

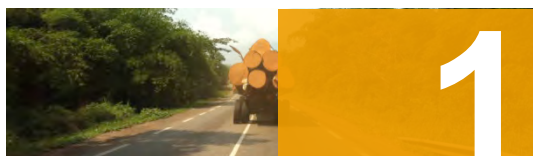


## Ten years of EU-FLEGT in the Congo Basin - lessons for Southern Africa?

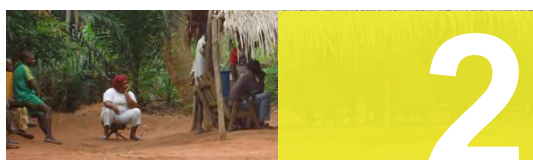


# Ten years of EU-FLEGT in the Congo Basin - lessons for Southern Africa?

Paolo Omar Cerutti



## 1 EU-FLEGT vs. SADC-FLEGT



## 2 Lessons learnt







# EU-FLEGT vs. SADC-FLEGT?







# Drivers: bottom-up...

**Illegally logged wood from Cameroon on the Dutch market**

An investigation into illegal logging practices by Fipcam and MMG, and related trade to the Netherlands



**Les Amis de la Terre**




June 2007

**GREENPEACE** Greenpeace UK

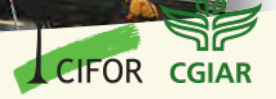

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**Boycott the Danzer Group!**

Posted by admin - 1 December 2004 at 8:00am - 0 Comments



June 20...  
up, aft...  
German Danzer



## ...vs. top-down

Year	Event
mid-1990s	Inter-governmental Panel and Forum on Forests
1997	G8 summit agrees to an Action Plan on Forests which includes a commitment to eliminate illegal logging (Colchester, 2004)
1998 - 2000	G8 summits in Birmingham and Okinawa: first true public and official statements on illegal logging
September 2001	Bali Ministerial Meeting: a Forest Law Enforcement and Governance (FLEG) initiative in Asia is launched
2002	Indonesia signs joint statements or memoranda of understanding with the U.K, Norway, Japan, Republic of Korea, and China
July 2003	The President's Initiative Against Illegal Logging is launched, committing the U.S. to assist countries in the Congo and Amazon Basins, Central America and South-East Asia to combat illegal logging
October 2003	Yaoundé, Cameroon: 39 countries committed to a Ministerial Declaration and Actions targeted at combating illegal logging, associated illegal trade, and corruption in the forest sector at the Africa Forest Law Enforcement and Governance (AFLEG) conference
July 2004	A EU's Action Plan is officially released to both increase support for governance and enforcement in wood-producing countries, and mechanisms for voluntary actions to control trade in illegal wood products (Colchester, 2004; AF&PA, 2004). Trading activities are added to the EU's FLEG, which becomes FLEGT





# Tools: bilateral, public/private...



VPA partner  
country



VPA partner  
country



Importer

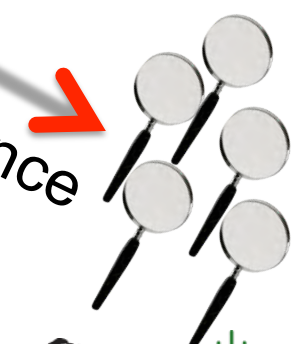
EUTR



FLEGT Licence



No Licence



## ...vs. multilateral, public?

- Enhanced intra-regional trade in forest products
  - (SADC) ‘Member states have all decried the fact that trade in forest products is way below its potential and would like to replace today’s largely informal, illegal and unreported trade with formal ones’
    - A regional FLEGT process
    - Timber associations
    - Industry standards / certification
  - ‘An agreed instrument to curb illegal logging and associated trade signed by all member states by 2014’
    - What push and pulls?



