Opportunities for legal investment in the wood industry in Central Africa

Enterprise point of view

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29 members in Africa

- 16 Certified companies
- 4 Wood federations
- 3 States
- 5 Others (NGO, research, certification body, individual members)

Apportionment of members amongst African countries:

- Cameroon: 24%
- Gabon: 35%
- Congo: 17%
- Côte d'Ivoire: 14%
- CAR: 7%
- DRC: 3%
- Cameroon: 24%
Congo case – Wood resources availability

- 14 million d’hectares attributed for wood harvesting
- Over 300 tree species, of which 50 are suitable
- Current log production 1.3 million m³, potential of 2 million m³ if promotional species are harvested
- 59 wood transformation plants
- Big difference in between North and South

Apportionment of exported wood products in 2018

Logs 73%
Sawn wood 23%
Veneer 3%
Finished products 1%

Source: MEF (General Direction of Forests) in Congo
Congo case – legal framework

Summary of legislation documents for the principal subjects

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The themes economy, transport, taxes, and customs are also regulated by legislation documents.

Important: the forest law of Congo is being revised
Gabon case – wood resources availability

- 15 millions hectares attributed for wood harvesting
- Over 400 tree species, of which **60 tree species are usable**
- Current log production 1.5 million m$^3$, potential of 3-4 million m$^3$ if **diversification of harvested tree species**
- 154 wood transformation plants
- Special economic zone near the capital (GSEZ Nkok) with investment advantages for timber industry (taxes, single-window facility)

Source: Vision stratégique et industrialisation de la filière bois en Afrique centrale – Horizon 2030, BAD/FRMi 2018
Gabon case – legal framework

- Garanty a **sustainable use of natural resources** for future generations
- Accelerate economical growth
- Develop **2\textsuperscript{nd} and 3\textsuperscript{rd} level wood transformation**

**To create a company (single-window facility) :** [www.anpigabon.ga](http://www.anpigabon.ga)
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**Important**: the forest law of Gabon is being revised
How to buy and sell legal wood products?

- Buy wood from **certified forestry companies** => Guaranteed field verification by independent and accredited certification bodies (Bureau Veritas, NEPCon, Control Union)

- In absence of certified wood, apply due diligence

  Legal framework and key documents of 23 countries on:

  [Gateway to International Timber Trade](http://www.timbertradeportal.com)
THANK YOU

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