

# Peru's Forest Sector: successes and challenges



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## Context in Peru

- High levels of illegally harvested timber have been documented for decades
- TPA with forestry annex, entered into force 2009
- OSINFOR, Operación Amazonas 2014 and 2015
- US Lacey Act Investigations, destruction of timber
- La Oroza and WCA blocked from exporting to the US
- Corruption and political instability

# Summary of successes and challenges

## Successes

- Independent agencies for monitoring and prosecution
- Percentage of high-risk timber exported to US and EU appears to be declining when compared to other countries
- Increasing awareness of illegal logging

## Challenges

- Illegal logging still a pervasive problem
- Lack of accountability and comprehensive enforcement
- Continued government resistance to meaningfully address illegal logging and increase species protections

## CIEL's 2017 report on illegal exports – 2015 data

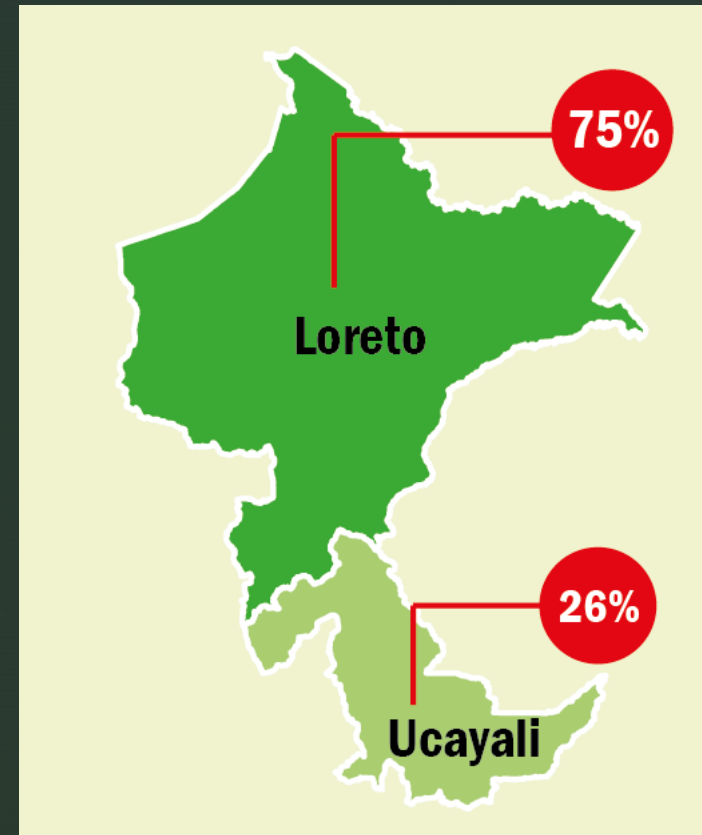
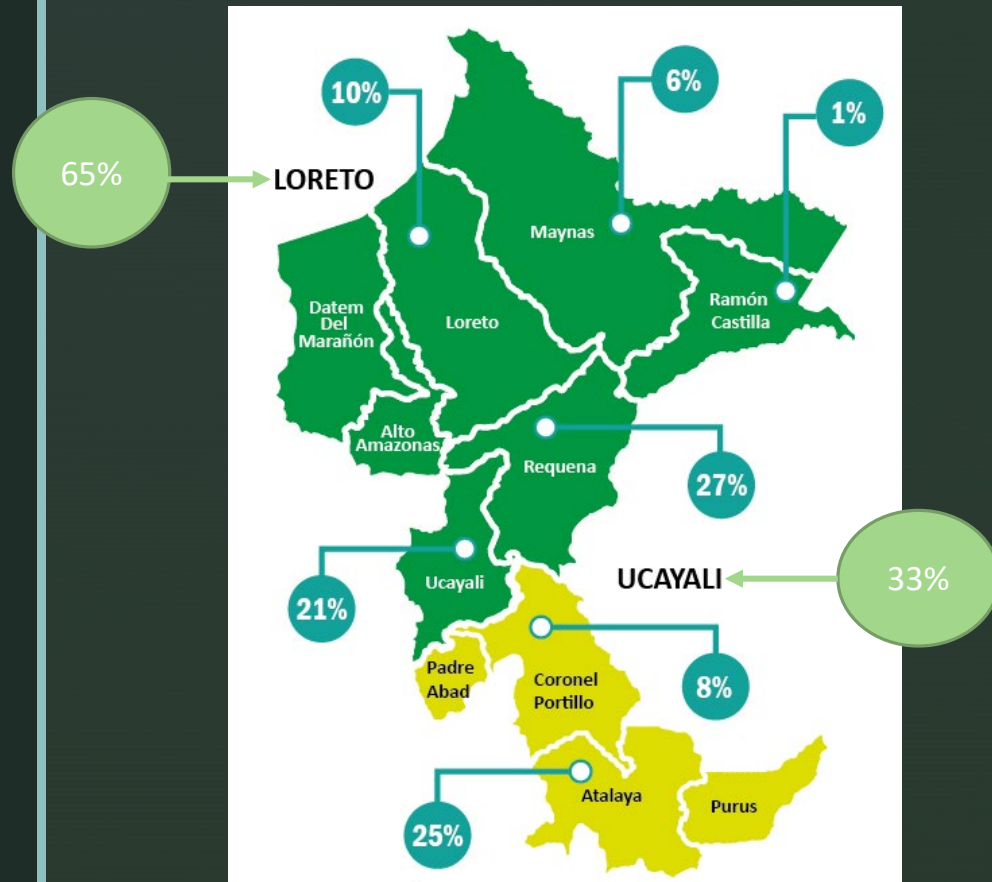
- Exports contained high levels of high-risk timber—84% on OSINFOR's "red list," unsupervised, or missing information on origin
- Companies export greater percentages of high risk timber to countries without laws prohibiting illegal timber imports
- Documents and trees are supposed to come from the same place, but all too often they are illegally sold as separate commodities prior to export
- Companies may be using OSINFOR's SIGO<sub>SFC</sub> to identify and select different documents based on destination country

