Workshop on the Development of a SADC Regional FLEGT Programme



FLEGT process in Cameroon – approach and lessons learnt

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CIFOR's research framework

- Governance Programme
 - FLEGT, Illegal Forest Activities (IFAs), Domestic Timber Markets, Politically Exposed Persons (PEPs), Integrated Law Enforcement Approach (ILEA), REDD+
- Asia, Africa, Latin America
- 2010-2013, EC PRO-Formal
 - Better integrate chainsaw milling and domestic timber markets into the legal framework (Cameroon, DRC, Gabon, Indonesia, Ecuador)

Nat'l and Int'l context

- Two decades of forest/ry policies
 - 'Permanent Forest Domains' v. 'Non-PFD'
 - SFM in industrial, large-scale, export-oriented logging concessions
 - Increased state revenues
 - Redistribution to rural communities
- FLEGT (in Central Africa):
 - Guarantee the legality of the entire production (TLAS) to secure legal exports to the EU ('FLEGT-licence')
- Regional and national consumption and fluxes of timber acknowledged but officially 'unknown'



The Cameroonian approach

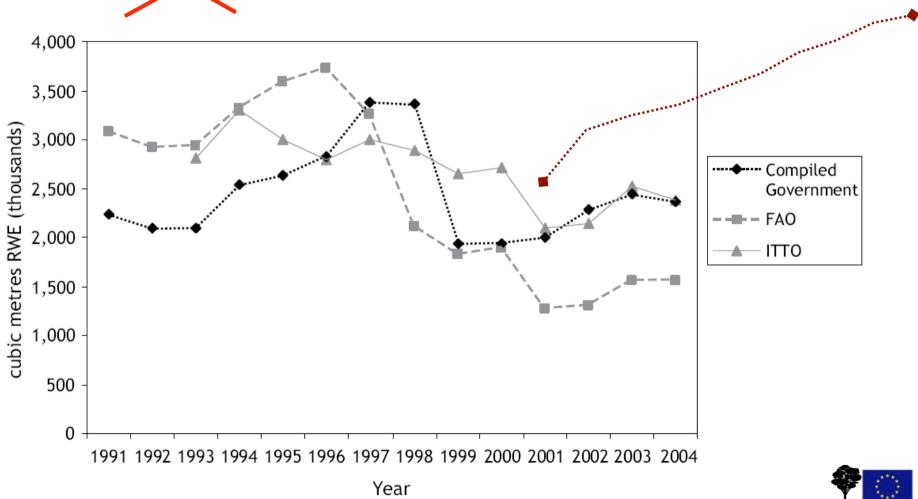
- Preparation FLEGT/VPA since 2003-4
- Formal VPA negotiations end 2007
- VPA signature mid-2010
- VPA ratification mid-2011

Lessons learnt on...

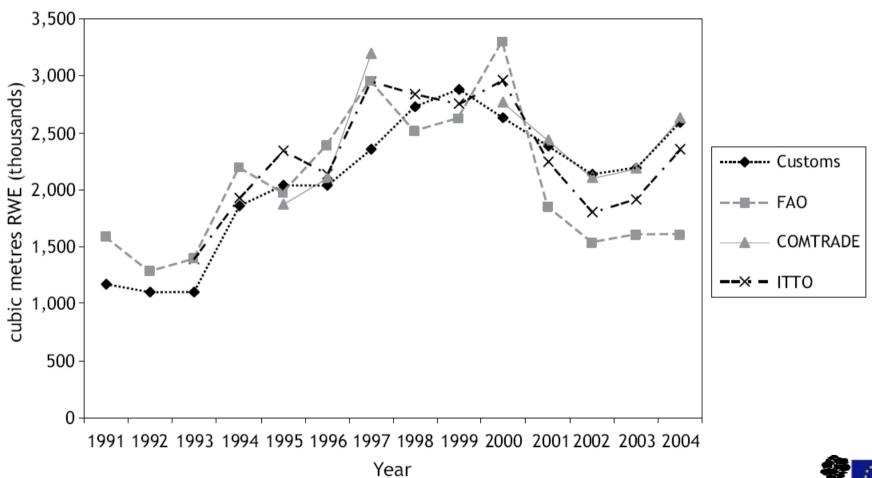
- Data and information
- Governance
- Trade, markets and incentives
- Land use dynamics



