Timber Legality Risk Dashboard: Thailand

Drafted as of: October 2021

SUMMARY OF LEGALITY RISKS

Risk Score: 54.6 (Higher Risk[a])[1]

Conflict State: NO

Log or Sawnwood Export Restriction in Effect: YES[2]

Import Regulation in Effect: NO

- **Thailand's forest area has remained relatively stable above 30 percent of the total land area since 2014. This reflects some localized high rates of natural forest loss in the north of the country accompanied by strong reforestation and plantation development policies.**
- **Thailand has banned harvesting from natural forests since 1989 which means that the main source of timber is from national plantations or imported wood. Domestic plantation-grown raw materials are primarily, rubberwood and teak and to a lesser extent eucalyptus.**
- **Thailand's complex and evolving tenure systems create continuing challenges for verifying the legality of plantation grown species such as rubberwood and eucalyptus.**
- **Most non-plantation grown wood used in Thai-manufactured products is commonly understood to have been imported. Imported timber is sourced from both higher- and lower-risk source countries.**
- **Illegal logging of natural forest in protected areas continues to be reported, particularly for high-value redwood species.**
- **There remains a risk of unsustainable and illegal trade in Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES)-listed species.**

TRADE PROFILE OF FOREST PRODUCTS[B,C,3,4]

Total Imports (2019): $2.66 billion

Total Exports (2019): $4.40 billion. $1.18 billion (26.8%) declared as exported to "regulated markets"[d]

SUMMARY OF HIGHEST PRODUCT-LEVEL RISKS

Exports – Top Products Exported to the US by 2019 Value[5]

- Paper (HS48)
- Wood Furniture – Other (HS940360)
- Wood Furniture – Seating (HS940161 & HS940169)
- Wood Furniture – Kitchen (HS940340)
- Joinery Products (HS4418)
- Fiberboard (HS4411)
- Tableware & Kitchenware (HS4419)
- Frames (HS4414)
- Plywood (HS4412)
- Marquetry (HS4420)

Thailand has banned logging in natural forests since 1989, and prohibited the export of logs and sawnwood from natural forests since 2006.[6,7] Per a 2006 Ministry of Commerce regulation, logs and sawnwood can only be exported in the following forms: rubberwood (in unlimited quantities), pine (per limits set by the Royal Forest Department), and specified plantation species (eucalyptus, acacia and teak) in quantities specified by the Royal Forest Department.[8,9] Teak can only be exported by the Forest Industry Organization. Thailand's 1941 Forest Code and its subsequent updates also restricts the harvest and trade of all products of certain protected species.[10,11,12,13,14,15]

Thailand has also passed legislation designed to address the risk of illegal timber passing through the country. Since 1992, Thailand has restricted the re-export of imported logs and sawnwood (requiring approval from the competent authorities on a case-by-case basis).[16] Thailand banned the import of logs and sawnwood in the Tak and Kanchanaburi provinces in 2005 in order to combat the risk of illegal timber crossing from Myanmar.[17,18]

SUMMARY OF HIGHEST SPECIES-LEVEL RISKS

Illegal logging and trade affect many timber species, but highly valuable - often rare and endangered - species that are protected under harvest and/or trade regulations are a key target and at an elevated risk for illegality. The following species are either currently, or have recently, been protected in Thailand.

CITES-Listed Species

Appendix II:

- **Agarwood** *(Gyrinops* spp., *Aquilaria* spp.*)*[19,20]
- **Siamese Rosewood** *(Dalbergia* spp.*)*[21]

Appendix III:

- **Brown Pine** *(Podocarpus neriifolius)*[e,22]

Species-Based Restrictions on Public Land:

Thailand requires harvesting permits for all timber species located in National Forest Reserves, and also requires harvesting permits for restricted species grown on all other public land. Thailand's 1941 Forest Act and its subsequent revisions list restricted timber species under two categories: Category A (general restrictions) and Category B (heavy restrictions). Category A currently includes 160 species which all require harvesting permits issued by the Royal Forestry Department (RFD), and comprise most of Thailand's native tree species.[f,23] Category B includes 13 species described as rare and entirely prohibited from logging, except by special permission granted by the Minister of Agriculture.[9] In 2020, the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment (MoNRE) announced that tree species listed in category A and B that stand/remain on the land prior to being granted a permit of land utilization are still considered restricted species on this type of land.[24] Category A and B species include:[25]

Category A

- **Teak** *(Tectona grandis)*
- **Yang** *(Dipterocarpus alatus)*
- **Padauk** *(Peterocapus macrocapus)*
- **Merawan** *(Hopea odorata)*
- **Teng, Chick or Siamese Sal** *(Shorea obtuse)*
- **Daeng or Ironwwod** *(Xylia xylocarpa)*
- **Rosewood** *(Dalbergia cochinchinsis, Dalbergia cultrata, Dalbergia oliveri* and *Dalbergia parviflora)*
- **Doussie** *(Afzeria xylocarpa)*

Category B

- **Benzoin** *(Styrax Benzoides)*
- **Mansonia** *(Mansonia gagei)*

In 2019, the government of Thailand announced that Section 7 of the Forest Act B.E 2484 had been revised. The revision permits any species grown on privately owned land to be harvested, transported, and traded freely by owners without the need for formal permission.[26] Therefore, unless otherwise specified, there are no harvest or trade restrictions on Category A or B species if sourced from private land.

