

FAO FLEGT Programme Calls for concept notes from countries engaged in VPAs

The FAO Forest Law Enforcement, Governance and Trade Programme (FAO FLEGT Programme) is now accepting concept notes from government institutions, civil society and private sector organizations in timber-producing countries engaged in Voluntary Partnership Agreements (VPAs) with the EU. The focus of this Call is particularly directed at encouraging private sector involvement in the VPA processes of targeted Countries, and the call will dedicate a specific 'lot' to private sector support. Grants of up to EUR 100 000 are available through the call. Projects should also be aligned with the priorities of the ongoing VPA process in the targeted country.

The selection of the proposals will have two phases. Firstly, all eligible applicants are invited to submit short <u>concept notes</u> (3 pages). In this phase all concept notes will be initially screened and evaluated based on the eligibility criteria defined in the <u>Guidelines</u>. After the first eligibility screening is completed, only proponents of selected concept notes will be notified and asked to submit a full project proposal within two months.

Proponents are encouraged to visit the FAO FLEGT Programme website to access and download the <u>Guidelines</u> and <u>Concept Note form</u> for the application. The deadline for submission of Concept Notes is **30 September 2015**.

For more information on the FAO FLEGT Programme, please see: <u>www.fao.org/forestry/fao-flegt/en/</u>.

About the FAO FLEGT Programme

The FAO FLEGT Programme is a part of a global network of actors supported by the EU to implement the <u>FLEGT Action Plan</u>, adopted in 2003 by EU Member States to improve the environmental, social and legal credentials of timber and increase the benefits from responsibly managed forests and associated trade. The Action Plan outlines a series of supply- and demand-side measures to ultimately enable <u>Sustainable Forest Management (SFM)</u>. Grants are channeled through the Programme to support locally driven processes that put the FLEGT Action Plan into practice.