

# Report minute of the ATIBT and LCB Themis workshops - 27 and 29 September 2021



As a reminder, the Themis project is led by the Dutch institute [PROBOS](#) and financed by the [Program for the Promotion of Certified Logging \(PPECF\)](#) and the foundation [IDH the sustainable trade initiative](#). It consists of developing a tool for collecting data on wood purchases by member companies of European federations. This new tool takes the form of an online portal, on which companies are invited to fill in their data once a year.

## 1. Feedback on the experience of the Dutch Timber Trade Association (NTTA)

- **Questions on the representativeness of the sector**

NTTA members represent 65% of the Dutch timber industry.

See the reports of NTTA below:

[https://probos.nl/images/pdf/bosberichten/BB20203\\_English\\_web.pdf](https://probos.nl/images/pdf/bosberichten/BB20203_English_web.pdf)  
<https://probos.nl/images/pdf/rapporten/Rapport-01.pdf>

- **Questions about the main sources of tropical timber in the Netherlands:**

The main provenances are Indonesia and Malaysia (former Dutch colonies). In both countries certification is developed, which may explain the high score of NTTA members. However, for 'hydraulic timber', the bulk of the supply comes from the Congo Basin.

Less and less of the supply comes from China as NTTA members find it difficult to recover certification and legality documents.

- **Comment on the evolving nature of NTTA members' objectives**

During the workshop, the evolving nature of NTTA members' commitments was of interest to participants. The idea would be to set targets to be achieved every 3 years.

- **Question on the verification system of NTTA members' data? (Question asked outside the workshop)**

Yearly a sample of 5 companies are checked/audited if the data they filled in can be replicated and a sample of invoices are checked for certification (FSC/PEFC).

## **2. Presentation of the data collection portal - Themis**

- Note: do not distribute the report because it is not representative of the sector
- Remark: the participants would like to have a graph on their dashboard on the evolution of certified purchases by country.
- Question about the time spent filling in the portal

A member's response: the better the "ERP" (purchasing software), the easier the collection. It took him 2 hours to complete the portal.

Companies can return to the survey as many times as they want before closing the survey. However, once they have clicked on the "I am done" button, it is no longer possible to return to the data entered.

- Note: There has been confusion between what timber is considered certified or not: only sustainable certified timber, or also legality certified timber and with regional systems? A new question has been included in the FAQ.

## **3. Workshop on the score calculation**

- The weighting by timber category presented at the workshop seems appropriate.
- Note: the score will be presented to the Board of Directors of ATIBT and of LCB.
- Remarks on the presentation of the overall score: for external communication, companies prefer a graphic score such as leaves, or letters A B C D E (based on the nutriscores model).

Parallel with the Netherlands: NTTA uses percentages. E.g.: if companies reach the 85% target for tropical timber then they get 100%.

## **4. The link between the Themis tool and the environmental charter**

- Note: link the Themis tool to a charter of commitment
- The question of the mandatory nature of the tool was raised during the workshop.
- The question of the data control system was also discussed as well as the question of the economic model of the portal.
- Remark to challenge the other members of LCB and ATIBT, using an ambassador or ambassadors could be a good solution + members that promote the use of the tool and call upon 'colleagues' to also use it. It is essential for the participants that the project is adopted by the other European federations.