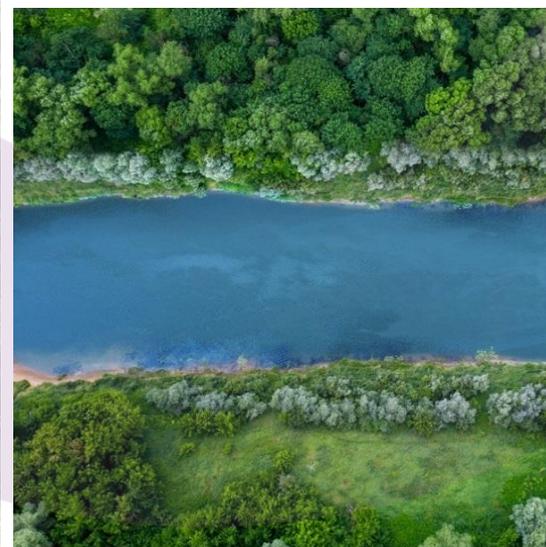


European Commission (DG Environment)

Task 3 – Impact assessment on demand-side measures to address deforestation

Synopsis report



Report for

European Commission
DG Environment
Brussels
Belgium

Main contributors

Kastalie Bougas (Wood)
Victoria Cherrier (Wood)
Ben Croad (Wood)
Keir McAndrew (Wood)
Andreea Beznea (Trinomics)
Kym Whiteoak (Trinomics)

Issued by

Victoria Cherrier
.....

Approved by

Kastalie Bougas
.....

Wood

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Executive Summary

This synopsis report covers all stakeholder consultation activities undertaken as part of the impact assessment of demand-side measures to address deforestation and forest degradation. This report outlines the consultation strategy, documents the consultation activities undertaken, presents the stakeholder groups that participated and describes the methodology and tools used to process the data gathered. An overview of the results of each consultation activity is then briefly presented.

Stakeholders were engaged through a combination of feedback on the inception impact assessment, an open public consultation, and targeted stakeholder consultations (through interviews and stakeholder meetings) while relevant tools were used to engage with different stakeholder groups.

Feedback received on the Inception Impact Assessment

The majority of feedback was obtained from Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs) (30%), anonymous feedback (19%) and business associations (15%). The top five countries of respondents were Belgium (27%), anonymous (15%), the Netherlands (9%), France (9%), and the United States (5%). In general, the Commission seeking to minimise the EU's contribution to deforestation and forest degradation worldwide and promote the consumption of products from deforestation-free supply chains in the EU was **supported**. There is also a **strong preference for legal, binding regulatory action** with many respondents also supporting **non-regulatory measures and voluntary actions** to compliment such regulatory action.

Open public consultation

Out of 1,194,761 public responses obtained during the consultation period, **1,150 responses remained** after those responses submitted through a campaign were identified by the European Commission and subsequently removed. Of these, 71% responded as EU citizens, 7% as non-governmental organisations, 6% as company/business organisations, 4% as business associations with the remainder consisting of non-EU citizens, academic/research institutions, public authorities, environmental organisations, trade unions and a group for others. When asked which measures are the most suitable to address the issue of deforestation and forest degradation associated with EU consumption, the **strongest support was for a deforestation-free requirement or standard**. The remaining measures generally had a similar level of support although the measures of voluntary labelling, voluntary due diligence and private certification systems (new and the ones already in place in the EU market) received the lowest overall support.

Targeted consultations

The targeted consultation complemented and validated the information gathered from the literature review performed within this project and consisted of both targeted interviews and stakeholder meetings. Interviewees highlighted the need to **use an existing definition of deforestation** rather than come up with a new one and desirable for this to **include forest degradation**, they agreed that the **cross-commodity approach was good** and that bulk commodities and derived products that contained them should be under scope. Some interviewees also recommended that the focus of the **scope should be at commodity level**. Many interviewees also **agreed with the objectives set** out while others noted that they could be **more targeted/ambitious**. Others also agreed that the objectives should also **extend to cover social issues and human rights**. Interviewees **mainly supported mandatory due diligence with an emphasis on learning from the EUTR** (without replicating its weaknesses) but some interest for IUU inspired measures was also noted. Finally, some stakeholders recommended a **tiered approach** in the due diligence with gradual requirements based on a specific classification of countries or commodities.

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1. This report

1.1 Introduction

This report is the synopsis report for all stakeholder consultation activities undertaken as part of the impact assessment of demand-side measures to address deforestation and forest degradation. In line with the Better Regulation requirements, this report provides an outline of the consultation strategy, documents the consultation activities undertaken, presents the stakeholder groups that participated and describes the methodology and tools used to process the data gathered. The results of each consultation activity are briefly presented. Further detailed analysis is presented in Annexes.

1.2 Consultation strategy

The consultation strategy was developed at the start of the study. The consultation methods and tools outlined in the strategy are described in the following sections.

Objectives

The consultation has two objectives:

- To ensure that all relevant stakeholders are identified and are given the opportunity to take part in the consultation activities; and
- To gather stakeholder opinions on the potential additional measures at EU level.

Stakeholders

The relevant stakeholder groups that have been targeted in this consultation are listed below.¹

- **EU Member State authorities.** These stakeholders will be in charge of implementing future EU measures and have highly relevant and specific experience from designing and implementing previous policies. Within this group, the strategy will aim at identifying Member States that have implemented sustainable procurement policies. This information may be valuable to provide information on whether such measures have been successful and whether they can be replicated.
- **Third-country stakeholders,** including those from countries experiencing deforestation and forest degradation and, those which are consumers of products linked to deforestation and forest degradation. Public authorities from these countries may be concerned with and/or affected by deforestation. They should also possess highly relevant and specific knowledge about the state and drivers of deforestation and forest degradation there, as well as on consumption trends and the potential impacts that EU demand-side measures could have within their jurisdiction.
- **Farmers, both large-scale agri-businesses and small-scale local producers, including livestock producers, both large and small.** The activities of these groups sometimes contribute to deforestation by clearing forests, a phenomenon highly relevant as agricultural practices are the primary driver of deforestation worldwide. As such, understanding how new EU demand-side measures that address this problem will affect farmers and cattle ranchers is of crucial importance

¹ As spelled out in the European Commission, 2020, Inception Impact Assessment, Minimising the risk of deforestation and forest degradation associated with products placed on the EU market <https://ec.europa.eu/info/law/better-regulation/have-your-say/initiatives/12137-Minimising-the-risk-of-deforestation-and-forest-degradation-associated-with-products-placed-on-the-EU-market>

to estimate the impacts of these measures. Producers of major crops with embedded deforestation impacts will be especially relevant to consult.

- **Logging, wood-processing companies and forest owners**, which may contribute to deforestation, even if legally. These companies have extensive knowledge about the current regulatory context in which they operate and its impact on their logging practices. In addition, they can provide insights about the effects that new EU demand-side measures against deforestation will have on their commercial activities. Attempts will also be made to locate associations of employed loggers, including those who operate illegally.
- **Businesses operating with commodities associated with deforestation and forest degradation** along their supply chains. For example, companies in the food industry have extensive knowledge on the sustainability of supply chains, on the availability of deforestation-free products and the feasibility and difficulties of cleaning up those supply chains. Their experience will therefore be key to assess the suitability and potential effectiveness of new demand-side measures.
- **Traders working with supply chains potentially associated with deforestation** should possess extensive knowledge about the operation of supply chains in their respective industries (e.g. food products, timber products, mining products, etc.) and their business operations would be affected by new EU demand-side measures against deforestation. As such, their experience and views will be particularly useful to assess the potential economic impacts of new demand-side measures.
- **Citizens** from the EU and from third countries may be concerned with and/or affected by deforestation in their respective countries, and as such have first-hand knowledge of current impacts. They may also provide insight into perceived impacts of potential changes of EU demand-side measures, especially with regards to social and environmental impacts.
- **Consumers and consumer organisations** should possess knowledge about the pressures that consumers face and how potential EU demand-side measures would impact them. They also have knowledge on the information and mechanisms that are lacking in order to incentivise and help consumers limit their impact on deforestation and forest degradation.
- **Civil society organisations and non-governmental organisations** which have a high interest in the issue of deforestation. Their input will be useful to estimate the potential impacts of certain measures for interested parties who are not necessarily involved in activities contributing to deforestation. This group would include organisations involved in the collection and processing of data on deforestation and forest degradation, and supply chains. Whether through remote sensing or field surveys, knowledge on the state of existing databases and the technical possibilities for acquiring new data would be useful for developing information and monitoring aspects of considered measures.
- **International organisations** which monitor deforestation and forest degradation on an international scale may understand the overall impact of EU consumption in a variety of countries, as well as how the situation has evolved over time.

1.3 Methods for stakeholder engagement

Feedback on the inception impact assessment

The European Commission published an inception impact assessment on the Better Regulation portal and asked for feedback on the content.² A total of 99 responses were submitted, including industry, NGOs and monitoring organisations. Some of the feedback provided was anonymous.

Open public consultation

The aim of the open public consultation (OPC) is to collect public views and evidence for the impact assessment of demand-side measures related to deforestation and forest degradation, in line with the EU's Better Regulation Guidelines. It addressed forward-looking options about demand-side measures which should ultimately contribute to addressing deforestation and forest degradation associated with products placed on the EU market.

Two questionnaires were developed for the purpose of the open public consultation, one general and one more specific with questions directed at more expert stakeholders. The consultation was translated in all EU languages. The consultation period started on 3 September 2020 and ended on 10 December 2020, lasting 14 weeks.

Targeted stakeholder consultation through interviews

Targeted consultations through interviews and focus groups were carried out to gather specific evidence through the collection of data from relevant stakeholders. Targeted interviews took place either through teleconference conversations or, in limited cases, through written responses. The interview guide developed for teleconference conversations and focus groups was used as a basis for the written responses. The targeted interviews complement and add depth to the inputs collected under the OPC and help ensure that data gaps are filled, and opinions are substantiated.

This sub-task has been tackled in a four-step approach. This is detailed below.

Step 1: Preparation of interview guideline / questionnaire

Questionnaires have been tailored according to the background and expertise of each the stakeholder groups, namely civil society and NGOs, European Institutions, international organisations, third countries, Member States competent authorities, industries, and researchers. Only open questions have been used in the interview questionnaires. The questionnaires were also written in a way to enable written responses. Each set of questions included an introduction to the topic, for a better understanding of the problem to address. Where relevant, the topics discussed have been:

- Problem definition: deforestation and forest degradation.
- Deforestation free definition.
- Scope of EU intervention.
- Design of potential demand-side measures.
- Unintended effects.

² <https://ec.europa.eu/info/law/better-regulation/have-your-say/initiatives/12137-Minimising-the-risk-of-deforestation-and-forest-degradation-associated-with-products-placed-on-the-EU-market>

- Others.

Each interview consisted of the project introduction by the consultant team, a roundtable presentation of interviewers and interviewees, to highlight specific competencies and the set of questions to focus among the comprehensive list sent to interviewees. When mutually agreed, interviews were recorded for the sole purpose of recording better minutes, with the promise of deleting the recording afterwards.

Step 2: Stakeholder selection

A preliminary list of stakeholders was identified for the targeted consultation through stakeholder mapping and using the project team's established network among relevant stakeholders. The final list of interviewees was discussed and agreed with DG Environment.

For the selection of candidates for the targeted interviews, the suggested guiding principles and criteria in the Table 1-1 were applied.

Table 1-1 Guiding principles and criteria for selecting stakeholders for interviews

Guiding principle	Justification
Priority will be given to stakeholders most impacted by the implementation of the proposed policy options and measures or absence of implementation.	To ensure representation of those stakeholders for whom the stakes are highest. First-hand experience will provide the most helpful and credible evidence to support and illustrate answers to the evaluation questions.
Priority will be given to experts as they can help to fill in information gaps.	Experts in a certain area can help to provide is with further insights or revealing blind spots.
A fair balance will be sought between diverging stakes.	Although the intended focus on answering outstanding questions in the assessment may lead to an emphasis on certain topics or stakeholders, consideration will be given to ensure a sufficiently wide and diverse selection of interviewees to ensure a credible representation stakeholder group.

The final list of individual and focus group interviewees is presented in Table 1-2. Once the final list was agreed, the project team identified the contact people in each organisation, to introduce the study and the possible topics to be covered during the interview. This was done to enable stakeholders to inform respective networks in a timely fashion, eventually modify contact people, and for the project team to consider unforeseen topics or issues to be covered. Once this first invitation was accepted, a formal invitation with the interview questions was sent and a date was agreed among the parties.

Table 1-2 Stakeholder list

Focus group/ individual interview	Stakeholder	Attendees	Type of response
Focus group EU Institutions	European Commission, DG ENV D.1	1	Interview
Focus group EU Institutions	European Commission, DG ENV F.1	1	Interview
Focus group EU Institutions	European Commission, DG ENV.B.1	1	Interview
Focus group EU Institutions	European Commission, DG CLIMA C.3	1	Interview

Focus group/ individual interview	Stakeholder	Attendees	Type of response
Individual interview	European Commission, DG MARE B.4	1	Interview
Individual interview	European Commission, Legal services	1	Interview
Individual interview	European Commission, DG DEVCO	1	Interview
Individual interview	Joint Research Centre, D.1	1	Interview
Individual interview	Joint Research Centre	1	Interview
Individual interview	Food Agricultural Organisation	8	Interview
Focus group MS	MS Custom authority NL	2	Interview
Focus group MS	MS Ministry of Agriculture, Nature and Food quality NL	1	Interview
Focus group MS	MS Custom authority DE	1	Interview
Focus group MS	MS Ministry of the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety DE	1	Interview
Focus group MS	MS Ministry of Agriculture and Food FR	1	Interview
Individual interview	Brazil – Authority responsible for forestry, agriculture	1	Written Response
Individual interview	Indonesia – Authority responsible for forestry, agriculture.	6	Interview
Individual interview	China – Research Institute of Forestry Policy and Information	1	Interview
Individual interview	USA – Authority responsible for forestry, agriculture	13	Interview
Focus group palm oil	Roundtable for Sustainable Palm oil	1	Interview
Focus group palm oil	Fediol	1	Interview
Focus group palm oil	European Palm Oil Alliance	1	Interview
Individual interview	Roundtable for Responsible Soy	1	Written Response

Focus group/ individual interview	Stakeholder	Attendees	Type of response
Focus group timber	European Timber Trade Federation	1	Interview
Focus group timber	Confederation of European Paper Industries	2	Interview
Focus group timber	European Organisation of the Sawmill Industry	1	Interview
Focus group timber	CEI-Bois	1	Interview
Individual interview	European Tyre & Rubber Manufacturers' Association	5	Interview
Focus group cocoa	European Cocoa Association	2	Interview
Focus group cocoa	International Cocoa organization	3	Interview
Focus group cocoa	World Cocoa Foundation	3	Interview
Focus group cocoa	Ferrero	1	Interview
Focus group cocoa	Association of Chocolate, Biscuit and Confectionery Industries of Europe	1	Interview
Individual interview	European Coffee Federation	1	Interview
Focus group livestock and feed	European Livestock and Meat Trades Union	2	Interview
Focus group livestock and feed	European Feed Manufacturers' Federation	2	Interview
Individual interview	Nestle	1	Written response
Individual interview	IKEA	2	Interview
Focus group NGOs	WWF	1	Interview
Focus group NGOs	Greenpeace	2	Interview
Focus group NGOs	Clientearth	1	Interview

Focus group/ individual interview	Stakeholder	Attendees	Type of response
Focus group NGOs	Environmental Investigation Agency	2	Interview
Focus group NGOs	Fern	1	Interview
Individual interview	Mighty Earth	1	Interview
Individual interview	Conservation org	1	Interview
Individual interview	Global Forest Watch	1	Interview
Focus group universities	Chalmers University of Technology, Gothenburg, Sweden	2	Interview
Focus group universities	Tilburg University	1	Interview
Focus group universities	University of Oxford	1	Interview
Individual interview	GIZ	1	Written response

Step 3: Organisation and facilitation of interviews

Due to the restrictions introduced in the EU in response to the Covid-19 pandemic, all interviews took place remotely, using Teams as online teleconferencing software. In addition, written responses to the questionnaire were accommodated following the interviews or replacing the interviews to incorporate additional valuable inputs from key stakeholders. Stakeholders were asked to review the inputs provided and to submit additional literature and data, when relevant. Anonymity in responses was assured to them. Finally, stakeholders were asked whether they agree for their feedback to be shared with the DG Environment.

Step 4: Analysis

The interviews have provided a variety of interview minutes, written feedbacks, and additional attachments and studies. All of this information will be synthesised and analysed to contribute to the draft final and final impact assessment reports.

Targeted stakeholder consultation through stakeholder meetings

The objective of the stakeholder meetings was to gather further information and assess the feedback provided by key stakeholders to date, ultimately assisting in developing the evidence base for the impact assessment. In addition, the meetings provided the opportunity to elaborate upon emerging findings.

A first series of meetings took place on the 1 October and 2 October 2020. Both meetings lasted 2.5 hours. 55 competent authorities from Member States gathered on 1st October, and they were joined by other

stakeholder organisations, third-country representatives, international organisations, and EU representatives on 2nd October. A total of 103 participants attended the meeting on 2nd October.

Due to the restrictions introduced in the EU in response to the Covid-19 pandemic, stakeholder meetings were organised as virtual events, using WebEx meetings organised by the European Commission. In both cases, participants received the agenda and the topics in advance of the discussion to ensure that they are sufficiently prepared.

The structure of both workshops was identical, and covered the following topics:

- Definition of 'deforestation free'.
- Products and commodities to be covered by potential demand-side measures.
- Policy measure 1: Illegal, unreported, and unregulated (IUU) (fishing) approach.
- Policy measure 2: Due diligence (DD) approach.
- Policy measure 3: Verification systems.

A PowerPoint slide pack was presented by the project's representatives who also led discussions, and Q&A around the initial findings of the impact assessment. In addition, a focussed debate provided a platform for discussing possible solutions to challenges identified so far. Minutes of the presentations and discussions during the meetings were drafted after the meeting and included an overview of the meeting and a summary of main messages from the project team presentation.

A third stakeholder meeting is expected to take place at the end of February.

Overview of tools used to consult different stakeholders

The table below shows how each of the different stakeholders was consulted.

Table 1.3 Stakeholder consultation approach

Stakeholder	Consultation approach			
	Open Consultation	Public	Targeted Stakeholder Consultation	Stakeholder Meetings
EU institutions			x	x
Citizens	x			
EU Member State authorities	x		x	x
Third-country stakeholders	x		x	x
Farmers, including livestock producers	x		x	x
Logging, wood-processing companies, and forest owners	x		x	x
Businesses operating with commodities associated with deforestation and forest degradation	x		x	x
Traders working with supply chains potentially associated with deforestation	x		x	x
Consumers and consumer organisations	x		x	x

Stakeholder	Consultation approach			
	Open Consultation	Public	Targeted Stakeholder Consultation	Stakeholder Meetings
Civil society organisations and non-governmental organisations	x		x	x
International organisations	x		x	x

1.4 Methodology and tools used to process data

For the analysis of the Open Public Consultation inputs, the response data was obtained from the European Commission Survey system. All data was reviewed to identify any duplicate or erroneous entry and then processed through our analysis excel document.

For the final data download, there was no significant update of formatting/data structure required.

1.5 Taking into account the information gathered

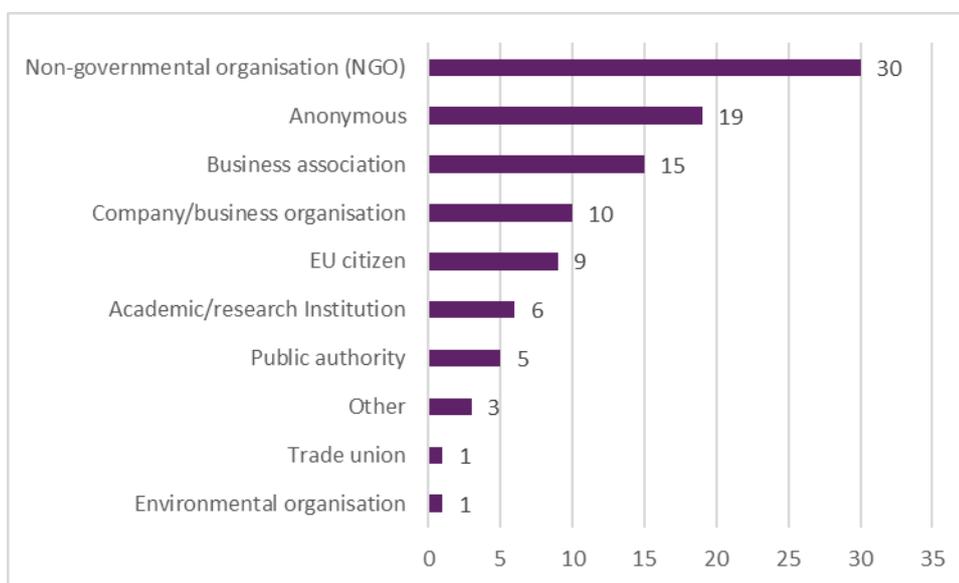
Information from the consultation forms a major part of the evidence considered in the impact assessment. The evidence is compared with evidence from other strands of the project (e.g. literature review) to identify the overall level of agreement or divergence of the evidence.

2. Overview of feedback received

2.1 Feedback received on the Inception Impact Assessment

The feedback mechanism refers to the public consultation on the inception impact assessment, which was open for comments from the 5 February 2020 to 4 March 2020. The analysis presented below takes into account all replies to the questionnaire as well as all the position papers submitted by respondents.³ A total of 99 responses were submitted through the online portal. The categories of respondents providing feedback are presented below. The majority of respondents (30%) were non-governmental organisations, followed by anonymous respondents (19%).

Figure 2.1 Overview of categories of respondents (N=99)



Feedback has been received from:

- Non-governmental organisations: Mighty Earth, Max Havelaar France, World Fair Trade Organization Europe (WFTO-Europe), National Wildlife Federation, Danish Agriculture & Food Council, ACT Alliance Advocacy to the EU, Global Canopy, Transport & Environment, Environmental Investigation Agency, CDP Europe, Swedish Society for Nature Conservation, WCS EU, Partnership for Policy Integrity, Tropenbos International, ClientEarth, France Nature Environnement, Round Table on Responsible Soy Association (RTRS), Rainforest Alliance, Solidaridad, Global Witness, Fern, Forest Peoples Programme (FPP), WWF European Policy Office, Forest and Land Owners Association of Lithuania, Conservation International, Milieudefensie, Friends of the Earth Europe, Greenpeace European Unit, VOICE Network, Senior Corporate Silver Spoon Environment & Nature Association.
- Anonymous respondents.
- Business associations: Swedish Forest Industries Federation, COCERAL, Cogeca, Copa, CEPF - Confederation of European Forest Owners, National Federation of Oil Palm Growers of Colombia-Fedepalma, EDA - European Dairy Association, UECEBV, FoodDrinkEurope, CAOBISSCO, Finnish

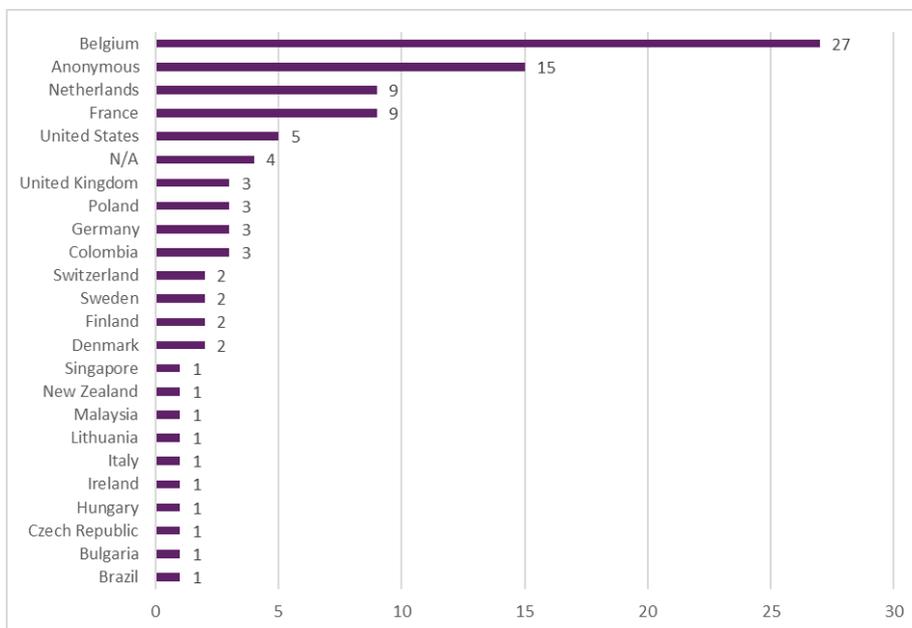
³ <https://ec.europa.eu/info/law/better-regulation/have-your-say/initiatives/12137-Deforestation-and-forest-degradation-reducing-the-impact-of-products-placed-on-the-EU-market>

Forest Industries Federation, EPOA (European Palm Oil Alliance), The Alliance for Beverage Cartons and the Environment (ACE), Confederation of European Paper Industries (Cepi), Irish Creamery Milk Suppliers Association.

- Company/ business organisation: Bayer Crop Science, Mondelez International, AVEC, Henkel AG & Co. KGaA, Nestlé, Golden Agri-Resources Ltd, Ajinomoto Animal Nutrition Europe, FEFAC, FEDIOL - The EU Vegetable Oil and Proteinmeal Industry, Grainis Ltd. Hydrogen Bulgaria.
- EU citizens.
- Academic/research institutions: Federal University of Minas Gerais (UFMG), University of Wisconsin – Madison, Institute for European Environmental Policy, UFMG (Brazil), INRAe (France), University Paris 1 (France), Farm Europe, Deutsche Agrarforschungsallianz (DAFA, German Agricultural Research Alliance).
- Public authority: Ministerio de Agricultura y Desarrollo Rural de la República de Colombia, Ministry for Primary Industries, Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development, Malaysian Palm Oil Council (MPOC), Ministry of Environment and Food of Denmark.
- Other.
- Trade Union: Federazione Italiana Ristorazione.
- Environmental organisation: Rolava z.s.

The countries of respondents varied and represented a total of 23 countries, as set out below.⁴ Belgium was the country with the highest number of responses (27) followed by the Netherlands (9) and France (9).

Figure 2.2 Overview of countries of respondents (N=99)



A general assessment of the responses is that the Commission seeking to minimise the EU's contribution to deforestation and forest degradation worldwide and promote the consumption of products from deforestation-free supply chains in the EU is very welcome. In general, there is a strong preference for legal, binding regulatory action with many respondents also reporting non-regulatory measures and voluntary

⁴ The response 'Anonymous' is not included in the count of 23 countries.

actions to compliment such regulatory action. A broad overview of the themes identified are presented in Table 2.1.

Table 2.1 Summary of the main issues to be addressed according to the respondents and number of times the issues were mentioned

Themes identified	Number of respondents who mentioned the issue
Supporting or against EU action	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 87 responses supported EU action. 11 responses were unclear on their support. No responses were against EU action.
Supporting regulatory measures	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 63 responses supported regulatory measures. 34 responses were unclear on their support. 2 responses did not support regulatory measures.
Proposed regulatory measures	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 65 responses proposed regulatory measures.
Supporting non-regulatory measures	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 62 responses supported non-regulatory measures. 9 responses were unclear on their support. No responses did not support non-regulatory measures.
Non-regulatory measures proposed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 71 responses proposed non-regulatory measures
Measures recommended against	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 31 responses recommended against measures.
Factors for consideration and assessment criteria	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 43 responses proposed factors for consideration and assessment criteria.
Discussion of definitions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9 responses discussed definitions.

The following analysis includes both an analysis of responses as well as the position papers submitted (presented in Appendix A).

There is a strong preference for a suite of measures to be introduced and assessed. A **due diligence obligation (preferably mandatory) on companies** was suggested by most respondents as a regulatory measure, and to be complimented with a/several voluntary or non-binding, non-regulatory measure(s). Lessons learnt from the EUTR and FLEGT regulation should be reflected upon in the Impact Assessment, with better implementation of existing regulation suggested by a few respondents. Many respondents reported that compliance with new requirements should apply to both companies as well as the **financial sector**. Independent, third-party monitoring systems would be required.

That **voluntary commitments have been ineffective and are not sufficient**, was widely regarded amongst respondents. Non-regulatory measures should not be solely introduced. Although, the ability for non-regulatory measures to **complement any binding regulation** put in place, was widely considered to be feasible and supported. Examples of voluntary measures to support a due diligence mechanism include an approach similar to Voluntary Partnership Agreements under the EUTR; certification systems; and voluntary sector agreements. **Citizens should not bear the burden of achieving deforestation-free supply chains** through the sole use of certification schemes, and achieving the aims would not be feasible this way without regulatory legislation also in place.

Other suggested non-regulatory approaches included the support for alternative products consumption and production; education and awareness campaigns; and the promotion of sustainable standards and existing voluntary certifications, improving their verification processes and harmonising these, where possible, such as through third-party verification. EU consumption needs to be addressed, as well as innovation in the agricultural sector supported.

Partnership agreements and co-operation with third countries at producer level was highlighted as essential by many respondents. Engagement at local level in producer countries was often cited with EU assistance provided to governments to strengthen governance and enforcement. **Public-private sector agreements** and the promotion of sustainable forest and land governance in producer countries should be promoted. Support (both financial and technical) should be provided to producers. Respondents also highlighted provisions in trade agreements to achieve aims. Sustainable producers should be recognised by the EU and encouraged.

Stakeholders from producer countries must be involved in the Impact Assessment and wider impacts relating to local communities and indigenous peoples should be assessed. Unintended impacts and leakages should also be looked at. Demand-side measures should be considered in light of supply-side measures. Agriculture should be addressed as a driver of deforestation.

Respondents reported on a range of **sustainability criteria** to be included in any measure and definition. Many responses reported **human rights** should be included, and supply-chains should incorporate the rights of local populations and indigenous peoples, as well as secure ownership and tenure rights. Other **ecosystems, beyond only forests**, should also be included.

Compliance with **World Trade Organisation (WTO) rules and a level playing field** was reported, and regulatory measures should apply to producing countries both within and outside the EU. Free trade agreements should be respected and measures should not act as barriers to trade. A relatively low number of respondents made reference to the use of **taxes** to achieve aims.

