

UNECE/FAO Policy Forum, 5 October 2006
Public Procurement Policies for wood and paper products and their impacts on sustainable forest management and timber markets

Public Procurement Policies for timber in DK, NL and UK - options for further Harmonisation

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Policy background

	DK	NL	UK
Objective of policy	To promote SFM	To promote SFM	To promote SFM
Relevant Procurement Policy	All public institutions should buy legal and sustainable timber – and shall pursue environmental goals	Central government shall buy legal and sustainable timber where possible	Central government shall seek to buy legal and sustainable timber
Wood and paper to public buyers	✓	✓	✓
Wood and paper used by contractors	Unclear	✓	✓
Power or energy for public buyers		Unclear	Under review



Requirements for forest standards: Legality (in broad outline)

	DK	NL	UK	EU-FLEGT Briefing note 09
Legal harvest rights	✓	✓	✓	✓
Compliance with national and local laws on:	Forest management	✓	✓	✓
	Environment	✓	✓	✓
	Labour, Tenure rights etc.	✓	✓	✓
Payment of all relevant royalties and taxes	✓	✓	✓	✓
Compliance with CITES	✓	✓	✓	



Requirements for forest standards: Sustainability (in broad outline)

	DK	NL	UK
1. Legal, policy and institutional framework	✓	✓	✓
2. Extent of forest resources (conversion)	✓	✓	(✓)
3. Forest health and vitality	✓	✓	✓
4. Production functions of forest resources	✓	✓	✓
5. Protection functions of forest resources	✓	✓	✓
6. Biological diversity	✓	✓	✓
7. Socio-economic functions	✓	✓	Under review



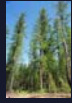
Criteria for assessment of certification schemes: Standard-setting

	DK	NL	UK
ISO Guide 59, ISEAL or equivalent	✓		✓
Key points	- Open consultative process	- Balanced representation and balanced decision making process	- Balanced representation and balanced decision making process
	- Consensus 'as far as possible'		



Criteria for assessment of certification schemes:

	Key requirements	DK	NL	UK
Certification	Consistency with ISO guidelines 62, 65, 66 or equivalent	✓	NEN-EN ISO 14001	✓
	Consultation with stakeholders	✓	✓	✓
	Info from certification reports publicly available	✓	✓	✓
Accreditation	Consistency with ISO 17011 or equivalent	✓	NEN-EN-ISO 45012	✓
Chain of Custody	Performed by accredited body or auditor complying with ISO 65 or equivalent	✓	NEN-EN-ISO 45012	✓
	Threshold for verified legal	100%	100%	100%
	Threshold to be verified sustainable	100% (under review)	70%	70%
	Recycled material controlled origin	Unclear	✓	✓
Labelling	Clear credible and non misleading rules	✓	✓	✓



Requirements for documentation Alternative means (Category B)

- EU procurement regulations require adequate alternatives to certification to be accepted
- DK has launched preliminary guidance for tropical timber (declarations from suppliers, sub-suppliers, authorities etc.)
- UK currently finalising guidance on different types of Category B evidence
- Both 'Category B schemes' and one-off documentation

	DK	NL	UK
Assessment by impartial party	✓	✓	✓



Phased approaches

	DK	NL	UK
Targets set over time	(✓)	✓	
Focus on selected products	✓		
Minimum requirements and variant offers	✓ <small>(under review)</small>	✓ 2 levels	✓ 2 levels



Means for implementation

	DK	NL	UK
Hotline support			✓
Guidelines	Tropical ✓ All timber will follow	In preparation	✓
Cooperation between central and local governments	Progressing	✓	Developing strategy
Public-private co-operation	Progressing	Considered	Very positive
Evaluation, Monitoring and Reporting	E✓ (MR ✓)	✓	Developing strategy



Concluding remarks The Netherlands

- National Assessment Guidelines (BRL) finalised 12-11-2005
- First meeting Equivalence Assessment board 10-11-2006
- 7 experts (economic, social/cultural, forest management, normalisation, ecological etc.)
- Test run with 6 certification schemes from October-March
- Approval BRL (publication in Gazette)
- Formal assessments
- Launch of Dutch procurement policy



Concluding remarks The UK

- Finalising first review of Category A evidence (certification schemes)
- Producing guidance on the use of Category B evidence
- Helpline and ongoing training programme well-used
- Starting a monitoring programme to support and assess implementation
- More proactive work with local authorities



Concluding remarks Denmark

Status

- Current guidelines for tropical timber evaluated in 2005
- 9-point-plan for Environmental Minister 2006: All timber
- Temporary advise on guarantee for legal timber provided (~UK)

Next steps (implementation of 9-point-plan)

- Finalise review of criteria for 'legal', 'sustainable' & documentation
- More product specific guidance
- More focus on different user groups' different needs
- Collaboration with private sector and local authorities
- Continue to pursue options for harmonisation / transparency
- Keep on trying balancing between clear and ambitious goals AND provide incentives for phased approaches



Progress with harmonisation

- Legality definitions more or less harmonised already
 - DK, NL and UK
 - FLEGT
- Legality next steps:
 - Agreeing common criteria to use with legality definition
 - Agreeing process for assessment of evidence and decision-making
- Sustainability next steps:
 - Further discussions ongoing on how to move forward



Tak



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Thank you



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Dank u



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