BEYOND FORESTS
REDUCING THE EU’S FOOTPRINT ON ALL NATURAL ECOSYSTEMS
WHY THIS STUDY - The EU deforestation law is an opportunity not to be missed

URGENCY >

IT IS URGENT 🌱 TO GO BEYOND FORESTS AND PROTECT OTHER NATURAL ECOSYSTEMS

THERE IS A CLEAR CORRELATION ⇔ BETWEEN EU CONSUMPTION AND THE CONVERSION OF NATURAL ECOSYSTEMS

FEASIBILITY >

THE EU CAN AND MUST INCORPORATE THESE ECOSYSTEMS INTO ITS REGULATION ⚖️ NOW
Urge - The importance of including ecosystems beyond forests

It is urgent to go beyond forests and protect other natural ecosystems

Four ecosystems with significant ecological and social importance which are threatened by ongoing conversion

- Grasslands & savannahs
- Peatlands
- Mangroves
URGENCY - The importance of including ecosystems beyond forests

ECOSYSTEM SERVICES
Non-forest ecosystems provide essential ecosystem services around the world.

ECOSYSTEMS
1. Mixed grassland and savanna
2. Tundra
3. Grasslands
4. Semiarid open ground
5. Peatlands

CARBON STORAGE
Above Ground: 55%
Below Ground: 44%

TROPICAL RAINFOREST

GRASSLANDS & SAVANNAHS

PEATLANDS

MANGROVES

ECOSYSTEM SERVICES
- Animal biodiversity
- Premises for millions of people
- Regulates water quantity and quality
- Cultural importance
- Ecotourism opportunities
- Berth for local populations
- Breeding spots for migratory birds
- Aquatic biodiversity
- Erosion
- Water quality
- Plant biodiversity
- Fishing and ecotourism
- Flood protection
- Shelter for young fish
URGENCY - The importance of including ecosystems beyond forests

TOTAL ORGANIC CARBON STOCK

- MANGROVES: 13 Gt C
- PEATLANDS: 613 Gt C
- TROPICAL RAINFOREST: 301 Gt C
- GRASSLANDS & SAVANNAHS: 788 Gt C

Average organic carbon stock (T C/ha) vs. area (1,000,000 ha)
CASE STUDIES - How EU imports drive ecosystem conversion

THERE IS A CLEAR CORRELATION \(\Rightarrow\) BETWEEN EU CONSUMPTION AND THE CONVERSION OF NATURAL ECOSYSTEMS

Approach: 9 case studies, focusing on 7 commodities in total to demonstrate the EU's responsibility beyond deforestation of tropical forests for which we already have estimates.

Each case study includes:
- Link between production of one or two commodities in the ecosystem and European consumption
- Data on conversion in that ecosystem
- Information on biodiversity, carbon and social importance.

Important note: We did not aim for an exhaustive list of ecosystems, nor an exhaustive analysis of commodities responsible for conversion in the chosen case studies. We focused on a few for which we could demonstrate a clear link to EU consumption.
CASE STUDIES - How EU imports drive ecosystem conversion

**CERRADO, BRAZIL**
Savannah & grasslands (soy & beef)

4,835,184 TONNES
OF SOY IMPORTED
FROM BRAZILIAN CERRADO

14% Estimated EU imports from the Brazilian Cerrado.

26%
OF BEEF IMPORTED
FROM BRAZILIAN CERRADO

69,797 tonnes
Estimated EU imports from the Brazilian Cerrado.

**PAMPAS, ARGENTINA**
Grasslands (soy)

15%
OF SOY EXPORTED
FROM ARGENTINIAN PAMPA

3,813,433 tonnes
Estimated EU imports from the Argentinian Pampa.

This represents 10% of all direct imports of soy into the EU.
An estimated that 30% of Colombia’s palm oil production is from the Orinoquia region, implying that a significant proportion of the EU’s imports from Colombia are likely to originate from this biome.
Approximately 64% of USA wheat production is from the Great Plains, implying that around 11% of all EU imports of wheat may originate within the biome.

Approximately 10-15% of USA soy production is from the Great Plains, implying that around 2-3% of all EU imports of soy are likely to originate within the biome.

22% of soy imported from the USA
7,589,005 tonnes
Estimated EU imports from the USA.

828,739 tonnes
Estimated EU imports from the USA.
THREATENED BIODIVERSITY in the nine ecosystems presented

**GREAT PLAINS, USA**

- **Habitats**: Great plains
- **Threats**: Drought, overgrazing, agriculture, urbanization

**Sahara & Sahel, Africa**

- **Habitats**: Desert
- **Threats**: Overgrazing, drought, climate change

**BRAZILIAN NGARIPEPE**

- **Habitats**: Wetlands
- **Threats**: Deforestation, agriculture, infrastructure

**CHACO, ARGENTINA**

- **Habitats**: Grasslands, wetlands
- **Threats**: Overgrazing, agriculture, climate change

**PAMPAS, ARGENTINA**

- **Habitats**: Grasslands, wetlands
- **Threats**: Overgrazing, agriculture, climate change

**PAMPA DE NERCOCHAO**

- **Habitats**: Grasslands, wetlands
- **Threats**: Overgrazing, agriculture, climate change

**CIVETTE CENTRALE, CONGO, BRAZIL**

- **Habitats**: Forests
- **Threats**: Deforestation, mining, agriculture

**KALIMANTAN, INDONESIA**

- **Habitats**: Rainforests
- **Threats**: Deforestation, agriculture, climate change

**SUMATRA, INDONESIA**

- **Habitats**: Rainforests
- **Threats**: Deforestation, agriculture, climate change

**THREATENED BIODIVERSITY**

Many species are threatened in natural ecosystems being lost to commodity production.

- **Savannah**: 150
- **Rainforests**: 130
- **Wetlands**: 120

**THREATS**

- Deforestation: 50%
- Mining: 25%
- Agriculture: 15%
- Infrastructure: 10%

**SARAWAK, MALAYSIA**

- **Habitats**: Rainforests
- **Threats**: Deforestation, mining, agriculture

**HUNGERMANN, GERMANY**

- **Habitats**: Grasslands
- **Threats**: Overgrazing, agriculture, climate change
A number of EU and member-state policies and regulations already make provision for protecting ecosystems beyond forests.

Due diligence is normal corporate practice. **Traceability** and **transparency** are the major principles of this process.

Guidance and tools are available for companies to include natural ecosystems beyond forests within a due diligence process.
Thank you for your attention