

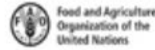


Asia-Pacific Forestry Week 2019
Forests for Peace and Well-being
17-21 June 2019 | Incheon, Republic of Korea

Stream led by:



FAO - EU FLEGT PROGRAMME



Sweden
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non-timber
forest products -
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WORLD
RESOURCES
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STREAM 4:

Promoting responsible trade and markets

Opening Session / Session 1

Key Messages

- The importance of NTFP for livelihoods in Asia-Pacific, their role in domestic and often informal trade, and their increasing potential (through micro-small medium enterprises / social and community forest enterprises) in international trade;
- Demand and supply side measures to promote legal and sustainable wood/non-wood production and trade are increasing in importance and impact
- Greater collaboration and cross-fertilization of experience and expertise between the timber and non-timber worlds are recommended.

Session Highlights (1 of 3)

- Around 80 people attended the event; 6 speakers, two on timber and 3 on NTFPs and 1 on market intelligence.
- Many tropical producing countries are in multi-stakeholder dialogues regulating and governing timber legality such as through FLEGT VPAs; their trade is increasingly monitored;
- Important changes in value chains in the Asia-Pacific region take place: more timber comes from plantations (IDN, VN), there is an increasing role of small and micro-businesses in timber and timber product production, and several producing countries increase and regulate their own timber imports. These changes result in needs or potentials for regulatory reforms, and space for innovations in timber legality and sustainability assurance mechanisms;
- China remains the main global timber market and imports timber to serve its domestic market and exports; regional and global reflections on legal and sustainable timber trade need to address China's role.

Session Highlights (2 of 3)

- Increasing market engagement of NTFPs although still mostly informal but increasingly becoming more organized into community forest enterprises or MSMEs; various initiatives on sustainable production and marketing where lessons and potentials are seen
- The demand for quality/standard developments for NTFPs utilizing local/traditional ecological knowledge and sustainability values and dimensions;
- The importance of small and micro-businesses in the NTFP sector, and their needs with tenure security, access to markets, information and finance;
- The potential for sustainable NTFP production (Bamboo), but also risks of overexploitation of NTFPs if market demand raises while green and fair trade arrangements are not yet developed.

Session Highlights (3 of 3)

- Data issues remain – some improvements in the timber sector (also related to transparency and tools), but still too little understanding of dynamics of NTFPs;
- Joint efforts by governments, CSOs, research and the industry on the supply and demand side are needed.
- Timber side has a lot experience with irresponsible trade and market. Timber and NTFP sides can learn from each other to improve responsible markets for both, eg. experience of the timber sector in regulating legal and sustainable production and markets is useful for developing NTFP production and markets.; experience of NTFP initiatives in supporting and organizing smallholders, communities and micro-enterprises is beneficial for the timber sector.

Actionable Recommendations:

- Develop and resource platform for stronger data collection, sharing and analysis for both timber and non-timber forest products'
 - Better statistics and information management (especially on NTFPs) are needed to improve supply chain controls, facilitate systems implementation, reduce costs, apply due diligence, inform policy/regulatory reform and facilitate independent monitoring activities
- Balance the attention and work on supply as well as demand side (on consumers side); Enhance multi-sectoral collaboration and undertake stronger and inclusive policy work and analysis for supply and demand aspects of timber and non-timber forest products.
- To fully leverage trade benefits for improved governance and livelihood, systems and their requirements need to be adapted and made accessible to smallholders, communities and micro-enterprises
 - More policy support on NTFPS to address its complexities and diversity
 - Strengthen community engagement in the timber sector