Public Consultation on Stepping up EU Action against Deforestation and Forest Degradation

Fields marked with * are mandatory.

Introduction

The overall objective of this initiative is to step up EU action against tropical deforestation and forest degradation by developing a more coherent and comprehensive approach to the problem.

This public consultation aims at gathering information and views on potential EU action against deforestation and forest degradation to achieve the abovementioned objective. All interested stakeholders are invited to respond to the questionnaire regardless of their level of expertise.

The questionnaire takes about 20 minutes to complete. You can save your replies as a draft and finish the survey later. It is accessible in 23 EU languages and you are free to submit your reply in any of these languages. Questionnaires sent by e-mail or on paper will not be analysed.

Your responses will be taken into account in the European Commission's future work on deforestation and forest degradation. It is therefore important that you complete this questionnaire as fully as possible. Your replies will be used exclusively to help the European Commission develop its policy on the issue in question.

The survey is available online for 6 weeks.

Before responding, we advise you to read the background information (roadmap and consultation webpage). The results will be published on the consultation page.

Your opinion matters to us. Thank you very much for taking the time to contribute to this consultation.

About you

* Language of my contribution
  - Bulgarian
  - Croatian
  - Czech
  - Danish
  - Dutch
*I am giving my contribution as
  ○ Academic/research institution
  ○ Business association
  ○ Company/business organisation
  ○ Consumer organisation
  ○ EU citizen
  ○ Environmental organisation
  ○ Non-EU citizen
  ○ Non-governmental organisation (NGO)
  ○ Public authority
  ○ Trade union
  ○ Other

*First name

Janice

*Surname

WEATHERLEY-SINGH

*Email (this won't be published)

jweatherleysingh@wcs.org

*Organisation name
255 character(s) maximum

WCS EU

*Organisation size
- Micro (1 to 9 employees)
- Small (10 to 49 employees)
- Medium (50 to 249 employees)
- Large (250 or more)

Transparency register number
255 character(s) maximum
Check if your organisation is on the transparency register. It's a voluntary database for organisations seeking to influence EU decision-making.

054662633848-40

*Country of origin
Please add your country of origin, or that of your organisation.

- Afghanistan
- Áland Islands
- Albania
- Algeria
- American Samoa
- Andorra
- Angola
- Anguilla
- Antarctica
- Antigua and Barbuda
- Argentina
- Armenia
- Aruba
- Australia
- Austria
- Azerbaijan
- Bahamas
- Bahrain
- Bangladesh
- Barbados
- Bangladesh
- Botswana
- Brazil
- British Indian Ocean Territory
- British Virgin Islands
- Brunei Darussalam
- Bulgaria
- Burundi
- Cambodia
- Cameroon
- Cape Verde
- Cayman Islands
- Central African Republic
- Chad
- Chile
- China
- Christmas Island
- Cocos (Keeling) Islands
- Colombia
- Comoros
- Congo, The Democratic Republic of the
- Congo, Republic of the
- Cook Islands
- Costa Rica
- Côte d’Ivoire
- Cuba
- Curacao
- Cyprus
- Czech Republic
- Denmark
- Djibouti
- Dominica
- Dominican Republic
- Ecuador
- Egypt
- El Salvador
- Equatorial Guinea
- Eritrea
- Estonia
- Ethiopia
- Falkland Islands
- Faroe Islands
- Fiji
- Finland
- Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia
- France
- French Guiana
- French Polynesia
- Gabon
- Sao Tome and Principe
- Georgia
- Germany
- Ghana
- Greece
- Grenada
- Guadeloupe
- Guatemala
- Guernsey
- Guinea
- Guinea-Bissau
- Guyana
- Haiti
- Heard Island and Mcdonald Islands
- Hawaii
- Honduras
- Hong Kong
- Hungary
- Iceland
- India
- Indonesia
- Iran
- Iraq
- Ireland
- Israel
- Italy
- Ivory Coast
- Jamaica
- Japan
- Jersey
- Jordan
- Kazakhstan
- Kenya
- Kiribati
- Korea, North
- Korea, South
- Kuwait
- Kyrgyzstan
- Laos
- Latvia
- Lebanon
- Lesotho
- Liberia
- Libya
- Liechtenstein
- Lithuania
- Luxembourg
- Macau
- Madagascar
- Malawi
- Malaysia
- Maldives
- Mali
- Malta
- Marshall Islands
- Martinique
- Mauritania
- Mauritius
- Mexico
- Micronesia
- Moldova
- Monaco
- Mongolia
- Montenegro
- Morocco
- Mozambique
- Myanmar
- Namibia
- Nauru
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- Netherlands
- New Caledonia
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- Niger
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- Niue
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- Norway
- Oman
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- Palau
- Panama
- Papua New Guinea
- Paraguay
- Peru
- Philippines
- Poland
- Portugal
- Puerto Rico
- Qatar
- Romania
- Russian Federation
- Rwanda
- Saint Kitts and Nevis
- Saint Lucia
- Saint Vincent and the Grenadines
- Saint Helena
- Saint Pierre and Miquelon
- Samoa
- San Marino
- Sao Tome and Principe
- Saudi Arabia
- Senegal
- Serbia
- Seychelles
- Sierra Leone
- Singapore
- Slovakia
- Slovenia
- Solomon Islands
- Somalia
- South Africa
- South Georgia and the South Sandwich Islands
- Spain
- Spratly Islands
- Sri Lanka
- St. Martin
- Sudan
- Suriname
- Sweden
- Switzerland
- Syria
- Taiwan
- Tajikistan
- Tanzania
- Thailand
- Timor-Leste
- Togo
- Tokelau
- Tonga
- Trinidad and Tobago
- Tunisia
- Turkey
- Turkmenistan
- Turks and Caicos Islands
- Tuvalu
- Uganda
- Ukraine
- United Arab Emirates
- United Kingdom
- United States
- Uruguay
- Uzbekistan
- Vanuatu
- Vietnam
- Virgin Islands (U.S.)
- Wallis and Futuna Islands
- Yemen
- Zambia
- Zimbabwe

