EUTR Implementation and domestic forest legislation
Czech Republic – 2016
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Content of the presentation

- 1. Forest Management Institute - Overview
- 2. Act.226 – Czech EUTR implementation
- 3. Checks on domestic producers
Forest Management Institute
Overview of competent authorities

- Ministry of Agriculture

- Forest Management Institute - FMI (UHUL in CZ)
  - a government organization established by the Ministry of Agriculture of the Czech Republic.
FMI tradition and experience

- **Forest Management Institute:**
  - Tradition 1935-2015
  - „Information on forests“

- Expertise in Forest Management Plans and registered in the list of institutions qualified to provide expert services and opinions.
FMI tradition and experience

- Forest Management Institute:
  - Tradition 1935-2015
  - „Information on forests“

- National Forest Inventory survey
FMI tradition and experience

- **Forest Management Institute:**
  - Tradition 1935-2015
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- **Information and Data Center (IDC)**
  - administration of the central database and archives on forests and game management in the Czech Republic
  - FMI’s own data from its own in site research and monitoring
  - sourcing from Forest Management Plans (30 years archive) and also various environmental databases (SQL databases, GIS data sources) from various institutions
FMI and EU Timber Regulation

- **Forest Management Institute:**
  1. Sets one year-plan of checks.
  2. Is responsible for the checks.
  3. Responds to a substantiated concern.
  4. Reports to Regional Authority if operator is not compliant with Czech Act.226 (EUTR).
EUTR implementation
Act.226 – Czech EUTR implementation

- EUTR was implemented with the Act.226 into national legislation
- Act.226 –
  - handles domestic producers
  - specifies fines and sanctions
  - defines competent authorities
Information on two types of operators

**Domestic producers**
- According to Act.226 (EUTR) - domestic production.

**Importers**
- Imports from non-EU countries.
- Placing on the market.
Identification of IMPORTING operators

- Checks on importers are based on information from Customs.

- The Customs Administration of the Czech Republic provides FMI with tables containing identification of the operator, country of origin and a description of declared timber products.
Information from the Customs Administration

- Checks on importers are based on information from Customs.

- Specific importers can be monitored by Customs and in case of new import, we are noted and can check the consignment on site (at Custom’s facility).
How do we choose importing operator to check?

- One year plan of checks.
- Risk analysis
  - CPI
  - Internet sources research
  - Substantiated concerns
- Considering:
  - Country of origin
  - Timber products as classified in the Annex
  - Also location of importing company (Prague, other)
Identification of DOMESTIC producers

- Based on information from our Institute’s Information and Data Centre (IDC)
- IDC Contains all Forest management plans in the Czech Republic
Plan of checks

- One year plan of checks.
- Risk analysis
  - Possible illegal logging identified from aerial imagery
  - Substantiated concerns
- Considering:
  - Type of forest owner (state forests, municipality, private owners, military forests...)
  - Timber products as classified in the Annex
  - Also location of importing company
Act.226 – Czech EUTR implementation

**Forest production**
- Timber harvested in forests and timber products derived from such timber.

**Other production**
- Timber harvested outside of the forest.
Forest production

- Forest areas are managed according to Forest law
- Large forests need to set up Forest management plan (over 50 Hectare)
- Smaller forests are managed using Forest management guidelines under state’s administration (usually private owned forests up to 50 Hectare).
Act.226 – Other domestic production

**Other production**

- Urban areas (town parks, gardens, alleys)
- Requires permission according to Act on Nature protection
Act.226 – Other domestic production

Other production

- Areas around roads, highways, railways, rivers...
- Requires permission according to Act on Nature protection
Checks on domestic producers
Checks on domestic producers

- Upon performing checks we should proceed in line with the Inspection Code.
- Planned checks are announced by registered letter or data box.
- Planned date of the check can be changed, if required by operator.
- Opened check can be postponed so the operator can enhance DDS.
Checks on domestic producers

- Risk based
- Substantiated concern (e.g. Czech Environmental Inspectorate)
- Based on the ownership, type of production:
  - Forest production
  - municipalities, businesses, state forests, military forests...
  - Other production
  - The Railway Infrastructure Administration
  - Road and Highway Administration
Sources of illegality in the EUTR

- Applicable legislation:
  - Violation of the Forest law
  - Violation of the Act on Nature protection
Sources of illegality in the EUTR

- Illegality of timber production:
  - Violation of the Forest law:
  - exceeding the logging area (only up to 1 Ha clear felling is allowed)
  - exceeding the annual (or other) allowed logging
  - main planned felling in forests under 80 years

- Criminal activities:
  - Stealing timber, deliberate violation of the Forest law
Sources of illegality in the EUTR

- Logging outside of the forests:
  - violating Act on Nature protection
  - logging without proper permission
Assistance for domestic producers

- Forest management institute shall provide technical assistance and consultancy to operators (according to Act.226)
- Basic information on EUTR is available on our web pages.
- We are prepared to assist the operators via email or phone or consultations.
EUTR guidelines for domestic producers

- We have prepared basic guideline for small domestic operators.
- They can use it as a template for the DDS.
- It contains information on legislation and the list of basic obligations set by EUTR legislation.
EUTR guidelines for domestic producers
Control protocol – closing the check
Thank you for your attention.

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