

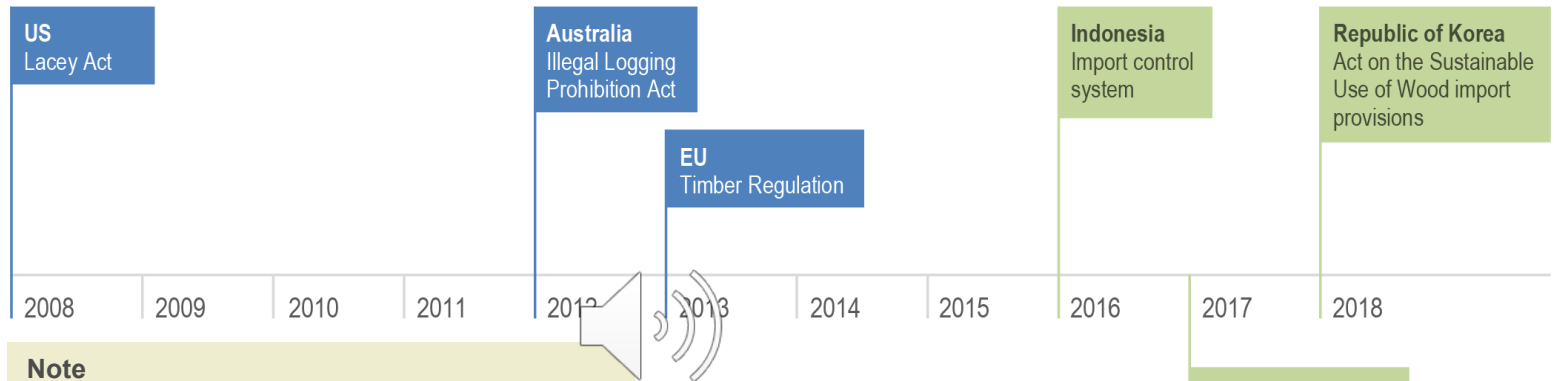


International Cooperation: Timber Regulation Enforcement Exchange (TREE)

Incheon, June 2019



Timeline of Regulations to Tackle the Trade in Illegal timber (Year of entry into Force)



Note

China: Import measures: Unknown

Vietnam: Import measures expected to come into force 2021

Thailand: Import measures expected to come into force 2021

Ghana: Import measures expected to come into force 2020?

Malaysia
 Import Legality Regulation under the Timber Legality Assurance System (TLAS) FLEGT-VPA



Source: Norman, M. and Saunders, J. (2017). *Regulating the Trade in Illegal Timber: Asian Approaches Compared*. Forest Trends: Washington DC.

Global imports of timber, pulp + paper and furniture products 2009-2016 (netweight in kg)

2009 2010 2011 2012 2013 2014 2015 2016



Economies with an operational timber import regulation/measure

Source: Data from UN Comtrade, 2017. Compiled by Forest Trends, 2017



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Timber Regulation Enforcement Exchange (TREE) network: facilitated by Forest Trends

- Established 2012 – Chatham House and Forest Trends;
- Government invite-only network with an implementation and enforcement focus;
- Meetings every ~6 months;
- Peer-peer sessions to establish consistency in investigation and enforcement
- Can involve additional experts from industry and wider civil society for specific sessions where approved by the TREE network;
- Equal focus on company compliance tools / best practice and information/intelligence for investigations.



TREE Activities 2012- 2021

Meeting agendas include:

- Emerging new trade data or trade route investigations
- New tools or databases, new indices of potential risk
- Bespoke training in national documentation systems
- Private sector best practice - helping enforcement officers determine what is reasonably possible in terms of traceability, risk assessment and mitigation.
- Commissioned work to respond to gaps information identified in previous meetings.

Specialist discussions: Prosecutors Group, 'Science' Group?

Enforcement study tours: EU->USA, Canada->USA, China->EU, Korea->EU, Japan->EU (forthcoming). In discussion: Ghana, Thailand..