On the definition, fewer respondents made specific comments on existing definitions than on the sustainability criteria to be included. The Accountability Framework Initiative was mentioned several times. Criteria must be based on scientific evidence and build upon existing initiatives and standards.

2.2 Open public consultation

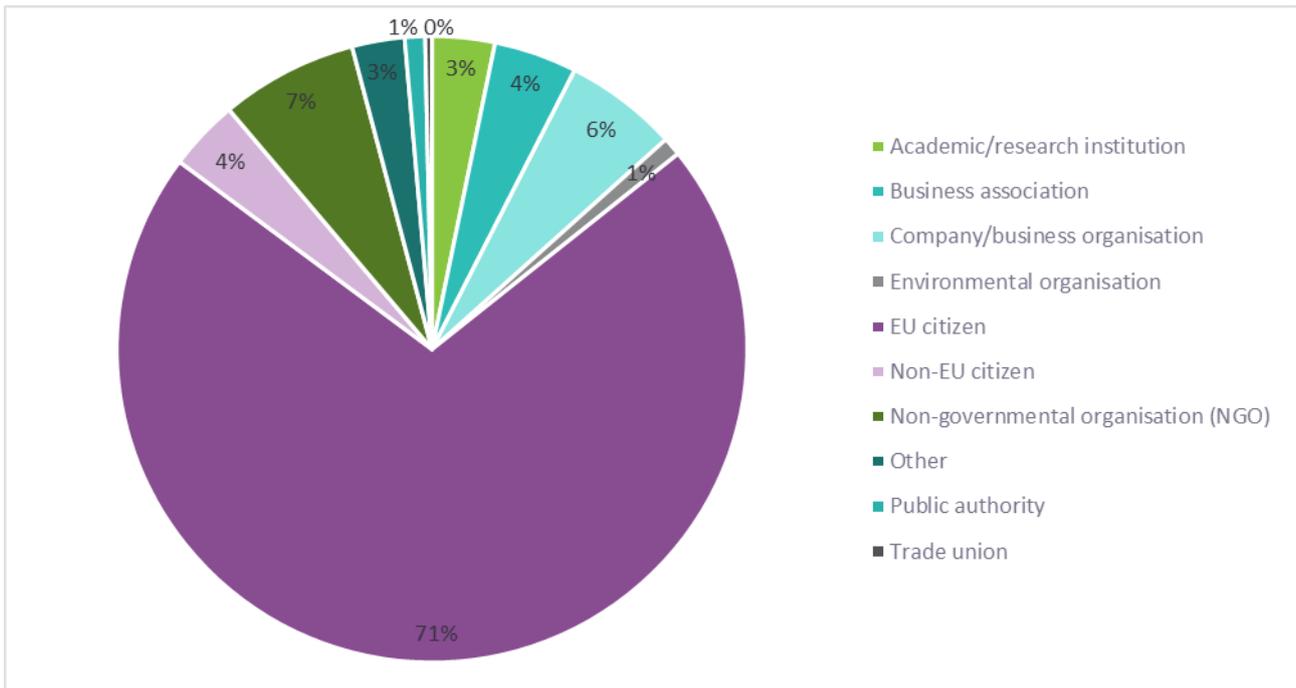
In total, 1,194,761 public responses were obtained during the consultation period. This number was driven to a large extent by a campaign carried out by a group of NGOs, including ClientEarth, Conservation International, Environmental Investigation Agency, Greenpeace and WWF⁵ using pre-filled questionnaires. Of the 1,194,761 responses, 1,193,611 responses have been identified by the European Commission as submitted through the campaign, using a methodology known as “key-collision clustering algorithm”. Following the recommendations from the Better Regulation Toolbox, these responses will be segregated and analysed separately from the non-campaign responses. The content of the pre-filled questionnaire submitted as part of the campaign can be consulted online⁶. Note the detailed analysis of the OPC (presented in Appendix B) includes a section on the campaign responses.

The remaining 1,150 responses are further broken down in this report on the open public consultation. Of these, 816 (71%) filled in the questionnaire as EU citizens, 81 (7%) as non-governmental organisations, 67 (6%) as company/business organisations, 49 (4%) as business associations, 42 (4%) as non-EU citizens, 37 (3%) as academic/research institutions, 12 (1%) as public authorities, 11 (1%) as environmental organisations, 4 (<1%) as trade unions and 31 (3%) as other.

⁵ <https://together4forests.eu/about>

⁶ <https://together4forests.eu/news-resources/answers>

Figure 2.3 Overview of categories of respondents (N=1,150)

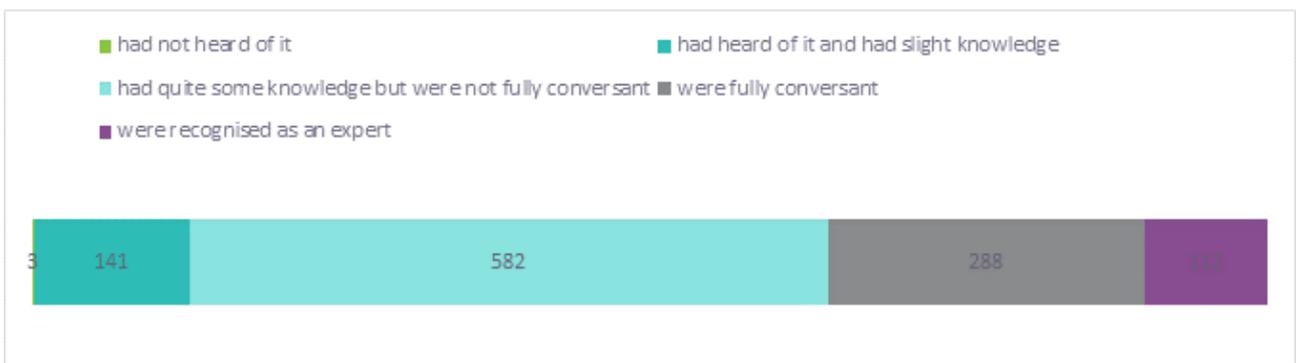


997 (86.7%) respondents defined their country of origin as being an EU27 member state, whereas the remaining 153 (13.3%) of respondents defined their country of origin as not being an EU27 member state. Responses were not obtained from individuals from every Member State.

Within the EU27, countries with the highest number of respondents compared to the total were Italy (409 responses, 36%), Germany (141 respondents, 12%), Belgium (99 respondents, 9%), France (81 respondents, 7%), Netherlands (53 respondents, 5%), Austria (37 respondents, 3%), Spain (34 respondents, 3%), Portugal (28 respondents, 2%), Sweden (25 respondents, 2%) and Czechia (20 respondent, 2%). Non-EU countries with the most respondents comprised of Brazil (42 respondents, 3.7%), the United Kingdom (31 respondents, 2.7%), the United States (19 respondents, 1.7%), Indonesia (7 respondents, 0.6%), Switzerland (7 respondents, 0.7%), Argentina (7 respondents, 0.6%), Cameroon (5 respondents, 0.4%), Norway (3 respondents, 0.3%), Ecuador (3 respondents, 0.3%), and Peru (3 respondents, 0.3%).

Participants were asked how they would rate their knowledge of deforestation, forest degradation and associated trade. Of the 1,126 responses given (from the total 1,150 participants), 288 (25.5%) were fully conversant, 112 (10%) were recognised as an expert, 582 (52%) had quite some knowledge but were not fully conversant, 141 (12.5%) had heard of it and had slight knowledge, and 3 (<1%) had not heard of it.

Figure 2.4 Overview of knowledge of deforestation of respondents (N=1,126)



The detailed analysis of the feedback received to the Open Public Consultation is presented in Appendix B.

2.3 Targeted consultations

The key objective of the targeted consultation was to complement and validate the information gathered from the literature review. It built up an evidence base through the collection of data and opinions from relevant stakeholders in order to inform the Impact Assessment of each policy response. This task was fundamental in order to gather robust quantitative and qualitative data, rather than only individual opinions.

Overview of stakeholders involved in targeted consultations

Along with the targeted consultation interviews there were a series of stakeholder meetings. An overview of the audience reached by all activities is presented in the figures below. Figure 2.5 shows the share of the number of participants per each consultation activity. The figure includes 5 additional potential targeted interviews that are expected to be run between the time of writing of this report and the end of February. Potential stakeholders are DG TRADE, DG AGRI and DG ENER from the European Commission, the European Federation of Forest-Owning Communities, and COPA COGECA. Figure 2.6 shows the number of participants by stakeholder type, including the written responses, for each consultation activity. Figure 2 shows participants by stakeholder type for the targeted interviews.

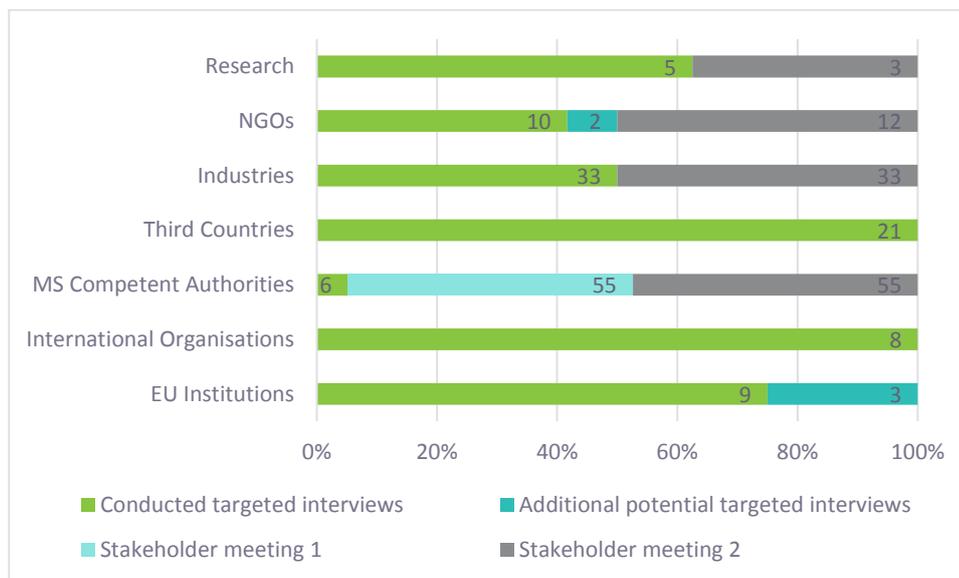
Figure 2.5 Number of participants per consultation activity



Source: own analysis of participants per consultation activity

Note: Stakeholder meeting 1 represents the first day of expert workshop on 01 October, Stakeholder meeting 2 represents the second day of expert workshop on 02 October,

Figure 2.6 Participants by stakeholder type for the consultation activities (without OPC)



Source: own analysis of groups of participants per consultation activity

Figure 2.7 Groups of participants by stakeholder type for the targeted interviews



Source: own analysis of groups of participants for targeted interviews

Expert workshop

On **1-2 October 2020**, an expert meeting for the Multi-Stakeholder Platform on Protecting and Restoring the World’s Forests took place online. A detailed report on the expert workshop is presented in Appendix C.

Targeted interviews

A total of 24 focus group and individual interviews were conducted, which involved 92 stakeholders. In addition, 4 written responses were received. At the time of preparation of this report, all interviews that were initially planned have been conducted. However, it is possible that 5 more interviews will take place, to further complement the inputs so far collected.

Minutes from the interviews have been prepared and shared with interviewees for confirmation. When agreed, the minutes will be shared with DG Environment. In some cases, following the interview, stakeholders have provided us with additional literature material or data, as well as a written response to the questionnaire for more completeness.

Some of the key points from the interviews include:

- On the definition, interviewees raised that it is critical to use an existing definition rather than come up with a new one and desirable to include forest degradation but no interviewee came up with a quantifiable and measurable way to monitor this. Focusing on land-use was found as the most pragmatic approach.
- On the scope, interviewees agreed that the cross commodity approach was good, and that a combination of group 1 and group 2 should be covered. Interviewees mostly agreed that bulk commodities and derived products that contained them should be under scope, however concerns were raised by interviewees on how this could be done in practice, and it might be more practical to cover all products than trying to select some only. On that basis some interviewees recommended to focus only at commodity level. Trade associations have agreed to provide support to the team in identifying (where possible) products.
- On the objectives, the interviewees agreed with the objectives set out. While some interviewees noted that these might be ambitious and could be more targeted, others indicated that the objectives could be extended to cover social issues and human rights which are difficult to disentangle from deforestation issues.
- On measures, interviewees mainly support mandatory due diligence with an emphasis on learning from the EUTR and not replicate weaknesses (e.g. burdensome paperwork requirements or blurry legal definitions (e.g. on negligible risks)). The interviewees expressed some interest for IUU inspired measures but were less familiar with the features and process. Finally some stakeholders recommended a tiered approach in the due diligence with gradual requirements based on a specific classification of countries or commodities.

Appendix A

Overview of position paper submitted as feedback to the Inception Impact Assessment

List of the position papers received

Organisation	Title	Key points
Ajinomoto Animal Nutrition Europe (20)	Reduction of crude protein in EU animal feed diets is a readily available solution to reduce EU imported deforestation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Less soybean can be used in the EU with more amino acid supplementation. • There are benefits in reducing crude protein in animal feeds. • It is possible to reduce soybean meal consumption and imported deforestation
Anonymous (4)	No title	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Definition of deforestation is harmonised with existing standards. • Existing certification standards are evidence of responsible practices. • Regulation should apply to first importers of raw materials into Europe. • Soy supply chain is not the same as other commodities. • Different roadmaps and pathways for different commodities.
Anonymous (30)	Minimising the risk of deforestation and forest degradation associated with products placed on the EU market	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Engagement of public and private players at production level in producer countries and buying countries is required. • Improving production practices and the regulatory framework requires public and private engagement. • Assessment of policy options should identify and aim to mitigate unintended consequences. • Moving production from overseas to Europe may cost the European environment. • Data availability and reliability are essential. • Assess effects of cooperation measures with producer countries.
Bayer Crop Science (6)	Stepping up EU Action to Protect and Restore the World's Forests Bayer's contribution to the Impact Assessment Inception	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support the creation of sustainable resilient farming system. • Costs of certification schemes need to be carefully assessed. • Policy measures inside the EU can support EU agriculture and reduce pressure outside the EU. • Support corporate non-financial reporting. A clear framework to measure effects from supply chain on deforestation is needed. • Support inclusion of sustainability commitments in trade agreements, with dialogue. • International trade should not be hampered and there should be cooperation on harmonised standards.
CDP Europe (13)	CDP Europe's comment on the European Commission's Roadmap against deforestation and forest degradation. Reducing the impact of products placed on the EU market	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EU needs to set clear regulation and binding agreements. • Strengthen the corporate reporting framework. • Integrate and specify deforestation risk assessment in policy measures which target investors and banks. • Encourage suppliers to better manage forest-related impacts and embed zero-deforestation criteria into procurement rules.
ClientEarth (15)	ClientEarth's contribution to the Public consultation on the Roadmap 'Minimising the risk of deforestation and forest degradation associated with products placed on the EU market'	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Robust regulatory and non-regulatory measures to be adopted. • Most recent data and studies should be used to explain the EU's contribution to deforestation and its impact. • Consumption of deforestation-free products should be ensured by the Commission and the decision not in the hands of citizens. • Learn from the EUTR and design stronger due diligence obligation. • Assessment of partnership agreements is essential.

Organisation	Title	Key points
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Requirements should apply to the financial sector as well as companies. Broad consultation with third countries is needed.
COCERAL (5)	COCERAL response to the Consultation on Commission's Roadmap on "Minimising the risk of deforestation and forest degradation associated with products placed on the EU market"	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Deforestation and forest degradation may continue if there is no engagement of public and private players at producer level. Improve production practices and the regulatory framework through public and private engagement on the ground. Disconnecting local minimisation from a global reduction in deforestation would be ineffective in achieving the goal. Unintended consequences should be assessed in policy options. Whether tools could change production practices to avoid conversion should be assessed. Co-operation with producer countries should be assessed. Data availability and reliability are essential.
Cogeca (8)	Feedback on the Inception Impact Assessment on 'Minimising the risk of deforestation and forest degradation associated with products placed on the EU market'.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Impact of deforestation on local communities and violation of property rights needs to be acknowledged. A level playing is required. Emphasis should be put on local governance to encourage deforestation-free economic activities at local level. Deforestation-free supply chains should be supported by consumer behaviour and market forces. Labelling initiatives should be harmonised across the EU. Avoid simplistic measures not based on science-based criteria. Certification schemes should share the premium price across the food chain. EU 2019/807 should stop expansion onto high carbon stock land.
Confederation of European Paper Industries (Cepi) (33)	Feedback on the roadmap on the impact assessment on proposal for a regulation on deforestation and forest degradation – reducing the impact of products placed on the EU markets	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Essential to solve issues relating to local governance. Livelihoods of local people should be supported. Promotion of sustainable forest management should play a key role. Trade agreements and that trade flows function are important. Strongly support the "sustainable development chapter" of EU-Mercosur Important that tools do not lead to unintended impacts on and administrative burden for home grown raw materials.
Conservation International (26)	Conservation International's feedback. Inception Impact Assessment on Minimising the risk of deforestation and forest degradation associated with products placed on the EU market	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regulatory measures should be put in place. Consumers should not bear the burden of driving sustainable supply-chains. Supply-chains should comply with human rights standards. Voluntary commitments have so far failed. Mandatory due diligence for companies and the financial sector. A cross-commodity approach should be followed. The deforestation-free definition should include other natural ecosystems and human rights abuses. Partnership agreements are crucial. Economic, social, fundamental rights and administrative burden benefits may arise as impacts. Consultation with third countries is needed.
Copa (9)	Feedback on the Inception Impact Assessment on 'Minimising the risk of deforestation and forest degradation associated with products placed on the EU market'.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Impact of deforestation on local communities and violation of property rights needs to be acknowledged. A level playing is required. Emphasis should be put on local governance to encourage deforestation-free economic activities at local level. Deforestation-free supply chains should be supported by consumer behaviour and market forces. Labelling initiatives should be harmonised across the EU. Avoid simplistic measures not based on science-based criteria. Certification schemes should share the premium price across the food chain.

Organisation	Title	Key points
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> EU 2019/807 should stop expansion onto high carbon stock land.
EDA - European Dairy Association (19)	Eda The Dairy sector & the Green Deal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Many dairy companies have committed to eliminating deforestation in their supply chains. EU institutions to build a framework to remove legal burden and protect the European Single Market.
Environmental Investigation Agency (12)	Environmental Investigation Agency's contribution to the Public consultation on the Roadmap "Minimising the risk of deforestation and forest degradation associated with products placed on the EU market"	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regulatory options, especially due diligence regulation should be considered. Regulation should ensure supply chains are deforestation and human rights abuses free; not be limited to labelling (mandatory or otherwise); should be assessed to compliment partnership approaches with producer countries; and should apply to finished products and derivatives. Increased coherence and enforcement of existing EU policies and frameworks is needed. Definition should include no human rights abuses. Positive economic impacts and benefits should be assessed. Wider impacts relating to local communities and indigenous peoples should be assessed. Impact of regulation on other natural ecosystems should be assessed.
Federal University of Minas Gerais (UFMG) (1)	The limits of private certifications and the potential of state-led spatial data infrastructure in South America as to ensure deforestation-free exports to the EU	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Commission should reconsider emphasis placed on private sustainability standards, certifications and audits carried out by companies. EU Commission should support approaches based on science-driven methods to monitor supply-chains. It should be made compulsory for commodity-exporting countries to effectively use existing systems. Independent monitoring must take place.
FEDIOL - The EU Vegetable Oil and Proteinmeal Industry (29)	FEDIOL response to the European Commission Roadmap Consultation on Minimising the risk of deforestation and forest degradation associated with products placed on the EU market	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Engagement of public and private players at production level in producer countries and buying countries is required. Improving production practices and the regulatory framework requires public and private engagement. Assessment of policy options should identify and aim to mitigate unintended consequences. Moving production from overseas to Europe may cost the European environment. Data availability and reliability are essential. Assess effects of cooperation measures with producer countries.
FEFAC (24)	FEFAC position on minimising deforestation risks in the soy supply chain	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The most significant contributions to tackling deforestation can be found through sustainable land management. Compliance with environmental legislation is still an ambitious goal. Soy sourced from areas of negligible risk should be included in a verified deforestation-free supply chain. Refrain from a penalty system and favours legislation that encouraged investment in sustainable supply chains. Caution with using the reference period 1990-2008 A clear cut-off date is required. European feed (as soy) does not contribute to increased demand for soy.
FoodDrinkEurope (23)	FoodDrinkEurope contribution paper on forest protection and restoration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Strengthened international cooperation and existing policy coherence is needed. Support provided for capability and capacity building of local governments in producing countries. Support due diligence requirements, with reporting frameworks and Responsible Business Conduct. Certification schemes can help and be harmonised, where possible with the reliability of information ensured. Welcome a multi-stakeholder approach (EU Multi-Stakeholder Platform)

Organisation	Title	Key points
Forest Peoples Programme (FPP) (25)	Forest Peoples Programme's submission on the EU Roadmap for the Inception Impact Assessment for 'Minimising the risk of deforestation and forest degradation associated with products placed on the EU market'	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Human rights violations need to be specifically recognised as a problem and their protection an objective, and impacts on rights assessed. Regulatory options considered should include trade-based models and direct regulation of European companies, as well as the financial sector. Impact Assessment should consult people outside the EU affected by regulatory options. Suggestion to change the title of the initiative to: <i>Minimising the risk of deforestation and associated human rights violations connected with supply chains linked to EU companies, trade or finance.</i>
Friends of the Earth Europe (31)	Friends of the Earth Europe feedback to the Inception Impact Assessment on "Minimising the risk on deforestation and forest degradation associated with products placed on the EU market"	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The need to cut EU demand agrocommodities is a missing problem. Problem definition needs to look at drivers of EU consumption of products related to deforestation and human rights violations. The EU should promote and secure Community Forest Management Europe's own forests play a role. EU should prioritise reducing its contribution to global agriculture expansion. Initiatives on consumer labelling should not be presented as an option. Human rights should be added to the aim of the regulation. Voluntary measures are not effective to stop deforestation. Policy should not focus on voluntary initiatives or mainly on supply-chain improvements. Consultation should be available to a range of stakeholders.
Global Witness (22)	Global Witness' contribution to the Public Consultation on the inception impact assessment 'Minimising the risk of deforestation and forest degradation associated with products placed on the EU market'	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The impact assessment my priorities the focus on regulatory measures, including due diligence. EU finance must be addressed to tackle deforestation. Due diligence obligations should be placed on supply chains and investments. Labelling and certification are unlikely to bring change. Consumers should not carry the burden. Voluntary commitments from financial institutions have failed to deliver change.
Grainis Hydrogen Bulgaria (36)	Grainis Ltd. INTELLIGENT AFFORESTATION AND H 2 - BASED FARMING: Grainis Ltd. Hydrogen Bulgaria works since 2005 on projects for Intelligent Agriculture and Aquaculture.	
Henkel AG & Co. KGaA (10)	Henkel comments on the Inception Impact Assessment for the initiative "Minimising the risk of deforestation and forest degradation associated with products placed on the EU market"	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Partnerships between the EU, Member States and producing countries help promote sustainable forest management and agricultural practices. Support RSPO standard for smallholders Committed to achieving zero net deforestation
Malaysian Palm Oil Council (MPOC) (17)	Malaysian Palm Oil Council (MPOC): Comments and Critique In the context of the European Commission's legislative initiative on 'Deforestation and forest degradation – reducing the impact of products placed on the EU market'	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Legislative and regulation must not be unilateral, must be based on data and science that is measurable, non-discriminatory, and comply with WTO rules. Initiatives must be commodity-neutral and not disguise restrictions on international trade. Recognise agricultural, industrial and comparative differences between commodities. Provide incentives for production of sustainable products. The EU has already deforestation some time ago EU must work in partnership with countries
Milieudefensie (27)	Friends of the Earth Europe feedback to the Inception	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The need to cut EU demand agrocommodities is a missing problem.

Organisation	Title	Key points
	Impact Assessment on "Minimising the risk on deforestation and forest degradation associated with products placed on the EU market"	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Problem definition needs to look at drivers of EU consumption of products related to deforestation and human rights violations. • The EU should promote and secure Community Forest Management • Europe's own forests play a role. • EU should prioritise reducing its contribution to global agriculture expansion. • Initiatives on consumer labelling should not be presented as an option. • Human rights should be added to the aim of the regulation. • Voluntary measures are not effective to stop deforestation. • Policy should not focus on voluntary initiatives or mainly on supply-chain improvements. • Consultation should be available to a range of stakeholders.
Ministry for Primary Industries (2)	New Zealand Ministry for Primary Industries Submission to the European Commission on "Minimising the Risk of Deforestation and Forest Degradation Associated with products Placed on the EU Market"	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Existing schemes should be integrated. • Industry should take voluntary actions. • Unsustainable agricultural practices are a driver. • A risk based approach should look at how agricultural goods are produced. • Cost and regulatory burden should be considered
Mondelēz International (7)	Deforestation – Our Position	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support a sector-wide approach with support of producer governments
EU Citizen (28)	Environmental and Human Rights problems in Southeast Asia - Is Democracy a requisite in addressing them?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Essay explores environmental and human rights problems in Southeast Asia and the work by NGOs and civil society groups there. • Poverty needs to be fought to mitigate environmental problems. • Sustainable tourism from the West is required. • Local context needs to be understood.
EU Citizen (34)		
Rainforest Alliance (18)	Feedback on the EU Roadmap on 'Deforestation and forest degradation – reducing the impact of products placed on the EU market'	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Voluntary measures alone are not enough. • There needs to be a mix of mandatory and voluntary approaches. • Due diligence legislation is essential. • A new label being created to inform consumers is inefficient and undesirable. • Existing initiatives must be learnt from • Demand-side measures must be combined with bilateral partnerships. • There is current momentum for measures in the cocoa sector.
The Alliance for Beverage Cartons and the Environment (ACE) (32)	Reply to the feedback on deforestation and forest degradation – reducing the impact of product placed on the EU market	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strongly supports due diligence systems with robust traceability systems. • Internationally recognised forest certification standards help ensure greater transparency. Mandatory compliance with such system is supported. • A level playing field by the EU taking action against transparency non-compliance. • Traceability systems are needed. • A clear definition of deforestation • Make clear the geographic regions targeted. • Third-party verified traceability wood.
Transport & Environment (11)	Transport & Environment (T&E) wishes to provide feedback to the EU Commission's consultation on Minimising the risk of deforestation and forest degradation associated with products placed on the EU market.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Certification is not a valid option for biofuels. • REDII has improvements, but also loopholes. • A full phase out of crop based biofuels is recommended. • High ILUC risk biofuels should be phased out quicker. • Advanced biofuels should be impact assessed and safeguards put in place to avoid fraud relating to cooking oil (UCO) • Certification schemes should not be blindly relied upon

Organisation	Title	Key points
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Trade negotiations should not undermine efforts from the EU on deforestation, climate change and biodiversity.
Tropenbos International (14)	No title.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Binding legislative measures are needed, voluntary commitments alone are not enough. Mandatory due diligence supported by Voluntary Partnership Agreements (VPAs) with good producer country governance. Voluntary measures should complement new legislation. Bilateral partnerships with producer countries should be developed. Consumer labelling is inadequate. Consumers should not bear the burden. Recommend building on the Accountability Framework for a deforestation-free definition. Recognise and secure land rights for marginalised groups. Consult citizens and stakeholders in producing countries as part of the impact assessment.
UECBV (21)	Deforestation and forest degradation – reducing the impact of products placed on the EU market	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Encourage and support initiatives that invest in sustainable supply chains, including public-private initiatives. There needs to be a level playing field. Policy should be designed in cooperation with producer countries. Legislative and financial support to feed innovation. Cautious using period 1990-2008
UFMG (Brazil), INRAe (France), University Paris 1 (France) (16)	The limits of private certifications and the potential of state-led spatial data infrastructure in South America as to ensure deforestation-free exports to the EU	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Commission should reconsider emphasis placed on private sustainability standards, certifications and audits carried out by companies. EU Commission should support approaches based on science-driven methods to monitor supply-chains. It should be made compulsory for commodity-exporting countries to effectively use existing systems. Independent monitoring must take place.
VOICE Network (35)	Joint position paper on the EU's policy and regulatory approach to cocoa	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Importance of partnerships with governments of cocoa-producing countries, industry and civil society with multi-stakeholder frameworks EU should negotiate bilateral agreements with cocoa origin governments. Regulatory and policy framework for sustainable cocoa production from West Africa. Due diligence obligation placed on all companies that place cocoa or cocoa products on the EU market, and include human rights. And deal with deforestation and weak enforcement. Reporting obligation. Commodity-specific approach has its drawbacks. A list of commodities would be possible instead, with commodities phased in. Partnership with producer governments.
World Fair Trade Organization Europe (WFTO-Europe) (3)	WFTO-Europe feedback on public consultation: Deforestation and forest degradation – reducing the impact of products placed on the EU market.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Binding legislation related to Due Diligence on Human Rights and the Environment must be introduced. Alternative business models for the planet and people before profits, must be considered. Urge the introduction of mandatory Human Rights Due Diligence legislation for companies. Entice companies to ensure Living Wages for their producers. Technical support and finance to producers in third countries Enhance the Fair and Sustainable Development chapters of EU trade agreements. Dedicate research to new and innovate legislative approaches



