



**Asia-Pacific
Economic Cooperation**

2025/SOM3/EGILAT/DIA/003

Agenda Item: 1

Enforcement and Legal Timber Trade Practices in the Philippines

Submitted by: The Philippines



**Dialogues and Mini-Exhibition on Enhancing
Enforcement and Legal Timber Trade through
Stakeholder Collaboration and Innovation
Incheon, Korea
28 July 2025**



APEC 2025
KOREA

Enforcement and Legal Timber Trade Practices in the Philippines

ATTY. RAY THOMAS F. KABIGTING

Assistant Director, Forest Management
Bureau

Department of Environment and Natural
Resources

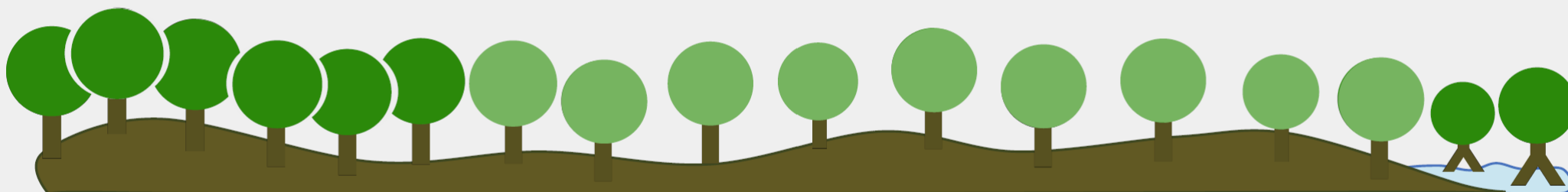
Contents

1. Forest Resources in the Philippines
2. Status of Illegal Logging in the Philippines (Relevant Laws, Hotspots Trend)
3. Overview of the Timber Sector in the Philippines
4. Trade and Transport of Forest Products
5. Initiatives on Timber Legality
6. Way Forward

FOREST RESOURCES IN THE PHILIPPINES

7,226,394 hectares

estimated forest cover of the Philippines



30.7% (2,221,173 ha)

Closed Forest

65.0% (4,693,821 ha)

Open Forest

4.3% (311,400 ha)

