

Implementing Timber Legality Assurance Systems

A guide to comply with timber legality requirements in Angola and to support due diligence



ANGOLA



Timber Legality Assurance Systems are being developed in a number of countries. They ensure that wood products conform to national laws and help to prevent the illegal importation of timber. The systems are dependent on governments developing effective control and verification systems and operators complying with legal requirements and conducting due diligence – in this context identifying and minimizing the risks associated with imported timber. By being aware of legal requirements in Angola and the risks of legal non-compliance, highlighted below, law enforcement agencies and importers can implement control and mitigation measures to prevent timber being illegally harvested, transported and traded.



HARVESTING TIMBER



Assure that no harvesting permits have been transferred illegally to third parties that may be ineligible to hold a license.

CHECK THE FOLLOWING DOCUMENTS:



Forest Exploration License

Cross-check information with the Certificate of Origin and the Transit Permit, carefully check the name of the License holder and the province specified, and ensure the License has been stamped by the Director General of the Forestry Development Institute (IDF).



Assure that timber has been harvested at or above the legal minimum diameter and within permitted boundaries.

CHECK THE FOLLOWING DOCUMENTS:



Forest Exploitation License

Cross-check information with the Certificate of Origin and the Transit Permit, carefully check the name of the License holder and the province specified, and ensure the License has been stamped by the Director General of the IDF.



Certificate of Origin

Cross-check with information on the Forest Exploitation License and Transit Permit, carefully check the province of origin and the volume and species of trees, and ensure the document has been signed by the Provincial Head of the IDF as well as check point or warehouse personnel.



Transit Permit

Cross-check with information on the Certificate of Origin and Forest Exploitation License, check the tree species and volumes specified, and ensure the date is valid and the Permit has been signed by warehouse personnel and signed and stamped by the IDF.



Export License

Cross-check with other supply chain documents and ensure the License has been signed by the Director of External Trade.



Assure that timber companies have complied with health and safety regulations.

CHECK THE FOLLOWING DOCUMENTS:



Occupational Health and Safety Services Reports

Importers can request monthly, quarterly and annual reports for companies with 50 or more employees.



Assure that timber companies have complied with labor regulations, registered workers for social protection, paid the minimum wage or higher and made social security contributions.

CHECK THE FOLLOWING DOCUMENTS:



Evidence of monthly social security contributions



TIMBER TRANSPORT & TRADE



Assure that timber has been transported under genuine documentation and declarations, and thus is subject to thorough inspections.

CHECK THE FOLLOWING DOCUMENTS:



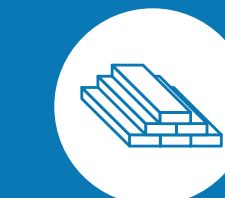
Certificate of Origin

Cross-check with information on the Forest Exploitation License and Transit Permit, carefully check the province of origin and the volume and species of trees, and ensure the document has been signed by the Provincial Head of the IDF as well as check point or warehouse personnel.



Transit Permits

Cross-check with information on the Certificate of Origin and Forest Exploitation License, check the tree species and volumes specified, and ensure the date is valid and the Permit has been signed by warehouse personnel and signed and stamped by the IDF.



PROCESSING TIMBER



Assure that processors have complied with health and safety regulations.

CHECK THE FOLLOWING DOCUMENTS:



Occupational Health and Safety Services Reports

Importers can request monthly, quarterly and annual reports for companies with 50 or more employees.



Assure that timber companies have complied with labor regulations, registered workers for social protection, paid the minimum wage or higher and made social security contributions.

CHECK THE FOLLOWING DOCUMENTS:



Proof of monthly social security contributions

Check that each document is up to date, has been signed/stamped by the authorized agencies, and is consistent with other documents and with actual products and volumes being sold/exported.

For more information on the Angola Timber Legality Risk Assessment: <https://preferredbynature.org/projects/developing-background-analyses-voluntary-partnership-agreement-vpa-support-project>



ACTIONS FOR IMPORTERS



Evaluate the Forest Exploration License and additional transport documentation to evaluate whether the diameter of logs is at or above minimum legal requirements. Verify the status of the License by contacting the IDF in collaboration with the supplier and/or the License holder.



Conduct on-site visits to harvesting areas to evaluate harvesting practices.



Conduct on-site visits to harvesting areas to evaluate the implementation of health and safety measures, and review reports published by Occupational Health and Safety Services for companies with 50 or more employees.



Conduct on-site evaluations of legally required documents to verify that workers engaged in forest operations and processing facilities are legally employed and registered for social protection. In addition, conduct interviews with workers and evaluate the company's list of employees.



Evaluate the Exploitation Permit, the Certificate of Origin and the Transit



Permit to assess consistency with other documents specifying material that has been harvested. In addition, verify the authenticity of documents with relevant authorities and conduct on-site evaluations of supply chain documentation.

On behalf of:



Implemented by:

