



EU policy framework on FLEGT and support to VPA processes

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28 July 2017

Introduction

The 2003 EU FLEGT Action Plan

EU policy to combat illegal logging & associated trade, using a set of supply- and demand-side measures to reduce trade in illegal timber:

- **Development Cooperation** to improve **forest governance** in timber-producing countries
- **FLEGT licensing scheme** - Promoting trade in legal timber through **Voluntary Partnership Agreements (VPAs)** between the EU and 3rd countries
- **EU Timber Regulation** – prohibition of illegal timber on the EU market and "due diligence"
- Promoting **public procurement** policies, **Private Sector** initiatives, Safeguarding **Financing & investment**, Existing instruments and legislation
- **International cooperation**, including "**Conflict timber**"

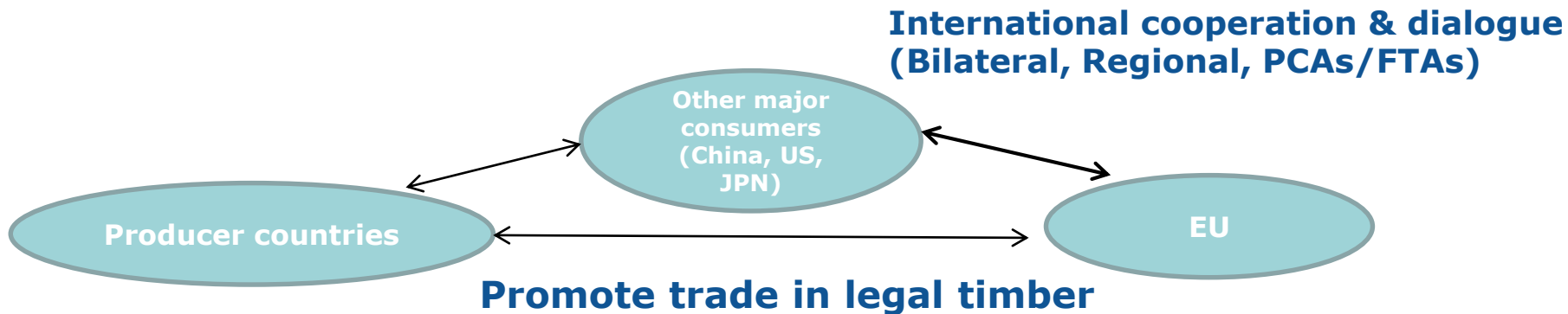
FLEGT – an innovative approach

Bundling **development cooperation, environment** and **trade** policies

Harnessing the **power of trade** and **markets**

Combines **internal** & **external** dimensions

Partnerships and **Global Responsibility**





Voluntary Partnership Agreements (VPAs)

*Aim: forest **governance**, law enforcement, systems to assure the legality of the timber through FLEGT licencing scheme*

What is "legal" timber?

Policy and legal reform, Multi-stakeholders process, transparency/access to information, verification, independent monitoring, etc...

but also

...land tenure...corruption... rights of indigenous people...

Governance Commitments

Depending on the country:

- *New structures and capacity*
- *Legal reform and/or enactment of new laws*
- *Better regulation of domestic markets*
- *Information to be made public and communication*
- *Checks and balances*

Around 85% of EU imports of tropical timber already covered!

**Indonesia has become the 1st country to issue FLEGT licenses
on 15 November 2016!**

- **Signed:** Cameroon, Central African Republic, Ghana, **Indonesia**, Liberia, Republic of the Congo, **Vietnam**
- **Negotiating:** Côte d'Ivoire, DR Congo, Gabon, Guyana, Honduras, **Laos, Malaysia, Thailand**
- **Informing:** Bolivia, **Cambodia**, Colombia, Ecuador, Guatemala, **Myanmar/Burma**, Peru, **Philippines**, Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands, Sierra Leone

EU Grant schemes in Laos

Opportunities for supporting the VPA process in Laos

CSO-LA:

- enhancement of Civil Society organisations' contributions to governance and development processes

EIDHR:

- development and consolidation of democracy, the rule of law and the respect for all human rights and fundamental freedoms

CEGGA:

- Small grants scheme for civil society led initiatives

... EU Grant schemes in Laos (cont.)

Thematic Programmes

- Global public good and challenges
(heavy focus on environment and climate change)

Additional Support

- Trade Related Assistance
- EU Joint programming

Calls for Proposals are published:

<https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/europeaid/online-services/index.cfm?do=publi.welcome>

Thank you!

