



Asia-Pacific  
Economic Cooperation

# APEC EGILAT Survey of Private Sector Organizations in the Forest Products Supply Chain



**APEC Experts Group on Illegal Logging and Associated Trade**

December 2021





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# Introduction and Overview

## **Illegal Logging and Associated Trade in the APEC Region**

Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) economies account for over 54 percent of the world's forests and approximately 41 percent of the global trade in wood products. Illegal Logging and Associated Trade (ILAT) is a significant problem facing the Asia-Pacific region with adverse economic, environmental, and social impacts. Since its formation in 2011, the APEC Experts' Group on Illegal Logging and Associated Trade (EGILAT) has worked consistently to promote trade in legally harvested forest products, combat illegal logging and associated trade, and build capacity of member economies.

### SURVEY HIGHLIGHTS

- Over 300 survey responses from 20 different APEC economies
- 198 responses from MSMEs
- 66% of responses came from importers and exporters, highlighting the importance of international cooperation within supply chains

## **EGILAT 2 Year Policy Theme**

To further its mission, in February 2019 at its 15th meeting in Santiago, Chile, EGILAT agreed to implement a two-year policy theme focused on “**Advancing the trade and distribution of legally harvested forest products**”. The policy theme recognises that private sector entities are the primary actors in the international trade in forest products and that their knowledge of, and compliance with, legal requirements will be critical to achieving EGILAT's goal of promoting the trade in legally harvested forest products. It also reflects the emergence of a range of legal frameworks regulating trade in legally harvested forest products in and beyond the APEC region<sup>1</sup>. These frameworks signal a growing need for private sector operators to understand and manage the risks of timber legality.

The policy theme seeks to identify: (1) the issues faced by private sector entities throughout the timber supply chain in trading in legally harvested forest products; (2) the existing resources and materials that are available to help private sector entities trade in legally harvested forest products; and (3) potential actions that could be undertaken by APEC economies (on an individual or collective basis) and other stakeholders (including the private sector, civil society, and international organizations) to support the trade in legally harvested forest products.

## **Industry Survey Exercise**

The industry survey was conceived as a single means to gain a better understanding of the challenges of dealing in legal timber throughout the sector and across the supply chain and identify potential opportunities to address them. The survey was open from 5-27 August 2021, including a one-week extension. The poll was distributed to each APEC economy's designated survey point of contact (POC), and each POC was responsible for distributing the survey to private sector organizations throughout their respective economies.

In addition to the survey exercise, EGILAT initiated two other lines of effort under the policy theme, including (1) a series of stakeholder workshops to engage the private sector, member economies, and relevant NGOs and international organizations to develop broader understanding of the problem, outline solutions, and explore how APEC and EGILAT can best support legal trade in the sector; and (2) the development of a compendium of resources to draw together resources, tools and materials to assist operators in the supply chain understand and navigate various economies' legal frameworks and help determine timber legality.

**This report details the results of the industry survey and data analysis.**

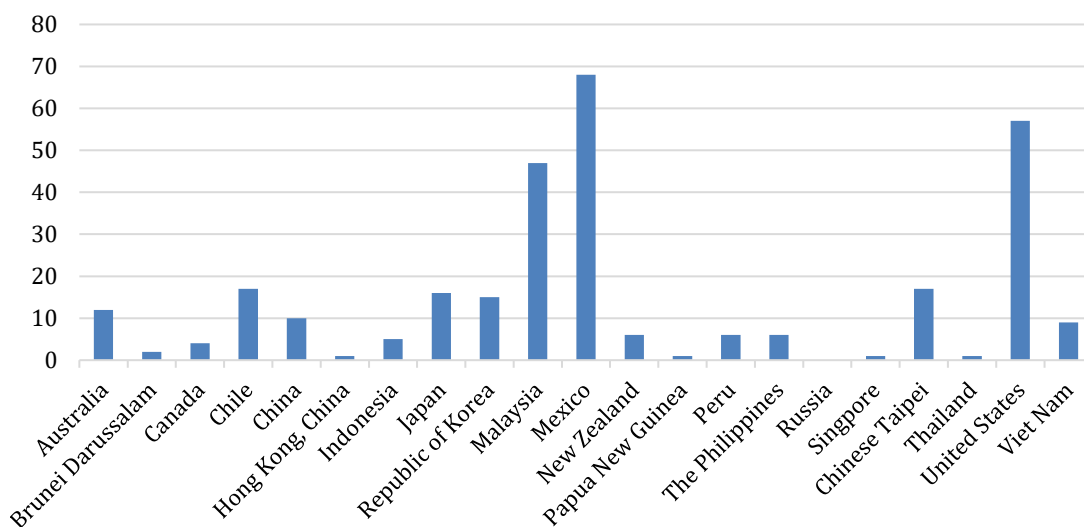
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<sup>1</sup> Within the APEC region, the following economies have introduced laws that regulate the international trade in legal forest products – Australia, China, Indonesia, Japan, the Republic of Korea, Malaysia, the United States and Vietnam. Several other APEC economies are also in the process of developing similar laws.

