



Global trends affecting tropical timber markets

Challenges and opportunities

Global trends affecting tropical timber markets: challenges and opportunities

Paolo Omar Cerutti



The big picture

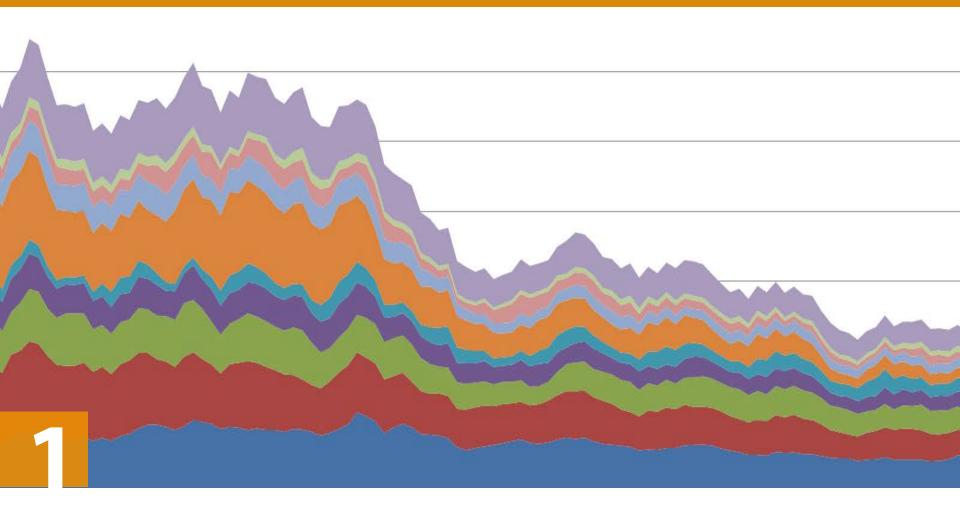
Challenges and opportunities

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The big picture



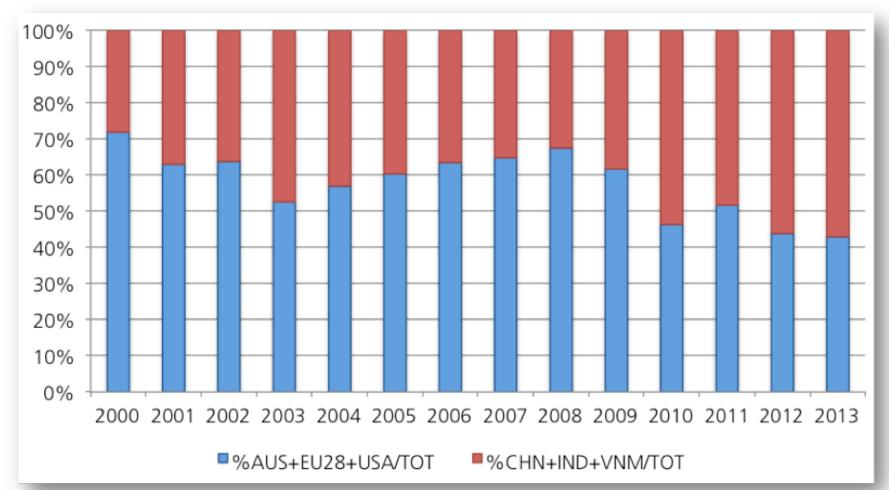
Official timber trade data!!!





