

Seminar on Gender Equality and Social Inclusion in FLEGT: Policy Prospects and Implications, Ha Noi 30 August 2018

Viet Nam VPA-FLEGT with EU: Current Status and Gender Nexus



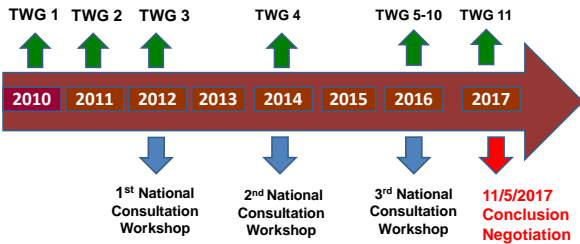
Main Contents

- History and current status of Viet Nam VPA-FLEGT with EU
- Stakeholder engagement mechanism
- Gender equality in the Forestry Sector in Viet Nam
- Gender equality in Viet Nam VPA – FLEGT
- Recommendations

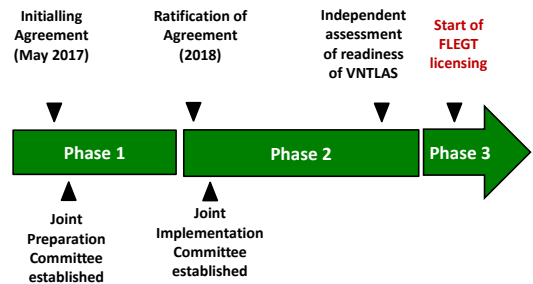


VPA negotiation process

11 formal negotiation sessions – Technical Working Group (TWG)
19 Joint Expert Meetings (JEM)
>30 VCs



Phases of Viet Nam VPA implementation



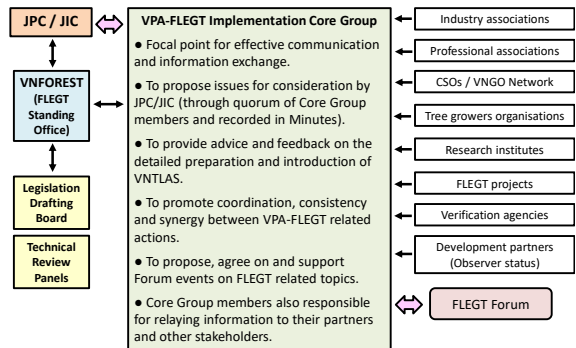
Strategic Task 1 VPA ratification process
Strategic Task 2 VPA management, monitoring and review mechanisms
Strategic Task 3 Development of VNTLAS legal documents, regulations and information management system
Strategic Task 4 Capacity building plans for verification agencies and private sector (Organisations and Households)
Strategic Task 5 Monitoring and evaluation mechanisms for VPA implementation
Strategic Task 6 Information and Communications strategy and products
Strategic Task 7 Stakeholder engagement, coordination and outreach mechanisms
Strategic Task 8 VPA-FLEGT connected and supporting actions

Viet Nam – European Union
Voluntary Partnership
Agreement on Forest Law
Enforcement, Governance
and Trade (VPA-FLEGT)

Joint Implementation Framework (JIF)

Version 4: December, 2017

2. Stakeholder Engagement Mechanisms



Representation of CG

VNFOREST...

- FLEGT Standing Office
- FPD
- CITES MA

VNGOs....

- SRD
- SFMI
- CED
- PanNature
- COPE (Lam Dong)
- CRD (Hue)
- ADC (Thai Nguyen)

Associations...

- VIFORES
- HAWA
- Binh Dinh FPA
- Forest Owners Association
- VUSTA
- VCCI (Da Nang)

Research institutes...

- FSIV
- IPSARD

INGOs....

- WWF Vietnam
- Forest Trends
- RECOFTC

Development partners...

- GIZ Programme
- UN REDD Programme
- FAO & EU FAO FLEGT Programme
- Embassy of Finland
- EU Delegation

Modalities of the Core Group

- Core Group meetings will be held in advance of each JPC/JIC meeting (regular meetings) and interim meetings may be held according to requirement.
- The Core Group will be chaired by VNFOREST and vice-chaired by one active member of the Core Group on a revolving basis. The co-chairs will be nominated by the Core Group and will cover the period between regular meetings.
- The co-chairs will be responsible for supporting the preparation of Core Group meetings and for taking minutes of meetings in coordination with VNFOREST.
- The co-chairs will be responsible for presenting the minutes of regular Core Group meetings, including any issues arising for consideration by JPC/JIC, at meetings of the JEM and JPC/JIC.
- The Core Group may propose issues for consideration by JPC/JIC in the case that an issue is proposed by a member and supported by two other members; in this respect, the minutes of meeting will record the number of supporting members and any opposing viewpoints.