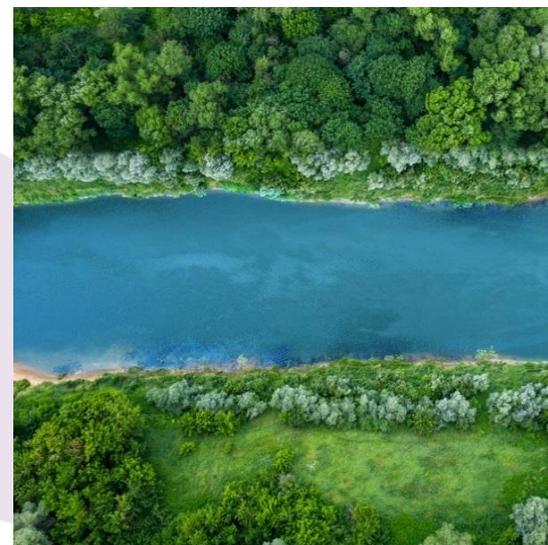
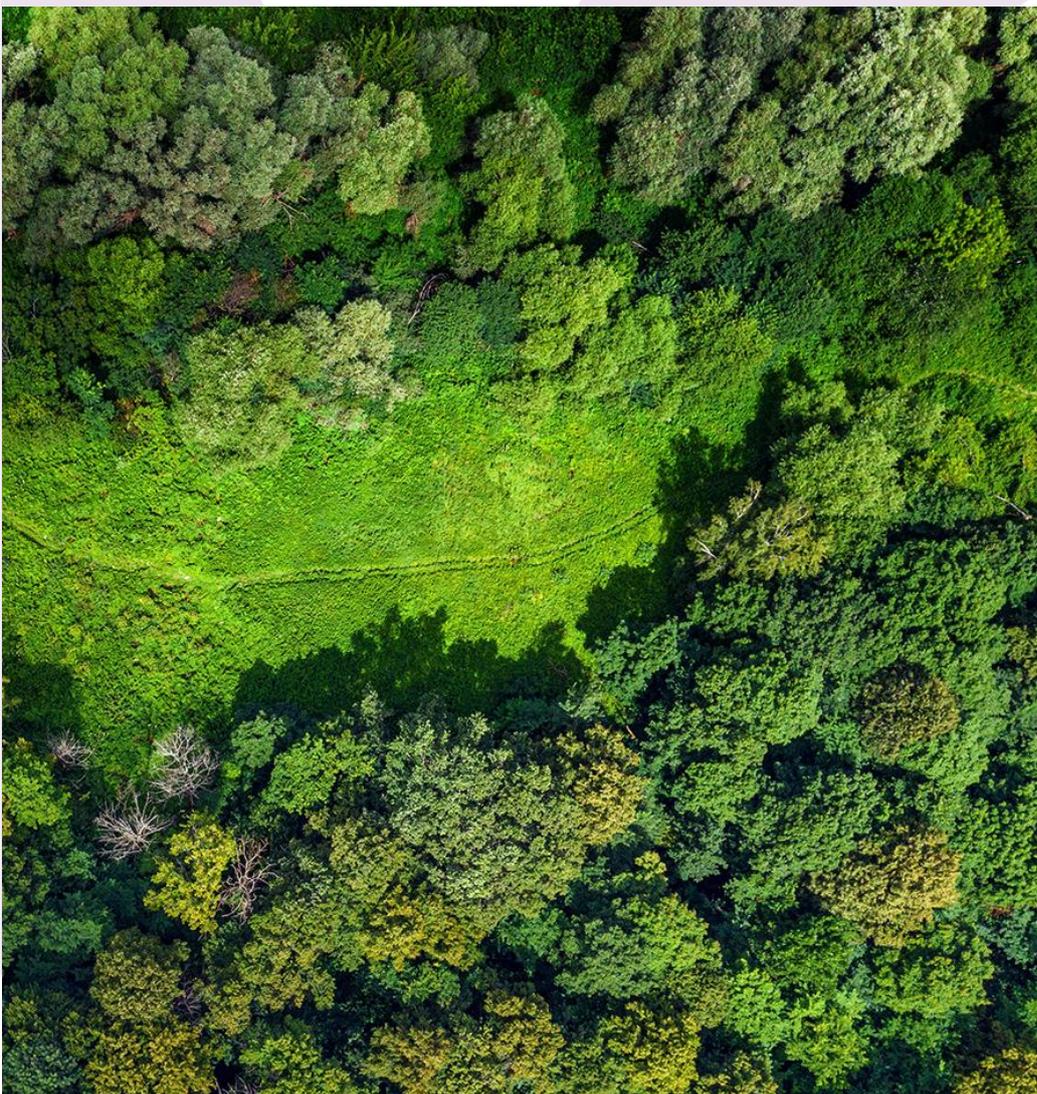
Appendix B

Detailed analysis of the OPC

Study on EU policy on forest products and deforestation

Task 3 to support an impact assessment on demand-side measures in order to increase supply chain transparency and minimise the risk of deforestation and forest degradation associated with products placed on the EU market

Appendix B – Detailed analysis of the Open Public Consultation



Report for

DG Environment
European Commission
Brussels, Belgium

Main contributors

Kastalie Bougas (Wood)
Victoria Cherrier (Wood)
Ben Croad (Wood)
Keir McAndrew (Wood)
Andreea Beznea (Trinomics)
Kym Whiteoak (Trinomics)

Issued by

.....
Victoria Cherrier

Approved by

.....
Kastalie Bougas

Wood

Analysis of the OPC – Task 3 on an impact assessment on EU forest policy and deforestation

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Document revisions

No.	Details	Date
1	Detailed analysis of the OPC	16/02/2021
2	Detailed analysis of the OPC	13/09/2021



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1. Introduction

1.1 This report

This report presents the analysis of the feedback received as part of the Open Public Consultation held as part of the delivery of the project 'Service Contract on EU policy on forest products and deforestation' commissioned by DG Environment under the Framework Contract ENV/F1/FRA/2019/0001.

1.2 The public consultation

A Public Consultation was held on the EU Survey platform between 03 September and 10 December 2020 to support the assessment of options to reduce the impact of products placed on the EU market on deforestation and forest degradation¹. The consultation period lasted for 14 weeks². The questionnaire was available in 23 EU languages.

1.3 The questionnaire

The questionnaire was split in five sections:

- The first section asked for information on the identity and interests of the stakeholders;
- The second section asked for stakeholder views on the problem of deforestation and forest degradation;
- The third section asked for stakeholder views on the best level of governance to implement demand-side measures to address deforestation and forest degradation;
- The fourth sections asked for stakeholder views on options for demand-side measures to reduce the risks of deforestation and forest degradation, as well as their related (potential and expected) impacts; and
- The fifth section allowed stakeholders to input any information on the topic which had not been covered in questions up to this point.

The first section was the only compulsory part of the questionnaire.

Respondents were also able to upload position papers or other relevant documents.

1.4 Limitations of the public Consultation

There are limitations to the evidence generated as part of the Public Consultation. These are briefly summarised below.

¹ See the Better Regulation page for the initiative: <https://ec.europa.eu/info/law/better-regulation/have-your-say/initiatives/12137-Minimising-the-risk-of-deforestation-and-forest-degradation-associated-with-products-placed-on-the-EU-market>

² Note the usual consultation period was extended to account for delays due to COVID-19

- The Public Consultation includes a majority of closed questions which do not allow for more detailed input from respondents. However standardised response options were necessary to ensure that some statistical comparison of responses could be made.
- Some open questions were included to allow for more details and views to be shared. However, the length of free text for replies was limited.
- Finally, while a range of stakeholders took part in the consultation, the results are not statistically representative due to the inherent fact of self-selection. The active stakeholders are those which are more likely to have contributed.

These limitations are fully acknowledged as part of the Better Regulation guidelines. These have been taken into account in our analysis, mainly by being careful to not over generalise statements.

1.5 Structure of the report

This report is structured as follows:

- Section 2 presents a summary of the responses given as part of the #Together4Forests campaign run by the WWF in response to the EU public consultation for this project;
- Section 3 presents information gathered on the identity of respondents and their organisations;
- Section 4 presents information gathered from respondents on the problem of deforestation and forest degradation;
- Section 5 presents information gathered from respondents on the responsibility for decision-making;
- Section 6 presents information gathered from respondents on potential demand-side measures and their impacts;
- Section 7 presents information gathered in the follow up questions of the questionnaire; and
- Section 8 presents an overview of the position papers submitted.

2. Analysis of responses to the OPC

2.1 Responses from campaign

In total, 1,194,761 public responses were obtained during the consultation period. This number was driven to a large extent by a campaign carried out by a group of NGOs, including ClientEarth, Conservation International, Environmental Investigation Agency, Greenpeace and WWF³ using pre-filled questionnaires. Of the 1,194,761 responses, 1,193,611 responses have been identified by the European Commission as submitted through the campaign. The campaign has been identified using a methodology known as “key-collision clustering algorithm”. Following the recommendations from the Better Regulation Toolbox, these responses have been segregated and analysed separately from the non-campaign responses. The content of the pre-filled questionnaire submitted as part of the campaign can be consulted online⁴.

2.1.1 Overview of the results to Section I

The responses highlight that an EU-level intervention on EU consumption of goods would very much reduce global deforestation and forest degradation. With regards to the economic sectors that contribute to deforestation and forest degradation, the campaign indicated that all economic sectors and commodities are relevant for the EU legislation, including the finance sector, rather than indicating any one particular economic sector. As part of the reasoning behind this response, it was indicated that economic sectors should be assessed not only for their impact on deforestation and forest degradation, but also on ecosystem conversion and ecosystem degradation and human rights violations. Further to this, all commodities listed were deemed to be relevant for EU legislation in the prevention of deforestation and forest degradation and the importance of ensuring that human rights violations do not occur was again highlighted.

For the question on “what extent do the following factors contribute to the consumption (within the EU) of products linked to deforestation and forest degradation?” the campaign indicated that “Lack of agreed regulations/standards to define “deforestation-free” products or commodities” and “Regulations do not restrict the sale of goods associated with deforestation” were of the most significance. The rationale behind this was that “EU currently has no legislation in place that tackles our consumption of commodities linked with ecosystem destruction”. The importance of tackling human rights violations, and tackling EU consumption patterns was also highlighted within this rationale.

When asked “to what extent do the following problems contribute to deforestation and forest degradation?” the campaign responses indicated the selection of “absence of sound policies at the EU level that minimise the contribution to deforestation and forest degradation”. The implementation of EU legislation to tackle the consumption of commodities linked with ecosystem destruction, the need to protect human rights and the need for legislation to provide direction for private companies was highlighted in the rationale.

2.1.2 Overview of the results to Section II

The campaign indicated that measures tackling EU-driven deforestation and forest degradation should be designed and implemented at EU-level due to the high levels of consumption within the EU which provides an impetus for action to occur at EU-level. It also identified that the EU also has the power to be able to act on this.

³ <https://together4forests.eu/about>

⁴ <https://together4forests.eu/news-resources/answers>

2.1.3 Overview of the results to Section III

Within this section, the campaign stated that the responsibility to tackle the loss of forests and ecosystems cannot be left to consumers alone due to the scale of the issue. Therefore, the question on “from a consumer’s perspective, how would information on the deforestation and forest degradation impact of the products and services you purchase influence your purchasing decisions?” was left blank and the campaign highlighted how this question may divert attention away from the need for EU legislation.

It was further indicated that “a large number of products including all (or nearly all) that have a potential impact on deforestation” should be covered by the future EU policy measures due to the effects that products linked to deforestation are having on our economy and livelihoods, food security, health and well-being worldwide.

The campaign indicated that EU measures should aim to tackle both the legality and the forest-related sustainability of products. Their reason for this is that goods should not be placed on the EU market if risks of deforestation exist and should only be allowed if they meet EU sustainability criteria. This would prevent forest and ecosystem destruction and human rights breaches.

When asked “What kind of forests should be prioritised by the measures to minimise environmental damages from deforestation and forest degradation?” it was indicated that no response should be given. The rationale behind this was that it is not only forests that be being destroyed due to our consumption habit but also savannahs, grasslands, peatlands, wetlands and other valuable ecosystems which is damaging to local communities and indigenous populations.

Whether or not tree plantation could compensate forest clearances was not indicated since the campaign highlights that rather than focusing on ending EU-driven deforestation, the concept would undermine the protection of existing natural forests. It was also highlighted that newly planted forests are not as comparable to old-growth forests as their capacity for climate mitigation and adaptation is worse.

Measures are the most suitable to address the issue of deforestation and forest degradation associated with EU consumption were identified in the campaign as “A deforestation-free requirement or standard that commodities or products in their product category must comply with to be placed on the EU market”, “Voluntary labelling”, “Mandatory labelling”, “Voluntary due diligence”, “Mandatory due diligence” and “other measures”. For these other measures it was indicated that other policy measures should be strengthened which include cooperation with both producer and consumer countries to address deforestation, forest degradation and conversion or degradation of natural ecosystems and human rights violations.

A mandatory product-specific approach, focusing on information, risk assessment and risk mitigation covering the whole supply chain was indicated as the preferred due diligence approach. Their rationale was that there is a need to ensure that all products are free from nature destruction and related human rights violations while voluntary approaches have been deemed ineffective. It was not indicated whether an IUU approach should be considered as it was deemed to be beyond the scope of the campaign.

2.1.4 Overview of the results to Section IV

Further thoughts provided at the end of the questionnaire were as follows: “New legislation is needed, ensuring commodities on the EU market are sustainable, free from conversion and degradation of natural forests and other ecosystems and traceable along the supply chain. The law should comply with international standards and obligations on human rights. The rights of indigenous peoples and local communities dependent on forests have to be recognised. The law should also apply to the financial sector, including banks.”

2.2 Responses from non-campaign

2.2.1 Section I – Identity of respondents

Overview

This section of the report follows a similar format to the original questionnaire and provides an overview of the type of respondents and the organisations who responded.

The 1,150 responses that are not considered to not be part of the campaign are further broken down in this analysis of the open public consultation. 748 (65%) of participants opted to remain anonymous, whilst 401 (35%) opted for their details to be published with their contribution (one respondent did not provide an answer and therefore will be treated as anonymous).

Type of respondents

This section assessed the type of respondents with a total of 1,150 respondents providing a response to this question.

The distribution of responses per respondent category is presented in Table 2.1 . The majority of responses were from EU citizens (n=816) with the next largest representations coming from non-governmental organisations (n=81) and company/business organisations (n=67).

Table 2.1 Number of responses given per respondent category as part of the questionnaire

Respondent category	I am giving my contribution as	Percentage (%)
Academic/research institution	37	3.2
Business association	49	4.3
Company/business organisation	67	5.8
Environmental organisation	11	1.0
EU citizen	816	71.0
Non-EU citizen	42	3.7
Non-governmental organisation (NGO)	81	7.0
Other	31	2.7
Public authority	12	1.0
Trade union	4	0.3
Total	1,150	100

Scope of organisations

Company and business organisations were provided with the option to provide further information on their level of activity. Overall, 12 organisations provided further information, which is presented in Table 2.2.

Table 2.2 Overview of responses on the scope of organisation (international, national sub-national or regional) (n=12)

Scope of organisation	Number of responses
International	2
National	8
Regional	2
Total	12

Country of origin

Table 2.3 shows the distribution of responses according to the country of origin of the respondent (n=1,150). More of the responses emanated from EU Member States (n=997) than from the rest of the world (n=153). In the EU, most responses were received from respondents in Italy, followed by Germany, Belgium and France.

Table 2.3 Number of respondents to the questionnaire broken down by EU Member State (left) and non-EU countries (right)

EU Member States		Non-EU States	
Country of origin	Number of respondents	Country of origin	Number of respondents
Austria	37	Argentina	7
Belgium	99	Australia	3
Bulgaria	8	Bermuda	1
Croatia	2	Brazil	42
Czechia	20	Cambodia	1
Denmark	6	Cameroon	5
Finland	15	China	1
France	81	Colombia	1
Germany	141	Congo	1
Greece	1	Costa Rica	1
Hungary	9	Ecuador	3
Ireland	6	Ghana	1

EU Member States		Non-EU States	
Italy	409	India	2
Latvia	1	Indonesia	7
Lithuania	1	Isle of Man	1
Luxembourg	3	Japan	1
Netherlands	53	Kenya	1
Poland	11	Malaysia	2
Portugal	28	Myanmar/Burma	1
Romania	7	Norway	3
Spain	34	Pakistan	1
Sweden	25	Paraguay	1
		Peru	3
		Russia	2
		Singapore	1
		Switzerland	7
		Thailand	1
		Ukraine	1
		United Kingdom	31
		United States	19
		Zimbabwe	1
Total	997	Total	153

Sector active for respondents

Respondents were provided with the opportunity to provide further information on the sectors they are active in. The numbers of responses per sector are presented in Table 2.4 below. The most commonly identified sectors were biodiversity and/or environment, processing and/or sale of wood and/or wood-based products and durable goods (i.e. with a shelf life of minimum three years). However, many respondents responded that they did not know.

Table 2.4 Numbers of respondents who identify as being active for given sectors

Sector	Number of responses
Biodiversity and/or environment	440
I do not know	440
Durable goods (i.e. with a shelf life of minimum three years)	225
Processing and/or sale of wood and/or wood-based products	203
Climate change	185
I am not currently active in any of the above sectors	135
Urban planning and development	113
Scientific research	109
Energy	101
Education	96
Certification schemes	93
Fast-moving consumer goods (i.e. with a shelf life of maximum three years, and other than food and beverages)	90
Health	89
Logistics and infrastructure (general)	83
Forest owners, cooperatives, associations of forest owners	73
Tourism	67
Consumption (general) and/or consumer interests	52
Mining and the extractive industry (including oil and gas)	51
Farmers, and associations representing farmers	46
Human and/or labour rights	39
Transport	34
Investment and finance	33
Services (general)	32
Trade of agricultural commodities (i.e. active in the sale and/or purchase of agricultural commodities, including crop-based and animal-based commodities)	31
Food and/or beverage industry	30
Trading (general)	28
Media and communication	11
Other	0

Knowledge of deforestation and forest degradation and associated trade

The aim of this section was to determine the level of background knowledge respondents had when answering the questionnaire. The number of responses to each option given to the question "How do you rate your level of knowledge of deforestation and forest degradation and associated trade?" are presented in Figure 2.1 below.

Figure 2.1 Number of respondents with a given level of knowledge of deforestation and forest degradation (N=1,126)



There were almost no respondents who had not heard of deforestation and forest degradation. Indeed, the majority of respondents had at least some knowledge on the subject. Most respondents identified within the "I have quite some knowledge but am not fully conversant" category.

For organisations

Size of organisations

Respondents from organisations were asked to specify the size of their organisation. The number of responses per given size of organisation are presented in Table 2.5.

Table 2.5 Number of respondents identifying their business size per category of respondent (n=291)

Respondent category	Large (250 or more)	Medium (50 to 249 employees)	Micro (1 to 9 employees)	Small (10 to 49 employees)	Total
Academic/research institution	26	2	2	7	37
Business association	6	6	24	13	49
Company/business organisation	40	5	17	5	67

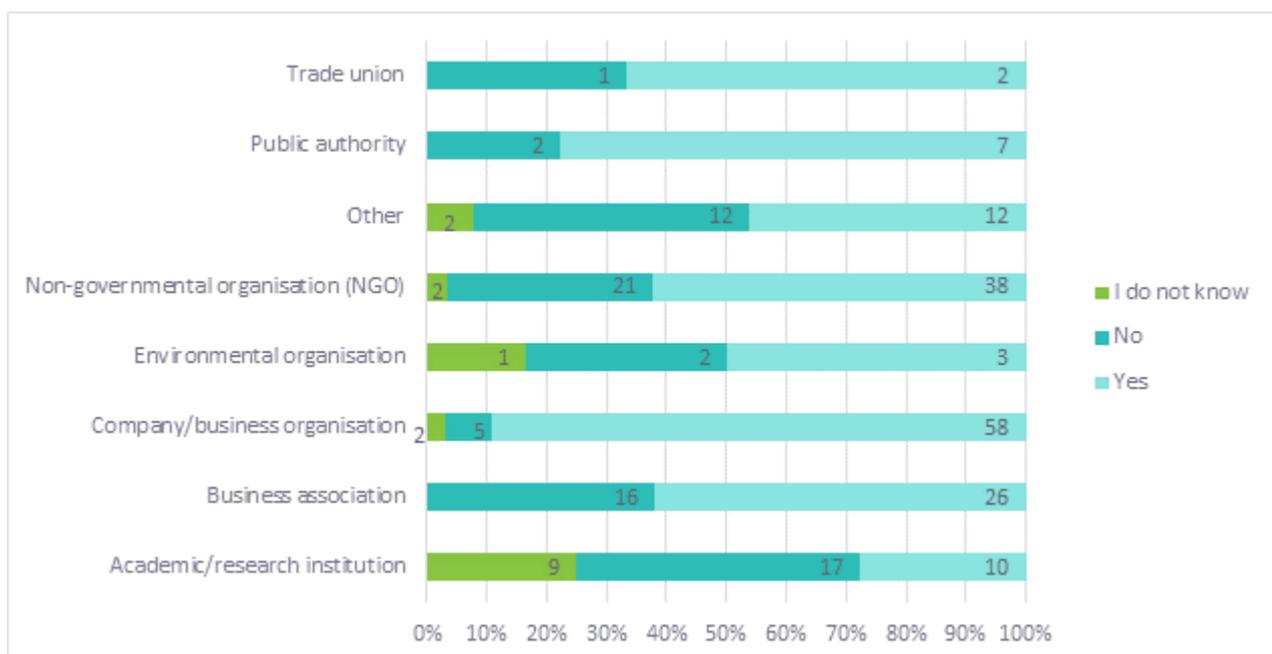
Respondent category	Large (250 or more)	Medium (50 to 249 employees)	Micro (1 to 9 employees)	Small (10 to 49 employees)	Total
Environmental organisation	0	3	5	3	11
Non-governmental organisation (NGO)	9	26	22	23	80
Other	7	4	13	7	31
Public authority	8	4	0	0	12
Trade union	0	1	3	0	4
Total	96	51	86	58	291

Academic institutions were generally large organisations, company/business organisations range from micro to large organisations, whereas NGOs and business associations were generally medium, micro or small. Other categories of respondent had a range of organisation sizes.

Has your organisation made any (voluntary) pledges or commitments to tackle deforestation and/or address forest degradation?

For this question, responses were limited to "yes", "no", "other" and "I do not know" although if respondents answered "yes" an opportunity for providing further details was offered. The results of this analysis per respondent category is shown in Figure 2.2.

Figure 2.2 Number of respondents per respondent category and whether or not their organisation has made any pledge or commitments to tackle deforestation and/or forest degradation (N=248)



Most respondents identified that their organisation had made a commitment to tackle deforestation (N=156) although a sizeable number of respondents identified that their organisation had not (N=76). In general, there was not pattern amongst respondents to this question as those responding “yes” and “no” were relatively evenly distributed in each respondent category. However, the large majority companies/business organisations identified that their company had made this commitment (N=58 for “yes” compared to N=5 for “no”).

The types of pledges or commitments made to tackle deforestation and/or forest degradation by those who responded “yes” to the above question, and the number of responses to each, are shown in Table 2.6.

Table 2.6 Responses to pledge or commitments made to tackle deforestation and/or forest degradation (N=353)

Pledge or commitment	Number of responses
Supply-chain measures (i.e., transparency commitments along supply chains, due diligence systems, etc.)	84
Technical support	64
Reduction of the organisation’s impact on forests through a variety of means	61
Other	59
Modifying previous supply chains to avoid companies/producers/countries/geographic areas associated to deforestation	46
Financial support/contributions	39

For those who identified other pledges and commitments made towards reducing deforestation and/or forest degradation the following general pledges were presented:

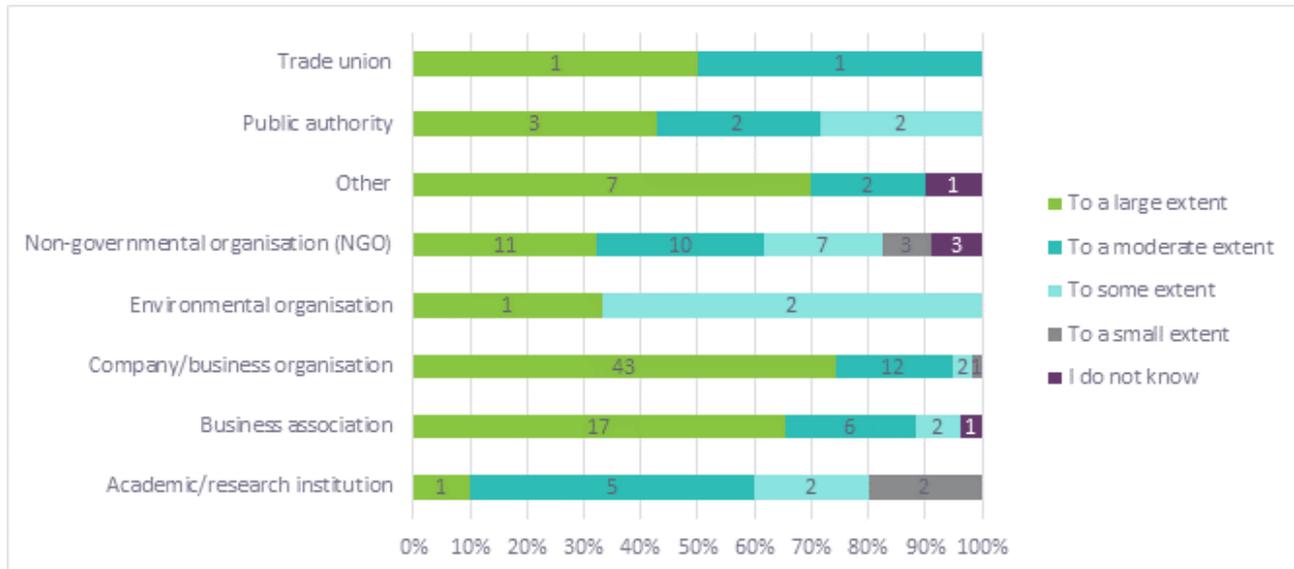
- Several engage with landowners and industry groups, as well as raising general awareness with stakeholders of the need to reduce deforestation;
- Several commitment to, and promotion of, sustainability in supply chains through policy and other commitments;
- Several are involved with direct preservation of forest areas and the use forest management plans for this purpose;
- Several use of voluntary schemes, such as FSC and PEFC, ISO management systems and certification systems;
- IKEA specifically uses its own due-diligence system;
- Several are involved in research, data collection and monitoring.

To what extent do you consider that the commitments undertaken by your organization have been met?

The respondents to this question (N=150) were able to choose from the range of option Figure 2.3. The three main categories of respondents to these questions were company/business organisations (N=58), NGOs (N=34) and business associations (N=26). The large majority of respondents identified that commitments

undertaken by their organisations had been met with 84 respondents saying they had been met “to a large extent” and 38 respondents saying they had been met “to a moderate extent”.

Figure 2.3 Extent to which commitments undertaken by organisations have been met for each respondent category (N=150)

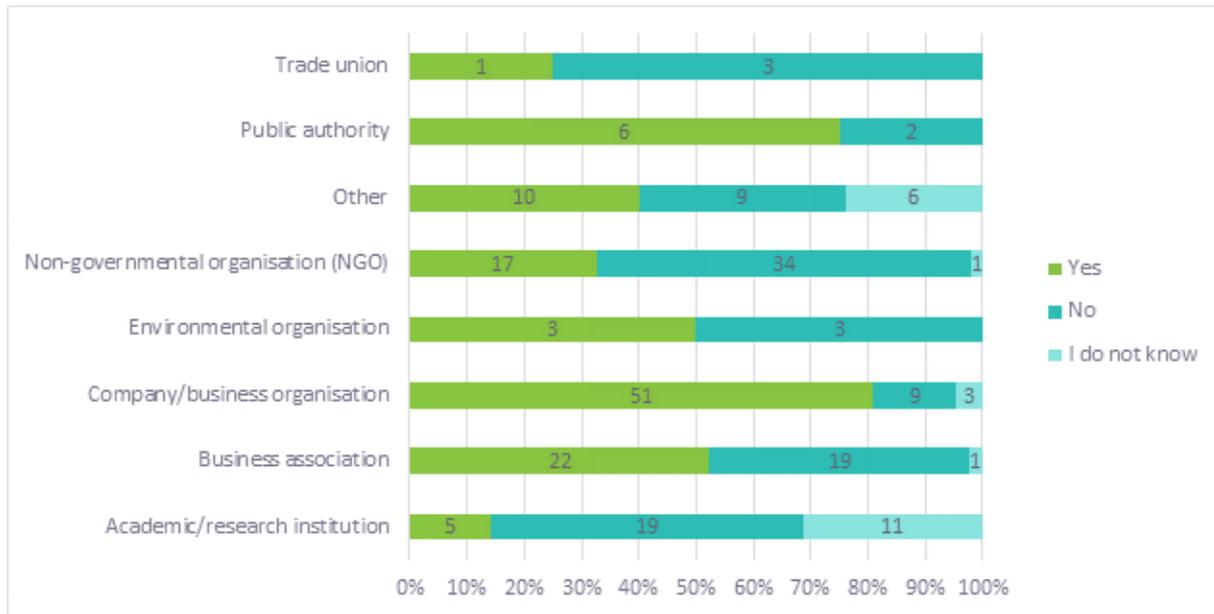


Does your organisation have any procedures, measures or protocols in place to prevent deforestation and/or forest degradation along its supply chain?

Of the total 235 responses to this question, 115 respondents said that procedures, measures or protocols were in place to prevent deforestation and/or forest degradation along their organisation’s supply chain, 98 said these measures were not in place and 22 did not know.

