

# TACKLE **ILLEGAL LOGGING** BY ENSURING **FULL CONTROL** FROM STANDING TREES TO THE EXPORT OF WOOD PRODUCTS

WITH **SGS FORESTRY MONITORING PROGRAMME** AND **LEGALTRACE®** SOLUTION

Based on its 20-year experience acquired in forestry monitoring solutions, SGS has developed internally its generic **timber traceability and legality verification system** called SGS LegalTrace® that addresses the needs of the Governments engaged in the establishment and operation of mechanisms to enable forest-sector operators to prove the legal origin and legal production of their timber. SGS LegalTrace® has been designed to comply with national regulations and international initiatives such as the FLEGT Action Plan of the European Union.

**THE SGS LEGALTRACE® SOLUTION IS:**

- a generic web application customizable to meet the needs of governments and institutions,
- built on the basis of the latest Microsoft .Net state-of-the-art technologies,
- a centralized system registering any available information. Users interact with it through a website where they can register data through on-line web forms or by completing off-line Excel templates and uploading them on the server whenever connection is available. Data can also be captured through tablets.

**FUNCTIONALITIES CURRENTLY AVAILABLE:**

- **Traceability** of timber assets along the supply chain by using barcodes. The solution ensures a comprehensive recording of the forestry activities along the timber supply chain from pre-harvesting, harvesting to export or local consumption as per the Figure 1. At each step of the supply chain, timber operators apply on each timber item a unique identifier, such as a barcoded tag, and declare its characteristics in SGS LegalTrace®. The system maintains a parent-child relationship between the identifier affixed on the standing tree and the identifier on the timber product produced. This ensures the traceability of timber and enables to determine the origin of the products exiting the supply chain.
- **Control:** the results of physical and documentary verifications conducted by Forestry Authorities are entered into the database.
- **Reconciliation** between the data declared by operators and the data reported by Forestry Authorities at critical points of the timber supply chain.

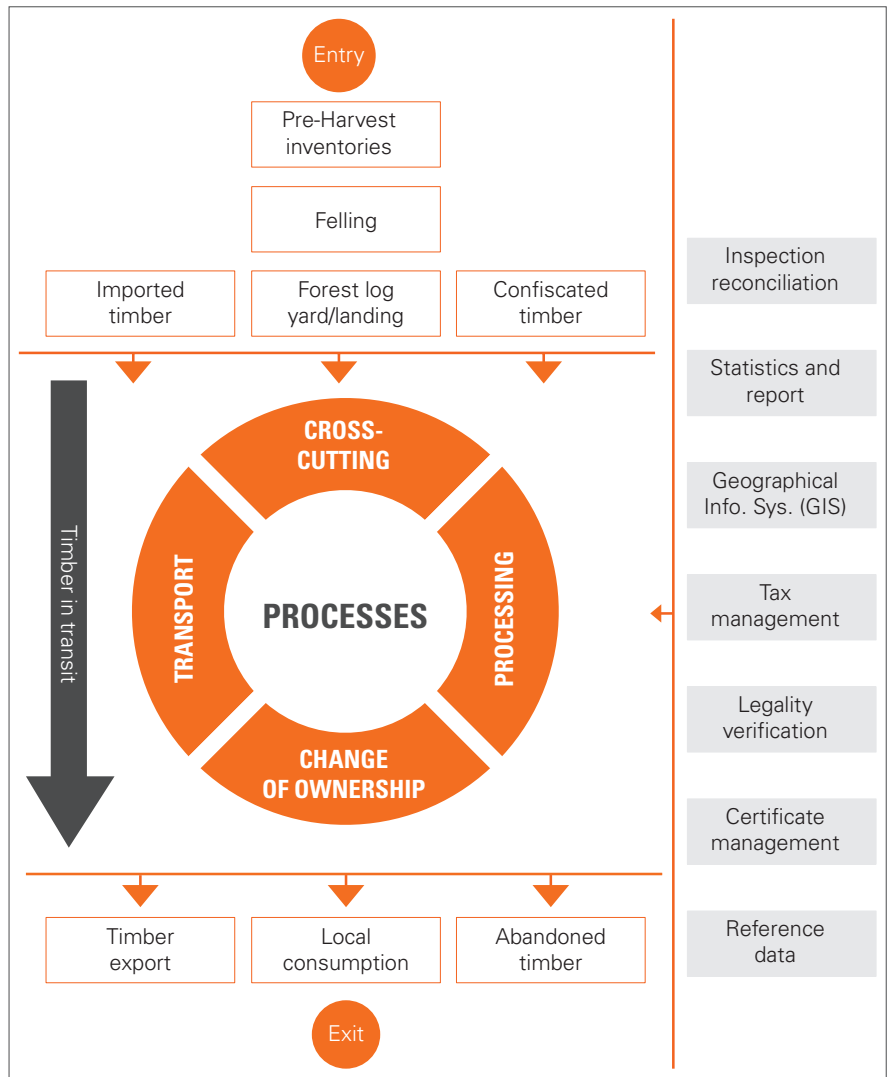


Figure 1: Generic timber supply chain

- **Fiscal:** calculation and invoicing of forest-related taxes due by timber operators to the Government.
- **Legality** verification and management of legality audit data. Ability to issue legality certificates such as FLEGT licenses for the European market.
- **Geographical Information System (GIS):** ability to export all geo-localized data in KML format to GIS databases such as ArcGis/ArcView, Google Maps/Earth, etc.
- **Reporting & statistics:** SGS provides a web-based Business Intelligence tool offering predefined and on-demand/configurable statistical reports.
- **Reference data** management such as tree species, tax rates, business roles, etc.
- **User management:** Users accounts and rights are managed.
- **Interfaces:** mechanisms to distribute data across applications (Router) in XML format through web services or FTP exchange but also through automatic email notification.

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