Plantation Species

- **Acacia** *(Acacia auriculiformis, Acacia mangium)*[27,28]
- **Australia Pine Tree,** or **Whistling Pine Tree** *(Casuarina equisetifolia)*[29]
- **Black Palm** *(Borassus flabellifer)*[30]
- **Burmese Grape** *(Baccaurea ramiflora)*[31]
- **Eucalyptus** *(Eucalyptus* spp.*)*[32,33]
- **Leuceana** *(Leuceana leucocephala, Leuceana* spp.*)*[34,35]
- **Plum Mango** *(Bouea macrophylla)*[36]
- **Rain Tree** *(Samanea saman)*[37]
- **Red Palm, or Coconut Palm** *(Cocos nucifera)*[38]
- **Rubberwood** *(Hevea brasiliensis)*[39,40]
- **Savukku Maram** *(Casuarina junghuhniana)*[41]
- **Sentang** *(Azadirachta excelsa)*[42]
- **Tamarind** *(Tamarindus indica)*[43]

FORESTRY SECTOR

Forested Area: 19.87 million ha[44] (82% protected)[45]

Deforestation Rate: 0.10% annually[46]

Forest Ownership (as of 2015):[47]

- 16.40 million ha publicly-owned (18.4%)
- 3.70 million ha privately-owned (81.6%)

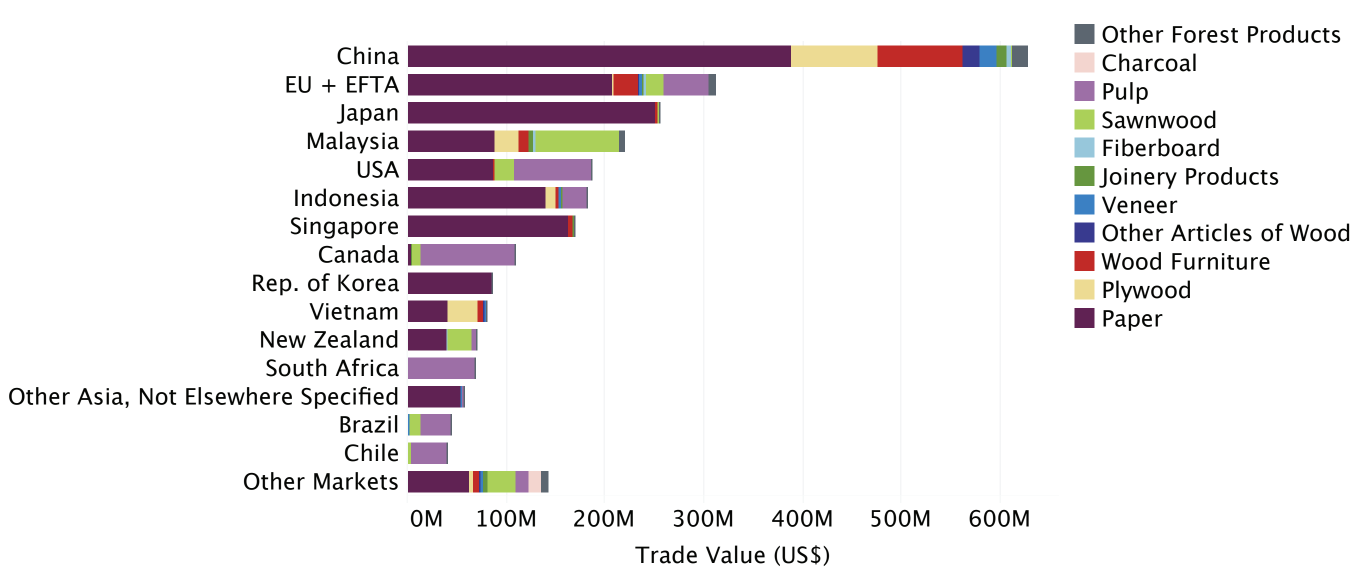
Certified Forests:

- FSC Certification: 87.3 thousand ha (2019)[48]

