



Tropical Forest Alliance 2020

The challenge

To avoid the worst effects of global climate change, it is imperative to halt deforestation. The destruction of forests creates almost as much greenhouse gas emissions as global road travel and yet it continues at an alarming rate, with an area equivalent to the size of South Africa lost between 1990 and 2015. Commercial agriculture is responsible for well over one-half of deforestation, with land cleared to produce commodities for consumer products like biscuits, instant noodles, shampoo, paper towels and pet food.

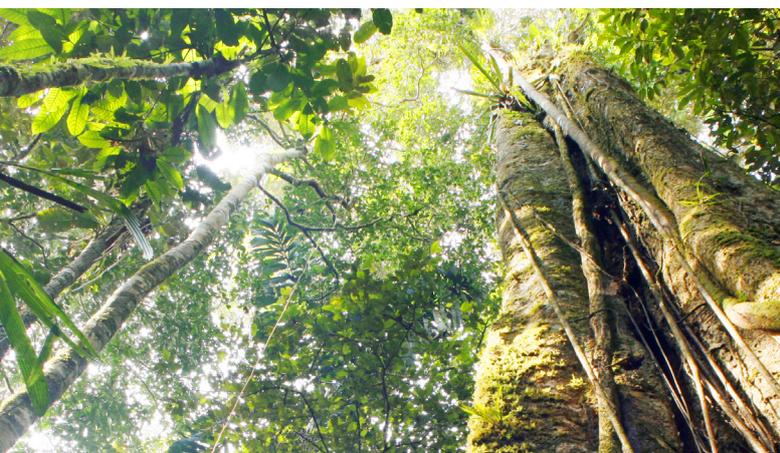
Beef, soy and palm oil production have the largest impact on tropical forests, accounting for 36% of tropical deforestation. South America and South-East Asia are commodity-driven hotspots, with Brazil and Indonesia alone responsible for 44% of tropical deforestation. Forest loss in many West African countries and the Congo Basin is also alarmingly high. As a continent, Africa accounts for 18% of tropical deforestation, with West Africa and the Congo Basin accounting for 10%.

The opportunity

A movement has emerged to halt the deforestation that is embedded in global agricultural supply chains by 2020. In 2010, the Consumer Goods Forum pledged to achieve zero net deforestation by 2020 in beef, soy, palm oil, pulp and paper supply chains. In 2014, more than 190 government, non-governmental and corporate entities signed the New York Declaration on Forests, thereby committing to the elimination of all deforestation driven by agricultural commodities by 2020. In 2015, with the support of the governments of Norway, the United Kingdom and the Netherlands, the World Economic Forum became the host of the Tropical Forest Alliance 2020 (TFA 2020) Secretariat.

The alliance

The Tropical Forest Alliance 2020 is a dedicated platform for public-private cooperation, working to help organizations achieve their deforestation-free commitments. The mission of TFA 2020 is to help producers, traders and buyers of forest-risk commodities achieve their commitments to deforestation-free supply chains. It also helps governments of tropical forest countries to realize better growth through sustainable rural development in partnership with civil society and indigenous peoples. TFA 2020 works by convening stakeholders at the global and regional level to form partnerships, which are designed to transform land use practices and supply chains.



The agenda

Published in September 2017, *Commodities and Forests Agenda 2020: Ten priorities to remove tropical deforestation from commodity supply chains* summarizes the areas in which action is most urgently required to eliminate deforestation from global agricultural supply chains. This agenda frames the activities of the TFA 2020 platform globally and regionally. Its priorities are:

1. Eliminating illegality from supply chains
2. Developing and strengthening palm oil certification
3. Scaling-up pilot programmes of sustainable intensification of cattle grazing
4. Sustainably increasing smallholder yields in palm oil and cocoa
5. Achieving sustainable soy production
6. Facilitating the implementation of jurisdictional programmes
7. Addressing land conflicts, tenure security and land rights
8. Mobilizing demand for deforestation-free commodities in emerging markets
9. Redirecting finance towards deforestation-free supply chains
10. Improving the quality and availability of deforestation and supply chain data

Regional engagement and supporting jurisdictional programmes

Supporting the development and application of jurisdictional sustainable land use programmes is a key part of the regional agenda. Through regional implementation dialogues, TFA 2020 works to connect jurisdictions in forest countries with stakeholders who can help them realize their forest conservation plans. Partners in the region meet regularly during regional working group calls and regional meetings, with their activities helping to implement regional and national priorities. TFA 2020 has regional platforms in:

- West and Central Africa
- Latin America
- South-East Asia

Communication

TFA 2020 engages a community of partners through digital collaboration to foster cooperation, share examples of best practice, and support the mobilization of new partnerships. This includes an initiative mapping platform to show, and help partners share, projects and programmes that are tackling deforestation.

The partnership

TFA 2020 currently engages more than 110 partners from government, the private sector and civil society. The partnership is open to all organizations sharing its objectives, in particular forest country governments, financial institutions, and agriculture and consumer goods companies with exposure to palm oil, soy, beef, pulp and paper, and cocoa.

TFA 2020 Steering Committee

Government of Colombia
Government of Côte d'Ivoire
Government of Indonesia
Government of Liberia
Government of Norway
Government of the Netherlands
Government of the United Kingdom
Government of the United States
Cargill
Marfrig Group
Unilever
Wilmar International
Association for Indigenous Women and Peoples of Chad
Imaflora
Indonesia's Palm Oil Smallholder Union (SPKS)
The Nature Conservancy
World Resources Institute

Key dates in 2018

12 March	Latin America Implementation Dialogue, São Paulo, Brazil
13-15 March	Latin America Regional Meeting, São Paulo, Brazil
14 May	Africa Implementation Dialogue, Accra, Ghana
15-16 May	TFA 2020 General Assembly, Accra, Ghana

Learn more

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tfa2020@weforum.org
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