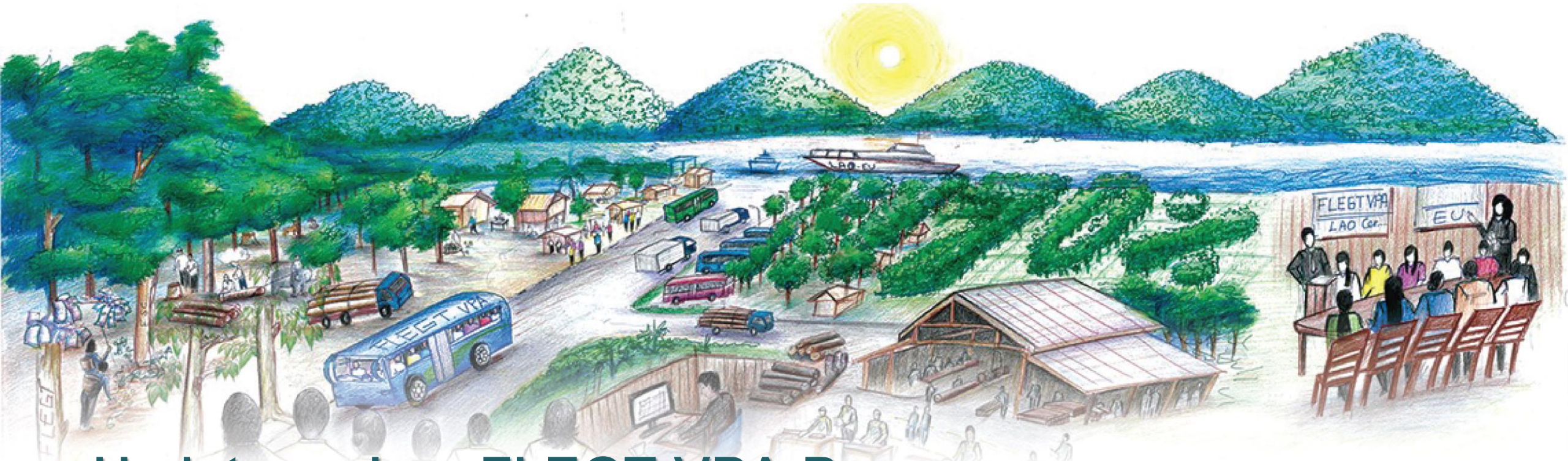


FLEGT

ກົມກວດກາປ່າໄມ້
ແຜນງານ Lao-EU FLEGT VPA
ການຄ້າໄມ້ ທີ່ຖືກຕ້ອງຕາມກົດໝາຍ



Update on Lao FLEGT VPA Process

Negotiation Support and Development Committee (NSCD) Meeting

Date: 7-8.03.2022

Name: Khamfuea Sirivongs, DDG of DOFI

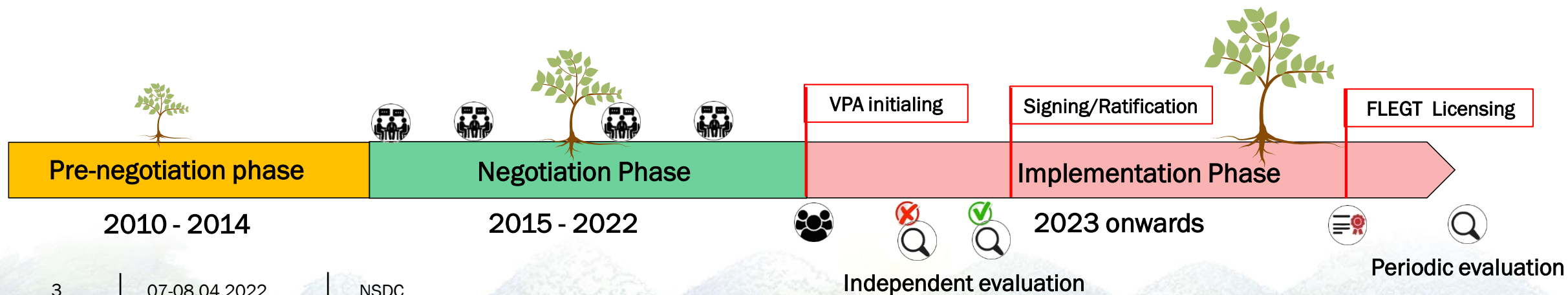
Content

1. Reminding Lao FLEGT VPA and the related steering and negotiation structures
 - Lao FLEGT VPA
 - Steering structure
 - Negotiation structure
2. Key achievements and constraints
 - key achievements
 - Challenges
3. Optional VPA roadmaps
4. Upcoming Technical Exchanges (TechEx)