Tours include visits to libraries and labs: Kew Gardens, Thunen, Agrolsolab..



Total country participation: TREE meetings 2015-19

Total TREE Country Participation



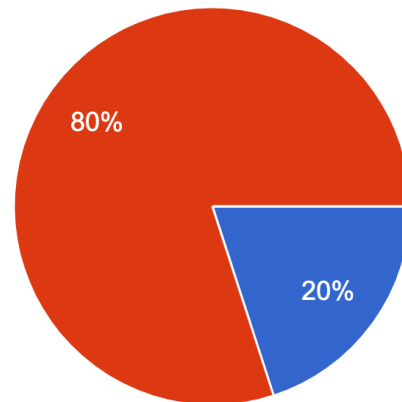
- | | | | | | | |
|-------------|--------------|-----------|---------------|---------------|------------|-----------|
| ■ Australia | ■ Austria | ■ Belgium | ■ Bulgaria | ■ China | ■ Croatia | ■ Czech |
| ■ Denmark | ■ Estonia | ■ Finland | ■ France | ■ Germany | ■ Greece | |
| ■ Hungary | ■ Indonesia | ■ Ireland | ■ Italy | ■ Japan | ■ Korea | ■ Latvia |
| ■ Lithuania | ■ Luxembourg | ■ Malta | ■ Netherlands | ■ Norway | ■ Portugal | ■ Romania |
| ■ Slovakia | ■ Slovenia | ■ Spain | ■ Sweden | ■ Switzerland | ■ Thailand | ■ UK |
| ■ US | ■ Viet Nam | | | | | |



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“The TREE Asia-Pacific meeting in Da Nang (April 2018) supported my efforts to better understand and identify high- and low-risk timber flows from key producer and exporting/manufacturing countries.”



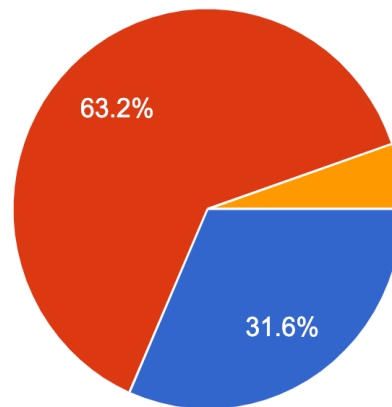
- Strongly Agree
- Agree
- Neither Agree nor Disagree
- Disagree
- Strongly Disagree



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“The Tree Asia-Pacific meeting in Bangkok (Jan 2019) contributed toward more harmonized implementation of legislation across various countries to exclude illegal wood from imports globally.”



- Strongly Agree
- Agree
- Neither Agree nor Disagree
- Disagree
- Strongly Disagree



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Emerging challenge for all TREE network officials:

How to tackle systematic forest sector document fraud/misuse and “illegal logging with papers”?

>> AUTHENTICATION SCIENCES: objectively test the relationship between the product and the paperwork..

- Need appropriate reference material
- Need shared resources and results
- TREE meetings promote integration/feedback loop for enforcement officials.
- Timber Testing Survey of the network (June 2019): sent to 28 European Member States, USA, Australia, Korea, Thailand.. Other Asia Pacific countries to follow.

