

# EU Deforestation-Free Policy vis-a-vis Smallholders of Global South

## A Policy Review

### EU Deforestation-free Policy

Various studies indicate that the European Union (EU) is one of the world's largest importers of tropical deforestation and the consequences of emissions. It is estimated that soy, palm oil, and beef were top commodities followed by coffee, cocoa, timber, and other wood products embedded with huge tropical deforestation were imported into the EU. The use and consumption of forest-risk commodities resulted in the proposal for an EU Deforestation Free policy in 2021. In 2022, the EU Environment Council adopted for deforestation-free supply to prevent deforestation-embedded commodities to enter the EU market in the future in case their production has caused deforestation.

### Project objective

This project takes a perspective of the Global South to identify the impact of the EU deforestation-free policy on the smallholders whose livelihoods are dependent on some of these key agro-based commodities. The smallholders in this project refer to individual and family farms with less than two hectares.

The project is open to assessing one or many commodities – soy, palm oil, coffee, cocoa, timber, etc. It is also up to the student's interest and aptitude to focus on one of the following dimensions or a combination of two or more.

- The social and cultural dimension of the smallholders' community governance
- Political loopholes in lack of mitigation measures and vulnerability of smallholders
- Economic consequences of supply chain due to impact on export-related incomes without any existence of an alternative income
- Relation of various SDGs and its impact due to this policy on the smallholders of the tropical countries,
- Comparative assessment of EU's Biodiversity Strategy for 2030 and the low-middle income countries of the Global South Agenda 2030.

[Multiple students can work on different dimensions of this project.](#)

[The project is available for students to apply anytime from January 2023 onward. No deadline.](#)

### Supervisor

**Purabi Bose, Senior Lecturer in Forest Policy**

Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences

Department of Southern Swedish Forest Research Center

[Click here for Purabi's CV](#)

**Email:** [purabi.bose@slu.se](mailto:purabi.bose@slu.se)