



# Minimising the risk of deforestation and forest degradation associated with products placed on the EU market



*WRI Forest Legality Week*

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# Objectives

## General

**Minimise the EU's contribution** to deforestation and forest degradation worldwide

**Reducing deforestation and forest degradation at global level** thus reducing GHG emissions and loss of biodiversity

## Specific

**Minimise the risk that commodities and products are placed on the EU market that are associated with deforestation and forest degradation**

**Raise awareness of consumers** and EU citizens on the impact of the demand for specific commodities and products

**Promote the demand** for and consumption of commodities and products that are not associated with deforestation and forest degradation.

Incentivise financial and economic investors to integrate such concerns into their **investment decisions**

# Deforestation-free criteria

- **Objectives:**
  1. Based on solid science
  2. Building on existing, internationally recognized definitions
  3. Non-discriminatory
  4. **Implementable** in practice
  
- **Three elements** (plus the cut-off date):
  1. **FAO definition of deforestation (slight modification to include plantations)**
  2. Accountability framework (flexibility based on national policy within UNFCCC range)
  3. Range of UNFCCC plus High Carbon Stock approach
  4. Cut-off date: From 2015 to 2020

# Scope - Commodities and derived products

- **Main points:**
  - Covering selected **commodities and derived products**
  - Avoid geographical discrimination
  - Commodities: **Palm oil, soy, wood, beef, cocoa, rubber, cereals and coffee.**
  - **Three options** : Limited, **progressive**, and broad .
- **Choice of commodities and products based on :**
  - Commodities with the highest global contribution to deforestation
  - EU consumption of those commodities
  - Derived products

# Policy measures to be assessed for impacts

An initial analysis of approximately 20 options resulted in the following options that are shortlisted for further analysis:

- 1) **Due diligence requirement**
- 2) **Benchmarking / country carding**
- 3) **Mandatory public certification**
- 4) **Mandatory labelling**
- 5) **A deforestation free requirement supported by benchmarking / country carding**

Options 2, 3 and 4 will be combined with an improved due diligence requirement and a prohibition of placing deforestation related commodities on the EU market.

# Objectives of EU Forest Partnerships

EU holistic and integrated approach to protect, restore and sustainably use forests

**Target 2:** climate change  
(including reforestation,  
restoration, afforestation )

**Target 3:** creation of decent jobs  
through sustainable value chains

**Target 1:** improved governance  
(including human rights and  
reduction of inequalities)

**Target 4:** sustainable forest  
management (including  
conservation)

**Target 5:** reduce deforestation  
and import of products associated  
with deforestation

# Thank you

Learn more here:

[https://ec.europa.eu/environment/forests/eu\\_comm\\_2019.htm](https://ec.europa.eu/environment/forests/eu_comm_2019.htm)



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