



Amsterdam Declarations Partnership

Towards deforestation-free
sustainable commodities

“Towards a holistic sustainable supply chain”

Host

Federal Public Service Health, Food Chain Safety and Environment, Government of Belgium

Date

21 November 2023

Venue

Royal Museum for Central Africa, Leuvensesteenweg 13 , Tervuren (close to Brussels), Belgium

Introduction

The last decade much progress has been made in understanding our biodiversity and climate planetary boundaries and the footprint of our consumption and import activities (for [Belgium](#)). Our commodity imports have to become sustainable, involving no deforestation and with respect for Indigenous Peoples and human rights in general. The European Regulation on deforestation (EUDR) and the Directive on corporate sustainability due diligence (CSDDD) are corporate supply chain and emerging market requirements towards sustainability of commodity production and consumption that will assist in shaping this agenda. There is also a wider challenge to address the challenges of rural poverty, biodiversity and climate change.

The event aims to enhance awareness amongst stakeholders along the Belgian commodity supply chains from production to import, and facilitate a discussion on how to implement international ambitions on biodiversity, climate change and human rights linked to supply chains and trade. The meeting will present and discuss the role of government and private sector in living up to commitments and meeting market requirements by smallholder farmers to attain a living income and reward sustainability.

Targeted audience

- Stakeholders within Belgium and along Belgian commodity value chains
- Public authorities responsible for implementation and enforcement
- NGOs, representatives of IPLCs and smallholder farmers
- Member countries of the AD Partnership



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Programme

Moderators : Salima Kempnaer and Peter de Koning

09h00 - High level opening

General welcome and introduction

Setting the scene: how to make the implementation of the international ambitions on biodiversity, climate change and human rights happen

Keynote speech Ms. Zakia Khattabi, Minister of Climate, the Environment, Sustainable Development, and Green Deal

09h30 Session 1. Addressing nature, climate, Indigenous Peoples, and human rights issues as governments

- (10') Chris West, Stockholm Environment Institute. Overview of the Belgian deforestation and biodiversity footprint and existing actions.
- (10') Bojan Grlas, European Commission, on requirements for sustainable agricultural supply
- (10') Matthew Sielski, The Nature Conservancy, on the opportunities for broader sustainable land use based upon EUDR Article 30.
- (10') Tomislav Ivančić, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and Sophia Gnych, Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), presentation of the OECD-FAO Business Handbook on Deforestation and Due Diligence in Agricultural Supply Chains.

(35') Discussion with input from the audience (Mentimeter)

10h45 COFFEE BREAK

11h00 Session 2. Living up to commitments and meeting market requirements (by and for businesses and producers)

- (10') Karen Janssens, Colruyt, consumer-facing company in Belgium.
- (10') Emese van Maanen, ProTerra Foundation (video) on ProTerra and aquaculture companies' sectoral commitment to zero-conversion soy.
- (10') Roland Baroan from the Global Platform on Sustainable Natural Rubber on smallholder farmers.
- (10') Fanny Gauttier, Rainforest Alliance on opportunities and constraints regarding smallholder certification.

(35') Discussion with input from the audience (Mentimeter)

12h15 - 13h30 LUNCH BREAK



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13h30 Session 3. Attaining living income and rewarding sustainability (investment, fair pricing, financial support)

- (10') Obed Owusu Addai, EcoCare Ghana on the needs of Ghana cocoa farmers.
- (10') Chipo Mbawu, The Shift on 'Coffix', a coffee subscription model to close the living income gap.
- (10') Pison Kukundakwe, Ankole Coffee Producers Cooperative Union Limited.
- (10') Antonie Fountain, VOICE Network (on-line) on reaching a living income across agricultural commodities.

(30') Discussion with input from the audience (Mentimeter).

14h40 Session 4. The role of government in facilitating enabling conditions

- (10') Dinamam Tuxá, Coordinator of the Articulation of the Indigenous Peoples of Brazil APIB (on-line).
- (10') Macmillan Prentice, Ghana Standard Authority (on-line) on the African Regional Standard for Sustainable Cocoa as enabling tool for sustainability.
- (10') Charles Snoeck, IDH Sustainable Trade Initiative on Beyond Chocolate Belgium.
- (10') Neil Scotland, United Kingdom on facilitating market access and financial support by consumer countries to enhance inclusion and deforestation-free production and

(30') Discussion with input from the audience (Mentimeter).

15h50 COFFEE Break

16h00 Session 5. Plenary discussion

- Key observations of the day by moderators and Mentimeter question
- Panel discussion including chair ADP Belgium and stakeholders:
 - Salima Kempenaer, FPS Health Belgium
 - Neil Scotland, FCDO United Kingdom
 - Bojan Grlaš, European Commission
 - Kaja Blumtritt, Client Earth
 - Jelmen Haaze, BASP Belgium
- Conclusions and follow-up

16h45 / 17:00: Closing and reception