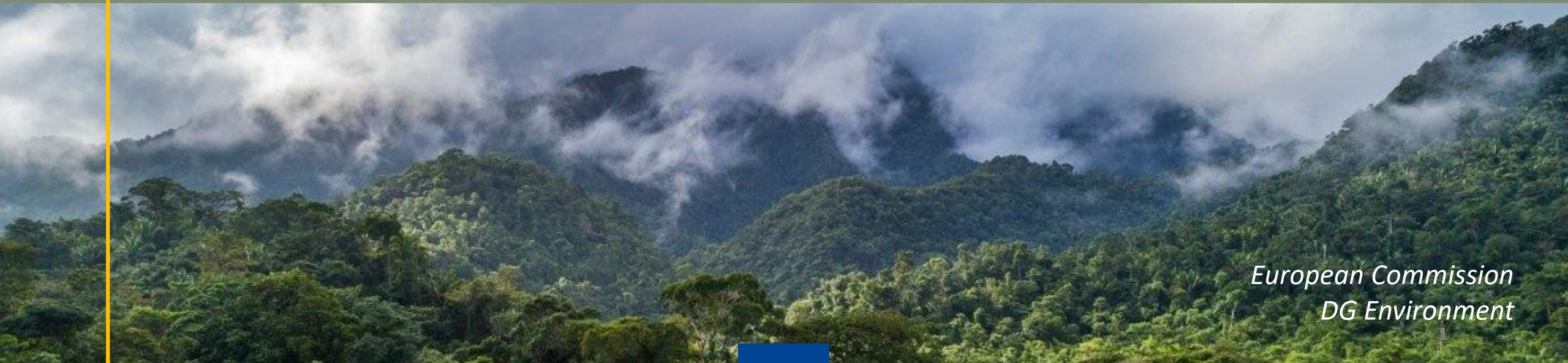




The EU Regulation on deforestation- and forest degradation free supply chains



*European Commission
DG Environment*

Functioning of the Regulation

- Mandatory Due Diligence for all operators that place the relevant products on the EU market or export them from the EU
 - Only products that are both **deforestation-free and legal** would be allowed on or exported from the EU market – need to be covered by a **due diligence statement**
 - Based on **internationally-backed definitions** (FAO)
 - Main obligations applicable to **operators and non-SME traders**
 - **Strict traceability** linking the commodity to the plot of land where it was produced. Using **geolocation** coordinates is the simplest and most cost-effective way of obtaining the necessary geographic information.
 - **Legality**: Products will need to be legal according to the laws of country of production

Main elements



Commodities selected: Palm oil, soy, wood, cattle, cocoa, coffee, rubber and some derived products (e.g. chocolate, furniture, tyres, printed products), selected objectively, based on best available scientific data, and the biggest EU impact



Non-discrimination: The Regulation applies both to domestically produced and imported commodities and derived products



Progressive scope: Initially covering selected commodities and derived products; to be updated regularly



'Cut-off date' of 31 December 2020: Aligned with UNSDG 15.2, aims to minimise disruption for smallholders and facilitate satellite monitoring

Focus on Implementation

Clarifying operational questions via the Frequently asked Questions

Work on Guidance Documents on technical legal matters

Setting up of the IT System

Strengthening support tools to Producer Countries

Other strands: deforestation observatory, risk benchmarking etc.

Frequently Asked Questions

Key aspects of implementation for operators/traders and for competent authorities

- First published in June 2023
- Latest update in Dec 2023
- Over 80 Q/A

Guidelines

Guideline documents in the pipeline covering selected thematic areas, such as:

Definition of
agricultural use
(recital 37)

Due diligence

Certification

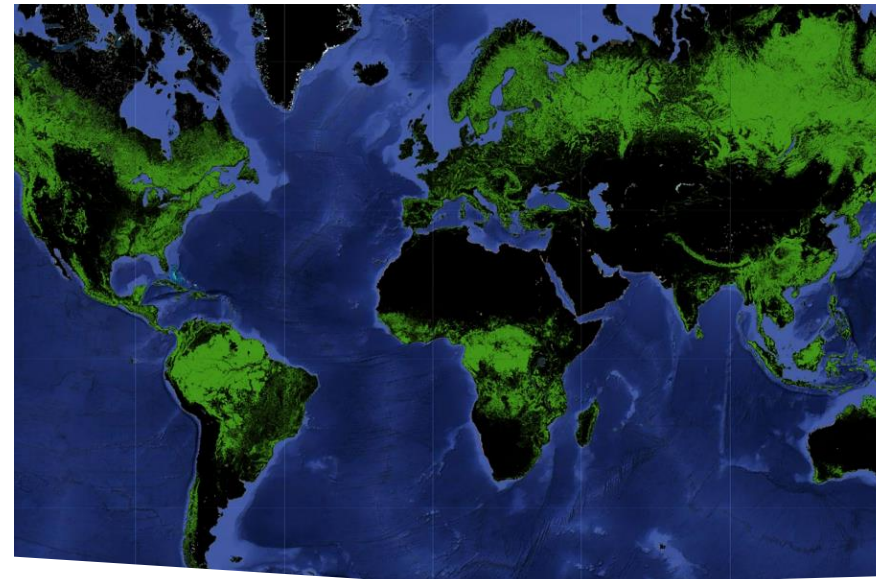
Legality

EU Observatory on Deforestation

developed by JRC,
to provide a.o.
reference maps on
global forest cover

presented in Dec
2023, and
currently publicly
accessible online

Third countries to
provide comments
and feedback



Benchmarking (Article 29)



Objective: benchmarking is a tool to help competent authorities in the EU Member States to focus scarce enforcement resources



Development of the methodology of the benchmarking is just getting started. It is essential that the methodology is solid and based on objective factors

Cooperation with third countries



Cooperation with both producing and consumer countries

→ Engagement with other major consumer countries such as China and the USA



Political dialogue, public diplomacy and technical assistance

→ Active outreach to stakeholders through Commission, EU Delegations, EU Member States; dedicated outreach project starting to enhance understanding in South East Asia and Latin America of the EU Regulation

→ Enhanced cooperation to address potential challenges in producer countries

→ Regular briefings in multilateral fora (WTO, FAO etc.)



The role of the Deforestation Multi-stakeholders Platform

→ All interested producer and consumer countries invited, all key sectorial associations and civil society organisations represented

→ Work on implementation; specific focus: traceability and smallholders; sharing of best practices, cooperation initiatives