



Thémis phase II

Project proposal ‘Expand use and functionalities of Thémis; the timber monitoring tool, to increase impact on forests’

By: Mark van Benthem and Bryndis Perdijk, Probos

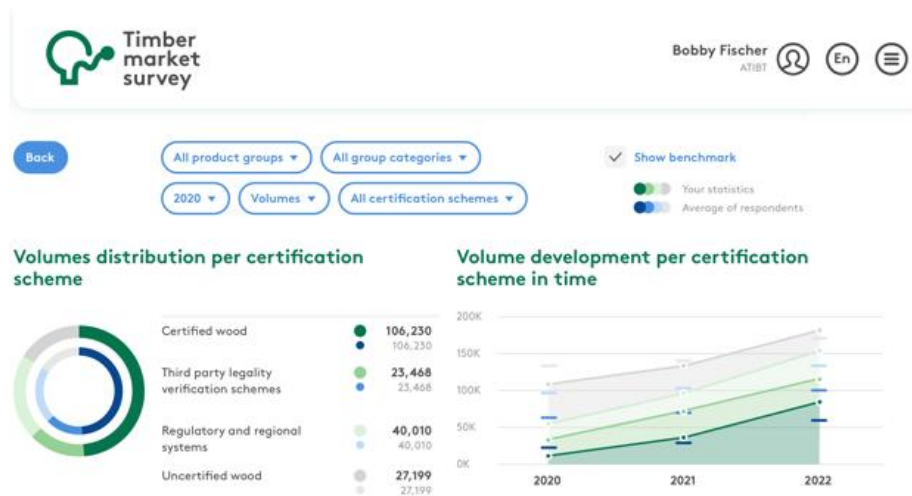
Version: July 14, 2022

1. Introduction: timber one of the carbon solutions, SFM pre-condition

To position timber as one of the solutions to help address climate change, and hence use the momentum to promote the use of timber, no discussion should exist about timber sourcing and its origin. For this reason, progressive Timber Trade Federations (TTFs) and other relevant organisations should encourage their members to trade timber harvested from responsibly managed forests (SFM)¹. Sourcing from responsibly managed forests helps comply with different legal and sustainability requirements.

To increase impact and improve the business case of SFM, it is essential TTFs develop responsible sourcing policies and set ambitious sourcing targets. To this end, data of sustainable timber purchased is a good key performance indicator (KPI) for TTFs, the companies themselves, but also to programmes like Fair&Precious and the Congo basin Programme for Promotion of Certified Sustainable Forest Management (PPECF). Thémis, the online user-friendly data gathering portal is developed in 2020/2021 as a tool to monitor progress, analyse data and impact and create transparency within the timber sector (see screenshots in Annex 1). Thémis is developed with key support from PPECF and IDH, the Sustainable Trade Initiative.

In 2021, Thémis was introduced to the members of ATIBT, Fedustria and Le Commerce du Bois. The members of these federations have submitted their sourcing data over 2020 during the first round of data gathering. The data they submit is presented in dashboard graphs showing a.o. the shares of imported certified sustainable timber and benchmarking (see figure below). In this way companies can easily see how they are performing compared to the targets set, to other members of their TTF and trends over time when data is reported annually.



¹ What is included is to be defined per country / TTF.



2. Summary of current status phase 1 Thémis

The importing members of the current 3 federations implementing Thémis have been invited to submit their sourcing data over 2020 and 2021 in two rounds of data gathering. At the moment (May, 2022) the second round of data gathering is being finalized. The response rate so far is:

- LCB: 15 out of 30 companies have submitted data (increase of 50% so far)
- ATIBT: 12 out of 30 companies have submitted data (increase of 37% so far)
- Fedustria: 13 out of 35 companies have submitted data. This number is similar to last year, but Fedustria is considering to take additional actions to increase the response rate. Said that, the companies that have reported are the leading companies and represent app. 60-70% of the Belgium market. The same goes for LCB and ATIBT: also here the larger, leading companies have submitted their data.

Members of the three federations involved reported 3,654,000 m³ roundwood equivalents of timber products via Thémis in the first round of monitoring (over 2020). However, due to the limited response rate in number of companies, the Federations were reluctant in drawing up Cooperation Agreements and setting targets. Ideally they first wanted to determine a representative baseline for the whole of their membership base. Currently mainly the frontrunning and leading (larger) companies embrace reporting via Thémis.

LCB is the first federation who has signed the cooperation agreement. LCB will link the Thémis tool to its new environmental charter by the year 2023 and will make the Thémis tool mandatory for 100% of its members who import wood. It is also stated that members will increase their purchases of wood and wood products that have received sustainable management certification or at least third party certification from year to year. This progression will be analysed in volume by type of product purchased benefiting from third party certification. A quantified objective will be collectively adopted by LCB after 2 years of implementation of the Charter, by the year 2025. LCB will perform yearly (random or targeted) audits to verify whether companies submit correct data or have them performed by an independent 3rd party.

The current first phase of Thémis project runs from January 2021 until July 2022.

