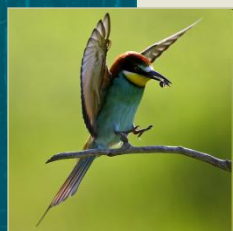
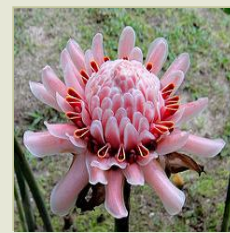




WORKSHOP ON TRACKING TECHNOLOGIES FOR FOREST GOVERNANCE



INTERNATIONAL TROPICAL TIMBER ORGANIZATION (ITTO)



Background

- ITTO has long history of supporting countries to track logs/timber as part of efforts towards SFM
- Rapid evolution of technologies and number of companies involved in recent years
- Funding received from Japan in 2011 to develop a compendium of timber tracking technologies and convene an international workshop to share experiences with timber tracking technologies and make recommendations for future work
- CITES Secretariat contributed funds toward preparation of compendium and participated in workshop



Workshop

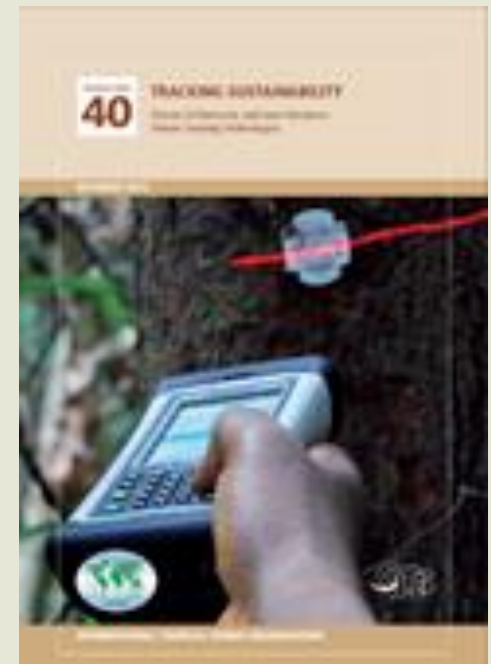


- Convened in KL, Malaysia, May 2012
- Organized with assistance of MTCC, EU/EFI FLEGT Asia program and World Bank Profor program
- Nearly 100 participants from countries, tracking technology companies, trade, NGOs, academics, international organizations, etc.
- Workshop report (available on www.itto.int/Events) contains summary of discussions, conclusions and recommendations; all presentations also on website



Compendium

- Consultant produced draft document including details of all existing tracking technologies and selected case-studies of their implementation
- Draft compendium supplemented by additional information and recommendations from workshop participants (eg info on costs/benefits included)
- Finalized and published jointly by ITTO and CITES in E, F, S as ITTO Technical Series 40 “Tracking Sustainability”





Conclusions

- Timber tracking technologies (TTTs, which exist in some form in most countries) are increasingly relevant for demonstrating legality and meeting market requirements (e.g. FLEGT VPA, U.S. Lacey Act, etc).
- For most countries already involved in forest certification or monitoring species covered by international regulations such as CITES, chain of custody monitoring including timber tracking systems are already in place or planned. These systems are deemed essential for the achievement of sustainable forest management (SFM) which is the ultimate objective for all countries; however technology cannot replace the human capacity necessary for SFM.



Conclusions (cont.)



- Technology levels used must be appropriate to each individual country/industry and adequate capacity building needs to be undertaken to ensure sustainability and local ownership of the system after any pilot phase.
- New technologies such as DNA and isotope analysis can help to verify the accuracy of information in TTTs. Support for establishment of systems, capacity building (especially for smallholders), etc, will continue to be a necessity.
- Accepted principles for tracking and legality should be developed.
- Countries seeking assurances of timber legality should be flexible in the application of new requirements, recognizing progress and working to prevent adverse unforeseen consequences on the trade in tropical timber.



Recommendations

- Nearly 40 recommendations for improving the compendium, for countries, for ITTO/international organizations, for industry and for other stakeholders
- Relevant to this meeting:
 - ITTO should continue to support establishment of TTTs and provide guidance on costs/benefits
 - CITES should consider recommendations on the role/relevance of tracking systems in implementing the convention for timber and other species

The ITTO-CITES program will continue to support tracking of timber and other forest products as a key tool for achieving its objectives



THANK YOU

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