# EU-FLEGT vs. SADC-FLEGT

- Background: Two decades of ‘homogeneous’ forest policies in the Congo basin
  - Target industrial, large-scale, export-oriented logging concessions, increased state revenues, redistribution to rural communities
- Scope: Timber trade vs. trade in forest products
  - ‘Unidirectional’ timber trade is the essence of EU-FLEGT
  - One ‘big’ buyer, several producers
  - One ‘big’ and ‘easy’ target for ENGOs





# EU-FLEGT vs. SADC-FLEGT

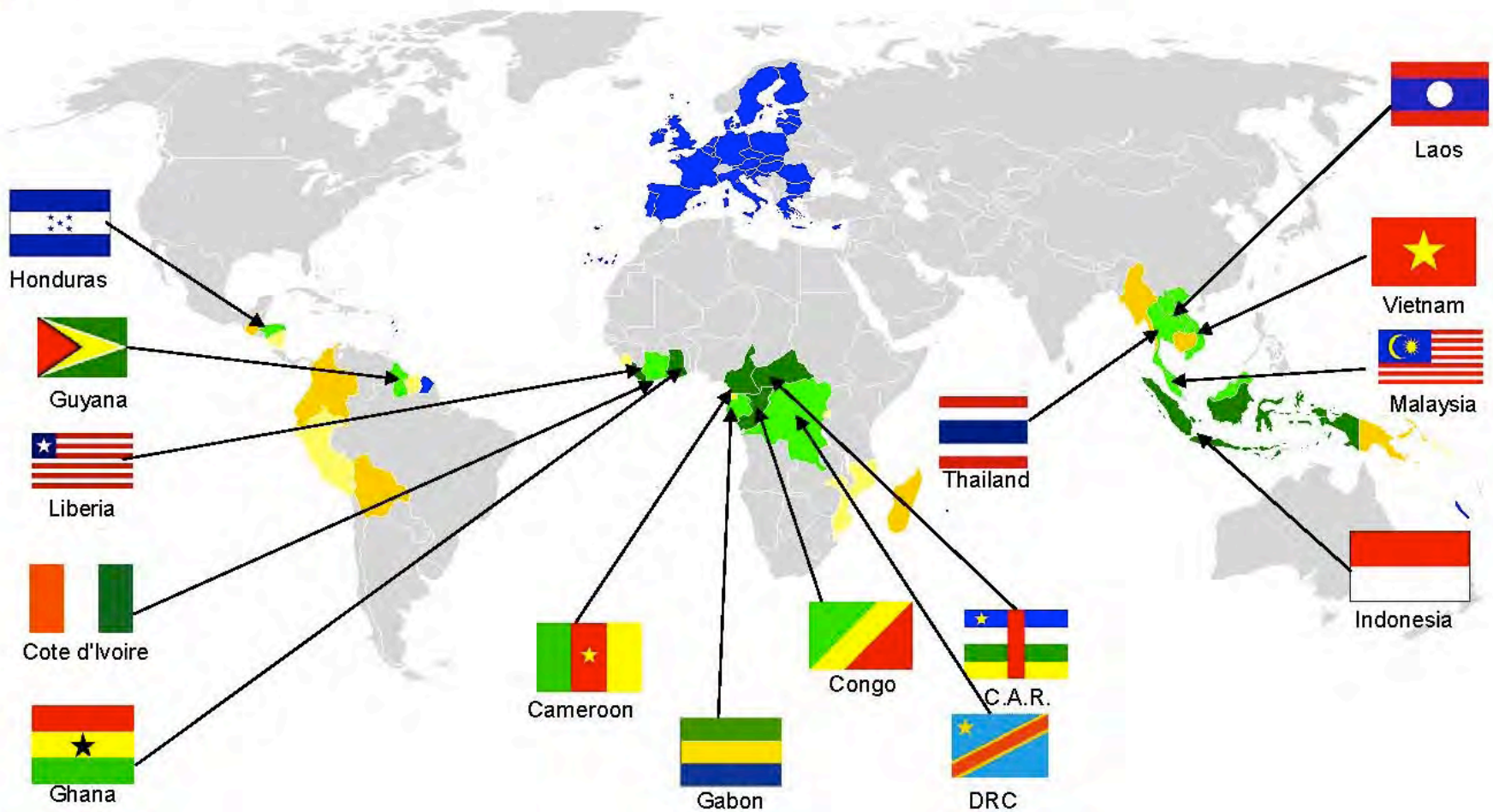
- Resources: Bilateral vs. Multilateral ‘agreements’
  - Possible diplomatic arm-twisting vs. more levelled playing field negotiations
- Political commitment: Scope for *ad hoc*, country-targeted ‘secondary’ effects
  - Legal reforms, SFM, poverty reduction, improved governance, transparency, indigenous people’s rights, land reforms, ...
  - Use of State and market, but define ‘State’ for SADC-FLEGT



