## World Bank Support to the CITES Action Plan in Madagascar

WRI / FOREST LEGALITY ALLIANCE MEETING 6-7 JULY 2016

Giovanni Ruta Sr. Environmental Economist World Bank Group July 15, 2016

## Timeline of recent events

Three phases NEAP begins 1990 Moratorium on logging in sensitive zones 2000

Durban
Declaration
2003

EP3 Support project begins 2004

Prohibition of exploitation 2006

Coup d'etat 2009 Decree prohibiting logging and exports 2010

Ordinance with penalties and for declaring stockpiles 2011

CITES Appendix III 2011 World Bank resumes EP3 2012

Steering Committee established 2012 CITES
Appendix II
and Action
Plan
2013

Elections 2013

Interminist.
Committee
2014

Special Tribunal Law 2015

Closing of EP3 2015

## Key areas of support

- Stockpile audit
  - The challenge
  - Feasibility analysis on (i) legal issues; (ii) operational issues; (iii) disposal options
  - Detailed cost estimate of securing seized stockpiles
- Surveillance
  - Use of remote sensing techniques
  - Equipment and response
- Inter-ministerial coordination and justice system
  - Inter-ministerial coordination
  - Special tribunal on precious woods

## Political economy and practical lessons

- Forest / conservation divide has deepened over time
- Vested interests always present and block progress...
  - ... however, removing capacity constraints can substantially help;
- Surveillance work through remote sensing can go a very long way and can be relatively simple to handle;
- Handling of stockpiles can be very expensive;
- The CITES action plan misses a financing strategy;
- Package of solutions is key
  - Enforcement, science, or stockpile audit done separately will miss important synergies.