







 "Nature always wears the colors of the spirit" – EMERSON

Establishing a regional Legality Standard across Southeast Asia

prepared by The Nature Conservancy on behalf of the
 Responsible Asia Forestry and Trade (RAFT) Program

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 Presentation Outline

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- A. Who we are and what we do
- B. ASEAN outcomes from a Timber Legality Verification system
- C. Suggested Approach
- D. Areas for potential collaboration




 A. Who we are & what we do

Responsible Asia Forestry and Trade (RAFT) Program

- **Objective:** To promote responsible timber trade and sustainable management of forest resources and biodiversity
- **Regional Approach and Partners:**
 - Regional Networks: AFP, APFC, ASEAN-WEN, East Asia FLEG,
 - Regional Partner: ASEAN
 - Implementing Partners: The Nature Conservancy (TNC), WWF, TFT, TFF, TRAFFIC, RECOFTC, IUCN, DLH, Lowe's, Xerox, Home Depot
 - Funding Agencies: United States Assistance for International Development and The Nature Conservancy
 - Geographic Coverage: Indonesia, Malaysia, Vietnam, Cambodia, Lao PDR, Papua New Guinea, Singapore, China, Japan, USA, EU




 A. Who we are & what we do

- **Planned Outcomes:**
 - Regional timber trade from legal sources is increased
 - Sustainability of forest management is measurably improved
 - Regional cooperation on forest management and trade is strengthened
- **Achievements:**
 - MOU's on cooperation on improved forest management signed with 14 timber companies and work initiated on nearly 1M ha
 - Assistance to support the process of finalization of the Indonesian legality standard via LEI
 - Assistance for development of Indonesian High Conservation Value Forest (HCVF) Toolkit that can act as a model for other countries
 - Completion of first regional Participatory Planning and Conflict Management training
- **Upcoming Initiatives:**
 - Started work to develop a model Customs Cooperation and Mutual Administration Assistance (CMAA) Agreement for the forest sector




 B. ASEAN outcomes from a TLV system

ASEAN outcomes from a Timber Legality Verification System


ASEAN community by 2015 to achieve
"...regional competitiveness and full integration into the global community while minimizing social impacts."




 B. ASEAN outcomes from a TLV system

Challenges in the region:


- Illegal logging and its associated trade
- Certain market have doubts over timber/timber products coming from the ASEAN region
- Growing demand from the market to be able to ensure the legality of timber/timber products



B. ASEAN outcomes from a TLV system

Why it matters:

- Lost revenues
- Market access and competitiveness
- Conflict over timber
- Environmental damages
- Shared responsibilities



B. ASEAN outcomes from a TLV system

Why it matters:

- Asia Pacific produced 72 % of tropical timber in 2005
- Indonesia and Malaysia (#1 and #3) are producers of tropical timber
- Asia Pacific also big importers of tropical timber (China, India)



B. ASEAN outcomes from a TLV system

13th ASEAN Summit in Singapore, 20 November 2007

ASEAN Declaration on Environmental Sustainability gave commitments *“to strengthening law enforcement, combating illegal logging and its associated illegal trade as necessary measures in addressing trans-boundary environmental pollution, including haze pollution”*



B. ASEAN outcomes from a TLV system

3rd East Asia Summit, ASEAN, Australia, China, India, Japan, South Korea and New Zealand adopted Singapore declaration:

“reduce deforestation, forest degradation and forest fires, including by promoting SFM, combating illegal logging, protecting biodiversity, and addressing the underlying economic and social drivers”.



B. ASEAN outcomes from a TLV system

ASEAN AdHoc Forest Certification Working Group

Inclusion of development of Regional Legality Standard of timber for the region in its current activities



B. ASEAN outcomes from a TLV system

An agreed 6 components of legality for timber

1. Compliance with all relevant forest laws and regulations
2. Payment of all statutory charges
3. Compliance to CITES
4. Implementation of system that allows for tracking of logs to the forest of origin
5. Timber must be harvested by parties who have legal rights to carry out the logging at the designated forest area based on an approved cut
6. The party which harvests the timber shall comply with the laws governing social and environment aspects, i.e. workers safety and health, as well as environmental impact assessment




 C. Suggested Approach

The Nature Conservancy on behalf of Responsible Asia Forestry and Trade (RAFT) Program:

- Share some suggestions on approaches in the process
- Lessons from development of initiatives from member countries
- Outline areas of potential collaboration and contribution




 C. Suggested Approach

Purpose of timber legality standard --- not to say what is legal and what is not, rather:

To provide a credible and efficient mechanism to verify to national or international markets that timber sourced from those countries is in compliance with the laws and regulations of the country or group of countries concerned




 C. Suggested Approach

Suggested process to develop either national or regional legality standards:

- Distill existing laws and regulations into a set of principles, criteria and whenever possible into indicators
- Broad participant from stakeholders
- Transparent field testing




 C. Suggested Approach

Suggested process to develop either national or regional legality standard (continued):


- Development of credible and efficient accreditation and review systems for compliance auditing;
- Formal adoption and development of a communication strategy on the operational modalities of the system to key stakeholders and trade partners; and
- Capacity building for national auditors, forest managers and forest enterprises.




 D. Areas for Potential Collaboration

Areas for possible TNC/RAFT Assistance and Collaboration:

- Providing written materials to all ASEAN Legality Standard Working Groups on the documented lessons learned from participation in the development of the Indonesian Legality Standard process;
- Providing speakers to strengthen the development of the ASEAN Timber Legality Verification system with ASEAN working groups or key stakeholders; and
- Sponsoring targeted analytical work needed to accelerate the development of a Pan-ASEAN Legality Standard.




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Kamben!
 Thank you!