## Breakdown of Responses

The survey resulted in 301 total responses from 20 economies within APEC; Figure 1 shows the number of respondents per APEC economy. These responses came primarily from five economies: Mexico, United States, Malaysia, Chile, and Chinese Taipei. In total, these five economies made up 67 percent of all responses. Other respondents represent a wide range of economies throughout the Asia-Pacific region. The target response rate was approximately 10 per economy. This threshold was met by nine economies: Australia, China, Chile, Republic of Korea, Japan, Malaysia, Mexico, Chinese Taipei, and the United States.


Fig. 1: Number of Respondents per Economy



The survey also had strong results from a key target demographic – Mirco, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) - with 146 responses coming from entities with less than 50 employees. MSMEs are integral to the trade in forest products as a proportion of operators in the sector but are often not as able to engage in international meetings and events (such as the EGILAT stakeholder workshops) as some of the larger entities, due to cost constraints, language barriers, and other reasons. The survey exercise enabled EGILAT to hear from this important group. This strong response rate provides important and sometimes difficult to obtain insights into the challenges facing MSMEs in trading in legal forest products and some of their solutions.

Most responses came from privately-owned companies. However, 6 percent of overall submissions came from community-based properties including Ejidos (parcels of land farmed communally under a system supported by the state), which were obtained through write-in response.

198 of the respondents engaged in both imports as well as exports., This is reflective of APEC economies' makeup which are typically primary exporters and importers of forest products. The top five listed source markets within APEC economies include China, Canada, Indonesia, Malaysia, and the United States. The top five listed destination markets within APEC economies include China, Chinese Taipei, the Republic of Korea, the United States, and Viet Nam. In addition, the respondents also named non-APEC economies as some of their top source and destination markets. Multiple respondents' top five non-APEC destination economies include France, Germany, India, Italy, Saudi Arabia, Spain, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom. The top five non-APEC source markets for multiple respondents include Brazil, Belgium, the Central African Republic, Germany, and The Netherlands.



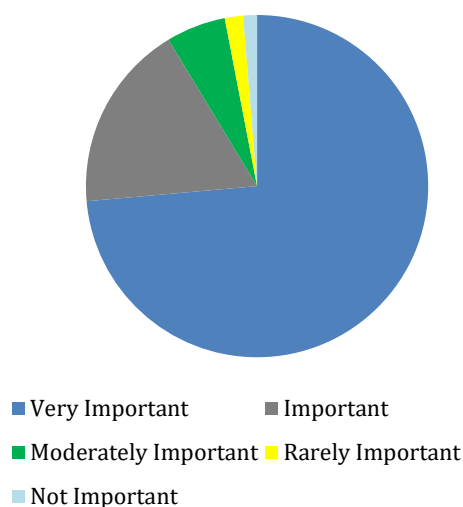
- More than a third of responses came from Privately-Owned MSMEs.
- Nearly 60 percent of results came from MSMEs which have less than 100 employees.

In addition to forest products, many of the source markets support the forest product sector by providing chemicals or machinery vital to the processing of forest goods.

Key takeaways identified in this demographic include:

- A gender imbalance persists, particularly with for-profit entities (which made up the vast majority of respondents). 63 percent of respondents indicated less than 25 percent of their employees were women.
- Large organizations - entities with more than 200 employees – were the only demographic to report women employees at 50 percent or greater; 15 percent of these large organizations reported as majority-women.
- 66 percent of respondents import as well as export forest products.
- Most respondents were primarily involved in the timber and wood sectors, specifically processing primary products (Roundwood extraction, sawn wood, veneer, poles).

