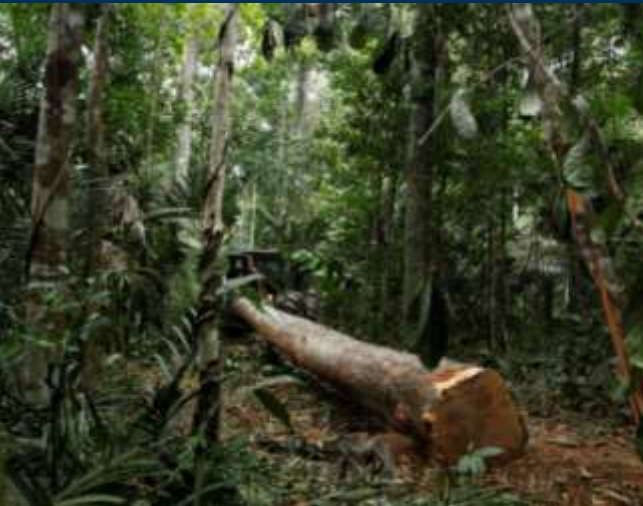


How sustainable are Europe's tropical timber imports?

Mark van Benthem, Probos



Probos & GTF



- Probos:
 - Non-profit organisation for SFM + afforestation
 - Data is key
 - Leading technical partner
- Global Timber Forum (GTF):
 - Non-profit organization supporting sector associations to engage SME members on responsible trade
 - Consortium leader

HOW SUSTAINABLE ARE EUROPE'S TROPICAL TIMBER IMPORTS?

Estimating the market share
of verified sustainable
tropical timber on the
European market

June 2018



the sustainable
trade initiative

Study commissioned by IDH, on behalf of STTC

- Approach a combination of:
 - utilising available existing data
 - an improved ‘exposure to certification’ analysis, based on forest and trade data
- It includes experience of exporters, importers, experts and organizations across the globe to refine assumptions

Scope – what is included

- Primary tropical timber products:
 - *logs (4403)*
 - *sawn wood (4407)*
 - *veneers (4408)*
 - *plywood (4412)*



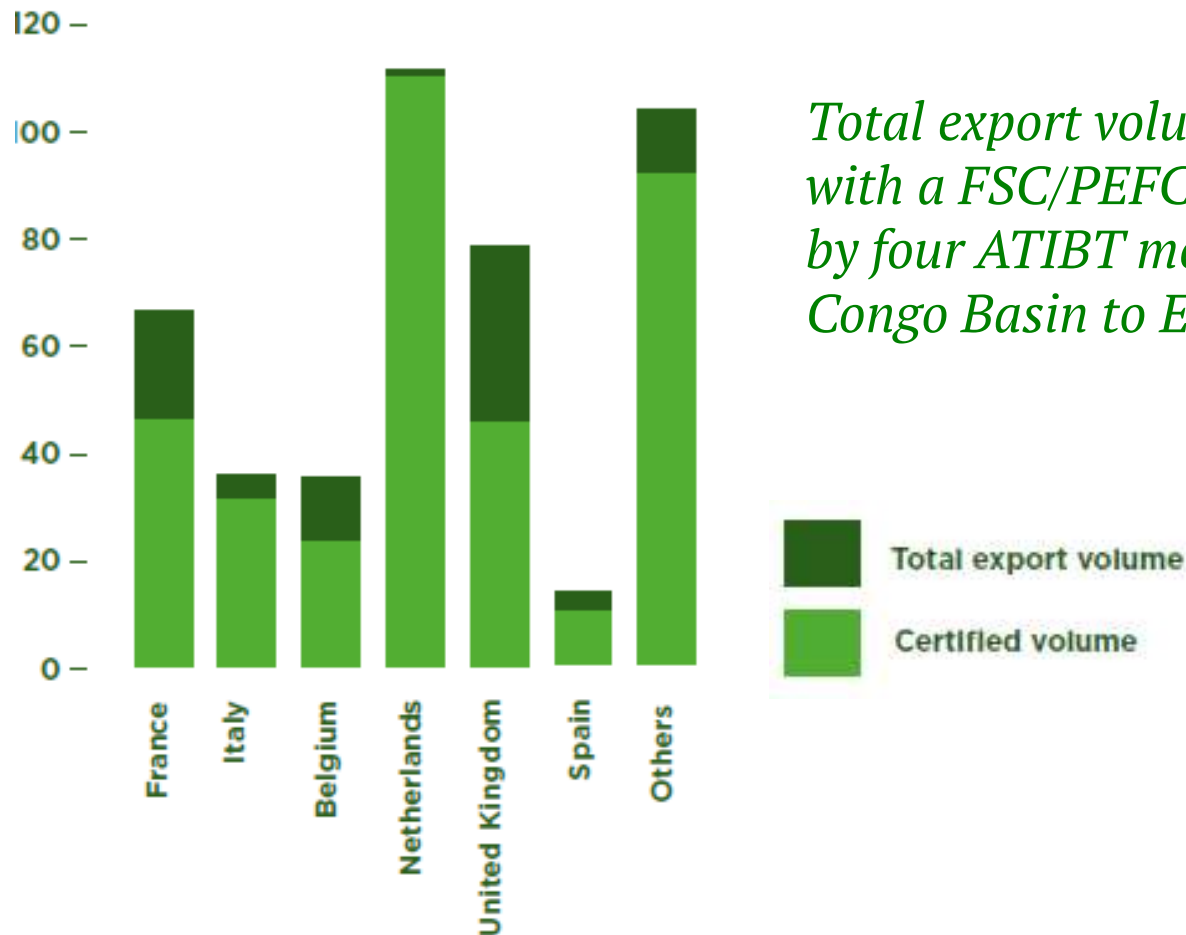
ITTO producer countries
Natural / semi natural forests