| CN Code | Commodity groups and sub- | Short Description |
|------------|---|---|
| 4403 | Logs or Roundwood | Wood in the rough or roughly squared |
| 440341 | Weranti Dad Dark | Dark Red Meranti, Light Red Meranti, and Meranti Bakau |
| | Other Trepical Wood nes | Tropical wood logs (not elsewhere specified) |
| 4407 | Sawnwood | Wood sawn, chipped lengthwise, sliced or peeled |
| 440721 | Manogany (Swietenia spp.) | Mahogany (<i>Swietenia</i> spp.), sawn or chipped lengthwise, sliced or peeled |
| 440722 | Virola, Imbuia and Balsa | Virola/ Imbuia and Balsa wood sawn or chipped lengthwise, sliced or peeled |
| 440723 | Baboen, Mahogany , Imbuia, Balsa | Baboen, Mahogany (<i>Swietenia</i> spp.), Imbuia, Balsa wood sawn or chipped lengthwise, sliced or peeled |
| 440724 | Virola, Mahogany | Virola, Mahogany (<i>Swietenia</i> spp.), sawn or chipped lengthwise, sliced or peeled |
| 440725 | Meranti Red Dark | Dark Red Meranti, Light Red Meranti and Meranti Bakau, sawn or chipped lengthwise, sliced or peeled |
| | White Lauan, White Meranti, White Seraya, Yellow Meranti and Alan | White Lauan, White Meranti, White Seraya, Yellow Meranti and Alan, sawn or chipped lengthwise, sliced or peeled |
| 440727 | Virola, Mahogany (<i>Swietenia</i> spp.), Imbuia and Balsa | Virola, Mahogany (<i>Swietenia</i> spp.), Imbuia and Balsa, non-coniferous species, sawn or chipped lengthwise, sliced |
| 440728 | | Iroko wood sawn or chipped lengthwise, sliced or peeled, over 6 mm thick |
| | Other Tropical Wood nes | Tropical wood sawnwood (not elsewhere specified) |
| | Veneers | Veneers and sheets for plywood etc <6mm thick |
| 440831 | weranti Ked Dark | Dark Red Meranti, Light Red Meranti and Meranti Bakau, Veneer or plywood sheets |
| 440839 | Other Tropical Wood nes | Tropical wood veneers (not elsewhere specified) |
| 4412 | Plywood | Plywood, veneered panels and similar laminated wood |
| 441213 | Plywood, all wood | Plywood all wood, each ≤ 6 mm, with at least one outer ply of tropical wood |
| 441222 | Plywood, outer ply of tropical wood | Plywood not all wood and/or at least one ply > 6 mm, with at least one outer ply of tropical wood |
| 441229 | Plywood nes, 1 ply tropic | Plywood not all wood and/or at least one ply > 6 mm, with at least one outer ply of non-coniferous tropical wood |
| 441231 | Plywood, outer ply of other tropical wood | Plywood not all wood and/or at least one ply > 6 mm, with at least one outer ply of other tropical wood |

Total imports by groups of countries (%)





In short

- Between 2000 and 2013 international trade in tropical primary timber products (logs, sawnwood, veneer and plywood) decreased by 16% in volume and 2.5% in value
 - Several possible explanations, but very different across countries and continents
- Imports by Australia, the EU and the USA halved (-50%) while those by China and India (et al.) remained stable and then increased in recent years
- Trends influenced by the financial crisis (direct impact in housing and building), log-export bans, but also by increasing domestic demand for timber products by larger proportion of the population in emerging economies



Challenges and opportunities

Four, with an African perspective, and for you as leaders



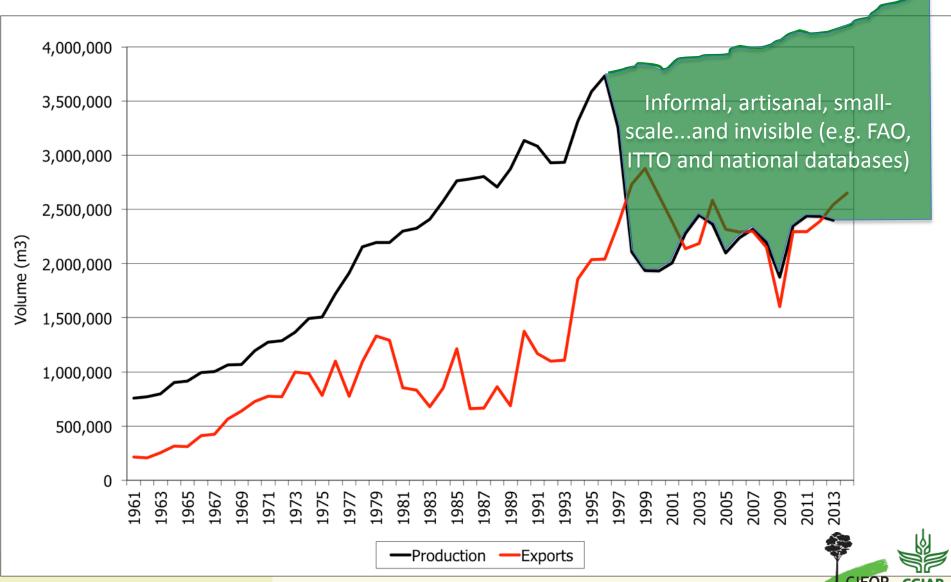
1. Get the numbers right!