"Reflections on factors that will contribute to success of Core Group"

- Fair distribution of roles and responsibilities between different core group members;
- Regular meetings in initial period to build-up momentum;
- Active role of co-chairs, both at meetings and between meetings;
- Demonstrating outcomes from collaborative actions of core group members (e.g. information and communications strategy, defining scope of VPA monitoring etc.);
- Enabling stakeholder engagement throughout VPA process.
- Increase CSO/NGO voices and access to information and decision making

3. Gender equality in the Forestry Sector

➤ Legal Framework

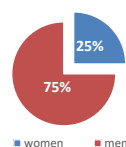
- At the highest level: *Resolution No. 11-NQ/TW of the Communist Party dated 27-4-2007* explicitly states the need to address women's issues in the industrialization, modernization and international economic integration'
- *Law on Gender Equity 2006* states that women have rights, responsibilities and roles in society and family life equal to those of men.
- *The National Strategy on Gender Equality for the period 2011 – 2020 (NSGE)* sets the overall objective of ensuring equality between men and women
- *MARD Action Plan on Gender Equality for the period 2011-2020* sets concrete targets to make sure women have secured legal rights and benefits.

Gender equality in the the Forestry Sector

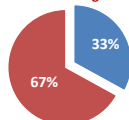
➤ Fact and data

- Women play an important role in forestry sector in VN. There are 20 million people living near and in the forests, in which more than 50% are women.
- Women are major labour force in the forestry production chain including forest development, protection, utilisation, timber processing and exporting.
- In timber processing industry more than 50% of labor are women.

Gender Segregation of VNFOREST Staff



Gender Segregation of VNFOREST Management



Gender Equality in the new Forestry Law

➤ Forestry Law 2017 took into account on gender equality, especially on following issues:

- Right and equal opportunities to access production materials which are forest and forest land;
- Right to be recognized by properties and contributions to forest development and to be protected in terms of properties and related rights when forest or forest land is recovered in accordance with legal regulations;
- Right to be informed and to comment on forestry development such as national forestry planning, provincial planning in forested provinces;
- Right to access job opportunities;
- Right and equal opportunities to access Government incentives for trainings, employment support, sustainable poverty reduction and financial support.

4. Gender equality in Viet Nam VPA

- Gender equality took into account during VPA negotiation (3/11 negotiation teams were women).
- Consultation process, capacity building and VPA impact assessment were targeted and focused on women group.
- In timber processing industry more than 50% of labor are women, female management and technical staff have being recognized.
- The FLEGT Licensing agency is important agency responsible for facilitating VPA implementation has female leader and technical staff.
- The meetings of VPA FLEGT Core Group averaged 30% - 35% female participation.
- VPA Joint Implementation Framework (JIF) focused on improvement of women's participation in the VPA implementation.

Gender Equality in Viet Nam VPA

- Right and equal opportunity to access and use forest resource (land use right for plantation;
- Right to involve in the value chain of the forestry sector (in any stage such as timber harvesting, trade and processing).
- Right to receive more job opportunity and in come in timber industry thanks to easier access to the international markets
- OCS (Company Classification System) will bring more benefit to women in term of compliance with labour or social security laws and regulations.
- Right to access to information in VPA implementation stated in Annex VIII on public disclosure



Gaps in gender in Viet Nam VPA

- There is no comprehensive study on gender impact of the VPA/FLEGT so far;
- Gender equality issues are not properly acknowledged in the Viet Nam VPA document;
- JIF strategic tasks still address gender too generally;
- Unclear guidelines on gender integration into VPA implementation process; forestry policy development process and VPA;
- There is inadequate knowledge and skills to enhance gender integration into VPA implementation at all levels.

5. Recommendations

- Conduct an analysis of gender impact of the VPA/FLEGT;
- Mainstream gender into implementation of 8 strategic tasks of JIF;
- Build the capacity of stakeholders to understand gender issues;
- Set up a monitoring tool to ensure women are involved in VPA processes;
- Setting up a quota system to give preference to women in technical trainings and practical field work.

Thank you



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