

# TTAP News

March 2009 – Issue 9

**ttap** timber trade  
action plan

[www.timbertradeactionplan.info](http://www.timbertradeactionplan.info)

Dear Reader,

Welcome to the ninth edition of the TTAP newsletter! This issue focuses on progress being made with TTAP companies in South East Asia and Brazil and highlights some key international events. For further information on TTAP progress being made in other TTAP countries around the world, please contact us.

Whether you are a Timber Trade Federation member, TTAP partner or interested stakeholder, we hope TTAP News will be a useful resource for you. Please feel free to share this newsletter with your colleagues.

Enjoy reading!

The TTAP Team

## About TTAP:

TTAP is an EU-funded project driven and co-funded by the Belgian (FBCIB), Dutch (VNNH) and UK Timber Trade Federation (UK TTF) to assist wood suppliers in tropical countries produce verified legal timber.

We currently advise and support timber companies based in Asia, Africa, and South America as well as engage in timber trade policy initiatives in the European Union.

## Quick Links

[www.timbertradeactionplan.info](http://www.timbertradeactionplan.info)

[www.tropicalforesttrust.com](http://www.tropicalforesttrust.com)

## Consumer Country Partners

[FBCIB](#)

[UK Timber Trade Federation](#)

[VNNH](#)

[Le Commerce du Bois](#)

[UCBD](#)

[FEBO](#)

## Producer Country Partners

[Malaysian Timber Council](#)

[IFIA](#)

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## Latest news – Indonesia: Get verified legal or lose markets: message given at the DFID–UKTTF road show!

Get verified legal or lose markets – this was the message given at the road show in Indonesia organized by DFID and UK TTF from -13 March 2009 in Jakarta and Solo on the island of Java. European timber trade representatives accompanied by TTAP visited factories and community forests and attended a trade forum within the IFFINA trade fair to discuss the need for independently audited wood products to meet new international market demands.

To read the press release, please consult:

[www.timbertradeactionplan.info/News.aspx](http://www.timbertradeactionplan.info/News.aspx)



Picture left: factory visit in Tangerang

Picture right: Community forest visit in Wonogiri

## Latest News – South East Asia:

## TTAP supply chains legally verified!

TTAP is very pleased to announce that several Malaysian and Indonesian companies participating in TTAP have been legally verified and certified. The forest area of Rimyasa, one of the successful Malaysian companies, has been legally verified against the SGS-TLTV-VO standard, whereas the supplying sawmill and moulding factory passed the audit against SGS-TLTV-VO/COC standards in 2008. Manuply, another Malaysian TTAP company, has already been certified against the FSC CoC standard in 2007. TTAP is currently working on 4 more supply chains in Malaysia, assisting companies towards third party verification.

TTAP also supported the Indonesian supply chain Kayu Multiguna Indonesia (KMGI) in cooperation with the Tropical Forest Foundation to get legality verification. KMGI received their VLO certificate in July 2008. In Indonesia, TTAP is presently training staff in the factories and forests of 7 supply chains to get third party verified, and several potential supply chains are in the pipe line to start working with TTAP.

## Latest News - Brazil:

## TTAP Brazil is making progress!



Picture: TTAP Brazil team in action

One year after the launch of TTAP in Latin America, steady progress has been made in Brazil which has helped to consolidate the project in the region. In the last eight months the TTAP team has assessed approximately 130.000 hectares of forests divided into 5 concessions, and 10 factories linked to these concessions to see if they are ready to get legality verification. Most of these concessions and factories are close to full compliance with the Brazilian legality standards.

TTAP has also developed Action Plans outlining the steps to be taken by the forests, sawmills, and factories to achieve legality verification. These Action Plans are now being analysed by European buyers, and TTAP expects to start implementation at the start of the dry season 2009 (May-June) to get the first supply chains legally verified as soon as possible.

## Latest News - China:

## Progress review of China-US Memorandum of Understanding on illegal logging!

On 9 January 2009, US and Chinese officials met in Beijing to review progress and plan further cooperative work within the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) that has been signed in December 2007 between the two countries. The MoU aims to implement measures combating illegal logging and associated trade and to promote sustainable forest management. Such measures include establishing a bilateral forum to share information about shipments of timber, better law enforcement against illegal activity and partnerships with the private sector to promote sustainable forest management. It is the first MoU between the two countries to address the critical issue of illegal trade in a natural resource like timber and as such is truly groundbreaking.

TTAP has been involved in discussions on the MoU in early 2008, when the Embassy of the United States called for an informal consultation meeting on how the amendment of the Lacey Act could best be enforced.

