



## EC-Indonesia FLEGT Support Project

**Implementing partners:** Ministry of Forestry and Indufor (for the technical assistance)

**Duration:** 2006 to 2011

**Budget:** € 15 million

FLEGT stands for Forest Law Enforcement, Governance and Trade. The **EU FLEGT Action Plan** is a global initiative that sets out a program of actions that forms the European Union's (EU's) response to the problem of illegal logging and the trade in associated timber products. The main measures of the FLEGT Action Plan are:

1. Support to timber-producing countries
2. Activities to promote trade in legal timber, in particular through the negotiation of Voluntary Partnership Agreements (VPA) with producing countries
3. Promoting public procurement policies
4. Support for private sector initiatives
5. Safeguards for financing and investment
6. Use of existing legislative instruments or adoption of new legislation to support the Plan
7. Addressing the problem of conflict timber

As a major timber producer and as a country subject to serious problems of illegal logging, Indonesia is an important partner of the EU in the context of the FLEGT Action Plan. Specific cooperation is channelled to the Ministry of Forestry to implement the **EC-Indonesia FLEGT Support Project**. The aim of this € 15 million project is to support and encourage the Government of Indonesia, the private sector and civil society to create the appropriate conditions to reduce trade in illegal timber and non-sustainable practices in the Forestry Sector. In particular, the project promotes improved forest law and its enforcement, improved forest sector governance improved through enhanced accountability and transparency and legal timber trade.

The projects also support the dialogue between the Government of Indonesia and the European Commission (EC) on the FLEGT VPA. In January 2007, Indonesian Forestry Minister MS Kaban met with EU Commissioners Mr Stavros Dimas and Mr Louis Michel to announce the start of negotiations on a VPA. VPAs are binding agreements between the EU and Partner Countries by which they undertake to work together to support the aims of the FLEGT Action Plan and to implement a timber licensing scheme providing guarantees about the legality of timber products exported to the EU.



In parallel, the EC and the Government of Indonesia –the Ministry of Forestry in particular- maintain close dialogue on relevant measures of the FLEGT Action Plan. One of the most ambitious measures of the Action Plan is the EC's proposal for a new regulation on the placing of timber on the EU market. The proposed regulation lays down the obligations of operators who place timber and timber products on the market in order to minimise the risk of illegal products being traded in the EU. It is expected that the regulation will be adopted during the course of 2010.

**EC-Indonesia FLEGT Support Project:**

<http://www.eu-indonesia-flegt.org>