



Forest Law Enforcement, Governance and Trade Support Programme for African, Caribbean and Pacific Countries

## ACP-FLEGT Support Programme: Activities update

## Background

The "Forest Law Enforcement, Governance and Trade Support Programme for African, Caribbean and Pacific Countries" (ACP-FLEGT Support Programme - GCP/INT/064/EC) supports ACP country stakeholder groups (1. government institutions, 2. civil society organizations and 3. private sector organizations/federations) to implement the EU FLEGT Action Plan.

ACP country governments can access resources either through calls for proposals or direct requests for assistance.

- Calls for proposals are issued twice a year and are open to all three stakeholder groups.
- Direct requests for assistance are only open to ACP country governments. There is no deadline for submission and requests will be evaluated by the Programme Management Unit on a first-submitted first-evaluated basis. Direct requests should address urgent FLEGT-related policy/legislative/regulatory reform, technical assistance or information assistance needs.

## First call for proposal results

The first call for proposals was closed on November 6, 2009. FAO made 825,000 Euro available to fund Pilot Projects and 150,000 Euro available for Technical Assistance proposals.

Eighty-eight pilot projects and technical assistance proposals were received, of which 78 were evaluated. The proposals are categorized as follows:

- **Region:** 74 from Africa, 3 from the Caribbean and 1 proposal from the Pacific Islands;
- Countries: 25 countries and 1 regional organization submitted proposals;
- Stakeholder groups: civil society organization (56), Government (19) and private sector organization (2);
- Voluntary Partnership Agreement (VPA) countries (46) and Non-VPA counties (32);
- Not eligible: 10 proposals were not eligible to the programme.

Thirteen proposals were endorsed by the Steering Committee for funding and are characterised as follows:

- 12 African (9 different countries and one regional proposal) and 1 Caribbean
- Stakeholder groups: 5 Government Institutions and 8 Civil Society
- VPA countries: 10 VPA countries and 3 Non-VPA countries





The pilot projects and technical assistance projects endorsed for funding are listed in Tables 1 and 2.

Table 3 is a list of proposals funded through direct requests for assistance. Twelve direct requests for assistance were received in 2009 and 2 were selected for funding.

#### Calls for proposals 2010: dates and themes

There are two calls for proposals scheduled in 2010, the first will be issued in March and closed in May and the second will be issued in August and closed in October.

In 2010, the programme is promoting participation from under-represented regions and inclusion of less frequently proposed themes.

- 1. **Regional targets:** The programme will target FLEGT-related communications to stakeholders in the Pacific Island and Caribbean countries.
- Non-VPA countries: The programme is targeting countries that are not currently participating in Voluntary Partnership Agreement negotiations, but still wish to address concrete FLEGT-related issues. Approximately 60% of the proposals received originated from 12 VPA countries, while over 75% of the projects funded are in VPA countries. Non-VPA countries will be encouraged to address one of the 9 thematic areas that are defined on the programme website.
- 3. Thematic targets: In addition to the original seven programme themes<sup>1</sup>, stakeholders can now address domestic market and regional trade issues and FLEGT information assistance needs through the call for proposals or direct requests mechanisms. Information assistance is a simple way for ACP country governments to address questions such as: What is FLEGT? What is a Voluntary partnership agreement? How can FLEGT be useful for my country? How could the FAO FLEGT programme assist our country? How can we access FLEGT resources and assistance?

Additional information regarding the programme can be obtained by visiting the programme website (www.fao.org/forestry/acp-flegt) or by contacting the Programme Management Unit through Robert Simpson, Programme Manager (Robert.simpson@fao.org) or Marc Vandenhaute, Forestry Officer (marc.vandenhaute@fao.org).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The seven thematic issues for the programme are: 1. Capacity building/training support; 2. Transparency or Independent Monitoring support; 3. Voluntary Partnership Agreement support; 4. Community based FLEGT initiatives support; 5. Verification systems support; 6. Policy/legal/regulatory support; and 7. Private sector initiatives support.





Country	Funds requested	Project Title	Proponent
Liberia	\$US 89,355	Social Agreement Pilot Project	Forestry Development Authority - Liberia
Ghana	\$US132,897	Preparation of a training centre to support FLEGT implementation and the adoption of Sustainable Forest Management practises in Ghana and the West African Region.	Form International
Ghana	\$US 96,000	Integrating Civil Society in timber harvest validation processes for improved governance and reduced illegal logging under the European Union and Ghana Voluntary Partnership Agreement.	Working Group on Forest Certification
Dominican Republic	\$US 73,110	Proyecto Piloto para el Establecimiento y Fortalecimiento de Espacios de Concertacion y Gobernanza Forestal en la Republica Dominicana	CEDAF
Cameroon	\$US 91,334	Increasing effective forest law enforcement, governance and trade in the Congo Basin of Cameroon	Fondation Camerounaise de la Terre Vivante (FCTV)
Tanzania	\$US 90,000	Creating an Enabling Environment for FLEGT Action Plan Implementation:	World wide Fund for Nature (WWF)
Central African Republic	\$US 91,920	Renforcement des capacités des organisations de la société civile centrafricaine pour leur implication dans les négociations de l'APV FLEGT RCA-UE	Observatoire Centrafricain des Droits de l'Homme (OCDH)
DRC	\$US 67,400	Développement par un groupe de travail multi-acteurs d'une grille de légalité des produits de la filière bois en République Démocratique du Congo	World Wide Fund For Nature (WWF)
DRC	\$US135,000	Renforcement de l'expertise congolaise dans l'exécution du zonage forestier participatif (RECEZoFoP)	African Wildlife Foundation
Sierra Leone	\$US135,000	Building Capacity for a Verification System to support Sustainable Forestry in Sierra Leone	Forestry Division, Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Food Security (MAFFS)

# Table 1: Pilot Projects endorsed for funding

## Table 2: Technical Assistance proposals endorsed for funding

Country	Funds requested	Project Title	Proponent
Cameroon	FAO T.A.	Projet FLEGT- Gestion du Changement dans le Contrôle Forestier - Cameroun	Ministère des Forêts et de la Faune
Rep. of Congo	FAO T.A. and \$US 67000	Révision du Code Forestier et élaboration des textes règlementaires complémentaires	Min. du DD, de l'Econ. For. et de L'Env.
Gabon	\$US 67,000	Analyse des textes réglementaires forestiers, renforcement des capacités requises de la société civile gabonaise et, mobilisation pour la mise en oeuvre des éléments du plan d'action FLEGT.	Brainforest

## Table 3: Direct requests for assistance funded

Country	Funds Requested	Project Title	Proponent
Rep. of Congo	\$US 34,680		Min. du DD, de l'Econ. For. et de L'Env.
Cameroon	\$US 36,105	l deconcentrees du Ministère des Forets et de la taune en	Ministère des Forêts et de la Faune