Building upon the first phase, we would like to increase impact by expanding the use and functionalities of Thémis. The more countries and organizations commit themselves to responsible sourcing and embrace reporting via Thémis, the larger the impact on (tropical) forests. Enlarging the number of users of Thémis also increases transparency about the timber market, which enables further analyses, target interventions where needed and assess whether KPI's are met.

Main lesson learned in Phase 1

Completing Thémis is quite demanding for companies that never have reported sourcing data in this way before. Therefore, it has to be appealing to submit their data via Thémis. This has been underestimated by the organizations involved in phase 1, but partially addressed by building in extra features and extra services to give companies and TTFs more insight in their results and development through dashboarding, which also makes careful monitoring and implementing the tool easier (e.g. via automatic mail distribution). However, more is needed to make Thémis even more appealing to use. This will be addressed in phase 2, e.g.:



Timber market survey

Bobby Fischer
ATIBT

Back
All product groups
All group categories

2020
Volumes
All certification schemes

Show benchmark

There are not enough respondents yet.
You will receive a notification when the benchmark of 2021 is available.

Volumes distribution per certification scheme

All products

| | | |
|---|---|---------|
| Certified wood | ● | 106,230 |
| Third party legality verification schemes | ● | 23,468 |
| Regulatory and regional systems | ● | 40,010 |
| Uncertified wood | ● | 27,199 |

Volume development per certification scheme in time

Distribution per product group

| Sawn timber, panels and mouldings | | |
|-----------------------------------|--|---------|
| Sawn timber | <div style="width: 100%; height: 10px; background: linear-gradient(to right, green, lightgreen, grey);"></div> | 742,190 |
| Particle boards | <div style="width: 100%; height: 10px; background: linear-gradient(to right, green, lightgreen, grey);"></div> | 9,600 |
| OSB | <div style="width: 100%; height: 10px; background: linear-gradient(to right, green, lightgreen, grey);"></div> | 264,040 |
| Fibre boards | <div style="width: 100%; height: 10px; background: linear-gradient(to right, green, lightgreen, grey);"></div> | 36,980 |
| Veneer | <div style="width: 100%; height: 10px; background: linear-gradient(to right, green, lightgreen, grey);"></div> | 325,120 |
| Plywood | <div style="width: 100%; height: 10px; background: linear-gradient(to right, green, lightgreen, grey);"></div> | 76,500 |
| Decking | <div style="width: 100%; height: 10px; background: linear-gradient(to right, green, lightgreen, grey);"></div> | 152,080 |
| Other mouldings | <div style="width: 100%; height: 10px; background: linear-gradient(to right, green, lightgreen, grey);"></div> | 9,600 |

| Joinery products | | |
|---------------------|--|---------|
| Doors & accessories | <div style="width: 100%; height: 10px; background: linear-gradient(to right, green, lightgreen, grey);"></div> | 12,000 |
| Windows | <div style="width: 100%; height: 10px; background: linear-gradient(to right, green, lightgreen, grey);"></div> | 14,500 |
| Shuttering | <div style="width: 100%; height: 10px; background: linear-gradient(to right, green, lightgreen, grey);"></div> | 167,900 |
| Shingles & shakes | <div style="width: 100%; height: 10px; background: linear-gradient(to right, green, lightgreen, grey);"></div> | 120,600 |
| Posts & beams | <div style="width: 100%; height: 10px; background: linear-gradient(to right, green, lightgreen, grey);"></div> | 425,840 |
| Flooring | <div style="width: 100%; height: 10px; background: linear-gradient(to right, green, lightgreen, grey);"></div> | 288,240 |
| Other joinery | <div style="width: 100%; height: 10px; background: linear-gradient(to right, green, lightgreen, grey);"></div> | 69,120 |

| Roundwood products | | |
|--------------------|--|---------|
| Sawlogs | <div style="width: 100%; height: 10px; background: linear-gradient(to right, green, lightgreen, grey);"></div> | 14,500 |
| Poles | <div style="width: 100%; height: 10px; background: linear-gradient(to right, green, lightgreen, grey);"></div> | 167,900 |

| Other products | | |
|-----------------------|--|---------|
| Engineered wood pr... | <div style="width: 100%; height: 10px; background: linear-gradient(to right, green, lightgreen, grey);"></div> | 167,900 |
| Others | <div style="width: 100%; height: 10px; background: linear-gradient(to right, green, lightgreen, grey);"></div> | 142,500 |

