



THE LEADING AUTHORITY ON TROPICAL TIMBER

A private sector perspective on the role of Independent Forest Monitoring

Caroline Duhesme

Illegal Logging Update and Stakeholder Consultation Meeting
Chatham House, London
19-20 June 2017

The ATIBT projects for improved private sector participation
in the FLEGT and REDD+ processes are financed by :



FONDS FRANÇAIS POUR
L'ENVIRONNEMENT MONDIAL



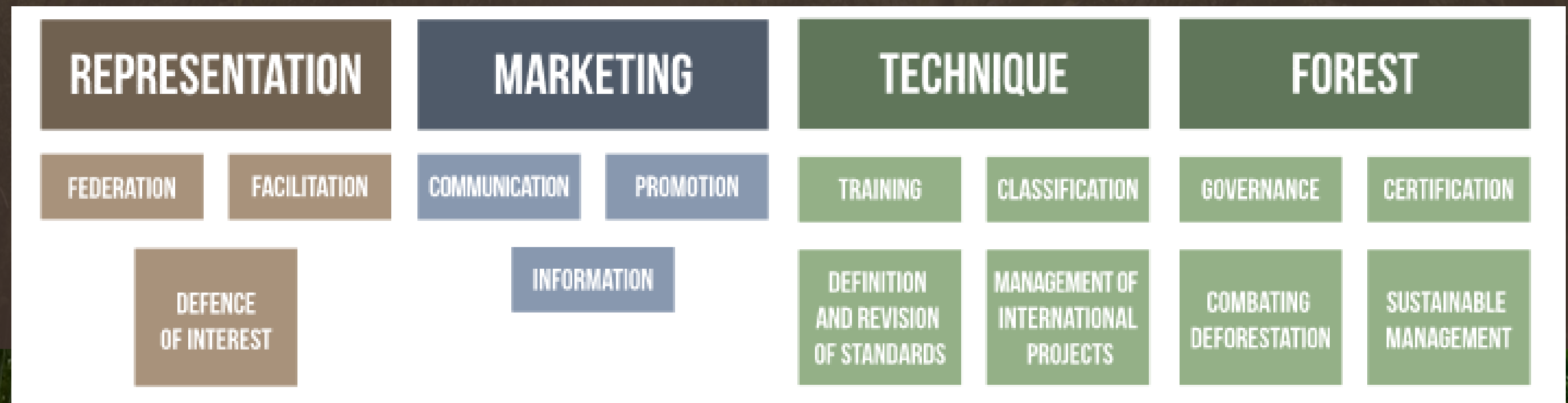
ATIBT, the leading authority on tropical timber



THE LEADING AUTHORITY ON TROPICAL TIMBER

ATIBT's vocation is to serve the tropical timber industry, from the forests to the end user. ATIBT is:

- a leading technical and scientific authority in tropical timber,
- a manager of international programs that support tropical forests.



IFM, a recognized role in Congo Basin



THE LEADING AUTHORITY ON TROPICAL TIMBER

Role of IFM recognized by forest managers:



Improves
governance



Limits authorities
harassment during controls



Reduces unfair
competition



Improves legality level
(social and environmental)

IFM, a recognized role in Congo Basin

IFM information used for EUTR application:

Improves
information
sources diversity



Facilitates the
exercise of due
diligence

Recommended by Competent Authorities

**RELIABLE**

INDEPENDENT

Data perceived as reliable and independent

IFM limits in Congo Basin

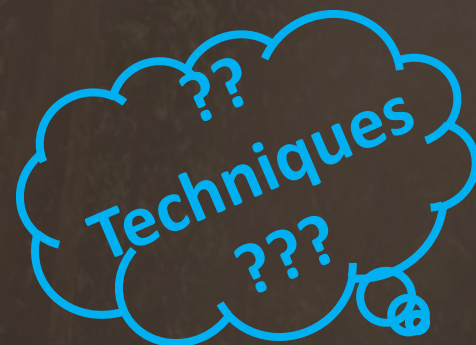
Low level of selected NGOs:

Questionable
investigation methods
and conclusions
formulation

Lack of expertise in
evaluation techniques



Weaknesses of
technical and legal
knowledge



IFM limits in Congo Basin

Problems of independence and impartiality:

Link with major NGOs
with campaigning
interests



External
pressures
(lobbies,
administration)

Financial/funders
dependence



Negative
conclusions to
justify more
activity



Private sector expectations

- **The private sector advocates for an IFM:**
 - **Integral:** observation of all and all activities
 - **Impartial:** identical and reproducible observation criteria, confidentiality management
 - **Competent:** better knowledge of the sector, proven evaluation techniques
 - **Transparent:** Evaluation and reporting methodologies well defined, definition of evaluation criteria
 - **Independent:** free from any influence

Private sector expectations

Recommendations:

- Open applications to **other kinds of organizations** (such as certification bodies)
- Select appropriate and **competent** organizations / personnel
- Review and define evaluation **methodologies**
- Develop **evaluation tools** (criteria, checklist, sampling method)
- Strengthen the **governance mode** (define a 2nd level of verification like accreditation)
- Using IFM data to **change the practices** of the administration (funders involvement)
- Find funding mechanisms and new approach that **limit financial dependency**