1. Lao VPA process and steering structures

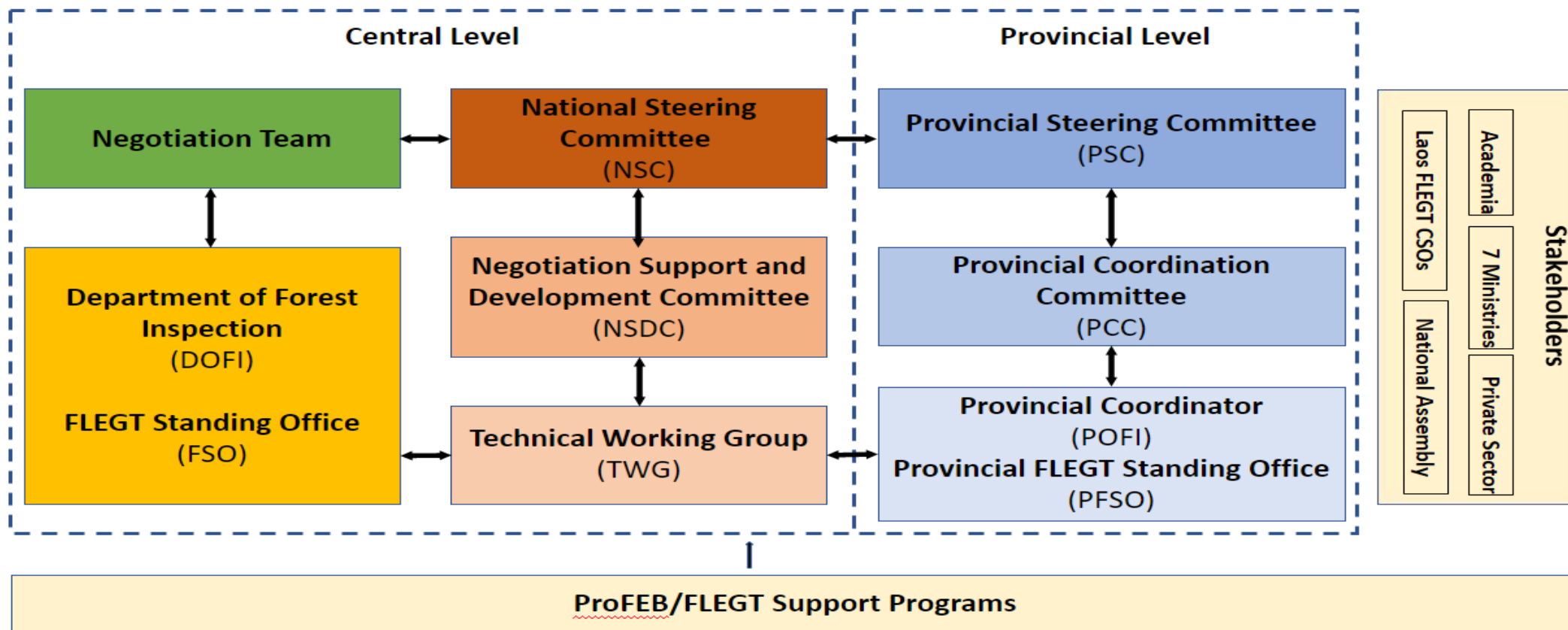
Lao FLEGT VPA Process

- In **2012**: Laos submitted a letter of intention to EU to involve in FLEGT VPA process negotiation
- In **2015**: Laos officially approved the involvement in FLEGT VPA process negotiation with EU (Notification No 986/GOL).



1. Lao VPA process and steering structures

FLEGT VPA organizational structure



Examples of related Government's appointments



LAO PEOPLE'S DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC
PEACE INDEPENDENCE DEMOCRACY UNITY PROSPERITY

Prime Minister Ref. No. 65/PM
Vientiane capital, dated 19/8/2015

Decision

On the Establishment of National Steering Committee on Voluntary Partnership Agreement in Supporting Forest Law Enforcement, Governance and Trade

- Pursuant to the Lao government law Ref. No. 02/NA, dated 6/5/2003.
- Pursuant to the agreement of the Prime Minister and Deputy Prime Minister Meeting, dated 15/6/2015.
- Pursuant to the letter from Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, Ref. No. 1247/MAF, dated 12/8/2015.