## Latest News – France:

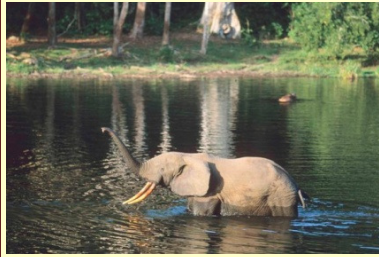
## Le Commerce Du Bois Environmental Charter mentioned in bill on French Public Purchasing Policies!

Early December 2008, French Prime Minister Fillon signed a bill containing 20 guidelines on how to achieve the goals of the public purchasing policy set out in the Public Purchasing National Action Plan (PNAAPD) and by the Council of Ministers. The PNAAPD fixes the share of socially responsible French public purchases to a minimum of 10% by 2012. The bill, made public on 12 February, asks all Ministers to develop a “Plan Administration Exemplaire”, which will set out how this share will be reached and declares tangible objectives to be achieved by 2010 or 2012.

The Environmental Charter of Le Commerce du Bois was mentioned in this bill under guideline number eight as a tool to give preference to sustainable forest management, to fight against illegal logging, and to reduce the economic, social and environmental impacts of deforestation.

## Latest News - Cameroon:

### Identification of obstacles to Sustainable Wildlife Management at workshop in Yaoundé!



Picture: Edward Parker for TFT

Various relevant stakeholders such as Traffic, WWF, IUCN, COMIFAC, and TTAP analysed constraints and obstacles to sustainable wildlife management at a workshop organized by the NGO Cameroon Environmental Watch in Yaoundé on 20 January. The difficulty to implement the existing wildlife legislation was identified as the main obstacle to sustainable wildlife management (SWM), but there was also the high costs of legal hunting permits, the lack of collaboration of staff from the Ministry of Forestry and Wildlife, unemployment, the corruption of forest guards, and the local communities' lack of awareness about poaching amongst others.

TTAP presented an interactive IT system that collates data in protected areas, in traditional hunting grounds and in forest management units. This system produces diverse services such as automated reports including maps to guide patrols on the ground, and periodic analytical reports with geospatial references that could help government officials to understand the extent of wildlife crime in South East Cameroon and therefore improve decision making.

Conclusions called for forest management units to offer alternatives to hunting such as palm tree plantation or community farming and alternative protein sources for the human diet such as aquaculture or bovine breeding.

## Latest News – Climate Change:

In November 2008, the Forestry Commission Scotland, the state forest service which manages 665,000 hectares of forests in Scotland, launched a public consultation in relation to forestry provisions in the new Climate Change (Scotland) Bill. The Bill sets a framework for guiding Scotland to a low-carbon economy. The consultation sought views on whether the Forestry Commission should engage in joint ventures for renewable energy purposes on the public forest estate, whether leases and cutting rights should be offered for parts of the national forest estate, and whether a not for profit trust should be established to receive the proceeds from leases and cutting rights for investment in woodland creation. In addition, views were sought on other actions needed to help Scottish forestry contribute to the target of reducing greenhouse gas emissions by 80% by 2050.



Picture: David Sulman FPA

From the wood processing industry's perspective, the leasing proposals were rejected by almost every wood processing company because of fears about continuity and security of wood supply from the leased areas.

To read more, please consult: [www.timbertradeactionplan.info/News.aspx](http://www.timbertradeactionplan.info/News.aspx)

## News in Brief:

- **Debating credible forest certification and high conservation value forests in the Congo Basin!** COMIFAC, in cooperation with ATIBT and WWF organised a three-days workshop from 25-27 February aimed to discuss credible forest certification in the Congo-Basin with a special focus on high conservation value forests. Most presentations given at the workshop highlighted the need for a FSC standard adapted to the Congo-Basin region, and WWF and CAFTN announced the soon establishment of a sub-regional task force that will debate all certification issues and be in charge of making sure certification in the Congo-Basin reflects the local context.
- **New resolution brings more homogeneity into Brazilian forest management!** The Brazilian National Council for Environment (CONAMA), the official body for defining master regulations and policies for the whole country, has adopted a resolution (Nr. 406/2009) establishing new technical parameters for the management of native forests in the Amazon region. The resolution that was published on 2 February 2009 will bring more clarity and homogeneity into the minimum legal requirements of forest management in the different States of the Brazilian Amazon by defining a new classification system for management plans, new maximum levels of intensity and new minimal diameters for extraction. TTAP expects it also to help promote the production of legal wood in the region, as it will improve and standardize governmental oversight.

## Future Events:

- 23-29 June 2009, London: Chatham House Illegal Logging Update and Stakeholder Consultation Number 14
- 5-6 October 2009, Geneva: International Timber Trade Federation Day

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