

ENHANCING SARAWAK TIMBER LEGALITY VERIFICATION SYSTEM (STLVS) AND EFFICIENT REVENUE COLLECTION THROUGH DIGITALIZATION: THE SARAWAK LOGS TRACKING AND FOREST REVENUE SYSTEM (REVLOG)

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ABSTRACT

Sarawak's rainforests are essential to the state's economic vitality and environmental sustainability. In response to the need for more efficient forest management, logging operations and forest revenue collection, the Forest Department Sarawak (FDS) has developed the Sarawak Logs Tracking & Forest Revenue System (REVLOG), a web-based application. REVLOG addresses the shortcomings of traditional manual processes, marked by frequent errors, high costs and inefficiencies by offering a digital solution. This digital system ensures traceability through the Chain of Custody (CoC), facilitates online submissions, and enhances enforcement via mobile applications. The system centralizes data management, which not only accelerates and improves the accuracy of forest revenue collection but also reduces operational costs associated with manual data handling. It also promotes transparency and aligns with Sustainable Forest Management and compliance with the Sarawak Timber Legality Verification System (STLVS). The introduction of REVLOG also represents a significant advancement in the Sarawak digital economy, specifically to the timber industries. By leveraging modern technology, REVLOG streamlines processes, enhances stakeholder engagement and supports a more effective and transparent management of Sarawak's timber industries, aligning with the UN's Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) related to industry innovation, climate action, and responsible production.

Keywords: Sustainable Forest Management, Forest Revenue Collection, Chain of Custody (CoC), Sarawak Timber Verification System (STLVS), Traceability, Digital Economy