# FLEGT VPA partner countries

July 2013

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





# Ten years of EU-FLEGT

- Congo, Cameroon and CAR
  - 5-7 yrs from preparation to ratification, implementation still ongoing
- DRC, Gabon
  - Negotiations ongoing, 'stalled' in Gabon







2

## Lessons learnt



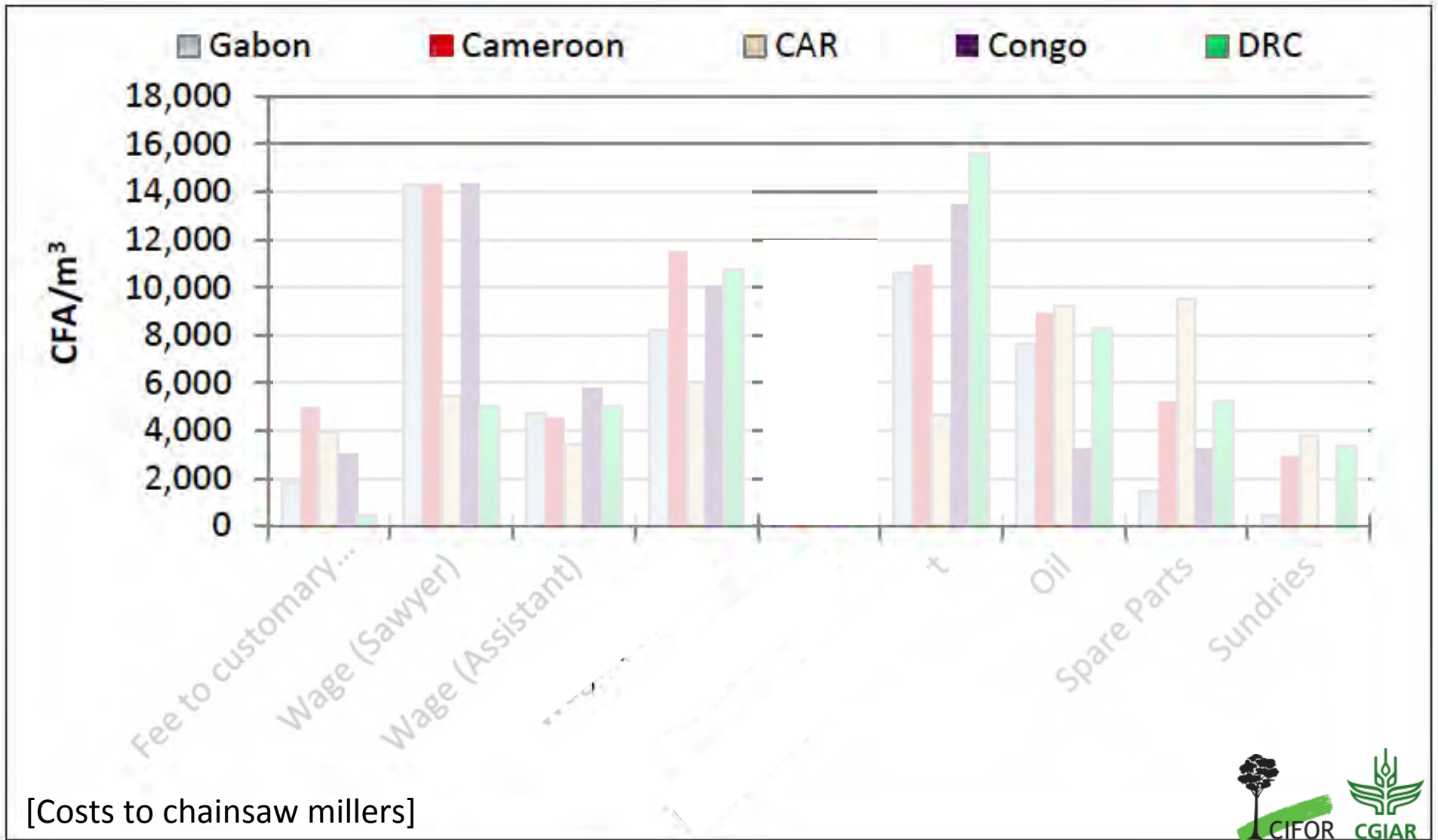


# Lessons learnt

- Governance
  - ‘The biggest challenge is to overcome the inability of governments to stimulate legal trade...’
- Data and information
  - ‘...share market information...’
- Trade, markets and incentives
  - ‘...and link private sector players from their countries to potential trading partners in other countries’
- Land use dynamics



