

# EU FLEGT: consumer responsibility and trade partnerships in the tropical timber sector – provoking thoughts for REDD negotiators?

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# Forest Law Enforcement, Governance and Trade

- 2003 EU Action Plan – range of policies for ‘tackling illegal logging and associated trade’
- Due Diligence Regulation – responsibility on all EU importers to avoid illegal wood and products (tbc).
- Voluntary Partnership Agreements (bilateral trade agreements) – Ghana, Congo B, Cameroon,

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# Why is tropical IL an EU problem?

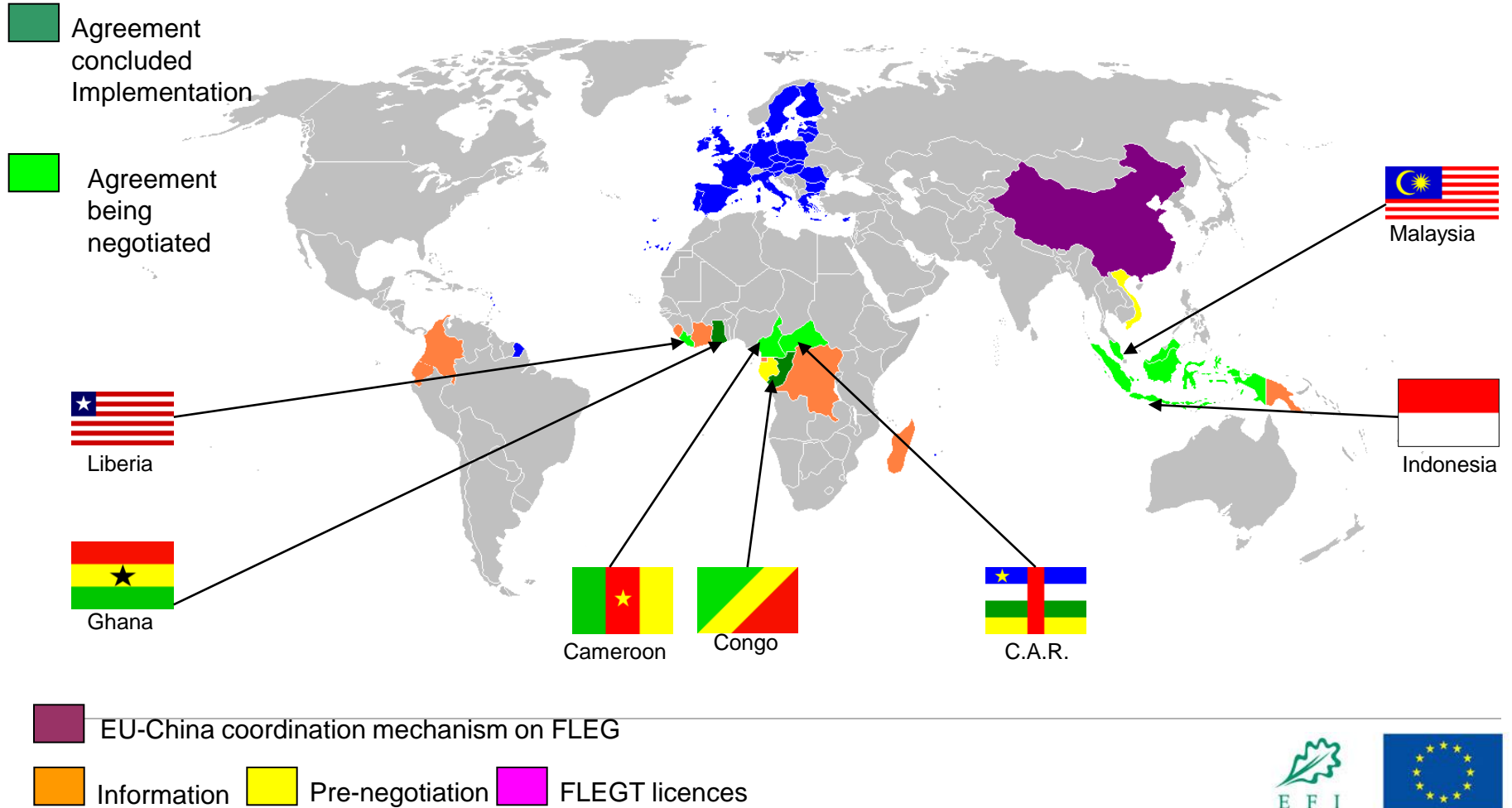
Poverty, biodiversity and habitats, climate change and carbon = consumer concern



# FLEGT Voluntary Partnership Agreements

- Sovereign, bilateral, legally-binding trade agreements
- Core product groups +, EU export +
- Legality Assurance system:
  - Stakeholder-endorsed, clear legality /compliance standard
  - Chain of custody from forest to point of export
  - Export licensing authority
  - Third party/independent system audit
  - Joint oversight mechanism (EU and partner country)

# FLEGT Partner countries



# Reducing deforestation by tackling timber sector illegality – achieving REDD?

- LAS as ‘best practice’ where illegal logging is an driver of deforestation/degradation (Sovereign government response – increase risk to IL, enable investor confidence in ‘nested’ REDD projects?).
- Import limitations on illegal wood as supporting measure for REDD? (International trade partner response – reduce incentive for IL, reduce opportunity cost of REDD?).

# EU responsibilities beyond timber – enabling sustainable land-use planning?

- Demand-side policy coherence for agri commodities (palm oil etc?)
  - Consistent safeguard considerations?
  - Consistent approach to legality of imports?
  - Coherent pricing structure?
- Carbon Voluntary Partnership Agreements (US legislation opens space for bilateral agreements). Potential to agreeing appropriate national standards for offsetting.

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