



Promoting legality of tropical timber trade

Activity 2014-2020



Illegal logging and timber trade

Approximately over 50% of tropical timber worldwide still comes from illegal sources

Context

- Governments of several consumer markets have introduced strict regulations on timber trade to address the problem of illegality (EUTR, Lacey Act).
- Timber traders must ensure the legality of the timber through processes of due diligence and risk assessment before placing it in the consumer market.

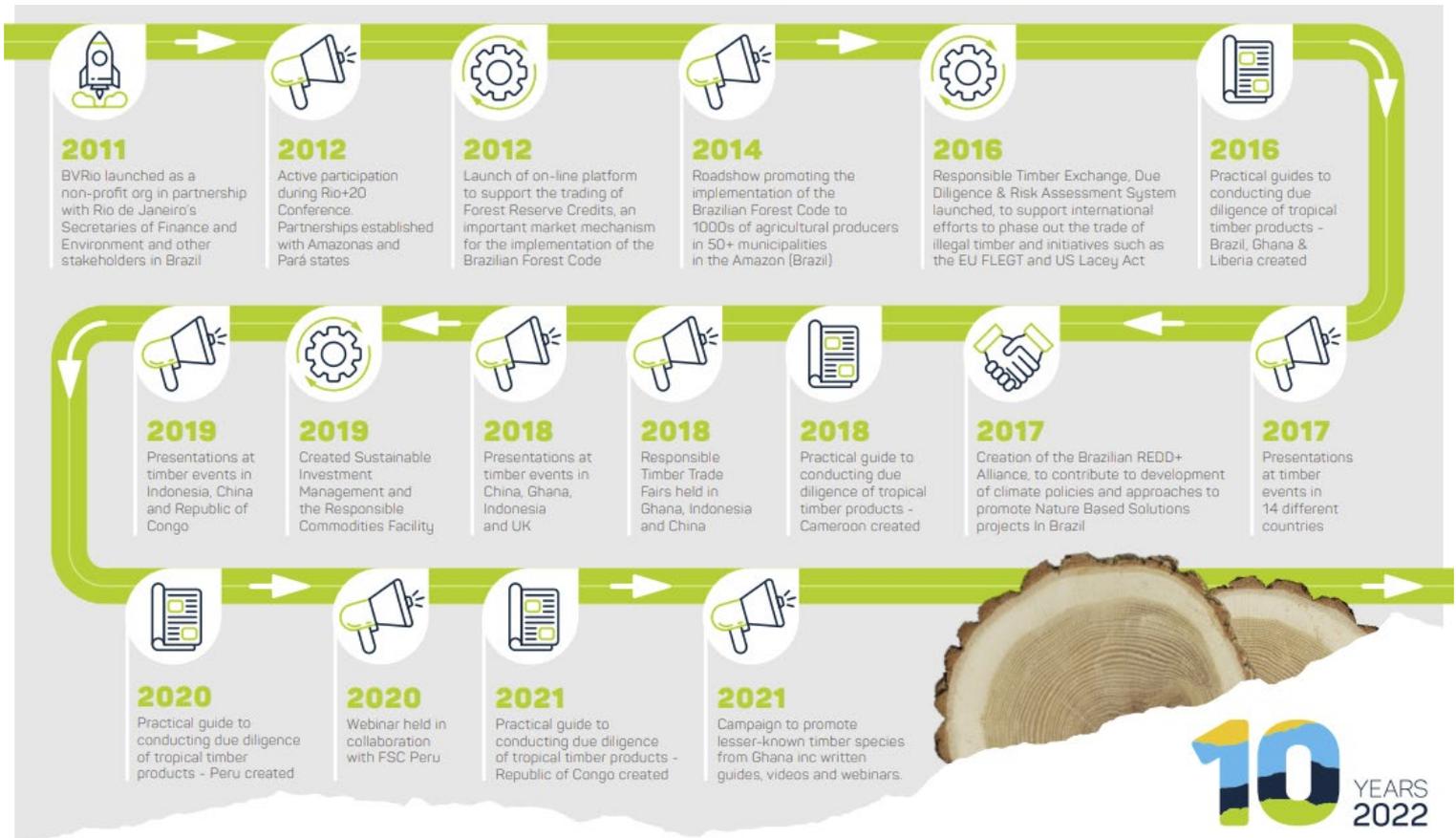
BVRio's approach

To comply with these regulations, since 2014 BVRio has developed:

- Tools and guidance to differentiate between legal and illegal timber.
- A marketplace to source legal timber supplies to meet their demand requirements.

