



# STRENGTHENING GLOBAL FOREST LAW ENFORCEMENT, GOVERNANCE AND TRADE

Forests and wildlife play a significant role in the lives of rural people in many timber-producing developing countries. Forests and forest products are recognized for their ability to protect water supplies, contribute to climate change mitigation and play a prominent role in many cultural and spiritual traditions. Despite this, in many of these countries, forest loss and degradation continue to threaten the people and the wildlife that depend on such valuable resources. The EU FAO FLEGT Programme worked in support of the European Commission's Action Plan on FLEGT to promote the legal production and consumption of timber by granting funds to projects created by governments, civil society and private-sector organizations in timber-producing developing countries. The overall objective of the project was to strengthen governance in the forest sector in the regions of Africa, Asia and the Pacific, and Latin America, with the aim of reducing poverty and improving the sustainable management of forest resources.



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## WHAT DID THE PROJECT DO?

During Phase II, the EU FAO FLEGT Programme developed and implemented a total of 108 projects in 32 countries in three regions (Africa, Asia and the Pacific, and Latin America). The Programme was most active in Voluntary Partnership Agreement (VPA) countries, where two-thirds of the projects were implemented. Six projects were developed at regional scale (Congo Basin, Asia-Pacific and Latin America). The main thematic areas were information and knowledge development, national or regional FLEGT strategies, transparency and independent observation, and support to local and indigenous communities, as well as the development of timber legality assurance systems. With 49 percent of all projects, Africa was the largest investment for the Programme. The service providers involved were primarily government institutions, civil society and international non-governmental organizations. Eighty-six percent of the projects applied a multi-stakeholder approach, demonstrating the importance of an open forum for discussion to address governance challenges and ensuring that a wide range of stakeholders benefited from project activities.

## IMPACT

Through its targeted support to governmental as well as non-governmental stakeholders, the Programme fostered truly inclusive multi-stakeholder processes as a prerequisite for addressing long-standing governance issues. Most of the projects applied a multi-stakeholder approach, leading in many cases to a permanent representation of civil society in national discussions and decision-making. A survey conducted in May 2017 to assess the sustainability of Phase II projects showed that almost all (98.9 percent) service providers are still working on FLEGT issues, and that most of them (95 percent) still pursue the work initiated through their projects. In 68 percent of cases, other organizations have started to work on issues addressed by projects supported by the Programme, which suggests that the Programme is able to identify needed actions as an innovator. Some respondents indicated that Programme support was fundamental to initiating important processes that are still pursued and growing in the respective countries. In Guatemala, for example, *Asociación Balam*, which had implemented a project on transboundary illegal logging between Guatemala and Belize, confirmed the sustained importance of the project results. The environmental strategy for the Petén region continues to be the key tool for planning actions to control the traffic of wood and wildlife in the region and border areas with Belize, while the forestry technical commission, established and politically recognized with Programme support, continues to operate and is the place for inter-institutional coordination and technical planning at local level.

## KEY FACTS

### Contribution

European Commission (EC): USD 12 480 466  
United Kingdom (UK DFID): USD 2 314 880

### Duration

May 2012 – October 2016

### Resource Partners

European Union (EU) and UK DFID

### Partners

Government and international agencies, private-sector companies and associations, as well as communities and civil society organizations in all participating countries

### Beneficiaries

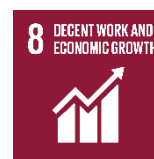
Governments, civil society and private sector of developing countries



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## ACTIVITIES

- A total of 108 projects (including regional projects) supported in 32 countries, as follows: Belize (3), Benin (1), Cambodia (1), Cameroon (10), Colombia (3), Costa Rica (1), Côte d'Ivoire (8), Democratic Republic of the Congo (8), Dominican Republic (1), Ecuador (1), Gabon (2), Ghana (9), Guatemala (4), Guyana (4), Honduras (8), Indonesia (3), Kenya (2), Lao People's Democratic Republic (1), Madagascar (1), Myanmar (5), Malaysia (1), Mozambique (1), Nepal (1), Nigeria (1), Panama (2), Peru (2), Philippines (2), Republic of the Congo (5), Sierra Leone (1), Thailand (4), Uganda (1), Viet Nam (5).
- 6 regional projects; Africa (3), Asia (1), Latin America (2).
- Information products developed, including contributions to FLEGT.org newsletter, FAO Forestry newsletter, and regular updates on the Web site with projects, publications, news stories, event information and videos.
- Programme updates, events and publications were promoted through social media, such as Twitter.
- Factsheets produced in different languages during Phase II to inform a wide range of stakeholders about the Programme and its support mechanisms.
- 13 publications developed and widely distributed in FLEGT Series, drawing on experiences from past and current projects and grouped into thematic areas, such as traceability and independent monitoring.
- Project represented and engaged in more than ten international events and technical discussions.
- 517 events organized by service providers, including workshops, training and awareness-raising events.



SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS



### Project Code

FAO: GCP/GLO/395/EC and GCP/GLO/395/UK  
ID Resource Partner: DCI-ENV/2011/269-555

### Project Title

European Union (EU)/FAO FLEGT Programme Phase II  
(Forest Law Enforcement, Governance and Trade)

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