

FOREST TRENDS

Call for Consultancy: Study to understand the timber industry in Nigeria

SCOPE OF WORK

Forest Trends is commissioning a study that seeks to understand the timber industry in Nigeria. The study should be framed around the following research questions:

Characterize key elements of the timber industry:

1. Number of EU focused export operators for timber, sawnwood and other timber products excluding charcoal (approx.)
2. Number of Asia focused export operators for timber, sawnwood and other timber products excluding charcoal (approx.)
3. Characterize the export oriented charcoal industry
4. Location of sawmills – are they clustered in a particular area?
5. Indicate % of production covered by Chain of Custody (CoC) certification, including the schemes, broken down by product type.
6. Indicate % of production area covered by Forest Management (FM) certified claims, including the schemes, broken down by product type.
7. Identify commonly traded species (including protected species)
8. Outline the extent of plantations and plantation species
9. Characterize the species of timber destined for a) regulated markets in Europe, US and Australia; b) key processing hubs such as China and Vietnam

Identify relevant Nigerian legislation:

1. Key legislation that applies to the forest products industry in Nigeria including an understanding of the Nigerian Export Ban for logs and sawnwood.
2. Completion of a Forest Trends table to collect information on the latest provisions and exemptions under the export ban.
3. Relevant state and national legislation including logging and export bans.

Identify common cross-border smuggling activities

1. Characterize regional cross border smuggling routes for timber and associated wildlife trade/contraband leading in and out of Nigeria.
2. Identify main ports of export for smuggled timber, as well as any other identifiable characteristics if possible (eg notable species, markings, companies or individuals).
3. Outline what, if any, element of the smuggling is Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) listed species and any CITES specific modalities/routes.

Global trends

1. Any industry or macro-economic factors that have affected Nigerian exports in the past 5-10 years (e.g. any introduction or revisions of export or import taxes, etc).
2. After initial identification of any major, new, or interesting trend, provision of more detail. E.g. sudden jump in imports from Country X. Why?

ACTIVITIES

1. Interviews with 15 key actors in industry (concessionaires, processors, agents, EU importers).
2. Field based interviews and research where necessary to validate findings (eg of uncontrolled smuggling routes).

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DELIVERY OUTPUTS

1. Written summary of interviews.
2. 30 minute PowerPoint presentation at a May 2020 meeting of government enforcement officials in a “closed session” (Government only).

EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

To express interest in carrying out the study, please send a proposal, budget and CV(s) to outline how the key questions and activities will be delivered.

Please send all materials to:

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