

Regulation (EU) 2023/1115 on deforestation free products (EUDR)

The main driver of deforestation is the expansion of agricultural land that is linked to the production of commodities like cattle, wood, cocoa, soy, palm oil, coffee, rubber, and some of their derived products. The EU, as a major economy and consumer of these commodities, is partly responsible for this problem and it wants to lead the way to solving it.

On 29 June 2023, the Regulation on deforestation-free products – Regulation (EU) 2023/1115 entered into force and will apply to all products placed on the market from 30 December 2024.

The classification of whether a product is a "relevant product" or not is based on the specific customs tariff number of the respective product. The products concerned are therefore listed directly in Annex I of the EUDR on the basis of their customs tariff numbers.

The relevant raw materials and relevant products, identified by customs tariff numbers, may only be traded, exported or made available on the market if they fulfil the following criteria:

- · they are deforestation-free
- they have been produced in accordance with the relevant legislation of the country of production and
- they are covered by a due diligence declaration.

As defined in Article 2(15) of the Regulation, an operator is a natural or legal person who places relevant products on the market (incl. via an import) or exports them in the course of commercial activity. As a general rule, operators and traders will have to set up and maintain a Due Diligence System.