

Summary of the verification scheme

Name of the system	Timber Certificate Scheme.
Related Area	China.
General overview of verification	Party responsible for issuing verification
	Forestry departments above county level.
	Outline of issuing process
	Application – review - certificate issuance.
	The system shall verify legality only /or both sustainability
	Legality only.
Scheme to check for legality at the time of logging	Definition of legality
	Meeting relevant laws and regulations, and having forest harvesting certificate.
	Relevant laws
	Forest Law of the People's Republic of China, Regulations on Implementation of Forest Law of the People's Republic of China, Criminal Law of the People's Republic of China, Explanation on Several Issues of Concretely Applying Relevant Laws Concerning Dealing with Criminal Cases of Damaging Forest Resources by the Supreme People's Court, Import and Export Commodities Inspection Law of the People's Republic of China.
	Details of presumed illegal activities
	Logging exceeding the harvesting quota, logging not in the approved stand, logging without any forest harvesting certificate, activities damaging forest resources, stolen logging and severe deforestation.
	Procedures for retaining and verifying the evidence
	Check whether there is any forest harvesting certificate.
	Scheme implemented by the third party and so on to ensure reliability
	No such scheme.
Scheme to check for sustainability	Definition of sustainability
	Procedures for retaining and verifying the evidence
	Scheme implemented by the third party and so on to ensure reliability
Scheme of separative custody management	Real picture of the dealings, from logging to export
	Checking stamp labeling (seal) from logging (forest harvesting certificate and document), transportation (timber transportation certificate and document), selling (timber selling certificate and document) and processing (timber processing certificate and document) (no any further custody management).
	Procedure for ensuring separative custody management
	Check whether there is any certificate and document for any of the four stages mentioned above.
	Scheme implemented by the third party and so on to ensure reliability
	No third party scheme. All activities are monitored by forestry departments above county level.
Future Task and Perspectives	Criticisms against the system and recognition of problems
	The system is generally widely accepted. There are two problems: One is that the system is not complete enough as there is no further custody management so the end-users could not identify any information of logging and subsequent activities; The other is that there are some mis-conducts of the implementation of the system. Some places do not implement the system in a very effective way.
	Remediation procedure
	Some experts are trying to develop timber tracing system to cover all chains of custody, for the consideration of the government.
	Future perspectives
	Quite promising.
Reference Author	Web site: www.forestry.gov.cn
	Name: Professor Mr. Lu Wenming
	Title: Director of Division of International Cooperation
	Organization: China Academy of Forestry Email: luwenmingcaf@126.com