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DEUTSCHE ZUSAMMENARBEIT

Implemented by



Sustainable Agriculture for Forest Ecosystems (SAFE)

The Context

Our planet needs forests, and millions of people live in and protect them. The expansion of agricultural areas drives up to 90% of deforestation. The European Union (EU) is an important import market for these commodities. For this reason, the EU has adopted a new regulation for reducing its contribution to deforestation and forest degradation caused by its consumption (EU Regulation on Deforestation-Free Products, EUDR).

Operators established in the EU who place palm oil, beef, soy, coffee, cocoa, rubber, wood and related products on the EU market will need to exercise strict due diligence to ensure that: (1) the products are “deforestation-free” – meaning, not produced on land that was degraded or deforested after 31 December 2020, and (2) legal – meaning, produced in line with the relevant national laws of the producing country.

About the SAFE Project

By implementing activities in four countries, Brazil, Ecuador, Indonesia, and Zambia, SAFE aims to support a just transition towards deforestation-free and legal value chains to get ready for the EUDR. SAFE aims to provide technical assistance, strengthening capacity, scaling up traceability systems and supporting reliable and stable partnerships, including through exchange and learning amongst a wide range of actors.

Project Name	Sustainable Agriculture for Forest Ecosystems (SAFE)
Co-Financed by	European Union, German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ)
Project Region	Brazil, Ecuador, Indonesia, Zambia, regional activities, two additional countries currently under discussion
Political Partner	Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Supply, MAPA (Brazil), Ministry of Agriculture (Ecuador), Ministry of National Development Planning, BAPPENAS (Indonesia), Ministry of Green Economy and Environment, MGEE (Zambia)
Budget	39.75 Mio EUR
Duration	01/2022 to 05/2026

The project is implemented by the GIZ Fund for the Promotion of Innovation in Agriculture (i4Ag) and is part of the German Special Initiative "Transformation of Agricultural and Food Systems"



Activities

- In Brazil we work with family farmers to strengthen sustainability and legality of their agricultural land use systems of cocoa and beef, improve market access and value creation, traceability systems and access to finance.
- In Ecuador we work with smallholder farmers along the value chains of cocoa, coffee, and palm oil, particularly with women, youth, and indigenous communities, focusing on promoting multi-stakeholder dialogue, and improving data management and traceability systems.
- In Indonesia we launch a "SAFE Challenge": Multiple stakeholders from the palm oil, natural rubber and cocoa sectors will be invited to submit jointly developed ideas for ensuring an inclusive transition of smallholder practices to sustainable, deforestation-free and legal production.
- In Zambia we carry out a business analysis on soy and wood and implement transparency and traceability pilots. In addition, we support smallholder farmers and community forest management groups regarding the sustainable use of natural resources.



Approach of EU and Member States

Under the European Green Deal, the European institutions have agreed on the new regulation on deforestation-free and legal value chains. The EU and its Member States – Team Europe – will support an inclusive and just transition of sustainable value chains to the EU, especially for smallholders and low-income countries, by scaling agro-ecological practices, reducing risks in complex value chains, and crowding in private sector investments in sustainable agri-businesses.

Producers will benefit from this support in line with the EU's Global Gateway offer: trustworthy connections with partners around the world, based on sustainable values and standards that work for people and the planet. SAFE can become a step towards a Team Europe Initiative on the Deforestation Regulation, bringing together EU and EU Member States expertise for a positive partnership offer at scale to partner countries.

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS



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