3
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<td>Rwanda</td>
<td>Wallis and Futuna</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Section I: Specific information about the respondent

1. Please specify again in what capacity you are replying to this questionnaire. According to your reply, you may be guided to a different sub-question.

   1. Business association
   2. Company/business organisation
   3. EU farmer
   4. Non-EU farmer
   5. Forester
   6. Consumer organisation
   7. Academic/research institution
   8. EU citizen
   9. Non-EU citizen
   10. Environmental organisation
   11. Non-governmental organisation
   12. Public authority
   13. Trade union
   14. Other

2) Please indicate your main field of activity or interest.

At most 3 choice(s)
(Multiple entries possible)

- Agriculture
- Climate change
- Consumption

*Publication privacy settings*

The Commission will publish the responses to this public consultation. You can choose whether you would like your details to be made public or to remain anonymous.

- **Anonymous**
  Only your type, country of origin and contribution will be published. All other personal details (name, organisation name and size, transparency register number) will not be published.

- **Public**
  Your personal details (name, organisation name and size, transparency register number, country of origin) will be published with your contribution.

* I agree with the personal data protection provisions
2. So-called ‘forest risk commodities’ are commodities whose production contribute significantly to tropical deforestation and forest degradation. Which of the following commodities are you and/or your organisation most familiar with and/or interested in?

*at most 6 choice(s)*

- Bio-diesel
- Bioethanol
- Charcoal
- Other wood-based fuels
- Cocoa
- Coffee
- Extractive materials
- Maize
- Meat (including leather)
- Palm oil
- Paper
- Pulp
- Rubber (natural)
- Soy
- Wood
- Wood pellets
- Wooden products
- Other

If you selected "Other", please mention the commodities here.

100 character(s) maximum
3. How well informed are you about the problem of deforestation and forest degradation?

- Very well informed
- Well informed
- Somewhat informed
- Not well informed
- Not informed at all

4. What are your main sources of information on deforestation and forest degradation?

- National newspapers
- Regional or local newspapers
- Magazines
- Television news
- The radio
- Films and documentaries on television
- Family, friends or neighbours
- Colleagues
- Professional contacts
- Brochures or information materials
- Books or scientific literature
- Events (conferences, fairs, exhibitions, festivals, etc.)
- Museums, national or regional parks
- Online social networks
- The internet (other websites, blogs, forums, etc.)
- Other

If you selected "Other", please specify your sources here.

100 character(s) maximum

Professional field experience

Section II: The role of forests and the problem of deforestation and forest degradation

5. In your opinion, how important...

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Indispensable</th>
<th>Important</th>
<th>Relatively important</th>
<th>Not important</th>
<th>I don’t know /no opinion</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>... are forests for human well-being?</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>
6. In your opinion, the problem of deforestation and forest degradation is:

- Alarming
- Serious
- Moderate
- Negligible
- I don't know/no opinion

7a. Deforestation and forest degradation are caused by several drivers. Please indicate how important you consider the following direct drivers.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Driver</th>
<th>Very important</th>
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<th>Relatively important</th>
<th>Not important</th>
<th>I don’t know/no opinion</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>* Expansion of large-scale commercial agriculture</td>
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<tr>
<td>* Expansion of small-scale and subsistence agriculture</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>* Industrial logging/industrial forest products extraction</td>
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<tr>
<td>* Fuelwood extraction</td>
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<tr>
<td>* Illegal logging</td>
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<tr>
<td>* Infrastructure development</td>
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<tr>
<td>* Urban expansion</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
If you selected "Other", please specify the direct drivers here.