Mangrove Forest

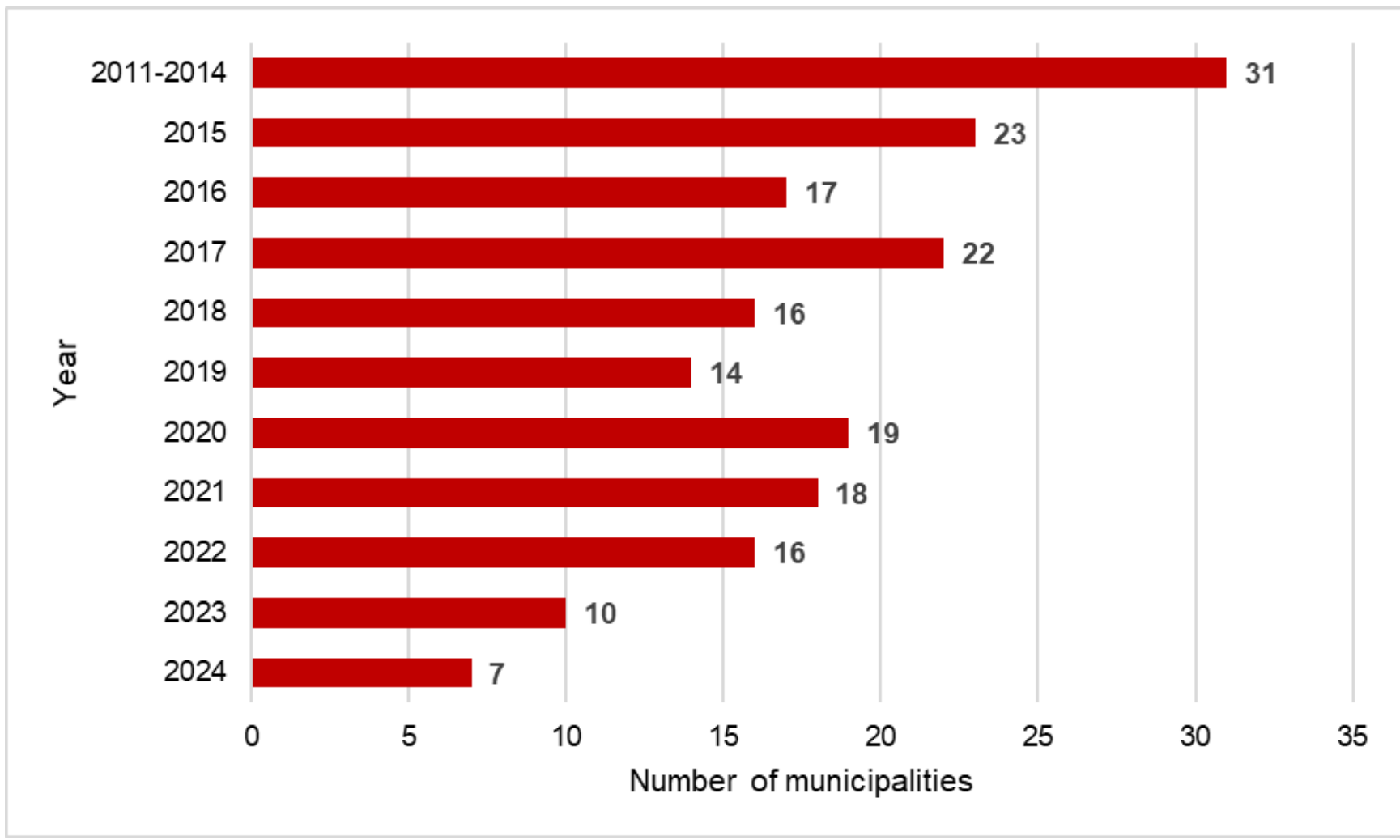
LAWS RELATED TO ANTI-ILLEGAL LOGGING

1. PRESIDENTIAL DECREE NO. 705 (May 19, 1975) – also known as the **Revised Forestry Code of the Philippines**
2. REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9175 (November 7, 2002)- An Act Regulating the Ownership, Possession, Sale, Importation and Use of Chain Saws, Penalizing Violations Thereof and for Other Purposes. Also Known as the **Chainsaw Act of 2002**
3. EXECUTIVE NO. 23 (February 1, 2011) - Declaring a Moratorium on the Cutting and Harvesting of Timber in the Natural and Residual Forests and Creating the Anti-illegal Logging Task Force.