Distribution per certification scheme

| Certified wood | | |
|----------------|--|---------|
| FSC | <div style="width: 100%; height: 10px; background: linear-gradient(to right, green, lightgreen, grey);"></div> | 742,190 |
| PEFC | <div style="width: 100%; height: 10px; background: linear-gradient(to right, green, lightgreen, grey);"></div> | 264,040 |

| Third party legality verification schemes | | |
|---|--|---------|
| FSC CW | <div style="width: 100%; height: 10px; background: linear-gradient(to right, green, lightgreen, grey);"></div> | 9,600 |
| LegalHarvest | <div style="width: 100%; height: 10px; background: linear-gradient(to right, green, lightgreen, grey);"></div> | 76,500 |
| LegalSource | <div style="width: 100%; height: 10px; background: linear-gradient(to right, green, lightgreen, grey);"></div> | 152,080 |
| TLV | <div style="width: 100%; height: 10px; background: linear-gradient(to right, green, lightgreen, grey);"></div> | 36,980 |
| LegalTrace | <div style="width: 100%; height: 10px; background: linear-gradient(to right, green, lightgreen, grey);"></div> | 12,000 |
| OLB | <div style="width: 100%; height: 10px; background: linear-gradient(to right, green, lightgreen, grey);"></div> | 14,500 |
| PEFC Controlled So... | <div style="width: 100%; height: 10px; background: linear-gradient(to right, green, lightgreen, grey);"></div> | 0 |

| Regulatory and regional systems | | |
|---------------------------------|--|---------|
| FLEGT | <div style="width: 100%; height: 10px; background: linear-gradient(to right, green, lightgreen, grey);"></div> | 120,600 |
| SourceUp | <div style="width: 100%; height: 10px; background: linear-gradient(to right, green, lightgreen, grey);"></div> | 425,840 |
| CITES | <div style="width: 100%; height: 10px; background: linear-gradient(to right, green, lightgreen, grey);"></div> | 288,240 |
| TLAS | <div style="width: 100%; height: 10px; background: linear-gradient(to right, green, lightgreen, grey);"></div> | 69,120 |

| Uncertified wood | | |
|------------------|--|--------|
| Uncertified | <div style="width: 100%; height: 10px; background: linear-gradient(to right, green, lightgreen, grey);"></div> | 69,120 |



Examples of more detailed dashboarding options foreseen in phase 2.

3. Goal

The overall goal of the 2nd phase of Thémis is to increase uptake of sustainable forest management in producer countries by introducing, improving and monitoring progress within sustainable timber purchasing policies of TTF's and similar bodies in key tropical timber consuming countries in Europe and (possibly) elsewhere.

In this 2nd phase the goal is to enlarge the group of users of Thémis, including tropical timber producers (concessionaires) in producer countries, and to build in extra features and offering extra services to give companies and TTFs more insight in developments, make careful monitoring more easy and to make it more appealing for companies to submit their data in Thémis, e.g. by highlighting their positive carbon and SFM (in tropics) impact when sourcing sustainably.

4. Scope of activities

The following activities are foreseen in this proposal:

- a) **Add new TTFs as users of the online portal Thémis** in which the data of the members of the participating TTFs is gathered. In Phase 1 four TTFs were involved of which three actually implemented the tool. Conversations with other TTFs that might be interested to join are and have taken place. In the course of the first phase of Thémis, the following federations have expressed interest to explore if they could join too: Dutch federations NTTA (Royal Netherlands Timber Trade Association, importers) and NBvT (Nederlandse Branchevereniging voor de Timmerindustrie, joinery sector), GD Holz (Gesamtverband Deutscher Holzhandel e.V., German timber trade sector) and the Danish Timber Trade Federation (DTTF). The latter has recently set targets for the share sustainably sourced timber imported, but has no tool yet to monitor progress. More outreach to other organizations is foreseen. Early 2022, NTTA and NBvT have already adopted Thémis for their reporting purposes, but Thémis still needs to be tailored to their specifics to ensure uptake.

Next to these 'regular TTFs', ATIBT is interested to extent their user group to include also the producing companies (in the Congo Basin). Overall, the goal is to add at least 4 TTFs to the Thémis project, including the producing members of ATIBT (see next activity) and the NTTA and NBvT.

These federations represent:

- NTTA: 220 importing / trading companies
- NBvT: approximately 200 companies processing and partly importing timber products
- GD Holz: 800 member companies of which approximately 120 companies are importers
- DTTF: 37 companies/members
- Producer members ATIBT

Belgium, France, the Netherlands, Germany and Denmark are key tropical timber importing countries in Europe. They represent over 70% of EU27+UK imports .



Outreach to other federations and organizations representing individual TTFs, like the European Timber Trade Federation (ETTF) and European Confederation of Woodworking Industries (CEI-Bois), is also foreseen.

- b) **Making Thémis suitable for producers (concessionnaires)** by adding questions for producer companies to the survey in the online portal. In Phase 1 the questions in the survey in the online portal were aimed at the target group of importers / traders. To get a better insight in the whole supply chain, including the impact on (the area under) SFM, it is important to also collect data from timber producers. For this target group a new survey has to be developed, building upon the current yearly ATIBT / Probos excel survey (see annex 2), and integrated in the online or a separate similar portal. Since the nature of these questions differs significantly from the current content of Thémis, the work involved is substantial.

- c) **Implement additional features to the dashboarding** to make the portal even more beneficial for companies. Now they see graphs on main product group level and it would be of added value to show their performance regarding sourcing certified sustainable timber and other certification types on product group level and certification scheme level. Next to this, users showed interest in getting insight in the share per certification type per country of harvest. See the figures on page 3 for some proposed examples. There are also some improvements on the back-end of the portal foreseen, like automatic testing. This will save time when adding new features.

