



# **EU Timber Regulation Implementation and Enforcement**

**7th Regional Training Workshop on Timber  
Legality Assurance  
19 November 2019, Jakarta**



## Key issues in this presentation:

1. EU Timber Regulation (EUTR) - Key obligations
2. EUTR implementation and enforcement



## EU Timber Regulation - Key obligations

- Aims to counter the trade in illegally harvested timber and timber products.
- Prohibits the placing on the EU market of illegally harvested timber and products derived from such timber.
- Requires EU operators who place timber products on the EU market for the first time to exercise due diligence to ensure a negligible risk to introduce illegal timber in their supply chain.



## EU Timber Regulation - Key obligations

- Legality of timber is considered in relation to the legislation of the country of harvest: No new legality standard.
- Operators have to demonstrate that the timber has been harvested in accordance with the national law and to prove that throughout the supply chain (all parts) there is no contamination. There can be no exception in any case.
- Only the timber covered by the FLEGT licences is automatically recognised as legal under EUTR.



## EU Timber Regulation - Key obligations

- Member States responsibility:
  - Competent authorities designation;
  - Penalties definition and application;
  - Checks on operators (risk-based approach).
- EUTR covers all timber and timber products (in the annex) both domestic and imported.



## EUTR implementation and enforcement

- The Commission supports the Member States in their implementation efforts through a number of measures to promote compliance:
  - Communication platform;
  - Developing guidance;
  - Promoting cooperation with third countries;
  - Encouraging sharing of experience and best practice between Member States.



## EUTR implementation and enforcement

- Central role of FLEGT/EUTR Expert Group meetings (all information available on the EG register website);
- Technical assistance and capacity development  
Particularly aimed at SMEs;
- Country overviews: In depth knowledge of risks needed to assess the risk assessment;
- Bi-monthly briefing notes: Updates on checks and sharing of information;



## EUTR implementation and enforcement

- Significant progress in application: all EUTR Competent Authorities are performing checks and taking action when faced with EUTR breaches.
- The Commission monitors and facilitates enforcement by the regulation by the Member States and firmly takes action to address cases of non-compliance or insufficient implementation by the EU member states.
- Checks are carried out by Member States according to plans that are based on risk criteria.



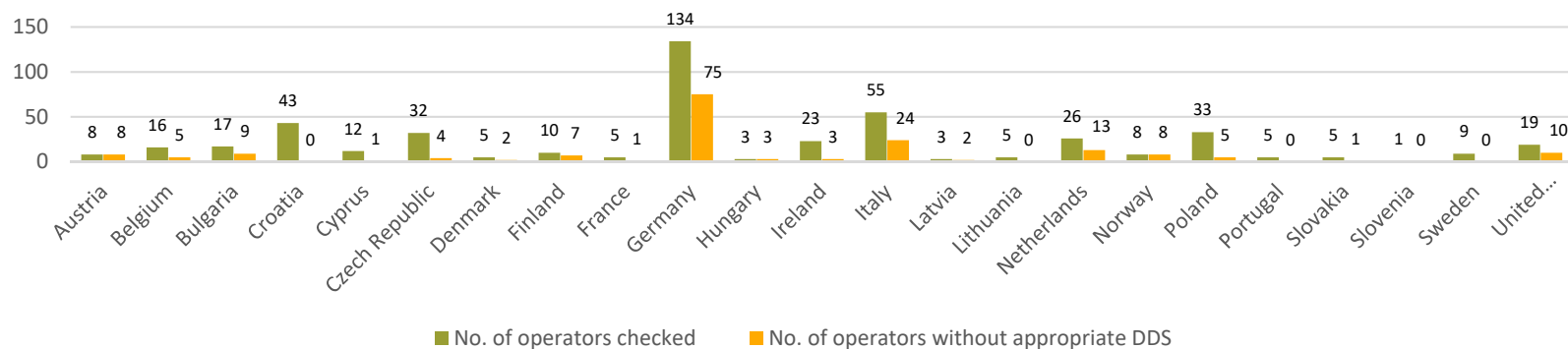


## EUTR implementation and enforcement

- The work of civil society organisations in identifying and tracing illegal timber has proved to be extremely valuable, particularly in evidence gathering.
- The Commission and Member States takes the information provided by the civil society organisations very seriously.
- Substantiated concerns have triggered checks and often resulted in penalties

## Overviews of CA checks performed

- 5<sup>th</sup> report covering January-June 2019 drafted
- Between January-June 2019:
  - **14 countries checked domestic operators** (8 identified unsatisfactory DDS) and **22 countries checked importing operators** (19 identified unsatisfactory DDS; see graph below)
  - CAs conducted **2948 domestic operator checks** and **477 importing operator checks**
  - **9 countries** received a total of **171 substantiated concerns**





**Thank you!**