



FLEGT

FOREST LAW ENFORCEMENT
GOVERNANCE AND TRADE

VPA Update

Carlos Battaglini, EU Delegation, Monrovia

Forest Governance Forum

May 1st and 2nd, 2012





Legally binding treaty to improve governance

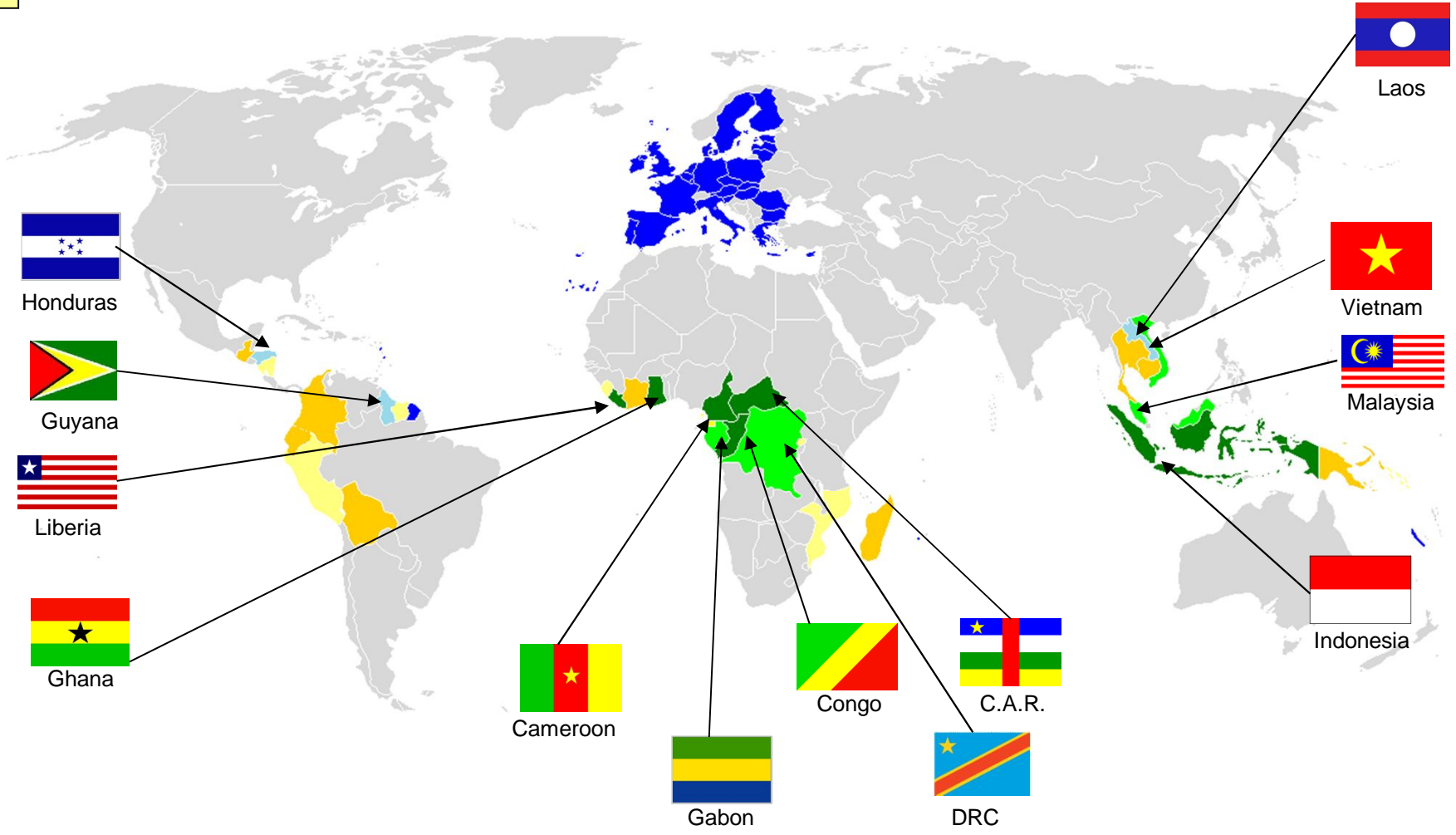
- ✓ Aim to work together to stop illegal logging
- ✓ Applies EU wide (all 27 Member States) – partner country
- ✓ A system to verify legal compliance, confirmed through a licence
- ✓ EU customs block entry of non licensed timber from country
- ✓ Independent Audit of systems
- ✓ Clarity in legal requirements & requisite reforms
- ✓ Publication of information on forests, holdings, community agreements, revenues and benefit sharing
- ✓ Reforms linked to market access
- ✓ But **Voluntary**, framed on national law respecting and rooted in sovereignty of partner country



FLEGT VPA partner countries

April 2012

- FLEGT licenses (not yet)
- System development
- Formal negotiations
- Entering into negotiations
- Preparation, in-country consensus building
- Introduction to VPAs





FLEGT

FOREST LAW ENFORCEMENT
GOVERNANCE AND TRADE

In country consensus building for VPA

Côte d'Ivoire: Series of in-country stakeholder meetings in 2011. National workshop planned. Strong interest.

Mekong region:

Myanmar recent political developments, including lift of the sanctions, may open up to establishing a dialogue on forest governance (FLEGT & REDD+)

Thailand exploring options to respond to EUTR requirements and considering to start VPA negotiations

Cambodia associated to regional FLEGT information campaign organized and still ongoing in the whole region;





FLEGT

FOREST LAW ENFORCEMENT
GOVERNANCE AND TRADE

FLEGT introduction – information sharing

Development and Challenges

Growing demand for information on VPAs.

Partly driven by the EU timber regulation, partly driven by stakeholders who see the VPA as a tool to address some specific challenges.

Central America:

Growing interest for FLEGT (demand from CCAD)

South America:

Growing interest for FLEGT.

Southern Africa:

Growing interest for FLEGT from Uganda, Zambia, Madagascar and Mozambique





FLEGT

FOREST LAW ENFORCEMENT
GOVERNANCE AND TRADE

Challenges

Supporting VPA implementation and delivery of first FLEGT licences

Negotiation

- *VPAs for processing hubs. The case of Vietnam.*
- *VPAs where strong REDD interface & need for synergy. The case of Guyana*

In-country consensus building should be good enough to understand VPA implications, to identify challenges and different stakeholder interests

A clear understanding of interface between VPA (FLEGT Regulation) and EU timber regulation and timing

Now there are VPAs. Avoiding cookie cutter approach and ensuring new VPAs are tailor made to address specific challenges

How can your projects help meeting those challenges in the countries you work?