In addition to the dashboarding options mentioned above and that can be viewed online, the option is added to be able to print out a nicely designed PDF 'statement / testimony' presenting the results of the year in question. Companies are encouraged (also by their federation) to publish this 'statement' on their website.

- d) **Including the CO₂-impact in the dashboarding.** The impact of the use of resources on climate change is more and more important. Forests are an important carbon sink and timber harvested from verified sustainable managed forests store carbon during its lifespan, without a lasting negative impact on the forest itself. This is an important message for TTFs/organisations and their member companies to tell. To give the participating TTFs/organisations and the individual companies more insight in the CO₂-sequestered in their imported products and avoided CO₂-emissions by using timber harvested in verified sustainably managed forests, it is proposed to add this information to the tool and dashboarding to make carbon claims more robust. TTF's interested to participate in Thémis have also expressed interest in this feature. TTFs/organisations and individual companies can use this information in their communication about the climate benefits of using timber from verified sustainable managed forests and, as a result, increase market uptake.

For this, a new calculation model has to be developed and built in Thémis. There is information that can be used, like LCA data from the Dryades-project, led by ATIBT, and Dutch LCAs commissioned by Centrum Hout and ongoing projects on the positive climate impact of RIL-C and other (scientific) literature via a literature review and outreach to experts,

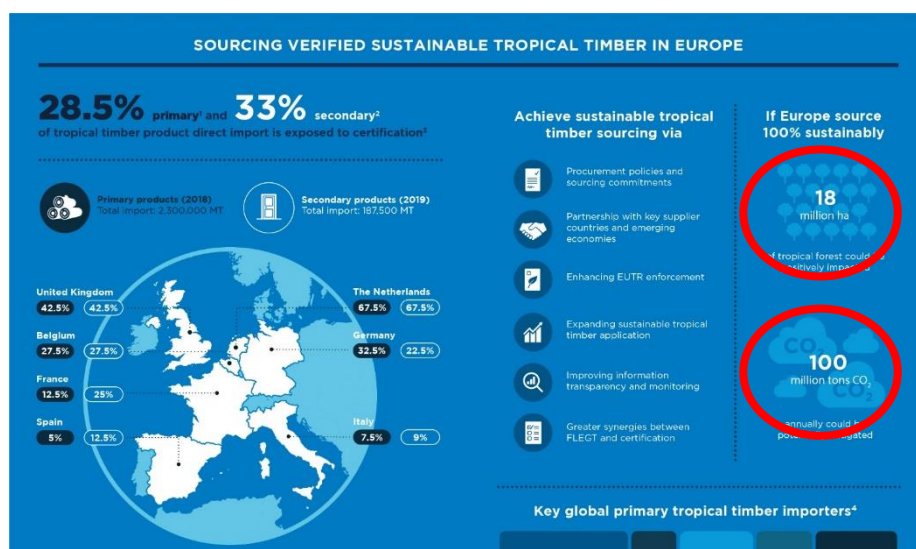


like Terea. Goal within this 2nd phase of Thémis is to convert the volumes reported in Thémis, into carbon units which companies and federations can use in promotional activities.

- e) **Memo describing feasibility of certifying carbon credits.** There is also interest by some parties to develop a ‘climate smart timber’ concept, with a potential market price premium. The information embedded in Thémis, could feed into this concept. Starting point of this model is the data that is currently shared by the companies in the questionnaire. The model could distinguish between timber imported with the different certification types (certified sustainable, third party legality verification schemes, Regulatory and regional systems, and Uncertified wood and possibly RIL-C) since these varying forest management regimes have an impact on the carbon footprint.

Ultimate goal (beyond the scope of this 2nd phase), is that the carbon units calculated in Thémis become recognised (certified) and can be traded and help strengthen the business case for SFM in producer countries. In this 2nd phase, the feasibility of such a development will be explored and recorded in a memo.

- f) **Including positive impact on tropical forests.** Using timber from verified sustainably managed forests has a positive impact on the forest by giving it e.g. an economic value, conserving biodiversity and protecting rights of local people and workers. Based on the imported volume of certified sustainable timber, the amount of hectares of forest positively impacted by this volume can be calculated. The potential amount that could be positively impacted if 100% of the imported timber was sourced sustainably, can also be calculated. E.g. if Europe sourced 100% verified sustainable tropical timber products, it would have positively impacted over 18 million hectares of semi and natural tropical forests and reduced CO₂-emissions significantly in 2019, see figure below.





For the tropics these data have been gathered by Probos over the last year's via various data studies² and could be incorporated fairly easy. For the other climate zones a study is needed to collect this data and are therefore excluded from this Phase 2 for PPECF funding.

g) Thémis and Due Diligence

Companies first placing timber products on the EU market, are obliged to conduct Due Diligence (DD) in the framework of the European Timber Regulation (EUTR).

It is expected that the EUTR will be replaced by the 'European Deforestation Regulation' (EUDR), which is currently under development. This will tighten the DD requirements, among others.