Most respondents (N=51) on behalf of company/business organisations identified that these measures were in place compared to 9 who identified that they were not in place. This category of respondent had the best ratio of “measures in place” to “measures not in place” of all respondent categories. Indeed, more respondents on behalf of NGOs identified that measure were not in place (N=34) than in place (N=17). The same applied to academic institutions as 19 identified that measures were not in place compared to 5 who said that measures were in place. The overview of responses can be seen in Figure 2.4

Figure 2.4 Responses on existence of procedures, measures or protocols in place to prevent deforestation and/or forest degradation per respondent category (N=235)

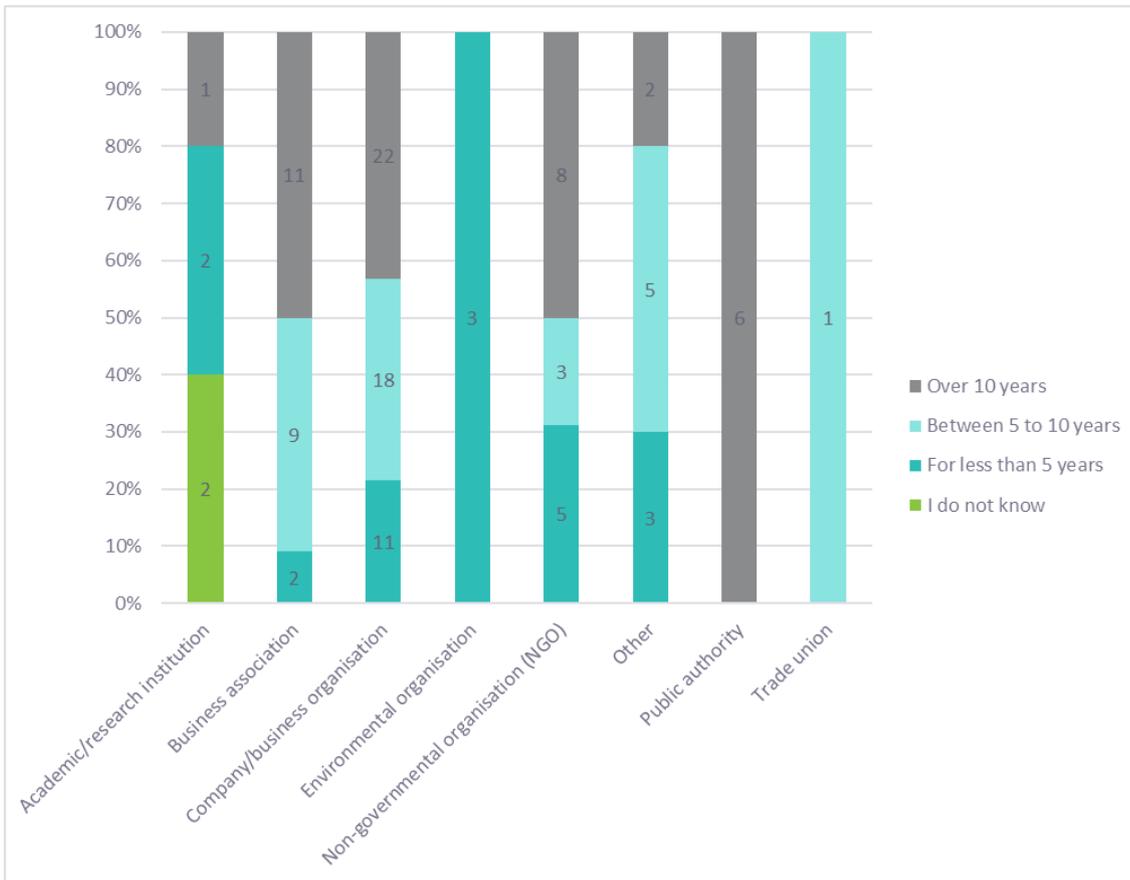


For those who responded “yes”, further information on how long these procedures, measures or protocols have been in place was provided as shown in Table 2.7 and Figure 2.5. The majority of respondents highlighted that these measures have been in play for at least five years.

Table 2.7 Time over which procedures, measures or protocols in place to prevent deforestation and/or forest degradation along supply chains have been applied for each respondent category (N=114)

Respondent category	I do not know	For less than 5 years	Between 5 to 10 years	Over 10 years	Total
Academic/research institution	2	2	0	1	5
Business association	0	2	9	11	22
Company/business organisation	0	11	18	22	51
Environmental organisation	0	3	0	0	3
Non-governmental organisation (NGO)	0	5	3	8	16
Other	0	3	5	2	10
Public authority	0	0	0	6	6
Trade union	0	0	1	0	1
Total	2	26	36	50	114

Figure 2.5 Responses provided on length of existing procedures, measures or protocols in place per category of respondents (N=114)

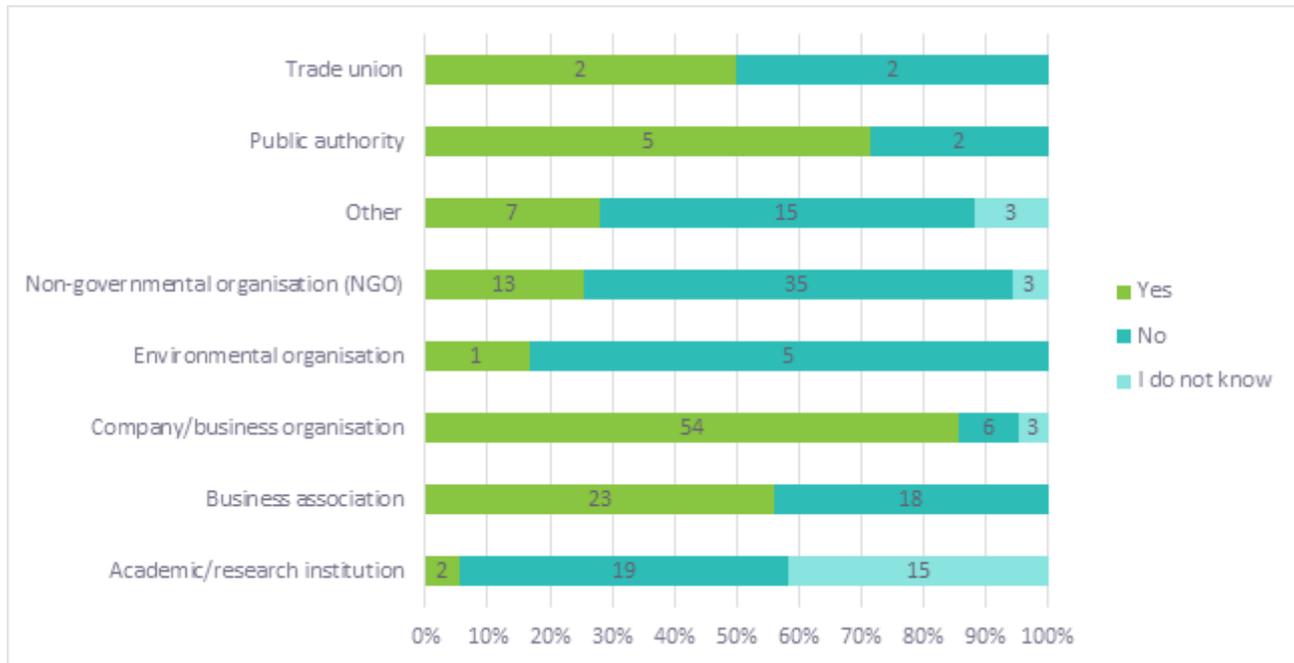


Has your organisation used any voluntary certification(s) related to forest sustainability, deforestation, or forest degradation?

The responses to this question (total N=248) per respondent category are presented in Figure 2.6. Most respondents identified that a voluntary certification related to forest sustainability, deforestation, or forest degradation was in place within their organisation (N=156) whereas other respondents (N=76) identified that this voluntary certification was not present. Others identified that they did not know (N=16).

Most company/business organisations (N=58) had this voluntary certification in place within their organisations compared to 5 who identified that they did not. Several respondents (N=38) from NGOs identified voluntary certification was in place compared to N=21 who identified that it was not in place. Academic/research institutions performed the worst as a respondent category as N=17 respondents identified that their organisation did not have such voluntary certification in place compared to N=10 who identified that their organisations did have it in place. The lower uptake of voluntary certification in academic/research institutions could be the results of the activities these organisations perform.

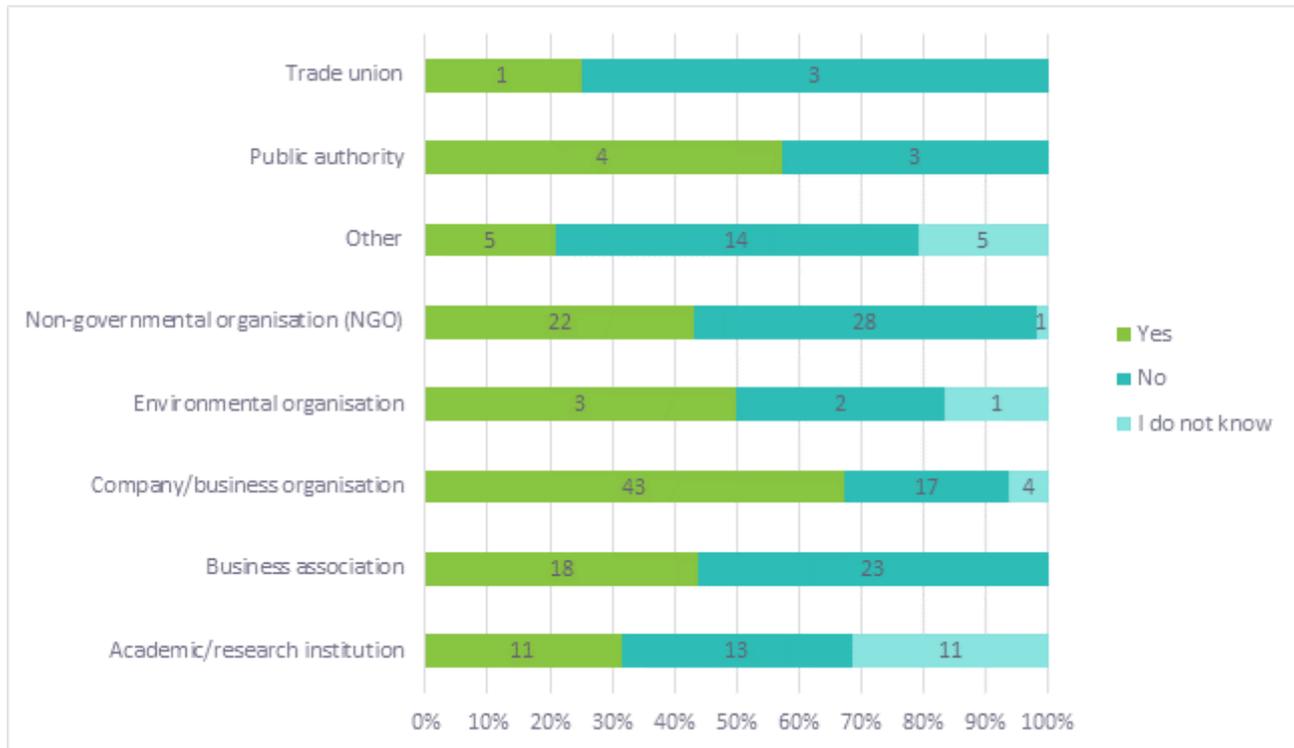
Figure 2.6 Overview of responses to the question "has your organisation used any voluntary certification(s) related to forest sustainability, deforestation, or forest degradation?" per respondent category (N=248)



Does your organisation have a general environmental management system, even if not focussed on deforestation?

The breakdown of responses to this question (total N=232) is presented in Figure 2.7. An almost even split can be seen between those identifying that an environmental management system is in place (N=107) to those identifying that one is not in place (N=103). Most respondents on behalf of company/business organisations identify that an environmental management system is in place (N=43) relative to those who identify that one is not in place (N=17). However, most respondents (N=28) for NGOs identified that such a system was not in place compared to 22 who identified that one was in place. This is also true of academic/research institutions whereby N=13 identify that such a system is not in place compared to N=11 who identify that one is in place. However, several respondents for academic/research institutions also identify that they do not know whether such a system is in place (N=11). Proportionally, this is quite high relative to the total number of respondents in this respondent category.

Figure 2.7 Responses to the question "Does your organisation have a general environmental management system, even if not focussed on deforestation?" by respondent category (N= 232)



2.2.2 Section II - The problems of deforestation and forest degradation

This section presents an overview of responses received to the questions related to the definition of the problem with regard to deforestation and forest degradation.

To what extent do you think an EU level intervention on EU consumption of goods would reduce global deforestation and forest degradation?

From the total responses (N=1,136) provided to this question, the great majority responded that EU level intervention on EU consumption of goods would reduce global deforestation and forest degradation either much (N=384) or very much (N=557) which can be seen in Table 2.8. Most responses to this question were given from EU citizen respondents (N=812).

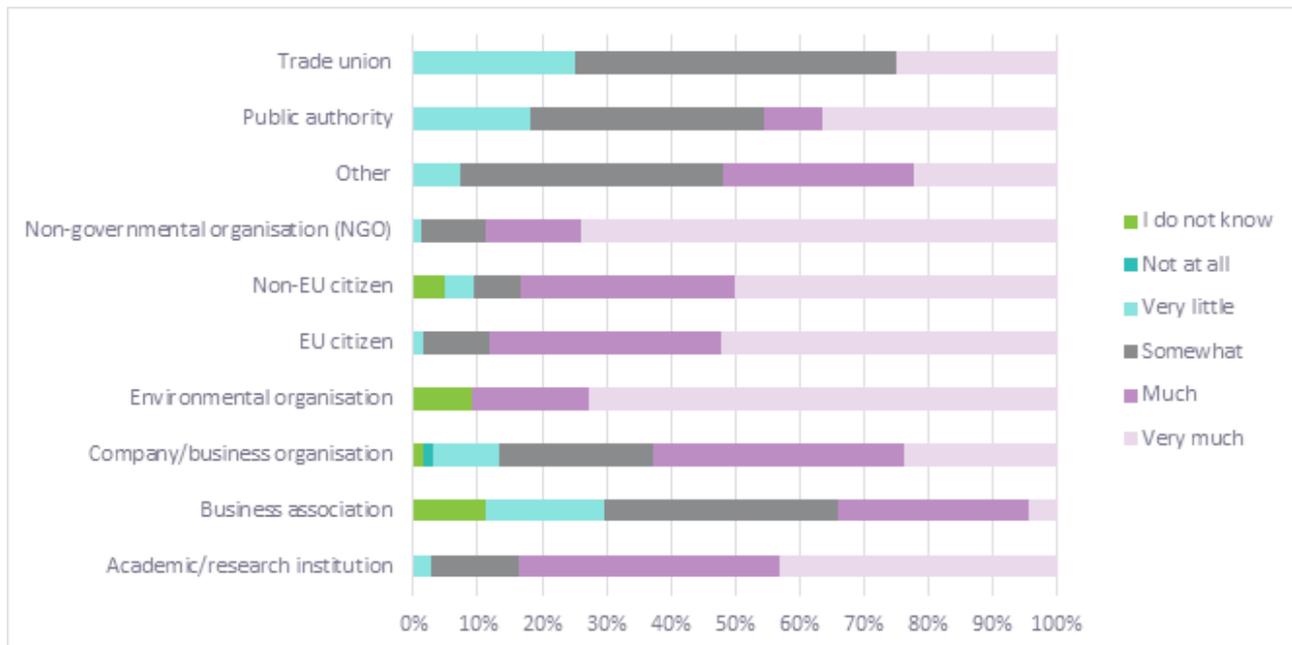
Table 2.8 Responses to the question "To what extent do you think an EU level intervention on EU consumption of goods would reduce global deforestation and forest degradation?" per respondent category (N=1,136)

Respondent category	I do not know	Not at all	Very little	Somewhat	Much	Very much	Total
Academic/research institution	0	0	1	5	15	16	37
Business association	5	0	8	16	13	2	44
Company/business organisation	1	1	7	16	26	16	67

Respondent category	I do not know	Not at all	Very little	Somewhat	Much	Very much	Total
Environmental organisation	1	0	0	0	2	8	11
EU citizen	0	1	11	84	293	423	812
Non-EU citizen	2	0	2	3	14	21	42
Non-governmental organisation (NGO)	0	0	1	8	12	60	81
Other	0	0	2	11	8	6	27
Public authority	0	0	2	4	1	4	11
Trade union	0	0	1	2	0	1	4
Total	9	2	35	149	384	557	1136

This high number of “very much” and “much” responses can be seen in Figure 2.8 which shows the proportion of each response as a percentage of the total number of responses, per respondent category.

Figure 2.8 Responses to the question "To what extent do you think an EU level intervention on EU consumption of goods would reduce global deforestation and forest degradation?" per respondent category



From this figure the respondent categories who believe that EU level intervention on EU consumption of goods would reduce global deforestation and forest degradation the most are academic/research institutions, environmental organisations, EU citizens, non-EU citizens and non-governmental organisations. Trade unions,

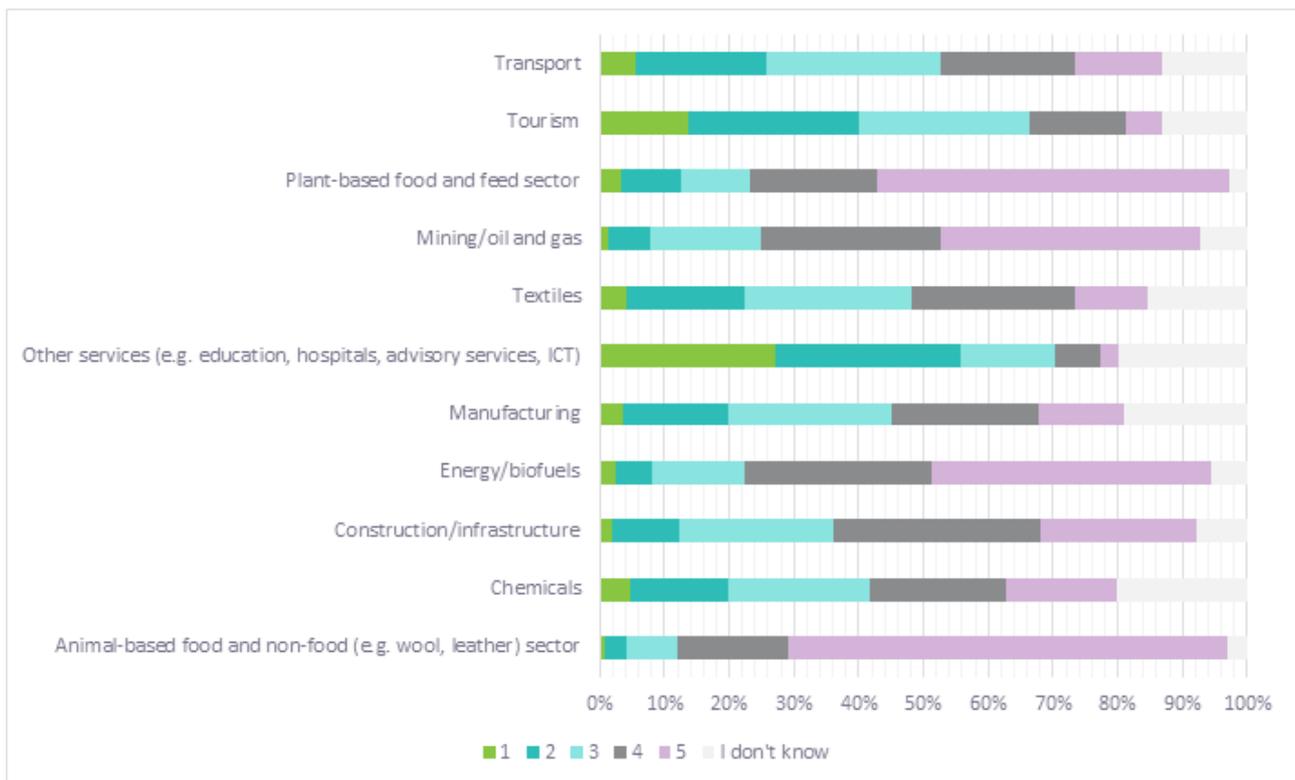
business associations, public authorities and other non-defined respondents have the lowest conviction that EU level intervention could reduce deforestation and forest degradation.

To what extent do you consider specific economic sectors to contribute to deforestation and forest degradation via the goods and services that they provide (on the EU market)?

Respondents were asked to rate the contribution of specific economic sectors to deforestation and forest degradation. They had to rate each option below on a scale of 1 to 5, with 1 as no contribution at all, 2 as a low level of contribution, 3 as a moderate level of contribution, 4 as a high level of contribution, and 5 as a very high level of contribution.

Respondents to this question were asked to give a series of measures a rating from 1 to 5, with 1 as no contribution at all, 2 as a low level of contribution, 3 as a moderate level of contribution, 4 as a high level of contribution, and 5 as a very high level of contribution. Figure 2.9 illustrates the proportion of these responses within each economic sector as well as the absolute number of respondents that make up each response.

Figure 2.9 Proportion of responses to the question “To what extent do you consider each of the economic sectors to contribute to deforestation and forest degradation via the goods and services that they provide (on the EU market)?”



Note: The total number of respondents varied for each measure as follow: Animal-based food and non-food (e.g. wool, leather) sector (1,097), Chemicals (1,065), Construction/infrastructure (1,075), Energy/biofuels (1,080), Manufacturing 1,050), Other services (e.g. education, hospitals, advisory services, ICT) (1,055), Textiles (1,060), Mining/oil and gas (1,074), Plant-based food and feed sector (1,085), Tourism (1,063), Transport (1,066) and Other economic sectors (803).

Animal-based food and non-food, energy/biofuels mining/oil and gas, plant-based food and feed sector as well as construction/infrastructure were seen as the biggest contributors to deforestation and forest degradation via the goods and services that they provide (on the EU market).

A large number of respondents who selected “other” (total N=211) generally identified that the finance sector should also be included (N=79) due to its contribution to deforestation and forest degradation via the goods



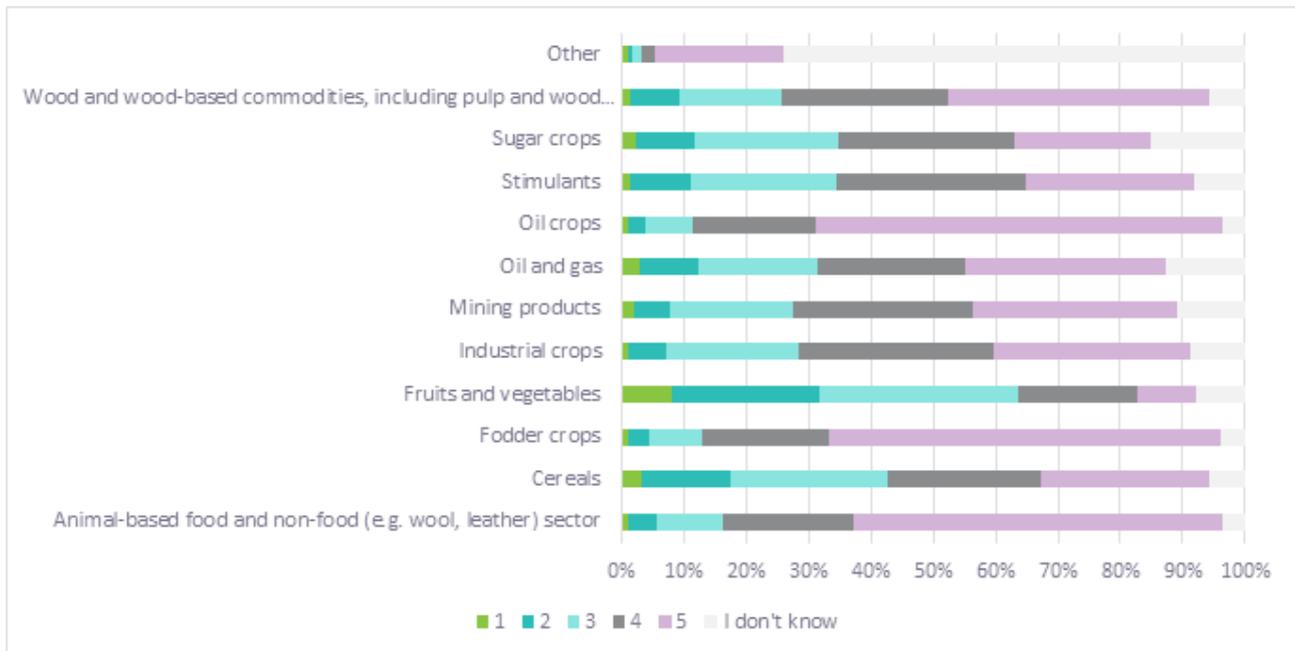
and services that they financially support (on the EU market). Renewable power, construction and food/agriculture also features to a far lesser extent amongst the comments left by respondents.

To what extent do you consider the following commodity groups to contribute to deforestation and forest degradation worldwide, due to their consumption within the EU market?

Respondents had to rate each option below on a scale of 1 to 5, with 1 as no contribution at all, 2 as a low level of contribution, 3 as a moderate level of contribution, 4 as a high level of contribution, and 5 as a very high level of contribution.

Different commodity groups were believed to contribute to different extents by respondents as a whole (as shown in Figure 2.10). For example, animal-based food and non-food products, fodder crops, oil crops and wood/wood-based commodities can be seen to have the highest proportion of respondents saying that these commodities make a “high level of contribution” or “very high level of contribution” to deforestation and forest degradation. For oil crops the “high level of contribution” or “very high level of contribution” categories made up nearly 85% of the total number of responses. In contrast, cereals and fruits and vegetables made the lowest proportion of “high level of contribution” or “very high level of contribution” to deforestation and forest degradation. Indeed, the “high level of contribution” or “very high level of contribution” categories made up only 29% of the responses to this commodity category.

Figure 2.10 Proportion of respondents to the question “To what extent do you consider the following commodity groups to contribute to deforestation and forest degradation worldwide, due to their consumption within the EU market?”



Note: The total numbers of responses given to each commodity group were: animal-based food and non-foods (1,095), cereals (1,085), fodder crops (1,093), fruits and vegetables (1,072), industrial crops (1,080), mining products (1,076), oil and gas (1,069), oil crops (1,094), stimulants, sugar crops (1,072), wood and wood-based commodities (1,091) and other (749).

When analysing the responses to this question from the perspective of each EU Member State it should be noted that relatively few responses to the questionnaire were available for some EU Member States. As a result, for some EU Member States the proportion of responses in the following graphs can be skewed such that it may appear that there is unanimous support from respondents when in fact only a handful of responses from that Member State were obtained which cannot be seen as a representative sample.



When respondents were asked about animal-based products (N=958) (as shown in Figure 2.11 the majority of Member States represented by respondents identified that this category of commodity highly contributed to deforestation and forest degradation worldwide, due to their consumption within the EU market.

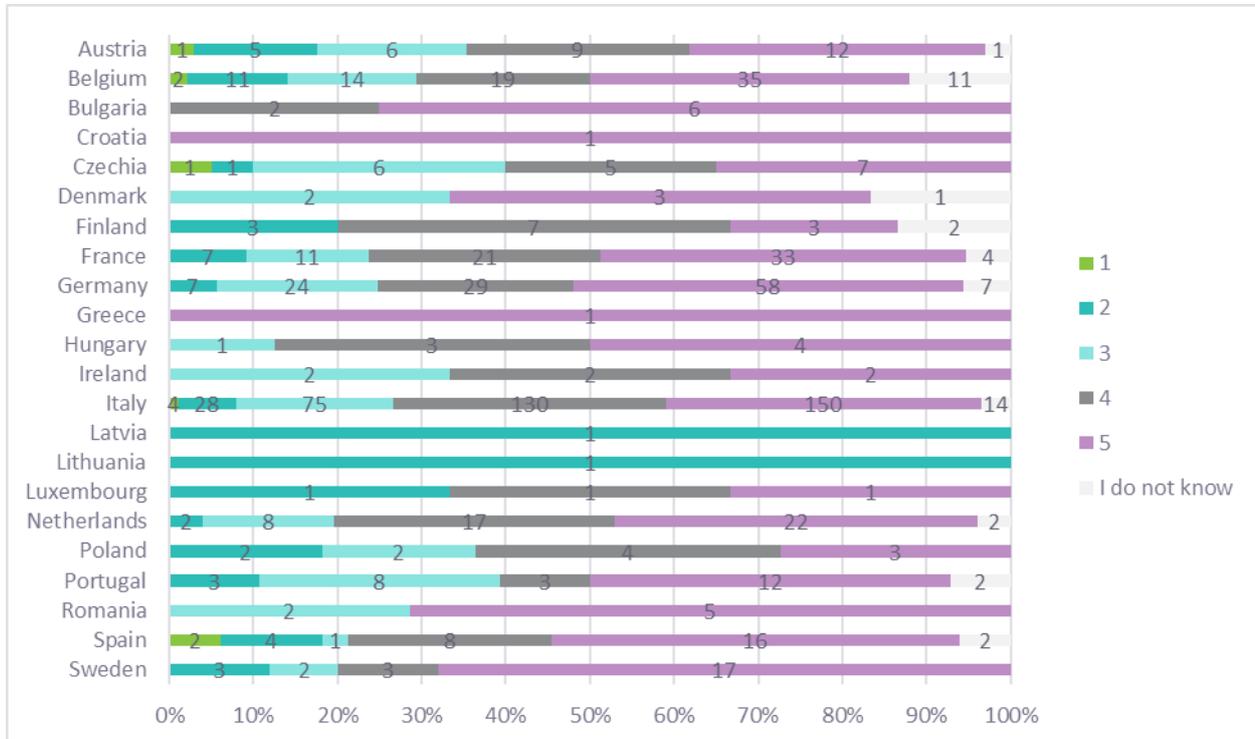
Figure 2.11 Responses to the question "To what extent do you consider the following commodity groups to contribute to deforestation and forest degradation worldwide, due to their consumption within the EU market?" for the commodity group "fodder crops" by EU Member State, commodity: animal-based products



Respondents from each EU Member State generally believed that wood and wood-based commodities (total N=953) make a lower contribution than animal-based products to deforestation and forest degradation worldwide, due to their consumption within the EU market. However, the vast majority believed that this commodity group contributed to some extent to deforestation and forest degradation (those who selected at least "3"). The results for wood and wood-based commodities are shown in Figure 2.12.



Figure 2.12 Responses to the question "To what extent do you consider the following commodity groups to contribute to deforestation and forest degradation worldwide, due to their consumption within the EU market?" for the commodity group "fodder crops" by EU Member State, commodity: wood and wood-based commodities



As shown in Figure 2.13, of those Member States where substantial responses were obtained, it can be seen that respondents from Portugal, Poland and Italy generally had a belief that **fodder crops** made a bigger contribution to deforestation and forest degradation than other Member States such as Austria. A total of N=956 responses were obtained from respondents from EU Member States for this commodity group.

Figure 2.13 Responses to the question "To what extent do you consider the following commodity groups to contribute to deforestation and forest degradation worldwide, due to their consumption within the EU market?" for the commodity group "fodder crops" by EU Member State, commodity: fodder crops



When asked about the contribution of stimulant crops and sugar crops to deforestation and forest degradation certain Member States placed a notably lower weighting on this category. The total number of responses from EU Member States was 950 for stimulant crops and 939 for sugar crops. From the graphs below it can be seen that Czechia had a greater proportion of respondents placing a weighting of "no contribution" to "moderate contribution" than other Member States. However, this needs to be read in conjunction with the lower number of responses from respondents from Czechia to this question.

