Introduction to ITTO

Emmanuel Ze Meka
Executive Director
International Tropical Timber Organization
International Tropical Timber Organization (ITTO)

- Created by the ITTA, 1983
- Successor Agreements concluded in 1994 and 2006
- ITTA, 2006 into force since 7 Dec. 2011
- Secretariat of 35 people based in Yokohama, Japan
ITTO mandate

Promoting sustainable development through trade, conservation and best-practice forest management
International Tropical Timber Council

- The organization’s governing body
- Meets every year to discuss policy issues and to set the project programme
- Active participation of NGOs (trade & environment) is encouraged
Membership

ITTO:

• Brings together tropical timber producers and consumers as equal partners in decision-making
• Currently has 66 members (ITTA, 2006)

ITTO membership represents:
• Over 90% of world tropical timber trade
• Over 80% of world’s tropical forests
Producer member countries: 28

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Africa</th>
<th>Asia</th>
<th>Latin America</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Benin</td>
<td>Cambodia</td>
<td>Colombia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cameroon</td>
<td>Fiji</td>
<td>Ecuador</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Congo</td>
<td>India</td>
<td>Guatemala</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Côte d'Ivoire</td>
<td>Indonesia</td>
<td>Guyana</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dem. Rep. of Congo</td>
<td>Malaysia</td>
<td>Honduras</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gabon</td>
<td>Myanmar</td>
<td>Mexico</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ghana</td>
<td>Papua New Guinea</td>
<td>Panama</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Liberia</td>
<td>Philippines</td>
<td>Peru</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mali</td>
<td></td>
<td>Trinidad &amp; Tobago</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mozambique</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Togo</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Consumer member countries: 38

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>European Union</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Albania</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Australia</td>
<td>Austria</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Canada</td>
<td>Belgium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>China</td>
<td>Bulgaria</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Japan</td>
<td>Cyprus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Zealand</td>
<td>Czech Republic</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Norway</td>
<td>Denmark</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Republic of Korea</td>
<td>Estonia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Switzerland</td>
<td>Finland</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U.S.A.</td>
<td>France</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Germany</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Greece</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Hungary</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Ireland</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Italy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Latvia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Lithuania</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Luxembourg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Malta</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Netherlands</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Poland</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Portugal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Romania</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Slovakia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Slovenia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Spain</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Sweden</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>United Kingdom</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>United Kingdom</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Objectives

19 objectives of the ITTA focus on:

• Providing framework for dialogue on the timber trade between members

• Contributing to sustainable development through conservation and sustainable use

• Achieving exports of tropical timber from sustainably managed sources
Operation

- Policy work
- Field activities
Policy work

• Major issues → Decisions

  - ITTO Objective 2000
  - Forest law enforcement
  - Procurement policies and certification
  - CITES
Policy work (cont.)

- Normative work → Guidelines
  - ITTO/IUCN guidelines for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity in tropical timber production forests
  - Revised ITTO criteria and indicators for the sustainable management of tropical forests
  - ATO/ITTO principles, criteria and indicators for the sustainable management of African natural tropical forests
  - ITTO guidelines for the restoration, management and rehabilitation of degraded and secondary tropical forests
  - Criteria and indicators for sustainable management of natural tropical forests
  - ITTO guidelines on fire management in tropical forests
  - ITTO guidelines on the conservation of biological diversity in tropical production forests
  - ITTO guidelines for the establishment and sustainable management of planted tropical forests
  - ITTO guidelines for the sustainable management of natural tropical forests
Donors

Financial contributions may be made by any country or organization.

Main donors for project work and other activities:

- Japan
- Switzerland
- United States
- Netherlands
- European Union
Partnerships

- Civil-society Advisory Group (Council)
- Trade Advisory Group (Council)
- CPF organizations: e.g. IUCN, FAO
- International NGOs: e.g. WWF, Conservation International
- National-level agencies and NGOs: e.g. project in Indonesia implemented by WWF (Indonesia) and Ministry of Forestry
- Timber industry: e.g. tropical plywood conference in China
- Timber industry/environmental NGO: e.g. civil-society/private-sector partnerships towards SFM
Field activities

- ITTO has provided grants worth over US$370 million
- More than 1000 projects, pre-projects and activities funded
- About 150 projects currently under way
- Employ more than 400 local, full-time professionals in the tropics
Field action

ITTO resources are used to:

• Implement sustainable tropical forest management
• Train the forest, industry and conservation workforces
• Develop conservation reserves
• Improve trade transparency
• Promote a sustainable tropical timber trade
Areas of work

• Economic information and market intelligence (EIMI)
• Forest industry (FI)
• Reforestation and forest management (RFM)
Economic information and market intelligence (EIMI)

- Timber trade and markets
- Statistics
- Market access
- Certification
- Ecosystem services
Forest industry (FI)

- Value adding
- Reduced impact logging
- Efficiency
- Marketing
Reforestation and forest management (RFM)

- Forest management planning
- Criteria & indicators
- Community forestry
- Forest fire management
- Forest law enforcement
- Biodiversity & transboundary conservation
- Mangroves
- Restoration & planted forests
Project cycle

- Regular project cycle
- Activities based on:
  - ITTA objectives
  - Action Plan
  - Decisions of Council
Project cycle (cont.)

