

Regional Support Program for the EU FLEGT Action Plan in Asia (1)

Organisation	European Forest Institute
Objectives	improve forest governance, and contribute to poverty eradication and sustainable development of natural resources
Main target groups	all FLEGT stakeholders
Main area of work	(1) transparency, reporting and advocacy
Location	DCI Countries in Asia
Main local partners	EU Delegations
Dates of implementation	14 November 2008 – 30 June 2013 (but started with one year delay)
Budget	€ 6 153 722
Funding partners	European Commission, United Kingdom and Germany

How Useful and Supportive is the EFI FLEGT Asia Regional Programme to the FLEGT Processes in Asia?

- Regional and national studies (including Baseline Studies to identify stakeholders, timber trade flows, timber legality assurance situation, etc.), continuous awareness raising and capacity building, resulted in an increased FLEGT understanding and triggered national and regional FLEGT implementation activities.
- Supported the EU in opening up of FLEGT VPA negotiations and dialogues with key timber producing and processing countries in all ASEAN countries, especially in the Greater Mekong, and China. Work has started in India.
- The creation of a strong FLEGT related regional network with well-established institutions (FAO, CIFOR, USAID, RECOFTC, the APFNet etc), and with Civil Society, Industry and projects implemented by EU Members States (GIZ, DFID, DANIDA) and others (WB, JICA, IUCN etc).

What Needs to be Done to Make the EFI FLEGT Asia Regional Support Programme Stronger? (1/2)

- Stimulate coherent messaging, approaches and incentives to like minded countries in the Asia-Pacific (i.e. Australia, New Zealand, U.S., Japan, South-Korea, Taiwan)
- Develop further cooperation and coordination with partner organisations working on FLEGT objectives (FT, EIA, TFT, GW, ETTF, FAO, TNC, WWF, etc.) and with development aid agencies of EU MS (in particular GIZ and DFID), Australia, the U.S. (State Department, US TR, USAID) and Japan (JICA).
- Stronger EU engagement in FLEGT target countries and with organisations like ASEAN, APEC and SAARC.

What Needs to be Done to Make the EFI FLEGT Asia Regional Support Programme Stronger? (2/2)

- Seriously start FLEGT work in India and step up activities in China, including linkages between China and Africa.
- More FLEGT facilitators and “lynch-pin” personalities (EFI local consultants) – countries in ASEAN continue to need guidance and capacity-building support, sometimes at a very fundamental level.
- Outreach on practical and realistically achievable industry approaches to increase regional and global trade in legal forest products and address good forest governance in the Asia region compliant with new legality requirements.

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For more information, please consult

<http://ec.europa.eu/environment/forests/flegt.htm>

http://ec.europa.eu/environment/cites/home_en.htm

http://ec.europa.eu/environment/forests/illegal_logging.htm



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