

### Global and Regional Cooperation

Good governance is increasingly being recognized as an essential ingredient for achieving long term forest conservation and sustainable forest management.

*Strengthening Voices for Better Choices*, a project of IUCN–The World Conservation Union, promotes cutting edge approaches to improved forest governance in three continents with a focus on the following six countries:

- Brazil, South America
- Democratic Republic of Congo, Central Africa
- Ghana, West Africa
- Sri Lanka, South Asia
- Tanzania, East Africa
- Vietnam, Southeast Asia

This global Forest Governance Project, supported by the European Commission, runs for four years from 1 February 2005 to 31 January 2009.

### Project Vision & Mission

The Forest Governance Project, *Strengthening Voices for Better Choices*, aims to enable and actively implement forest governance arrangements that facilitate and promote sustainable and equitable forest conservation and management in priority countries of Africa, Asia and Latin America. It seeks to identify and promote policy, legal, institutional and economic arrangements that contribute to improved forest governance and engage the active support of government, civil society and the private sector into reform processes.

### A Phased Approach

New partnerships and arrangements involving state agencies, local environmental NGOs and the private sector will identify policy, legal, institutional and economic obstacles to improved forest governance (including instances of illegal logging) and implement practical solutions for better forest conservation and management; and, in particular:



- Pilot innovative approaches to overcoming those obstacles through community forestry, forest landscape restoration (FLR) and improved concession management;
- Enhance the capacity of key stakeholders to implement forest governance reforms;
- Disseminate the lessons learned at national, regional and global levels.

### Forest Law Enforcement and Governance

The project also supports regional “Forest Law Enforcement, Governance and Trade” (FLEGT) processes being organised by the World Bank and others and contributes to the implementation of the European Commission’s FLEGT Action Plan. National and regional working groups will promote these processes through workshops and case studies.

### Funding Arrangements

The project budget is € 4,256,854 (approximately US\$5,235,930; Sept 2005) of which 77.7 per cent is provided by the European Commission. Funding to cover the remaining 22.3 per cent is provided from other sources.

### For more information contact:

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