# 'Inability of governments'?



[Costs to chainsaw millers]





# Governance

- Limited enforcement and monitoring
  - ‘The role of gov’t is to enable and facilitate’...legal and legitimate timber markets
- Speak truth to power
  - ...but also be ready to listen to power!
- Both carrots and sticks needed
  - ‘Legal’ costs < ‘Illegal’ costs for reforms to increase chances of success
  - Or, incentives > bribes





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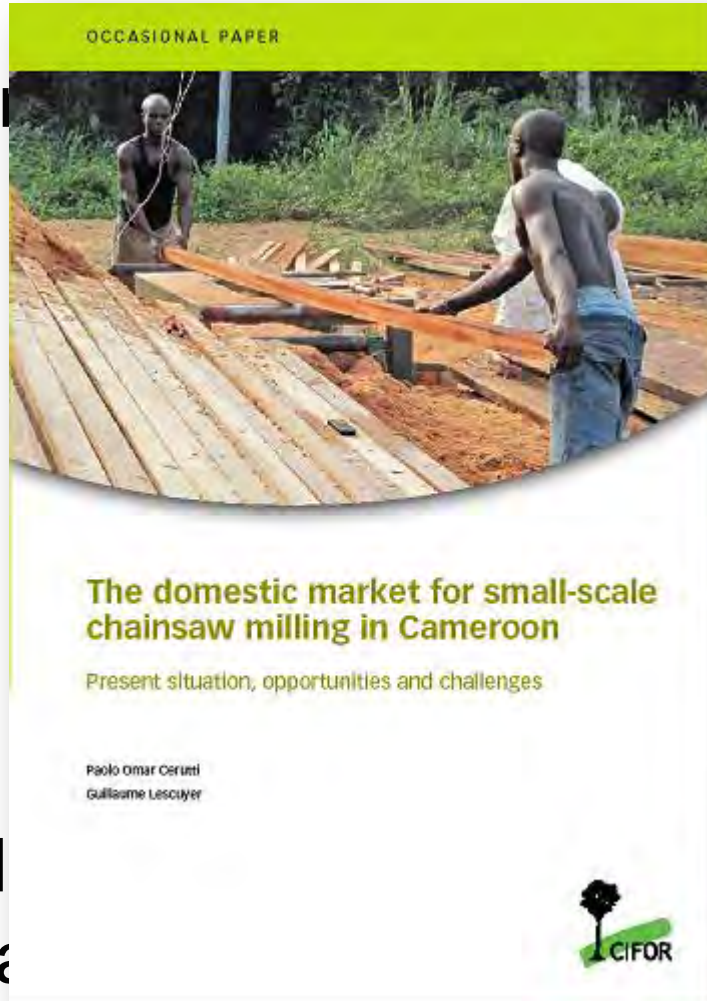




# Data and info

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([www.observatoire-comifac.net](http://www.observatoire-comifac.net))

CONGO BASIN  
Forest 2010



or  
nt



# Trade, markets and incentives

- FLEGT is not a panacea
  - Establish priorities (NTFPs and energy-wood issues on their own, use FLEGT if possible to improve legal frameworks)
- Model markets and policy options on facts, not on preconceived ideas (chainsaw milling, domestic/regional markets, NTFPs, energy-wood)
- FLEGT is neither FSC nor PES nor REDD+
  - Do not promise what you cannot deliver
  - Enhance synergies and monitor damage