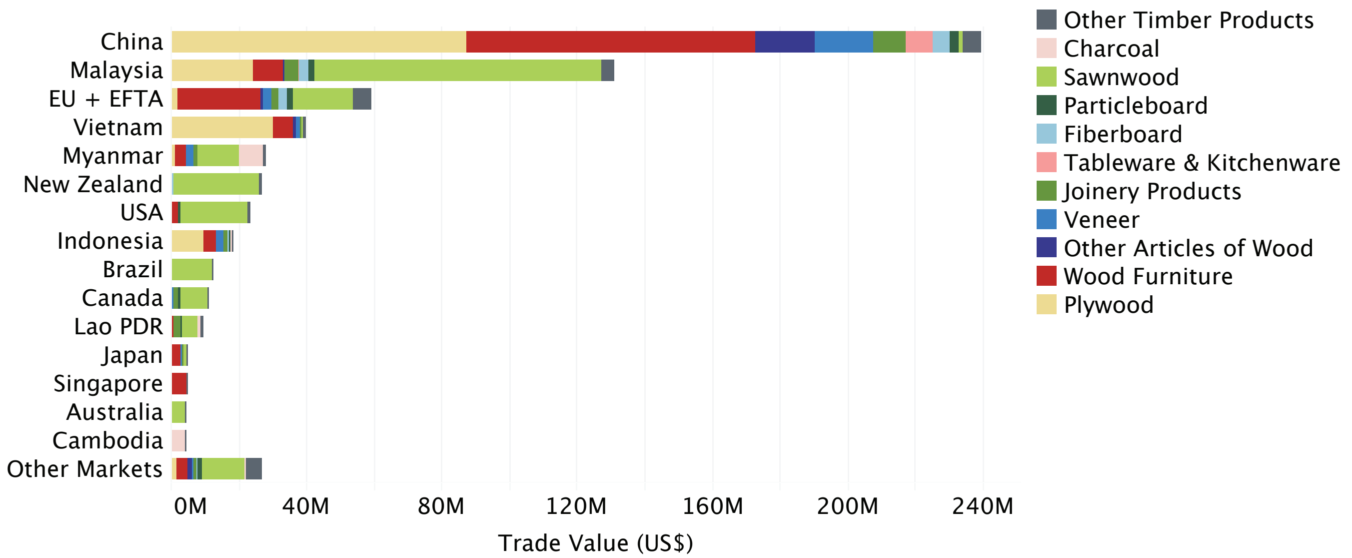
Domestic Production:[49]

- Wood Fuel: 18.52 million m^3 (2019)
- Logs: 14.60 million m^3 (2019)
- Wood Chips: 9.13 million m^3 (2019)
- Sawnwood: 4.50 million m^3 (2019)
- Fiberboard: 3.72 million m^3 (2019)
- Particleboard: 3.20 million m^3 (2019)
- Veneer: 185 thousand m^3 (2019)
- Plywood: 120 thousand m^3 (2019)
- Paper: 12.85 million tonnes (2019)
- Pulp: 5.00 million tonnes (2019)
- Charcoal: 1.50 million tonnes (2019)
- Wood Pellets: 317 thousand tonnes (2019)

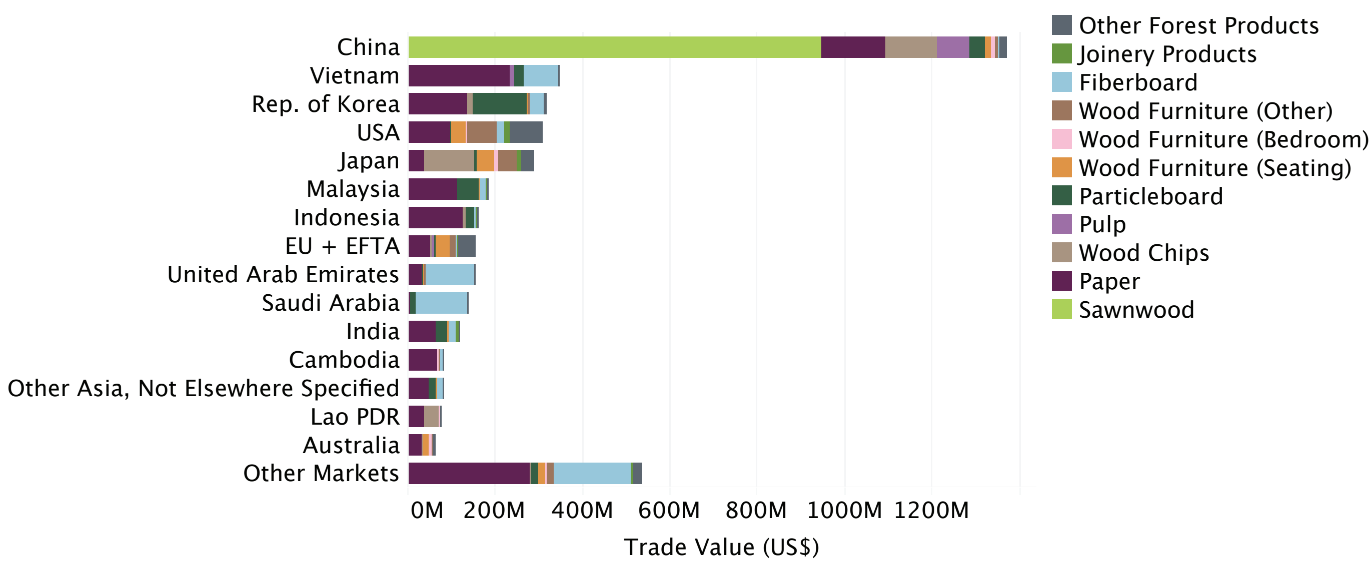
THAILAND'S TOP SOURCE MARKETS FOR FOREST PRODUCTS BY IMPORT VALUE (2019)[h,50]