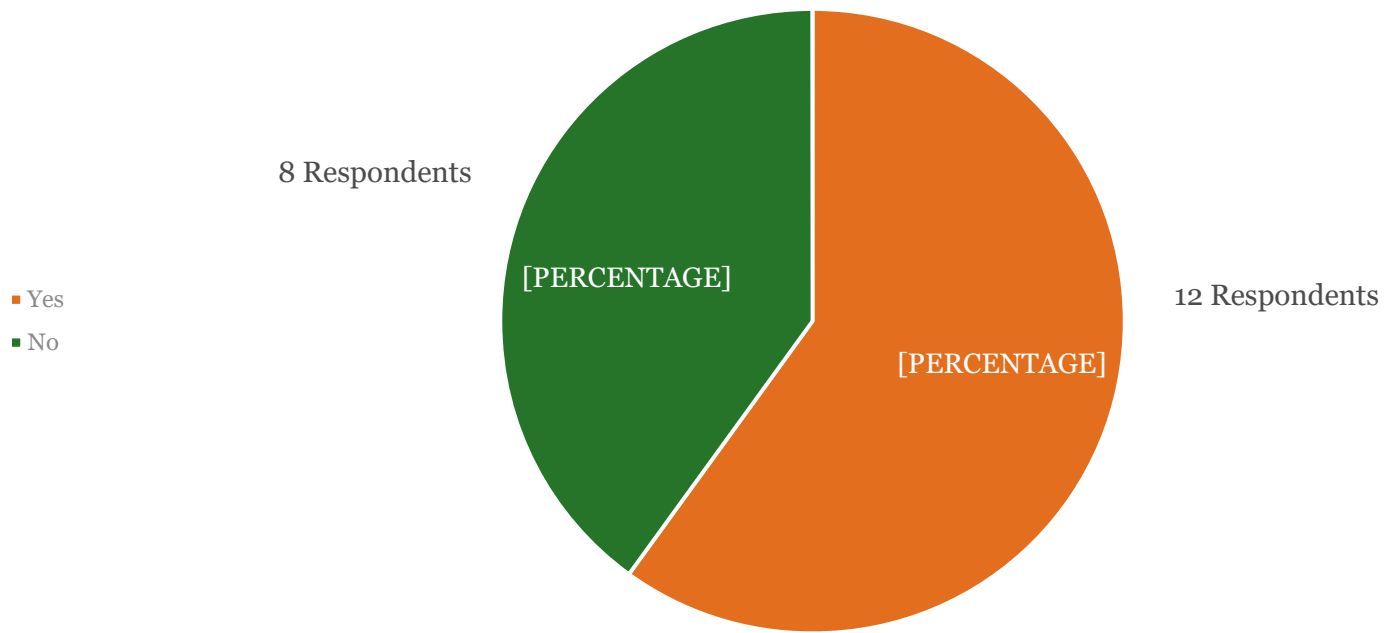
To find out whether they are testing, how they are testing, how they are planning to test and what their priorities are..



