



Stepping up EU action to protect and restore the world's forests

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Deforestation and forest degradation

- From 1990 to 2020, some 420 million hectares of forest have been lost, an area bigger than India (FAO)
- Approximately 80% of deforestation is caused by unsustainable agricultural practices.
- Deforestation and other land use change accounts for 12% of greenhouse gas emissions between 2000 and 2009 (IPCC)

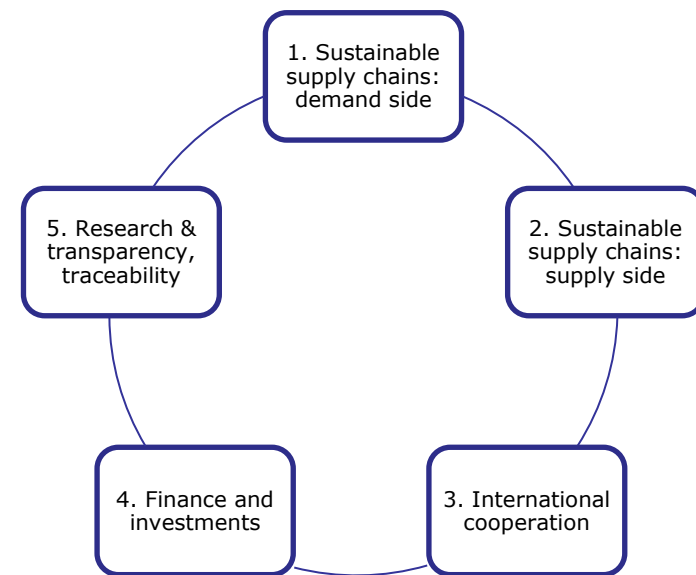


Role of the EU

- The EU is a major importer of commodities associated with deforestation and forest degradation
- Between 1990 and 2008, the EU consumed one third of the globally traded agricultural products associated with deforestation
- This makes the EU responsible for 10% of worldwide deforestation associated with the production of goods or services

Communication on Stepping up EU Action to Protect and Restore the World's Forests

1. Reduce the EU consumption footprint on land and encourage the consumption of products from deforestation-free supply chains in the EU
2. Work in partnership with producing countries to reduce pressures on forests and to 'deforest-proof' EU development cooperation
3. Strengthen international cooperation to halt deforestation and forest degradation and encourage sustainable forests restoration
4. Redirect finance in support of more sustainable land-use practices
5. Support availability of, quality of and access to information on forests and commodity supply chains. Support research and innovation

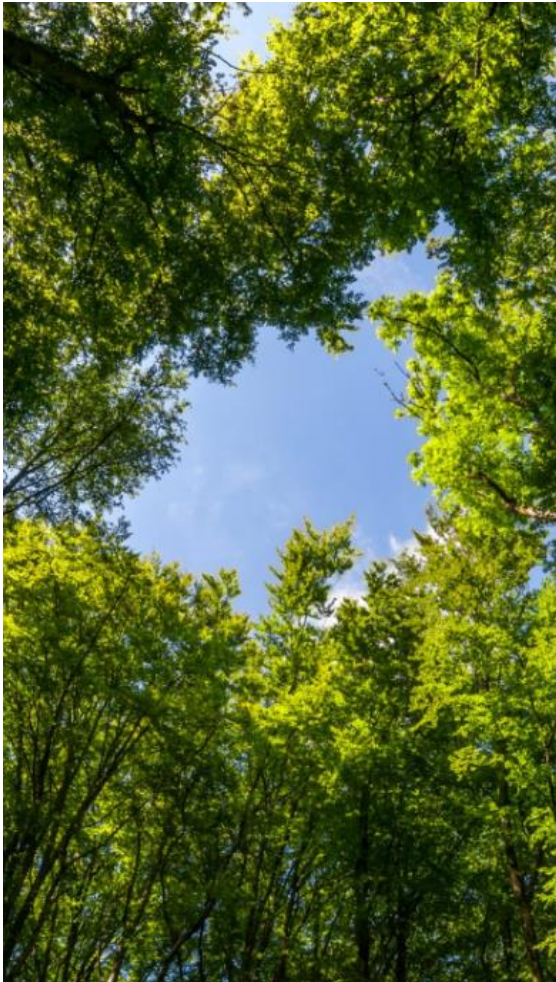




Political Confirmation

- **European Green Deal:** “The Commission will take measures, both regulatory and otherwise, to promote imported products and value chains that do not involve deforestation and forest degradation.”
- **EU Biodiversity Strategy for 2030:** “The Commission will also present in 2021 a legislative proposal and other measures to avoid or minimise the placing of products associated with deforestation or forest degradation on the EU market.”
- **Farm to Fork Strategy:** “The Commission will present in 2021 a legislative proposal and other measures to avoid or minimise the placing of products associated with deforestation or forest degradation on the EU market.”

Implementation



- Impact Assessment for demand-side measures
- Fitness Check of EUTR and FLEGT Regulation
- Study on certification schemes launched
- Multi-stakeholder platform has been launched. First meeting on October 2
- EU Observatory to provide better information under development

Measures to be studied in the impact assessment

- Consumer information and awareness raising campaigns
- Voluntary commitments from business and industry
- Third party verified certification and verification systems
- Voluntary and/or mandatory labelling
- Corporate disclosure and non-financial reporting tools
- Due diligence system
- Agreements with third countries
- Approaches inspired by the EU rules against illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing (IUU)
- Benchmarking, country assessments or black lists
- Deforestation-free requirement or standard as a condition for market access



Timeline (tentative)

September	Open Public Consultation online (FC & IA)
Autumn	Targetted Stakeholder Consultations
October 2	First Session of the Deforestation Platform
2021 (1Q)	Final results of the Impact Assessment and FC
2021 (1Q)	Final results of Study on Certification
2021 (1Q)	Legislative proposal



Thank you

<https://ec.europa.eu/info/law/better-regulation/have-your-say/initiatives/12137-Minimising-the-risk-of-deforestation-and-forest-degradation-associated-with-products-placed-on-the-EU-market>