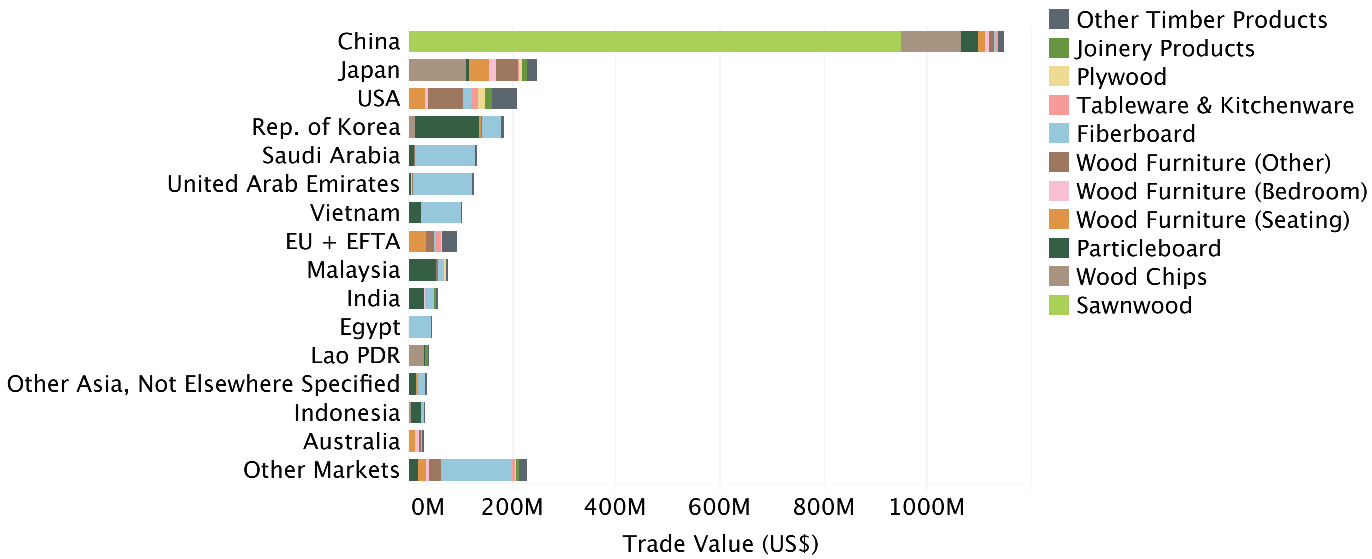
THAILAND'S TOP SOURCE MARKETS FOR TIMBER PRODUCTS BY IMPORT VALUE (2019)[51]



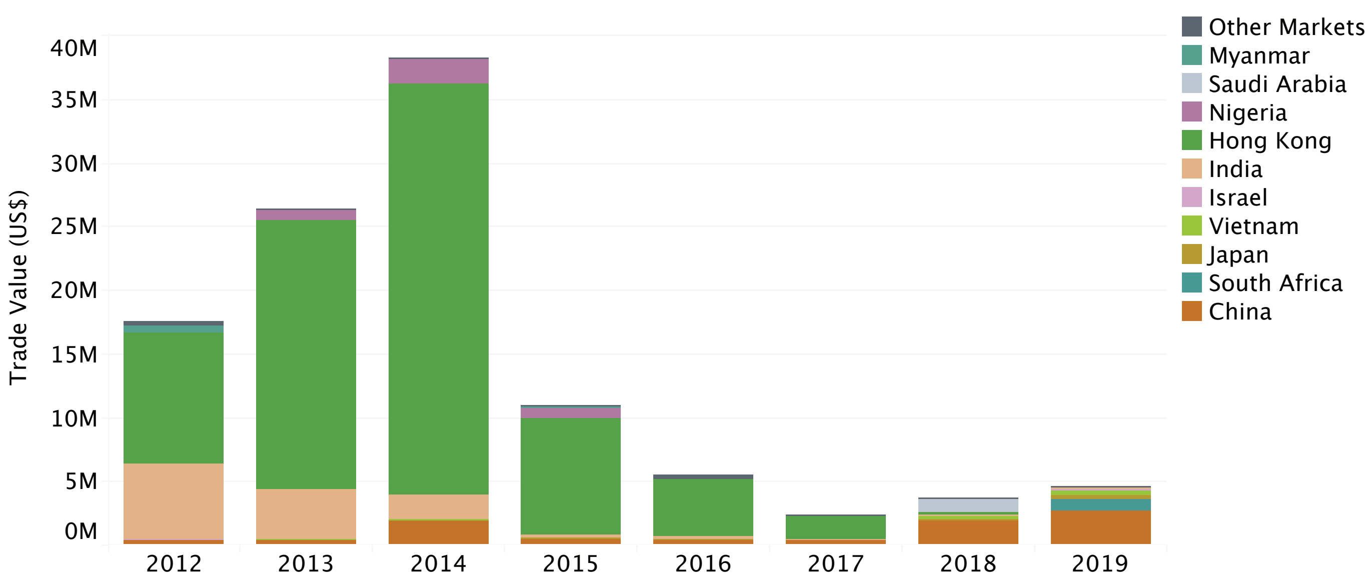
THAILAND'S TOP DESTINATION MARKETS FOR FOREST PRODUCTS BY EXPORT VALUE (2019)[52]



