



CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

Stage in Supply Chain	Lacey Act Component	Applicable Laws	Documents to Check	Notes to Remember
Forest	Legal Right to Harvest	Forest manager / harvesting company	<p>Confirm, where appropriate, existence of the following documents covering the licence issuing process:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prospection report • Forest inventory report • Annual harvesting plan • Provisional agreement • Allocation decree • The Bureau Veritas (BIVAC) independent inspection and audit report. 	The company should obtain a licence to operate within the set time limits provided for in the laws and regulations of the country.
Forest	Legal Right to Harvest / Payment of Taxes and Royalties	Forest manager / harvesting company	<p>The following documents are proof of payment:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prospection tax • Financial deposit for the permit applications. 	The company should have paid all the costs pertaining to each step of the licensing process.
Forest	Legality of Harvest	Forest manager / harvesting company	<p>The must hold:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Valid Harvesting Licence authorising the annual activity • Evidence of payment of annual obligations • An Annual Operation Plan approved by the forest administration. 	The company must hold an annual harvesting licence from the forestry administration.
Forest	Legality of Harvest	Forest manager / harvesting company	Stumps of harvested trees are hammer marked or painted according to regulations	Stumps and logs must be correctly marked.
Forest	Payment of Taxes and Royalties	Forest manager / harvesting company	<p>Check that records of volumes harvested comply with the legal provisions and are submitted within stipulated time limits.</p> <p>Forestry companies must provide details to the forest administration on the volumes of timber harvested every month for each species. These records, which have to be submitted on the 20th of the next month at the latest, are the basis for calculation of felling taxes.</p>	Tax returns on timber production are done in compliance with rules and regulations.
Transport	Legality of Possession and Transport	Transporters	<p>The log transport company must be able to demonstrate that it has obtained (from the Ministry of Transport):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Legal registration numbers • Transport licences • Paid annual taxes relating to transportation activities. 	Lorries and other vehicles transporting forest products have a valid registration licence and number.



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Transport	Legality of Possession and Transport	Transporters	All timber or logs in transit: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Must be marked according to regulations to enable tracing • Log transportation documents are completed prior to departure from harvesting sites and are retained throughout transportation 	Timber must be correctly marked and working site books and work planning sheets are maintained according to legal provisions.
Processing	Legality of Processing	Processor	Check that the company has an operation and management permit (PEA) delivered by the forest administration, which generally constitutes a licence for timber processing.	Licences related to timber processing plants should be available for inspection from the company
Processing	Legality of Processing	Processor	The company must comply with minimum processing quotas , which for companies in possession of a PEA is set at 60%.	The company maintains records to demonstrate that processing quotas have been respected
Processing	Payment of Fees and Royalties	Processor	Check that entry and exit volumes have been correctly declared to the relevant authorities in compliance with the regulations in force by reviewing: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Statement of entry and exit to and from the processing factories • BIVAC reports. 	Tax returns on timber processing comply with rules and regulations. Note: Log processing companies are required to register log volumes entering processing units, as well as the volume of processed timber . The data has to be submitted to the forest administration and to BIVAC , (the private company commissioned by the Government of CAR to ensure payment of forestry revenues).
Export	Legality of Sale and Export	Exporters	Every company importing or exporting timber must have a valid licence from the Ministry in charge of commerce.	The company holds an export/import licence.
Export	Legality of Sale and Export	Exporters	Check that companies complete specification sheets such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Export/import form, certificate of origin detailing all timber products to be exported or imported by species, quality and quantity • Monthly reports submitted to the Ministry in Charge of forestry 	The company must possess all required documents for the export or import of timber products according to official regulations.
Export	Legality of Sale and Export	Exporters	Check that species exported (or imported) comply with the requirements of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CITES declaration of which CAR is a signatory • Authorised species listed in the forest management plan 	All species exported / imported are authorised by the appropriate agency under existing regulations.
Export	Payment of Fees and Royalties	Exporters	Check BIVAC reports to see that the following have been paid: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Surface tax • Felling tax • Reforestation tax • Customs duties for logs and processed timber products. 	Tax returns on trade in timber must be done in compliance with rules and regulations.

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This document is for educational and informational purposes only and is not intended and should not be construed as legal advice. Persons seeking legal advice on compliance with the Lacey Act or any other law, regulation, or requirement should consult with a qualified legal professional.

