

# Mainstreaming Sustainable Tropical Timber: capturing the momentum

## Can we leverage legality to create a tipping point for sustainable forest management?

**Brussels December 11, 2012**

**Save the Date!** Venue still to be confirmed

Tropical forests are disappearing at an alarming rate. Despite 2 decades of voluntary market action, improvements in the tropics are very limited. Whereas certification and licensing systems have been very successful in northern regions, in tropical regions – where good forest management practices are most urgently needed – it is clearly lagging behind. Only 6% of the tropical forest area is certified as sustainably managed. How can we bring the tropical timber market to the next level of sustainability? How can governments, business and civil society groups collaborate to mainstream sustainable forest management in the tropics?

We cordially invite you to a lively stakeholder event on how developments regarding legal timber can lead to tangible improvements in sustainable forest management in the tropics.

During this stakeholder event, The Sustainable Trade Initiative will present the outcomes of a strategic review of the tropical timber sector that answers the above questions. In addition, The Sustainable Trade Initiative together with the Dutch Ministry of Economic Affairs, Agriculture and Innovation will launch a new initiative: The EU Sustainable Tropical Timber Coalition. Working with key partners such as ICLEI Local Governments for Sustainability, this international platform is designed to stimulate collaboration between governments, business and civil society groups to mainstream sustainable forest management in the tropics.

This stakeholder event will include an opportunity for Q&A, panel discussions with thought leaders and frontrunners in the sector, as well as interactive sessions with the audience.

### **Preliminary program:**

- 12.00 – 13.00 Arrival and lunch
- 13.00 – 13.45 Presentation strategic review tropical timber sector
- 13.45 – 14.15 Presentation EU Sustainable Tropical Timber Coalition
- 14.15 – 14.30 Break
- 14.30 – 15.00 Panel discussion with thought leaders
- 15.00 – 15.30 Panel discussion with frontrunners in the sector
- 15.30 – 16.15 Interactive break-out sessions
- 16.15 – 16.45 Wrap up
- 16.45 – 18.00 Drinks

For more information on the program contact:

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