

DRAFT

# EU-FLEGT

## Private sector views from India

4<sup>rd</sup> Sub-Regional Training Workshop on Timber Legality Assurance  
22-24 October 2014, Vientiane, Lao PDR

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# India

- **World's largest democracy.**
- **4<sup>th</sup> largest economy (in terms of PPP)**
- **1.2 billion people; growing middle class**
- **Forestry second largest land use**
- **69.78 million ha of forest cover (21.23% TGA); 0.91 million tree cover (2.78 % TGA); nation targets 33% forest & tree cover.**
- **Green India Mission targets afforestation & reforestation of 10 million ha.**
- **96 % of forest area is managed by the Government. 250 million people dependant on forests, many of them are poor and marginalised**
- **Forest based industries provide employment and livelihood opportunities to millions of people.**
- **National Forest Policy 1988 encourages farm forestry, agro forestry.**
- **Imports liberalised; export of timber prohibited. Net importer of timber; Imports of timber continue to grow faster**
  
- **By 2020, the projected demand for timber 153 million.cu.m; domestic supply will be 60 million cu.m; Rest to be met through imports**
  
- **Imports of timber from ASEAN is significant; Malaysia supplies 30% of India's timber requirements (HS44)**
  
- **EU is the largest export market for wood products**



06 February 2013,  
Kozhikode, Kerala



Round table meeting on EUTR  
10 April 2013, New Delhi



New Delhi 24 Sept 2014

## India Workshops on EU Timber Regulation



18 June 2013, Mumbai



26 June 2013, Chennai



28 February 2013, Jaipur

# India: Business and industry views\*

- Welcome the EU FLEGT initiatives.
- Cost of compliance should be minimised
- India has sound system of forest management and traceability of timber harvested. We should integrate this with the EUTR /FLEGT requirements.
- Fiscal incentives to be provided.
- List of documents/certificates from India acceptable as per EUTR to be identified.
- Need for awareness and training.
- “If timber is sourced from the forests managed by the Government, this should be accepted by EUTR system”
- Government has a major role to play in supporting B&I to address EUTR
- FLEGT/EUTR can also bring new business opportunities.
- Make use of bilateral and multilateral forums, such as India-ASEAN, SAARC and India-EU
- Implications of timber exports bans (eg. Myanmar) should be addressed.
- Agro-forestry/farm forestry is significant in meeting the timber requirements. There is a need to integrate this to the FLEGT system.
- Concerns of SMEs to be addressed.

\*Based on the awareness meetings and roundtables organised by EFI in India 2013 and 2014.

Thank you