

# Myanmar Overview Rachel Butler

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#### What GTF does



- Communications and news for the industry covering the full range of sector issues
- Capacity building for the industry on issues surrounding market access
- Providing/facilitating a voice for the smaller players that dominate the forest industries









# Myanmar Background



- In 2013 commissioned DFID funded NEPCon report on state of play and risk matrix
- Trade missions facilitated by GTF coordinating US, EU and Australian trade in October 2014 & Sept 2015
  - Trade represents higher value, volumes v small
- Log ban in April 2015; aimed at China/India
- Sanctions in EU & US
  - No barriers EU
  - IWPA State Dept Licence



## Emerging Projects/Issues



- Myanmar Forest Certification Committee Myanmar Timber Legality Assurance System Gap Analysis
- Myanmar Forest Products Merchant Federation Developing Myanmar trade capacity to meet domestic and international (FLEGT) requirements
- Uncertain role of MTE, Corporatisation, Forest Act, National Export Strategy, New Ministry?
- Education and training on EUTR/Lacey and ILPA



Cindy Squires, Esq., Executive Director

IWPA Perspective on Myanmar Trade

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## Who is IWPA

- Only U.S. based trade association dedicated to the interests of wood importers. Founded in 1956. Membership categories:
  - North American Importers -manufacturers, retailers of wood products
  - Overseas Members ---
  - Associate Members -- Service providers, trade facilitators & NGOs

#### **IWPA Core Purpose**

To build acceptance and demand in North America for globally sourced wood products from sustainably managed forests.



# IWPA Specific License Process



## Basics



- Specific License only not a general license or waiver
- Goal -- Encourage and support reform process and develop long term trading relationships
- Education process US side and Myanmar side
- Develop CoC processes in mills & direct trade

# Wood Trade Compliance Training

Seeing the FOREST AND THE TREES

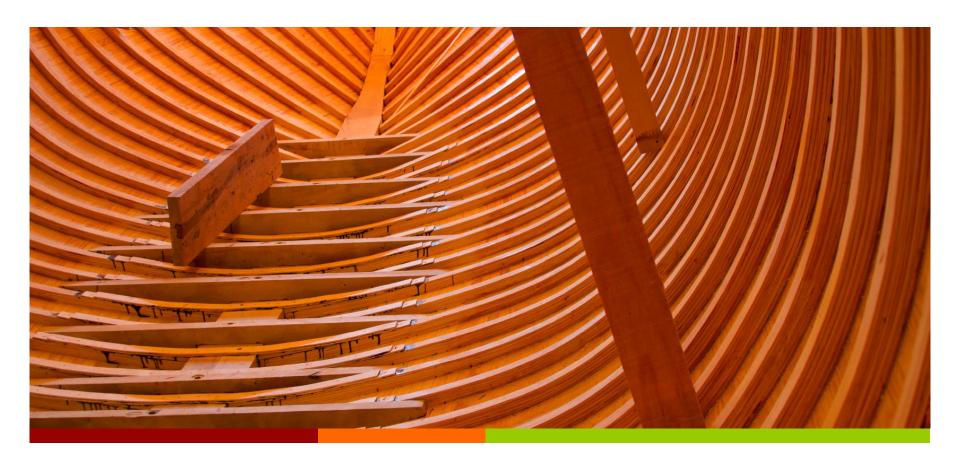
Wood Trade
Compliance Training
and Due Diligence Tools







WORLD RESOURCES Institute



#### Thank You

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