- Thematic programmes

- 5 thematic programmes:
  - REDDES
  - TFLET
  - CFME
  - TMT
  - IDE

- Priorities of SFM
Examples: EIMI

- Improvement of forest statistics and information systems
- Detecting illegal logging
- Development of tracking systems
Examples: FI

• Training in effective operation of FI: Guyana, Indonesia, Malaysia, Nigeria

• Utilisation of forest biomass: Cameroon, Malaysia

• Standards setting: Philippines

• Kiln drying: Brazil

• Products development: Cameroon, Malaysia
Examples: RFM

- Planning and zoning: Iwokrama, Congo, Gabon
- Transboundary conservation: Cambodia/Thailand, Congo/Cameroon, Ecuador/Peru, Malaysia/Indonesia
- Other protected areas: Cameroon
- Fire management: Côte d’Ivoire, Ghana, Guyana
- Forest restoration: Indonesia
Examples: RFM (cont.)

- Communities engagement in SFM: Brazil, Honduras, Panama, Togo
- Women engagement in SFM: Ghana
- Mangroves management: Cambodia, Colombia, Thailand
- Reduced impact logging: Brazil, Gabon, Guyana, Indonesia
Examples: RFM (cont.)

Climate change related:

- Carbon stock assessment: DRC
- Multipurpose inventory: Guyana, PNG
- Formulation of forest policies: Togo
- Forest cover change assessment: Brazil (ACTO)
Cross cutting actions

Support to:

• Training institutions (Cameroon, RIFFEAC)
• Support to conferences (COFLAC)
• Fellowship programme
Website: www.itto.int
Governance tools

- Legality
- Certification
- Procurement policies

Tackled through TFLET
Legality

Definition:

- Compliance of national laws and regulations and international conventions
- Sovereign rights to establish definitions
- Scope varies from country to country
Legality (cont.)

Implementation of timber legality assurance systems:

- Mostly in producer countries
  *example: FLEGT VPA*

- Legality audits

- Other legality approaches

National level

Private sector level
Legality (cont.)

Challenges:

- Complex and time-consuming
- Significant additional costs
- Limited access for community forests
- Level of technology
  - Paper
  - Tracking systems
- Enforcement
Certification

- Origin: unsustainable management of tropical forests
- Process: C & I → audits → certification
- Major trop. for. schemes: 17 mill ha (2011)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Scheme</th>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>FSC</td>
<td>1993</td>
<td>60%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PEFC</td>
<td>1999</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MTCC</td>
<td>1998</td>
<td>24%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CERFLOR</td>
<td>1990</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kerhout (NTTA)</td>
<td>1996</td>
<td>6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LEI</td>
<td>1998</td>
<td>6%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Certification (cont.)

Challenges:

- Cost: preparation, audit, compliance
- Number of schemes
- Mutual recognition
- Phase approaches
Procurement policy

Drivers:

- International commitments
- National strategies for sustainable consumption and production
- Concern over illegal logging
- NGO pressure
- Private sector strategies and policies
- Grassroot public concerns
Procurement policy (cont.)

Challenges:

• Proliferation of requirements
  - Lacey Act
  - EU due diligence
  - Other national initiatives: Belgium, Japan, UK, Germany, France, etc.

• Differences in recognition of forest certification systems

• Private sector: various code of conduct
ITTO involvement

Policy level:

- Guidelines for SFM
- Decisions
  - Illegal logging
  - Forest law enforcement
- Establishment of thematic programme on TFLET
Objectives:

- Strengthen forest law enforcement and governance through improved national policy and legal frameworks, stronger institutions, improved data and knowledge, strengthened partnerships and improved cooperation among civil society organizations and other stakeholders.

- Improve transparency and effective management of supply chains and increased international trade in legally and sustainably produced tropical timber.

- Improve capacity of community and small and medium-sized enterprises to implement and demonstrate that timber produced and traded comes from legal and sustainable sources.
TFLET (cont.)

Types of projects:

- Strengthening forest governance
  *ex. policy reforms (Cambodia, Peru)*

- Support international trade in legal & sustainable timber
  *ex. tracking systems (Ghana, Guyana)*

- Strengthen community & SME capacity
  *ex. capacity building to track illegal logging (Cameroon, Indonesia)*
Thank you all
for your kind attention!

E-mail: itto@itto.int
Website: www.itto.int