

# Due Diligence Support

## Service information

If you are importing or selling wood products into the EU, the US or Australia, you may need to exercise due diligence in order to exclude illegally harvested material from your products. Our due diligence support services are designed to put you firmly on track to meeting those obligations based on a robust approach to legal timber sourcing.

### The NEPCon LegalSource™ due diligence framework

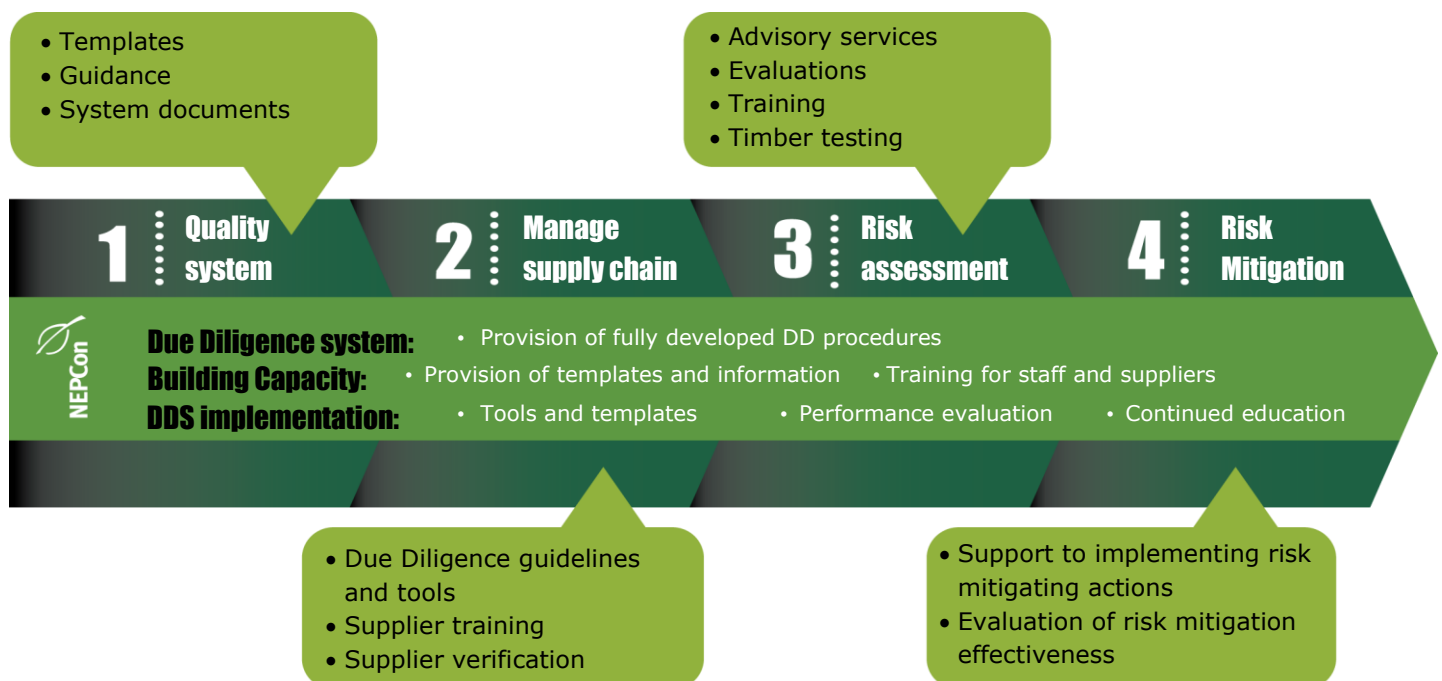
NEPCon has published due diligence tools and guidance that supports you in developing, improving and implementing systems and procedures that minimise your risk of sourcing illegal forest products and help you meet legal requirements for due diligence. They help you ask the right questions at the right time and to make well-considered and prioritised decisions.

We support your process based on our LegalSource™ Standard, which is used as a framework for evaluating and benchmarking your system and performance and to pinpoint areas that need your attention. It is aligned with the EUTR, the US Lacey Act and the Australian Illegal Logging Prohibition Act, and can be used for evaluating your system against any of these legislations.

The standard forms the backbone of the LegalSource™ Due Diligence System, which has been tested by leading industries, globally. Comprehensive guidelines on how to implement the system are complemented by a wide-ranging set of tools and templates.

### How we support your due diligence process

NEPCon provides support and advice in several ways related to the development, implementation and maintenance of an effective due diligence system. The figure below illustrates four main activities required to assure a functioning DDS and lists some of the specific services that NEPCon can provide at each stage.



## Service choices

Our range of services allows for a customised approach where your current situation forms the starting point. For each of the main options described below, we can tailor the service to meet your specific needs.



## LegalSource certification

Our DDS evaluation services form an excellent basis for becoming LegalSource certified. The evaluation service is usually provided as a non-certification service with the option of moving on to certification. However, the evaluation may also be used directly as part of an actual certification assessment.

## EUTR monitoring services

NEPCon is an EU-recognised Monitoring Organisation (MO), and EU operators certified against the LegalSource Standard can use NEPCon as their MO for providing a due diligence system and regular evaluations under the EU Timber Regulation. Our monitoring services are exclusively provided to LegalSource certification clients, since certification is our way of providing rigorous assurance for our clients' EUTR compliance.

## Costs

The costs involved in LegalSource due diligence facilitation are specified in our budget and will vary depending on the scope and extent of services that are agreed and delivered. Costs typically cover onsite visits, provision of advice and guidance, training, and in some cases supplier audits.