

Ghana

Country Action Plan - Ghana

- Is there a need for a public procurement policy – yes – overwhelmingly
- How do we ensure there is adequate supply of legal timber on the market to facilitate ease of purchase

Legal and political instruments and implementation

- A domestic market policy was developed to address domestic market supply challenges
- The Public Procurement Policy on timber and timber products (PPP) was developed to address government procurement of legal timber
- Ghana has a draft policy developed through broad stakeholder consultation
- The policy came as an offshoot of the VPA, promoting the framework for the development of the domestic market
- A clean export market without the commensurate domestic market was bound to fail

Includes aspects on

- Certification, licensing and tracking
- Maintenance of database of all vendors
- Elaborate procurement process which is in compliance with public procurement Act
- Complies with definition of legal timber
- Eligibility and evaluation criteria developed

Role of construction companies, technical and financial partners and local and decentralized authorities

- The interest of all stakeholders have been adequately taken into account
- Construction companies have been involved in the development through consultation
- Government institutions that contract for legal timber use (including local authorities) have been identified, have been involved in the development and have been trained to implement

Identification of legal timber sources

- Timber is sourced from natural forest (on and off reserve) and plantations
- Alternative wood materials like bamboo, rattan and rubber wood are being promoted
- Ghana is also considering importation to augment
- Considerations of tax incentives e.g. revision of VAT on domestic timber
- Enforcement of already existing regulations (e.g. 20% of export oriented companies to domestic market)

Balancing supply and demand for legal timber

- New law on Access rights (LI 2254)
- 100% yield removal
- Restructuring of the domestic market – e.g. supply and value chains, linking up different actors in the value chain – Domestic Timber Trade Network (DOTTNET)
- Stepping up the domestic use of plantation timber

Status of PPP in Ghana

- Central government is requiring the Ministry for Lands and Natural Resources and the Forestry Commission to ensure supply guarantees before Cabinet approval of the policy

Actions to address central government concerns

- Legal raw materials should be made easily available – the law LI 2254 is helping this
- Production systems need to be efficient – retooling, industry modernization, standardization
- 100% yield removal
- Promotion of Lesser Used Species

Procurement officers trained

Once these issues are addressed, policy will be tabled again for approval