



A Decade of Action: Assessing the Deforestation-Free Supply Chain Movement

Request for Proposals

1. INTRODUCTION

Objective

The Secretariat of the Tropical Forest Alliance is soliciting proposals from consultancies to prepare a report assessing the progress and impact of private-sector, government and civil society action to address commodity-driven deforestation.

This assessment is intended to establish an evidence-based, data-driven understanding of how far the supply chain movement has come in addressing commodity-driven deforestation and what types of action and intervention by the private sector and the broader enabling environment have been effective or are yet to deliver expected results.

The report is part of a bigger process led by TFA, in consultation with key stakeholders, to develop a post-2020 action agenda to advance the forest and commodities agenda. The main purpose of the report is to inform the community on what has or has not worked over the past decade to reduce commodity-driven deforestation with the aim to develop an ambitious forward agenda.

Deadline for Proposal Submission

The TFA Secretariat will begin to review proposals on 31 July 2019. Proposals received at later date may not be considered.

2. BACKGROUND

Context for this Effort

Around 45% of deforestation is linked to the production of agricultural commodities. For the last decade, the private sector actors that produce, manufacture and procure forest-risk commodities have taken voluntary actions (independently and in collaboration with civil society and government) to address commodity-driven deforestation in their supply chains. Interventions by the private sector – such as making commitments, engaging with certification, achieving traceability in supply chains, supporting technical assistance and capacity building – have come a long way and shown significant impact in certain regions and sectors. Likewise, governments and civil society have been supporting these efforts, but also taken individual and collective action on their own. Yet, despite all these individual and collective efforts, global deforestation rates are at a record high. To this end, as the 2010 decade comes to a close, there is an urgent need to define a collective path forward that accelerates into the 2020s.

The Tropical Forest Alliance Secretariat is commissioning a study to build upon experiences of more than a decade of work tackling commodity-driven deforestation with the aim to assess where private sector, government and civil society efforts have had an impact, what has/hasn't worked and what lessons we can take into the 2020s to accelerate action on commodity-driven deforestation. While significant efforts have gone into the monitoring of corporate commitments – both [the tracking of new commitments made](#) and [measuring their implementation](#) – a comprehensive diagnosis that seeks to understand what has and has not worked in the supply chain movement would make a real difference in informing a post-2020 action agenda for the deforestation-free community.

3. SCOPE, TIMELINE AND PRICING

Core Deliverable

A final report suitable for public distribution in Microsoft Word format. Exhibits and figures should be prepared in Excel or PowerPoint. TFA will be responsible for the layout and production of the final report.

Scope of Work

Relying on existing research and consultation with experts, the report should (1) evaluate the state of commodity-driven deforestation in key commodity-production landscapes and (2) assess actions, interventions and the impact the private sector and broader community has had on reducing commodity-driven deforestation with the aim to develop lessons-learned to inform a post-2020 action agenda.

1. The State of Commodity-Driven Deforestation

- Objective: A quantitative, evidence-based assessment of past and current deforestation rates across geographies and supply chains.
- Tell the story of land use change in key production landscapes over the past decade by using geospatial data and earth time observations. Build upon secondary literature and data (e.g. GFW, TRASE etc.) to map geographic areas where commodity-driven deforestation is prevalent, assessing where there has been progress and where commodities are still driving large areas of forest loss.
- A comprehensive breakdown of deforestation linked to each of TFA's priority forest-risk commodities (soy, palm, cattle, paper & pulp) plus a high level view on the role of other forest risk commodities (cocoa, rubber, coffee) in key production landscapes.

2. Lessons from the 2010s: Progress and Actions of the Commodities and Forests Community

- Objective: A qualitative, critical assessment of the strategies and interventions taken by the private sector, government and civil society to reduce commodity-driven deforestation within the framework of the 10 Priorities laid out in the [Commodities and Forests Agenda 2020](#).
- Assessment of the extent to which the 10 Priorities have contributed to progress. Key question: what types of action or areas of action by the private sector and broader community have demonstrated success in shifting practices on the ground, triggering policy changes, and transforming business practices in supply chains?
- The assessment should be based on the latest existing data and research and must be complemented by the reflections and perspectives of key stakeholder groups, in an effort to understand what strategies and interventions have been feasible and implementable from their perspective, what the limitations are and what they perceive as opportunities for further action.
- The 10 Priorities laid out in the TFA Commodities and Forests Agenda 2020 serve as a framework for this assessment:
 - Progress and actions related to priorities 2, 3, 4 and 5 (the commodity-related priorities) should be assessed comprehensively at commodity-scale, instead of at specific intervention scale (e.g. progress in palm oil should include all private sector actions related to palm oil instead of only certification). There should be a deep dive on each commodity listed in the 10 priorities (in addition to pulp and paper) and its related interventions.
 - Progress and actions related to priorities 1, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10 (the systemic priorities) should be assessed within the scope given in the Commodities and Forests Agenda.
- Assessment findings should evaluate which actions have proved successful in reducing commodity-driven deforestation with ultimate aim of informing discussions around a post-2020 action agenda.

Timeline

Initial findings should be ready for consultation with stakeholders at a meeting on September 25th in New York during Climate Week. A final report incorporating feedback from key stakeholders must be prepared by 15 December 2019.

Pricing

- Proposals should be for a fixed price for the entire work, including all expenses and taxes, in Swiss Francs (CHF)
 - Offers based on input-based pricing will not be considered
 - Proposals will be evaluated on both total cost and on value-for-money
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4. SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

- Interested consultancies should submit a letter of proposal to the TFA Secretariat by email to tfa2020@weforum.org. There is no prescribed format for the letter of proposal, although we encourage the proposals not to exceed 10 pages of text or 20 power point slides, excluding evidence of qualifications.
- Interested consultancies should clarify the relevant managerial capabilities as well as the analytical, technical, and communication skills, qualifications, and experiences that they consider appropriate to the evaluation of their abilities to successfully undertake the project and reach the objectives laid out in this RFP.
- Proposal should include a proposed structure for the report and clarify where quantitative versus qualitative analytics will be used, identifying potential data sets and other resources.