| | CMR | GAB | DRC | IND | ECU |
|---|------|-----|-------------------|--------------------|------------------|
| Annual domestic consumption from informal chainsaw milling (sawnwood, 000m³)a | 662 | 50 | 1,024 | 1,408 ^b | 60-76° |
| Estimated informal jobs (000) | 45 | 1 | 25 | 1,500 ^d | 3.6e |
| Contribution to local economies (million €) | 32 | 1.6 | 34^{g} | 63 ^h | 9i |
| Profit per m³ harvested (€/m³ RWE) | 5 | 6 | 4-24 | 85 ^j | 7-183 |
| Annual formal production/export (sawnwood, 000m³) | 360 | 150 | 36 | 1,199 ^k | 170 ¹ |
| Annual forest taxes paid (formal sector, million €) ^m | 29.3 | 53 | 58 ⁿ | 227.2° | 6.4 ^p |

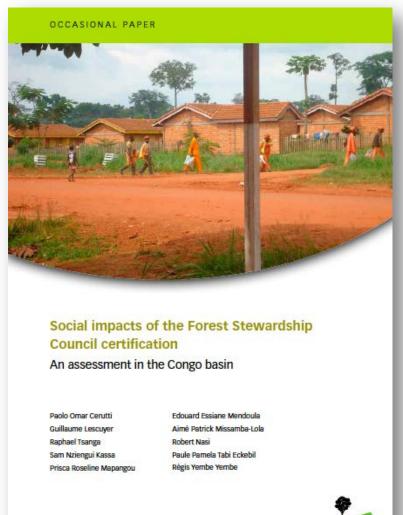
Source: www.cifor.org/pro-formal



The "invisible" Cameroonian timber



3. Private governance is an option

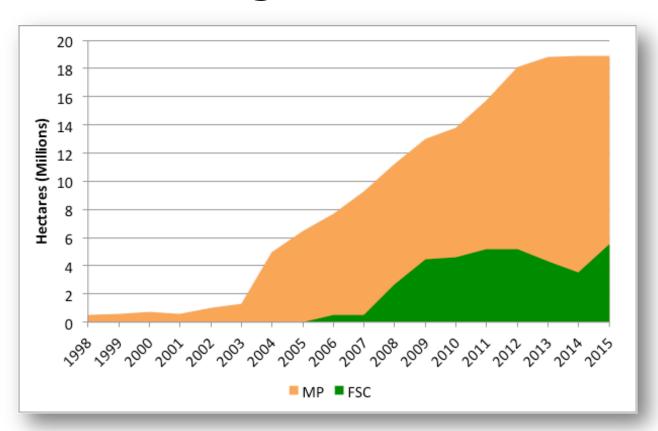


- Forest certification of tropical timber from natural forests (now a tiny niche market) could help you and your countries supply "better" timber to the market (whether or not companies decide to sell it as "certified")
- But public policies (and State officials) can also be a "threat"



