

# Soft Commodities Forum progress report

December 2021

## Executive summary

## Toward deforestation- and conversion-free soy

WBCSD's Soft Commodities Forum (SCF) enables collaboration between six agricultural businesses, aiming to eliminate soy-driven deforestation and conversion of native vegetation from their supply chains, as well as to transform landscapes, in the Cerrado biome. We publicly report our progress twice a year, in June and December.

At the COP26 World Leaders Summit on Forests and Land Use, all six Soft Commodities Forum (SCF) members communicated their joint commitment to develop, by COP27, a sector-wide roadmap for enhanced supply chain action that is consistent with a 1.5° C pathway.

This commitment is indicative of an ongoing sector-wide transformation, to which the SCF has been contributing since its creation in 2018, by joining forces to identify solutions at scale to halt the soy-driven conversion of native vegetation in the Brazilian Cerrado. Now more than ever our work is fundamental to driving positive change in soy supply chains.

To achieve our mission, we are working to establish mechanisms that provide transparency on soy sourcing and its links to deforestation and the conversion of natural ecosystems. We are also creating incentives for producers to maintain forests and transform the landscapes in which they live through collaboration among traders and across the sector.

Our bi-annual progress reports aim to disclose to external stakeholders the efforts undertaken and progress made in this work. All achievements for this December 2021 report, announced for completion in June, fall under the SCF's three workstreams: Monitor Land Use, Engage Stakeholders and Transform Landscapes.

The most noteworthy of our latest accomplishments encompass:

- **A new standardized reporting architecture for soy sourced by joint ventures;**
- **A methodology to report on verified deforestation- and conversion-free soy**
- **An improved approach to support indirect suppliers in the adoption of monitoring systems;**
- **A shared engagement and investment strategy – to eliminate soy-driven deforestation and conversion in priority landscapes.**

Our future work will continue to leverage the power of markets to support and incentivize deforestation- and conversion-free production, as well as drive climate action.

Access the full digital report →

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SCF companies' individual  
reports





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

The Soft Commodities Forum's work wouldn't be possible without the support and engagement of a wide variety of stakeholders across the entire value chain. A special thank you goes to Solidaridad, the Produce, Conserve, Include Initiative, Produzindo Certo and IPAM for their partnership and support in engaging producers and for helping us elevate their voices and needs for sustainable soy production. Thanks to Olab, as well, for their continued strategic involvement in the SCF's work.

## 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 – have all pledged to make their soy supply chains free from deforestation and native vegetation conversion (NVC), balancing economic, social and environmental priorities. The SCF thus bridges global goals with local realities.

The SCF is hosted by the World Business Council for Sustainable Development (WBCSD) through a secretariat, 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 a world in which 9+ billion people are living well, within planetary boundaries, by mid-century.

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