Fig. 2 Importance of Forest Product Legality



## Challenges Facing the Private Sector in Trading in Legal Forestry Products

### Importance of Forest Product Legality

The importance of forest product legality in the operation of the entities and businesses is essential. Figure 2 shows the breakdown of respondent’s perspectives of forest product legality importance. 70 percent of survey respondents noted that the issue is ‘very important’, whereas another 17 percent responded that it was ‘important’.

In total seven respondents, ~2 percent of those surveyed, noted that forest product legality was rarely or not important to the operation of the business. These seven were primarily small entities and based mainly in the United States.

### Challenges of the Private Sector in the Trade of Legal Forestry Products

Per the data, the most common challenge faced by the private sector trading in legal forest products is **compliance with existing foreign timber regulations**, with 75 responses. This came primarily from MSMEs, as 60 percent came from entities of less than 100 employees and is the most frequently reported challenge for that demographic. Interestingly 10 percent of the MSMEs who reported compliance with foreign timber regulations as a challenge do not engage in importing and exporting of forest products. This may indicate a barrier for some smaller entities to engage in international trade – potentially due to the complexity and costs associated with complying with associated regulations.

The second most reported challenge reported is the **verification of trade documents and certificates and ensuring authenticity and validity**, with 74 responses. This is a common factor across all economies, business types and sizes.

The third most reported challenge is **compliance with new domestic timber regulations**, with 72 responses. This challenge, like compliance with existing foreign timber regulations, is a significant challenge for MSMEs as it is the second-largest issue for that demographic. In addition, there was an interesting overlap with 31 respondents who saw compliance with existing foreign timber regulations and domestic timber regulations as a key issue. Of these 31 respondents most



were from MSMEs that had less than 100 employees. The respondents who did see foreign regulation compliance as a challenge, while not considering domestic regulation compliance a challenge, were heavily involved with exporting and importing goods.

Another significant challenge reported was that **regulatory procedures are not adequately known**, with 58 responses. Over 75 percent of the respondents who identified this as a challenge also reported a challenge concerning compliance with domestic timber regulations or compliance with existing foreign timber regulations.

**The challenge of corruption and fraud featured prominently**, with 55 responses citing corruption or fraudulent activity within the government as a challenge, and 51 responses citing corruption or fraudulent activity within the industry as a challenge. Although these two responses were sizeable, it should be noted that most of these responses were primarily from a single economy rather than a common problem reported throughout all APEC economies surveyed.

**Verifying a product's geographic location of harvest and origin** is also a continued challenge for the private sector. Although, according to the survey, 51 respondents reported **difficulty due to lack of information**, 25 of these same respondents, along with 26 other respondents, reported **difficulty due to cost**.

**Delays in implementing regulatory procedures and guidelines from the authorizing body** are also a significant issue. A total of 50 respondents identified this as a critical challenge. Out of these respondents, 62 percent were MSMEs with less than 50 employees, showing the impact these delays have on the smaller end of this group.

Other challenges noted in the survey, but were not as prevalent across respondents included:

- Lack of staff/resources inhibit ability to conduct due diligence (41 responses).
- Business partners or customers are not familiar with timber regulations (39 responses).
- Suppliers are not familiar with timber regulations (35 responses).

### **Private Sector Mitigations to Address Challenges**

To overcome these challenges, **private sector companies have primarily educated members or staff on domestic timber regulations**. In total, 101 respondents have begun to inform members and staff on these issues. This action primarily addresses the lack of understanding regarding new domestic timber regulations and ensuring that these practices are being properly followed, which was the third most reported challenge noted by the respondents.

The second most commonly reported way to address these challenges was to **visit economies/geographies of origin and verify product legality**, with 91 respondents stated that they do this. Due to COVID-19 and associated travel restrictions, this exercise is not as easy to conduct as it was pre-pandemic and has made conducting effective due diligence challenging. It is important to note that this process can be resource-intensive relative to other non-travel methods. However, many MSMEs which have limited resources reported being able to conduct these field visits despite costs.

Another common way to address forest product legality has been to **establish a traceability system**. 91 respondents noted that this is one of the methods implemented. This, along with **dedicating staff to verify the product's economy/geography of harvest**, reported by 51 respondents, demonstrates significant investment in and commitment to legal forest products trade.