Thémis is not equipped to conduct DD. However, data relevant for conducting DD is gathered in Thémis. What it may additionally be able to do in the context of the EUDR is, on the one hand, to structure the data in such a way that it is easy to 'upload' the relevant data to the European Register that is still to be developed. And on the other hand, for example, to offer users the option of uploading all data and documents to a Thémis 'sister portal' or perhaps the 'digital lockers'. Recognised monitoring organisation can verify the data stored and assess whether the requirements have been met. The objective is to help make meeting the upcoming 'EUDR' easier for users of Thémis. Thus making Thémis even more attractive (and essential) for its users.

Project partner Le Commerce du Bois (LCB) is a recognised Monitoring Organization (MO) and can use its manual and expertise for this. Other MO's, like Preferred by Nature and Control Union, will be consulted for input.

Note: This activity explores the possibilities, costs and benefits and the interest among users which is recorded in a paper. The deliverable of this optional activity is thus a memo, not the development of the tool itself.

5. Budget

The total costs of the proposed 2nd phase of Thémis are 189,036 EUR (VAT excluded (out of scope)), see table below. **The present requested contribution of PPECF is EUR.**

The costs of adding a new target group - producers (concessionaires, communities, etc.) in producer countries -, and thus a new and additional set of questions to Thémis, is a labour intensive activity. The IT-experts consider developing a separate back-end, so that the questions for producers do not affect those for the current target group of importers and traders.

In addition, we have received many requests from companies and the TTFs to include more additional features / dashboarding options, to increase the benefits for the users of Thémis and with that, make it more attractive to submit their data. This requires a lot of ICT-development.

² Most recent: <https://www.idhsustainabletrade.com/uploaded/2021/12/Timber-11.0.pdf>



| Activity | | Probos | | External | | Grand total | Funding | |
|--|---------------|--------|-----------------|--------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|-----------------|
| | | Days | Costs | Item | Costs | | PPECF | TTFs |
| a. Extending the group of TTFs using the online portal and tailoring the portal to TTF specifics and outreach to other federations | (Sr.) Advisor | 38 | € 24.700 | IT-expert | € 16.434 | € 48.734 | € 48.734 | |
| | | | € 5.000 | 4 days ATIBT | € 2.600 | | | |
| | Travel costs | | | | | | | |
| b. Adding survey questions for producers (concessionaires) to the portal | (Sr.) Advisor | 8 | € 5.200 | IT-expert | € 30.250 | € 48.650 | € 48.650 | |
| | | | | 8 days ATIBT | € 5.200 | | | |
| | Travel costs | | € 5.000 | Travel | € 3.000 | | | |
| c. Implement additional features to dashboarding, incl. PDF 'statement' with results | (Sr.) Advisor | 10 | € 6.500 | IT-expert | € 34.980 | € 41.480 | € 29.980 | € 11.500 |
| | | | | | | | | |
| d. Including CO2 impact as PR tool | (Sr.) Advisor | 10 | € 6.500 | IT expert | € 2.376 | € 10.826 | € 10.826 | |
| | | | | 3 days ATIBT | € 1.950 | | | |
| e. Memo describing feasibility of certifying carbon credits | (Sr.) Advisor | 10 | € 6.500 | 1 day ATIBT | € 650 | € 7.150 | € 7.150 | |
| | | | | | | | | |
| f. Including positive impact on forests | (Sr.) Advisor | 7 | € 4.550 | IT expert | € 2.376 | € 6.926 | € 6.926 | |
| | | | | | | | | |
| g. Memo Thémis and Due Diligence | (Sr.) Advisor | 14 | € 9.100 | 7 days LCB | € 4.550 | € 14.970 | € 14.970 | |
| | | | | IT-expert | € 1.320 | | | |
| Projectmanagement, incl. reporting | (Sr.) Advisor | 9 | € 5.850 | | | € 10.300 | € 10.300 | |
| | Travel costs | | € 2.500 | 3 days ATIBT | € 1.950 | | | |
| Total (VAT n.a.) | | | € 81.400 | | € 107.636 | € 189.036 | € 177.536 | € 11.500 |

6. Timeline and deliverables

This assignment is foreseen to last from 1 September 2022 – 1 September 2024, see table below.

| Deliverable | Start | End |
|-------------|-------|-----|
|-------------|-------|-----|



| | | |
|---|------------|----------------|
| a. Four additional Timber Trade Federations that join the Thémis project (incl ATIBT producer members): develop goals and use the online monitoring portal. + Evidence of outreach to other organisations | Sep 2022 | Sep 2024 |
| b. A questionnaire for producers (concessionaires) added to the online monitoring portal | Sep 2022 | January 2023 |
| c. Additional features regarding dashboarding built into the online monitoring portal, incl. a PDF 'statement / testimony' with an overview of results | Sep 2022 | February 2023 |
| d. Including CO ₂ impact as PR tool in Thémis + paper describing feasibility of 'Thémis certified carbon credits' | Sep 2022 | February 2023 |
| e. Memo describing feasibility of certifying carbon credits | March 2023 | September 2023 |
| f. Including positive impact on area sustainably managed tropical forests | Sep 2022 | February 2023 |
| g. Memo Thémis and Due Diligence | March 2023 | September 2023 |

7. Partners

The following organizations have agreed to be part of the project. This does not automatically mean they can introduce stringent and ambitious policies, data gathering obligations and implement Thémis. This is subject to the approval of the board and members of these federations. Besides these organizations, others have expressed interest in Thémis as well and there are currently talks. They may be part of a potential next phase of the Thémis project or act as substitute, if needed.

