

Deforestation-free Value Chains Roundtable

2024 Stocktake: Lessons, Insights and Road Ahead

18 December 2024

2:00 PM – 4:00 PM CET

Online/ Registration: <https://bit.ly/3OvPwas>

Context

Deforestation is a critical global challenge with serious environmental, social, and economic implications. According to the Sixth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), conservation, improved management, and restoration of forests and other ecosystems offer the largest share of economic mitigation.¹

From 2001 to 2015, just seven agricultural commodities – cattle, oil palm, soy, cocoa, rubber, coffee and plantation wood fibre – accounted for more than a quarter of global tree cover loss, making deforestation-free agricultural commodity production and trade an essential action to address this problem.²

The International Trade Centre (ITC) is pleased to host this Roundtable to discuss the topic of deforestation-free value chains in the context of emerging policies and trends, building on the success of the series of “Deforestation-free Global Value Chains Roundtables” organized by ITC since early 2022.³ This iteration takes stock of the recent developments in 2024 and progress around preparing for the EU Deforestation-free Products Regulation (EUDR).

Objectives

The roundtable will provide a platform to recap the 2024 milestones and showcase best practices and efforts by governments and the private sector to ensure deforestation-free supply chains.

The goals will be to:

- i. **Reflect on 2024 EUDR milestones and compliance progress:** Assess key developments, lessons learned, and the current state of private and public sector efforts toward aligning with EUDR requirements.
- ii. **Showcase impactful approaches and innovations:** Highlight proven methodologies, technological advancements, and collaborative strategies that have supported the transition to deforestation-free value chains.

¹ IPCC AR6 SYR, Synthesis Report of the IPCC Sixth Assessment Report, p.31, [IPCC AR6 SYR SPM.pdf](#)

² [Deforestation Linked to 7 Agricultural Commodities | World Resources Institute \(wri.org\)](#);

³ For further information, please consult: [ITC Roundtables on Deforestation-free GVCs - SustainabilityMap \(sustainabilitygateway.org\)](#)

- iii. **Set the stage for 2025 priorities:** Identify actionable next steps to enhance alignment and efficiency, foster deeper collaboration among stakeholders, and drive meaningful progress toward sustainable deforestation-free trade.

The main take-aways and lessons learned from the workshop will be summarized in a note to be developed by ITC.

Roll-out & Set-up

The roundtable will be held online, via zoom on 18 December 2024. Registrations are open via: <https://bit.ly/3OvPwas>. The event will last two hours (from 2 – 4 pm) and will feature several presentations by experts following the key developments around deforestation-free value chains and concrete examples by stakeholders, concluding with a Q&A part.

The list of speakers will be diverse and balanced in terms of commodities, regions and stakeholders represented. The case studies presented during the sessions will be diverse, ranging from responsible production practices, sustainability standards, certification/traceability schemes and innovative solutions on monitoring supply chains.

Agenda

02:00 – 02:10 WELCOME REMARKS & SETTING THE SCENE

Vanessa Erogbogbo, Chief, Green and Inclusive Value Chains, ITC (*confirmed*)

02:10 – 03:00 SESSION 1: KEY DEVELOPMENTS IN 2024 RELATING TO DEFORESTATION-FREE VALUE CHAINS INCL. Q&A

This session aims to explore key milestones of 2024, from the development of impactful policies, legislations, and trends, facilitating constructive discourse and actionable solutions towards promoting deforestation-free value chains.

Keynote: Duncan Brack, Independent Environmental policy analyst and adviser (*confirmed*)

Panel:

- **Tina Schneider**, Director, Forest Governance and Policy, World Resources Institute (WRI) (*confirmed*)
- **Andre Vasconcelos**, Global Engagement Lead, Global Canopy – TRASE (*confirmed*)
- **Romain Deveze**, Senior Program Manager, Markets & Forest Risk Commodities, WWF Switzerland (*confirmed*)
- **Felipe Carazo**, Head of Alliance Management, Tropical Forest Alliance (*confirmed*)

Moderator: Michaela Summerer, Policy Advisor, Green and Inclusive Value Chains, ITC

3:00 – 03:45 SESSION 2: FURTHERING DEFORESTATION-FREE VALUE CHAINS – PRIVATE SECTOR EXPERIENCES

This session aims to explore the impactful experience of private sector actors supporting the implementation of policies, standards, and trends on deforestation-free value chains, emphasizing collaborative strategies and effective enforcement for tangible outcomes.

Panel:

- **Belinda Borck**, Global Public Policy Lead, Tony's Chocolonely (*confirmed*)
- **Louis Hinzen**, Senior Manager, Economic Affairs, Trade & Market Access Lead, FOODDRINK Europe (*confirmed*)
- **Bless Agume**, Ndugu Farmers Ltd, Uganda (*confirmed*)
- **Ana Yaluff**, Director Sustainability EMEA, ADM (*confirmed*)

Moderator: Mathieu Lamolle, Senior Advisor, Sustainable Global Value Chains, ITC

03:45 -03:55 CLOSING KEYNOTE

Elke Sümnick-Matthaei, Project Lead, Sustainable Agriculture for Forest Ecosystems (SAFE) (*confirmed*)

03:55 -4:00 CLOSING REMARKS

Mathieu Lamolle, Senior Advisor, Sustainable Global Value Chains, ITC