

# Soft Commodities Forum progress report

June 2022

## Executive summary

## Toward deforestation- and conversion-free soy

The Soft Commodities Forum (SCF), led by the World Business Council for Sustainable Development (WBCSD), enables collaboration between six agribusinesses to identify solutions to eliminate soy-driven deforestation and conversion of native vegetation in the Brazilian Cerrado. The Cerrado is the world's most biodiverse savannah and home to 5% of the planet's animals and plants. The work of the SCF supports the delivery of WBCSD's vision 2050 in the context of the soy value chain, contributing to a net-zero and nature-positive future.

This report outlines the progress made toward this goal by disclosing, among other solutions, reporting standards to achieve traceability of Cerrado-sourced soy and the necessary financial incentive schemes to influence producer behavior.

Alongside these developments, all six SCF members are currently involved in the creation of a sector-wide roadmap for enhanced supply chain action that is consistent with a 1.5-degree climate pathway. The SCF's next challenge will be aligning the deforestation- and conversion-free supply chains agenda with that of science-based climate targets.

In June 2022, the SCF presents the following main accomplishments:

- **First disclosure of deforestation- and conversion-free soy footprint**

SCF members are disclosing their individual performance of verified deforestation- and conversion-free (DCF) soy volumes sourced in 2021 within the SCF's 61 focus municipalities. Another indicator, separate from company data, is also included to track the DCF soy performance of all 61 focus municipalities.

- **Sectoral approach to the monitoring of indirect sourcing**

SCF members have developed a collective protocol to engage with their indirect suppliers to increase their capacity to monitor their own suppliers. Indirect suppliers will be prioritized according to the highest number of SCF members they supply.

- **Partnership with ViSeC (Sectoral Vision for the Gran Chaco), a multistakeholder initiative focused on the Argentinean Gran Chaco**

The SCF has decided to establish a structured collaboration with ViSeC, a multistakeholder platform that promotes sustainable soy in the Argentinean Gran Chaco, with a focus on science-based monitoring and land-use change.

- **Establishment of a three-year strategy to preserve priority Cerrado landscapes: the Farmer First Clusters Initiative**

Financial incentives are needed to support farmers toward sustainable land-use practices and forest protection, in addition to the current legal requirements. In this report, the SCF unveils the landscape interventions it will deploy in Western Mato Grosso, Southern Maranhão, Western Bahia and Tocantins in 2022.

Access the full digital report →

Click on the logos to view  
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Photo: Felipe Abreu

## **Disclaimer**

The SCF is fully compliant with laws, including antitrust, which prevent any kind of arrangement or sharing of information that would reduce competition on price or on any other parameter of competition.

## **Acknowledgements**

Our special thanks go to the Brazilian Association of Vegetable Oils (ABIOVE), Agrosatélite, the Amazon Environmental Research Institute (IPAM), Olab, The Consumer Goods Forum, the IMAGINE Food Collective, The Tropical Forest Alliance (TFA), The Nature Conservancy (TNC), Proforest, Produzindo Certo, the Produce, Conserve, Include (PCI) Initiative, and other key partners both within the value chain and beyond.

## **About the Soft Commodities Forum**

Companies that buy, sell and process soft commodities play a unique role in connecting soy supplies with customers around the world. They are like an optical fiber that connects consumers, producers and the markets, and therefore have a unique opportunity to help drive progress on the elimination of soy-driven deforestation and conversion. The complexity of soy supply chains means that no single business can tackle deforestation and conversion alone. Collaboration between them helps to move the entire sector forward together, establishing and applying standards and solutions.

In 2018, WBCSD established the Soft Commodities Forum (SCF) to enable this collaboration, making it the only forum in which member companies have agreed to find collective solutions to common sustainability challenges, bridging global goals with local realities. The SCF's six current members – ADM, Bunge, Cargill, COFCO International, Louis Dreyfus Company (LDC) and Viterro – are among the world's largest soy exporters and are committed to the elimination of deforestation in their supply chains where they operate in the Cerrado.

They have pledged to make their soy supply chains free from deforestation and native vegetation conversion (NVC), balancing economic, social, and environmental priorities.

The SCF is hosted by the World Business Council for Sustainable Development (WBCSD) through a management team, which facilitates dialogue and the pooling of resources and information.

## About the World Business Council for Sustainable Development (WBCSD)

WBCSD is the premier global, CEO-led community of over 200 of the world's leading sustainable businesses working collectively to accelerate the system transformations needed for a net zero, nature positive, and more equitable future.

We do this by engaging executives and sustainability leaders from business and elsewhere to share practical insights on the obstacles and opportunities we currently face in tackling the integrated climate, nature and inequality sustainability challenge; by co-developing "how-to" CEO-guides from these insights; by providing science-based target guidance including standards and protocols; and by developing tools and platforms to help leading businesses in sustainability drive integrated actions to tackle climate, nature and inequality challenges across sectors and geographical regions.

Our member companies come from all business sectors and all major economies, representing a combined revenue of more than USD \$8.5 trillion and 19 million employees. Our global network of almost 70 national business councils gives our members unparalleled reach across the globe. Since 1995, WBCSD has been uniquely positioned to work with member companies along and across value chains to deliver impactful business solutions to the most challenging sustainability issues.

Together, we are the leading voice of business for sustainability, united by our vision of creating a world in which 9+ billion people are living well, within planetary boundaries, by mid-century.

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