



Development of international standards

Initial ideas

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1. Introduction - objectives

2. Existing standards

3. Additional needs / open questions?

1. Introduction- objectives



Why do we need international standardisation?

- **Ensure quality of reference data to judge on claims on species and origin**
- **Enable merging of reference data**
- **Ensure quality and reproducibility of testing in different labs**

1. Introduction- objectives



Important for quality of reference data

- **Sampling, registration, and storage of reference material**
 - Representative sampling
 - Avoid errors and contamination
 - Ensure long-term storage
- **Screening methods**
- **Data analysis and data storage**

1. Introduction -objectives



Important for merging reference data

- **Comparable sampling strategy**
- **Same screening method**

1. Introduction - objectives



Important for quality and reproducibility of testing

- **Same screening method**
- **Quality standards in the lab**
- **Performance of the lab team (training)**
- **Use of common reference material**
- **Sufficient measures to avoid and identify contaminations (DNA)**

1. Introduction - objectives



Objectives in GTTN II for international standards

- **Verification of the applicability of existing standards (e.g., UNDOC standards for “Guidance on Forensic Timber Identification”)**
- **Update of existing GTTN guidelines on the sampling of reference material;**
- **Development of recommendations for data analysis on the quality of reference data and for the assignment of test material to geographic origin;**
- **Development of methods for common data analysis of genetic and stable isotopes on geographic origin;**
- **Evaluation of set-up and performance of test labs**
- **Contributing to other relevant expert groups working in these fields**

1. Introduction - objectives



Deliverables in GTTN II for international standards

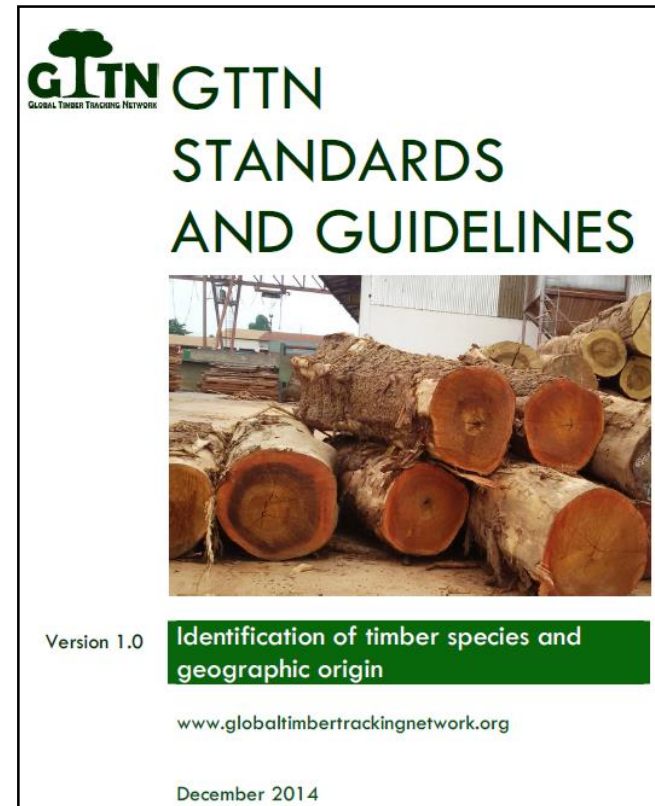
- **Reviewed GTTN guidelines on sampling of reference material**
- **Development of recommendations for data analysis on the quality of reference data and for the assignment of test material to geographic origin**
- **Guidelines on methods for common data analysis of genetic and stable isotopes on geographic origin**
- **Compilation of test Labs Evaluation reports**
- **Report on the feasibility of the practical implementation of the timber tracking methods**

2. Existing standards



GTTN Standards from 12/2014

- Sampling
- DNA isolation
- Genotyping
- Analysis stable isotopes
- Ring and blind tests

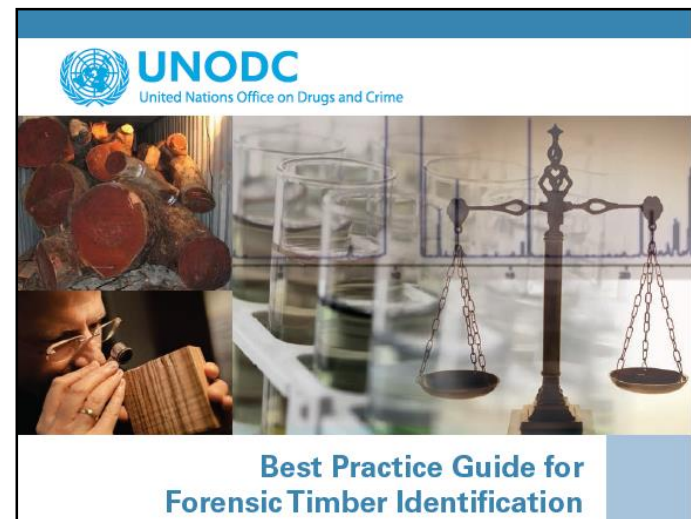


2. Existing standards



UNODC Forensic Timber Identification (August 2016)

- **Focussed on case work with chapters dedicated to different groups (law enforcement, prosecutors, scientists)**
- **Collect and transport samples for testing (evidence)**
- **Overview on identification methods**
- **Information on access to reference data**
- **Laboratory procedural requirements for case work**



3. Additional needs / open questions?



Which are the main application areas of timber tracking methods? And what does it mean for standardisation?

- Intensive work on few samples for forensic case work
- Extensive work for screening of many samples for quick checks on declarations (mass screening)
- Work under optimal conditions in developed countries
<=> work under simple conditions in developing countries

3. Additional needs / open questions?



Are there areas which don't need standardisation or don't allow standardisation?

Which are already available standards and for which areas could they be used? Where do we need more specific standards?

How should an expert group working on the standards be composed? Who should be contacted? (Broad or very specific)

Standardisation as a process (dynamic development of identification methods)

3. Additional needs / open questions?



**What would be the best mode of operation for the expert group?
(Meetings of core group, phone conferences, small drafting group,
larger group with e-mail contributions, final workshops with broad
audience)**

What is needed to motivate potential participants to contribute?

How should expert missions for lab evaluation be organised?

Thank you for your attention!



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The objective of the Global Timber Tracking Network (GTTN) is to promote the operationalization of innovative tools for wood identification and origin determination, to assist the fight against illegal logging and related trade around the globe.

GTTN is an open alliance that cooperates along a joint vision and the network activities are financed through an open multi-donor approach. GTTN phase 2 coordination (2017-2019) is financed by the German Federal Ministry of Food and Agriculture (BMEL).