THAILAND'S TOP DESTINATION MARKETS FOR TIMBER PRODUCTS BY EXPORT VALUE (2019)[53]



HIGH-RISK TRADE: GLOBAL IMPORTS OF THAI LOGS IN YEARS WITH AN ACTIVE LOG EXPORT RESTRICTION[54] BY COUNTRY OF IMPORT (2012-2019)[55]



TIMBER LEGALITY

Thailand has banned harvesting from natural forests since 1989 and there are no natural forest concessions. This means that the main source of timber is either from national plantations or imports. Domestic plantation-grown raw materials primarily include rubberwood and to a lesser extent eucalyptus. Thailand's highly complex and ever-changing tenure systems create continuing challenges related to the legality of some plantation species, particularly rubberwood and eucalyptus. As such, the main legality risks for timber sourced from Thailand surround the legal right to harvest, that are rooted in unclear land tenure, illegal land documents, and infringements of the laws in licensed plantations.[56]

Illegalities related to harvesting activities, such as harvesting without a permit, illegal logging of protected species and in protected areas, and illegal trade and transport (e.g. incorrect identification of species during transport) have been reported particularly for high value redwoods such as Siamese rosewood.[57]

- **Thailand's forest area has remained relatively stable above 30 percent of the total land area since 2014. This reflects some localized high rates of natural forest loss in the north of the country accompanied by strong reforestation and plantation development policies.**

Thailand's forest area is estimated at 19.9 million hectares or 39 percent of the total land area of the country. [58] Natural forests account for 82.2 percent of the forest area.[59] There are two main types of forest in Thailand categorized as Evergreen and Deciduous forest.[60] The main commercially viable species are reportedly grown in mixed deciduous forests in the Northern regions of the country which grow teak (*Tectona grandis*), pyinkado (*Xylia kerrii*), padauk (*Pterocarpus macrocarpus*), doussie (*Afzelia xylocarpus*) and rosewoods (*Dalbergia* spp.).[61] Evergreen forests are subdivided into a number of categories including tropical, semi-evergreen, hill, pine and beach forests which occur throughout Thailand.[i]

Thailand lost nearly 2.2 million hectares of tree cover between 2001 to 2020, an 11 percent loss since 2000.[62] Nearly 120,000 hectares of loss occurred in 2020, of which nearly a third (30 percent) was primary forest.[63] The northern provinces of Chiang Mai and Mae Hong Son had the highest rates of primary forest loss in 2020 (according to Global Forest Watch (GFW) 2021).[64] The Royal Forest Department also reported the highest loss of tree cover – both natural and plantation –in these provinces.[65]

Forestry is the main driver of tree cover loss, according to Curtis et al. (2018, updated on GFW 2021) responsible for 56 percent of tree cover loss.[66,67] Reforestation efforts since the 1990s have replaced areas of former forest with monoculture timber and wood fiber plantations. This has meant that Thailand's forest plantation area has doubled since 1990.[68] Forest plantation estimates vary. The Thai government reported a plantation area of 3.5 million hectares or 17.8 percent of the forest area to the Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO) as part of their national submission for the 2020 Forest Resources Assessment.[69] Other estimates suggest that privately owned plantations extended over 4 million hectares in 2020 with the state-owned Forest Industry Organisation (FIO) plantations covering a further 160,000 hectares.[70] Plantations are dominated by rubberwood (3.5 million ha) and eucalyptus (480,000 ha), as well as acacia, teak and pine.[71] Most of the plantations in the north are teak, and to a lesser extent, Scots pine. The plantations in the northeast are primarily eucalyptus, while those in the south are rubberwood. Most of Thailand's wood industry relies on industrial rubberwood and eucalyptus from smallholders and state-owned plantations.[72,73]

All natural forests are state owned. Some public forests are co-managed as 'community forests' but private owners can only be found in the plantation sector.[74] There is limited data on the breakdown of public and private ownership but estimates suggest that 84 percent of the forest is owned by public organizations with 16 percent owned by private individuals.[75] Forests are generally managed by the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment (MoNRE). Forests outside of protected areas are managed by the Royal Forests Department, and those within protected areas by the Department of National Parks, Wildlife, and Plant Conservation, both units of MoNRE.[76]

Thailand is developing a timber legality assurance system under the Forest Law Enforcement Governance and Trade (FLEGT) Voluntary Partnership Agreement (VPA) process with the European Union (EU). A second round of negotiations took place in 2018,[77] with a third negotiation held in September 2020. FLEGT licensing is not operational.