Many of these private sector organizations have also taken steps to **request assistance from trade associates on compliance**. In total 73 respondents noted that they have implemented this method.

Regarding training, 66 respondents reported **educating members or staff on foreign timber regulations** while many of those same respondents also train on domestic regulations. 61 respondents reported **training their suppliers** on timber regulations, and 62 respondents reported **educating customers**. Eight percent of respondents reported training to all groups.

These actions seemed to deliver successful outcomes, with most respondents believing them to be a success or very successful. In total 36 respondents claim them to be very successful, 80 respondents have claimed success, 72 respondents

believed they were somewhat successful, 20 respondents stated it was too soon to determine success, and 15 respondents claimed they were not successful at all. Reported reasons for failure include increasing regulation, lack of coordination and organization, cost of legality, and lack of interest.

## Promoting Effectiveness in the Trade of Legal Forest Products

### POTENTIAL ACTIONS

**Domestic government consultations regarding compliance seem to be the most favorable action that private sector respondents supported.** In total, 103 respondents noted this as a practical action that would promote the trade of legal forest products. Interestingly, 54 percent of respondents who favor this action have begun educating staff on domestic government regulations to comply appropriately. Many respondents also preferred domestic government consultations directly to member organizations; it should be noted that more respondents support talks directly to the organization. Over 60 percent of respondents who believe that consultations with member organizations are needed, also support consultations directly with the organization.

**Outreach on the dangers of trading in illegal timber is also a sought-after action**, with 87 responses. 68 percent of respondents were MSMEs with less than 100 employees. This result shows that an industry-wide campaign would effectively support all entities within the industry, including smaller businesses.

As recognized by the respondents, another action that can help businesses was **direct capacity building for the industry on methods for meeting compliance standards**. In total 80 respondents believed that this would be a practical action. 58 percent of these respondents also supported other industry-wide efforts, including a majority of MSMEs.

It is also important to note the rich diversity within the APEC region including their various languages. In total 67 respondents believed that a helpful action would be to have **Online resources regarding product verification in native languages**. As expected, almost all of respondents who chose this response are from non-English speaking economies, primarily Malaysia, Mexico, and Chile.

A final action that is seen as promoting the effectiveness of trade of legal forest products, is to ensure **increased regulations to require verification of a product's economy/geography of harvest**. This increase of regulation would assist in ensuring that forest products are legal when entering the supply chain and put more of a focus on the supplier. In total 57 respondents saw this as a helpful action.

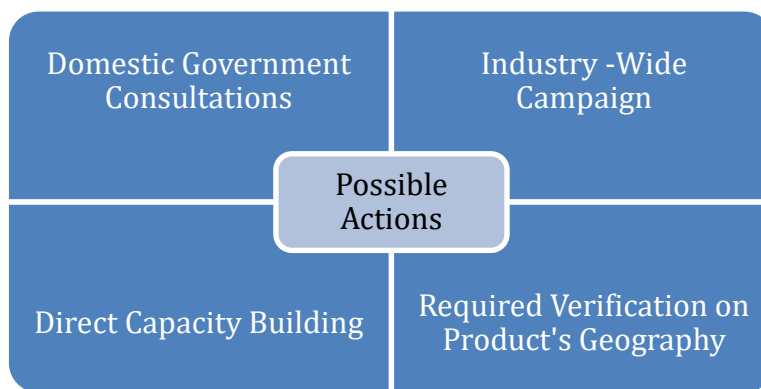
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### RESOURCES AVAILABLE

There are existing resources that are already available which can be used by these organizations to ensure the legality of harvested forest products. The most utilized resource reported by the survey group was **guidance resources provided by governments**, which 122 respondents actively use, or 40 percent of all survey respondents. Other forms of guidance with **advice from trade associations and other industry organizations** are used by 90 respondents.

Another commonly utilized resource is **domestic legislation**, which 119 survey respondents use. There is also a strong correlation between organizations that use domestic legislation as a resource and guidance resources provided by the government. 68 percent of the respondents who use domestic legislation as a resource, interestingly would favor domestic government consultations, which could use domestic legislation as a tool in ensuring the legal trade of forest product goods.