Decision of the Prime Minister

Article 1: Appointed members of the National Steering Committee (NSC) on Voluntary Partnership Agreement (VPA) in supporting Forest Law Enforcement, Governance and Trade (FLEGT) as follows:

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1. Minister of Agriculture and Forestry | Chair of the Committee; |
| 2. Vice Minister of Agriculture and Forestry | Deputy chairman of the Committee, standing person; |
| 3. Vice Minister of Industry and Commerce | Deputy chairman of the Committee, |
| 4. Vice Minister of Natural Resource and Environment | Deputy chairman of the Committee, |
| 5. Vice Minister of Foreign Affairs | Member; |

Lao's People Democratic Republic
Peace Independence Democracy Unity Prosperity

Provincial Governor Office

No.....2036..../PG/KM
Khammouane, date 30 Nov 2015

Decision of Provincial Governor Concerning the establishment of the Provincial Steering Committee and Provincial Coordination Committee to implement the piloting of FLEGT-VPA

- Based on the Law No. 03/NA, dated 21 October 2003 on local administrations.
- Based on the Decision of Prime Minister No. 65/PM, dated 19 August 2015 on the establishment of the National Steering Committee of FLEGT-VPA
- Based on the Decision of Khammouane Provincial Governor No. 1127/PG/KM, dated 17 June 2015 on approval for implementation the test of FLEGT-VPA in Khammouane Province.
- Based on the proposal of the Provincial Agriculture and Forestry Office, No. 920/PAFO.KM, dated 16 November 2015 concerning the requirement for establishing the Provincial Steering Committee and Provincial Coordination Committee to involve in the implementation of FLEGT-VPA.

The Provincial Governor of Khammouane Province agreed that:

Article 1: Establishment of the Provincial Steering Committee and Provincial Coordination Committee to involve in implementation of the test of FLEGT-VPA in Khammouane Province. The lists of members of the committees include:

a. Establishment of the Provincial Steering Committee:

- | | |
|--|-------------------------------------|
| 1 Vice Provincial Governor of Khammouane Province, lead in economy | to be a head
to be a deputy head |
| 2 Head of Provincial Agriculture and Forestry Office | to be a deputy |



Unofficial Translation

Lao People's Democratic Republic
Peace Independence Democracy Unity Prosperity

Ministry of Agricultural and Forestry

Doc. No. 3711 / MAF
Vientiane Capital, 03 October 2019

Agreement

On Negotiation Support and Development Committee and Technical working group Assignment for Lao-EU FLEGT VPA process

- According to the Prime minister Decree on the administration and implementation of Ministry of Agricultural and Forestry issued no 99/PM, issued date 09 March 2017;
- According to the agreement on National advisor committee on Forestry Law Enforcement, Governance and Trade for Voluntary Partnership Agreement, issued no 65/PM, issued date 19 August 2015;
- According to the propose latter of Department of Forest inspection, issued no 1592, issue date 27 September 2019.

The minister of Ministry of Agricultural and Forestry has agreed:

