Evaluation of the

EU FLEGT Action Plan

About the evaluation

In July 2014 the European Commission launched an external evaluation of the implementation of the EU FLEGT Action Plan. The call for tender was issued by the EU FLEGT Facility of the European Forest Institute. The closing date for submission was 20 October 2014. The terms of reference for the evaluation are available at http://www.efi.int/portal/about_efi/calls_for_tender/tenders_2014/contract_notice_f-2014-8.2-24/

A forward-looking and participatory process

The evaluation is an opportunity to reflect with key stakeholders on progress and achievements and to compile, evaluate and summarise the views and expectations of constituents in Europe and in EU partner countries. It will be forward-looking and provide lessons learnt and recommendations.

J.L. Doucet

Objectives

The evaluation has three main objectives:
- to assess and document progress, achievements, shortcomings and gaps;
- to assess and analyse changes in the global context;
- to draw lessons learnt and formulate recommendations that could guide future EU efforts on forest law enforcement, governance and trade.

About the EU FLEGT Action Plan

The European Union adopted the Action Plan on Forest Law Enforcement, Governance and Trade (FLEGT) in 2003. It sets out a programme of actions that forms the European Union's response to the problem of illegal logging and the trade in associated timber products. For more about the EU FLEGT Action Plan, visit http://ec.europa.eu/environment/forests/illegal_logging.htm or www.euflegt.efi.int/flegt-action-plan

Development and Cooperation - EuropeAid

Scope

The evaluation will cover the first 11 years of implementation of the EU FLEGT Action Plan from 2004 to 2014. Evaluators will look at the seven areas of the Action Plan and their interrelationships. Particular attention will be dedicated to Voluntary Partnership Agreements (VPAs).

The evaluation will aim at covering all actions under the EU FLEGT Action Plan by EU institutions, Member States and partner countries. The evaluation will look at relevant action in the EU, other consumer markets and producer countries, both VPA and non-VPA countries. In addition it will cover the development of multilateral and global initiatives to combat illegal logging.

A separate and parallel mandatory review of the EU Timber Regulation (EUTR) will be carried out in 2015, which will focus on enforcement of its provisions based on reporting by Member States. The results of the EUTR review will feed into this evaluation. Both evaluations will be closely coordinated.

Responsibilities

The evaluators report to the European Commission. A steering committee composed of members from the Commission and EU Member States oversees the evaluation. The EU FLEGT Facility managed by the European Forest Institute administers the tendering and contracting process.

Timing and phases

The contract period is 12 months and the evaluation has four phases.

Phase	Duration
1 Inception	mid November 2014 – 15 January 2015
2 Desk research	December 2014 – 15 April 2015
3 Field research with country visits	April – June 2015
4 Synthesis	June – September 2015

How can interested parties contribute?

FLEGT is a collective undertaking that engages a diversity of stakeholders from government, the private sector and civil society. Their views and analyses count! Interested parties will have the opportunity to contribute to the evaluation through several actions, including surveys, consultations and workshops organised by the evaluators' team in Europe and in a sample of partner countries. A web-based tool will be developed on capacity4dev (http://capacity4dev.ec.europa.eu/public-flegt/), the Commission's primary knowledge sharing platform on development and external cooperation, to allow stakeholders to share their views and analyses on the EU FLEGT Action Plan.

For more information

Information and regular updates on the evaluation will be published on http://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/sectors/environment/sustainable-forestry_en
and http://www.euflegt.efi.int/eu-flegt-evaluation

EFI

This document does not necessarily reflect the European Commission's official position.