

SVLK INDONESIA

The Forest Legality and Sustainability Assurance System (SVLK Indonesia) has been designed to support forest sustainability as an essential element of improving forest governance in Indonesia.

Indonesia has been developing the SVLK (previously known as the Timber Legality Assurance System) since 2001 to support the eradication of illegal logging, promote sustainable timber trading, and reinforce good forest governance in Indonesia. The SVLK was designed as a system that ensures timber legality, forest sustainability and product credibility, where the legal and sustainable sources of Indonesian products are traceable. The SVLK comprises a government-led certification system, supported by multistakeholder collaboration for improved forest governance.



Important milestones of SVLK journey and beyond FLEGT : from Bali Declaration to FLEGT-VPA implementation

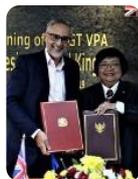
2017-2018

In the implementation period of 2017 to 2019, **Indonesia has reviewed and improved the implementation of the Timber Legality Assurance**



2019

UK and Indonesia signed Voluntary Partnership Agreement on Forest Law Enforcement, Governance and Trade in Timber Products



2021



Refreshing the V-Legal logo with 'SVLK Indonesia' rebrand and emphasizing Indonesia commitment to sustainability

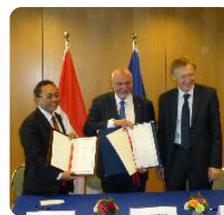
2016

On 15 November 2016, Indonesia issues first FLEGT Licenses for timber product exports to the EU Member Countries. **Indonesia is the world's first FLEGT Licensing Country**



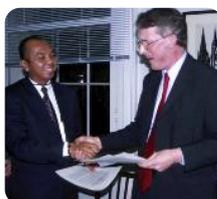
2013

Indonesia and the EU sign VPA in Brussels and SILK (Timber Legality Information System) starts to operate in January 2013, and is accessible through the link <http://silk.dephut.go.id>



2001-2009

Between 2001-2009, various timber legality systems are discussed by stakeholders and several regulations on standards for performance assessment of production forest management and verification of timber legality published and revised



2011



Launch of V-Legal logo for legal timber and timber products by Forestry Ministry followed by declaration to support legal timber furniture trade from various furniture, exporter and forest industry associations.

VPA negotiations intensify and provide leeway for perfecting of SVLK



The trend of shifting international markets towards responsible trading of forest products has resulted in an increasing demand for low-risk, responsibly sourced forest products. This has provided Indonesia with a tremendous opportunity to capture these markets with its forest products, however, there have been several challenges. We identified some issues around terminology, aspects of legality as specified on SVLK certified wood products that have led to confusion among markets, and the necessity to inform markets of the economic, social, and environmental benefits of the SVLK and its certified wood products.

In response, in 2021 the Indonesian government strengthened the system with a regulatory emphasis on sustainability values. This means that the production of all SVLK certified products in Indonesia has adhered to forest management practices that are committed to sustainability. By doing this, Indonesia has laid the foundation for a robust regulatory and institutional framework.

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Rebranding ‘SVLK Indonesia’ and reiterating our commitment to sustainability

The new regulatory emphasis is on our commitment to sustainability. The SVLK, previously known as the Timber Legality Assurance System, was recently renamed **SVLK Indonesia** or the **Forest Legality & Sustainability Assurance System** to better reflect the inherent values of the system and our commitment to sustainable practices. This has been supported with a more robust **SVLK Indonesia** regulatory framework.

Sustainable development is central to the Indonesian national legislative agenda. It not only provides a strong legal basis for Indonesia to protect endangered species, stop deforestation, eliminate illegal logging and the illegal timber trade, but also contributes to global climate change solutions.

Furthermore, Indonesia continues to introduce corrective policies and promote and improve good forest governance. To date, this includes a moratorium on peatland conversion, a moratorium on new licenses for oil palm plantations, and the establishment of the Peatland and Mangrove Restoration Agency (BRGM).

SVLK Indonesia standards endorse adherence to sustainable forest management principles. The SVLK Indonesia sustainable forest management certification confirms that a company or business has met all of its economic, legal, environmental protection and social standards.



Aspects of Sustainable Forest Management in Indonesia

Economic and Legal

This consists of ensuring that a company or business has complied with the economic and legal requirements: land use permits, business permits, environmental impact assessments, monitoring and management of forest regeneration, and implementation of a multibusiness approach promoting sustainable landscape management to ensure that all commercial activity in forests is economically viable. This means that good forest management includes optimising timber and non-timber forest production as well as environmental services.

Environmental Protection

This consists of ensuring that a company or business has accounted for both social and environmental aspects, through clear demarcation of protected areas, reduced impact logging, as well as protection of rare, threatened, and endangered species. **SVLK Indonesia** ensures that all timber products throughout the supply chain are managed in compliance with all applicable laws and regulations, known as the chain of custody.

Social

This consists of ensuring that a company's or a business's operations have impacted positively on all stakeholders, especially communities who live around the forests, through acknowledgment of workers' rights, recognition of customary land rights for indigenous and local people, fair distribution of benefits, conflict resolution mechanisms, as well as Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC) principles.



SVLK Indonesia enables all forest production chains from upstream to downstream to be independently monitored and verified transparently.

We regulate the chain of custody verification of forest product to ensure our timber product's origin, production, processing, transport, and trade are verified to comply with Indonesian legislation. All certification documents assist to trace a product to its origin. Third-party auditors assess the compliance of legal operators and issue their certificates.

The role of Independent Forest Monitors coupled with the government's stringent law enforcement have also fostered fair forest governance and raised SVLK Indonesia credibility and accountability.



The Indonesian government continues to improve regulatory frameworks to ensure SVLK Indonesia provides added value to all stakeholders.

SVLK Indonesia has successfully enabled efforts to combat illegal logging. Since the launch of the system in 2009, there has been a significant reduction in illegal logging. International studies have also estimated a decline in illegal logging of over 60% during the last 15 years. The declining of illegal logging also reflected in Indonesia's rate of deforestation, which has dropped by over 75 % in the last 3 years. This deforestation rate is now the lowest in our recent history.

Through regulatory reform, the Ministry of Environment and Forestry has taken a holistic approach through multibusiness forestry towards more economically viable forestry business. This sustainable landscape management policy includes timber and non-timber forest products as well as environmental services. Furthermore, the reform includes the simplification of business permit processes and the provision of technical and financial assistance for Small Medium Enterprises (SMEs) to conduct environmental impact assessments.

The holistic approach also confirms that SVLK Indonesia's added values lies in sustainable business practices that ensure economic inclusion, improved quality of life of local communities, and environmental protection. This government's holistic approach has clearly improved governance in the forestry sector. The reform and the changes that have transpired reflect Indonesia's commitment to sustainability.

