



## CONCEPT NOTE

### National Workshop on Forest Law Enforcement, Governance and Trade (FLEGT) of Legal Timber in Cambodia

#### 1. The FAO-EU FLEGT Programme

The overall objective of the FAO-EU Programme on Forest Law Enforcement, Governance and Trade (FLEGT) is to tackle illegal logging, promote trade in legal timber products and contribute to sustainable forest management (SFM) and poverty reduction. This includes promoting legal and sustainable forest industries. The Programme supports the implementation of the global EU FLEGT Action Plan and finances demand-driven initiatives by government, private sector and civil society organizations.

The Programme covers eight thematic priorities:

1. Sharing or developing information and knowledge about the FLEGT Action Plan
2. Improving transparency in the forest sector
3. Setting up independent monitoring in the forest sector
4. Supporting local communities and community forestry activities in line with the FLEGT process or a national strategy for improving forest governance
5. Supporting improvements in national timber traceability systems, traceability of forest products and national control systems
6. Supporting improvements of policy, legal and regulatory frameworks
7. Supporting private sector initiatives to participate in the production, marketing and trade of legal timber
8. Addressing domestic and regional market issues

Cambodia has been identified as a priority country eligible for FLEGT support. The national FLEGT workshop is not intended to prepare Cambodia to enter Voluntary Partnership Agreement negotiations with the European Union, **but intended** to design a Roadmap for helping Cambodia to improve its forest law enforcement, governance and the trade of legal timber through the completion of strategic activities that would benefit the country's forestry sector. It is expected that these strategic activities would also lay the groundwork for longer-term assurance systems development that would enable Cambodia to comply with ASEAN market integration requirements and trade legal timber with neighbouring countries that are actively implementing VPAs.

#### 2. Workshop Objectives and Format

A one-day multi-stakeholder workshop is organized on 24 January 2019 at Sokha Residence and Hotel.

##### A. *Workshop objectives*

- Raise awareness on FLEGT amongst forest sector stakeholders in Cambodia, and define the Royal Government of Cambodia's priorities and expectations for improved forest governance;
- Clarify how FAO and the EU can work with Cambodia to improve forest governance given that Cambodia and the EU are not negotiating a Voluntary Partnership Agreement;
- Build consensus on the priority areas for support in 2019-2020 that would leverage meaningful improvements in forest governance, law enforcement and trade of legal timber products, while combating illegal logging and contributing to sustainable forest management; and,

- Identify existing National Multi-stakeholder Committee (Timber flow study) and its composition to guide programme implementation.

### ***B. Workshop organisation***

**Organizers:** The workshop will be co-organized by the Forestry Administration (FA), the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries; the Delegation of the European Union to Cambodia, and the Food and Agriculture Organization. It will be funded by the FAO-EU FLEGT Programme.

**Date:** 24 January 2019

**Venue:** Sokha Phnom Penh Hotel and Residence (Sokha Hotel)

**Facilitation:** The workshop will be facilitated by colleagues from FA, FAO, and the European Forest Institute (EFI). FAO will document the workshop discussions, and draft workshop proceedings.

**Participants:** Approximately 70 participants will be invited, including representatives from Government (national and sub-national levels), civil society organizations, community representatives, Private sectors, and development partners. Please find the Annex - List of Invited Ministries, Institution, agency and organizations.

### ***C. Workshop Outputs***

#### **1. FLEGT Roadmap Development**

A country FLEGT Roadmap will be compiled based on the results of the workshop, which will outline priority areas and activities to be supported by the FAO-EU FLEGT Programme. The Roadmap will be compiled and endorsed by the multi-stakeholder committee.

#### **2. The National Multi-stakeholder Committee**

An existing multi-stakeholder committee will be selected to guide the FAO-EU FLEGT programme's support to Cambodia. The committee will provide the final endorsement of the workshop report and FLEGT roadmap. From 2019-2020, the committee will coordinate and monitor Roadmap implementation and guide the allocation of grants through the FAO-EU FLEGT funding mechanisms. The specific roles and responsibilities of the committee, including membership, governance, operation, and monitoring mechanisms, will be discussed during the national multi-stakeholder workshop.