72 respondents are also utilizing **geographic/economy level risk assessments**. Out of these respondents, 47 have also been conducting visits to economies/geographies of origin and verified product legality.

Although many respondents reporting the use of guidance resources from governments and trade associations, there seems to be a lack of utilization of resources providing guidance from both civil society as well as international organizations. Only 44 respondents utilize **guidance from non-governmental organizations, and civil society**, such as Forest Trends, World Resources Institute, and Chatham House. About half of these respondents who use this guidance are from larger entities or more than 100 employees rather than smaller MSMEs which make up most of the respondents in this survey. In addition, **guidance documents from international organizations**, such as the International Tropical Timber Organization, the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, and Interpol, are only utilized by 41 respondents. Similarly, more than half of these respondents who use these guiding documents are also larger entities with more than 100 employees.

#### ADDITIONAL INFORMATION OR RESOURCES REQUESTED

Although many resources are currently available, there are often gaps that hinder the promotion of trade of legal forest products. Only 81 respondents believe that sufficient resources and guidance materials are available to assist their entity or business in the transaction of legal forest products. In contrast, **139 respondents believe that there are not enough resources and guidance materials available all the time**.

The most sought-after information is **resources on policies and procedures from APEC members that would be relevant to the industry**. 91 respondents would like to have these resources, in which 70 percent of these respondents are active in either importing goods or exporting goods; given that most trade occurs between APEC member economies, this is a large gap that could be addressed.

**Means to address corruption and fraud in government and industry** would also be helpful, with 57 survey respondents believing it would be beneficial. This method was noted by those who identified corruption or fraudulent activity as a challenge but also by other respondents who did not report corruption as a challenge (which may suggest underreporting regarding the challenge of corruption and fraud to legal forest products trade).

In addition, 48 respondents requested **assistance in navigating regulatory complexities across geographies and the industry**.

#### COVID-19 Impact on Efforts to Trade in Legal Timber

COVID-19 has had a significant impact on efforts to trade in legal timber. **68 percent of respondents who answered this question believed COVID-19 had impacted business efforts to trade in legal forest products, including supply chain traceability and the capacity to ensure due diligence, with 28 percent reporting significant impact**. This is due in part to inability to able to travel to new suppliers for on-site checks, declining demand for forest products, and closure of government agencies that would typically carry out legal documentation procedures for the transport of forest products. Notably, 62 percent of those reporting significant impacts from COVID-19 are MSMEs, highlighting the considerable effect the pandemic has had on this demographic.

#### Conclusion

There are many challenges private sector organizations face trading in legal forest products. One of the constant motifs is compliance with both domestic and foreign regulations. This survey shows that these private sector organizations hold the trade of legal forest products in high importance; however, with the available resources, compliance with changing regulations is a significant challenge. By providing more guidance and information and domestic government consultations, the industry will be better prepared to overcome these challenges and ensure that the products they are trading follow all regulations.

## Key Actions to Facilitate Legal Trade

Survey responses have highlighted the many challenges that private sector organizations face in trading in legal forest products. The private sector commonly reported three key actions to assist them in meeting these challenges: (1) continued staff and member training on regulations through domestic consultations, (2) support for the establishment and promotion of traceability systems within organizations including to ensure product's source geography, and (3) staff and member education on both foreign and domestic timber regulations.

Continuing to offer domestic consultations to educate businesses on regulations can increase understanding of and compliance with regulatory requirements and serve to strengthen dialogue between economy regulators and these private sector organizations. Domestic consultations are by far the most requested action and can help improve compliance.



Domestic consultations regarding compliance.



Promote the establishment of traceability systems within organizations to ensure product's source geography.



Promote the education of members and staff on both foreign and domestic timber regulations.

Supporting the establishment and promotion of organizations' traceability systems along their supply chains, including on product geographic origin, is critical. Such systems improve supply chain transparency needed for due diligence and provide additional legality assurance. In some instances, they can streamline auditing processes and ease the resource burden on companies and may continue to provide legality assurance during periods of travel disruption such as during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Promoting the continued training and education of members and staff on foreign and domestic timber regulations is vital in encouraging and facilitating the trade of legal forest products. Such practice improves staff and member knowledge of applicable regulations and can improve organization compliance and efficiency. Organizations currently doing this have reported success. Targeting businesses that have had difficulty providing such training could help close existing knowledge and compliance gaps.

