

# Special topic: information on illegal logging and related trade

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#### Background to the discussion

- Widespread concern about illegal logging and related trade, starting in the tropics, but also in ECE region
- Linkage between illegal logging in producer countries and markets in consumer countries (certification, public procurement)
- Geneva workshop 2004
- Madrid MCPFE 2005
- ENA FLEG St. Petersburg, 2005







### Geneva workshop 2004

- Aimed at first estimate of extent and cause of illegal logging in ECE region
- Based on national reports from all countries
- Distinguished between poverty driven and profit driven illegal activities
- A good start







#### Madrid MCPFE 2005

- Discussed common understanding, forms and causes and measures to overcome problem, trade, <u>information needs to fight illegal logging</u> and related trade.
- Recommendations, including:
  - Ensure accessibility and transparency of information on management, concessions, conservation and other forest related issues.
  - Invite Working Party to collect information on extent of illegal logging and related trade and developing suitable methodology in cooperation with IUFRO, RIIA, EFI et al.







### St. Petersburg Declaration 2005 (information related commitments)

- effective enforcement requires information on management, policies and legislation be readily available and communicated to public
- collect and disseminate transparent information on forest resources, their allocation and exploitation
- Monitor and disclose data on domestic and international trade flows and promote traceability systems







### St. Petersburg 2005 (cont.)

- Enhance international capacity for monitoring assessment and reporting on areas such as trade flows and customs data
- Facilitate gathering, synthesis and sharing of import/export data on wood and forest products and their integration into international open data bases (e.g. FAO, ITTO)
- Secure cooperation and support form international organisations, including FAO and UNECE







#### EFI study by Ottitsch et al.

- Definitions
- Overview of ongoing processes
- Available information
- Scope and consequences in Europe
- Conclusions for MCPFE
- "one problem is that existing information systems are not sufficiently accurate and on time to be used as monitoring and indicator tools"
- Download from http://www.mcpfe.org





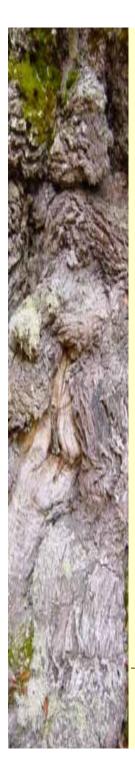


### Objectives of this morning's session

- Share experience on obtaining information on illegal logging and related trade
- Seek ways of improving the situation, by exchange of ideas and cooperation
- (This is only a first step in a long process!)
- (the focus is on information, not policy or action)







#### Structure of the session

- 9.30 secretariat introduction
- 9.45 international experience and policy context
  - RIIA
  - Global Witness
  - ODI Verifor
  - FAO/ITTO
  - CITES
  - EU FLEGT
- 11.00 Discussion
- 11.25 Sum up







## What would we like to know, for policy purposes, in an ideal world?

- Volume of illegally logged wood
- Location and nature of illegal operations
- Production from illegally logged wood
- Trade (detail!) of illegally logged wood and derived products
- Consumption of products of illegally logged wood (value, channels of distribution)







## Methods of collecting information (all have advantages and disadvantages):

- Forest rangers reports
- Survey of logging sites
- News reports and police data
- Comparison consumption with legal supply
- Comparison of importers' and exporters' data
- Tracking legal timber
- Investigation of illegal operations







## Questions for discussion (after speakers from other organisations):

- What has worked at the national level?
- Which approach works best in which circumstances?
- Comments on the « wish list »?
- Role of forest sector information specialists (WP members)?
- Potential for international cooperation?
- Possible outputs in near future?
- Role of the Working Party?







### **Speakers**

- Jade Saunders (RIIA)
- David Young (Global Witness)
- James Hewitt (consultant)
- Neil Bird (ODI/Verifor)
- Arvydas Lebedys (FAO/ITTO)
- Jeremy Wall (EU FLEGT)
- Juan Carlos Vasquez (CITES)