### *Provisional Workshop Agenda*

**Morning Session Objective: Review results and lessons learned from previous FLEGT related initiatives in Cambodia, to build a common understanding of the FLEGT context in Cambodia**

- 9:00 – 9:30      **Opening Remarks**  
FAO Representative to Cambodia  
EU Ambassador to Cambodia  
Minister of the Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries
- 9:30 – 10:00    **Workshop Objectives and Introduction to FAO-EU FLEGT Programme**  
Brief background on FLEGT, the FAO-EU FLEGT Programme and explanation of the non-VPA approach to support FLEGT activities in Cambodia
- 10:00-10:15    **Coffee Break**
- 10:15-12:00    **Presentations of FLEGT Initiatives (20 min each)**  
*1. FA: Previous and current work related to FLEGT* – This presentation could also share information on FLEG in National Forest Programme and other initiatives  
*2. FAO: Situation Analysis* – Summary of forest governance issues in Cambodia and proposed thematic work areas for the Programme’s engagement  
*3. FA: Review of 2014 Timber Flow Study and Progress to Date* – review of the key findings and recommendations from the EFI-commissioned timber flow study, and update on actions since the recommendations were formulated  
*4. Malaysia: Presentation from Resource Person on FLEGT* – explanation of the MYTLAS and its operations outside a VPA context, as well as benefits and synergies between the MYTLAs and Malaysia’s national certification system  
*5. Discussion* – Question and Answer Session
- 12:00-13:00    **Lunch**

**Afternoon Session Objective: Identify and build consensus on potential priority areas and mechanisms for FAO-EU FLEGT support in Cambodia through 2020**

- 13:00-13:30    **Introduction to Group Work Exercise & Identification of Thematic Areas**
- 13:30-14:30    **Small Group Discussion** in which each group (4 groups) identifies potential activities and key stakeholders under each thematic area.
- 14:30-14:45    **Coffee Break**

- 14:45-15:45    **Group Presentation of priority work areas**  
Discussion and consensus on outputs (15 min per group), including a ranking of priority activities and composition of selected national stakeholder committee
- 15:45-16:15    **Summary and Way Forward**  
Workshop facilitators will summarize conclusions of afternoon session and outline next steps moving forward for operationalizing FLEGT work in Cambodia.
- 16:15-16:30    **Closing Remarks**

***Annex-List of Invited Ministries, Institution, agency and organizations***

**1. Royal Government of Cambodia (25 Participants)**

- Forest Administration (Central Level), MAFF
- Forest Administration (Sub-National and Provincial Level), MAFF
- Department of International Cooperation (DIC), MAFF
- Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation
- Ministry of Environment
- General Department of Customs & Excise, Ministry of Economic & Finance
- Ministry of Commerce
- Ministry of Interior

**2. Donors and International Development Partners (15 Participants)**

- Delegation of the European Union to Cambodia
- European Forest Institute (EFI) FLEGT Facility
- German Embassy Phnom Penh, Cambodia
- Ambassador of the Republic of Finland to Thailand
- Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency
- Korea International Cooperation Agency
- United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)
- United States Agency for International Development (USAID) in Cambodia
- World Bank
- Swiss Cooperation Development in Cambodia
- Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) in Cambodia
- Forest Stewardship Council (FSC)
- Programme for the Endorsement of Forest Certification (PEFC)

**3. Civil Society Organizations (10 participants)**

- World Wildlife Fund (WWF) Greater Mekong
- Wildlife Alliance
- GERES
- Bird Life
- RECOFTC – The Centre for People and Forests
- Wildlife Conservation Society in Cambodia
- Fauna and Flora International in Cambodia
- Non-timber Forest Products Organization
- Prey Lang Community Network (PLCN)
- International Conservation

**4. Private Sector Associations and Companies (10 participants)**

- Cambodia Timber Industry Association (CTIA)
- Global Forestry Services (GFS)
- Green Rich Co., Ltd
- Grandis Timer Limited
- CamAgra Investment Group
- Sink Biotech
- Siemon (Cambodia Agriculture Comprehensive Development)
- YLT International Co.LTD
- Long Sen (Cambodia Furniture Manufacture)
- Bambusa Global Venture