- Most reported challenges for MSMEs were compliance with domestic and foreign regulations.
- Most common mitigating action was the staff training and education.
- Respondents favour direct consultation and outreach on the dangers of trading in illegal timber.

### **Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises Highlights**

The most reported challenges by MSMEs were compliance with domestic and foreign regulation. These challenges were identified throughout and limit MSMEs' engagement in trading in legal forest products. Given this challenge, there may be a greater need to ensure MSMEs have adequate resources and opportunities for education and consultation. Conducting industry-wide education and awareness campaigns and providing direct capacity building and consultations can assist MSMEs with their compliance activities.

MSMEs in particular identified the need for staff member education and for the resources to carry it out. Of the 139 respondents who noted that there were not enough

resources, 47% had less than 50 employees. To reduce this gap, MSMEs – particularly smaller entities - should be targeted, including by ensuring guiding documents are readily available and accessible, including in domestic languages. In addition to resources and education, MSMEs indicated that outreach on the dangers of trading in illegal timber would be helpful –

both through direct consultations and ongoing campaigns.

Currently, the rate that MSMEs seek guidance from either civil society or international governmental organizations is underutilized compared with larger organizations and may signal a lack of access. Therefore, steps should be made to ensure that these resources are available and accessible by all organizations regardless of size.

# ANNEX I – Private Sector Survey Instrument

## PRIVATE SECTOR SURVEY



### Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation

The [Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation's Experts Group on Illegal Logging and Associated Trade](#) (APEC EGILAT) is conducting a brief survey of private sector organizations in the forest products supply-chain to identify the key issues and challenges they face in trading in legally harvested forest products.

The data and results of this survey will inform a process to identify and explore potential actions that can be undertaken by APEC economies and other stakeholders (including the private sector, civil society and international organizations) **to support you and your members** in the trade in legally harvested forest products.

**The average time to complete this survey is 10-15 minutes**

We thank you in advance for your participation.

### Section I: Organization Demographics

#### I. In which APEC Economy is your entity primarily located?

- Australia
- Brunei Darussalam
- Canada
- Chile
- People's Republic of China
- Hong Kong, China
- Indonesia
- Japan
- Republic of Korea
- Malaysia
- Mexico
- New Zealand
- Papua New Guinea
- Peru
- The Philippines



- Russia
- Singapore
- Chinese Taipei
- Thailand
- The United States
- Viet Nam

**2. How many employees do you have?**

- Less than 50
- 50-100
- 100-200
- More than 200

**3. What percentage of your employees are women?**

- 0-10%
- 10-25%
- 25-50%
- 50-75%
- 75% or more

**4. Please describe your entity:**

- A private company (all entities *excluding* publicly owned companies)
- Publicly-owned company
- A member association representing companies
- Third party certification/supply chain audit firm
- Other (Please describe your organization): [text box]

**5. Please indicate the business segments in which your entity is engaged (check all that apply):**

- **Timber and Wood**
  - i. **Which products do you (or your associates) produce/process (check all that apply)?**
    1. **Primary:** for example, including roundwood extraction, sawn wood, veneer, poles, etc.
    2. **Intermediate:** for example, plywood and laminated wood, etc.
    3. **Final/finished goods:** for example, furniture, flooring, residential construction, utility poles and infrastructure pilings, etc.
- **Pulp and Paper**
  - i. **Which products do you (or your associates) produce/process (check all that apply)?**
    1. **Primary:** for example, including wood chips, sawdust, shavings, etc.
    2. **Intermediate:** for example, including pulp, oriented strand board and other wood panels, and biomass/wood pellets/charcoal, etc.
    3. **Final/finished goods:** for example, including paper and packaging, absorptive products, cabinets and furniture, and bioenergy, etc.

