



UNECE



Deforestation-Free Trade Dialogue

13 November 2024

10:00 – 13:00 and 15:00-18:00

Palais des Nations, Geneva, Switzerland

In person only

Fighting deforestation is a global priority. It helps mitigate climate change and protect biodiversity. While the [UNECE region](#) has seen little deforestation, many other areas struggle with it, primarily due to agricultural expansion.

To address this, UNECE member States are increasingly adopting laws to regulate the import of deforestation-linked commodities. One of these is the Regulation of the European Union (EU) [“on the making available on the Union market and the export from the Union of certain commodities and products associated with deforestation and forest degradation”](#) (EUDR).

The EUDR entered into force on 29 June 2023 for application starting from 30 December 2024. Any operator or trader who places the EUDR listed commodities on the EU market, or exports from EU markets, must be able to prove that these products do not originate from land that was deforested, or have contributed to forest degradation, after 31 December 2020.

As a major wood exporter and importer, the UNECE region will be significantly impacted by the EUDR. While the full effects are uncertain, discussions on preparations and just transition measures are crucial to minimize disruptions.

UNECE’s “Deforestation-Free Trade Dialogue” provides a platform for discussing cross-sectoral approaches, effective and efficient implementation, and transition pathways for various commodities, including cattle, cocoa, coffee, palm oil, rubber, soy, and wood.

The event will provide an opportunity for discussing the concerns of micro, small and medium-sized enterprises (SME’s). This was also emphasized by the [United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination](#) when pointing to the importance of trade-related climate measures that align with international trade rules and minimize barriers for developing countries, especially SMEs.



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Programme

(draft as of 09 September 2024)

a.m.	Official opening
	Trade and environmental protection (keynotes)
	Drivers of deforestation (keynotes)
	Reality – check (roundtable discussion) Existing and planned legislation on deforestation-free trade
Lunchbreak	
p.m.	Focus: EUDR (stakeholder discussion) Possible challenges and opportunities
	Implementing the EUDR Just transition and solution pathways
	What next? (open discussion)
	Summary and Conclusions

More information and the registration can be found on the website of the meeting: [link](#)