Forest Trend 3rd Potomac Forum on Illegal Logging & Associated Trade

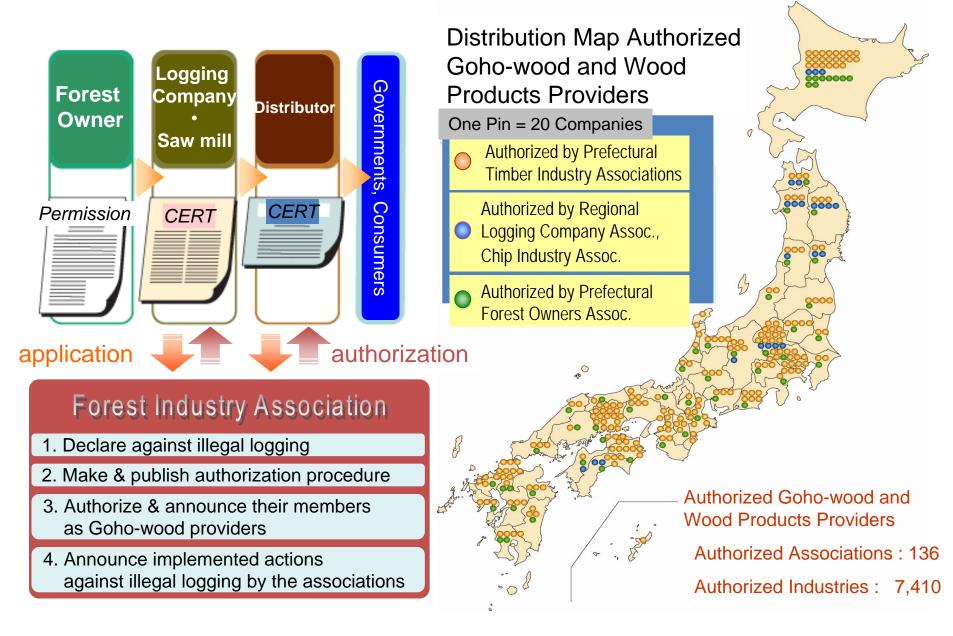
Japan's Measure on Tackling Illegal Logging





24, March 2009 Morita, Kazuyuki Forestry Agency, Japan

Introduce Government Procurement Policy 'Goho-Wood' in 2006



Impact, Challenge of 'Goho-Wood'

- 1. More than 7,500 timber related companies have already registered as 'Goho-Wood' suppliers including foreign countries such as Russia and U.S.A..
- 63% of domestic log, 19% of imported log and 35% of timber products that using both of domestic and imported materials were shipped by 'Goho-wood' suppliers in 2007 FY.
- 3. The proportion of the amount of government procurement to total national consumption is 2-3% including paper and paper products, and it means rapid expansion to the private market is necessary to give incentive to suppliers.
- 4. The amendment of the building code (June, 2007) and the global financing crisis since last year still affected the timber and timber market, therefore most of timber industries and forest owners are up to their ears in work.



http://www.goho-wood.jp/

Japan's Concept of Tackling Illegal Logging

- 1. Illegal logging and illegal forest activities affected the implementation of the sustainable forest management.
- 2. Equitable distribution of the profit that is obtained from forest.
 - Timber's market situation is different from the food, it is easy to substitute by other materials and it means raising of price will not effective to increasing the total profit that will able to reinvest to forest management.
- 3. Promotion of timber and timber products which eco-friendly material contributing to global climate change through bettering reliability and transparency.
- 4. Elimination of illegal timber from the market and promotion of legal verified and certified timber are both sides of a coin.
 - Condemn "high risk country" and/or "high risk country products" might give negative impact to the people who makes effort to implement SFM in such country.
- 5. Direct actions such as improvement of timber distribution and capacity building of relevant authorities, and indirect actions, such as creation of incentives for forest conservation through involving the forest-dependent people to SFM and improvement of economical value of forest should work cooperatively.

For tomorrow

- 1. Accurate and adequate analysis and evaluation on the positive/negative impacts of the activities that has been done so far and/or are being implemented currently for promotion of legal verified and certified timber and other anti-illegal logging actions, in order to identify effective actions in the next step.
- 2. Promotion of the market for Legal verified and certified timber and Timber products
 - Consideration of the cost efficiency for competitiveness with other materials such as steel, concrete and plastics
 - Leading action by developed countries that export 80% of world timber and timber export

3. Improving technical subjects

- Reaction to the complex trade network. Wider participation including processing and re-exporting countries should be invited.
- Continue the effort to create International consensus on the definition of legality and sustainability and verification method which can be adapt widely.
- Consideration the consistency with WTO rule and demonstration of concrete technical information when requesting additional document in trade such as the place of origin for avoiding any trade distortion.

4. Assistance to developing countries

 Strengthen the effective and efficient assistances through the best option among Bi-, pulri- (e.g. AFP and ASEAN) or multi- (ITTO) lateral channels for respective country background or specific objective is needed.

