

Agenda

Seminar: Sharing Experiences on the FLEGT VPA process

Guyana International Conference Center, Georgetown, Guyana – 18 & 19 November 2014

DAY ONE

- 08:30-09:00** **Arrival and Registration of Participants**
- 09:00-09:45** **Keynote Speeches**
Chair: Dr. Indarjit Ramdass, Chair of the GFC Board of Directors and Executive Director of the Environmental Protection Agency, Guyana
- 🌀 Commissioner James Singh, Guyana Forestry Commission
 - 🌀 Head of the Delegation of the European Union to Guyana, H.E. Robert Kopecký
 - 🌀 Minister of Natural Resources and the Environment, Hon. Robert M. Persaud
- 09:45-10:00** **Overview of the two-day programme – Event Facilitator, Lawrence Lachmansingh**
- 10:00-10:30** **Screening of Film on FLEGT and VPAs**
- 10:30-11:00** **Break tea and coffee will be served**
- 11:00-12:30** **First Session: International FLEGT VPA update**
Chair: Godfrey Marshall, Forestry Training Centre
- 🌀 Overview of the state of the FLEGT Action Plan (*Benedikt Madl, EU Delegation to Guyana*)
 - 🌀 Incoming timber legislation and its effects on producer countries (*Alhassan Attah, Guyana FLEGT Facilitation Support Office*)
 - 🌀 Update from Honduras (*Luis Cortés, ICF*)
 - 🌀 Q+A Session
- 12:30-14:00** **Lunch**
- 14:00-15:30** **Second Session: Guyana's VPA**
Chair: Shyam Nokta, Environmental Management Consultant
- 🌀 Update on Guyana's VPA process (*Kenny David, National Technical Working Group*)
 - 🌀 Update on the Wood Tracking System (*Tasreef Khan, GFC*)
 - 🌀 EU FAO FLEGT support in the region (*Daphne Hewitt, FAO*)
 - 🌀 Q+A Session
- 15:30-15:45** **Break tea and coffee will be served**
- 15:45-17:30** **Third Session: Panel discussion: Involvement of community and indigenous groups in the VPA**
Chair: Ovid Williams, Resource person on indigenous matters
- 🌀 Perspective on stakeholder engagement (*Emmanuel Marfo, Forest Research Institute of Ghana*)
- Presentations from:*
- 🌀 National Toshias Council (*Derrick John, Chair*)

- 🌀 Presentation on behalf of Amerindian NGOs (*Laura George, Amerindian People's Association*)
 - 🌀 Community SLA statement (*Anthea Harry, UBFAPA*)
 - 🌀 Non-VPA and community involvement in FLEGT process in Guatemala (*Luis Alberto Gongora, ACOFOP*)
 - 🌀 Q+A Session
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DAY TWO

- 08:30-09:00** **Welcome** *tea and coffee will be served*
- 09:00-10:30** **Fourth Session: FLEGT, REDD+ and the LCDS**
Chair: Dr. David Singh, Conservation International
- 🌀 Global level FLEGT/REDD+ linkages discussion (*Christophe Van Orshoven, European Forest Institute*)
 - 🌀 Guyana's experience (*Pradeepa Bholanath, GFC*)
 - 🌀 REDD+ experiences from Suriname (*SBB*)
 - 🌀 Experience from another country (*tbc*)
 - 🌀 Q+A Session
- 10:30-11:00** **Break** *tea and coffee will be served*
- 11:00-12:30** **Fifth Session: The role of the private sector and other domestic actors in the VPA**
Chair: Marieke Wit, Tropenbos International
- 🌀 What has been the effects of the VPA so far? (*Wim Hup, Wijma*)
 - 🌀 What has been the effects of the VPA so on Guyana's export market? (*Mr. Khalawan, Forest Products Association*)
 - 🌀 How could the VPA impact on other domestic actors? (*Gavin Agard, MNRE*)
 - 🌀 Q+A Session
- 12:30-14:00** **Lunch**
- 14:00-16:00** **Sixth Session: Reflection in groups**
Facilitators: tbc
- Reflections on lessons learned from other countries:
- 🌀 Group 1: Engagement of Stakeholders in the FLEGT VPA: What is the role of Government, civil society, private sector and communities?
 - 🌀 Group 2: Engagement of stakeholders: What are the challenges and how to overcome them?
 - 🌀 Group 3: What are the benefits, advantages/disadvantages of the VPA?
 - 🌀 Group 4: What are the potential impacts of the VPA on the domestic and international markets?
 - 🌀 Group 5: How could FLEGT and REDD+ benefit from each other?
- 16:00-17:00** **Feedback to plenary, outcomes and closing remarks**
Chair: Lawrence Lachmansingh
- 17:00** **Closing remarks**

Followed by cocktail reception at the venue