

Summary

Tropical forests and their ecological services are being lost at alarming rates to produce commodities such as soy, cattle and palm oil. This has jeopardized the livelihoods of local communities and stability of the global climate.

Although nearly 450 companies have pledged to end commodity-driven deforestation by 2020 via the New York Declaration on Forests, the Tropical Forest Alliance 2020, and the Consumer Goods Forum, industry action to date has not achieved this. There is emerging consensus that companies cannot deliver the 'no deforestation' and 'no conversion' ambitions at the pace and scale required without collaboration and alignment with other actors. Government involvement - especially at the sub-national level through multi-stakeholder 'jurisdictional approaches' - is increasingly recognized as an important catalyst for the success of efforts led by the private sector and civil society. However, lack of consistent, reliable information for companies about these approaches and potential outcomes hampers their appetite for involvement. At the same time, lack of capacity at sub-national level to develop, implement and report on these interventions impede the scaling of jurisdictional approaches.

Through 'Enabling Jurisdictional Approaches to Halt Deforestation' funded by the Walmart Foundation, CDP will implement a program which will contribute towards addressing these challenges. Creating and implementing a standardized and consistent assessment as to the quality of the jurisdictional processes can incentivize key stakeholders, including companies and sub-national governments, to engage with these interventions. Further, the process of responding to this new assessment supports sub-national governments in understanding what information is needed by the market and builds their capacity and ability to provide that information.

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Jurisdictional approaches

Jurisdictional approaches are a form of landscape-level approaches bringing together all relevant actors within a political administrative boundary to co-develop goals, align activities and share monitoring and verification.

Source: Proforest, 2016

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Intended project outcomes

- Increase in alignment and capacity of stakeholders to report by introducing new process and performance related metrics relating to the quality of jurisdictional interventions for reporting by companies and sub-national governments.
 - → ↔ CDP will develop these metrics based on existing best practice, consult on, and release these to the market.
- 2 Increase in market confidence in jurisdictional approaches and readiness and willingness of companies to incorporate jurisdictional approaches in their responsible sourcing strategy.
 - CDP will engage companies through one to one meetings and training sessions.
- Increase in the number of sub-national jurisdictions in tropical forest countries that report on progress towards implementing jurisdictional approaches using standardized metrics.
 - → ← CDP will develop a policy briefing to share the business case for developing jurisdictional initiatives using data reported by States and Regions to CDP. CDP will also host bilateral meetings, workshops and training sessions to enable governments to report.

Target groups

- → ↔ Supply chain companies operating in Latin America and Southeast Asia or sourcing from these regions;
- → → Sub-national jurisdictions in Latin America and Southeast Asia;
- → Civil Society organizations working on jurisdictional level approaches.

Timeline

July 2020

February 2022

CDP contact

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Collaboration with ISEAL Alliance

CDP and ISEAL Alliance have pledged to work collaboratively to accomplish the mutual goal of providing companies with a clear pathway to support and invest in credible jurisdictional initiatives that are making measurable progress to address critical sustainability issues. By working together, both organizations aim to ensure that jurisdictions and the companies that source from them are able to report on progress using a consistent, credible and clear framework. We will achieve this by building broad alignment around the metrics and methodology for measuring and communicating progress within these jurisdictional initiatives and embedding this in company and jurisdictional reporting.

About CDP

CDP is a global non-profit that drives companies and governments to reduce their greenhouse gas emissions, safeguard water resources and protect forests. Voted number one climate research provider by investors and working with institutional investors with assets of over US\$106 trillion, we leverage investor and buyer power to motivate companies to disclose and manage their environmental impacts. Over 8,400 companies with over 50% of global market capitalization disclosed environmental data through CDP in 2019. This is in addition to the over 920 cities, states and regions who disclosed, making CDP's platform one of the richest sources of information globally on how companies and governments are driving environmental change.

About Philanthropy at Walmart

Walmart.org represents the philanthropic efforts of Walmart and the Walmart Foundation. By leaning in where the business has unique strengths, Walmart.org works to tackle key social issues and collaborate with others to spark long-lasting systemic change. Walmart has stores in 27 countries, employs more than 2 million associates and does business with thousands of suppliers who, in turn, employ millions of people. Walmart.org is helping people live better by supporting programs that work to accelerate upward job mobility for frontline workers, address hunger and make healthier, more sustainably grown food a reality, and build strong communities where Walmart operates. To learn more, visit www.walmart.org or connect on Twitter @Walmartorg.