- **Thailand has banned harvesting from natural forests since 1989 which means that the main source of timber is from national plantations or imported wood. Domestic plantation-grown raw materials are primarily, rubberwood and teak and to a lesser extent eucalyptus.**

A logging ban is currently in place for natural forests and an export ban also covers logs and sawnwood from domestic natural forests.[78,79] This means that in principle there should be no timber harvested from natural forests in Thailand (other than through the FIO). The majority of the domestically produced timber is therefore harvested from short cycle plantations.

Rubber sawnwood dominates exports with Thailand reporting 2.3 million cubic meters of rubber sawnwood exports in 2020.[80] Eucalyptus is predominantly exported as woodchips, pulp and paper.[81] As wood and wood products made from rubber and eucalyptus are easy to distinguish from species grown in natural forests (to which the 1989 logging ban applies), the main legality risks for plantation grown timber relate to whether or not the timber was grown on land by people with legal right to access and use the land.[82,83]

Clear and long-term security of tenure is reportedly only confidently associated with private lands that have freehold title deeds. Registration of plantations is only required for species that could be confused with timber originating from natural forests (58 species are listed in the 2015 Forest Plantation Act) and does not include eucalyptus, acacia or rubber.[84] However, these species sourced from plantations on private land still carry risks because they do not need verified chain of custody documentation, so in some instances, it is not possible to verify that the Permission to Harvest actually applies to the origin of the timber in question.[85] Registration is, however, required for plantations growing teak and rosewood which can be confused with natural forest species.[86] The state enterprise FIO is the only legally authorized exporter of unprocessed logs, most of which are plantation-grown teak.[87]

- **Thailand's complex and evolving tenure systems create continuing challenges for verifying the legality of plantation grown species such as rubberwood and eucalyptus.**

Land tenure insecurity is rooted in the dispossession of forest dwellers and local communities when forest was declared as national reserve forest or protected areas.[88,89] Participants in a survey of forest governance perceived forest resources and land tenure to be poorly managed and noted tenure security as an area of concern.[90] Most smallholder plantations are on leased public land and the International Tropical Timber Organization (ITTO) described Thailand's tenure systems as "highly complex and ever-changing".[91] There are reportedly "considerable misunderstandings over what various tenure instruments legally allow, especially with respect to land utilization and transfers",[92] and reports of cases of misuse of land-tenure instruments as well as fraudulent transfers of land under existing systems with use rights for public land reportedly obtained through bribery.[93]

In a number of cases, communities were evicted to make way for plantations run by the state-owned FIO in the 1960s through to the 1980s. Some of the conflict around these evictions is still ongoing.[94] The risks are reportedly even higher for timber sourced from more recently established rubber plantations which may have been established on public land without legal leases.[95]

An estimated 20 to 25 million people live in and near forest land, many of whom lived in the National Reserve Forest before it was demarcated.[96] Though some have been issued with usufruct rights, many are at risk of charges of encroachment.[97] After the coup in 2014, the National Council for Peace and Order (NCPO) launched its 'Forest Master Plan' and Order 64/2014, to target large scale illegal logging and prevent encroachment into natural forest areas. However, reports have indicated these policies have disproportionately impacted rural, indigenous communities who were evicted from areas where they had lived for generations.[98] Evictions have been associated with violence, enforced disappearances and arrests.[99,100,101] Many people reportedly resisted or returned to ancestral lands and have been convicted of encroachment. There are reports that wealthier encroachers have been allowed to avoid custodial sentences, in contrast to the rural poor.[102,103] Additional laws passed in the last few years have increased the powers of enforcement. The constitution protects indigenous rights but the 2019 Forest Law gives the forest authorities legal power to arrest forest dwellers and destroy their property on sight,[104] and the National Parks Act introduced in 2019 includes penalties of up to 20 years in prison and 2 million baht fines for convictions of encroachment.[105,106]

These tenure uncertainties have significant implications for the legality of the most common timber species in the Thai supply chain – rubberwood and eucalyptus – which are overwhelmingly grown by smallholder farmers, many of whom are occupying and using public land under less than-definitive tenure arrangements. The risk of illegal occupancy and use of land is perhaps greatest with respect to rubber plantations and there are frequent reports of illegal encroachment of rubber plantations into unauthorized national reserve forest and even into national parks and wildlife sanctuaries.[107,108,109] Timber logged from reclaimed land may have had forced evictions that were legal but may also be associated with human rights abuses.[110,111]

- **Most non-plantation grown wood used in Thai-manufactured products is commonly understood to have been imported. Imported timber is sourced from both higher- and lower-risk countries.**