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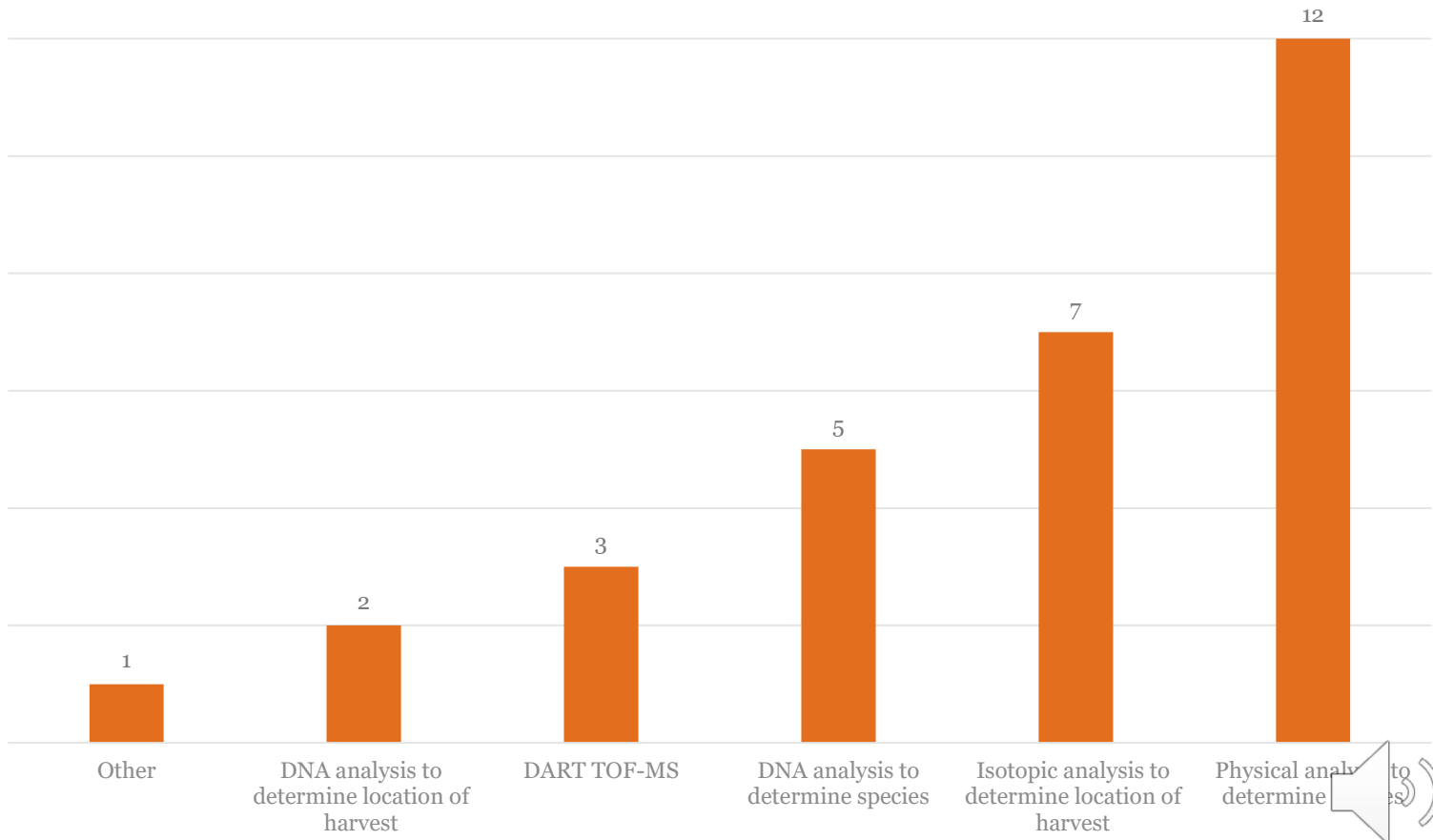
Have you previously used scientific testing in the enforcement of your timber trade legislation?



