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Understanding illegal logging in Ghana: A socio-legal study on (non)compliance with logging regulations

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The subject of illegal logging, particularly in the context of tropical closed forest has been high on the international agenda for quite some time now due to its adverse environmental, social and economic consequences. In Ghana, illegal logging is recognised as a major challenge. Why illegal logging persists in Ghana and what measures are required to address the menace have been subjects of great concern to many stakeholders in Ghana and beyond. This book on regulatory compliance in the logging sector in Ghana, has attempted to understand how and why the key logging actors in the Ghana's timber industry (i.e., licensed logging firms and chainsaw operators) respond to regulations in the sector and how the enforcement practices of the Forestry Commission, the main state regulatory institution, contribute to compliance-violation behaviour of loggers in Ghana.

This book offers a unique study about compliance behaviour from a developing country perspective. So far, the literature on compliance with natural resource/environmental regulations is largely from the developed countries. This book fills an important gap in our understanding of compliance in a different socio-economic and cultural context. It is well embedded in the existing theoretical literature and uses the existing compliance-violation studies to analyse compliance in Ghana.

Joseph Boakye is currently the director, Forestry Commission Training Centre of the Forestry Commission, Ghana at Ejisu-Kumasi in the Ashanti Region of Ghana.

This is a volume in the series of the Meijers Research Institute and Graduate School of the Leiden Law School of Leiden University. This study is part of the Law School's research programme 'Effective Protection of Fundamental Rights in a pluralist world'.

Understanding Illegal Logging in Ghana

A Socio-Legal Study on (non)Compliance
with Logging Regulations

J. BOAKYE