

Highlights

- 3 field missions took place. Two by Eticwood (one in Cameroon to identify priority actions for component 2 and the other in Guyana for follow up). AFD also carried out a monitoring mission in Liberia, following which it was decided to support FLEGT facilitation.
- Launch of 7 projects: 2 in Guyana, 1 in Honduras, 2 in Congo, 1 in CAR and 1 in Liberia.
- 3rd Steering Committee of the Programme (9/12/22 in Brussels)

Countries of intervention and priorities

GUYANA

2 projects have started:

- Design, implementation and roll-out of the SVIL timber traceability system, led by Timtrack
- Evaluation of capacity building, quality improvement and value addition of forest products, led by Afzelia Ltd.

Follow-up mission, leading to the decision to deploy a Programme Focal Point from 2023.

The assessment of the impact of VPA implementation on the livelihoods of concession holders will start in 2023. ToRs are underway for: (i) development of the TLAS IT system, (ii) stakeholder outreach, including Amerindian communities, and (iii) support to the FLEGT Secretariat, including a Programme Focal Point.

HONDURAS

The Programme supports the FLEGT Technical Secretariat with the recruitment of a coordinator and an assistant.

2 ToRs have been elaborated for (i) Development of a barcode system for timber transport documents, (ii) Elaboration of the roadmap for the implementation of the LAS.

2 other projects are identified: (iii) Support to Independent Monitoring and (iv) Development of the VPA impact monitoring framework.

LIBERIA

The weekly programme "The Forests Hour", produced by the investigative journalism NGO Media Watch, is supported by the project and broadcast at prime time.

Independent auditing of the system, support to independent civil society monitoring of forest governance and support to the Technical Committees and CCM will start in the first quarter of 2023.

VIETNAM

A restructuring of Vietnam's forestry administration was carried out in late 2022.

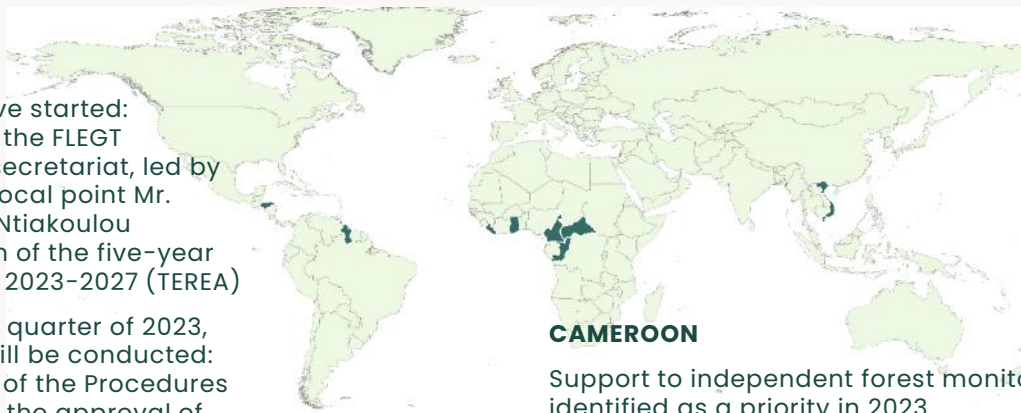
A working session will be organised between AFD and DG ENV to align the registration and validation procedure of the Programme with the planned timetable.

GHANA

Reflection process underway to identify priorities following the first FLEGT licences.



Countries of intervention and priorities



CONGO

2 projects have started:

- Support to the FLEGT technical secretariat, led by the FLEGT focal point Mr. Théophile Ntiakoulou
- Elaboration of the five-year FLEGT plan 2023-2027 (TEREA)

In the second quarter of 2023, two studies will be conducted:

- Evaluation of the Procedures Manual for the approval of private certification schemes under the LAS
- Domestic market study

The Programme will resume FLEGT Facilitation from the second half of 2023.

CAMEROON

Support to independent forest monitoring has been identified as a priority in 2023.

CAR

1 contract has been signed and will start in February 2023:

- Study of the gaps in the regulatory framework; conducted by TERA

ToRs for capacity building of the IO are being validated. Other identified priorities will be validated after the CCM scheduled for March 2023:

- Support to the controls carried out by the FLEGT unit
- Support to the resumption of the activities of the Permanent Technical Secretariat



Introduction of the Five-Year Plan to the CCM in Congo



Since 2015, Honduras has lost 12.5% of its forest area.



Support for the traceability system in Guyana

Key figures of the Programme



7 ongoing projects:

- 5 component 1
- 2 component 2



- Component 1: 300 000€
- Component 2: 45 000€



26 projects pre-identified in 7 countries (19 component 1, 7 component 2), of which 10 were validated.



In 2023, the Programme will provide FLEGT facilitation in Liberia and Congo and have a focal point in Guyana.

Useful communications

- EU and Cote d'Ivoire to sign VPA in October 2022 (<https://flegtvpafacility.org/union-europeenne-cote-divoire-accordent-lutter-contre-exploitation-forestiere-illegale/>)
- Council and European Parliament reach interim agreement to reduce deforestation (<https://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/fr/press-room/20221205IPR60607/un-accord-qui-garantit-la-vente-de-produits-sans-deforestation-dans-l-ue>).