

# Evaluation of the FLEGT Action plan



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## **FLEGT Action Plan in a nutshell (1)**

- EC proposal to combat illegal logging & associated trade endorsed by EP & Council (2003): [FLEGT Action Plan](#)
- Joint endeavor: EC (DEVCO & ENV), EU MS & Partner countries
- Blends measures in producing and consuming countries to improve forest governance, facilitate trade in legal timber, and eliminate illegal timber from trade with the EU.

## **FLEGT Action Plan in a nutshell (2)**

- A process and a package of policy and regulatory measures, complemented by traditional development cooperation
- Action Areas:
  - Governance, Capacity building, Legality verification
  - PPP, Private Sector initiatives, Financing & investment
  - Voluntary Partnership Agreements & EU legislation
  - International cooperation, Existing legislation, Conflict timber
- Main components & Major Achievements: EUTR & VPAs

## Evaluation of FLEGT Action Plan

- No legal obligation; necessary after 11y of implementation
- Scope: all actions areas; links to ECA audit
  - \* EUTR: coordinated with separate Review process
- Duration: late 2014 – June 2016
- Deliverables : Consultant report & Staff Working Document
- Limitations: lack of data on illegal logging & trade, and on governance achievements

## Methodology & deliverables

- External consultant
- Better Regulation Q: relevance, coherence, EU added value, sustainability, efficiency, effectiveness
- Steering Committee: EC (DEVCO, ENV, SG, GROW,) UK, NL
- Consultant's Report : published May 2016
- SWD : adoption by EC expected June 2016

## Consultant's report: FLEGT strengths

- Innovation: hard- & soft law measures, trade agreements, development cooperation, stakeholder engagement
- Highly Relevant & enjoying broad support
- Sustainable changes : forest governance improvements & reduced demand for illegal timber
- Good Cost benefit in view of generated benefits
- EU Added Value: trade & political leverage, aid coordination

## Consultant's report: FLEGT successes

- 6 VPAs under implementation & 9 VPAs under negotiation
  - \* Indonesia ready to export FLEGT-licensed timber: end 2016
- EUTR → incentivise responsible sourcing policies & VPAs uptake
- PPP: >80% of EU MS → positive effect on the market
- Problem profile raised: bilateral dialogues (BCM), legislative reforms (US), INTERPOL, PPP in producing countries

## **Consultant's report: FLEGT drawbacks**

- Weak planning & monitoring
- Coordination inefficiencies
- VPAs: complex, resource-intensive & variable political commitment in partner countries
- Private sector insufficiently engaged
- Work on Financing & Investment not extensive
- Context changes: drivers of Deforestation, declining role of EU in global timber trade, emerging markets



## **Consultant's report: Recommendations**

- Tailor action geographically & thematically to increase effectiveness
- Strengthen monitoring & implementation to improve efficiency
- Contribute to addressing deforestation to increase relevance
- Collaborate with CC initiatives to improve complementarity
- Cooperate with exporting countries to achieve objectives

## **Staff Working Document**

- Based on evaluation findings & conclusions
- Backward-looking
- Main message : FLEGT AP is fit for purpose and delivers at proportionate cost the changes it aims at effecting yet, identified inefficiencies & inconsistencies should be addressed to increase relevance & effectiveness

## Next steps

- SWD adoption: June 2016
- Reflect on evaluation (also ECA report & EUTR Review) findings to improve performance of FLEGT AP
- Consider options to address drivers of Deforestation: feasibility study underway

# Thank you

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