



# Timber Legality Verification Schemes

A research programme of the Chinese Academy of Forestry in collaboration with ProForest

Update No. 1, November 2009

We aim to provide you a regular update on actions and work progress in relation to this research project on timber legality verification schemes. In this issue, we provide an update on:

**Activity 1 Market requirements for legal timber and timber products, in particular the requirements of the EU Market**

**Output: Report on analysis on market requirements for legal timber and timber products in English and Chinese**

## What has been done so far?

1. Work plan agreed between RIFPI and ProForest
2. Produced a flyer in English and Chinese (see attached)
3. Developed a questionnaire to be used to collect information from companies in the EU who buy timber products from China
4. Initiated contacts with selected timber trade federations in the EU
5. Developed framework for analysing market requirements

## What's next?

6. Send flyers and questionnaire to the timber trade federations in Belgium, France, Germany, Italy, the Netherlands, Spain and the UK with request for a list of members who purchase timber products from China. These countries are the top 7 importers of timber products from China. To be completed by the end of November 09.
7. Contact companies in the EU to talk through the questionnaire. To be completed by the end of November 09.
8. Desk study on an overview of various requirements for legality and

sustainability including regulations (US Lacey Act, proposed EU Due Diligence Regulation), public procurement policies in the EU (Belgium, Denmark, France, Germany, the Netherlands and the UK), private sector policy covering both timber trade federations and private companies, and NGO initiatives such as TFT, and GFTN. To be completed by the end of November 09.

9. Workshop in Beijing in 2009. Date to be confirmed.

## Background

The Research Institute of Forestry Policy and Information (RIFPI) of the Chinese Academy of Forestry (CAF) is leading on a 'Timber Legality Verification Schemes' project in collaboration with ProForest. The objective of this project is to provide detailed proposals to the Chinese Government on the establishment of a practical timber legality verification scheme which suits the forest products trade in China, and thereby promoting the utilisation of legally produced timber products in international trade. Financial support is being provided by the UK Departments for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra) and International Development (DFID) together with the State Forestry Administration of China. This project started in October 2009 and aims to finish by July 2011. During these two years, RIFPI and ProForest will carry out 6 activities including desk study and interviews on market requirements in the EU, an inventory of legality verification schemes, workshops, pilot testing and policy recommendations.

If you have any comments or questions please contact

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