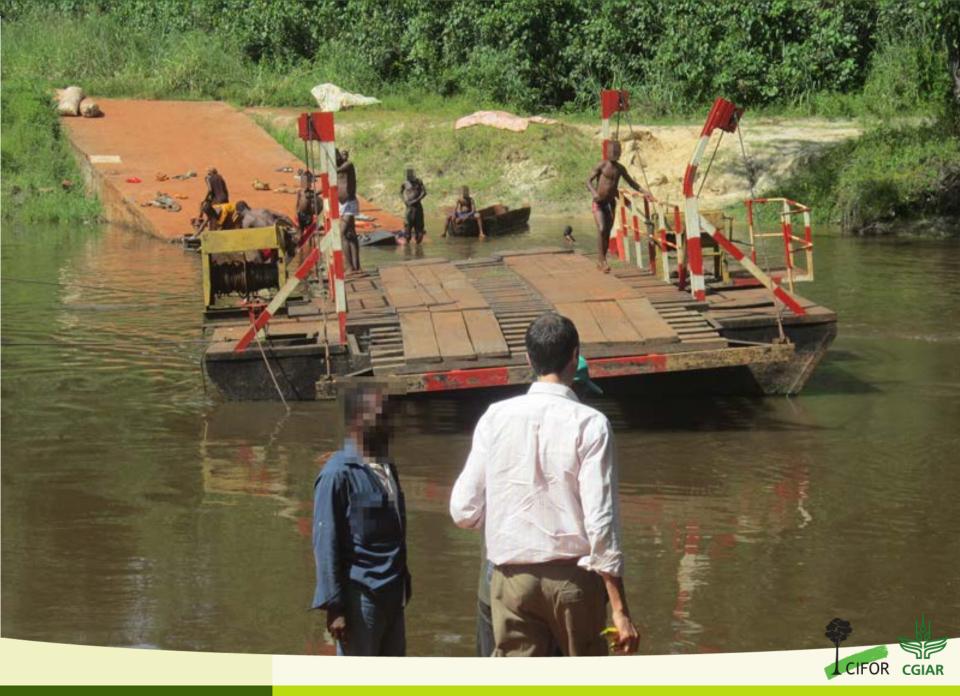


FSC: Congo basin trends



- The green area is NOT growing also because of "the law"
- Embrace the challenge, keep the good, sanction the bad











4. Perceptions are (almost) everything



- Many perceptions supported by wrong information
- And your contribution is needed to change them!



IL: Assumptions or facts?

Failing the Forests Europe's illegal timber trade

2006

Table 8: The Congo Basin: summary of salient information

| Cameroon |
|--------------|
| 50%230 |
| SHARES SHEET |
| |

cited in http://www.wwf.at/downloads/Illegaler_Holzeinschlag_und_oesterreich.pdf

Illegaler Holzeinschlag und Österreich

Eine Analyse der Außenhandelsdaten Tabelle 2: Illegaler Holzeinschlag in West- und Zentralafrika

| Land | Anteil des illegalen Holzeinschlags | | Quelle |
|---------|--|-------------------------|--------|
| Kamerun | 50% | WWF, 2002 ²⁶ | |

2005 2005 WF; 2002: The timber footprint of the G8 and China





Based on the available estimates, the share of illegally harvested wood is assumed to be 20% in the case of Brazil, 50% in the case of Cameroon, ...

Source: Cameroon, Gabon, Ghana, Russia WWF 2004, Brazil ...

2004

SCALE OF ILLEGAL LOGGING AROUND THE WORLD

CURRENTLY AVAILABLE ESTIMATES

Compiled by the VVVF European Forest Programme March 2004

AFRICA - Central Africa

CAMEROON

50% (2)

 2= The Timber Footprint of the G8 and China WWF International 2002 http://www.panda.org/downloads/forests/G8_meeting_June2002.pdf



The timber footprint of the G8 and China

2002

Africa

June 2002

Cameroon: Fifty per cent of logging in Cameroon is illegal⁴².

- 42 Centre pour Environnement et Developpement, Inside Cameroon, cited by 6.
- 6 Greenpeace, 2000. Against the law: the G8 and the illegal timber trade.

First Issue of Inside Cameroon

Center for Environment & Development (CED).

February 12, 2001

Cameroon has become Africa's biggest

timber exporter. Over half of the logging taking place is estimated to be illegal and

foreign companies continue to enjoy general impunity, often in complicity with government officials or members of the military hierarchy. The situation today is

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Contractor Contractor

2001

2000

1999...





This research was carried out as part of



RESEARCH PROGRAM ON Forests, Trees and Agroforestry



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