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Opportunities and Lessons for a Rights-Based Perspective on FLEGT and VPA Processes in Latin America

October 28 - 29, 2013 – Quito, Ecuador

Location: Hotel Quito

Room: Simón Bolívar

Workshop objective: Our aim is to discuss value added opportunities regarding tenure rights issues that emerge from FLEGT VPA negotiations. Bringing together participants from around the world, we will reflect on lessons learned in Africa and Asia and discuss implications for Latin America.

AGENDA

Arrival on Sunday

All day transportation from the airport to the hotel as participants arrive

Monday – Introduction to FLEGT VPAs & Lessons Learned

8:00 Registration

Morning sessions

8:30 Welcome and introductions: Grupo Faro, RRI and Forest Trends

8:40 Workshop introduction and self-presentation of participants (to be consulted with Facilitator Oscar Maldonado)

9:00 Introduction to international workshop objectives

- RRI, presentation overview. Augusta Molnar, RRI
- Introduction to FLEGT and VPA processes. Didier Devers, EFI
- Smallholder and community forestry issues in FLEGT and VPAs. John Bazill, European Commission, Brussels
- Q&A

10:30 Coffee break

11:00 Panel 1: Experience of CS participation in the FLEGT-VPA processes and negotiations: Lessons learned in advancing tenure and other rights

Moderator: Omaira Bolaños, RRI

- Panel discussants (15 minutes each):
 - Indonesia: Arbi Valentinus, Telapak/MFP, Indonesia
 - Ghana: Albert Katako, Global Forest Watch and CARE, Ghana
 - Liberia: Julie Weah, FCI, Liberia
 - Cameroon: Patrice Kamkuino, CED, Cameroon
 - Other Francophone African countries: An Bollen, FERN, Brussels
- Q&A

1:00 Lunch

Afternoon sessions

2:00 Presentations: Comparative synthesis of lessons learned in advancing participation, tenure and other rights in the African and Asian FLEGT VPA processes

- Chairperson: Amparo van der Zee Arias
- Speakers:
 - Lindsay Duffield, Consultant to FERN, UK: Making the most of VPA negotiations: a practical guide for civil society
 - Michael Richards, Forest Trends: Strengthening community rights – can VPAs help?
- Q&A

3:00 Coffee break

3:20 Panel 2: Exploring how TLAS (Timber Legality Assurance System) design and implementation can limit or enhance livelihoods, tenure and other rights

- Moderator: Levi Sucre, AMPB, Costa Rica
- Victoria Flores, FEPROAH: Community forestry perspectives on VPA and TLAS in Honduras
- Arbi Valentinus, Telapak/ MFP, Indonesia: Experience from early implementation of SLVK (the Indonesia TLAS) and implications for tenure, other rights and livelihoods
- Daphne Hewitt, FAO, Rome: Reflections on Liberia's TLAS and how livelihoods, tenure and other rights may be affected by its implementation
- Q&A

5.00 Closure of day 1

Tuesday – Implications and ways forward for FLEGT/VPA processes

Morning sessions

- 8:30 Introduction to Day 2: Facilitator
- 8:45 Status and challenges of FLEGT VPA process in Honduras
- Glenda Rodríguez, Progreso, and José Filadelfo Martínez, FDsF
 - Q&A
- 9:15 Status and challenges of FLEGT VPA process in Guyana
- Laura George, Amerindian Peoples Association [provisional]
 - Q&A
- 9:45 Working group sessions on the implications of experiences in the African and Asian FLEGT VPA processes for Latin America (each working group will start with a brief summary by a workshop participant of the first day's discussion on its topic)
- Tenure and other rights: promoting tenure and other rights issues in FLEGT-VPA processes, and implications for related policy processes in Latin America
 - Multiple stakeholder participation: establishing a legitimate and effective multi-stakeholder dialogue, and creating policy space for civil society in FLEGT VPA and other policy processes (such as REDD+) in Latin America
 - Market and livelihood impacts: using FLEGT VPA processes to advance policy and governance reforms that enhance market and livelihood opportunities for forest communities and other vulnerable stakeholder groups

(15 minute coffee break half way through session)

11:45 Feedback session

12:45 Lunch

Afternoon sessions

- 2:00 Working group sessions on the opportunities and ways forward in Latin America for each working group topic and the following cross-cutting issues:
- Linkages between FLEGT and other policy processes
 - Capacity building requirements for CSOs and other actors
 - Implications for indigenous peoples, local communities and smallholders
 - Recommendation for a rights-based approach in FLEGT Latin America
- 3:30 Coffee break
- 3:45 Feedback session on opportunities and ways forward
- 4:15 Introduction to Latin American Forest Governance Conference in 2014
- John Bazill, European Commission

4:30 Final panel: Recommendations for civil society engagement and promotion of tenure and other rights through the FLEGT/VPA process in Latin America

Moderator: Eugenia Ponce de León, Colombia

- Panel of civil society representatives from Africa, Indonesia, Central and South America
- Q&A - inputs from public

5:30 Closing remarks: Andy White, John Bazill