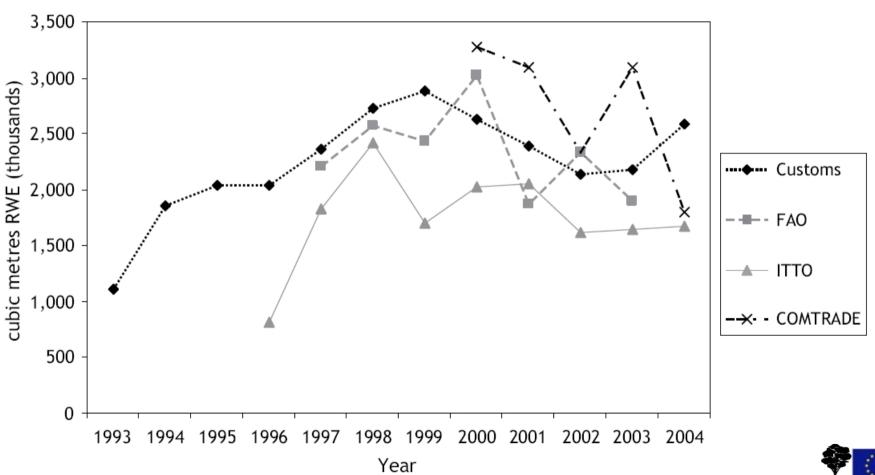
'Official' Timber Production



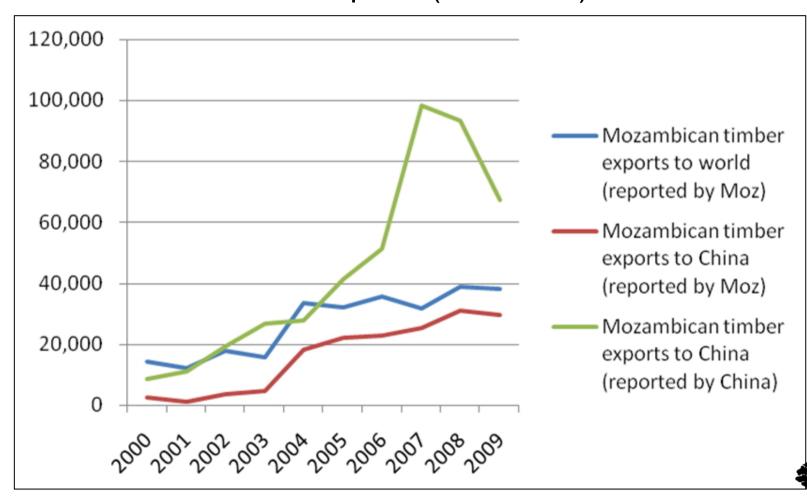
'Official' Timber Exports (declared by producer)



'Official' Timber Imports (declared by consumer)



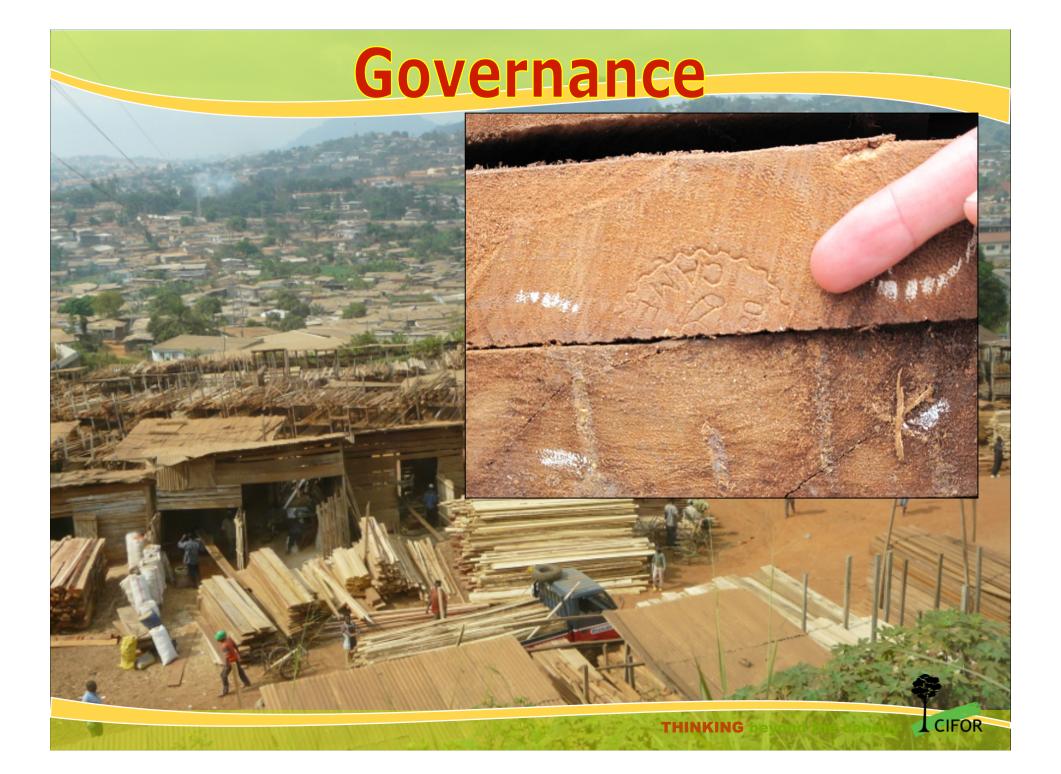
'Official' Timber Exports ('000 USD)



Data and info - Lessons learnt



HINKING beyond the canopy



Governance

- Limited enforcement and monitoring
 - Greed and incompetence of state officials are not root causes of policy failures
 - Policy failures are instruments used by state officials for accomplishing unpopular, controversial or illegal programmatic and political strategic objectives (Ascher 1999)
- Consider FLEGT a trade agreement, not a development one
 - Incentives not aid (also for IOs)
 - 'Legal' costs < 'Illegal' costs (3-25 US\$/m³)



Trade, markets and incentives

- FLEGT is not a panacea
 - Establish priorities (NTFP and charcoal problematic issues, use FLEGT if possible to improve legal frameworks)
- Model markets and policy options on real scenarios, not on preconceived ideas (chainsaw milling, domestic/regional markets, NTFP, charcoal)
- FLEGT is neither FSC nor REDD+



Land use dynamics

- What 'F' (forest) means in your country?
 - M-LEGT, A-LEGT, B-LEGT...
- FLEGT may work alone
 - A good forestry database
 - Improved forestry knowledge
 - More transparent forestry prices, trade dynamics
- FLEGT will not work alone
 - Governance (incentives and sanctions)





This document has been produced with the financial assistance from the European Union. The views expressed herein can in no way be taken to reflect the official opinion of the European Union.

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The Center for International Forestry Research (CIFOR) is one of the 15 centres supported by the Consultative CGIAR Group on International Agricultural Research (CGIAR)

