



European
Commission

© GETTY IMAGES

Biodiversity:

deforestation-free products on the EU market

17 November 2021
#EUGreenDeal



"Trees and forests are true allies in the fight against the climate and biodiversity crises. Trees purify our air, cool our cities, and take up CO₂. We need to be their allies too. Our deforestation regulation answers citizens' calls to minimize the European contribution to deforestation and to promote sustainable consumption."

Frans **Timmermans**, Executive Vice-President for the European Green Deal



"We must protect biodiversity and fight climate change not only in the EU, but globally, and our consumption should not contribute to global deforestation which is a major cause of biodiversity loss and greenhouse gas emissions. Thus we present the most ambitious legislative measure ever put forward by any country anywhere in the world to curb deforestation and forest degradation and to help us tackle the twin crises of global warming and biodiversity loss."

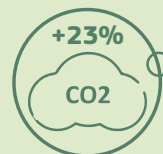
Virginijus **Sinkevičius**, Commissioner for the Environment, Oceans and Fisheries

Consumption of beef, palm oil, soy beans, wood, cocoa and coffee in the European Union drives deforestation and forest degradation across the world. The European Union aims to stop this by no longer allowing deforestation-related commodities and products on the market.

European citizens supported EU action to tackle deforestation and forest degradation with **1.2 million responses** to a public consultation.

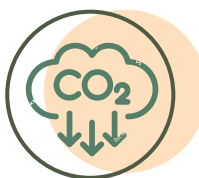


Deforestation and forest degradation are important drivers of global warming and biodiversity loss. **23% of greenhouse gas emissions** come from agriculture, forestry and other land uses.



The new deforestation Regulation will:

Guarantee to EU citizens that the listed products they buy, use and consume **do not contribute to global deforestation and forest degradation.**



Reduce carbon emissions to the atmosphere due to EU consumption and production of the relevant commodities by at least 32 million metric tons a year. This would save at least €3.2 billion annually and enhance the contribution of forests to tackle climate change.



Address illegal deforestation and forest degradation, as well as any deforestation due to agricultural expansion caused by the production of the commodities.

Products covered by anti-deforestation rules



How will the Regulation work?



Companies confirm to national authorities that the products they place on the EU market follow the EU rules.



Member State authorities will have **access to relevant information** on the commodities and products, such as geographic coordinates and country of production, through a **digital system**.



Anonymised data of this system will be available to the wider public in order to foster **transparency**.



A **country benchmarking system** conducted by the Commission will **determine the risk** of deforestation.

Member States' competent authorities will:



Carry out **inspections of imports**.



Report on their enforcing activities to the Commission.



React to substantiated concerns and suspend the placing or making available on the Union market relevant commodities and products with non-negligible deforestation risks.

Companies placing products on the EU market will:



Collect relevant information about commodities and products to ensure they have **not been produced on land deforested or degraded after 31 December 2020**.



Exercise **mandatory due diligence** and analyse and evaluate risks in their supply chain.



Take adequate and proportionate **mitigation measures**, such as using satellite monitoring tools, field audits, capacity building of suppliers or isotope testing to check **the origin of the product**.

Producing countries will Improve forest governance and create socio-economic opportunities notably after opportunities through Forest Partnerships:



Sell their products in line with the same rules as domestically produced products.



Benefit from EU support and funding to adapt to the measures.