100 character(s) maximum

Deforestation driver: Land grabbing. Degradation driver: Unsustainable wildlife hunting

7b. Please rate the following indirect drivers of deforestation and forest degradation.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Very important</th>
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<th>Relatively important</th>
<th>Not important</th>
<th>I don’t know/no opinion</th>
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<tr>
<td><em>Low productivity at farm, plot or plantation level or in the processing chains</em></td>
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<tr>
<td><em>Low resource efficiency resulting in waste and loss</em></td>
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<tr>
<td><em>Weak governance of land and weak enforcement of law</em></td>
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<tr>
<td><em>Weak forest protection law and adequate enforcement</em></td>
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<tr>
<td><em>Poor forest/land management practices</em></td>
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<td><em>Lack of public policies promoting commodities produced with less impact on forests</em></td>
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<td><em>Lack of incentives for private sector to source commodities produced with less impact on forests</em></td>
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<td><em>Lack of private sector policies, commitments and engagements in deforestation-free supply chains</em></td>
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<td><em>Low consumer awareness of risks of deforestation related to commodities</em></td>
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<td><em>High consumption levels of forest risk commodities</em></td>
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</tbody>
</table>
* Increasing demand for forest risk commodities due to population growth and increasing standards of living

* High consumer country dependency on feed imports

* Policy driven increase in demand for commodities

* High dependence of countries on agriculture and forest sector

* Insufficient finance for investments in sustainable agriculture in producer countries

* Finance and investment flows from the EU and other countries

* Trade agreements

* Low social and economic development of large part of local population in producer countries

* Climate change

* Other

If you selected "Other", please specify the indirect drivers here.  
100 character(s) maximum

Corruption which leads to land grabbing and illegal commodity production

8. In your opinion, what are the main reasons to address deforestation and forest degradation?

- Protecting the rights and livelihoods of forest communities and indigenous peoples
- Protecting biodiversity, ecosystems and their services
- Mitigating and adapting to climate change
- Ensuring good governance of land and addressing corruption
- Strengthening efforts towards sustainable development and ensuring sustainable use of natural resources
- Reducing investment and trade risks, fostering business opportunities, and/or securing long-term commodity supply
- Other

Section III: How to address the problem of deforestation and forest degradation
9. In your opinion, how much should the efforts to address deforestation and forest degradation be stepped up at the following levels?

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<td>Local</td>
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*10. In your opinion, is the current EU policy and legislative framework against deforestation and forest degradation adequate?

- Yes
- No
- I don't know/no opinion

*10.1 In your opinion, what would be the best option to step up EU action against deforestation and forest degradation?

- Better implement existing legislation and policies
- Develop an initiative to create a coherent framework to address deforestation and forest degradation, including measures that support and enhance the coherence of existing commitments and initiatives by EU Member State governments, civil society and private sector
- Explore possible new initiatives building on existing policies
- I don't know/no opinion
- Other

If you selected "Other", please specify your reply here.

200 character(s) maximum

Develop an EU Action Plan to enhance coherence of existing initiatives, with new legislative measures to address gaps. This should address EU consumption impacts and support interventions on the ground

*11. In your opinion, which of the following forest risk commodities should be addressed by an EU initiative against deforestation and/or forest degradation?

at most 6 choice(s)

- Bio-diesel
- Bioethanol
- Charcoal
- Other wood-based fuels
- Cocoa
- Coffee
- Extractive materials
### Commodities

- Maize
- Meat (including leather)
- Palm oil
- Paper
- Pulp
- Rubber (natural)
- Soy
- Wood
- Wood pellets
- Wooden products
- Other

If you selected "Other", please mention the commodities here.

*100 character(s) maximum*

Beef is also important. But equal EU rules should apply to all commodities.

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12. In your opinion, which of the following EU policy areas have the biggest potential to better address deforestation and forest degradation?