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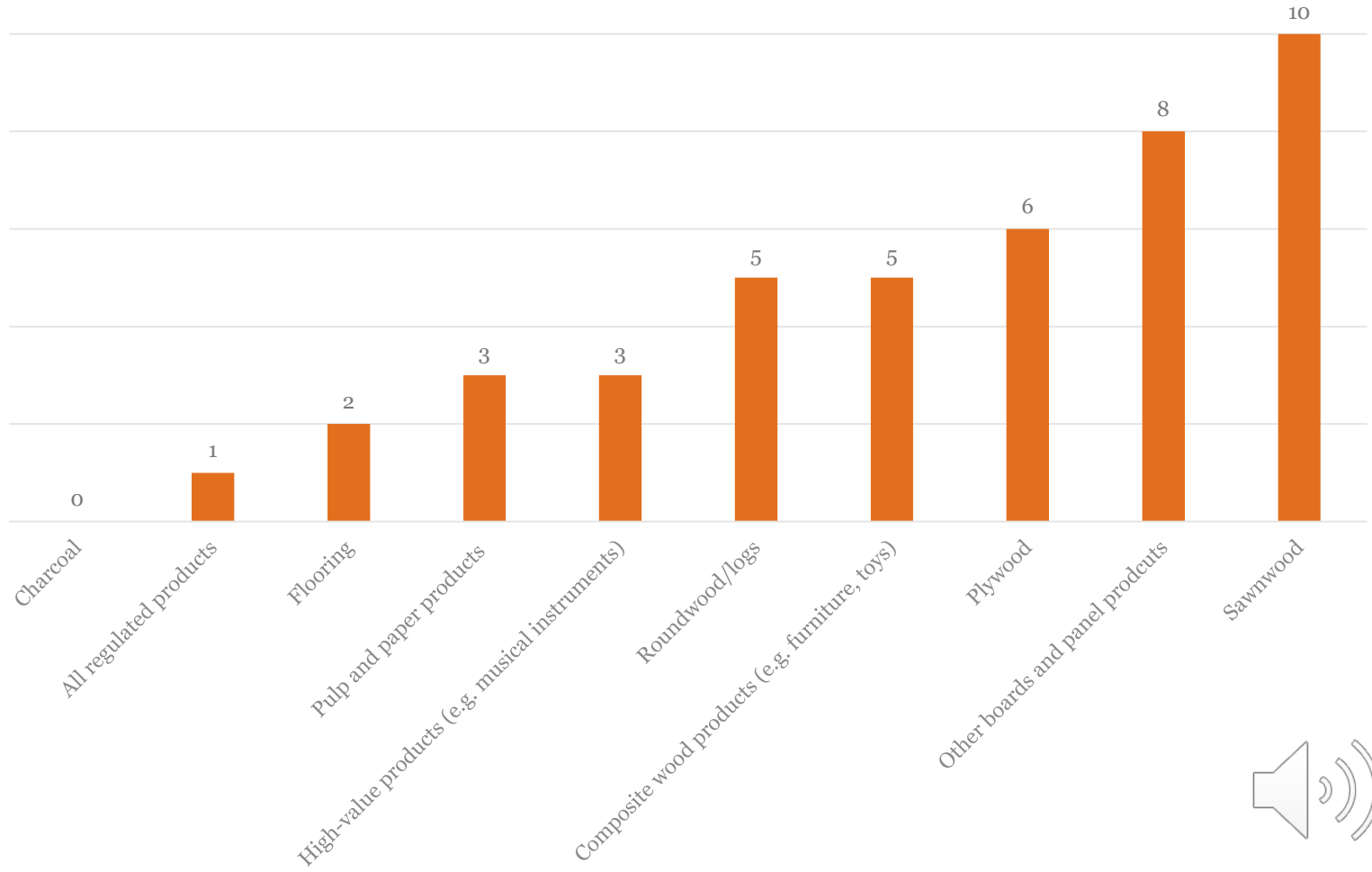


If YES, what techniques did you utilize?