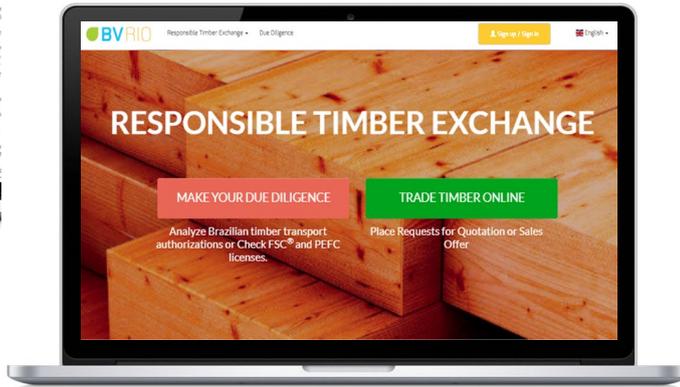
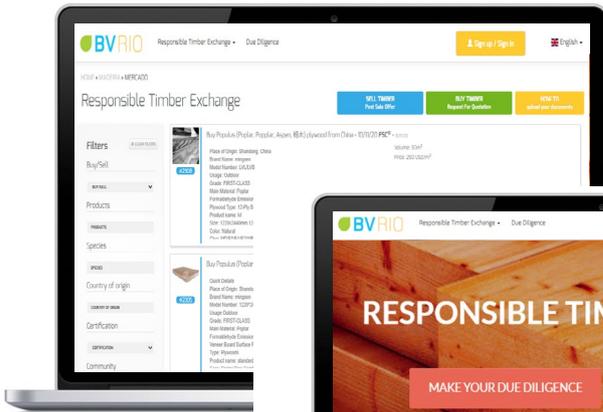


10 years of advocating for and creating tools and initiatives in support of legal timber trading and responsible land use.



Responsible Timber Exchange

Founded in 2016, this free online trading platform is used to promote the use of tropical wood products from legal sources.



Available for desktop and mobile phone
Woodsapp on GooglePlay and AppStore



Available in 6 languages

English, Portuguese, French, Chinese Mandarin, Bahasa Indonesia, and Spanish.

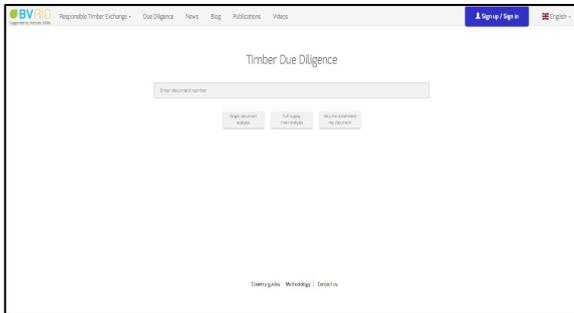
To the end of 2020

- More than a **thousand** users from **52 countries**
- **1500 offers** and requests for quotes
- **86 million** cubic metres of timber products available



Timber Due Diligence & Risk Assessment System

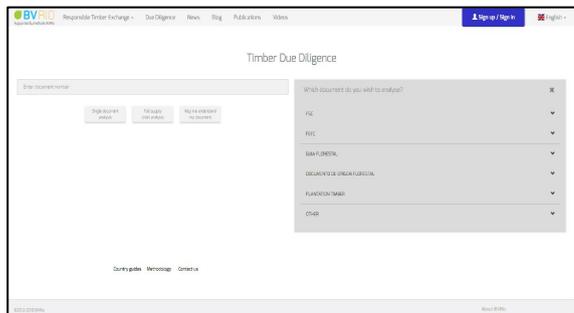
Our tool for traders and enforcement agencies operating in the UK, Europe, Australia and the USA to assess legality of Brazilian timber.