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<td><em>Environment</em></td>
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<td>o</td>
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<td>o</td>
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<tr>
<td><em>Finance and investment</em></td>
<td>o</td>
<td>o</td>
<td>o</td>
<td>o</td>
<td>o</td>
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<tr>
<td><em>Foreign affairs</em></td>
<td>o</td>
<td>o</td>
<td>o</td>
<td>o</td>
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<tr>
<td><em>Human rights</em></td>
<td>o</td>
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<td>o</td>
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<tr>
<td><em>Research</em></td>
<td>o</td>
<td>o</td>
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<tr>
<td><em>Trade</em></td>
<td>o</td>
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<tr>
<td><em>Other EU policy area</em></td>
<td>o</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
13. What are the most important ways of stepping up EU action against deforestation and forest degradation?
13a. Potential supply-side actions, which may include:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Action</th>
<th>Very important</th>
<th>Important</th>
<th>Relatively important</th>
<th>Not important</th>
<th>I don't know/no opinion</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>* Support the uptake of sustainable/deforestation-free agriculture practices by stakeholders in tropical forest countries</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
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<tr>
<td>* Promote better forest law protection and land use planning, governance and law enforcement</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
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<tr>
<td>* Support forest policies, sustainable forest management, better protection, conservation and restoration of ecosystems</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
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<tr>
<td>* Strengthen forest monitoring and improve transparency and traceability in the supply chain</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
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<tr>
<td>* Promote research/innovation activities, and knowledge sharing</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
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<tr>
<td>* Work in partnership with producer countries to increase the share of sustainably produced commodities</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
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<tr>
<td>* Other</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
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<td>○</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Ensure EU actions support deforestation-free and degradation-free activities in ‘at risk’ areas. Increase support for forest frontier landscapes and conserve intact forests.

13b. Potential demand-side actions, which may include:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Action</th>
<th>Very important</th>
<th>Important</th>
<th>Relatively important</th>
<th>Not important</th>
<th>I don’t know/no opinion</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>* Support deforestation commitments and national dialogues on sustainable forest risk commodities</td>
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<tr>
<td>* Encourage the use of voluntary certification schemes</td>
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<tr>
<td>* Encourage the consumption of sustainable and deforestation-free products through improved transparency and information</td>
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<tr>
<td>* Address EU consumption of unsustainably produced forest risk commodities</td>
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<tr>
<td>* Consider initiatives to promote sustainable and deforestation-free products on the EU market.</td>
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<tr>
<td>* Other</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

If you selected “Other”, please specify the action here.

200 character(s) maximum

New legislative measures to: prevent commodity imports linked to deforestation; prevent investments financing deforestation; and support a global transition to deforestation-free commodity production.

13c. Potential finance and investment actions, which may include:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Action</th>
<th>Very important</th>
<th>Important</th>
<th>Relatively important</th>
<th>Not important</th>
<th>I don’t know/no opinion</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>* Increase sustainability, availability and access to finance (including to smallholders)</td>
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<tr>
<td>* Increase sustainability and transparency in financing of high deforestation and forest degradation risk sectors</td>
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<tr>
<td>* Improve disclosure of information on deforestation proofing in financial investments</td>
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<tr>
<td>* Ensure the EU or the European Investment Bank do not, even indirectly, finance projects contributing to deforestation</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>* Other</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

If you selected "Other", please specify the action here.

200 character(s) maximum

**Increase performance-based support and access to finance for stakeholders/smallholders in frontier areas to prevent deforestation and incentivize forest conservation.**

13d. Potential actions on strengthening international cooperation/dialogue, which may include:

| * Work in partnership with consumer countries to step up action, including increasing the flow of sustainable forest risk commodities from tropical countries to the EU | Very important | Important | Relatively important | Not important | I don't know /no opinion |
| * Work on an ambitious multilateral agreement that could focus on or integrate deforestation and forest degradation considerations into e.g. a Convention of the Parties |   |   |   |   |   |
| * Other |   |   |   |   |   |

If you selected "Other", please specify the action here.

200 character(s) maximum

**Develop partnerships with other consumer regions and countries (e.g. China) to close markets for imports of commodities associated with deforestation and forest degradation.**
13e. Potential mainstreaming actions, which may include:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Action</th>
<th>Very important</th>
<th>Important</th>
<th>Relatively important</th>
<th>Not important</th>
<th>I don't know/no opinion</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>* Better integrate deforestation and forest degradation considerations through relevant public policies, such as public procurement and corporate social responsibility</td>
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<tr>
<td>* Discourage consumption of unsustainable and non-deforestation-free products</td>
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<tr>
<td>* Better implement, coordinate and communicate actions in EU Member States</td>
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<tr>
<td>* Include the issue of deforestation and forest degradation into EU trade agreements signed with tropical countries</td>
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<tr>
<td>* Other</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
If you selected "Other", please specify the action here.

200 character(s) maximum

[Fully incorporate actions to conserve and restore forests within EU’s climate change policies.]

Final remarks

If you wish to add further information or suggestions for the initiative - within the scope of this questionnaire - please feel free to do so here.

600 character(s) maximum

[Please refer to the uploaded document for our further suggestions]

Please feel free to upload a concise document such as a position paper. (This is optional and will serve as additional background to better understand your position.)

The maximum file size is 1 MB
Only files of the type .pdf,.txt,.doc,.docx,.odt,.rtf are allowed

90636fe1-181b-4cf9-b7e9-397ec168d278/WCS_EU_response_to_EU_forest_consultation_final.pdf

Contact
Anne.Delvaux@ec.europa.eu