The current partners target about 100 individual member companies. Usually those that import. The proposed new federations represent:

- NTTA: 220 importing / trading companies
- NBvT: approximately 200 companies processing and partly (a limited number) importing timber products
- GD Holz: 800 member companies of which approximately 120 companies are importers
- DTTF: 37 companies/members
- Producer members ATIBT



Belgium, France, the Netherlands, Germany and Denmark are key tropical timber importing countries in Europe. They represent over 70% of EU27+UK imports³.

Founding partners

ATIBT (International Tropical Timber Technical Association, www.atibt.org)

Since its creation in 1951, ATIBT aims to serve the tropical timber industry, from the forest to the end user. It plays a key role in the implementation of international projects dedicated to the sustainable and responsible management of tropical forests. ATIBT already established first data gathering efforts for their producer members in collaboration with Probos in 2019. It aims to continue and improve this monitoring. In 2017 ATIBT and its members created the Fair&Precious brand, which aims to promote tropical timber from certified sustainable forest management. Around 90% of ATIBT's approximately 60 Producer, Supplier and Trading company members⁴ qualify as Fair&Precious members. ATIBT intends to explore interest and feasibility to further develop their membership requirements.

Contact person: Benoit Jobbé-Duval, Directeur Général:

“Although Thémis is challenging to implement from scratch for companies with many product groups, we see a lot of enthusiasm for Thémis from both participating federations and leading member companies. However, for ATIBT it will take time to move forward. ... not all companies are at the same level of commitment to sustainable procurement, and they are even quite heterogeneous. So we need to get everyone moving, but try not to lose too many members along the way.”

Le Commerce du Bois (LCB, www.lecommercedubois.org)

LCB is a professional association representing 125 French companies operating in the national and international trade of timber and its by-products, mainly in the construction and renovation sector. Since its creation in the early 2000s, LCB has been offering tools that enable its members to commit to SFM: all LCB companies are signatories to an Environmental Charter for Responsible Procurement and Sale⁵, through which they commit to buying and promoting timber and timber products from responsibly managed forests. LCB is currently updating its Environmental Charter and will use Thémis as one of the KPI's. Also, since 2015, LCB has been recognised by the European Commission as a Monitoring Organisation as part of the EU Timber Regulation (EUTR) with significant expertise developed in assisting importers of non-EU timber. Member companies are being audited yearly by LCB. In 2022, LCB will conduct the 2nd round of monitoring with Thémis.

Contact person: Arnaud Hétoit, Director, and Alessandra Négri, CSR Manager

Arnaud HÉTROIT states: “Je confirme l'intérêt de LCB et de nos membres pour cet outil. THÉMIS'inscrit parfaitement dans les logiques de reporting et de transparence sur les achats responsables. Parmi ces membres Groupe ISB, Henry Timber, Polywood, Norsilk, Peltier, Pasquet, Fibres (La Réunion), Sylvaco, CABD, CID, CEB, Vandecasteele, Van Hoorebeck... C'est donc déjà près de la moitié de nos membres importateurs / négociants qui participent au projet” ... “Certaines entreprises sont allées jusqu'à adapter leurs logiciels afin de les rendre compatibles avec les données demandées par THÉMIS”

³ <https://www.idhsustainabletrade.com/uploaded/2021/12/Timber-11.0.pdf>.

⁴ <https://www.atibt.org/en/members/>

⁵ <http://www.lecommercedubois.org/medias/File/Charte-LCB-2012-11-Web-3F-rwpo>. Currently being updated.



The companies that Arnaud mentions are also large companies that have a leading and driving role in the industry. Their participation and support is therefore of great value and, besides helping to convince other companies to submit data, these companies cover a large part of the French market. One of the lessons learned in working with the NTTA, is also that as companies adapted their software over time, they could submit the data quite easily. But adapting software is not something you do lightly. The fact that companies are willing to take this step says something about how serious they take Thémis.

Fedustria (www.fedustria.be/fr/)

Fedustria has 38 timber importing members in Belgium (incl. agents). Fedustria stresses that the future of the timber sector is strongly connected with SFM and it is of interest for the timber sector to work with timber originating from sustainable managed forests. Fedustria launched the campaigns “Wood, the natural choice” and “Wood provides oxygen” to promote the use of timber and timber products, focusing on climate and sustainability as one of the profits of the use of timber. Next to this Fedustria is very active in advocating the inclusion of sustainability criteria in public procurement. In 2022, Fedustria will conduct the 2nd round of monitoring with Thémis.

