Illegal logging

- amounts to 15–30 per cent of global forest production
- Worth 30 to 100 billion US$ yearly
- IL has detrimental effects on environment (climate, soil, water, air quality), livelihoods (subsistence, social agreements) and wider economy (taxes, valuation)
Global problem, links producer and consumer countries

Main global trade flows of roundwood and sawnwood at high risk of illegality, 2014 (million USD)

(Source: Kleinschmit et al., 2016)
Leverage of governance through trade

- Call in **consumer countries** for legal origin -> FLEG+T
- G8 1998 -> illegal logging gains high-level political attention
- US Lacey Act amendment, EU Timber Regulation, Australia, Japan and other countries following
- **Producer countries**: further forest sector regularization and CoC control systems development, VPAs
- Implementation and enforcement of these policies remains complicated
GTTN supports legal trade

The objective of the Global Timber Tracking Network (GTTN) is to promote the operationalization of innovative approaches to verify trade claims of wood-based products.

GTTN Brings together expertise and infrastructure to help stakeholders with the identification of wood species and its origin.
Seeking a holistic approach

- Genetics
- Stable isotope analysis
- Mass spectrometry
- NIRS
- Wood anatomy, machine vision
- Dendrochronology, radio carbon

- Combination of methods could cost-effectively increase accuracy
Two key end-user groups

- **law enforcement** agencies, customs, CITES authorities, judiciary;

- **due diligence**: economic operators’ own due diligence systems; SFM and CoC due diligence certifiers;
Be sure a trade claim is correct?

Product type

![Charcoal picture](image1)
![Wood log transport picture](image2)
![Paper roll picture](image3)
![Wood instrument picture](image4)
![FLEGT license picture](image5)
![CITES license picture](image6)

Trade claim: origin and tree species
GTNN SPD will provide information on available scientific methods and tools to verify declared tree species and/or geographic origin.

- Genetics
- Anatomy
- Isotopes
- Spectrometry

Query options informed by trade claim:
- Species, geographic origin, product type
- Lab location, accreditation
- Inspection sample availability; Timing

Development so far with inputs from USFS-common names database, WRI, Traffic, IAWA.
GTNN work programme

Collaborative effort → Cross-cutting themes; working groups; task forces

Standardised protocols & guidelines

Communication, policy & advocacy

use of timber tracking tools to curb illegal logging & trade

identify service providers per timber species and origin

assure validity and robustness of data

Reference database

Expert database

WHAT
Standardization, Harmonization

Contribute to international standard setting:

- Sampling, storage and transport
- Exchange of Sample material and data
- Data analysis guidelines
- Guideline on selecting methods
- Lab quality indicators
GTNN Reference Database

For participating laboratories:

- Query existing reference data
- For any wood-ID method
- Data holders define access condition

Data repository

- Metadata in one secure location
- Central and distributed data

• Exploring cooperation with TreeGenesdb.org
• Fulfils design requirements – not only DNA!
• TreeGenes systems architecture allows for a separate GTTN platform to be developed
Advocacy

• Priority species list – revisited
• Sampling campaigns
• Protocols for reference data sharing (IPR, ABS)
• Assessing market for GTTN services
• Advocate for funding and coordination between donors
Communication, networking, outreach

- www.globaltimbertrackingnetwork.org

- GTTN news, social media
- Meetings: Working Groups, Task Forces and Regional Workshops
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).

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