Figure 2.14 Responses to the question "To what extent do you consider the following commodity groups to contribute to deforestation and forest degradation worldwide, due to their consumption within the EU market?" by EU Member State, commodity: stimulants

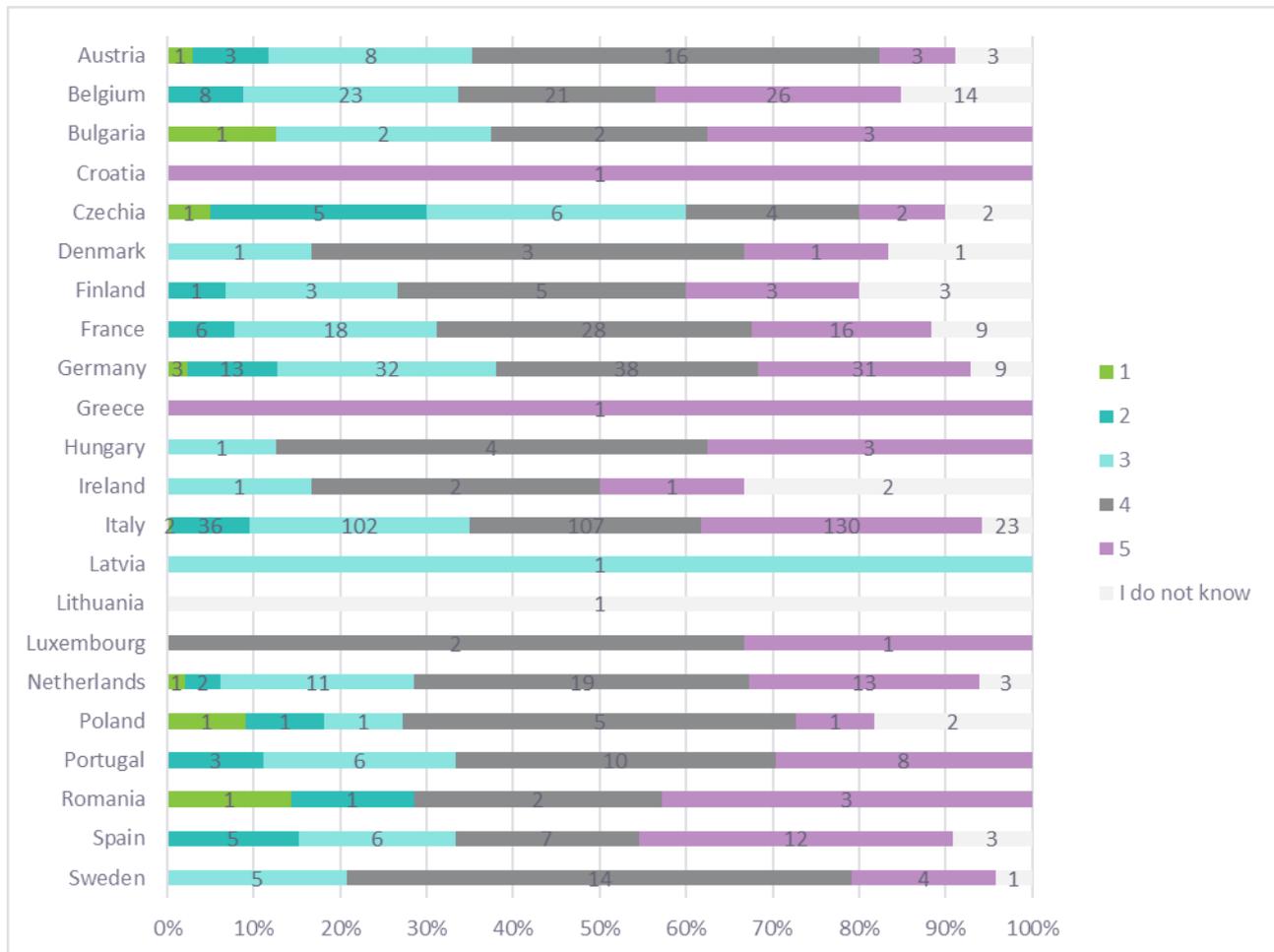
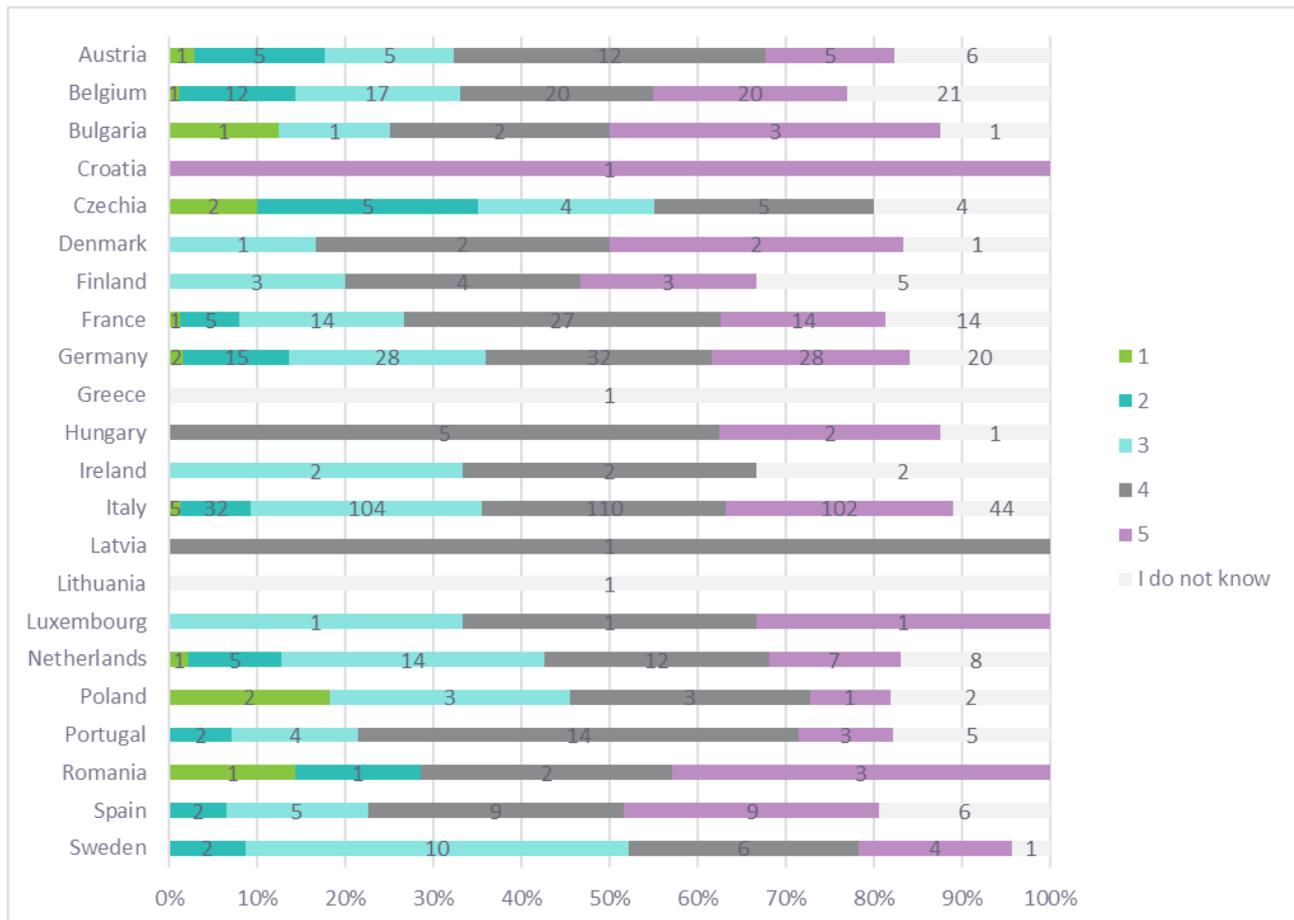


Figure 2.15 Responses to the question "To what extent do you consider the following commodity groups to contribute to deforestation and forest degradation worldwide, due to their consumption within the EU market?" by EU Member State, commodity: sugar crops



For those respondents who selected "other" as an option for this question, the most common other commodities specified were:

- All commodities are relevant for the EU legislation. Commodities should be "assessed on an ongoing basis and based on objective and scientific criteria, for their impact on deforestation, forest degradation, ecosystem conversion & degradation and human rights violations." This view was held by a large number of respondents;
- The finance sector was identified by respondents again as needing to be captured by an initiative looking at addressing deforestation.

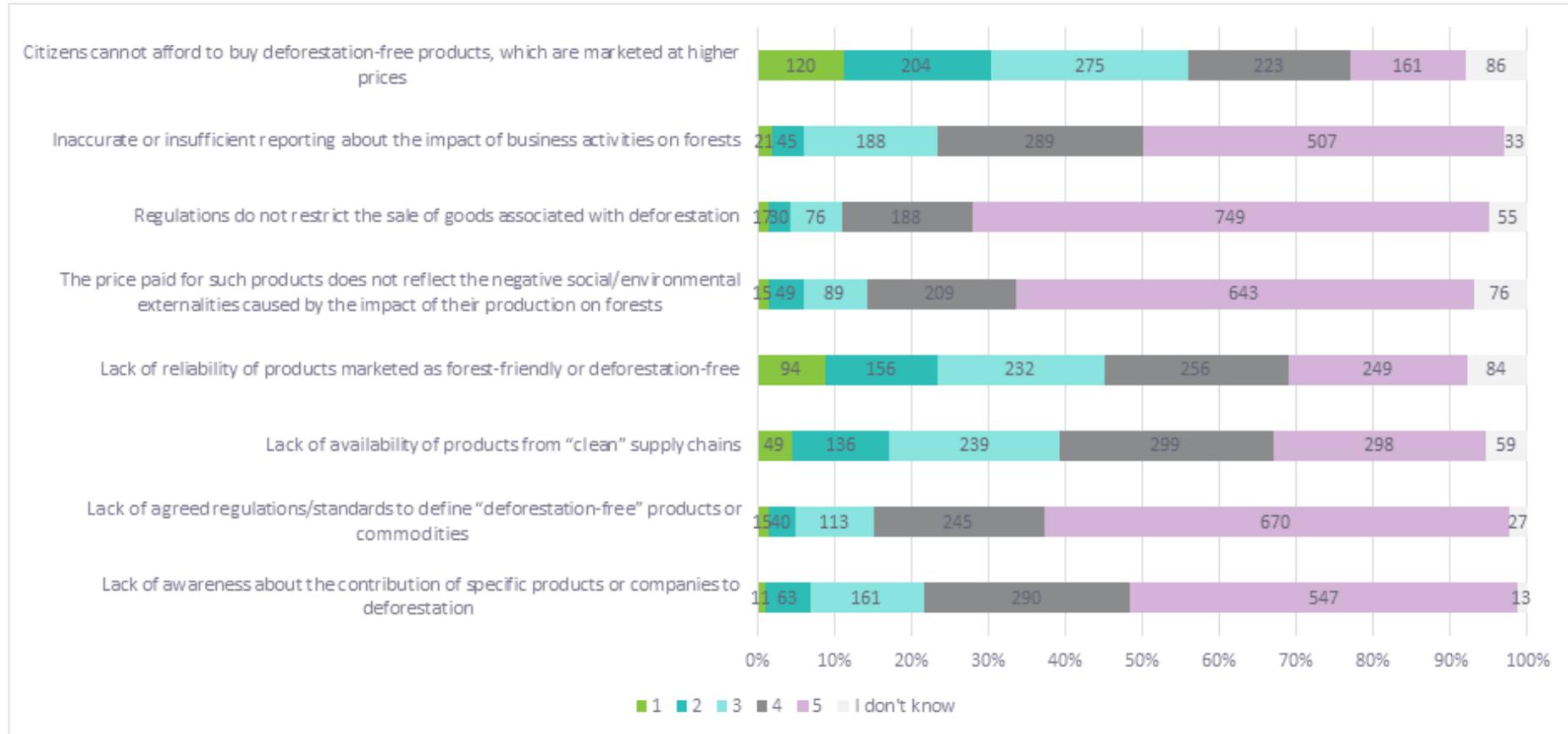
To what extent do you think that the following factors contribute to the consumption within the EU of products linked to deforestation and forest degradation worldwide?

Figure 2.16 shows the proportion of responses rated 1 to 5 where 1 is no contribution and 5 is a very high level of contribution. When looking at the ratings of 4 (high contribution) and 5 (very high contribution). It can be seen that the highest contributing factors among respondents are believed to be a lack of agreed regulations/standards to define "deforestation-free" products or commodities, the price paid for such products does not reflect the negative social/environmental externalities caused by the impact of their production on forests and regulations do not restrict the sale of goods associated with deforestation.

Using the responses between 1 and 3 (no contribution to moderate contribution), it can be seen that the factors with the lowest perceived contribution were citizens cannot afford to buy deforestation-free products,

which are marketed at higher prices, lack of reliability of products marketed as forest-friendly or deforestation-free and lack of availability of products from “clean” supply chains.

Figure 2.16 Proportion and absolute number of respondents to the question “To what extent do you think that the following factors contribute to the consumption within the EU of products linked to deforestation and forest degradation worldwide?”



Note: The total number of responses varied with respect to each category of factor as follows: Lack of awareness about the contribution of specific products or companies to deforestation (1,085), Lack of agreed regulations/standards to define “deforestation-free” products or commodities (1,110), Lack of availability of products from “clean” supply chains (1,080), Lack of reliability of products marketed as forest-friendly or deforestation-free (1,071), The price paid for such products does not reflect the negative social/environmental externalities caused by the impact of their production on forests (1,081), Regulations do not restrict the sale of goods associated with deforestation (1,115), Inaccurate or insufficient reporting about the impact of business activities on forests (1,083), Citizens cannot afford to buy deforestation-free products, which are marketed at higher prices (1,069) and other (635).



A total N=950 responses were given for the factor "lack of awareness about the contribution of specific products or companies to deforestation". When these responses were broken down by EU Member State it can be seen in Figure 2.17 that there is a mixed response. For example, Portugal, Romania and Bulgaria (although the latter two had a small number of respondents which may have skewed the representativeness of the data) placed a high weighting of importance on this factor. However, other EU Member States such as Belgium, Finland and the Netherlands (to name just a few) placed a much lower importance on this category.

Figure 2.17 Responses to the question "To what extent do you think that the following factors contribute to the consumption within the EU of products linked to deforestation and forest degradation worldwide?" for the factor "lack of awareness about the contribution of specific products or companies to deforestation" by EU Member State, factor: lack of awareness about the contribution of specific products or companies to deforestation



For those respondents who selected "other" as an option to this question, the most commonly occurring responses included:

- Lack of transparency regarding companies regarding achieving deforestation-free supply chains;
- Possible trade-offs and leakage effect: high standards for EU production can make EU products more expensive;

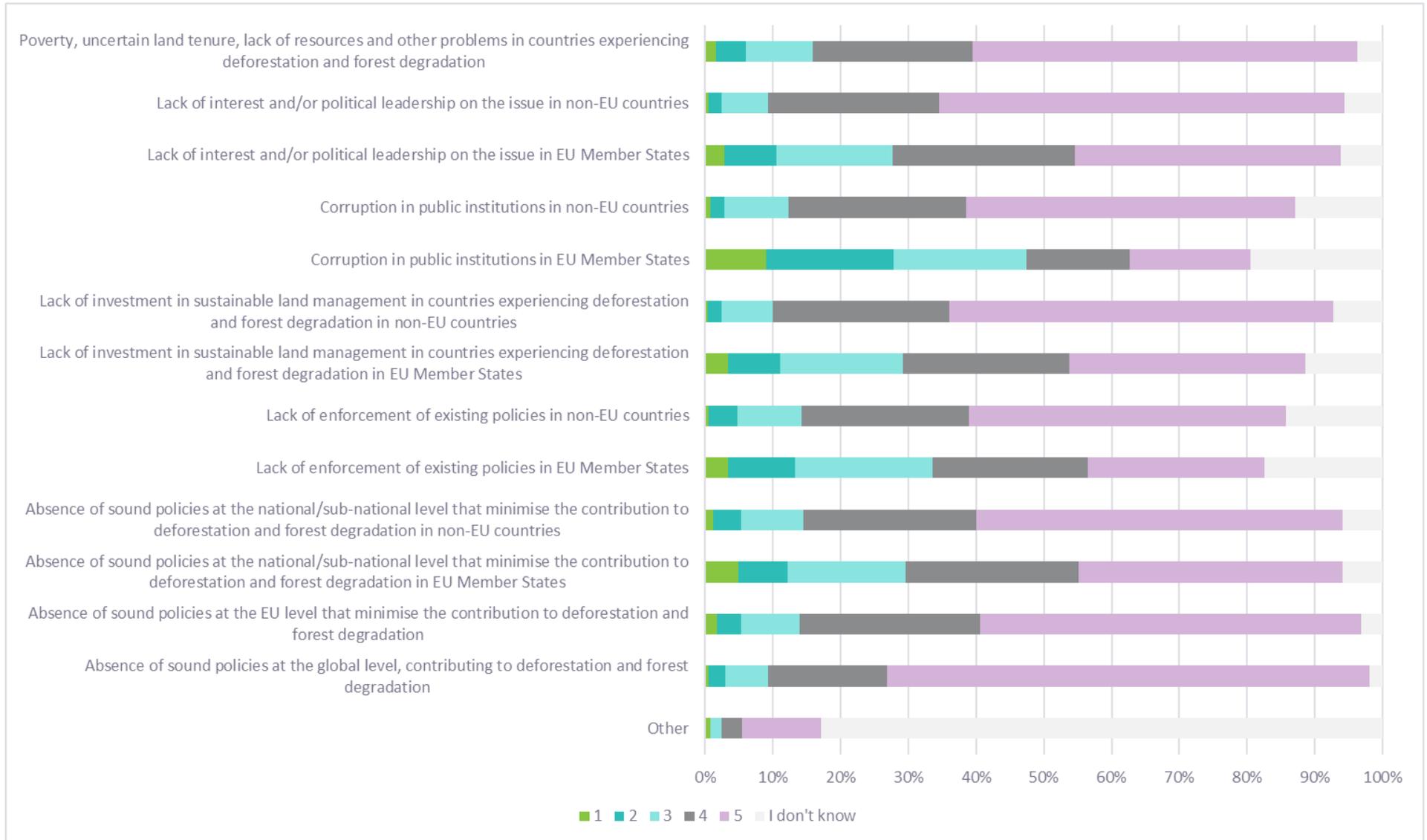
- There is currently no legislation or binding-framework which includes legislation covering the consumption of commodities;
- There is a lack of information on the effect of commodities on deforestation; and
- There is either a poor mentality from some consumers and companies or a lack of awareness.

To what extent do you think that the following problems contribute to deforestation and forest degradation?

Respondents were asked to rate each option below on a scale of 1 to 5, with 1 as no contribution at all, 2 as a low level of contribution, 3 as a moderate level of contribution, 4 as a high level of contribution, and 5 as a very high level of contribution.

Figure 2.18 shows the proportion of responses to each problem where responses ranged from 1 (no contribution) to 5 (very high contribution). When looking at the proportion of "4" or "5" responses (which give an indication of a high weighting on a particular problem) it can be seen that the "Absence of sound policies at the global level, contributing to deforestation and forest degradation" is believed to have the most importance (87% rated 4 or 5). This is in stark contrast to other possible problems rated lower such as "Corruption in public institutions in EU Member States" (33% rated 4 or 5).

Figure 2.18 Proportion of respondents to the question "To what extent do you think that the following problems contribute to deforestation and forest degradation?"



Note: The total number of responses differed for each problem category as follows: Absence of sound policies at the global level, contributing to deforestation and forest degradation (N=1,081), Absence of sound policies at the EU level that minimise the contribution to deforestation and forest degradation (N=1,119), Absence of sound policies at the national/sub-national level that minimise the contribution to deforestation and forest degradation in EU Member States (N=1,073), Absence of sound policies at the national/sub-national level that minimise the contribution to deforestation and forest degradation in non-EU countries (N=1,076), Lack of enforcement of existing policies in EU Member States (N=1,063), Lack of enforcement of existing policies in non-EU countries (N=1,072), Lack of investment in sustainable land management in countries experiencing deforestation and forest degradation in EU Member States (N=1,067), Lack of investment in sustainable land management in countries experiencing deforestation and forest degradation in non-EU countries (N=1,074), Corruption in public institutions in EU Member States (N=1,059), Corruption in public institutions in non-EU countries (N=1,066), Lack of interest and/or political leadership on the issue in EU Member States (N=1,065), Lack of interest and/or political leadership on the issue in non-EU countries (N=1,066), Poverty, uncertain land tenure, lack of resources and other problems in countries experiencing deforestation and forest degradation (N=1,082), and Other (N=605).

Other problems identified which could contribute to deforestation and forest degradation include:

- Weak transparency, weak legal frameworks (not based clearly on evidence) and a lack of effective participation of civil society organisations and communities were re-occurring features in responses;
- There is an absence of awareness of the impact of non-forest value chains on forests;
- Corporate lobbyists were quoted as a problem leading to deforestation;
- Lack of leadership to reducing deforestation and forest degradation.

2.2.3 Section III: Responsibility for decision-making

The third section of the questionnaire asked stakeholders for their views on the best level of governance to implement demand-side measures to address deforestation and forest degradation in order to determine at what level the responsibility for decision making falls.

At what level of authority should measures tackling EU-driven deforestation and forest degradation be designed and implemented (i.e. at what level would they be most effective)?

The support for each level of authority, as given by the number of responses, is presented in Table 2.9. Respondents identified that measures tackling EU-driven deforestation and forest degradation should be designed and implemented foremost at EU level (N=866) followed by international level (N=628) and national in EU Member States (N=363).

Table 2.9 Responses to the question "At what level of authority should measures tackling EU-driven deforestation and forest degradation be designed and implemented (i.e. at what level would they be most effective)?" (N=1,130)

Level of authority	Number of responses
Local/Sub-national in EU Member States	177
National in EU Member States	363
EU level	866
International	628
I do not know	15

2.2.4 Section IV: Potential demand-side measures and their impacts

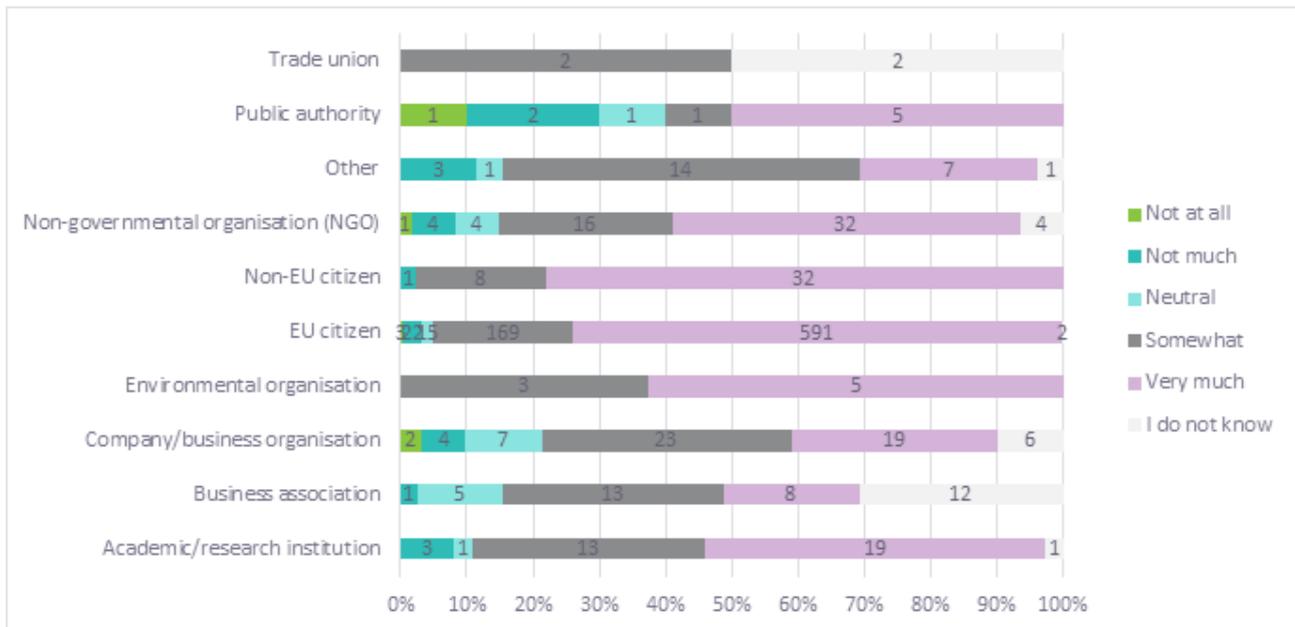
The fourth section asked stakeholders for their views on options for demand-side measures to reduce the risks of deforestation and forest degradation, as well as their related (potential and expected) impacts.

From a consumer’s perspective, and taking into account how often you think about the impact on deforestation and forest degradation of your purchasing decisions, how influential in terms of altering your purchasing decisions would it be to be informed of the deforestation and forest degradation impact of the products and services you purchase?

A total N=1,089 responses to this question were given with the vast majority being given from members of the “EU citizen” respondent category. The responses to this question for each respondent category are presented in Figure 2.19.

From the graph it can be seen that both citizen groups (EU citizen and non-EU citizen) gave the highest proportion of “very much” and “somewhat” responses (95% and 97% of all responses were “very much” or “somewhat” respectively) of all respondent categories (except for environmental organisations although only 8 responses were presented here). A large number of business associations responded “I do not know” and this respondent category gave the lowest proportion of “very much” and “somewhat” responses of all categories except for perhaps the trade unions group (although only 4 responses were provided by this group).

Figure 2.19 Proportion and absolute number of respondents to the question "From a consumer’s perspective, and taking into account how often you think about the impact on deforestation and forest degradation of your purchasing decisions, how influential in terms of altering your purchasing decisions would it be to be informed of the deforestation and forest degradation impact of the products and services you purchase?"

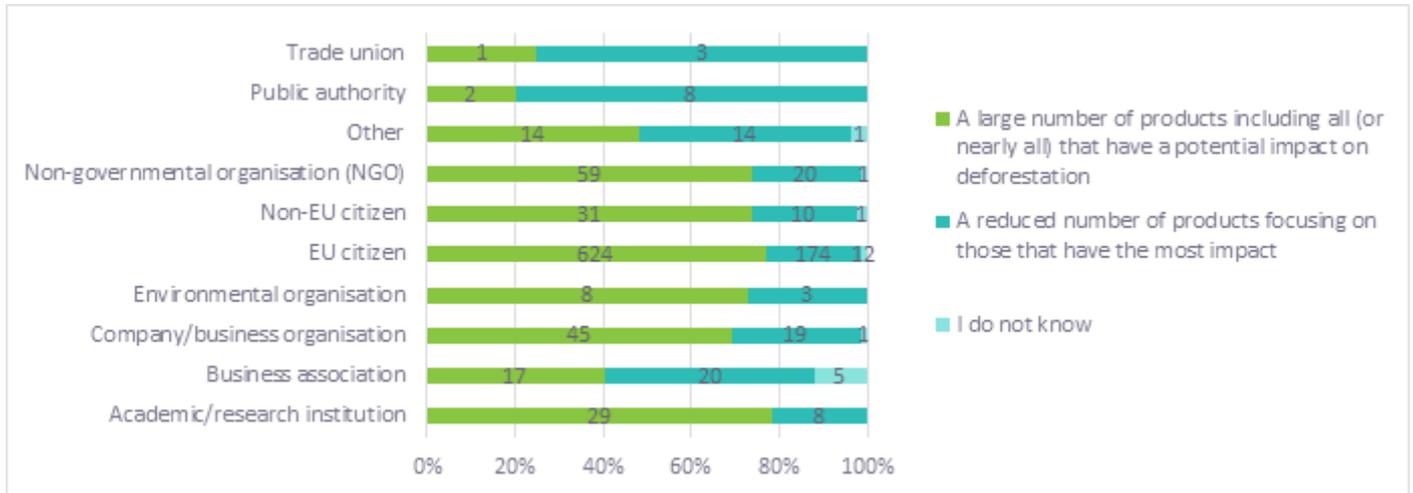


Taking into account costs and benefits, which range of products linked to deforestation should in your view be covered by the future EU policy measures?

Of the total (N=1,130) responses to this question, the proportion of respondents from each respondent category are displayed in Figure 2.20. Responses were fairly consistent among all respondent categories except for public authorities and trade unions. These groups placed a higher importance/weighting on “a reduced number of products focusing on those that have the most impact”. However, these proportions are based upon 10 responses from the public authority category and 4 responses from the trade union category.



Figure 2.20 Proportion and absolute number of respondents to the question " Taking into account costs and benefits, which range of products linked to deforestation should in your view be covered by the future EU policy measures?"



When analysing the responses given from respondents from each EU Member State, Figure 2.21 was produced (total N=985). Some Member States such as Spain, Bulgaria and Sweden place a higher importance on "a large number of products including all (or nearly all) that have a potential impact on deforestation" (79%, 87% and 84% respectively) with the remaining responses favouring "a reduced number of products focusing on those that have the most impact".

Other EU Member States such as Finland, Austria and Poland place a smaller importance on "a large number of products including all (or nearly all) that have a potential impact on deforestation" (46%, 66% and 36% respectively).