Contact person: Ingrid Hontis, Manager Timber imports:

“The timber market was already challenging given the shortages and it has become even more so with the Ukrainian war. It makes it more under these challenging conditions to convince companies to invest time and submit their data in Thémis. Nevertheless 13 companies from the 35 relevant members of Fedustria filled in their data. Those companies already account for 60-70% of the market. We are considering making Thémis compulsory in the future. We would like to promote both wood as a sustainable raw material and our members as socially responsible operating companies, compared to non-member companies. Thémis is the right tool to do this. Moreover, Fedustria also represents companies from the wood and furniture sector, and in the future we hope to extend Thémis to these subsectors as well.

PPECF (www.ppecf-comifac.com)

PPECF, the Programme to Promote Certified Operations in Central Africa, aims to increase the area under third party verified sustainable forest management in the Congo Basin and strengthen communication about the positive impact of sustainable forest management in the Congo Basin. PPECF supports a wide range of projects and initiatives, that help deliver its objectives. PPECF is implemented by COMIFAC, the Commission of Central African Forests and funded by KfW, the German Development Bank. PPECF financially supports the development of Thémis.

Contact person: Romain Lorent, Coordinator PPECF

IDH, the Sustainable Trade Initiative (www.idhsustainabletrade.com) / European Sustainable Tropical Timber Coalition, STTC (www.europeansttc.com)

IDH works with public and private partners to develop strategies which encourage forest protection in supply chains, and promote sound forest governance. To this end, in the period 2010 to 2016, IDH contributed to the certification of 8.5 million hectares of tropical forests for SFM. Lagging demand for verified sustainable tropical timber on the European market end, however, was increasingly undermining the business case for certified forestry operators. In 2012, responding to this lagging demand, IDH with a number of key partners including the European Timber Trade Federation, ATIBT, Probos, FSC and PEFC therefore established the STTC, with the aim to accelerate European



market demand for SFM timber products. Together with PPECF, IDH financially supported the first phase of the development of Thémis.

Contact person: Willem Klaassens, Director Markets & SourceUp

New partners

GD Holz (www.gdholz.de)

The German Timber Trade Association (GD Holz) is the cross-cooperative and representative industry association of the German timber trade. It bundles the economic interests of 800 member companies and represents the industry towards politics, organisations, the media and society. According to its own estimates, the degree of organisation of GD Holz reaches approx. 60 % of the companies and 80 % of the sector's turnover. The image of tropical timber is an important and much-discussed topic in Germany. For this reason, supporting SFM is for GD Holz an important topic, and they promote certification for sustainability and the use of tropical timber as a means to give value to forests: Use it or lose it.

Contact person: Nils Olaf Petersen, Head of Department Foreign Trade

Danish Timber Trade Federation (<http://dktimber.dk/english/>)

The Danish Timber Trade Federation represents the interests of the leading timber importing companies in Denmark. In recent years among their focus areas are combating illegal and unsustainable forestry, certification of timber, developing a Code of Conduct to set standards for timber traders in Denmark and the public procurement policy for wood. In June 2021 the federation announced that the target has been set that the share certified sustainable timber that members import to Denmark should increase to 95 percent by 2025. Monitoring is important to keep track of this goal.

Contact person: Jakob Rygg Klaumann, President

VVNH /NTTA (www.vvnh.nl)

The Royal Association of Dutch Timber Companies (VVNH) is the umbrella organization of 211 wholesale companies in timber and sheet material. In 2020, the member companies imported more than two million m³ of timber and board material. The majority of all employees in the sector are employed by VVNH member companies. The Boards of the Hardwood, Softwood and Board Materials and Technical Affairs sections represent the interests of the product groups with the same name. The Netherlands, like Belgium, serves as an entry point for tropical timber due to its large harbour and traditionally large relative tropical timber consumption. The Netherlands imports over 90% of the timber it consumes. One of the objectives of the NTTA is to further increase the market share of sustainably produced timber and board material. Currently over 90% of the timber imported is coming from certified sustainably managed forests. NTTA has set targets with regards to shares certified and monitored, jointly with Probos, progress for over a decade. The monitoring system NTTA currently uses is outdated and covers less product groups and less information regarding country of forest origin, compared to Thémis.

Contact person: Paul van den Heuvel, Director, and Berdien van Overeem, Advisor Market and Sustainability

NBvT (www.nbvt.nl)



The Dutch Trade Association for the Carpentry Industry (NBvT) is the trade association that represents the top segment of the Dutch carpentry industry. The NBvT represents the collective and individual interests of the approximately 200 members (about 75% of all carpentry companies) in a technical, legal and commercial sense. The trade association makes a contribution to the development and stimulation of more timber utilization in buildings. The NBvT stimulates innovations and contributes to regulations with the aim of integral quality improvement. The NBvT also provides specialized technical advice for partners. NTTA and NBvT work together to stimulate the use of sustainably produced timber in the construction industry in the Netherlands. The NBvT has recently started monitoring timber sourcing by its members and would like to use a system like Thémis, since there are good opportunities to have a good fit for secondary timber products in Thémis.

Contact person: Taco Schoonderwoerd, Director, and Berdien van Overeem, Advisor Market and Sustainability

8. Contact information (please note new bank account)

| | |
|--|---|
| Stichting Probos | www.probos.nl / www.probos.nl/en/ |
| Mark van Benthem | VAT number: NL002973200BO1 |
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| mark.vanbenthem@probos.nl | Chamber of commerce Gelderland number 41047119 |



Annex 1. Screenshots taken from <https://timbermarketsurvey.com>

Reporting concerns
Please select the reference year for your data and your company type.

