



15th Monthly Report on Working Progress of TEFSO in April 2015

In May 2015, TEFSO has performed the following tasks:

1. The Meeting between EU representative and Thai working group on Legality Definition in technical level, on 11th May, 2015 at Rama Garden hotel, Bangkok

Dr. Somrudee Nicro, the consultant to EU FLEGT Facility, and Mr. Sebastian Schrader, the regional EU-FLEGT consultant from EFI arranged the meeting between EU representative and Ad-hoc working group on Legality Definition which involved all 3 main stakeholders (Government, Private and CSOs sectors). This informal technical meeting aims to open an opportunity for working group to ask questions on the EU's comments in the draft of Legality Definition and to discuss on the legality, procedure and implementation steps to conduct the Voluntary Partnership Agreement (VPA) negotiation between Thai and EU.

2. The Meeting between EFI and Government Sector on Legality Definition in technical level, on 14th May 2015, at TEFSO Meeting Room

Dr. Alexander Hinrichs, the regional EU-FLEGT consultant from EFI, along with Dr. Somrudee Nicro and Mr. Sebastian Schrader arranged the meeting between EU representative and Government Sector to offer an opportunity for Thai government to interrogate unclear issues, to discuss on the legality, procedure and implementation steps to conduct the FLEGT VPA.

Dr. Alexander Hinrichs shared the experience and the FLEGT VPA implementing in Indonesia. Furthermore he explained the importance of Product Scope Annex and informed the meeting that EFI will support two outsource consultants to help Ad-Hoc WG on Legality Definition including Indicator and Verifier.

3. Meeting between RFD DG and EU Delegation on 25th May 2015

Mrs. Jenni Lundmark, the new EU delegation in Bangkok, made a courtesy call on Director General of RFD to introduce herself and inform that EFI will support two outsource consultants to help Thai side on drafting Legality Definition including Indicator and Verifier. She also informed that EU is ready to negotiate with Thai in technical level via video conference in October

2015. The EU head of negotiation is Mr. Luca Perez, policy officer, and the Thai side is Director General of RFD.

Moreover Dr.Somrudee Nicro reported the conclusion of The Meeting between EU representative and Thai working group on Legality Definition in technical level on 11th May, 2015 at Rama Garden hotel, Bangkok and proposed to arrange the meeting between Ad-Hoc WG and Director General which will open opportunity for stakeholders to present their request and recommendation. In this issue Director General of RFD assigned Mr. Sapol Boonsermsuk, Director of International Forestry Cooperation Office, to set the date and follow up.

4. Demonstration on Automated Wood Identification on 29th May 2015

Collaborating with USDA Forest Service: USFS, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations: FAO, RFD hosted the meeting to demonstrate the automated wood identification called XyloTron which applies the knowledge of Wood Taxonomy to combat illegal logging. The meeting consisted of representative of DNP, DMCR, Faculty of Forestry KU, TRAFFIC, EFI, and UNODC

5. FLEGT Video promoting in Thailand

The video producer presented TEFSO the storyboard. Thence it had been sent to Ad-Hoc sub-working group to comment.