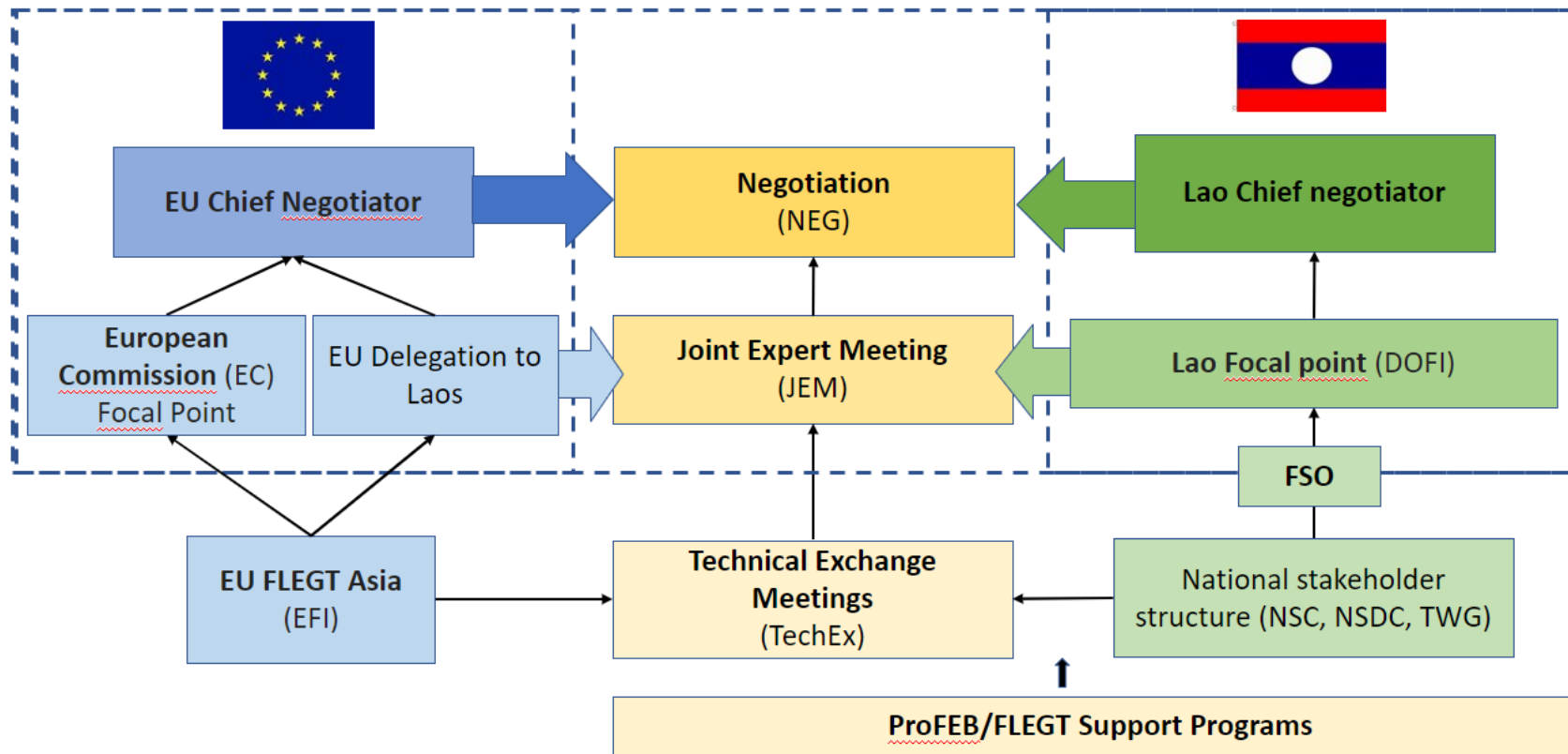
Article 1. Assign Negotiation Support and Development Committee (NSDC) and Technical working group (TWG) for Lao-EU FLEGT VPA process, see detailed below:

A. Assign Negotiation Support and Development Committee (NSDC):

- | | |
|---|--------------------------|
| 1) Director General of Department of Forest inspection, Ministry of Agricultural and Forestry | Head of Committee |
| 2) Director General of Department of Forestry, Ministry of Agricultural and Forestry | Deputy head of Committee |

1. Lao VPA process and steering structures

FLEGT VPA negotiation structure



2. Key achievements and constraints

2.1 Key achievements:

- 4 Join Expert Meeting (JEM)/NEG took place
- All TLDs have been set aside at JEM 4
- adopted TechEx for technical exchange with EU/EFI which has resulted in various agreed tech. matters in 3 TechExs
- Annex V, VII and important part of Annex II drafted through 8 TWGs and ready for NSDC endorsement
- Operational Plan for VPA process agreed and operationalized as a part of ProFEB III
- Org development for FSO and the Lao Negotiation Team initiated
- VPA roadmap has been developed by Laos and shared with EU

2. Key achievements and constraints

2.2 Challenges

- The preparation of VPA documents and all other prerequisites is in slow progress
 - ✓ insufficient FSO/PFSO capacity (staff number and skills) for coordinating the VPA multi-stakeholders' process
 - ✓ Detail legal provisions and directions are missing for refinements of some TLDs
 - ✓ Delayed approval of DOFI and DIMEX mandates
 - ✓ Ongoing org restructuring process for Lao and EU sides
 - ✓ Pandemic of Corona Virus (COVID-19)
 - ✓ Revision of EU forest regulation