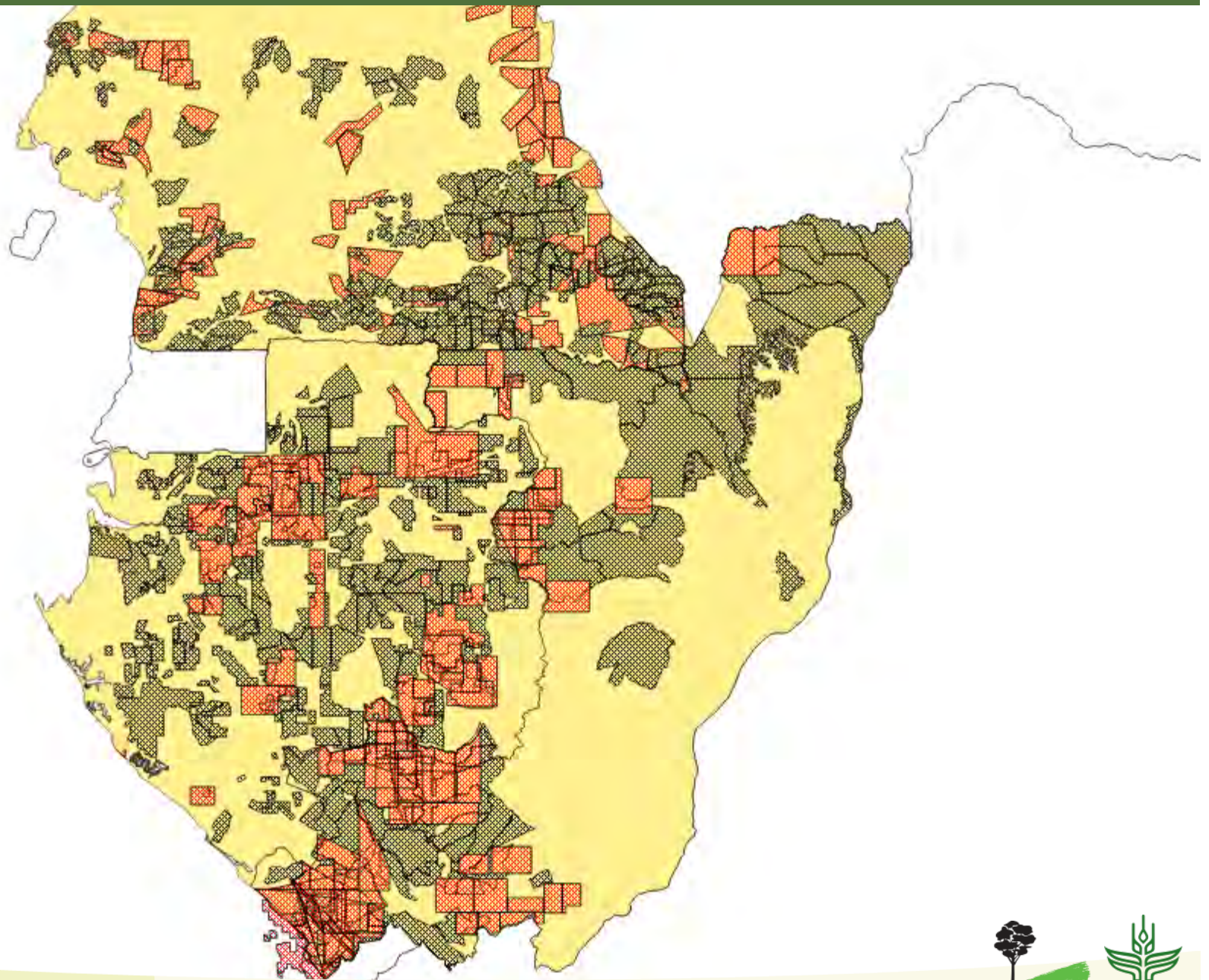




# Land use dynamics

- What 'F' (forest) means in your country?
  - M-LEGT, A-LEGT, B-LEGT...
- **F**LEGT may work alone
  - A good *forestry* database
  - Improved *forestry* knowledge
  - More transparent *forestry* prices, trade dynamics
- **F****LEGT** will not work alone
  - 'Is it Forestry Authorities only'?









THANK YOU

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RESEARCH  
PROGRAM ON  
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Agroforestry



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# References

Slide	Reference
10	<a href="http://www.illegal-logging.info/sites/default/files/John%20Bazill.pdf">http://www.illegal-logging.info/sites/default/files/John%20Bazill.pdf</a>
14	State of the Forest 2010, chapter 4 ( <a href="http://www.observatoire-comifac.net">www.observatoire-comifac.net</a> )

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