EU deforestation observatory

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EU observatory on deforestation and forest degradation

What is changing and why?

The European Union has introduced an online tool, the EU observatory on deforestation and forest degradation. This tool provides global maps illustrating how forests have changed over time. The maps are useful for EU importers to assist in their due diligence efforts, as required by the EU Deforestation Regulation 2023/1115.

In particular, it will help importers check that commodities affected by the Deforestation Regulation (that is, products related to cattle, cocoa, coffee, palm oil, soybeans, rubber, and timber) have not been produced on land that was deforested after 31 December 2020. Two sets of interactive maps are particularly helpful:

- Global map of forest cover for year 2020 showing the state of global forest cover in 2020, which is the cut-off date specified in the EU Deforestation Regulation.
- Global map of forest cover changes and their drivers highlighting disturbances that may result from activities such as deforestation, forest harvesting, selective logging, forest fires, extreme events, or insect defoliations (2016–2022).

Timeline

The information in the EU deforestation observatory will be continually updated as new data become available.

For more information see the full record on the AGRINFO website – where you can also view the latest AGRINFO Update newsletters and search the database.

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