

## Countries of intervention and priorities

For your information, the programme held its 5<sup>th</sup> Steering Committee on 15th November 2024.

### REPUBLIC OF CONGO :

The company Sotraco is finalizing work to increase the capacity of solar panels at the offices of the Forest Legality and Traceability Unit (CLFT), thereby ensuring better working conditions in case of power outages.

A call for tenders for additional support to the CLFT and the Directorate of Information Systems for the purchase/installation of equipment necessary for the proper functioning of the Legality Verification IT System (SIVL) has been launched and will remain open until January 8, 2025.

The report on the study of the domestic timber market, conducted by TERE and CIRAD, was finalized in November and widely disseminated. It is available on the website of the Congo FLEGT VPA: [Téléchargements documentation - APV FLEGT CONGO](#) (in French)

TERE has been selected to lead the project supporting the FLEGT process by providing a team of experts (support to the multi-stakeholder working group (GTMA) and monitoring of the VPA five-year plan). The project's startup phase is currently underway.

Following the relaunch of the call for tenders for support to non-mandated independent observation, the negotiation process is ongoing with bidders. The terms of reference for support to mandated independent observation and its technical assistance have been validated, and contracting is expected to take place in early 2025.

### LIBERIA:

A first draft of the study aimed at identifying opportunities to strengthen sustainable forest management in Liberia has been submitted and is under review.

Additional support for Liberia Forest Media Watch (LFMW) is ongoing, notably with the weekly broadcast Forest Hour. LFMW is participating in the Coordination Initiatives for Independent Forest Monitoring. A meeting also took place with the EU Delegation in October. Their second report was received and approved by the Program Management Unit in November.

## Countries of intervention and priorities

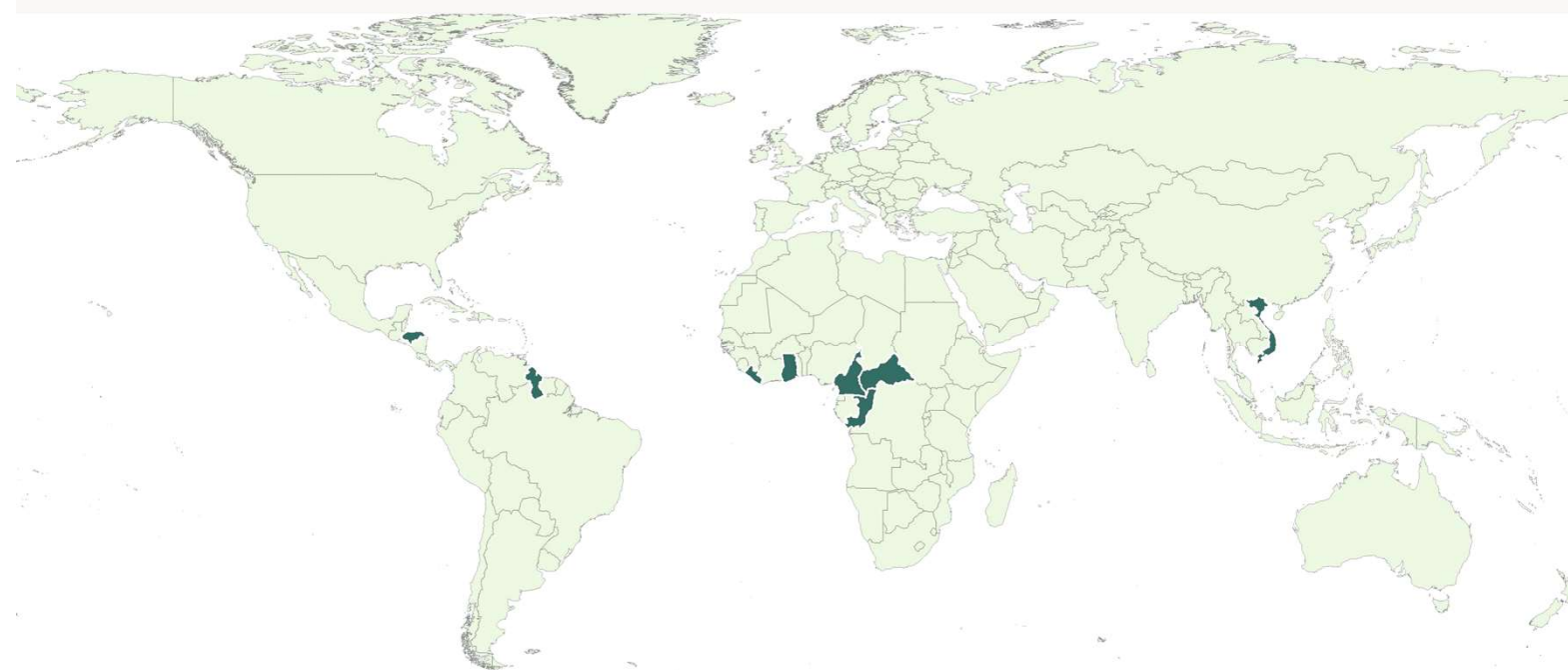
### HONDURAS:

Short-term support to the VPA Technical Secretariat (SETAVA) has been extended until the end of December 2024.

The call for tenders for the development of the TLAS has been launched and concluded during this period. The analysis of the bids has been completed, and the market attribution process is ongoing. The project is expected to start in January 2025.

The CONPAH-ONILH consortium organized two capacity-building workshops for indigenous populations on independent observation in September and November. Exchanges with SETAVA took place to harmonize actions.

The Programme is financing independent forest monitoring in the priority area of the pilot project for the development of the timber traceability system (SALH) through funding from the CSO consortium Monitoreo Forestal Independiente (MFI)/Fundación Democracia sin Fronteras (FDsF)/Fundación Madera Verde (FMV), with support from World Resources Institute (WRI). The context analysis and intervention strategy with local CSOs have been carried out.



### GUYANA

The private sector support project "FPA (Forest Products Association)" has concluded with the submission of the final report, which includes an assessment of the needs of the FPA and its members as well as a communication and engagement plan for them.

Three projects started in Guyana this quarter on:

- the development of the timber traceability system, led by Pepps Engineering and BF Consult,
- support to the VPA Technical Secretariat, particularly through the anticipated recruitment of experts within the Guyana Forestry Commission, awarded to OCA Global,
- the preparation of the baseline study on monitoring the impacts of the VPA, which will be conducted by TERO.

The call for tenders for support to the National Toshias Council (Amerindian communities) has been published and will remain open until January 6, 2025.