After the ban on logging of natural forests, wood imports also increased exponentially. By 2011, more than half of Thailand's industrial wood demand was being met from imports, which totaled 10 million cubic meters of roundwood equivalent that year.[112] Since then, log imports from neighboring countries have declined following the implementation of harvesting and export restrictions in neighboring countries in the region. Thailand's wood sector has also evolved, reportedly using more rubberwood in furniture manufacturing, while simultaneously reducing the use of teak and other imported hardwoods.[113] Furniture and other products using natural forest species or tropical hardwoods, are likely using imported logs and sawnwood as raw materials. Roughly a fifth (19 percent) of log and sawnwood imports were sourced from countries with poor forest governance and significant documented reports of illegal logging in 2019.[114]

Over the last decade, Thai demand for teak logs has shifted away from Myanmar (which implemented a log export ban in 2014) to Brazil and South Africa as well as to sourcing logs of lookalike species (such as Afzelia or "doussie") from countries including the Republic of the Congo and Central African Republic. Sawnwood imports have also declined but not as significantly as logs. Key sawnwood markets include New Zealand, the U.S. and Myanmar.

While Thailand is developing a timber legality assurance system under the FLEGT VPA with the EU which will include an import control system, this is not currently operational. This means that the legality of imported wood is highly dependent on the legality systems in place in the exporting countries. Currently, the only significant documentation required to import into Thailand is the Certificate of Origin, which does not provide assurance of legality. In some cases, the Certificate of Origin may not even accurately reflect the actual origin of the timber, if the wood has been re-exported from an intermediary transit country.

- **Illegal logging of natural forest in protected areas continues to be reported, particularly for high-value redwood species.**

Illegal logging in natural forest continues to be reported as a problem.[115,116,117] Forest loss in protected areas represented 9 percent of all tree cover loss in 2020.[118] Timber cleared illegally from protected areas – whether through selective logging or the type of clear felling that is picked up in Global Forest Watch satellite observations – may be traded.[119] The Government of Thailand reported 1,749 logging offences in 2019, and 1,726 encroachment offences. Some of these offences have been reportedly carried out by public officials. For example, the Member of Parliament for Ratchaburi, Ms Pareena Kraikupt, was charged with forest encroachment in 2019;[120] and the provincial chief of the Natural Resources and Environment Office was arrested for a taking bribe in exchange for returning seized timber from Lao People's Democratic Republic.[121]

The most widely reported instances of illegal logging surround high-value redwood species, particularly Siamese rosewood (*Dalbergia cochinchinensis*), and increasingly *Dalbergia oliveri* to supply the South Asia and Chinese markets. The Government of Thailand's Department of Forests reported 471 cases of illegal logging of rosewood in 18 national parks in 2021 and seized rosewood worth over $300,000.[122] However, the volume of seized rosewood has been declining year on year since a peak of 1,850 m^3 in 2014. In 2021, seizures dropped to 17.9 m^3 with an estimated value of $16,500 per cubic meter[123] (or up to $30,000 per cubic meter on the black market).[124] Recent reports suggest that the reductions in seizures reflect significant improvements in enforcement, including para-military units charged with protecting rosewood forests, new technology and training as well as the fact that Siamese rosewood has already been heavily depleted in Thailand.[125,126,127]

Transnational crime syndicates reportedly smuggle the rosewood out of Thailand and across the borders into neighboring countries, particularly Cambodia, Lao People's Democratic Republic and to a lesser extent Myanmar. Between 2015 and 2018 five hundred illegal loggers were arrested for illegally logging Siamese rosewood in Thap Lan National Park by the Department of Parks and Wildlife supported by Global Conservation and WCS Thailand.[128] In 2019, five Cambodian men were arrested for allegedly felling a protected Siam rosewood tree from Thap Lan National Park. They were reportedly hired by a Vietnamese businessman to cross the border to fell Siamese rosewood trees and smuggle the wood back across the border to Cambodia.[129] Recent reports indicate that drugs play an important role in the trafficking of rosewood, other illegal timbers and wildlife species to China, as a way to launder money or pay traffickers.[130,131]

- **There remains a risk of unsustainable and illegal trade in CITES-listed species.**

Siamese rosewood was added to Appendix II of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES) in 2013.[132] This means that there are strict trade controls on exports of the timber. Under CITES Appendix II, species cannot be exported from range state producer countries without CITES export permits issued by relevant management authorities following the verification of legal acquisition of these species, with these being issued, in turn, on the basis of scientific authorities' confirmation that such trade will not be detrimental to the survival of the species. Range states are also obliged to pre-notify the CITES Secretariat regarding any voluntarily set quotas for harvest and trade before any CITES export permits can be issued.[j]

Reports suggest that exploitation of CITES exemptions and corruption have facilitated the trade with well documented cases in the last decade.[133] The diminishing number of remaining trees is "of grave concern and needs to be dealt with urgently".[134] A legal review of Thailand's trade in CITES-protected species with China, concluded that, "China and Thailand do not have the capacity to control this trade effectively". [135] The system of permits is poorly defined and open to abuse and there are no legal sanctions for the officials who issue permits without due consideration of their impact on the endangered species. Thai law criminalizes possession of and trade in endangered species but there are no reports of an official being convicted for abuse of power or failure to protect endangered animals or plants.[136]

