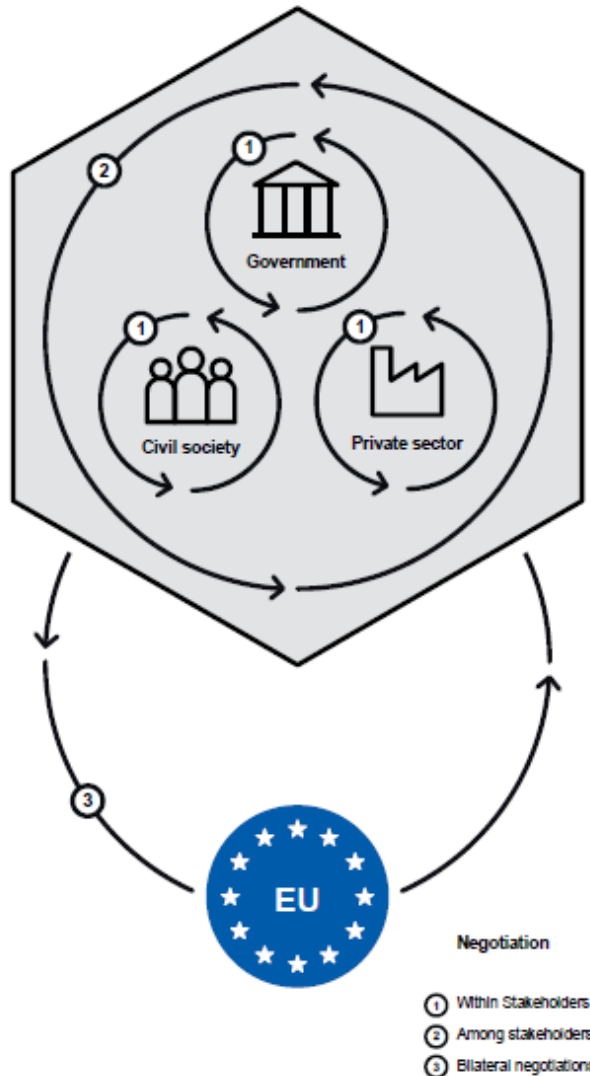
Realistic timeframes needed

- Addressing governance challenges takes time
 - *IDN: 4 years nego + 5 years implementation*
- Tough challenges take time to overcome
 - *Breakthrough on imported timber with VN took 4 years*
- Time needed for learning and local solutions to be found
 - *Understanding supply chain complexities and capacity issues*
 - *Identifying contextualised solutions*

Strong commitments make a difference

- Political commitment
 - *PM commitment propelled pursuit of solutions in Vietnam*
- Enforceable commitments
 - *Transparency commitment upheld in court in Indonesia*
 - *Benefit sharing executed in Liberia*
- Commitment to law reform
 - *Regulation on imported timber in Indonesia*
- Commitment to action
 - *Management plans completed in Ghana*

VPA process opens space & fosters dialogue



- National dialogue
 - between stakeholder groups
 - within stakeholder groups
- Technical discussions & negotiations with the EU

Political & technical interplay exposes governance challenges

- Political as well as technical barriers addressed
 - Clarifying the legal framework identifies gaps & deficiencies
 - Pursuit of technical solutions exposes obstacles
 - Technical obstacles encourage local learning & solutions
- Political obstacles – both a hindrance & an opportunity!




Political will & anchoring of the process important

- Extent of political will and the government agencies involved sets the potential for change
- VPAs work best
 - in countries intent on reform
 - when VPA objectives are anchored in sectoral policies & align with forest sector objectives

Integration between PM Order No. 15/PM and FLEGT VPA process

The second National Steering Committee Meeting on FLEGT VPA
12/7/2016 - Luang Prabang

Present by: Mr. Susath Sayakoummane, DG of
Department of Forestry



15/PM **FLEGT VPA**

Thank You

Tim Dawson

