What is FLEGT

Qu'est-ce que LE FLEGT

"The poorest countries in the world lose more than 15 billion dollars per year due to illegal logging" NETWORK NETWORK NETWORK

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What is FLEGT? -Illegal logging has a devastating impact on some of the most precious remaining forests. Its environmental effects include deforestation, loss of biodiversity, and the emission of greenhouse gases. This illegal logging is also a potential source of conflicts with local and indigenous populations, violence and human rights abuses, corruption, and increased poverty. The World Bank has estimated that the governments of some of the poorest countries in the world lose more than 15 billion dollars per year due to illegal logging—money that cannot be used to improve the living conditions of their populations. -Given these factors, the European Commission published an action plan for the enforcement of forest regulations, governance, and trade (FLEGT, the English acronym for forest law enforcement, governance and trade) in 2003; establishing a series of measures that can be used by the European Union and its Member States to combat illegal logging. For the first time, the plan explicitly recognizes that the European Union is a major consumer of timber and derived products from regions where levels of illegality and poor management in the forestry sector are particularly serious, creating potentially lucrative markets for illegal timber. European demand has been considered a significant driver of illegality and, as a result, the European Commission has been encouraged to add, in addition to its traditional forestry approach, a specific element focusing on market control regarding potentially illegal timber within the European Union. The FLEGT action plan is the translation of the high-level political commitments made by the European Union, Member States, and the governments of partner countries within the framework of the G8 forestry program and regional ministerial conferences on forest regulation enforcement and governance, facilitated by the World Bank. The aim was not simply to reduce deforestation, but to try to tackle poverty by promoting good governance in countries selling timber to the European Union (EU). Ensuring that responsible companies in Europe prefer to buy their timber from producers who respect local laws, who pay for the trees they cut down, and act responsibly towards poor local populations and the environment can be a starting point in addressing these issues. The plan therefore aims to develop markets in Europe for legally sourced products, encouraging companies and consumers to pay the real cost of producing legal timber rather than seeking only the lowest price at the risk of sacrificing any social and environmental concerns. This is achieved by focusing on trade policies that are under the control of the European Union and on the responsible trade from the governments and timber importers of the Member States. Europe, a major consumer of timber and derived products FLEGT a tool to reduce deforestation, poverty, and promote good governance?

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