REPORTS & ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

A list of relevant reports and additional online tools to complement this country report are also available at the IDAT Risk website: https://www.forest-trends.org/fptf-idat-home/

Key Reading:

- Forest Trends. 2019. "Towards Timber Import Provisions in Thailand." Forest Trends. FT4307D_ThaiShortReport_R5_PRINT071119_UPDATED-9.3.2019.pdf (forest-trends.org)
- Forest Stewardship Council. 2019. "FSC-CNRA-TH V1-0. Centralized National Risk Assessment for Thailand." Forest Stewardship Council. FSC-CNRA-TH V1-0 EN_2019-04-16.pdf
- Government of the Kingdom of Thailand, Royal Forest Department. 2020. "Royal Forest Department Statistical Data Book 2020." Royal Forest Department. H30report_nettaib_6.pdf (maff.go.jp)

METHODOLOGY & TERMINOLOGY NOTES

[a] Risk scores reflect Preferred by Nature's Timber Risk Assessment which measures the risk of illegality occurring in 21 areas of law relevant to timber legality, as well as Forest Trends' national governance scores which provides an average relative governance and corruption risk score for 211 countries globally. Preferred by Nature's scores have been flipped to ensure compatibility with Forest Trends' national governance scores, where higher scores are associated with greater governance and corruption challenges. An average of both the Preferred by Nature and Forest Trends scores has been calculated for 66 countries where both are available as of 2021. For all other countries, the risk score reflects Forest Trends' national governance scores. Countries scoring less than 25 are considered "Lower Risk," countries scoring between 25 and 50 are "Medium Risk" and countries scoring above 50 are "Higher Risk." It is important to note that it is possible to source illegal wood from a well-governed, "Lower Risk" state and it is also possible to source legal wood from a "Higher Risk" country. As such, the risk scores can only give an indication of the likely level of illegal logging in a country and ultimately speaks to the risk that corruption and poor governance undermines rule of law in the forest sector.

[b] The term "forest products" is used to refer to timber products (including furniture) plus pulp and paper. It covers products classified in the Combined Nomenclature under Chapters 44, 47, 48 and furniture products under Chapter 94. While the term "forest products" is often used more broadly to cover non-timber and non-wood products such as mushrooms, botanicals, and wildlife, "forest products" is used to refer to timber products plus pulp and paper in this dashboard.

[c] Except where otherwise specified, all trade statistics and chart data is sourced from Thai data reported to UN Comtrade, compiled and analyzed by Forest Trends.

[d] Regulated markets reflect countries and jurisdictions that have developed operational measures to restrict the import of illegal timber. As of 2021, this included the U.S., Member States of the European Union (as well as the United Kingdom, Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway and Switzerland), Australia, Canada, Colombia, Indonesia, Japan, Malaysia, South Korea and Vietnam. Some measures are more comprehensive in scope, implementation, and enforcement than others.

[e] *Podocarpus neriifolius* was listed in Appendix III by Nepal, and therefore, exports from Nepal need a CITES export permit issued by the Nepalese MA but exports from Thailand only need a certificate of origin.

[f] The initial 158 Category A species were listed in the Royal Decree on Restricted Forest Products B.E. 2530 (1987). An additional 18 species were added in 2019 through an amendment to the 1941 Forests Act. See Preferred by Nature, 2017; FSC, FSC-CNRA-TH V1-0, 2019; and Government of Thailand, Forests Act, 2019.

[g] There are reportedly 13 Category B species, listed in the Royal Decree on Restricted Forest Products B.E. 2530 (1987). See Preferred by Nature, 2017; EU FLEGT Facility, 2012; and Durst, 2018.

[h] All references to "EU + EFTA" signify the 27 Member States of the European Union (as of 2021), as well as the United Kingdom, Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway and Switzerland.

[i] Tropical evergreen forests are found in Southern and the Eastern regions with the most widely growing species reported to be *Dipterocarpus* spp, *Hopea* spp, *Lagerstroemia* spp, and *Shorea* spp. Semi-evergreen forest is scattered all over the country with the main species reported to be *Dipterocarpus* spp., *Hopea* spp., *Diospyros* spp., *Afzelia* spp., *Terminalia* spp., and *Artocarpus* spp. The hill evergreen forest is found on the highland parts of Thailand which are predominantly oaks and chestnuts, or *Castanopsis* spp., *Quercus* spp., and *Lithocarpus* spp. Evergreen pine forests of *Pinus merkusii* are found in the Northern and the western part of the Central regions while *Pinus kesiya* is found only on the highlands of the Northern and North-eastern regions. .

[j] For Siamese rosewood, these export obligations apply to Thailand, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Cambodia and Vietnam – all of which have experienced illegal exports in recent years.

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8. Preferred by Nature, "Timber Legality Risk Assessment – Thailand."
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