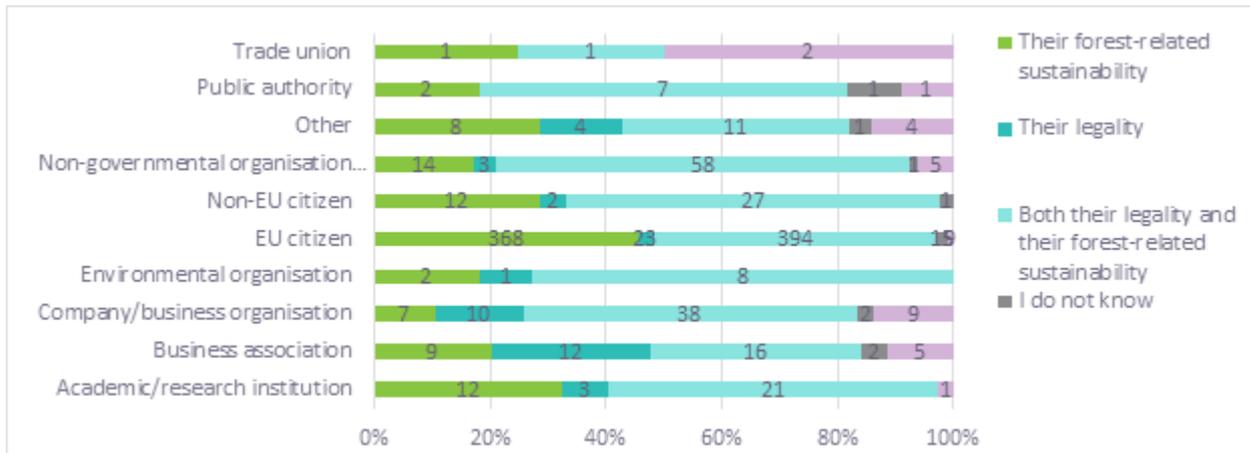
Figure 2.21 Responses to the question "Taking into account costs and benefits, which range of products linked to deforestation should in your view be covered by the future EU policy measures?" by EU Member State



In your view, what kind of issues related to the origin of products should future EU measures aim to tackle?

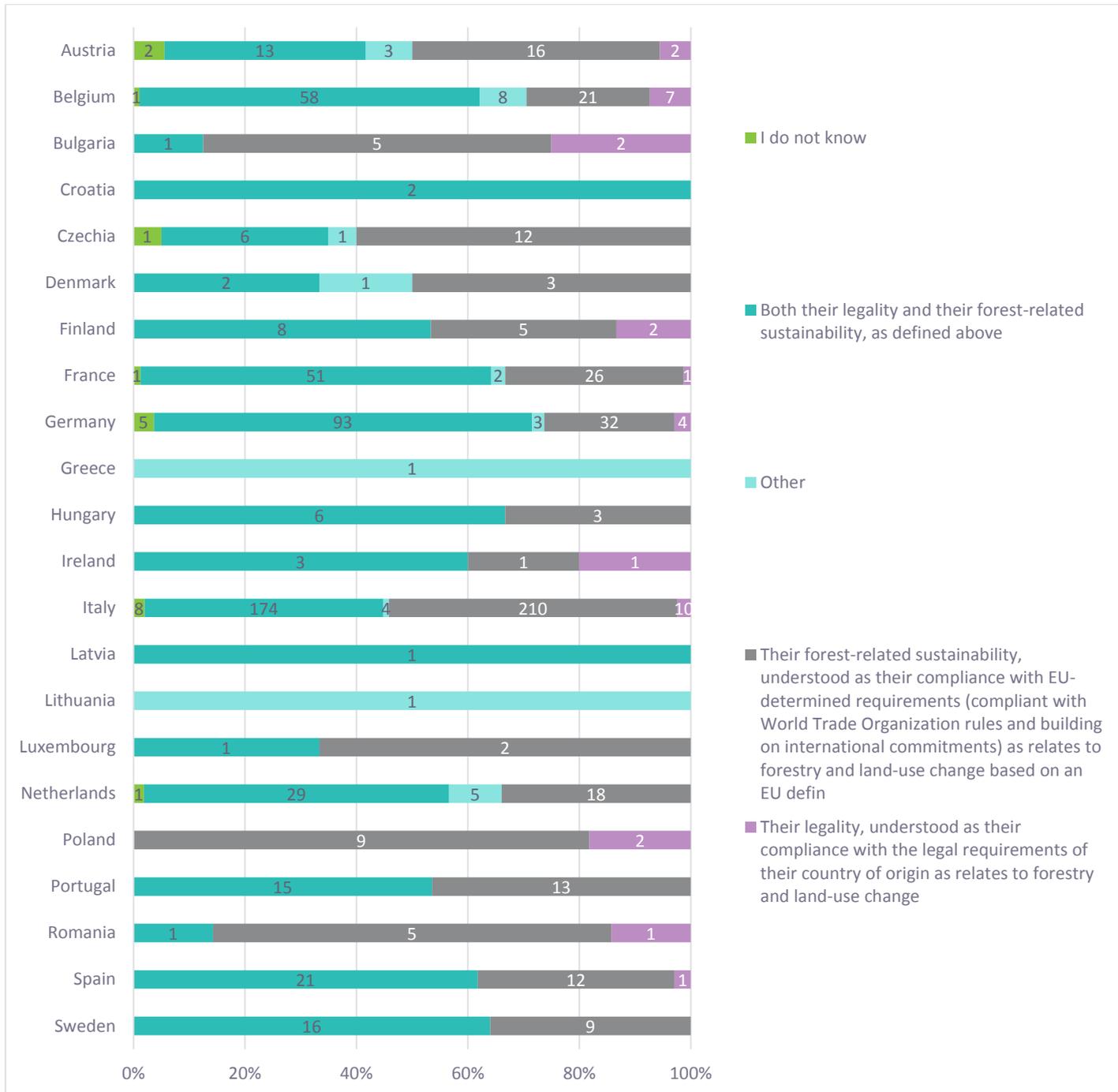
A total N=1,133 responses were provided for this question and the proportion of responses per respondent category can be seen in Figure 2.22. Most respondents believed that "both their legality and their forest-related sustainability" were of high importance as can be seen in the graph below. However, there was variation between respondent categories. For example, EU citizens placed a very high importance on "their forest-related sustainability, understood as their compliance with EU-determined requirements (compliant with World Trade Organization rules and building on international commitments) as relates to forestry and land-use change based on an EU definition of "deforestation-free". By contrast, few company/business organisations or environmental organisations identified this point as of high significance. Business associations placed the most significance on "their legality, understood as their compliance with the legal requirements of their country of origin as relates to forestry and land-use change".

Figure 2.22 Proportion and absolute number of respondents to the question "In your view, what kind of issues related to the origin of products should future EU measures aim to tackle?"



There were significant differences in the responses given when analysed from the perspective of respondents from each EU Member State (N=984). The results of this are shown in Figure 2.23. For the EU Member States where sufficient responses had been obtained, it can be seen that "both their legality and their forest-related sustainability" are given the most importance (although this is not the case for some Member States such as Austria and Romania). However, "their forest-related sustainability" was generally given the next highest importance.

Figure 2.23 Responses to the question "In your view, what kind of issues related to the origin of products should future EU measures aim to tackle?" by EU Member State



If respondents selected both their legality and forest-related sustainability, they were asked to indicate how this could be achieved. The following comments summarise the most common methods by which this could be achieved:

- The banning of any non-compliant products on the EU market (one of the more common responses);
- Through the use of certification schemes;
- By revising EU definitions in legislation related to the origin of products;

- Through higher taxes or fines for companies selling non-compliant products on the EU market (alternatively companies producing compliant products could have reduced taxation);
- Through increased collaboration with suppliers and greater transparency of supply chains;
- Through industry support schemes to promote sustainability;
- Through international treaties, cooperation and agreements.

If “other” was selected as a response to the question, the following issues were commonly highlighted:

- Their forest related sustainability (as compliance of countries with EU requirements);
- Both their legality and their forest-related sustainability, but at a global level;
- Focus should be on the improvement of EUTR.

What kind of forests should be prioritised by the measures to minimise environmental damages from deforestation and forest degradation?

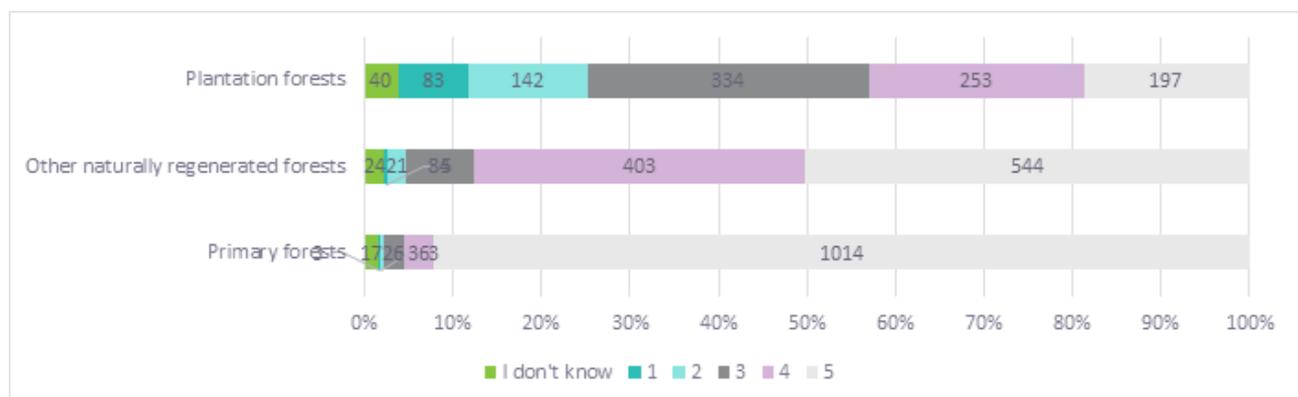
Respondents were asked to rate each on a scale of 1 to 5, with 1 representing not at all important and 5 representing very important. The total number of respondents varied for each forest type assessed in this question: primary forests (N=1,099), other naturally regenerated forests (N=1,081), plantation forests (N=1,049) and other (N=555). The responses to this question are summarised in Figure 2.24.

It was unanimous across all EU Member States that primary forests should be given the highest prioritisation followed by the other naturally regenerated forest and plantation forests in that order.

If “other” was selected, respondents were prompted to identify which forests they believed should be prioritised. The following suggestions were commonly presented:

- All natural forests and natural ecosystems should be part of the measures (this was a popular response to this question);
- Forests at environmental transitions such as riparian forest, forest-savanna transitions, etc;
- Mangroves and wetlands;
- Urban forests and parks.

Figure 2.24 Proportion and absolute number of respondents to the question “What kind of forests should be prioritised by the measures to minimise environmental damages from deforestation and forest degradation?”



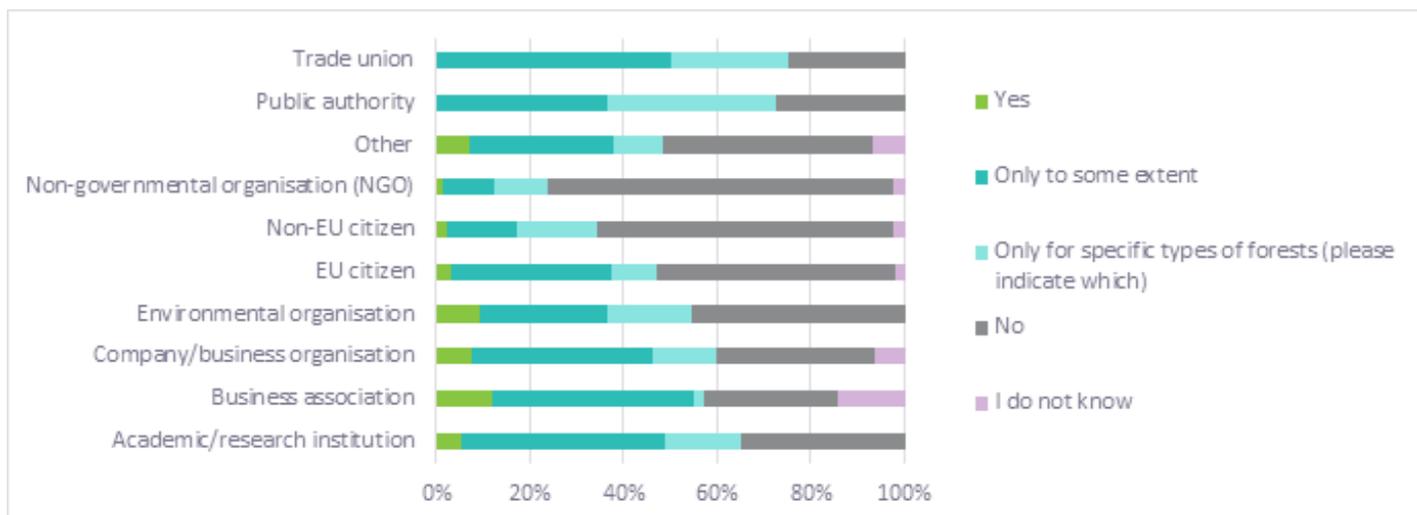
Do you think that forest clearances (for example, cutting forests to replace them with crop plantations) in one location can be compensated by tree planting in another location for the purpose of assessing whether a product is deforestation-free?

The responses to this question with respect to each respondent category are presented in Figure 2.25 (total N=1,123). There was general agreement that forest clearances in one location cannot be compensated by tree planting in another location for the purpose of assessing whether a product is deforestation-free. However, this was not the case for every respondent category (e.g. trade unions) and many respondents in each respondent categories indicated that to some extent these forest clearances can be compensated.

Other respondents identified specific forest types in which they believe forest clearances in one location can be compensated by tree planting in another location for the purpose of assessing whether a product is deforestation-free. The other forests identified include:

- Plantation forests (this was commonly identified);
- Forests for forestry particularly with fast-growing tree varieties (only a few responses)

Figure 2.25 Proportion of respondents to the question “Do you think that forest clearances (for example, cutting forests to replace them with crop plantations) in one location can be compensated by tree planting in another location for the purpose of assessing whether a product is deforestation-free?”



From the list below, which measures are the most suitable to address the issue of deforestation and forest degradation associated with EU consumption? Note that some of the measures presented below are complementary and could be combined.

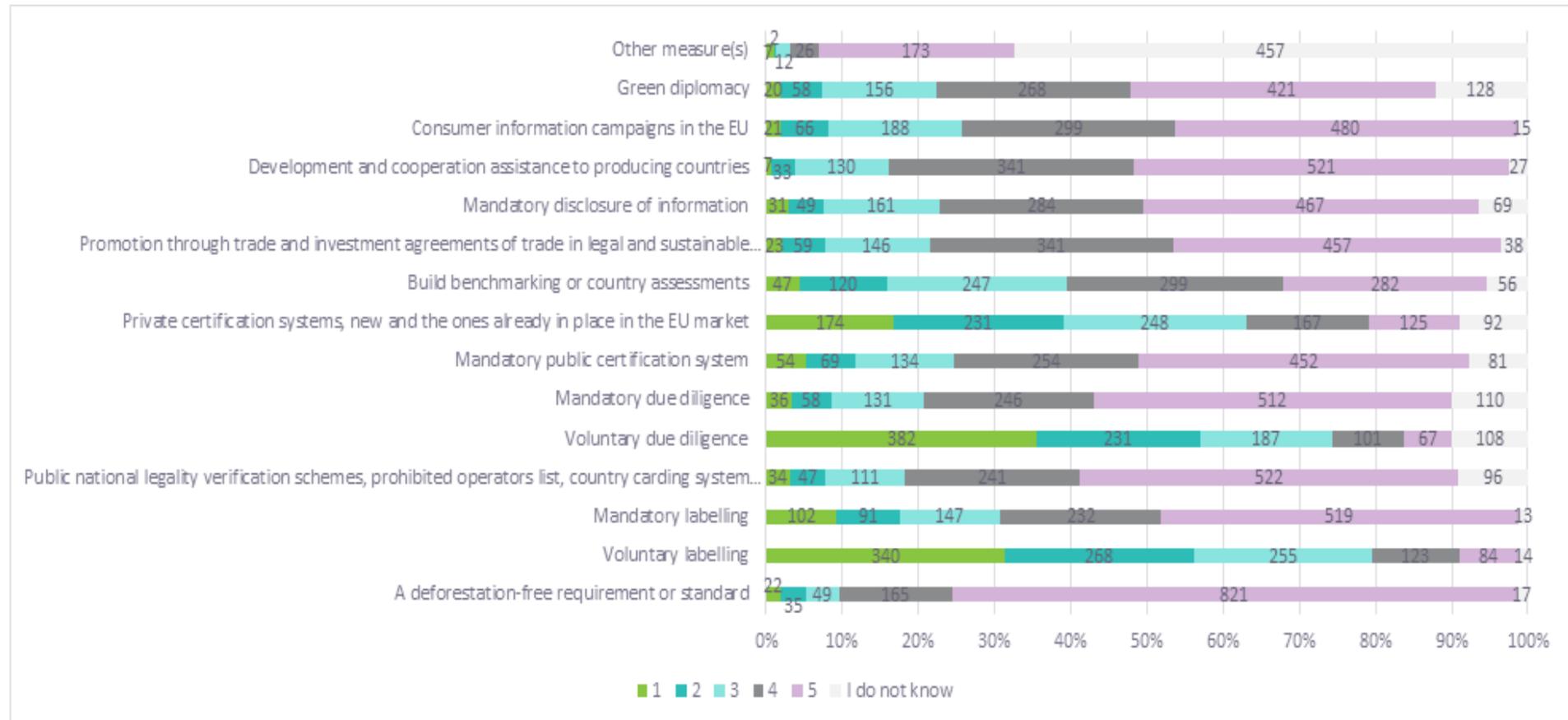
Respondents were asked to rate each measure on a scale of 1 to 5, 1 representing not suitable at all, 2 representing somewhat not suitable, 3 representing neutral, 4 representing somewhat suitable, 5 representing completely suitable.

As shown in Figure 2.26, the measures of voluntary labelling, voluntary due diligence and private certification systems, new and the ones already in place in the EU market received the lowest overall support. A deforestation-free requirement or standard that commodities or products in their product category must comply with to be placed on the EU market obtained by far the most support of all measures. The remaining measures all obtained a similar level of support from respondents.

Other measures to address the issue of deforestation and forest degradation associated with EU consumption were identified with this question. The following measures were commonly presented:

- Different measures should apply to different commodities. Many responses identified that a mix of both mandatory and voluntary measures as well as both national measures and international cooperation would be beneficial depending on the commodity;
- While legislation must be strengthened, cooperation with producer and other consumer countries to address deforestation must also be addressed;
- Payments for ecosystem services could be used.

Figure 2.26 Proportion and absolute number of respondents to the question " From the list below, which measures are the most suitable to address the issue of deforestation and forest degradation associated with EU consumption?"



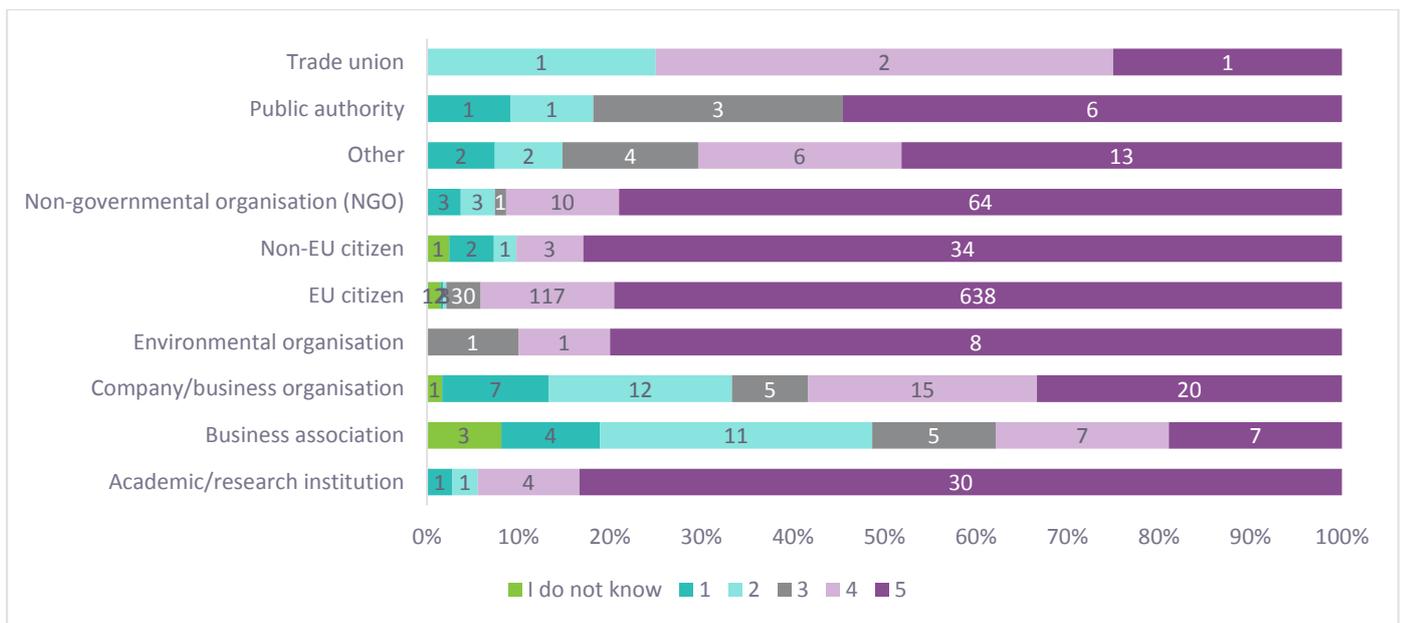
Note: The total number of responses varied with the measure assessed as follows: A deforestation-free requirement or standard that commodities or products in their product category must comply with to be placed on the EU market (1,109), Voluntary labelling (1,084), Mandatory labelling (1,104), Public national legality verification schemes, prohibited operators list, country carding system and export ban to the EU (1,051), Voluntary due diligence (1,076), Mandatory due diligence (1,093), Mandatory public certification system (1,044), Private certification systems, new and the ones already in place in the EU market (1,037), Build benchmarking or country assessments (1,051), Promotion through trade and investment agreements of trade in legal and sustainable products (1,064), Mandatory disclosure of information (1,061), Development and cooperation assistance to producing countries (1,059), Consumer information campaigns in the EU (1,069), Green diplomacy (1,051) and Other measure(s) (677).

By Respondent category

The responses given to this question by **respondent category** are shown in the following figures.

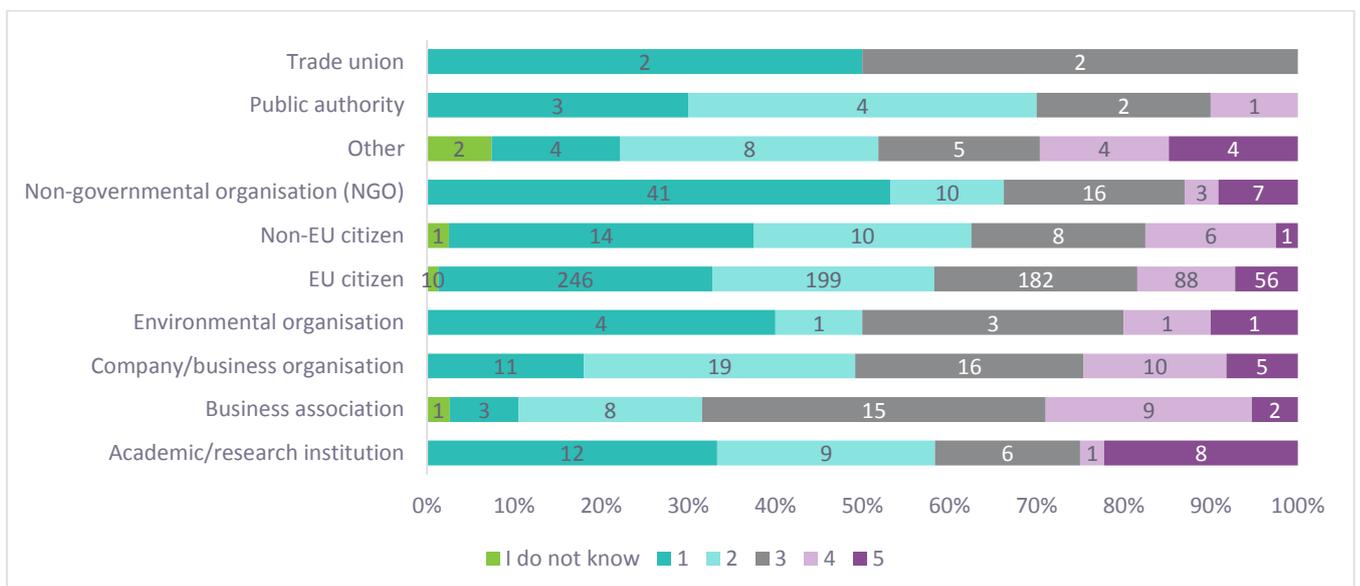
Deforestation-free requirement or standard that commodities or products in the product category must comply with to be placed on the EU market (N=1,109) had widespread support from nearly all categories of respondents except for primarily **business associations**. The greatest support for this measure came from **academic/research institutions, environmental organisations, EU citizens, non-EU citizens and NGOs**.

Figure 2.27 Views from respondents on suitability of measure: Deforestation-free requirement or standard (N=1,109)



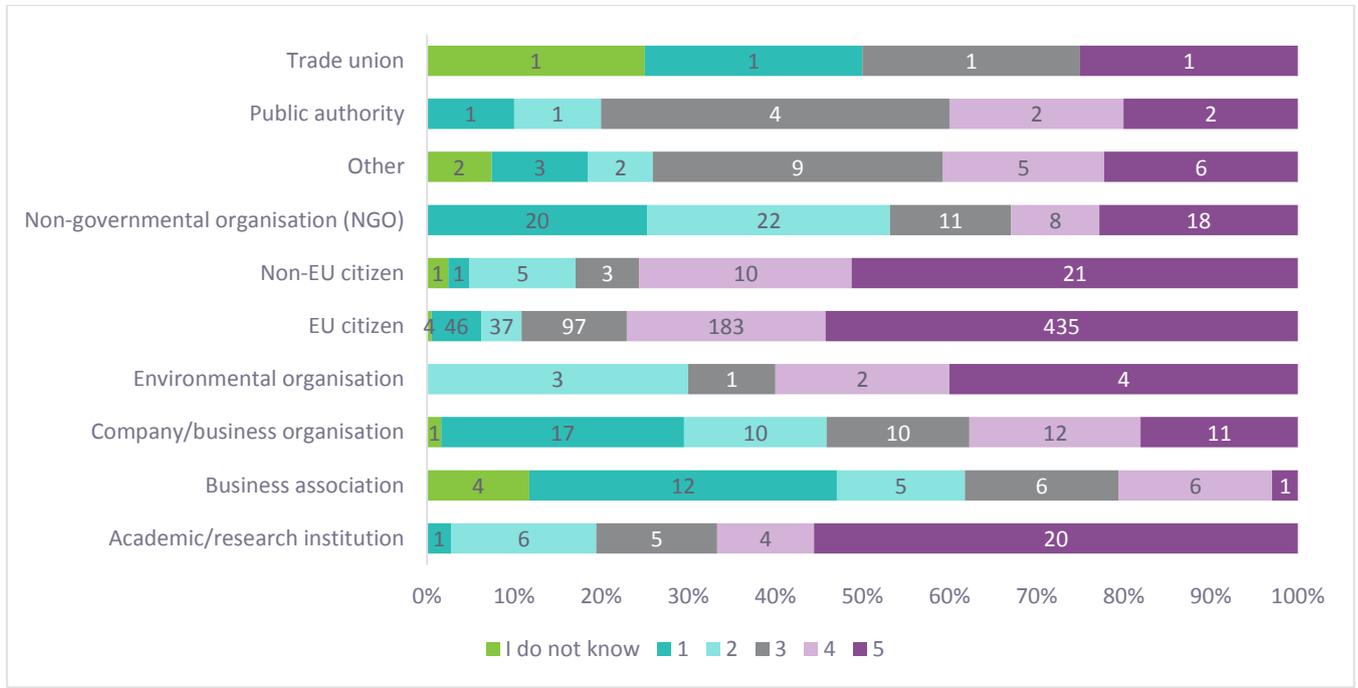
Voluntary labelling (N=1,084) obtained **fairly weak support** (anything other than 4 or 5) from the majority of respondent categories.

Figure 2.28 Views from respondents on suitability of measure : Voluntary labelling (N=1,084)



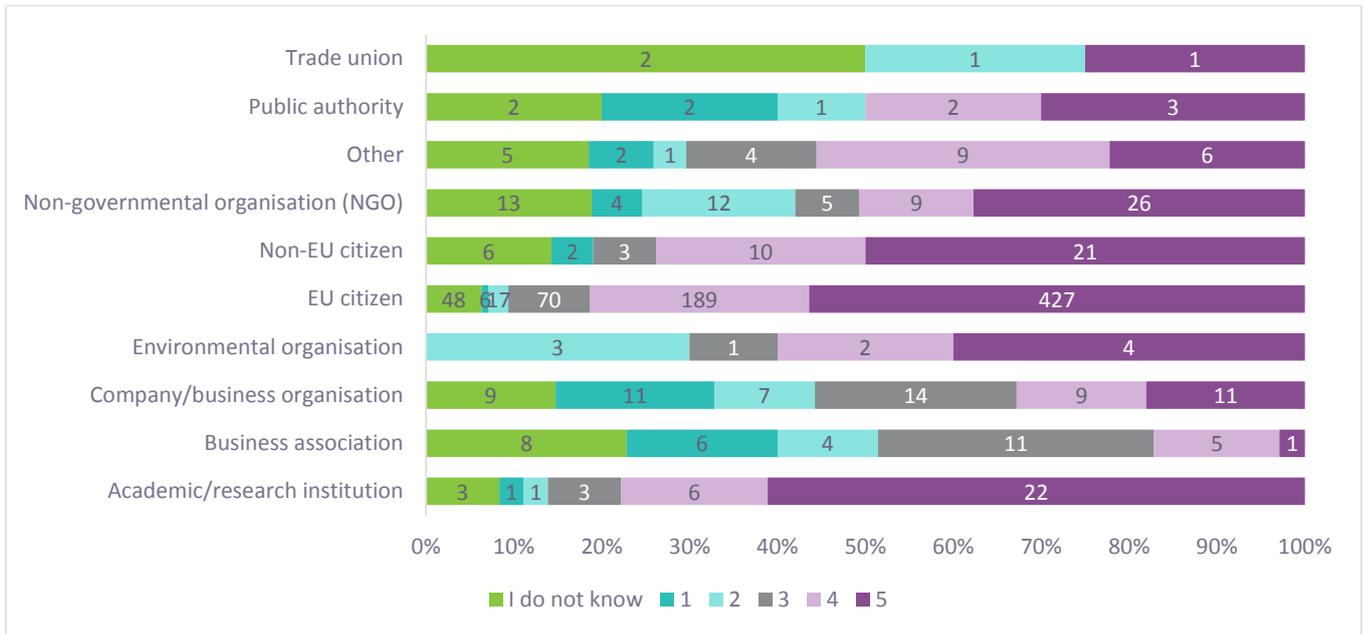
Mandatory labelling (N=1,104) obtained weak support from **business associations** but had the strongest support from **academic/research institutions, environmental organisations, EU citizens and non-EU citizens**.