Validating the data

- Replaced total forest area with production forest area (FAO, 2016 and FRA, 2015)
- Liaise with FSC/PEFC int. + NO's & trade associations
- Link to existing market data
- Interview key stakeholders by national experts
- Surveys large certified producers and traders (TBI, LCdB, ATIBT)

Surveys large certified producers and traders, eg ATIBT



Total export volume and volume sold with a FSC/PEFC certificate in 2018 by four ATIBT member companies in Congo Basin to EU (x 1,000 m3 RWE)

Findings: area under SFM



- Total productive (semi) natural forest:
225.5 mln ha
- Total FSC / PEFC certified:
14.7 mln ha = 6.5%

SOURCING VERIFIED SUSTAINABLE TROPICAL TIMBER IN EUROPE

TOTAL EU IMPORTS*

1,473,000 tonnes
Equals an estimated
2300,000 m³ (products)



VERIFIED SUSTAINABLE TROPICAL TIMBER



VERIFIED SUSTAINABLE TROPICAL TIMBER IMPORT IN EU

These 7 countries cover app. **90%** of the total EU28 imports of primary tropical timber products



* Primary timber products (roundwood, sawn wood, plywood and veneer)

SUPPORT RESPONSIBLE TIMBER SOURCING VIA:



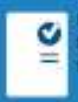
Certification



Sustainable Timber Procurement Decides



Green building schemes



FLEGT licensed timber



Findings: potential impact on SFM



12.5 million ha

of tropical forest would be impacted if EU imports 100% verified sustainable timber



SUSTAINABLE TROPICAL TIMBER CONTRIBUTES TO A.O.

- Icon of a family (social)
- Icon of a bowl with steam (climate)
- Icon of a bar chart with an upward arrow (economy)
- Icon of an infinity symbol (circular economy)
- Icon of an eye with a globe (transparency)
- Icon of a tree with a recycling symbol (sustainability)



Detailed info 7 EU MS + Carbon footprint excersice of EU 28

Table 6: Summary of estimated carbon impacts linked to EU demand for certified tropical timber

5.6 Germany

- Country imports of tropical primary wood: **89,000 tonnes**
- Exposed to certification: **30%-35%; 26,500-31,000 tonnes**
- FLEGT Licensed exposed: **50%; 44,500 tonnes**

Since 2008, tropical timber imports have dropped to 7 percent of all German timber imports.⁴¹ The German Timber Trade Federation (GD Holz) consists of 900 member companies from wholesaling, retailing, foreign trade, round timber trade, and veneer business sectors. It promotes FSC and PEFC certified timber.

Tropical timber market

The market for tropical timber in Germany has been decreasing for more than a decade. Consumer opinion is the leading reason for this downward trend. Tropical timber is associated with deforestation and the as-

Table 12 Germany's direct import of primary tropical timber

Product group	Primary tropical timber product import (in Tonnes)	
Sawnwood	63,000	
Veneer		
Plywood	22,500	
Roundwood	500	
Total	89,000	7.1%

Process	Gg CO2 eq. year-1*
Avoided degradation due to EU demand for certified tropical timber	-55000 to -88000
Emissions to harvest, process, and transport certified tropical timber to the EU (excluding changes in forest carbon pools)	322 to 563
Carbon stored in certified tropical timber delivered to the EU	-380 to -637
Carbon footprint of certified tropical timber delivered to the EU (excluding changes in forest carbon pools)	-58 to -75
Substitution benefits of certified tropical timber in the EU	-456 to -764

**negative numbers represent carbon credit*

Recommendations

1. Private sector: drive to increase in demand
 - a) TTF's important role to support, encourage and monitor members (PP)
2. Civil society and knowledge institutions
 - a) support STT + encourage countries to prioritize sourcing from responsibly managed forests
3. European governments must address STT
 - a) in PP; via enhanced EUTR enforcement; and in partnership (supplier and consumer economies)
4. All stakeholders:
 - a) Collaboration, monitoring, transparency

Thank you!



- More?**
Table session
George White:
- Q&A
 - next study