

# EUTR in Bulgaria

Enforcement of Regulation (EC) 995/2010

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Ministry of Agriculture  
and Food

Executive Forest Agency



16 Regional  
Directorates of Forestry



## Annual timber harvest

**2013 - 6 795 534 m<sup>3</sup>**

**2014 - 6 190 957 m<sup>3</sup>**

**2015 - 7 040 293 m<sup>3</sup>**



## Preparatory activities

**2010** – EFA participated actively in the EU and EC working groups for discussion and adoption of Regulation (EU) No 995/2010.

**2011** – National legislations - the current Forest Act went into effect. The control and the economic functions in the Forestry sector were separated. Executive Forest Agency and 6 State Forest Companies were established.

- *The role of EFA as CA .*

- *Penalties for infringements of the Regulation (EU) No 995/2010.*

- **March 2013** – Workshop - Opening meeting in Sofia.

## Enforcement

**March 2013** – Enforcement of Regulation (EU) No 995/2010 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 20 October 2010 laying down the obligations of operators who place timber and timber products on the market.

- *EFA working group ( EFA and RDF experts) - analyzes, decisions and proposals.*
- *Trainings and Guidelines .*
- *Agreement with the Customs Agency to access the Customs Information.*
- *Checks.*
- *Reporting.*
- *Publicity/ Meeting with the large retail chains.*
- *Cooperation with Bulgarian Timber Chamber.*

**April 2015** – Biennial Report.

**2016** – Update of priorities/*Joint inspections ( EFA & RDF).*

### “Operators” in Bulgaria

**Type A** - companies/persons who have bought standing timber in Bulgaria;

**Type B** - companies/persons, owners of forests or forests under their management, selling wood in Bulgaria for the first time;

**Type C** - importers of wood and wood products listed in the Annex to the Regulation.

Numbers of checks				
16 Regional Directorates of Forestry	Operators		Traders	
	2014	2015	2014	2015
	206	219	51	62
Total checks	425		113	

### Joint checks – EFA & RDF

Inspections of large retail chains in Bulgaria.

February and March 2016 checks were carried out on Praktiker, Metro and BauHaus.

Future inspections - Mr. Bricolage and HomeMax (BauMaX), etc.

Checks were carried out jointly with experts of EFA and RFD Sofia. The main objective - implementation of the Regulation.

Secondary objective - increasing the capacity of RDF and EFA experts who will carry out further checks.

Forthcoming joint inspections with any other RFA



Last initiatives

*EUTR in Bulgaria*

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- **September 2014** – Citizens are provided with access to information on felling. Verification on who, where and how much timber is harvesting.
  - **April 2015** – The Parliament had imposed a ban on exports of raw timber. The aim of the ban was to initiate legislative changes to improve the control on logging.
  - **Since May 2015** the technological plans for logging must be scanned and made available to the experts of EFA at any time.
  - **2015** – 24/7 telephone line for signals related to forests.
  - **August 2015** - Entered into force amendments to the Forests Act.

Last initiatives

*EUTR in Bulgaria*

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- **October 2015** - Entered into force changes to the Ordinance on felling.
  - **January 2016** – All trucks transporting timber must be equipped with GPS.
  - **January 2016** - All wood warehouses must be equipped with a CCTV.
  - **June 2016** - The wood will be transported with electronic transport tickets which will be issued through the information system of EFA.

- Increasing the number of inspections on imported products.
- Improved reports from RDF.
- Raising awareness among the operators.
- Increasing the capacity of experts.
- Additional information proving the origin of products.

## Candidate countries and EUTR ?

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- Legislative initiatives;
  - Designate the National Competent authority;
  - Determine sanctions for infringements;
- Determine the “operators” – importers and domestic timber operators;
- Effective Information campaign;
- Prepare your experts and theirs capacity;
- Own guidelines are helpful.

# Thank you!

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