**6. Please describe the entities you primarily buy from (select all that apply):**

- Timber harvest/extraction entities
- Timber processors (including sawn wood, plywood, wood pulp manufacturing)
- Timber Distributors/wholesalers

- Other (Please specify):

**7. Please describe the entities you primarily sell to (select all that apply):**

- Timber processors (including sawn wood, plywood, wood pulp manufacturing)
- Timber Distributors/wholesalers
- Thermal and biomass power providers
- Retail businesses (final/finished goods, for example finished furniture)
- Retail customers
- Other (Please specify):

**8. Do you engage in:**

- **Imports?**
  - Yes – If yes, please list your top five (5) source markets
  - No
- **Exports**
  - Yes - If yes, please list your top five (5) destination markets
  - No

**SECTION II: Challenges to Trading in Legal Forest Products**

**9. How important is the issue of forest product legality in the operation of your entity or business? (select one)**

- Very important
- Important
- Moderately important
- Rarely important
- Not important

**10. What challenges do you face in trading in legal forest products? (Please select all that apply or list others not included)**

- Compliance with existing foreign timber regulations
- Compliance with new domestic timber regulations
- Regulatory procedures are not adequately known
- Delays in the implementation of the regulatory procedures or guidelines
- Varying authenticity/validity/accuracy of trade documentation and certificates
- Verifying product's geographic location of harvest is complicated due to lack of information
- Verifying the product's origin is expensive
- Lack of staff/resources inhibit ability to conduct due diligence
- Our business partners or customers are not familiar with timber regulations
- Our suppliers are not familiar with timber regulations
- Our members are not familiar with timber regulations
- Corruption or fraudulent activity within industry
- Corruption or fraudulent activity within government
- Other challenges (Please specify): [Text box – briefly]

**11. What has your organization done to address these challenges? (Please select all that apply)**

- Conducted visits to economies/geographies of origin and verified product legality
- Established a traceability system
- Educated members or staff on domestic timber regulations
- Educated members or staff on foreign timber regulations
- Educated suppliers on timber regulations
- Educated customers on timber regulations
- Dedicated staff to verifying product's economy/geography of harvest
- Pursue voluntary certification under internationally recognised forest certification schemes
- Requested assistance from trade associations on compliance with timber regulations
- Other (Please specify): [Text Box – brief]

**12. How successful have these initiatives been? If possible, please explain.**

- Very successful
- Successful
- Somewhat successful
- Not successful
- Too soon to determine impact
- Comment: [Text Box – brief]

**13. What actions do you think could be taken to help businesses to more effectively and consistently trade in legal forest products? (Please select all that apply)**

- Domestic government consultations regarding compliance
- Domestic consultations with member organizations regarding compliance
- Increased regulation to require verification of a product's economy/geography of harvest
- Online resources regarding product origin verification in my native language
- Outreach to industry campaign on the dangers of trading in illegal timber
- Direct capacity building for industry on methods for meeting compliance standards
- Other (Please specify): [Text Box – brief]

**14. Do you use any of the following resources to ensure that you, or your members, are dealing in legally harvested forest products (please select all that apply)?**

- Relevant domestic legislation
- Economy/geographic risk assessments
- Guidance resources provided by Governments
- Guidance from trade associations or other industry organizations
- Guidance from non-governmental organizations/civil society (for example: Forest Trends, World Resources Institute, Chatham House, etc.)
- Guidance documents from international organizations (for example: International Tropical Timber Organization, United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, Interpol, etc.)
- Other resources (Please specify): [Text Box – brief]

**15. Do you feel that there are sufficient resources and guidance available to assist your entity or business to trade in legal forest products (these may include in conducting due diligence and economy/geographic risk assessments, understanding regulatory requirements, determining authenticity/accuracy of documentation, and identifying timber species, among others)? (select one)**

- Yes
- Sometimes

- No
- If yes, please list the most useful resources: [Text box – brief]

**16. What additional information or resources would be most helpful to industry in ensuring timber legality and carrying out due diligence in the timber supply chain?**

- Provide resources on policies and procedures from APEC members relevant to the industry
- Address anti-corruption needs in the industry
- Help navigate regulatory complexity across geographies and across the industry
- Other (please specify): [text box – brief]

**17. How has COVID-19 pandemic affected your business' efforts to trade in legal timber, including on supply chain traceability and ability to conduct due diligence?**

- Greatly impacted efforts
- Moderately impacted efforts
- Somewhat impacted efforts
- It has not impacted efforts
- *If impacted, please describe and any efforts to respond:* [Text Box – brief]

**18. What questions and/or issues do you wish we had raised that we did not? Are there challenges or opportunities to trading in legal forest products that are not addressed in this survey?**

- [Text Box – brief]