



The Republic of the Union of Myanmar

Progress on the Timber Legality Assurance in Myanmar

@ 7th Regional Training Workshop on TLA held in Jakarta, 0n 19-21 Nov 2019



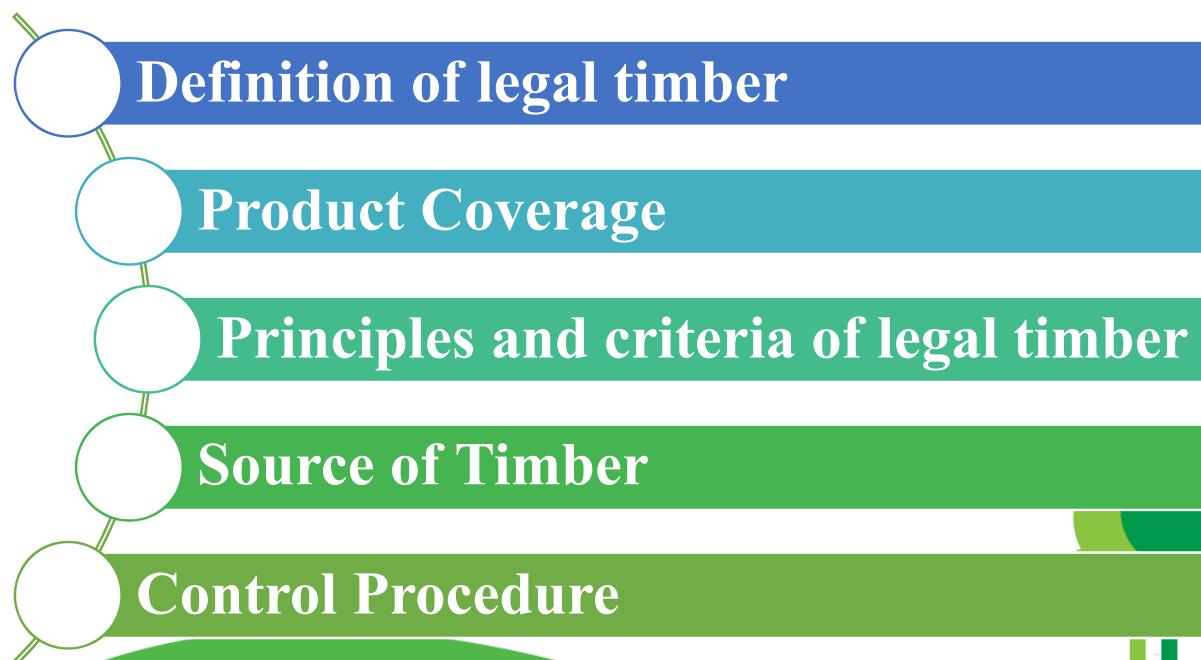
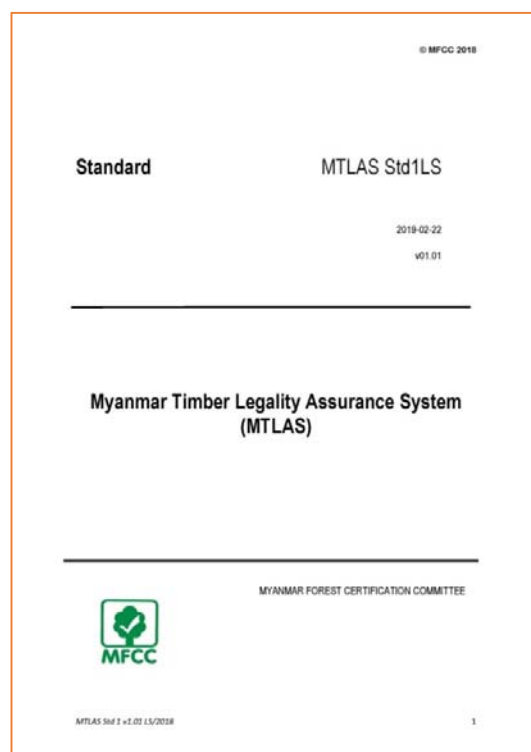
Outline

- **Myanmar Timber Legality Assurance System (MTLAS)**
- **MTLAS Gap Analysis**
- **Action taken by MONREC**
- **Action taken by MFCC**
- **Conclusion**



Myanmar Timber Legality Assurance System (MTLAS)

- Based on the legislations, rules & regulations in response to ASEAN market integration objectives, MTLAS (Myanmar Timber Legality Assurance system) was developed by Myanmar Forest Certification Committee (MFCC) in 2013.