Figure 2.29 Views from respondents on suitability of measure : Mandatory labelling (N=1,104)



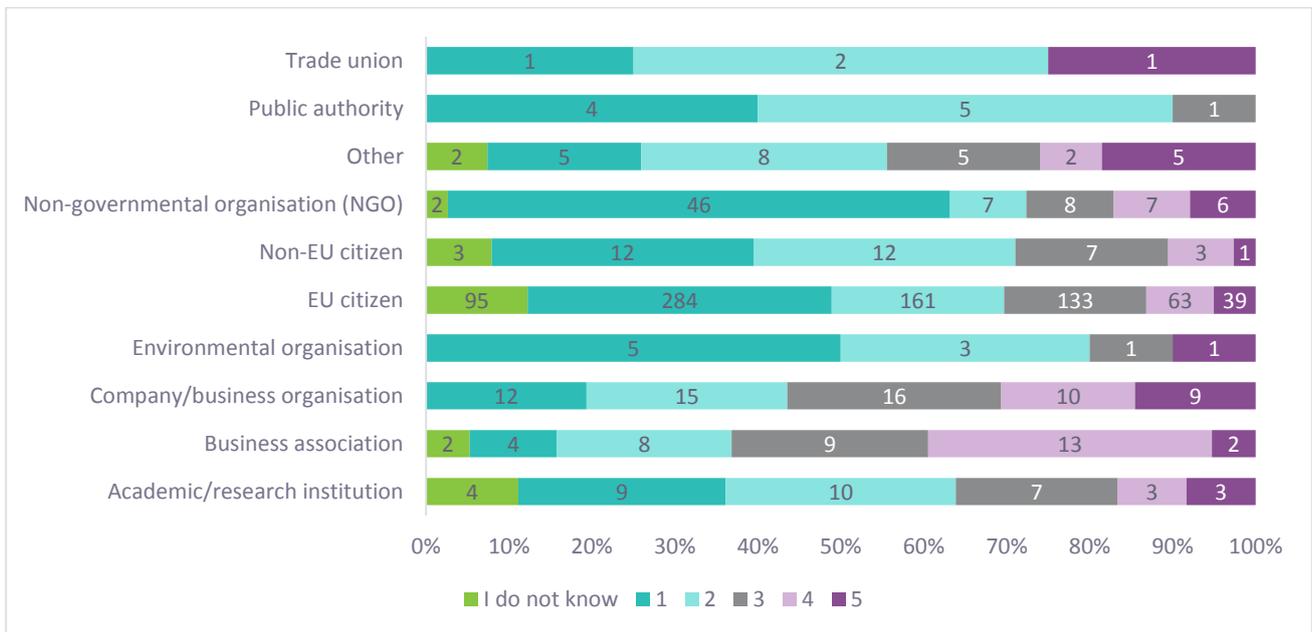
Public national legality verification schemes, prohibited operators list, country carding system and export ban to the EU (N=1,051) highlighted a strong different of opinion between respondent categories. The weakest support came from **business associations** and **company/business organisations** whereas the strongest support was from **academic/research institutions, EU citizens and non-EU citizens**. Environmental organisations, NGOs, public authorities and “others” also expressed moderate support for this measure.

Figure 2.30 Views from respondents on suitability of measure : Public national legality verification schemes, prohibited operators list, country carding system and export ban to the EU (N=1,051)



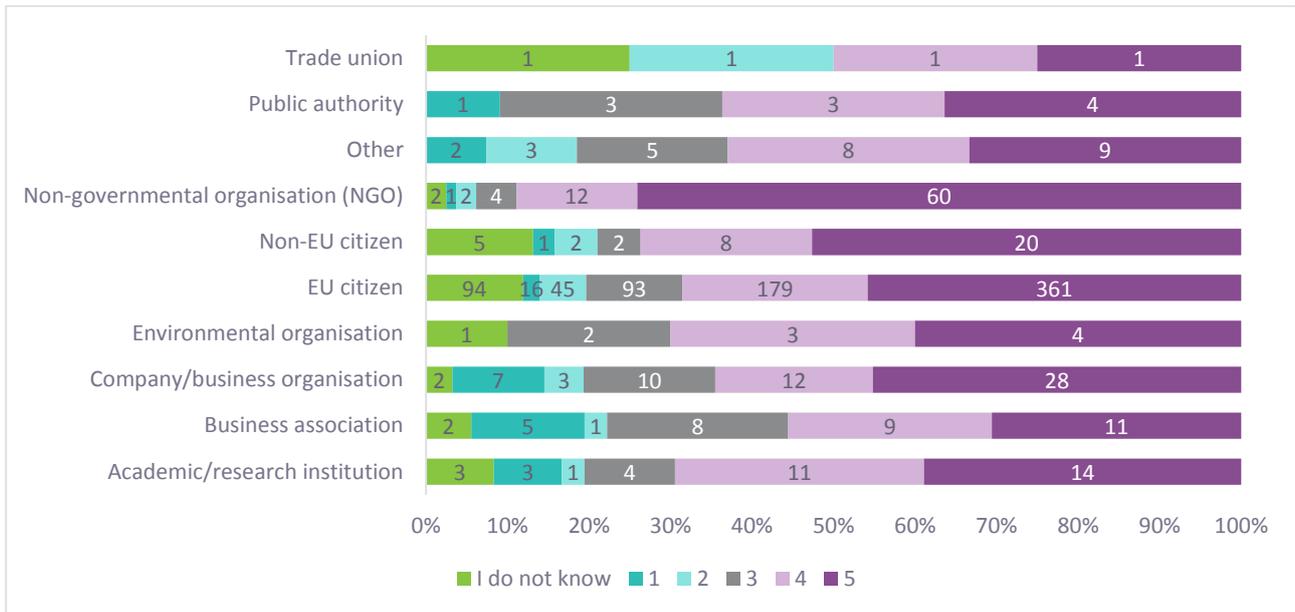
Voluntary due diligence (N=1,076) generally obtained little support except from **39% of business associations** (rating 4 or 5) who supported this measure.

Figure 2.31 Views from respondents on suitability of measure : Voluntary due diligence (N=1,076)



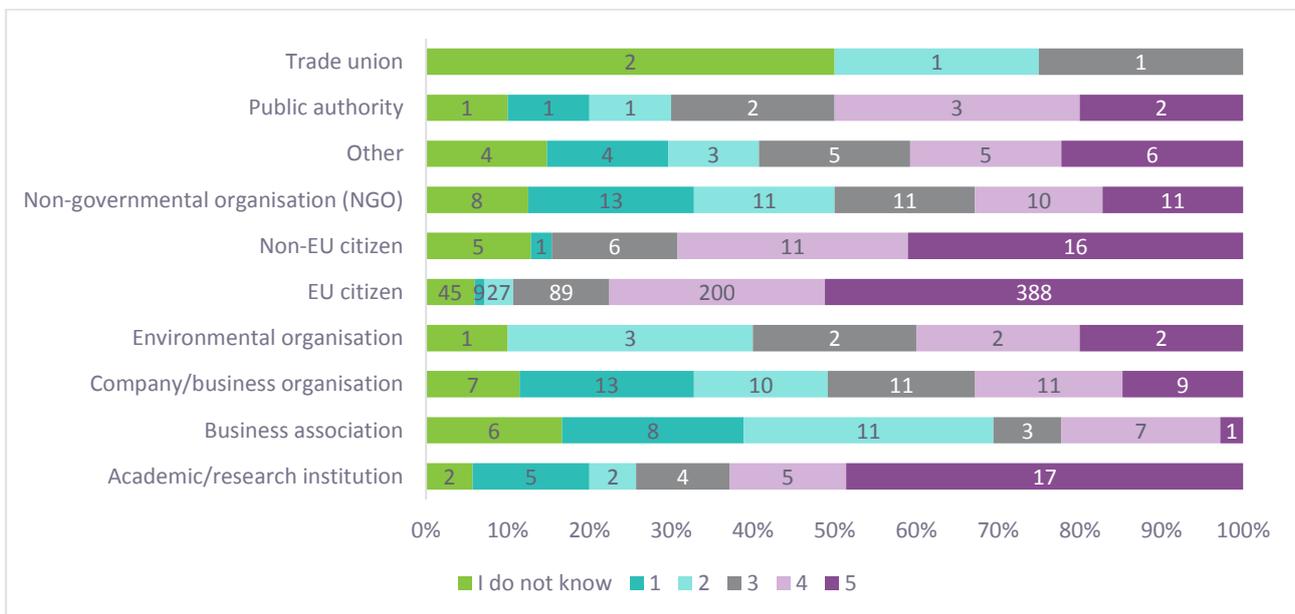
Mandatory due diligence (N=1,093) was widely supported among all categories of respondent. The greatest support was from **NGOs** and the least support was from **trade unions**.

Figure 2.32 Views from respondents on suitability of measure : Mandatory due diligence (N=1,093)



Mandatory public certification systems (N=1,044) did not receive as much support as was obtained by some other measures and varied quite considerably. **EU citizens, non-EU citizens and academic/research institutions** generally had the greatest support for this measure with the least support coming from **trade unions and business associations**.

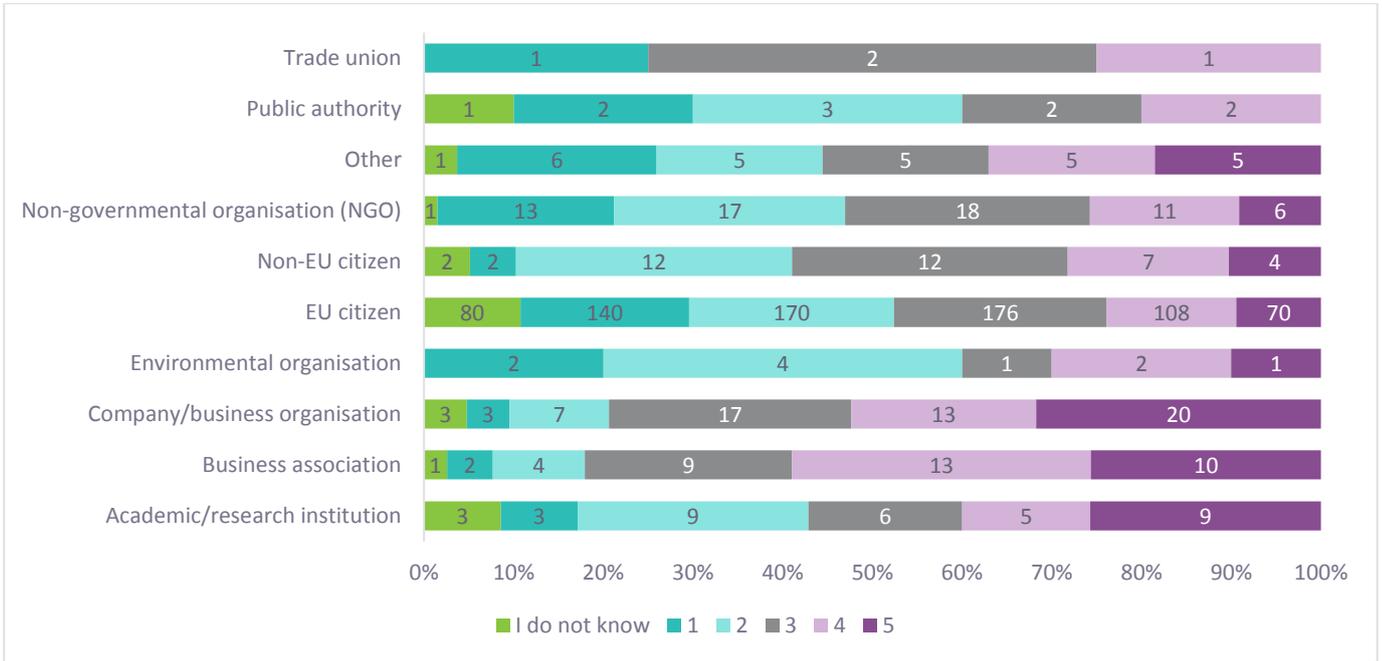
Figure 2.33 Views from respondents on suitability of measure : Mandatory public certification systems (N=1,044)



The variation in support between respondent categories for “private certification systems, new and the ones already in place in the EU market” (N=1,037) was less than for some other measures and in general this support was moderate. The least support came from **public authorities and trade unions** while the greatest support came from **business associations, company/business organisations and academic/research institutions**.

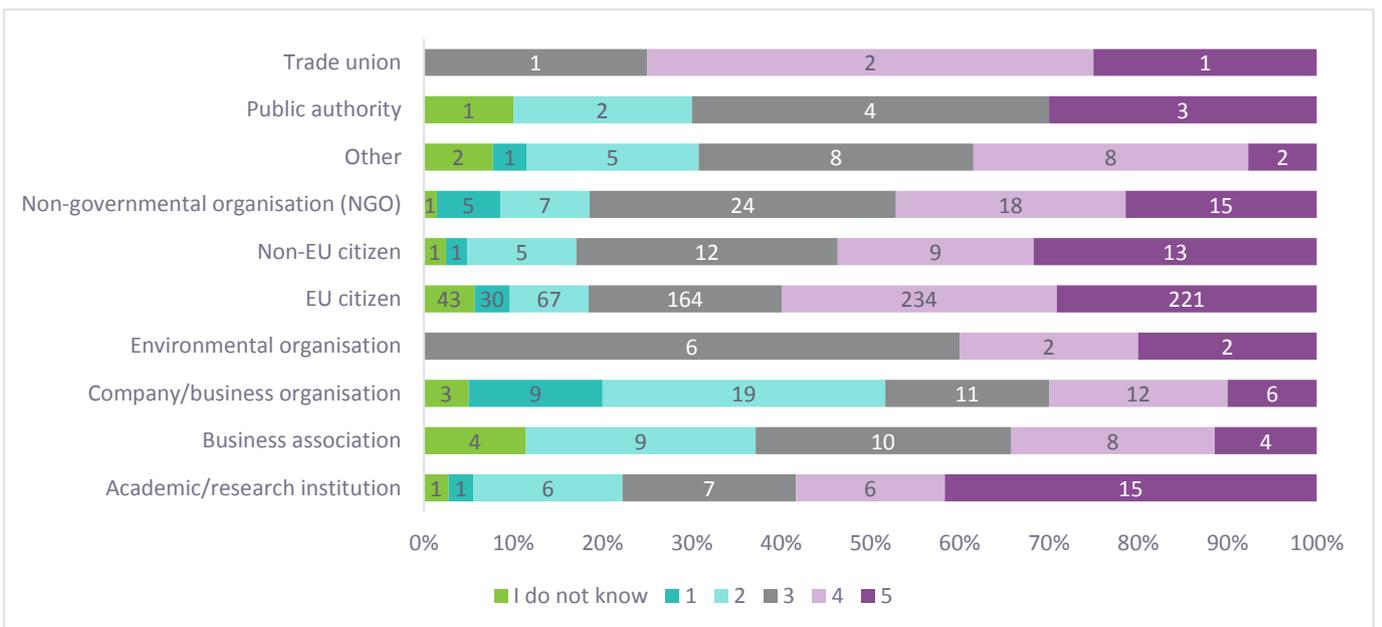


Figure 2.34 Views from respondents on suitability of measure : Private certification systems, new and the ones already in place in the EU market (N=1,037)



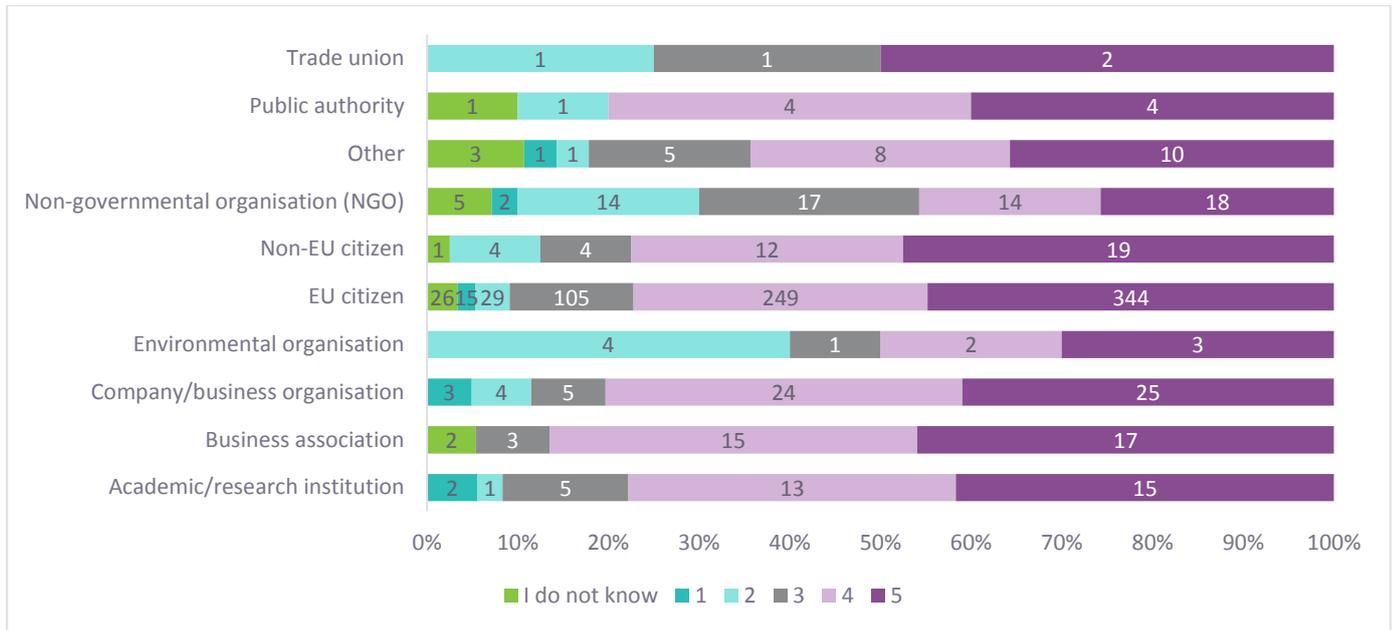
Build benchmarking or country assessments (e.g. index) showing which countries are exposed to and effectively combat deforestation and forest degradation for information purposes (N=1,051) obtained the strongest support from **trade unions, academic/research institutions, and EU citizens**.

Figure 2.35 Views from respondents on suitability of measure : Build benchmarking or country assessments (e.g. index) showing which countries are exposed to and effectively combat deforestation and forest degradation for information purposes (N=1,051)



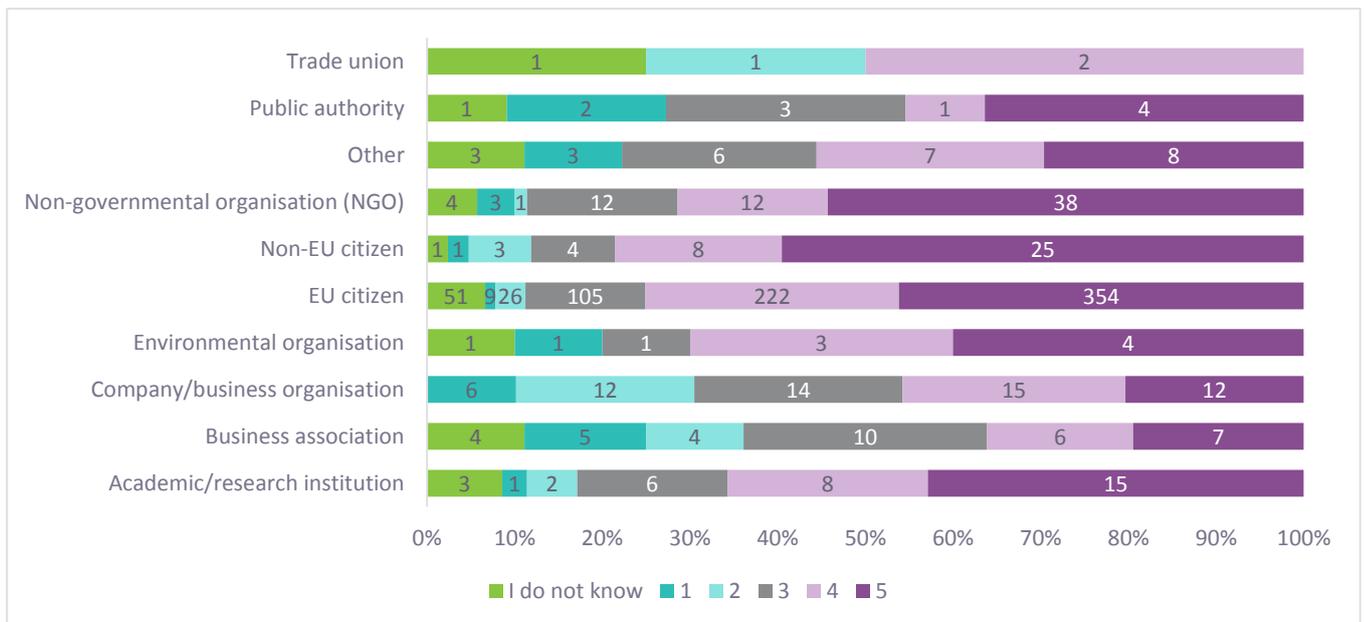
Promotion through trade and investment agreements of trade in legal and sustainable products (N=1,064) obtained **strong support from all** respondent categories.

Figure 2.36 Views from respondents on suitability of measure : Promotion through trade and investment agreements of trade in legal and sustainable products (N=1,064)



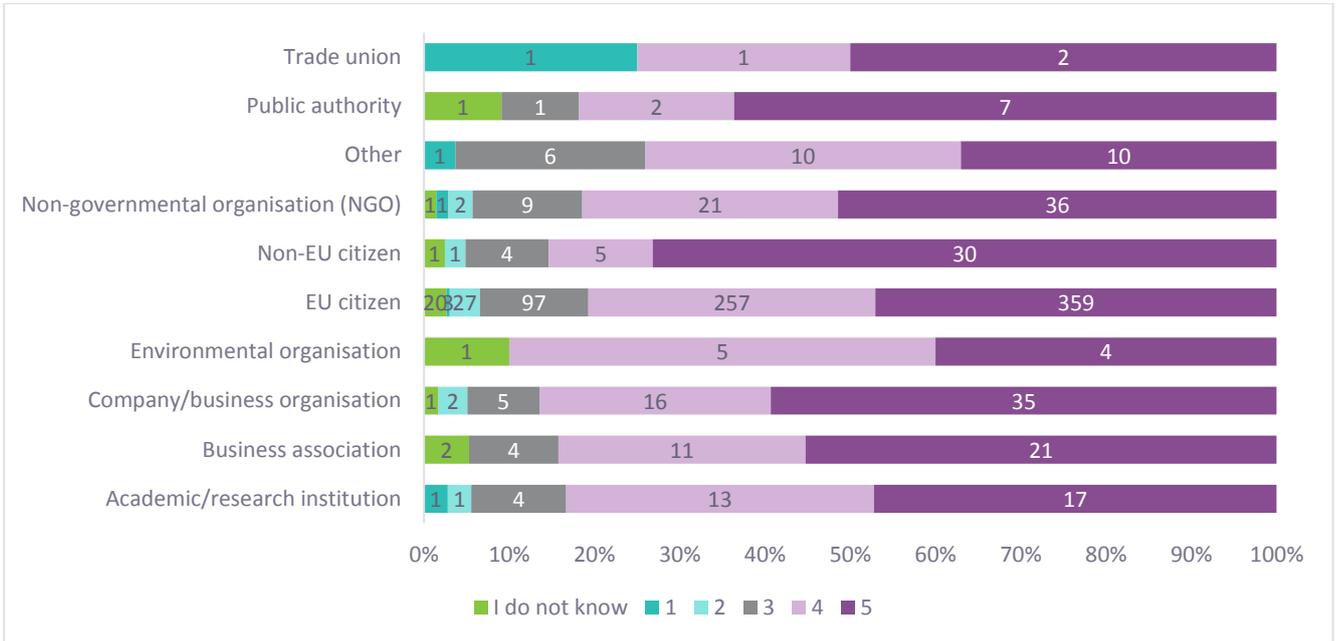
Mandatory disclosure of information (N=1,061) was supported by the majority of respondent categories although there was significant variation between them. Strongest support came from **EU-citizens, non-EU citizens, NGOs, academic/research institutions and environmental organisations** and the least support came from **business associations and company/business organisations**.

Figure 2.37 Views from respondents on suitability of measure : Mandatory disclosure of information (N=1,061)



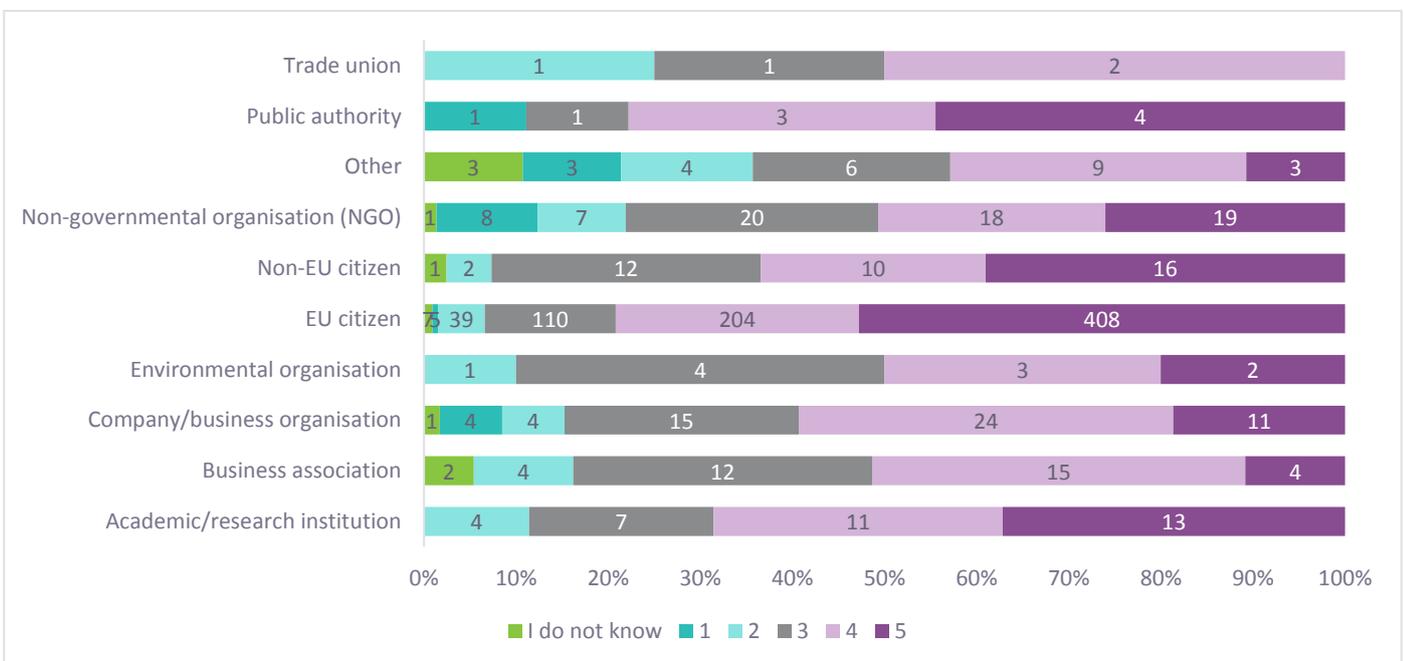
Development and cooperation assistance to producing countries (N=1,059) obtained **strong support from all** respondent categories.

Figure 2.38 Views from respondents on suitability of measure : Development and cooperation assistance to producing countries (N=1,059)



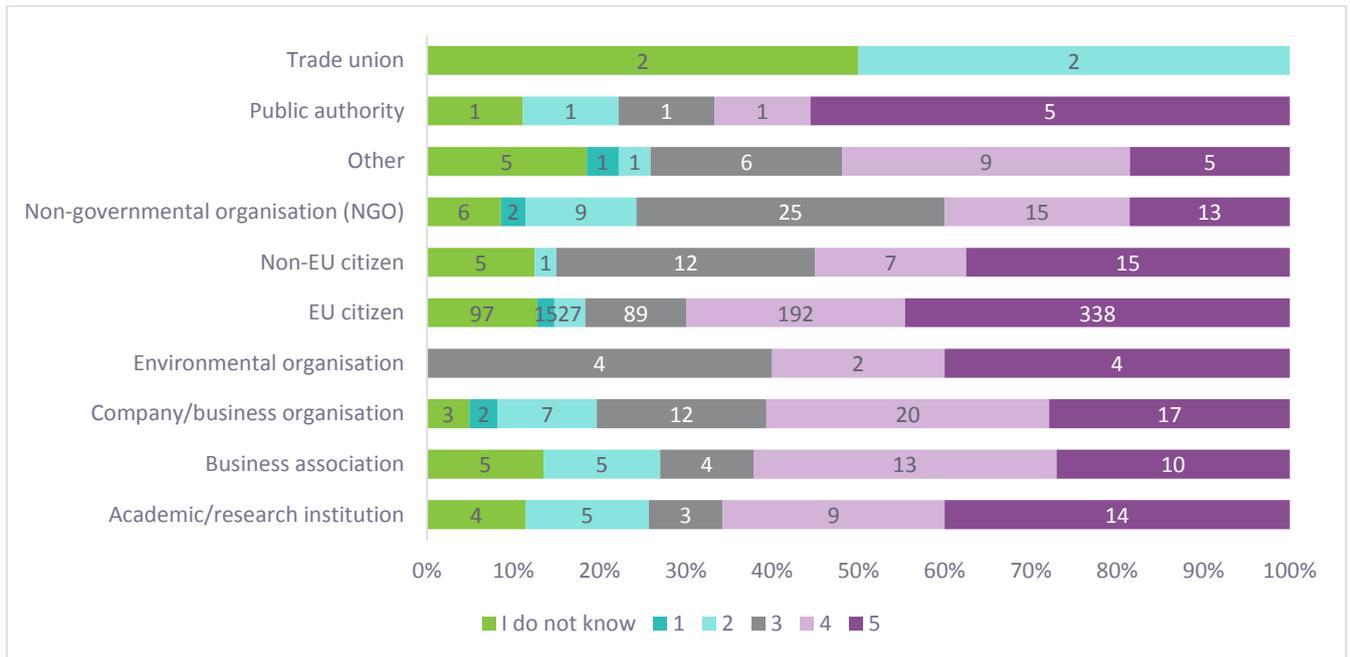
Consumer information campaigns in the EU (N=1,069) obtained **quite strong support from all** respondent categories.

