



33rd Monthly Report on Working Progress of TEFSO
in January 2017

In January 2017, TEFSO has performed the following tasks:

1. Consultation of Mini Field Test towards SME

On 13 January 2017, Mr. Peter Viehbeck from EU Forest Institute (EFI) met Mr. Banjong Wongsrisoontorn, Director of Forest Certificate Department, to consult on a mini field test on 16-17 January. The target group of this test is SME together with Legality Definition (LD). The aftermath will be reported on 18 January 2017. In addition, possibly upcoming plans with TEFSO and policy and restructuring of Forest Certificate Office, Thai-EU FLEGT Secretariat Office were mentioned.

2. Conclusion of the Mini Field Test towards SME

On 18 January 2017, Mr. Peter Viehbeck from EU Forest Institute (EFI) met Mr. Thammanoon Akkarapin, Director of Permission Bureau, and RFD officers. Mr. Peter Viehbeck concluded the mini field test which was on 16-17 January 2017. The goal of this test was to explore the approach of smallholder towards Legality Definition (LD). However, smallholders whom he met differed from the meaning of "SME". Moreover, Thailand does not restrict gender equality in forest and timber activities. Female can access a decision to run or manipulate their own business. Furthermore, the meeting discussed on the topic of permission to operate forest and timber activities in Thailand, including sawing and exportation. Those must depend on related law and act.

Aftermost, Mr. Thada Suwanwimon presented "National Single Window" that RFD has used as a database for the shipping of timber and timber products.

4. Preparation for FLEGT Sub-Committee meeting

TEFSO under Permission Bureau has planned to arrange FLEGT Sub-Committee meeting no.1/2017 on 15 February at the RFD meeting room no.1, Bangkok. The meeting aims to discuss on the agenda of National FLEGT committee meeting and consider the issues that should be brought into negotiations with EU in this year.