



Regulation on deforestation- and forest degradation free supply chains



*European Commission
DG Environment*

Legislative and implementation track

- **November 2021:** Commission proposal
- **June 2022:** Council general approach
- **September 2022:** European Parliament's resolution
- **December 2022:** Preliminary political agreement between EP and Council
- **May-June 2023 (tentative):** Entry into force
- **December 2024 (tentative):** Entry into application of obligations for operators (June 2025 for small enterprises)

Main elements [1]

Mandatory due diligence rules 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.
- **Legality**: Products will need to be legal according to the laws of country of production, including applicable human and labour rights and free, prior and informed consent.

Main elements [2]

- **Commodities selected:** Palm oil, soy, wood, cattle, cocoa, coffee, rubber, and some derived products (e.g. chocolate, furniture, tyres, printed products).
- **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.

Main elements [3]

- **Benchmarking system** that will assign risk to countries or regions according to risk of deforestation – standard (by default), low and high.
- **Specific obligations for operators:** Simplified due diligence for low-risk (still required to collect information, but not assess and mitigate risks).
- **Minimum level of inspections** for Member States authorities to perform (9%, 3% and 1%, depending on the level of risk).
- **Reviews:** Other wooded land (one year); other ecosystems, commodities, products and financial institutions (two years); others (five years).

Main elements [4]

Cooperation with partner countries:

- The Regulation is part of a broader set of policies laid out in the 2019 Communication on Stepping up EU Action to Protect and Restore the World's Forests.
- Imports of the commodities and products covered - **EUR 85 billion / year.**
- **No ban** against any country or commodity.
- The Commission will **step up cooperation** to ensure that EU partners are able to reap the benefits of new EU rules on deforestation.
- E.g. **Cocoa Dialogue, AI-Invest Verde, KAMI Project, Forest Partnerships, etc.**
- The Commission will also intensify engagement with **consumer countries** such as China and USA as well as in international fora.

Implementation tasks

- **Information System:** IT developments, Implementing Acts, up and running by the entry into application.
- **Benchmarking:** Implementing act, to be adopted by the entry into application.
- **Review:** First and second review within one and two years, respectively, of entry into force

Thank you!

Learn more here:

https://ec.europa.eu/environment/publications/proposal-regulation-deforestation-free-products_en
https://www.europarl.europa.eu/doceo/document/TA-9-2023-0109_EN.pdf



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