



L'Afrique centrale face aux politiques zéro déforestation: Quelle stratégie d'arrimage à cette évolution du commerce des produits tropicaux?

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Imported deforestation

Imports of raw materials or processed products whose production has contributed, directly or indirectly, to deforestation, forest degradation or conversion of natural ecosystems outside a national territory (IDDRI 2017)

Gross & net deforestation

Gross = forest loss

Net = (negative) difference between area forest destroyed annually and area planted/ regenerating naturally







Zero deforestation

Implies no forest areas (illegally) cleared or converted to other land uses

Ambiguities

- Definitions forest, landcover deforestation
- Cut off dates (baseline) for monitoring or when deforestation started

Commodities driving deforestation in Central Africa

						
Cameroon	0	0	0	0	0	0
RoC	0		0		0	
RDC	0	0	0	0	0	
Gabon	0		0		0	
Rwanda		0				
Burundi		0				
Chad						0
RCA					0	0

Consensus on need to combat deforestation

- Some consensus among direct & indirect land management and use stakeholders on need to tackle deforestation
- Policies and approaches proposed and used have significant social and economic consequences
 - for producing and exporting countries
 - for consumer importing countries

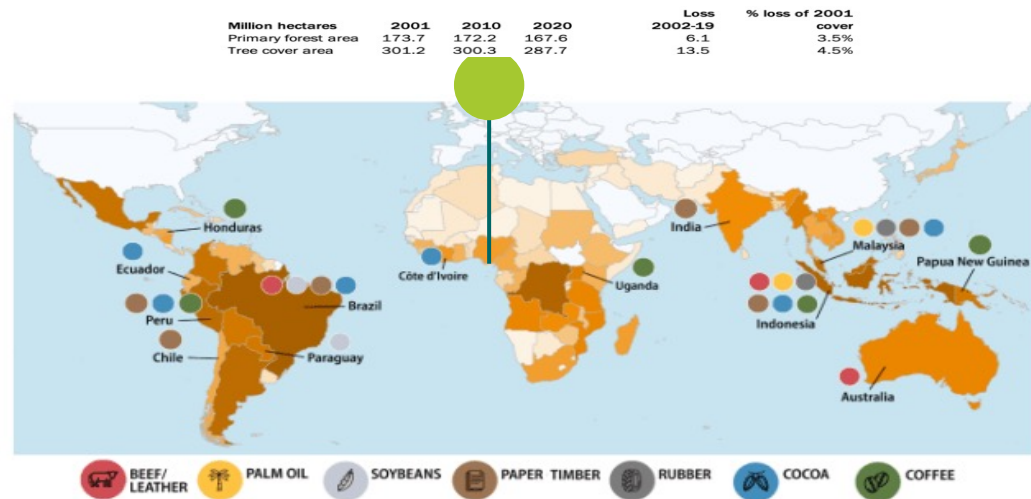
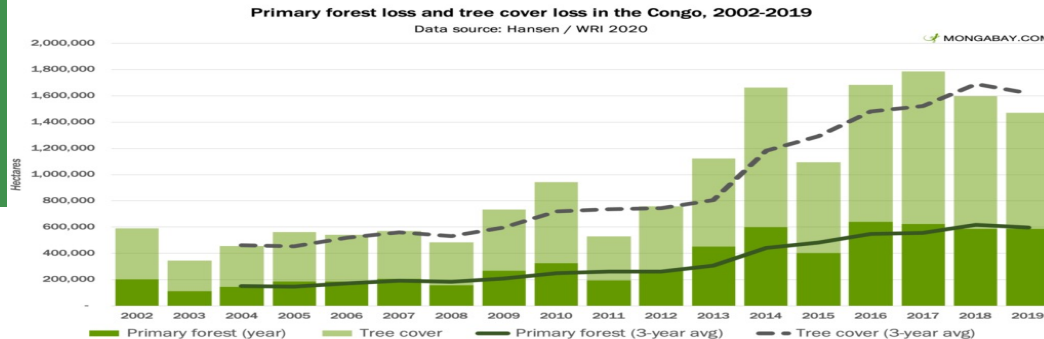


Figure 7 Geography of deforestation-related GHG emissions due to each of the major commodities that are drivers of deforestation. Countries are shaded according to the total deforestation-related GHG emissions occurring in that country. Commodity icons are shown for each country that contributes at least 5% of the total tropical deforestation-related emissions for that commodity. Data from Pendrill et al. (2019).⁴⁸

