

Capacity for trade finance

Capacity-Building to Improve Trade Finance and Investment Prospects for the Russian Timber Sector

The project aims at strengthening the capacity of participating enterprises to obtain trade finance and to attract investment. The long-term objective is to improve the trade performance of the Russian forest sector by contributing specific trade facilitation, export finance and investment components for the sustainable development of the sector.

The activity was initiated at the request of the Russian Federation and is in response to the general request by the member countries to extend UNECE expertise to the private sector. Private sector and government organizations participate actively.

The focus is on capacity-building activities such as expert meetings and forums designed to benefit the private sector in the Russian Federation by extending UNECE norms, standards and recommendations for the benefit of the timber export industry.

The key elements of the project are:

- sustainable development and certification;
- cross-sectoral work: the project is a good example of a practical approach to linking trade and environment, in particular the development of improved trade logistics for the sustainable use of biomass;
- cooperation with the private sector: all major forest enterprises in the target area are participating;
- implementation at the regional level: all major forest and trade institutions in the Leningrad and Arkhangelsk Oblast are actively involved.

The project is open to participation from government institutions and private-sector enterprises who are willing to share their expertise with the Russian timber sector.

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