

European Forest Institute
– EFI –
is seeking a
Head of Unit
for its' FLEGT and REDD Unit

European Forest Institute (EFI) is an international organisation with 23 European member countries, and over 120 Associate Member institutions. EFI Headquarters are located in Joensuu, Finland. EFI has several Regional Offices across Europe and a FLEGT office (Forest Law Enforcement, Governance and Trade) in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.

The EFI FLEGT and REDD unit houses the EU FLEGT Facility and the EU REDD Facility, which support the European Commission, EU Delegations, EU Member States and partner countries in the implementation of the EU FLEGT Action Plan and REDD+ activities. The annual budget of the Unit is presently 7 million Euros in 2011, the European Commission and the Governments of the UK, the Netherlands, Finland, France and Germany being the current providers of funding and other support.

The EU FLEGT Facility supports efforts to combat illegal logging and promote trade in legal timber. It works with timber producing and exporting countries to develop appropriate systems to ensure the legal trade and export of timber products, aiming at addressing forest governance failures. The Facility currently works in Africa, Asia and Latin America. The Facility provides this support through technical assistance in the Voluntary Partnership Agreement (VPA) processes and other equivalent arrangements through facilitation of dialogue between the EU and timber exporting countries and other forms of cooperation. Analysis of experiences and raising awareness on VPAs are used to support the work. As more countries express interest in joining the EU FLEGT Action Plan, future challenges for the Facility will include implementation of agreed activities by countries, growing importance of processing hubs in emerging markets, approaches towards regional and domestic commerce, and indirect trade with the EU

The EU REDD Facility provides support to the development of REDD+ policies and actions. It assists both the EU and developing countries in this context. Important work areas include building the necessary capacities of developing countries, supporting forest governance reform and providing advice for the development of EU financed REDD+ related actions. The Facility builds synergies with FLEGT VPA processes where relevant, including lessons from FLEGT Action Plan for other sustainable approaches addressing drivers of deforestation outside the forest sector.

EFI is looking for a senior-level professional with strong international leadership and management experience to lead and develop further the two facilities. Visioning and leading the future growth of the facilities in the context of increasing importance of forests in the international environmental and climate policy will be the main task of the head of FLEGT-REDD Unit. He/she will report to the EFI Director.

Tasks and responsibilities

In particular the Head of Unit will be responsible for:

- **Strategic planning and Policy management** – Developing the positioning of EFI's facilities in the broader FLEGT and REDD policy landscape and planning their future development. Coordinating and networking with other key players in the FLEGT-REDD field.
- **Leadership of the Unit** – Lead the development of the growing Unit and ensure high motivation of Unit staff (currently 30 staff members), thus ensuring excellent delivery on the agreed expectations by all Unit teams. Coordination of the interplay and articulation of teams and themes within the Unit. Takes the responsibility of overall use of funding.
- **Donor stewardship** – Close liaison with the donors for the joint management of the FLEGT and REDD Facilities and fundraising for future operations. Working with the European Commission and EU Delegations to understand their evolving needs related to FLEGT and REDD. Communicating the progress and achievements to donors.
- **External communications** - Maintaining communications at a high level with key FLEGT stakeholders in the EU and in partner countries, including representatives of civil society and the trade and international agencies. Represent EFI and FLEGT and REDD Facilities at relevant meetings and events.
- **Internal communication and liaison with the EFI management** - Ensuring a regular flow of information on progress, operations and strategic development of the Unit to senior EFI management. Ensuring good collaboration with EFI's other units and constituencies.

Qualifications

- Minimum 10 years of relevant working experience,
- Strong experience in leadership and management in international context.
- Strong experience in personnel management in expert organizations, with demonstrated leadership skills, including the ability to motivate and inspire people.
- Excellent understanding of the FLEGT and REDD context and processes and good ability to operate in international policy environment.
- Proven track record on experience in donor stewardship and fundraising.
- Demonstrated abilities in creative and strategic thinking in the context of policy development and implementation.
- Ability to work on complex and politically sensitive issues with governments, industry, NGOs and donor agencies.
- Excellent communication, networking and presentation skills.
- Able to work in multi-disciplinary, international expert teams and in multi-cultural environments. Excellent interpersonal skills.
- Proficiency in English is required. Command of French, Spanish, Portuguese and other broadly spoken languages is a strong asset.
- Practical experience in and exposure to realities of developing countries is highly desirable.

Duty station and travel

The Head of Unit will be based at EFI Policy Advice Office in Barcelona, Spain, with frequent travel to Brussels and to FLEGT partner countries and REDD+ countries, mainly in Africa, Asia and Latin America.

Employment conditions

The Head of Unit will be an EFI staff member. EFI offers a competitive benefits and salary package.

Interested candidates are requested to send an application letter and CV **by 1 September 2011** to Human Resources Office, EFI, email: efi.hr@efi.int. Applications are handled confidentially.

For more information about the position please contact Mrs. Niina Verkerk, Administrative Manager, EFI's FLEGT and REDD Unit, phone +358-50-4073148, email: niina.verkerk@efi.int, website www.euflegt.efi.int