## CIEL's 2019 report on public sector involvement in illegal logging – 2017 data

- Analysis of 1024 transit permits (GTF) granted in June-August 2017
- Identification of the status of the management plan recorded in the GTF according to SIGO (**red list** – **green list**), supervised, unsupervised, unregistered in SIGO, etc.
- In cases in which over 40% of trees approved for harvest never existed, identification of:
  - 1) forest regents who developed and signed management plans
  - 2) government officials who participated in the visual inspections before approval and recommended the approval of the management plan, and
  - 3) officials who signed the approval of the management plan.
- Identification of the ARFFS and officials who signed documents used for the harvest and sale of high-risk (**red list**) forest products from the Peruvian Amazon.

# Distribution and status of management plans in 2019 study

Location of management plans



Status based on SIGO (red list)

Forestry Regent who prepared the Forest Management Plan and Public official in Loreto who conducted a visual inspection and recommended management plan approval

# SUSPECTED TIMBER ROUTE FROM SANTA CARMELA NATIVE COMMUNITY TO PORT OF CALLAO – PERU

ACCORDING TO SIGO<sub>SFC</sub> REPORT (RED LIST)

TRANSPORTED AND MOVED FROM PUCALLPA TO CALLAO IN JUNE AND AUGUST 2017

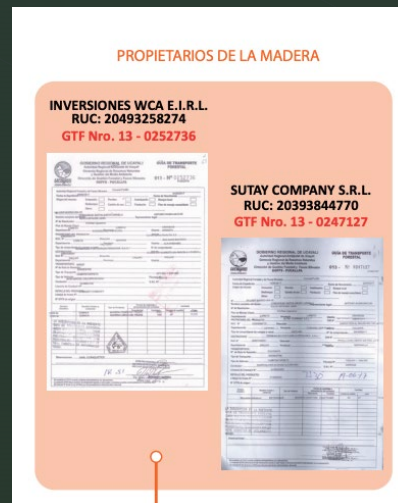
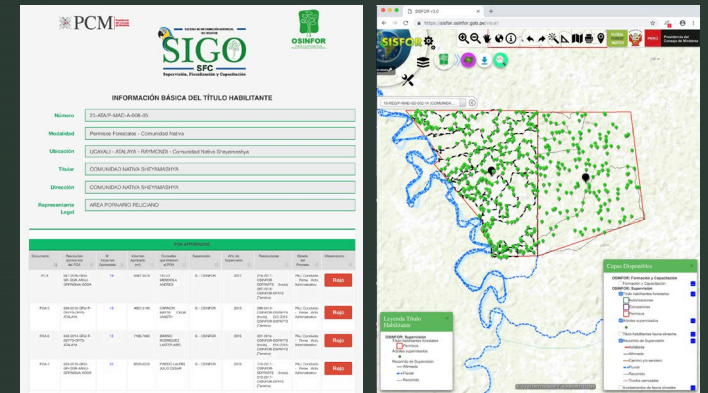


Public official in Loreto who approved the management plan

Public officials in Pucallpa who signed the GTFs

Timber owners

## Report of SIGO and SISFOR



See page 31:

<https://www.ciel.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/08/Authorized-to-Steal-August-2019-updated.pdf>

## Recommendations

- There are numerous opportunities for forest authorities to tackle the pervasive problem of illegal logging. Before harvest is authorized, verify the veracity and validity of management plans.
- Use existing laws to administratively and criminally sanction public officials and private actors who commit crimes stipulated in the Forest and Wildlife Law, and Legislative Decrees No. 1319, 1237, 1244 and 1249.
- Companies should ensure the timber is of legal origin and no longer continue their complicity or direct involvement in illegal logging. Tools exist to verify legality (OSINFOR inspections), along with extensive documentation and questioning suppliers regarding inventories, harvest, chain of custody, and traceability.