Discussion/comment

Afternoon Session

3. VPA-roadmap

Initial roadmap shared by Laos to EU on 4th February 2022

	2021			2022												2023			
	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb			Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	
Agreement text														TI (EU)	TEX	TWG	NSC	JEM/NEG	
Annex I. Product Scope														TWG	NSDC	JEM			
Annex II. TLAS																			
• TLD/SCC	Direction SCC																		
• Verification		TEX	TWG	TI	TWG	TEX	Test (Provinc. Consultation)												
• Licensing								TWG	TEX	NSDC	NSC	JEM/NEG							
• Periodic Evaluation / Independent Audit and Independent Monitoring / CSO																			
Annex III. Free circulation EU														TI (EU)	TEX	TWG	NSDC	JEM/NEG	
Annex IV. FLEGT Licenses														TI (EU)	TEX	TWG	NSDC	JEM/NEG	
Annex V. ToR for Independent Monitoring						TWG	TEX												
Annex VI. Criteria assessment of TLAS																			
Annex VII. Public disclosure of information																			
Annex VIII. Functions of JIC																			

JEM 5
NEG

JEM 6

JEM 7
NEG

3. VPA-roadmap

Option 1 for adjusted roadmap

	2021			2022												2023																				
	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Marc	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	FEB	Marc																		
Agreement text																			TI (EU)	TEX	TWG	NSC	JEM/NEG													
Annex I. Product Scope																				TWG	NSDC	JEM														
Annex II. TLAS																																				
• TLD/SCC	Direction SCC																			TEX	TWG	TI	TWG	TEX	Test (Provinc. Consultation)											
• Verification																																				
• Licensing																																				
• Periodic Evaluation / Independent Audit and Independent Monitoring / CSO																																				
Annex III. Free circulation EU																																				
Annex IV. FLEGT Licenses																																				
Annex V. ToR for Independent Monitoring																																				
Annex VI. Criteria assessment of TLAS																																				
Annex VII. Public disclosure of information																																				
Annex VIII. Functions of JIC																																				

TI = Technical Input (Consultants)
based on consultant workplan v1.2

TEX = Technical Exchange
NEG = Negotiation (Laos-EU)

TWG = Technical Working Group
JEM = Joint Expert Meeting (Laos - EU)

3. VPA-roadmap

Option 2 for adjusted roadmap

	2021			2022												2023								
	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Marc	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	FEB	Marc	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept
Agreement text																			TI (EU)	TEX	TWG	NSC	JEM/NEG	
Annex I. Product Scope																TWG	TWG	NSDC	JEM					
Annex II. TLAS																								
• TLD/SCC	Direction SCC																							
• Verification		TEX	TWG	TI	TWG	TEX	Test (Provinc. Consultation)																	
• Licensing																								
• Periodic Evaluation / Independent Audit and Independent Monitoring / CSO																								
Annex III. Free circulation EU																								
Annex IV. FLEGT Licenses																								
Annex V. ToR for Independent Monitoring																								
Annex VI. Criteria assessment of TLAS																								
Annex VII. Public disclosure of information																								
Annex VIII. Functions of JIC																								

JEM 5

JEM 6 NEG

JEM 7

TI = Technical Input (Consultants) based on consultant workplan v1.2
 TEX = Technical Exchange
 TWG = Technical Working Group
 NEG = Negotiation (Laos-EU)
 NSDC = NSDC
 JEM = Joint Expert Meeting (Laos - EU)

3. VPA-roadmap

VPA document	2022											2023	
	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Marc		
Agreement text													
Annex I. Product Scope													
Annex II. TLAS													
• TLD/SCC			TEX										
• Verification			TEX										
• Licensing			TEX										
• Periodic Evaluation / Independent Audit and Independent Monitoring / CSO			TEX										
Annex III. Free circulation EU													
Annex IV. FLEGT Licenses													
Annex V. ToR for Independent Monitoring			TEX										
Annex VI. Criteria assessment of TLAS													
Annex VII. Public disclosure of information			TEX										
Annex VIII. Functions of JIC													

FLEGT

ກົມກວດກາປ່າໄມ້
ແຜນງານ Lao-EU FLEGT VPA
ການຄ້າໄມ້ ທີ່ຖືກຕ້ອງຕາມກົດໝາຍ

THANK YOU

