



29th Monthly Report on Working Progress of TEFSO
in September 2016

In September 2016, TEFSO has performed the following tasks:

1. SME assessment by the EU FLEGT Facility

Mr. Peter Viehbeck, Private Sector Expert from EU FLEGT Facility visited Mr. Banjong Wongsrisoontron, Director of TEFSO to introduce SME assessment project which received funding from the Swedish International Development Agency (Sida) to increase the knowledge about small and medium enterprises (SMEs) and smallholders in the Mekong region and to address potential challenges for these timber companies to operate legally, economically, socially and environmentally successfully in the context of FLEGT Voluntary Partnership Agreements (VPAs).

The work will first fill critical information gaps by assessing these sectors in Laos, Myanmar, Thailand and Vietnam, paying particular attention to potential impacts of VPAs on women. It will then help national stakeholders to identify ways to ensure SMEs and smallholders can more easily participate in supply chains described in national timber legality assurance systems.

2. Mini-field test of the draft Legality Definition

The Mini-field test of LD was arranged during September 22-24, 2016. The participants from European Forest Institute (EFI), CSOs, Government Sectors and TEFSO officers attended the workshop. The workshop objectives are (1) Advance reflections on further improvements to the LD (2) Clarify workability of verifiers and verification procedures (3) Prepare more comprehensive field testing of the complete LD including elements raised in the gap/issue papers. The delegation visited;

- The plantation cooperative member(s) at Tambon Ta-Mai, Chantaburi
- FIO area at Suan Pa Khlong Takrao, Chachuengsao
- Kabinburi checkpoint, Chachuengsao
- Wood processing mill (e.g. furniture or wood panels): Sinjaroen Veneer and Plywood Company at Bangbuathong, Nonthaburi

3. The Technical Meeting between Ad-Hoc Working Group and European Forest Institute no.1/2016

The Technical Meeting between Ad-Hoc Working Group and European Forest Institute no.1/2016 was held on 26th September 2016 at the RFD meeting room no.1, RFD, There are 42



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people attended the meeting. Mr. Sapol Boonsermsook, Director of International Forestry Cooperation Office was a chairman of the meeting. The meeting aimed to discuss on EU comment on the draft LD which has been submitted to EU since 2016, June.

Furthermore, the representative from Thailand and EU updated FLEGT VPA progress/situation in Thailand and Southeast Asia, in addition to present the Mini-field test of the draft Legality Definition feedback to the meeting.