



EU FAO FLEGT PROGRAMME ENDORSES FIRST PROJECTS IN LATIN AMERICA AND ASIA

The EU FAO FLEGT Programme has endorsed 14 projects since expansion to Latin America and Asia began last year. Proposals approved cover a range of thematic areas from a host of countries, including: (1) enabling effective timber monitoring and traceability in **Nepal**; (2) improving legality, governance and trade for smallholders in **Myanmar**; (3) developing strategic alliances to improve forest governance in **Guatemala**; (4) instituting sustained mechanisms to combat forest illegality in **Belize**; (5) revising Ekiti State Forestry Law and Governance in **Nigeria**; (6) implementing and supporting a forestry administration system in **Sierra Leone**; (7) carrying out a socio-economic study on the trans-boundary timber commodity chain and legal compliance levels in **Kenya**; (8) building capacities of civil society on FLEGT processes in **Côte d'Ivoire**; and (9) enhancing compliance and regulation of timber harvesting and trade in **Uganda**. The Programme has also responded to direct assistance requests from the governments of **Honduras, Côte d'Ivoire, Guyana and Vietnam**.

EU FAO FLEGT Programme to be presented in Central America

Additionally, the EU FAO FLEGT Programme, together with the German development organization GIZ, is co-financing the meeting of the Directors of Forests of the Central American Commission for Environment and Development (CCAD) which includes seven Central American countries and the Dominican Republic. During the meeting, the EU FAO FLEGT Programme will be presented for the first time in Central America during the "Forestry Working Group" of the CCAD and within the framework of the Forest Strategic Regional Programme (PERFOR). The meeting will be held in San José, Costa Rica, from 24 to 26 April 2013.

Requesting EU FAO FLEGT Programme Assistance

The EU FAO FLEGT Programme provides assistance by issuing periodic calls for proposals open to government institutions, private sector organizations and civil society and responding to direct assistance requests from government institutions, which can be submitted at any time and are evaluated on a rolling basis. Support is offered to countries engaged in the negotiations or the implementation of a voluntary partnership agreement (VPA) with the EU, known as [VPA](#)

[countries](#), but also to wood-producing developing countries and/or those who are major players in wood products trade who are not engaged in the VPA process, or [non-VPA countries](#).

A first call for proposals was issued in 2012 to non-VPA countries. Proposals were received from some 42 countries around the world and included requests from civil society organizations (including education and research associations), government institutions and private sector organizations. Selection criteria included: relevance and complementarity to forest sector priorities and FLEGT and National Strategies; effectiveness and feasibility of the activities; methodology; sustainability; innovation; efficiency; and capitalization of lessons learned.

The EU FAO FLEGT Programme is now accepting proposals from **VPA countries** – details of which can be found at the following [link](#) – until **30 June 2013**.