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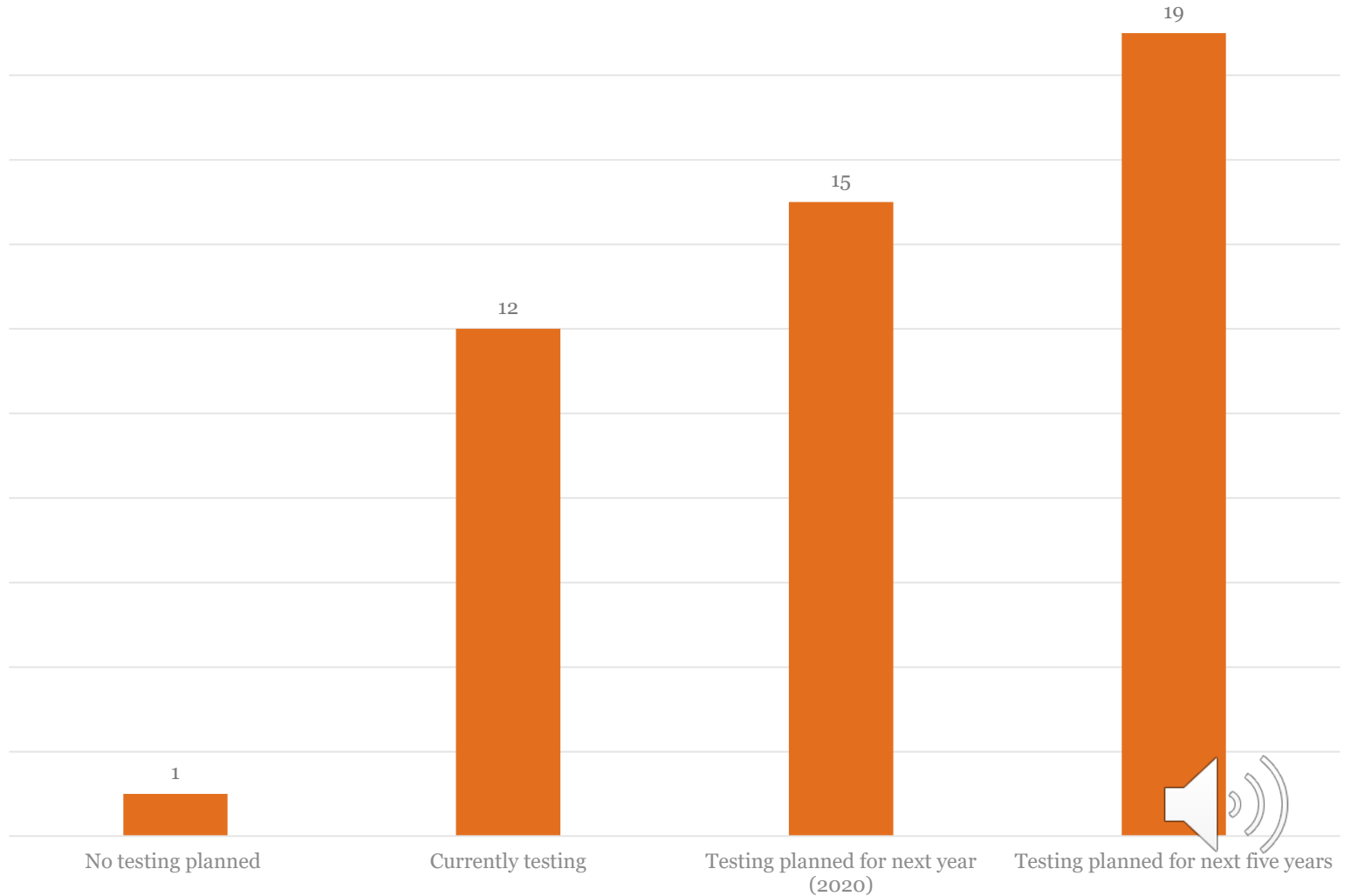
If YES, which forest products did you test?