Interplays importing & exporting countries

CSOs & NGOs

Lobby and actions
by activist
European &
Central African



Voluntary sustainability standards

- FSC
- RA
- RSPO



Public policies COMIFAC members

- Central African Forest Initiative (CAFI)
- Tropical Forest Alliance (TFA)
- APVs RoC, CM, G



Public policies EU

- EUTR 2010
- Amsterdam Declaration 2015
- EU Com Forests 2019
- EU Dir 2021

USA

- Lacey Act 2008
- TFCA 2019

China

- Ecological Civilization 2017
- Green Bonds 2020
- CCICED report 2020



Private sector initiatives

- CGF ZND 2010
- NYDF commitments 2014
- IDH
- company commitments
- Voluntary certification



Traceability systems Importing & Exporting countries

Issues



Technical methods

For implementing policies against “imported deforestation” in importing countries remain unclear or are yet to be determined e.g. emerging national traceability schemes.



Harmonization of ambiguities

In definitions of “forest” “land use” “land cover” and “deforestation” needed for proposed strategies to be credible and for goal setting.



Certification

Already applied for 20+ years for timber, and increasingly for palm oil and cocoa
One technical option for production units and for national level-
BUT mainly market powered - not a regulatory tool - > harmonisation & integration issue.

Dual approaches in Central Africa

Initiatives to adopt sustainable management principles in commodity production

Multiple, increasing efforts to exclude deforestation from production chains:

Regulatory commodity traceability schemes

Landscape & jurisdictional eg Green Cocoa landscape roadmap, Tridom

Voluntary sustainability standards (VSS) FSC, Rainforest Alliance, RSPO, Fairtrade certification,

Corporate pledges eg Olam, Barry Callebaut,

Public-private partnerships (PPPs) eg Mars

Due diligence mechanisms eg GFW, Observer Forests

500, Forest Pulse, SPOTT, WWF CFA

National & donor funding DRC, UK, EU - COP26 pledges

Market Diversification

Exporting to less demanding markets



What needs to happen next?

1. Ensure multiple initiatives are **aligned**
2. Use **negotiation approaches and ensure harmonised responses** i.e. within framework of Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS)
3. Learn and improve on **experiences with FLEGT & certification** in the region
4. **Harmonize technical definitions** for the Central Africa region and **means of monitoring** deforestation

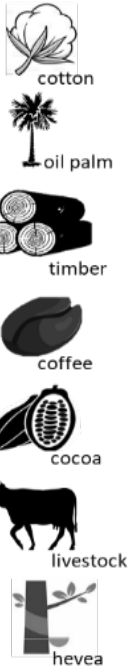


Which political rhetoric?

Discourses globally	Discourses in Central Africa	Main focus
Neoliberal	Zero-deforestation as a market requirement	Confidence in markets & private sector to find solutions to environmental problems.
Legality and responsibility	Productivity for protection	Land sparing via productivity increases. protecting (forested) protected areas, Support for the rule of law and proper and careful management of sourcing and procurement practices to reduce the impact of commodity production.
Limits to growth		Global governance to counter privileged traditional market players, global burden sharing of environmental & social costs, fair and equitable shares for producing countries in global consumption.
Local livelihoods		Recognize need for land use practices in forested areas and government support to develop decent/acceptable livelihoods of local farmers and communities.
	Commodities for the future	Belief that some commodities can be grown sustainability, supporting needs of future generation
New colonialism	Learning from mistakes	Commodity production a development engine threatened by Western sanctions under guise of nature conservation and environmental awareness. reject negative impacts of commodity production as an unfair limiting factor to development. Learn from mistakes in large commodity supplying countries with now low forest rates eg Ghana,

Which strategies ?

Value chains



Approach & interventions

VSS

Regulatory

Corporate pledges

PPPs

Landscape/
Jurisdictional

Due diligence

Outputs

National level

Commodity policies, laws & standards

Landscape level

Maintain protected areas

No destruction forested areas off farm

Maintain/increase canopy cover off farm

No forest clearing for commodity production

Farm level

Increase commodity productivity

Maintain/increase trees

Maintain/increase species diversity

Maintain/increase shade trees

Maintain/increase native vegetation

Legal commodity production

Outcomes

National level

Legal commodity trade

Landscape level

Zero deforestation

Reforestation, restoration and afforestation

Farm level

Zero deforestation

Reforestation, restoration and afforestation

Increase (diversified) farmer incomes

Impacts

Global level

Avoid over supply (global scale)

Avoid price decreases (global scale)

Avoid/mitigate climate change (local to global)

Thank you

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<https://www.wur.nl/en/project/Outcomes-of-deforestation-free-commodity-value-chain-approaches.htm>