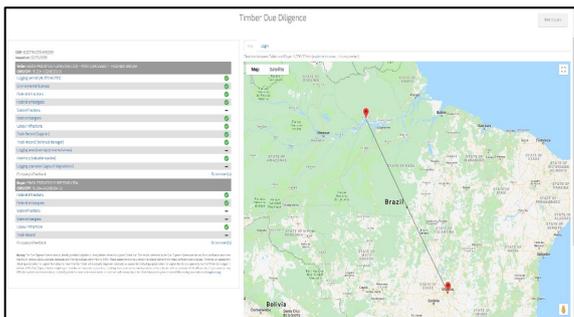
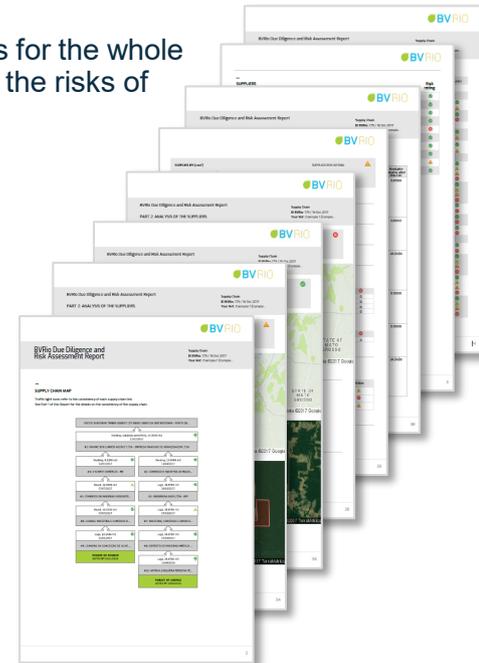
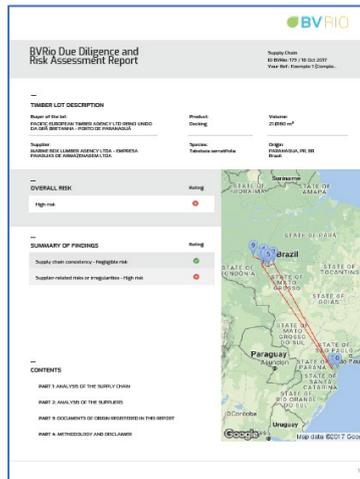
User friendly online system to check timber supplies, as well as FSC and PEFC certificates

Analysis per timber consignment;

- Based on big data analysis, blockchain encryption, and satellite imagery
- Provides a risk rating



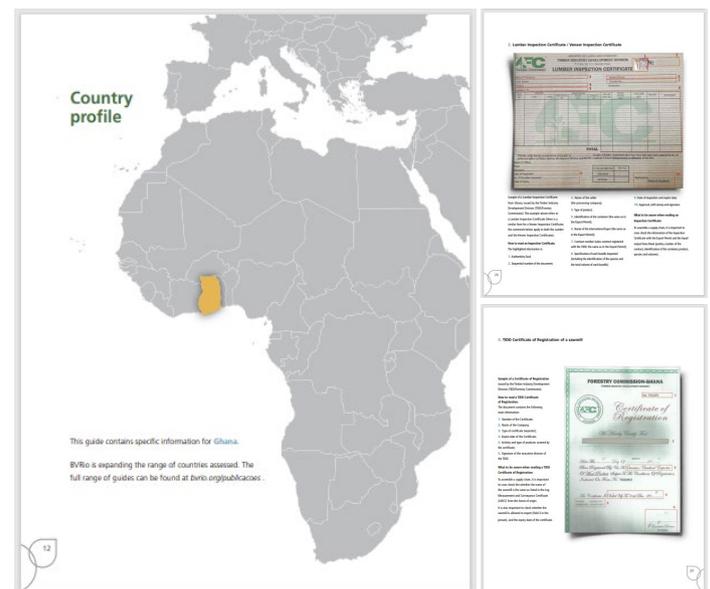
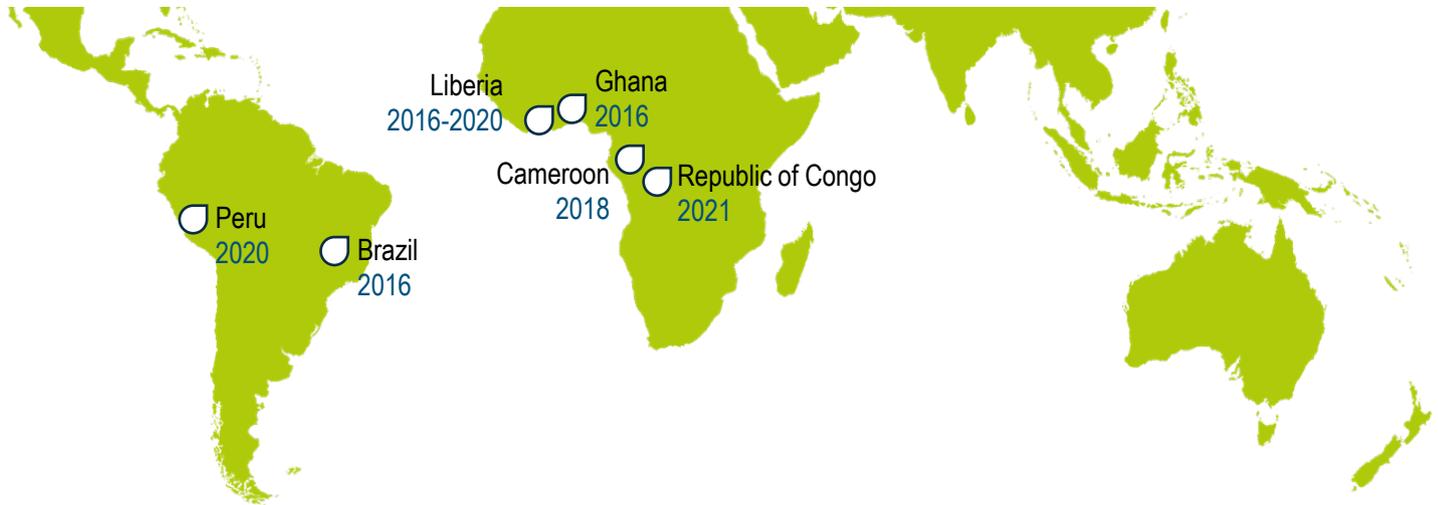
Detailed due diligence reports for the whole timber supply chain, outlining the risks of illegality