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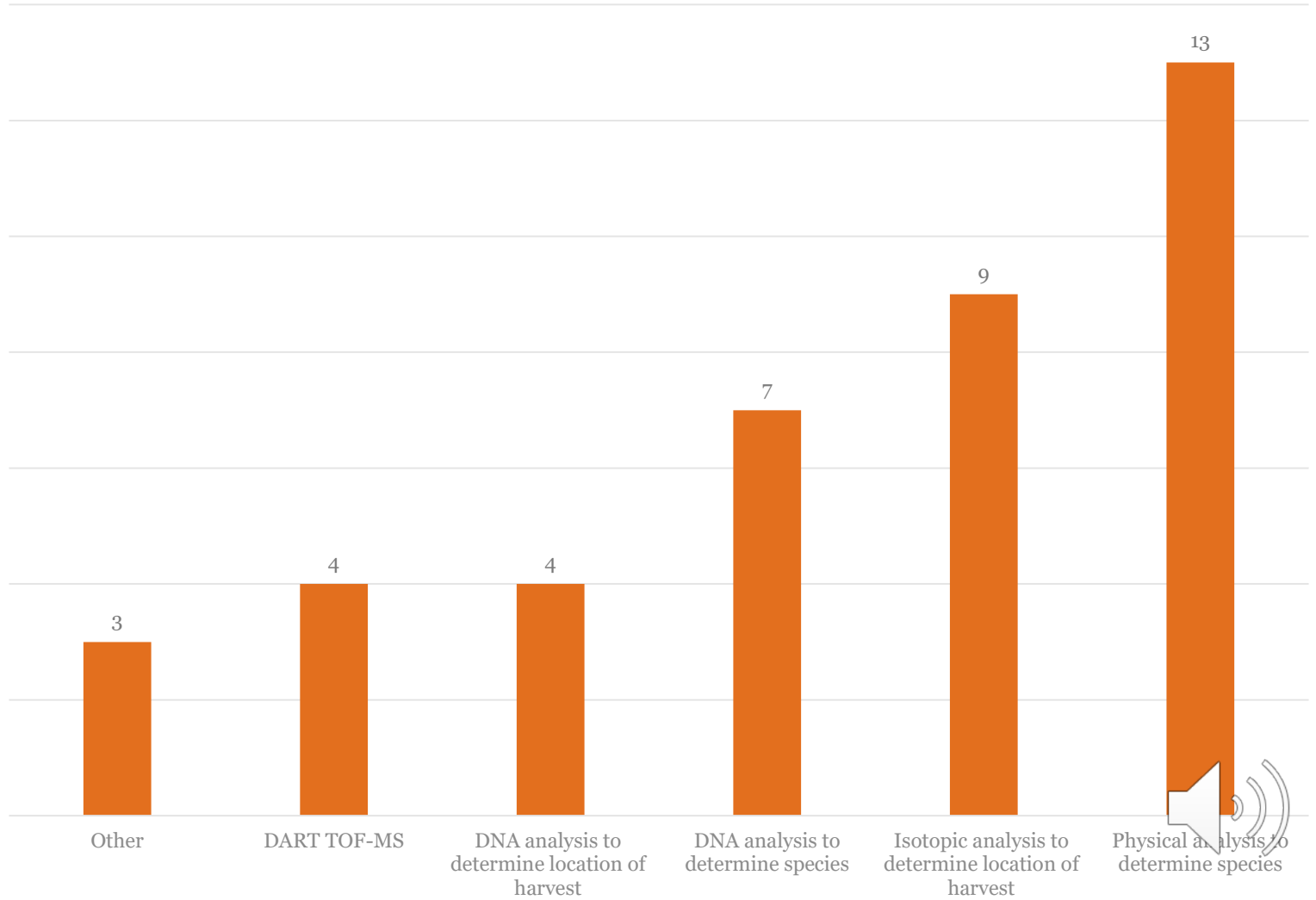


Increase in expected use of testing (1-5yr)