MTLAS Gap Analysis

In 2016, MTLAS was **analyzed to find the gaps** with the support of FAO- EU FLEGT Programme;

- Major findings: Transparency/ Accessibility/ Third party
- Actors to take action: MONREC (FD & MTE), MFCC

MONREC

Reform in Forestry sector

MFCC

1. Recruitment and training of independent 3rd party CBs
2. Developing MFCC system documentation



Action Taken By MONREC

Year	Action
2016-2017	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduced harvest prescribed by Forest Department: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 55% of AAC for teak (19,210 trees) • 30% of AAC for hardwoods (592,330 trees). • Ban on exporting of the confiscated Timber. (30-11-2016, (FD)4(1)/04(D)/(1765/ 2016) • Ban on exporting of conversion & conflict timber, starting from production in 2017-18. (N- 7-4-2017, 61/2017) • Timber which is sold for domestic purpose is not allowed for export.
2017-2018	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prioritizing domestic timber consumption by revising marketing policy of MTE.

Action Taken By MONREC

Year	Action
2017-18	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li data-bbox="283 373 2079 568">• MTE announce the monthly Tender Schedule including amount of tonnage to be sold within the whole fiscal year through the MTE website.<li data-bbox="283 617 2079 682">• Revising Log registration format and Log Specification.<li data-bbox="283 722 2079 852">• Extraction can be done only by MTE and private contract on behalf of MTE is not allowed anymore.<li data-bbox="283 893 2079 1104">• Conducting the assessment on current status of wood based industries and related agencies to promote the capacity and the development of production of value added products.<li data-bbox="283 1144 2079 1274">• Data Management System for recording of the standing tree number, royalty number and Log registration by computerized system

Action Taken By MONREC

Year	Action
2017-18	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • According to the decision of COP (17) and CITES' Declaration (2016/057), Dalbergia Species has been restricted as Appendix II. • Restricting on chain saw import • Forest Department carries out the works by cooperating with Forest Police Force & Implements the Community Monitoring and Reporting System • High level coordination and negotiation with relevant/concerned parties is under processing to control illegal logging in border and conflict areas. • Permission to access in the forest is given only to buyers approved by MTE and 3rd party registered by MFCC
2018-19	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CoC Dossier was developed to trace the origin of the exported timbers of Myanmar

Action Taken By MONREC

Year	Action
2018-19	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Revised forest law (1992) into a new forest law (2018) • Public consultation on drafted Forest rules (2019) in all states and regions • Revised wildlife law (1994) into as a new Biodiversity and Protected Areas Law (2018). • Biodiversity and Protected Areas rules (2019) have been submitted to the Parliament. • Revised CFI 1995 & 2016 as a CFI 2019 in line with 2018 Forest Law. • Reduced harvest prescribed by Forest Department: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 39% of AAC for teak (19,210 trees) • 27% of AAC for hardwoods (592,330 trees). • Harvest from Forest Plantation. • MTE conducted Pilot testing for the implementation of QR Code @ Gangaw Extraction Agency

Action Taken By MONREC

Documents provided on PVC Card QR Code

1. General information of Log

(Place/ Extraction Year/Species/Revenue No. & Mark.....)

2. Request by MONREC to the President Office

3. Approval by the President Office

4. AAC Allocation for each State & Region by FD

5. AHP (Annual Harvesting Plan) by MTE

6. Marking Note attached with Standing Trees' Location Map sent by District Forest Office(FD) to the respective Extraction Agency (MTE)