Over **500** active users
Over **20,000** due diligence reports produced

Practical guides to conducting due diligence of tropical timber products

Country specific guides for the main tropical timber exporting countries summarise the country of production regulatory framework, the potential risks, and shows samples of the main documents that need to be collected, including an explanation on how to interpret them.



Market development for responsible timber

From 2014-2020 BVRio hosted and participated in events all over the world to promote timber legality and awareness in both producer and buyer countries.

30 events
in 13 countries

440+ timber
professionals
involved in BVRio
hosted events



8 International
Conferences



5 trade fairs



3 Global
Webinars



6 workshops held



18+ associations
reached by BVRio
hosted events



Participation in **3**
Forest Legality Weeks



BVRio at Sustainable Timber Events 2016-2020



为家具生产、装饰装修、工程应用领域提供最精良装备和材料的优质平台
Provide Best Woodworking Machinery and Furniture Raw Materials for Furniture Production, Decoration and Engineering Fields

4TH CHINA WOOD EXPO 2017
2017 第4届中国国际木业博览会

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Furniture raw and Supplementary Materials Related Products

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National Exhibition and Convention Center (Shanghai) <No.333 Songze Avenue, Jingpu District>

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Salone del Mobile

2017

VISIONS VISITORS

Producer Country Events 2016-2020

August 2016, Peru: Presentation in the Workshop 'Strengthening Forest Control Systems and Market Chains in APEC Economies'.

March 2017, Ghana: Regional Workshop on 'Legality and Sustainability in the Timber and Agricultural Commodity Supply Chains', attended by 65 participants from Ghana, Liberia, Brazil, and UK.

March 2017, Brazil: Presentation in the TFA General Assembly, "Forest risk in supply chains – a dialogue on how to practically manage risks"

May 2017, Liberia: Timber legality workshop presenting the RTX, attended by 41 participants from timber companies and government institutions, with very positive feedback from the Forestry Development Authority (FDA).

August 2017, Indonesia: Presentation of the Responsible Timber Exchange Platform as a tool to help promote FLEGT-licensed timber products from Indonesia on the international markets, attended by 10 representatives of the timber industry and certification bodies.

September 2017, Indonesia: Roundtable 'Online Trading Platform for Legal and Sustainable Wood Products', attended by 35 participants representing producers, associations, social enterprise, certification bodies, and the Indonesian Government

September 2017, Cameroon: Workshop to promote legal timber trade in the international and domestic markets, organised the workshop in partnership with WWF, Proforest, and The Cameroonian Ministry of Forest and Wildlife, with a total of 32 participants.