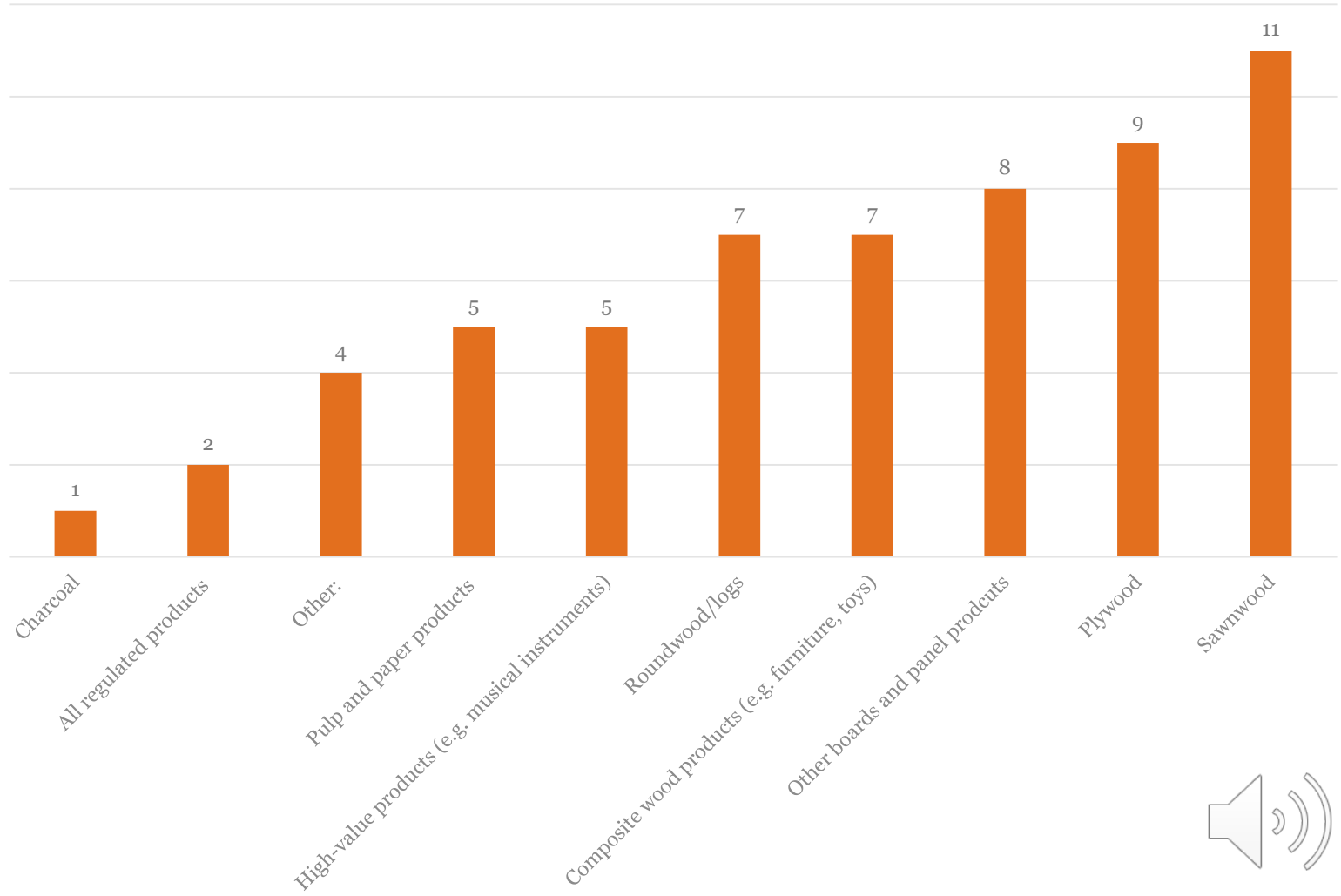
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If YES, what techniques will you utilize?



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If YES, which forest products will you test?



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Testing Priorities ranked in order of preference

1. Authenticating species claims for timber trade regulation
2. Authenticating location of harvest claims for timber trade regulation
3. Independent evidence for prosecution in court
4. Verifying certification claims
5. CITES enforcement
6. Verifying FLEGT license claims



Reference Material Priorities ranked in order of preference

1. South East Asia (Indonesia, Malaysia, Myanmar)
2. East Asia (China)
3. The Mekong region (Vietnam, Thailand, Cambodia, Laos)
4. Central Africa (the Congo Basin)
5. Latin America
6. Russian Far East (as well as Belarus and Ukraine)
7. Melanesia (Papua New Guinea and the Solomon Islands)
8. West Africa
9. East Africa (Including Madagascar)



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Challenges for further integrating science in enforcement/judicial processes

- How to ensure that testing is cost effective (cheap!)?
- How to ensure that the libraries “stand up in court”?
- How to ensure that the testing/scientists “stand up in court”?
- How to make samples, data and scientific best practice available to all labs that are accredited to use them?
- How to ensure consistent use of scientific techniques/testing machines, globally? (Avoid challenges between labs/scientists in court..)
- How to fund and manage building reference libraries so that no important forests are left out/exempted from referencing?



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Thank you

jsaunders@forest-trends.org

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