



# Politically smart, locally led development

The making of the FLEGT  
Action Plan

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# What is the FLEGT Action Plan?

- A package of measures, adopted 2003
- Engages government, business, civil society
- Tougher public procurement policies
- EU legislation to ban illegal imports
- Voluntary partnership agreements

# Results

- 6 VPAs signed, 9 under negotiation
- (US Lacey Act amended 2008)
- EU Timber Regulation 2010
- New public procurement policies
- Not mission accomplished, but tangible results

# Chronology of events

- NGO activism 1990s
- 1998 G8 Birmingham summit
- 2001 Bali Declaration
- 2002 Indonesia / UK MOU
- 2002 EC and CH stakeholder meetings
- 2003 FLEGT Action Plan
- 2005 EU regulation and mandate
- 2008 Ghana VPA
- 2009 UK public procurement policy
- 2010 EUTR

# Iterative problem solving

- Explore the problem, find entry points, opportunism
- Multilateral – bilateral; sustainability-legality
- Flexible support (investigations, research, policy briefings, CH facility)
- Secondments (EC, UKTTF)
- Brokering relationships (OGDs, NGOs, EC, G8, China)
- VPAs: locally led, MSH processes

# Politically smart, locally led

- Multifaceted, broad range of SHs
- Illegal logging a shared problem
- EU market leverage shifts incentives
- Respects sovereignty, local leadership
- Strategic use of aid
- Technically sound, politically feasible

# A supportive environment

- Trusted insiders, freedom to operate
- Flexible funding, no pressure to spend
- Staff continuity
- Long term commitment