Year: 2020

Company type: Importer Domestic purchaser Both

Did you have a membership with other timber trade federations in the year of reporting?
The data of this survey will be shared with the selected federations.

- Fedustria
- LCB (Le Commerce du Bois)
- ATIBT
- GD Holz

Chain of Custody certifications
Please select the boxes that are applicable for your organization.

- FSC
- PEFC
- LegalSource (NEPCon)
- OLB (Bureau Veritas)
- LegalTrace (SGS)
- Legal Harvest Verification (SCS)
- TLV (CUC)
- STIP (SKH)
- Keurhout



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Product groups

Please select the product groups that you traded in the reference year.
Only selected product groups will appear in the rest of the survey.



Sawn timber, panels and mouldings

- Sawn timber 
- Particle boards 
- OSB 
- Fibre boards 
- Veneer 
- Plywood 
- Decking 
- Other mouldings 


Joinery products

- Doors & accessories 
- Windows 
- Shuttering 
- Shingles & shakes 
- Posts & beams 
- Flooring 
- Other joinery 

Roundwood products

- Sawlogs 
- Poles 

Other products

- Engineered wood products 
- Others 



Timber market survey

Mark van Benthem
Probos

Product groups

Sawn timber

Group categories

IMPORT

Tropical hardwood

Certification Schemes

CERTIFIED SUSTAINABLE

FSC

PEFC

THIRD PARTY LEGALITY VERIFICATION SCHEMES

OLB

UNCERTIFIED WOOD

Uncertified wood

Country of origin

Please specify the purchased volume of **sawn timber** imported with **Uncertified wood**.

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| | | |
|------------------|-----|----------------|
| Total volume | 250 | m ³ |
| Remaining volume | 0 | m ³ |

Country of harvest

Please select the country or countries in which the wood has been harvested and specify the corresponding volume.

⊗

Gabon

Please specify suppliers

Names of suppliers...

250

Amount

m³

Add country

Annex 2. ATIBT and Probos Congo Basin producer members survey (since 2019)



Survey ATIBT tropical timber producers 2021

Thank you for completing and returning the survey by June 21, 2021 to Benoît Jobbé-Duval

Please complete all data in roundwood equivalents (rwe: the amount of roundwood needed to make a certain amount of a product)

1 What has been the total amount of roundwood (m3 rwe) harvested in the following years? And what has been the annual surface area (ha) in these years?

| Year: | Roundwood harvest | Surface area | Average yield |
|-------|-----------------------------|-------------------------|----------------|
| 2016 | <input type="text"/> m3 rwe | <input type="text"/> ha | #DEEL/0! m3/ha |
| 2017 | <input type="text"/> m3 rwe | <input type="text"/> ha | #DEEL/0! m3/ha |
| 2018 | <input type="text"/> m3 rwe | <input type="text"/> ha | #DEEL/0! m3/ha |
| 2019 | <input type="text"/> m3 rwe | <input type="text"/> ha | #DEEL/0! m3/ha |
| 2020 | <input type="text"/> m3 rwe | <input type="text"/> ha | #DEEL/0! m3/ha |

2 Do the resulting average yield figures match with reality? If not, please inform us below on your actual average yield figures:

3 What has been the total amount (m3 rwe) exported to which European **final markets** in 2020? And what share (%) of this export was FSC / PEFC-PAFC certified or accompanied with legality verification, like OLB, Legalsource, FSC CW, etc. ? (if not accurately available, a best expert guess will suffice). Please also specify for the following countries:

| Export | Share FSC/PEFC | Share legally verified |
|--|-----------------------------|------------------------|
| Total export in general | <input type="text"/> m3 rwe | <input type="text"/> % |
| Export to Europe in general | <input type="text"/> m3 rwe | <input type="text"/> % |
| <i>Specifically for:</i> | | |
| France | <input type="text"/> m3 rwe | <input type="text"/> % |
| Italy | <input type="text"/> m3 rwe | <input type="text"/> % |
| Belgium | <input type="text"/> m3 rwe | <input type="text"/> % |
| Netherlands | <input type="text"/> m3 rwe | <input type="text"/> % |
| United Kingdom | <input type="text"/> m3 rwe | <input type="text"/> % |
| Spain | <input type="text"/> m3 rwe | <input type="text"/> % |
| Germany | <input type="text"/> m3 rwe | <input type="text"/> % |
| Other European countries* | <input type="text"/> m3 rwe | <input type="text"/> % |
| * If one country specific, mention which: <input type="text"/> | | |

4 What share of the harvested certified timber is actually sold with a FSC / PEFC-PAFC certificate or with legality verification? (if not accurately available, a best expert guess will suffice)

Share sold: %

5 What area (in ha or %) of the total concession is classified as 'set aside' (areas where no production takes place, like buffer zones, HCVs, areas set aside for social aspects etc.)

Area set aside: ha or %