7. Compartment Entry Request by the Extraction Agency (MTE)

8. Compartment Entry Permit by the respective DFO (FD)

9. Form D (Log Specification measured and approved by both FD & MTE)

10. Trucking Note (Compartment to the nearest agency depot)

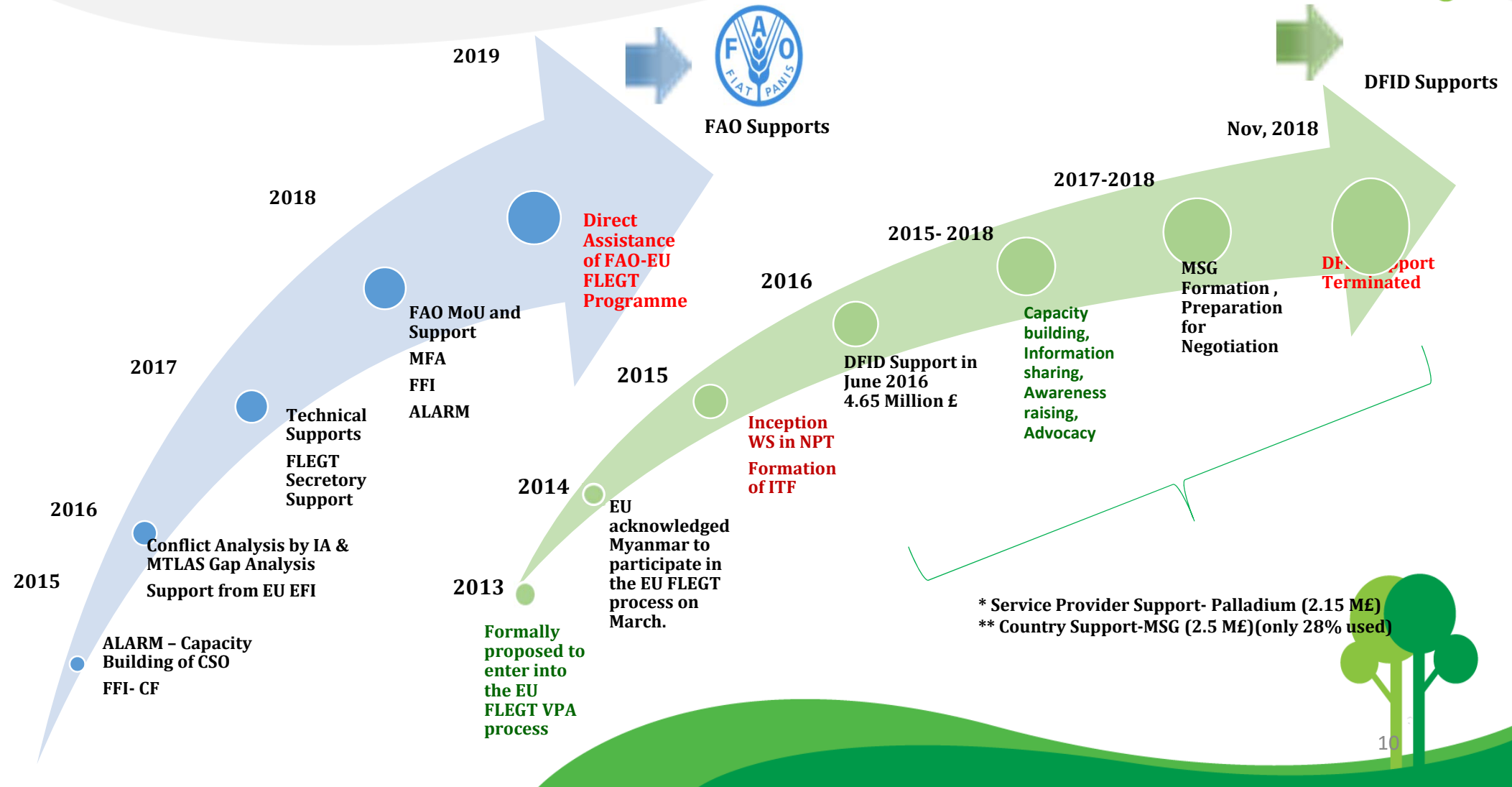
11. Removal Pass

12. AU (Log Specifications attached with each removal pass)



Action Taken By MONREC

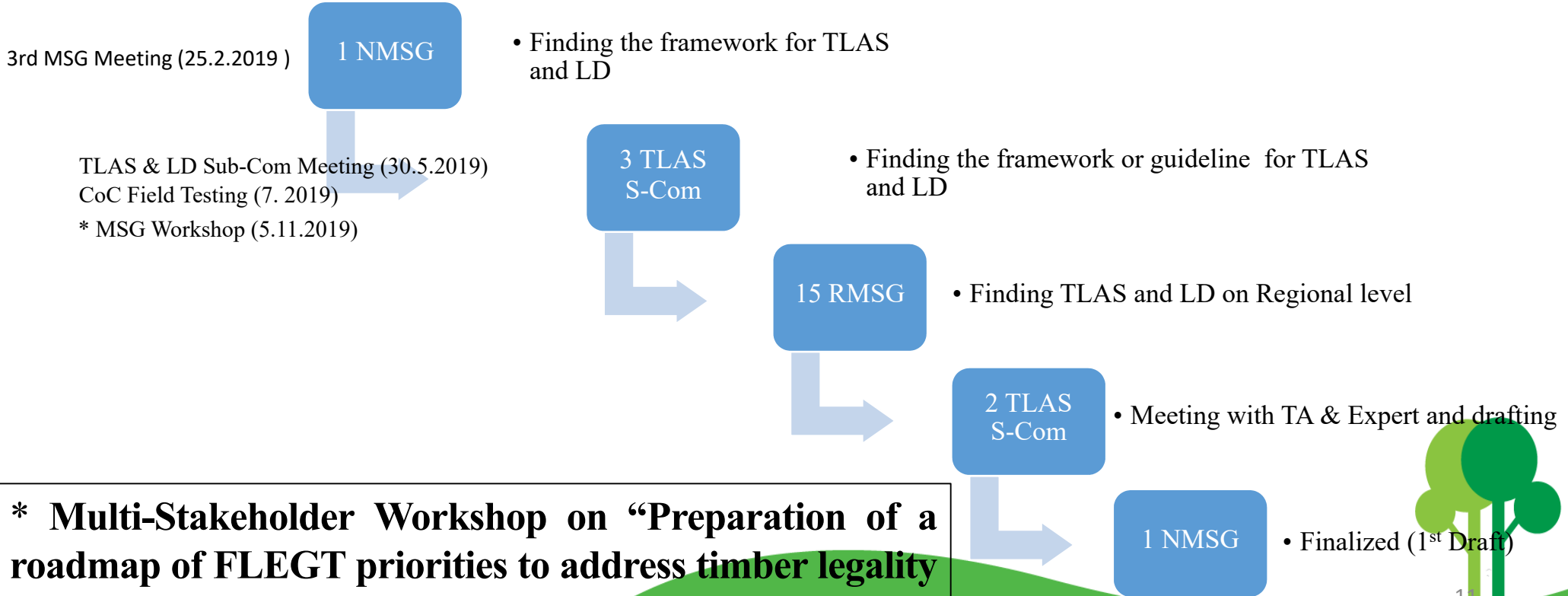
Chronology of FLEGT Process in Myanmar



Action Taken By MONREC

Tentative Work Plan under the Direct Assistance of FAO-EU FLEGT Programme

- 5 TLAS Sub-Committee Meeting on TLAS & Legality Definition
- 2 National MSG Meetings
- 15 Regional MSG Meetings on TLAS & Legality Definition



* **Multi-Stakeholder Workshop on “Preparation of a roadmap of FLEGT priorities to address timber legality in Myanmar”**

Action Taken By MFCC

- **In August 2018, MFCC was reformed** with the new members including Government Sectors, Private Sector , Environmental NGO and CSO.
- MFCC has 1 advisor, 14 members and the chairperson is the Permanent Secretary of MONREC.
- MFCC becomes **the PEFC NGB member as of 30th May 2019.**
- Since, the National Accreditation Body (NAB) of Myanmar is not yet the member of International Accreditation Forum (IAF), as the interim stage, MONREC gave the mandate to MFCC to notify the Certification Bodies
- Already notified two national and one international certification bodies and completed the auditor training for one new international CB.
- Allowing Operators and Third Parties to access the forest compartment and agencies since 2017.



Action Taken By MFCC



MFCC-PEFC Project (2017-2020)

- On August 2018, MFCC uploaded the **system documents including MTLAS Checklist** (policies and procedures) on MFCC [website](#)
- MFCC arranged the supply chain verification **trial shipment program** in order to export the timber with the MTLAS Legality Certificate.
- CBs conducted both of office and field assessment at the District Forest Department and Extraction Agencies offices, the concerned forest/compartment as well as saw mills through the supply chain



Conclusion

- ❑ Myanmar is endeavoring with concerted effort to prove the legality of timber or timber products which are produced in accordance with the law, regulations and procedures of the country.
- ❑ Several issues and challenges still need to be addressed to be recognized by the international organizations and market requirements.



Thank you very much for your attention

- The prescribed websites are already linked to seek the information
 - MONREC Website: www.monrec.gov.mm
 - Forest Department Website: www.forestdepartment.gov.mm
 - Myanma Timber Enterprise Website: www.mte.com.mm
 - Myanmar Forest Certification (MFCC) Website: www.mfcc.org.mm