

TEFSO Newsletter

Thai-EU FLEGT Secretariat Office

The FLEGT



▲ Mr. Pralong Damrongthai, Deputy Director-General of RFD and Mr. Banjong Wongsrisoontron, Director of TEFSO visited Mr. Kasemsan Jinnawaso, Permanent secretary of MNRE to discuss on FLEGT implementation in Thailand

Legality Definition (LD)

The Legality Definition (LD) is the first and important annex uses for negotiating with EU on FLEGT VPA. It aims to define the existing country legality to a voluntary partnership to identify timber legality and evidence to a legal verification process.



▲ Mr. Chonlatit Surasawadee, Director General of RFD was the chairman of the FLEGT Sub-committee meeting

In LD producing process needs to present the timber stakeholder participatory and determine to management developing for effective logging, which includes stakeholder participatory (Government, Private and CSOs) under FLEGT VPA working group.

In the past, Thai-EU FLEGT Secretariat Office (TEFSO) with Forest Certification Office (FCO) under Royal Forest Department (RFD) were arranged working group meeting since 2014 to present amount 10 times. There is under revising LD and Gap/Issue paper base on the conclusion of working group meeting on 13 Jun 2016. After finalize, RFD will send LD draft to EU (technically) for further comment.

Product scope

The product scope is an annex under VPA. TEFSO with FCO under RFD were arranged 2 meetings to draft the product scope. The second meeting agreed on sending the first draft to EU technically on 25 May 2016. Currently, there is waiting for the feedback from EU for further action.

More information: <http://tefso.org/en/1571-2/>

FLEGT Tips

FLEGT stands for Forest Law Enforcement, Governance and Trade – the European Union's response to illegal logging and the trade in associated timber products.

In Thailand, Under the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment, The Royal Forest Department of Thailand established Thai-EU FLEGT Secretariat Office (TEFSO), being directly under the Director-General of the Royal Forest Department, responsible for coordinating and carrying out all FLEGT related matters

The Guest...



Mr. Xu Xinjian, Director, Division of Development Planning and Fund Management, China's State Forestry Administration (SFA) visited Mr. Banjong Wongsrisoontron, Director of Thai-EU Secretariat Office and Mr. Sapol Boonsermsuk Director of International Forestry Cooperation Office and RFD officers. The meeting aimed to support in exchanging and collaboration on timber trade between the People's Republic of China (PRC) and Thailand. By the way, the representatives of PRC are interested in FLEGT process and Timber Legality Assurance System (TLAS) in Thailand. They also asked some questions on exporting and relevant documents, classification of illegal timber and required RFD officers to update new regulation and law for more understanding.

More information: <http://tefso.org/en/>

The Corner...



“Right to Wood” CSOs FLEGT Network held the Thai CSOs FLEGT Network’s National Forum “Right to Wood” between 12 -13 May 2016 at Hommeesuk Plantation, Thumbol Kasad, Aumphur Muaeng, Rayong Province. The forum aims to gather recommendations, guidelines and comments from the previous Network implementation prepared them to be the recommendation then proposed to Minister of MNRE. The main point of this proposal is the right to wood on cutting, utilization, and certification. Moreover in the forum, they shared experience and the solution of their problem which promoted understanding and made their point in FLEGT process leading to participation on getting FLEGT license.

More information: <http://thaipublica.org/2016/05/right-to-wood-flegt/>



▲CSOs FLEGT Network submitted recommendation to the RFD officer which the recommend will be presented to Minister of Natural Resource and Environmental, Gen. Surasak Kanjanarat.

Contact us...



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FLEGT Discovery

“INDONESIA” becomes the world’s first country to issue FLEGT licences.



The Presidents of Indonesia, the European Commission and the European Council today confirmed that Indonesia has met the final major requirements of its Voluntary Partnership Agreement (VPA) with the EU and is on course to become the world’s first country to issue FLEGT licences. The EU can now proceed to complete the necessary procedures to make the Indonesian FLEGT licensing scheme fully operational.

Internal EU procedures to formalise EU recognition of FLEGT licences issued by Indonesia involve the European Commission, the European Parliament and the Council of the European Union. When these procedures have been completed, the Indonesia-EU Joint Implementation Committee can recommend a date for FLEGT licensing to start.

Once FLEGT licensing begins, all Indonesian timber-based products listed in Annex I of the VPA and imported into the EU must be accompanied by a valid FLEGT licence. A Licence Information Unit in Indonesia will monitor FLEGT licensing and will share information with stakeholders and authorities in the EU.

Customs officials in Indonesia will check that licences are issued before products leave the country. EU customs officials will deny entry to any products covered by the VPA that arrive without a valid FLEGT licence.

Source : <http://www.euflegt.efi.int/indonesia-news>

