



**Asia-Pacific
Economic Cooperation**

2025/SOM3/EGILAT/003

Agenda Item: II.A

Implementing Illegal Logging Reforms: Australia's Experience and Learnings

Purpose: Information
Submitted by: Australia



**28th Experts Group on Illegal Logging
and Associated Trade Meeting
Incheon, Korea
28–30 July 2025**



Australian Government

Department of Agriculture,
Fisheries and Forestry

Australian Government

Combatting illegal logging

APEC SOM3: EGILAT28

July 2025

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Illegal logging law reforms

3 March 2025

Reformed laws came into effect

- Amendments to ***Illegal Logging Prohibition Act 2012***
 - Enhancing regulatory powers to support effective monitoring and enforcement
- New **Illegal Logging Prohibition Rules 2024** to replace current Regulation
 - Changes to the due diligence requirements

Supporting education and awareness

- Communication and guidance strategy:
 - **Before 3 March 2025**
 - Increased frequency of e-newsletter
 - Increased engagement with industry & governments
 - Factsheets
 - Digikits
 - Toolkits
 - > 15 webpages
 - **After 3 March 2025**
 - Webinars
 - Developing more FAQs
 - Revising guidance material
 - Responding the questions via email



Key learnings

Communication and guidance

- **Clear resources required**
Accessible guidance for all stakeholders to understand and meet obligations.
- **Complex stakeholder questions**
Queries are becoming more specific, requiring carefully tailored responses.
- **Ongoing engagement:**
Stakeholder feedback helps us improve guidance material





Key learnings

Compliance

- **Clear boundary between guidance and legal advice**
The department must avoid providing specific legal advice when assisting stakeholders
- **Enhanced internal coordination**
Strong coordination between policy and compliance teams ensures clarity and consistency for stakeholders.
- **Point in time audits**
Audits must align with the legislation and guidance in effect at the time of import/processing

Common contraventions

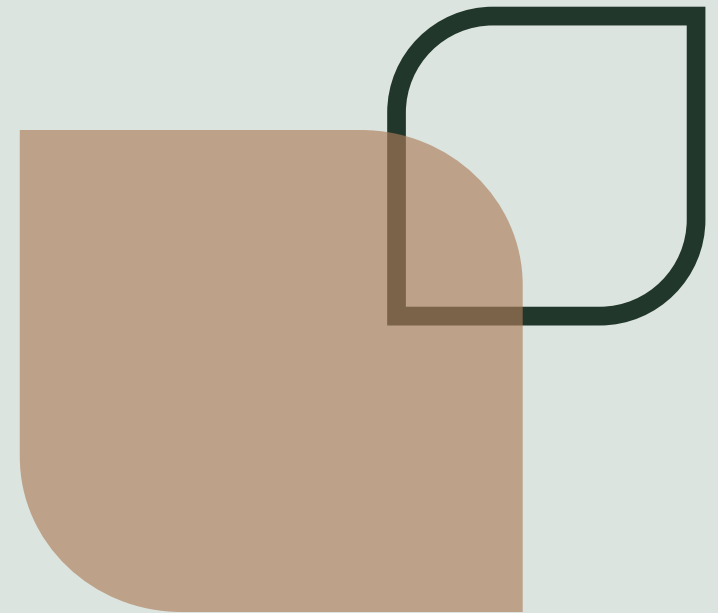
- **Inadequate due diligence**
 - Outdated and/or lack of information gathered
 - Incomplete and/or poor risk assessment
- **Failure to respond to department**
- **Misunderstanding of new Exception**
- **Certification verification issues**
- **Retrospective document alterations**

Questions?

We welcome your questions and reflections

We value the opportunity to learn from each other and continue the conversation beyond this session.

- Come and speak with us in the sidelines of EGILAT28
- We can also arrange a separate meeting at a convenient time





Australian Government

Department of Agriculture,
Fisheries and Forestry

Thank you

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