February 2018, Ghana: Responsible Timber Trade Fair in Ghana in collaboration with the Timber Industry Development Division (TIDD) of the Ghana Forestry Commission as part of the 27th Ghana International Trade Fair in Accra, 55 participants attended.

September 2018, Indonesia: Responsible Timber Exchange Outreach event in Surabaya, in collaboration with FSC Indonesia. Representatives from 18 timber companies attended.

March 2019, Indonesia: Good Wood Expo trade fair event, attended by 117 participants and recruiting new subscribers to the RTX, adding an amount of 64,208 m³ of FLEGT-licensed Indonesian timber.

November 2019, Republic of Congo: Workshop titled 'Promoting legality in the timber sector in Republic of Congo', attended by 47 participants, including representatives from the Ministry of the Forest Economy, timber companies and civil society.

August 2020, Peru: BVRio held a webinar in collaboration with FSC Peru to explain the benefits of using the Responsible Timber Exchange and discuss the impact of coronavirus on timber trade in China, attended by 20 participants.

Buyer Country Events 2017-2020

2017, France: Presentation of the Due Diligence tool to a Competent Authorities meeting in Paris.

2017, USA: International Wood Products Association conference in Austin Texas.

2017, Guatemala: Forest Legality Alliance conference.

2017, Spain: EU FLEG Facility in the European Forestry Institute.

April 2017, Italy: 'Salone Internazionale del Mobile'.

May 2017, China: .1st Shanghai Responsible Timber Workshop. organised by BVRio, CAF and CDP in cooperation with CINFT, Carbon Disclosure Project (CDP), China-UK Collaboration on International Forest Investment and Trade (InFit), and Traffic, with 30 attendees.

June 2017, UK: Timber Trade Federation at the Brazilian Embassy in London workshop.

July 2017, UK: BVRio presented the RTX in the Illegal Logging Conference hosted by Chatham House.

September 2017, 7th China Global Wood Trade Conference.

September 2017, 4th China Wood Expo.

2017, China, Furniture Fair FMC.

October 2017, USA: Washington Timber Legality Week, participation as panellist and organisation of a side event.

October 2017, Italy: FAO Conference: Sustainable Wood for a Sustainable World.

November 2017, Finland: PEFC Forest Certification Week.

November 2018, China: BVRio co-hosted a Global Sustainable Hardwood Supplying Conference in collaboration with the China Timber and Wood Products Distribution Association (CTWPDA), the International Tropical Timber Organisation (ITTO) and the Chinese Academy of Forestry (CAF), 315 people attended.

November 2019, China Nanxun: Global Sustainable Hardwood Trade Conference, 7 associations attended.

October 2019, China Shanghai: International Forum Together Towards Global Green Supply Chains, 7 associations attended.

March 2018, UK: NEPCon conference on Sourcing Legal Timber 2.0.

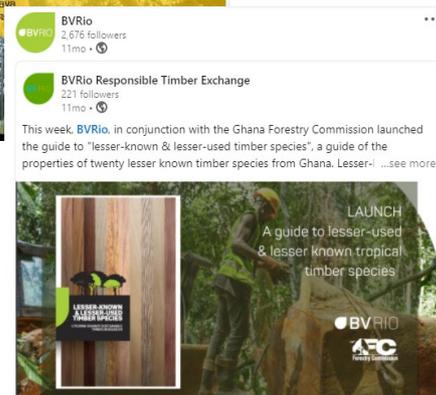
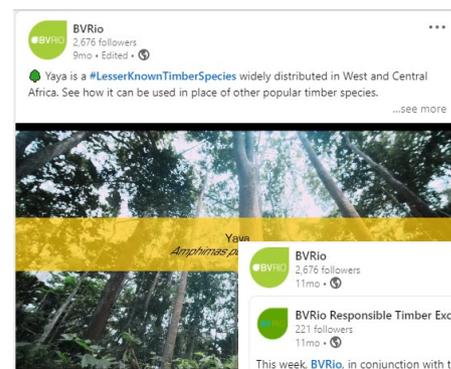
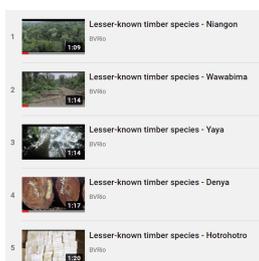
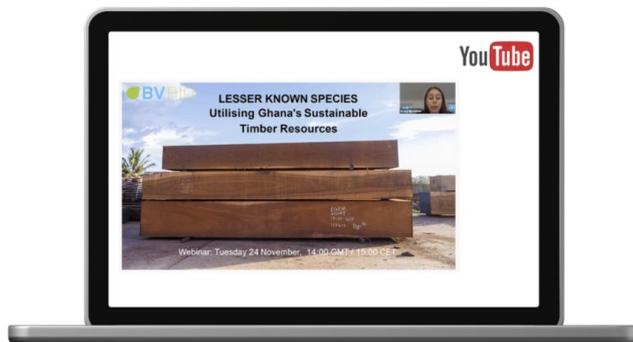
Lesser-Known Timber Species

