ATIBT provides professionals and the general public with a significant amount of institutional, technical and trade news on the major issues involving the tropical timber sector: the promotion of legality, sustainable forest management, improved industrial timber processing methods and the promotion of lesser known species. ATIBT’s technical expertise and plurality of skills is enhanced by the diversity of its membership base: private forest sector companies, industrial and commercial players, international and national institutions, States that have signed the ATIBT Convention, research institutes, professional and non-professional associations and suppliers of equipment, transit, transport and other services related to the timber industry.
ATIBT promotes the sustainable, ethical and legal trade of tropical timber as a natural and renewable resource. This activity is key for the socio-economic development of producing countries, and for consuming countries it is a valuable source of raw materials that are destined for various industrial uses.

REPRESENTING AND DEFENDING THE INTERESTS OF INDUSTRY PLAYERS

The association consists of approximately 80 members from around 20 countries that produce and consume tropical timber. It therefore represents the interests of several thousand individuals who are involved in the management, processing and trade of tropical timber. ATIBT intervenes in several areas: forest management, the timber industry, standards and uses.

The scientific and technical committee performs a dual role, that of advisor and ethical benchmark. Thanks to its technical experts, ATIBT is able to develop and promote various standards and tools for the industry:
- The Tropical Timber Atlas
- La Nomenclature des bois tropicaux (general classification of tropical timber), which establishes international pilot names
- Internationally recognised rules of classification and measurement for tropical sawn-timber, round timber and timber trunks
- Le Guide d’utilisation des essences africaines écocertifiées en Europe (The User Guide for African species that are eco-certified in Europe)
- A practical guide aimed at public buyers: Concevoir et mettre en oeuvre une politique d’achat bois reponsable (Developing and implementing a responsible timber purchasing policy)

AN EXPERT, AN ADVISER AND AN ETHICAL BENCHMARK

ATIBT actively participates in international dialogue and intervenes in both national and international forest policy decision-making, acting as a facilitator through practical collaboration with national ministries and international organisations such as the FAO, the European Union, the AFD, COMIFAC, the FFEM, the KFW, the OIBT, the UICN, the STTC, the WWF, the WCS and the FSC. This cooperation is vital in order to find realistic collective solutions to the problems and challenges that tropical timber and forests face.

ACTIVE PARTICIPATION IN INTERNATIONAL DIALOGUE
PROMOTING AND MONITORING SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT POLICIES

ATIBT acts in favour of the sustainable management of tropical forests and a healthy economy that promotes social development. It promotes and implements low-impact logging techniques for improved use of the resource. It ensures improved knowledge of the raw material - wood - in terms of its use, industrialisation, consumption and promotion. It supports national and international forest certification systems in order to enhance their transparency and credibility.

A GLOBAL NETWORK OF PROFESSIONALS

ATIBT works closely with many partners in order to implement effective and relevant programmes serving tropical timber. Working with ATIBT means sharing its mission: contributing to the sustainable development of a responsible tropical timber-forest sector, from the forests to the market, a mission that simultaneously ensures economic viability, social fairness and the preservation of forest ecosystems.
THE BENEFITS OF JOINING ATIBT

When you join ATIBT, you access a global network of professionals and a broad range of technical, economic and commercial data. ATIBT represents its members on both a professional and political level and defends their interests in all areas relating to the production and commercialisation of tropical timber. ATIBT reinforces the image of all of the sector’s professionals. Reciprocally, joining ATIBT also means that you are indirectly contributing to sustainable forest management, by strengthening ATIBT’s voice during international debates.