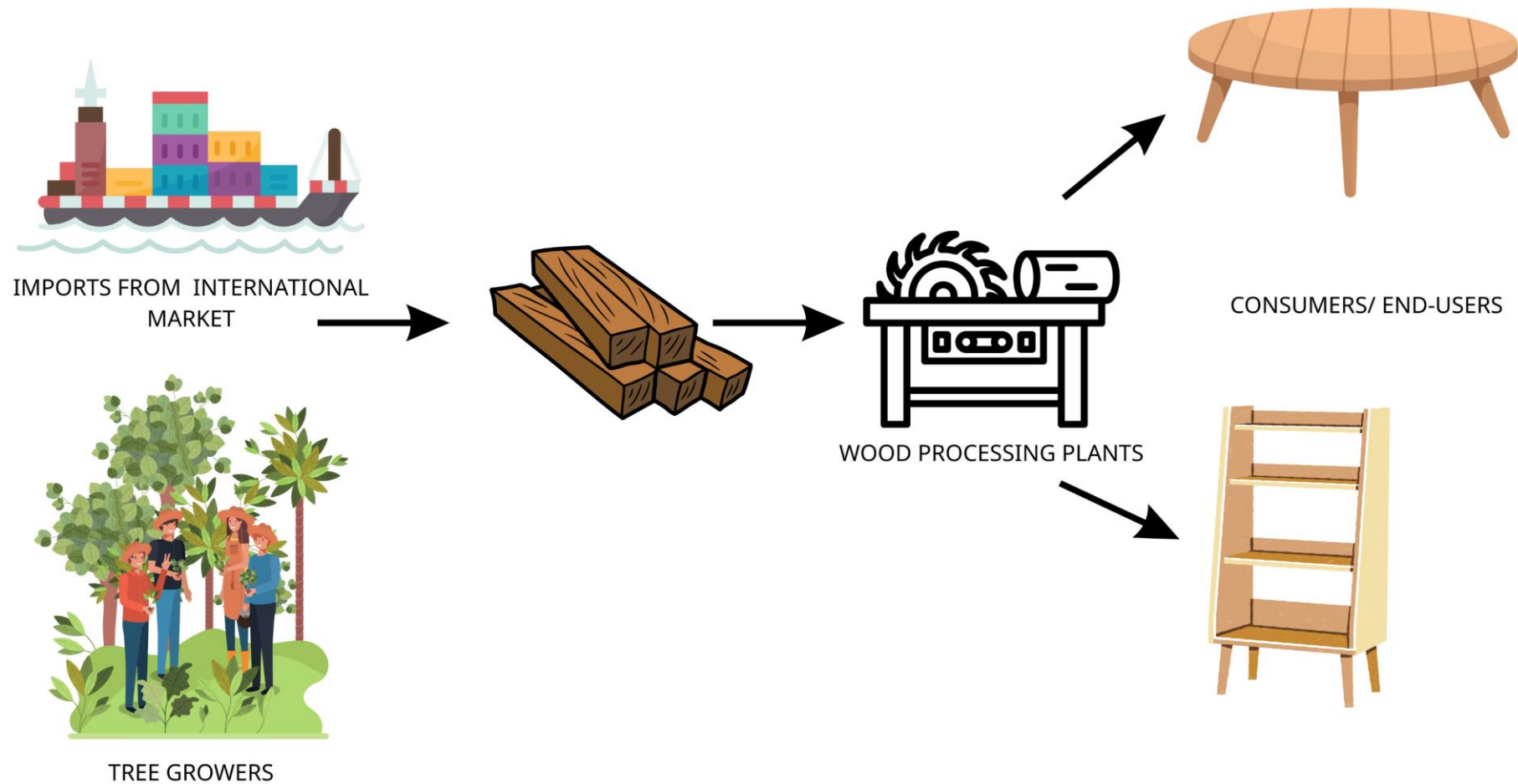


ILLEGAL LOGGING HOTSPOTS TREND FROM 2011-2024



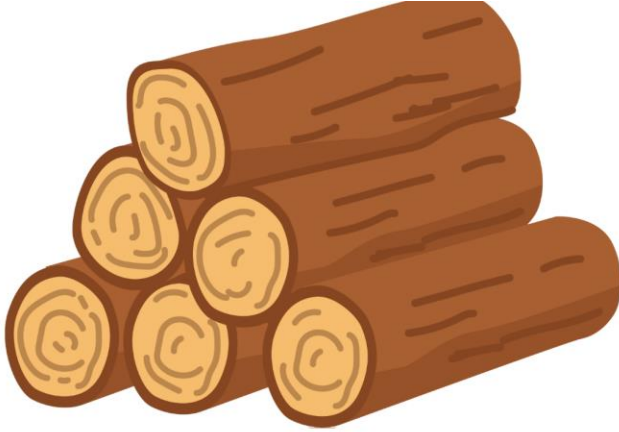
OVERVIEW OF THE TIMBER SECTOR IN THE PHILIPPINES

