



Food and Agriculture Organization
of the United Nations

FAO FLEGT PROGRAMME

FOREST
LAW
ENFORCEMENT,
GOVERNANCE AND
TRADE

WHAT IS FLEGT?

FLEGT is shorthand for *Forest Law Enforcement, Governance and Trade*. The **FLEGT Action Plan** is the European Commissions' response to combat illegal logging. FLEGT aims to reduce illegal logging – one of the causes of *forest degradation*, as well as illegal timber production driven by clearing forests for agriculture – one of the main causes of *deforestation* and carbon emissions.

The FLEGT Action Plan, launched in 2003, sets out measures to:

- > prevent illegal timber imports into the European Union;
- > improve the supply of legal timber by channelling financial and technical support to countries that want to address illegal logging;
- > increase demand for timber from responsibly managed forests.

WHAT IS THE **FAO FLEGT** PROGRAMME AND WHO IS ELIGIBLE FOR SUPPORT?

The **FAO FLEGT Programme** supports the European Union to implement the FLEGT Action Plan.

The Programme provides technical and financial support to **local stakeholders from government institutions, private sector representatives and civil society organizations** to implement locally defined solutions to forest governance challenges.

The Programme supports:

- > stakeholders in tropical timber producing countries working towards a **Voluntary Partnership Agreement (VPA)** – a bilateral and binding trade accord between the EU and timber-producing countries;
- > **stakeholders in other tropical timber producing countries** actively involved in FLEGT-related initiatives to improve forest governance.

Projects are identified through **periodic calls for proposals** and **dialogue at the country level**.

To date, the Programme has supported over 200 projects in some 40 tropical timber producing countries.



www.fao.org/forestry/fao-flegt

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