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 Policy Forum
 Public Procurement policies
 for wood and paper products
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**The French
 Public Procurement Policy
 on Timber and Wood Products**

Headlines

- I. Background: the French PPP on timber products
- II. On-going process for first assessment
- III. What impacts?
- IV. How to improve mechanism?
- V. Towards harmonization?

I. The French PPP on timber products

- ◆ Public procurement ≈ 1/4 French consumption of tropical timber
- ◆ France is amongst the top countries in the E.U for importing tropical timber (mainly from Africa)
- ◆ 2004: Governmental Action Plan in favour of tropical forests.
- ◆ April 5th 2005: approval of an advice note by the PM
 - ⇒ Objectives: 50 % in 2007 and 100 % in 2010 of timber and wood products purchased by public buyers should come from legal sources & sustainably managed forests.

I. The French PPP on timber products

Legal scope :

- ⇒ mandatory for State buyers
- ⇒ recommended to local authorities
- ⇒ no distinctions are made between tropical and non tropical products
- ⇒ 2 categories of products, related to 2 types of uses (building and equipment: furniture, paper...)

I. The French PPP on timber products

Step by step approach :

- ⇒ starting point = 0 (no previous regulation)
- ⇒ reference to existing tools : sustainable forest management schemes, eco-labels, legality licences, code of conduct
- ⇒ verified by independent and reliable bodies.

II – On-going process for a first assessment

1 – Study phase (*Cirad and Savcor Indufor study*) : methodology to assess objectives and impacts.

2 – It is not so easy:

- how to insure traceability of products with evidence different from certification (ex. FLEGT licence)?
- how to gather public data available in a workable format.

II – On-going process for a first assessment

3 – Possibility at the moment: sampling (beginning 2007)

4 – Middle term: permanent monitoring?

III. What impacts?

First elements (from Cirad and Indufor study):

- ◆ 2010: strong increase certified wood production could cover a larger part of UE imports.
- ◆ However PPP could:
 - ◆ favour certified local temperate wood
 - ◆ favour big-scale companies
 - ◆ enhance the deviation to markets less requiring
 - ◆ favour substitution of wood by others materials
 - ◆ favour plantations more than natural forests

III. How to improve mechanism?

- ◆ Take into account impacts on sustainable forest management and on the markets.
- ◆ Support the producers countries to fulfil the requirements. Flegt is important.
- ◆ Support public buyers and promote the use of wood.
- ◆ In a second time, the requirements could be adapted.

V. Towards harmonization?

- ◆ Harmonization or improved coherency?
- ◆ Development of PPP in the main consumers countries is necessary to create an important requiring market.
- ◆ Feedback will be prior to improvement and harmonization.

V. Towards harmonization?

Prerequisites to fulfil :

- 1 - how to consider sustainable forestry management initiatives which are out of certification schemes?
- 2 - which agreement/approval/acknowledgement for private initiatives?
- 3 - how to incite certification schemes to evolve toward:
 - * mutual acknowledgment?
 - * international standards (ISO)?
- 4 - how to adapt the regulation to the evolution of private initiatives & market?

These are ideas to discuss !

Thank you for your attention

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