SUPPLY CHAIN ACTORS



OVERVIEW OF THE TIMBER SECTOR IN THE PHILIPPINES

Production of Forest Products



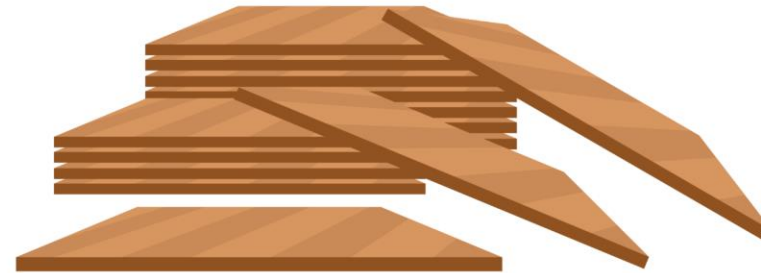
LOG PRODUCTION
634,035 cubic meters



VENEER PRODUCTION
235,900 cubic meters



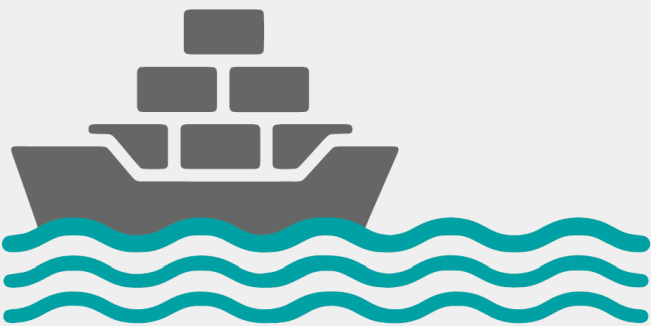
LUMBER PRODUCTION
489,589 cubic meters



PLYWOOD PRODUCTION
327,112 cubic meters

OVERVIEW OF THE TIMBER SECTOR IN THE PHILIPPINES

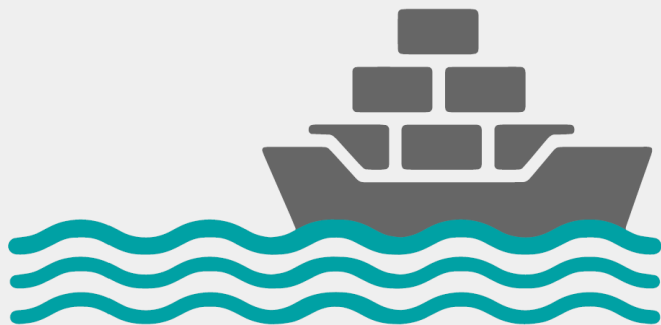
Top Traded Forest-Based Products



US \$ 2.27 Billion
IMPORT FOB VALUE

TOP 5 IMPORTS	
59.8%	Paper & Articles of Paper & Paperboard
11.3%	Plywood
9.6%	Lumber
8.9%	Forest-Based Furniture
3.3%	Pulp and Recovered Paper

TOP 5 EXPORTS	
24.6%	Lumber
16.0%	Pulp and Recovered Paper
13.7%	Paper & Articles of Paper & Paperboard
10.5%	Wood Charcoal
9.4%	Other Wood-Based Manufactured Articles



US \$ 0.71 Billion
EXPORT FOB VALUE

INITIATIVES ON TIMBER LEGALITY



1. Development of a Philippine Forest Certification System (in progress)

The proposed forest certification standards are aligned with international certification standards for accreditation purposes, including forest certification for Forest Management Units & Chain-of-Custody for wood traders.

2. Development and testing of the Philippines Forest Stock Monitoring System (NFSMS)

3. Promotion of Tree Plantation Development and Liberalization of Harvesting and Transport of Planted Trees and Tree Derivatives in forest lands with existing tenure or management arrangements and in registered private tree plantations.

Compliance with the EU Deforestation Regulation

Drafting of the Philippines' timber legality guidance documents that could serve as the Philippines' Statement of Due Diligence in compliance with the European Union Regulation on Deforestation-free Products (EUDR)



APEC 2025
KOREA

THANK YOU

ATTY. RAY THOMAS F. KABIGTING

Assistant Director, Forest Management

Bureau

Department of Environment and Natural
Resources