Promoting timber diversity to avoid the overharvest of the most commercial species and its negative impacts.

Communications materials:

- A **guide** showcasing the qualities of 20 LKTS
- A selection of companion **posters**
- 6 promotional **videos**, distributed to all stakeholders in the sector to use as part of their promotional activities.
- Social media **posts**

Two **webinars** launched the guide and discussed benefits of LKTS that targeted **UK, EU, USA**, and **China** buyers, both attended by various timber companies.



Partnerships and coalitions

Partnerships established with main organisations involved in timber legality and trading.



**FOREST
LEGALITY
INITIATIVE**



Publications and information dissemination

10 publications, some translated and all disseminated widely

9 Articles in BVRio blog

23 WeChat articles

70+ items of media coverage

Tetekon is the new Iroko - Lesser-Known Timber Species are the best way to go!
 Posted on 05/04/2021 by Isabel Nunez del Prado
 Tagged: Sustainable Timber, LKTS, Lesser-known species, Ghana, Responsible Timber, Responsible Timber Exchange

There are over 60,000 species of timber in the world, but only a small fraction is widely used commercially. This, however, does not mean that the rest of the species are unsuitable for a variety of commercial uses. There under-utilised species are known as Lesser-known and Lesser-used Timber Species (LKTS) and can often substitute more popular species in terms of performance and aesthetics, and cost-effectiveness. This makes choosing LKTS a good business decision, which also has the potential to improve livelihoods and protect biodiversity.

Promoting Lesser-Known and Lesser-Used timber species from Ghana
 Posted on 17/12/2020 by BVRio Corinne Barn
 Tagged: Legal timber, Ghana, Responsible Timber, Responsible Timber Exchange, Lesser-known species, FLEGT

In collaboration with Ghana Forestry Commission's Timber Industry Development Division (TIDD), Forest Research Institute of Ghana (FORIG), Ghana Timber Millers Organization (GTMO) and the Ghana Timber Association (GTA), BVRio developed a set of communication materials that include technical information about a selection of timber species that are available in the international markets.

Illegal timber trade from Brazil and the need for robust due diligence
 Posted on 25/11/2020 by BVRio
 Tagged: Due Diligence, Illegal timber, Responsible Timber

At the DM BRICS Summit, held via video conference on the 17th November 2020, the Brazilian government "threatened to disclose" that "Europeans have purchased illegal timber from Brazil during 2017". Indeed, this is true. Recent analysis by BVRio concluded that a high percentage of Brazilian hardwoods, exported to EU member states and the USA in 2016-2017, had a very high risk of illegality. The study was based on BVRio's Timber Due Diligence system, that uses big data analysis and satellite imagery and is able to identify the risk of illegality in 95% of cases.

New Forest Code approved in the Republic of Congo
 Posted on 20/10/2020 by Corinne Tavares de Bastos
 Tagged: Republic of Congo, RDC, Responsible Timber, Forest Code

With over 60% of the Republic of Congo covered by forest – an area almost the size of the United Kingdom – it is vitally important that sustainable forest management practices take place in the



Publication of **3 Facebook posts per week** to create awareness among a wide range of stakeholders related to this sector. Over **3 million** visualisations.

More than **100 email marketing campaigns** to promote timber products to a database of more than **100,000** potential buyers internationally.



Supporters

All this work was made possible through the financial support and partnerships with the following organisations.





Find out more about BVRio at bvrio.org