Figure 2.39 Views from respondents on suitability of measure : Consumer information campaigns in the EU (N=1,069)



Green diplomacy (N=1,051) obtained **quite strong support from all** respondent categories except from **trade unions**.

Figure 2.40 Views from respondents on suitability of measure : Green diplomacy (N=1,051)



By EU Member State

The responses given to this question by EU Member State are shown in the following figures. Figure 2.41 shows the differences in view on voluntary labelling (N=948).

Figure 2.41 Responses to the question “From the list below, which measures are the most suitable to address the issue of deforestation and forest degradation associated with EU consumption?” by EU Member State, measure: voluntary labelling



Figure 2.42 shows the differences in view on mandatory labelling with a total of 966 responses.

Figure 2.42 Responses to the question "From the list below, which measures are the most suitable to address the issue of deforestation and forest degradation associated with EU consumption?" by EU Member State, measure: mandatory labelling

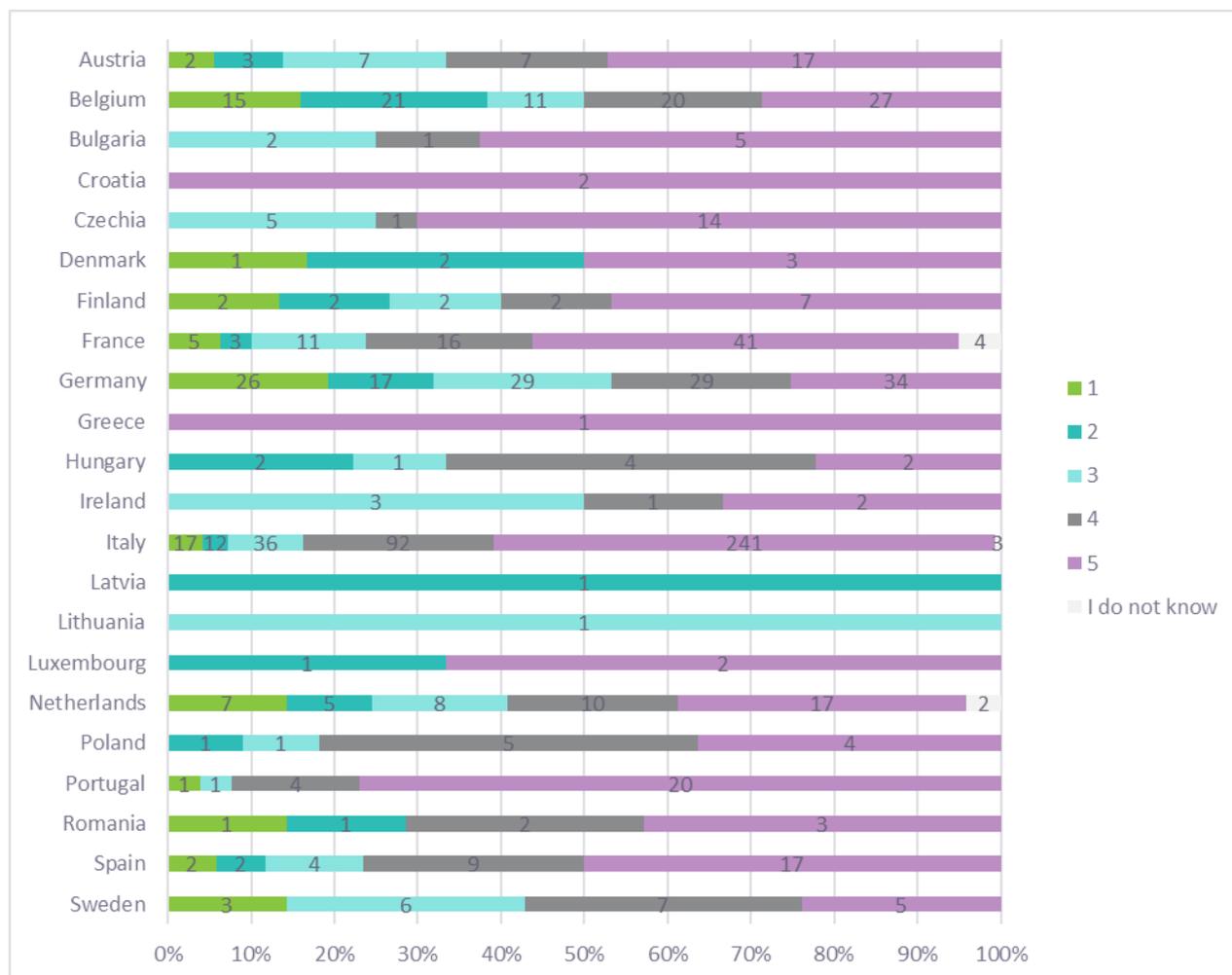


Figure 2.43 shows the differences in view on a mandatory public certification system with a total of 913 responses.

Figure 2.43 Responses to the question “From the list below, which measures are the most suitable to address the issue of deforestation and forest degradation associated with EU consumption?” by EU Member State, measure: mandatory public certification system

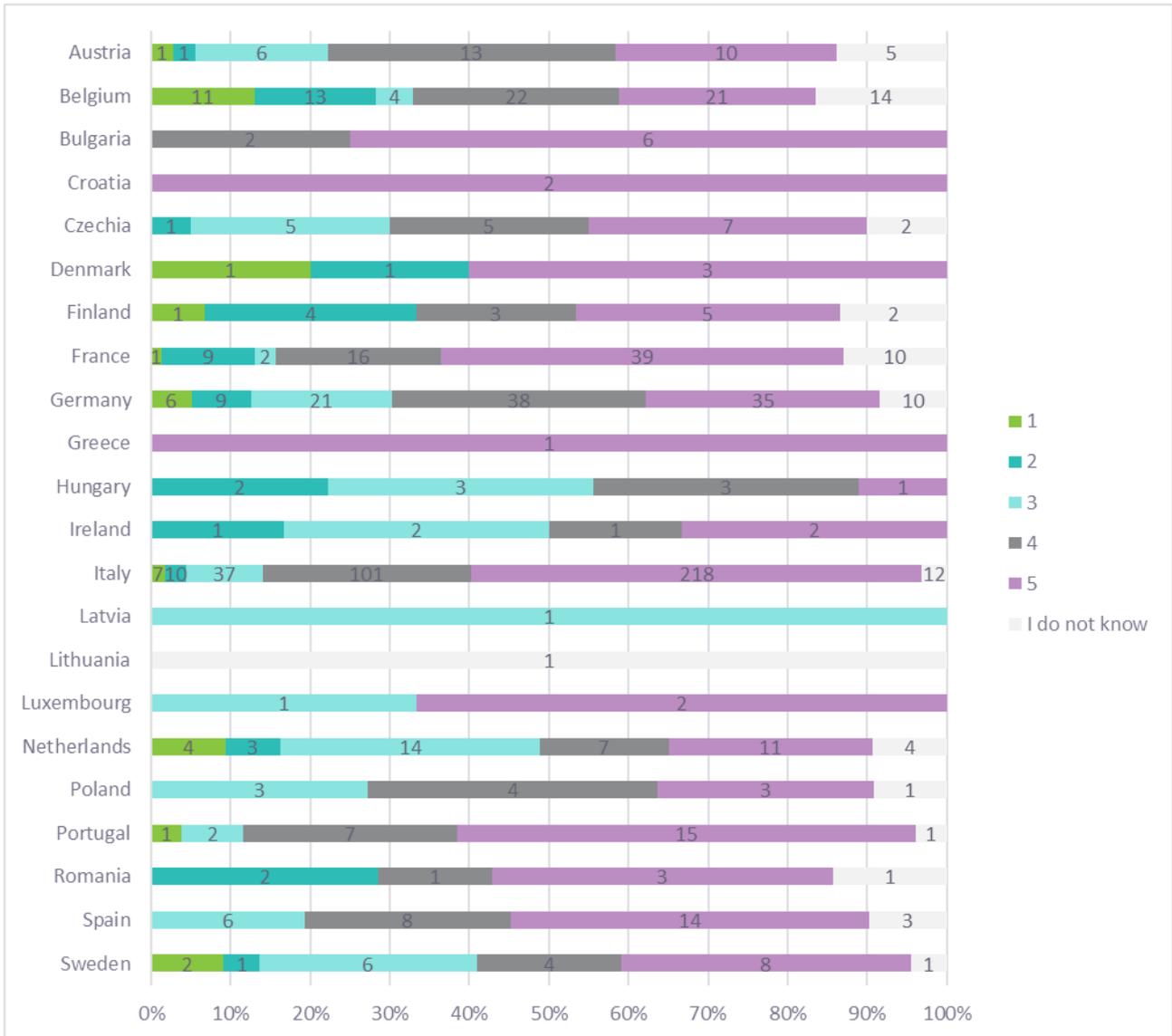
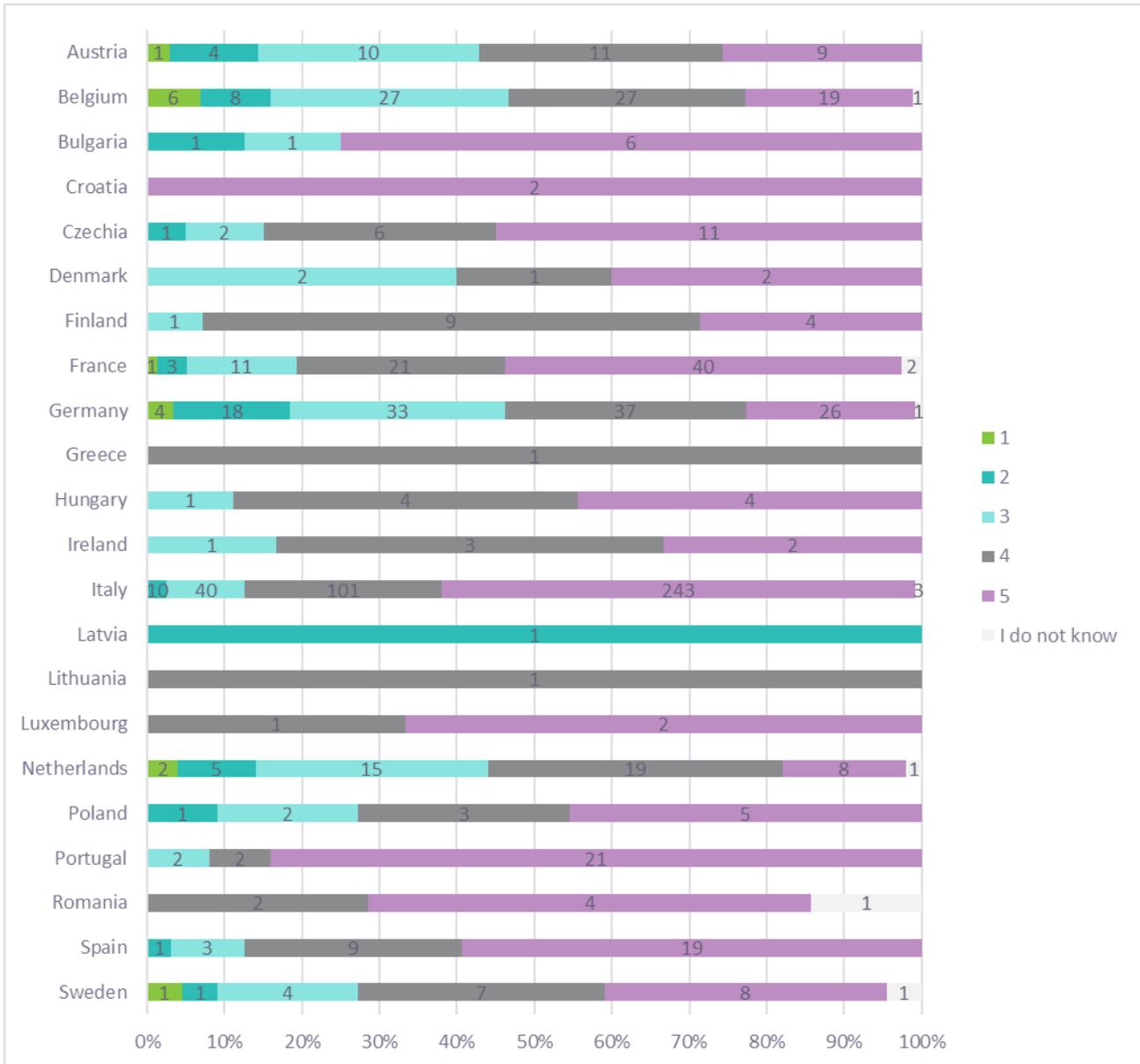


Figure 2.44 shows the differences in view on a consumer information campaign in the EU with a total of 934 responses.

Figure 2.44 Responses to the question “From the list below, which measures are the most suitable to address the issue of deforestation and forest degradation associated with EU consumption?” by EU Member State, measure: consumer information campaign in the EU



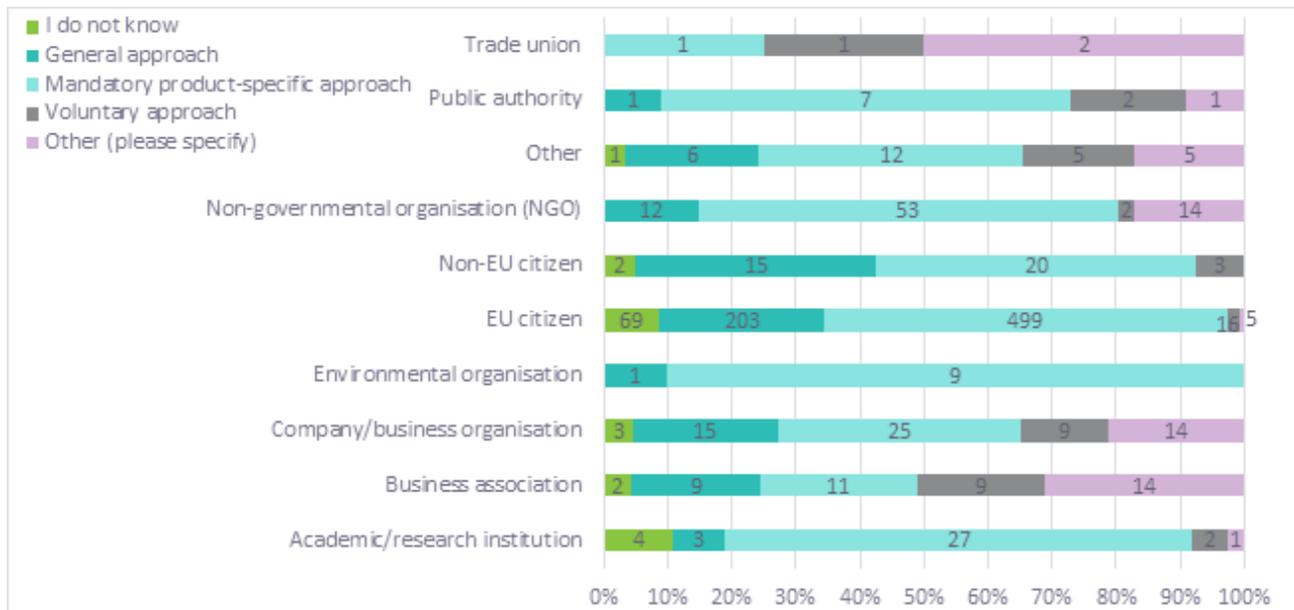
If a due diligence approach, or some of its elements, was to be considered as an option (also in combination with other measures), which of the following due diligence approaches would you find to be the most appropriate to follow?

The results of this question per respondent category are summarised in Figure 2.45 (N=1,115). In general, a mandatory product-specific approach, focusing on information, risk assessment and risk mitigation covering the whole supply chain was popular amongst respondents. However, this was not the case in every respondent category. For example, within trade unions and business associations only 25% and 24% of respondents selected this option (in contrast to 73% in academic/research institutions). However, there were



only a few respondents in total from trade unions (N=4) which limits the statistical significance of this information.

Figure 2.45 Proportion and absolute number of respondents to the question “If a due diligence approach, or some of its elements, was to be considered as an option (also in combination with other measures), which of the following due diligence approaches would you find to be the most appropriate to follow?”



If “other” was selected by respondents, they were invited to specify other due diligence approaches they found to be the most appropriate. Commonly presented responses included:

- That a due diligence approach should use experience gain from the implementation of the EUTR;
- Both a mandatory product-specific approach and a general approach which would focus on human rights and environmental duty of care could be used as a complementary approach;
- A mandatory due diligence approach should be used for specific priority substances.

If the approach of illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing, or some of its elements, was to be considered as an option (also in combination with others), which of the following elements would you find to be relevant ?

If the approach of illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing, or some of its elements, was to be considered as an option the greatest support would be for penalties for EU countries and operators that do not comply with the rules (N=660) as can be seen in Table 2.10. However, there was also support for a country carding system whereby the exports of third countries that do not comply with certain criteria can be banned from the EU (N=553), a prohibited operators list (N=459) and the imposition on third countries of the requirement to establish their own public national legality verification schemes in order to sell products to the EU (N=451).

Table 2.10 Number of responses indicating the level of support for relevant elements of IUU fishing

Relevant elements of IUU fishing	Number of responses
Penalties for EU countries and operators that do not comply with the rules	660
Country carding system whereby the exports of third countries that do not comply with certain criteria can be banned from the EU	553
Prohibited operators list	459
Impose on third countries the requirement to establish their own public national legality verification schemes in order to sell products to the EU	451
I do not know	149
Other (please specify)	56

If "other" was indicated by respondents, then they were asked to suggest what elements of IUU fishing could be considered. The following elements were frequently presented (out of total N=51):

- An EU harmonised framework to certification which would facilitate higher forest related certification standards and monitoring systems;
- Due diligence approach with associated risk assessment;
- Improved international cooperation and dialogue.

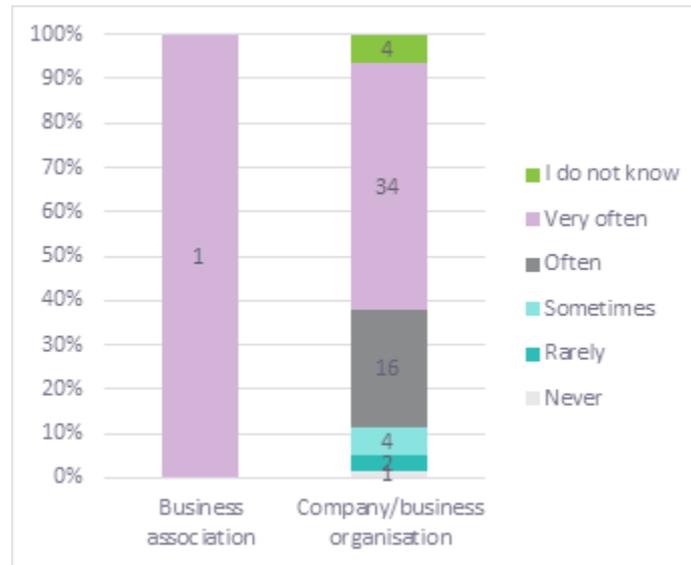
2.2.5 Follow up questions

For companies and / or business organisations

How often do you consider the deforestation and forest degradation impacts of your organisation's business decisions?

Of the total (N=62) responses given to this question only one response was provided in the business association category as shown in Figure 2.46. The results of this analysis are shown in the figure below. The majority of companies and business organisations consider the deforestation and forest degradation impacts of their organisation's business decisions "very often" with many more considering these impacts "often".

Figure 2.46 Proportion and absolute number of respondents to the question “How often do you consider the deforestation and forest degradation impacts of your organisation’s business decisions?”

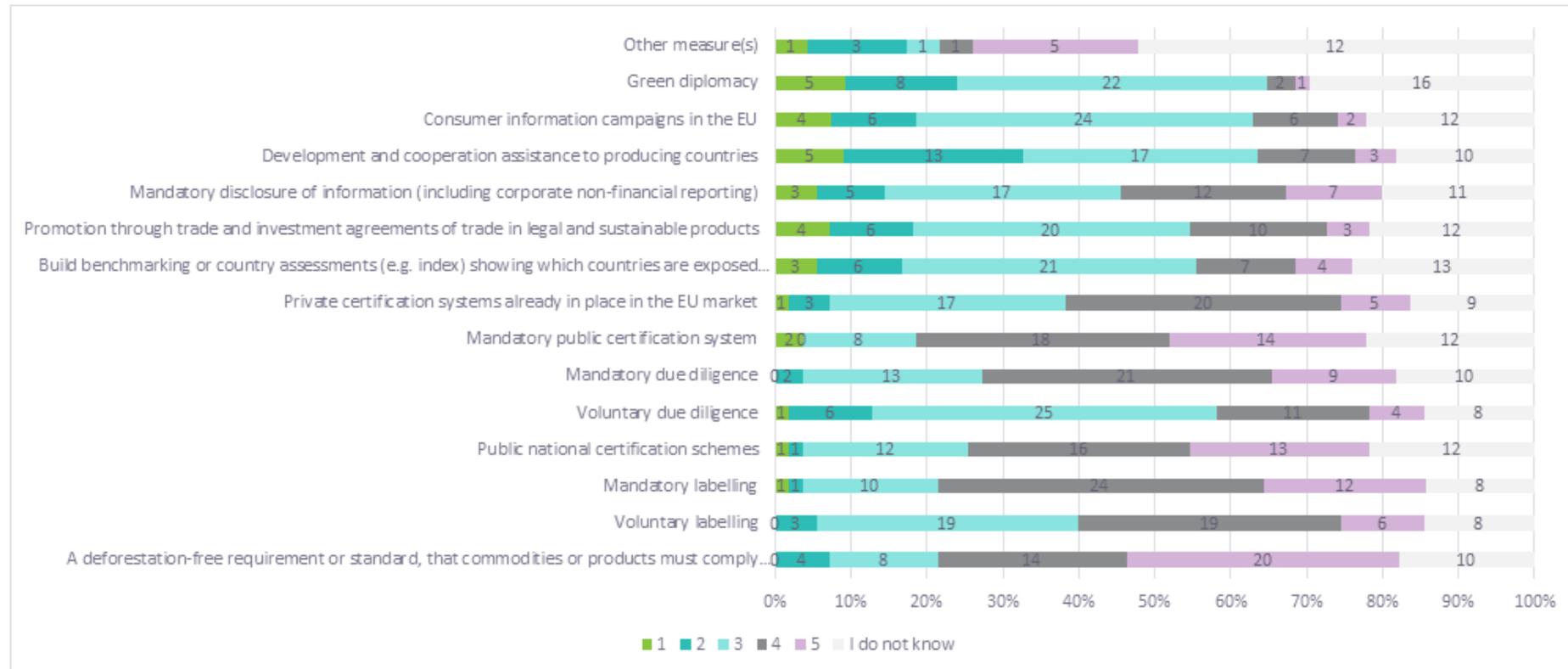


How would the implementation of the measures listed below affect your costs of operation?

Respondents were asked to rate each measure on a scale of 1 to 5, 1 representing a significant reduction in costs, 2 representing a minor reduction in costs, 3 representing no change in costs, 4 representing a minor increase in costs, 5 representing a significant increase in costs. The results of this analysis are shown in Figure 2.47.

In general, there are relatively few strong views provided by respondents (few responses rated “5”). However, there was generally stronger support for a deforestation-free requirement or standard, that commodities or products must comply with, to be placed on the EU market, voluntary labelling, mandatory labelling, public national certification schemes, voluntary due diligence, mandatory due diligence, a mandatory public certification system and private certification systems already in place in the EU market than other options.

Figure 2.47 Proportion and absolute number of respondents to the question “How would the implementation of the measures listed below affect your costs of operation?”



Note: The total number of responses to this question varied with the measure in question as follows: A deforestation-free requirement or standard, that commodities or products must comply with, to be placed on the EU market (N=56), Voluntary labelling (N=55), Mandatory labelling (N=56), Public national certification schemes (N=55), Voluntary due diligence (N=55), Mandatory due diligence (N=55), Mandatory public certification system (N=54), Private certification systems already in place in the EU market (N=55), Build benchmarking or country assessments (e.g. index) showing which countries are exposed to and effectively combat deforestation or forest degradation for information purposes (N=54), Promotion through trade and investment agreements of trade in legal and sustainable products (N=55), Mandatory disclosure of information (including corporate non-financial reporting) (N=55), Development and cooperation assistance to producing countries (N=55), Consumer information campaigns in the EU (N=54), Green diplomacy (N=54) and Other measure(s) (N=23).

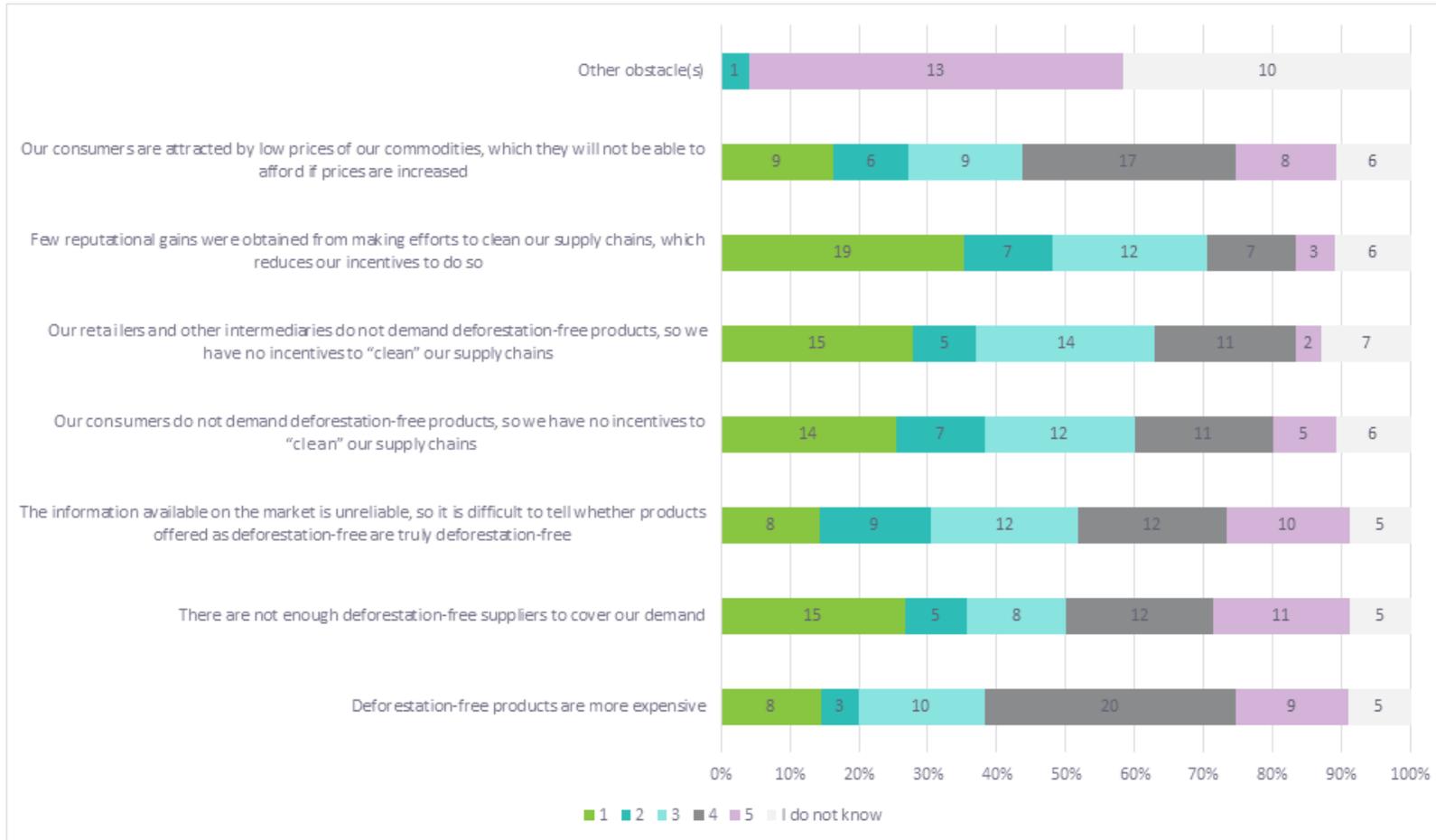
Few responses to how “other measures” would affect the respondent’s business were given following this question (N=16). However, of those responses that were given, the most commonly issues were:

- Costs for implementing the previously mentioned measures would vary greatly depending on the business;
- Availability of payments for environmental services was raised (although no further information was given).

To what extent do you consider the below factors an obstacle for effectively implementing deforestation-free supply chains in your own company?

Respondents were asked to rate each option below on a scale of 1 to 5, with 1 representing not a relevant obstacle at all and 5 representing a very relevant obstacle. The biggest obstacle identified by respondents was “Deforestation-free products are more expensive”. However, several other factors were considered to be obstacles by respondents as shown in Figure 2.48.

Figure 2.48 Proportion and absolute number of respondents to the question “To what extent do you consider the below factors an obstacle for effectively implementing deforestation-free supply chains in your own company?”



Note: The total number of responses to this question varied with the factor being considered as follows: Deforestation-free products are more expensive (N=55), There are not enough deforestation-free suppliers to cover our demand (N=56), The information available on the market is unreliable, so it is difficult to tell whether products offered as deforestation-free are truly deforestation-free (N=56), Our consumers do not demand deforestation-free products, so we have no incentives to “clean” our supply chains (N=55), Our retailers and other intermediaries do not demand deforestation-free products, so we have no incentives to “clean” our supply chains (N=54), Few reputational gains were obtained from making efforts to clean our supply chains, which reduces our incentives to do so (N=54), Our consumers are attracted by low prices of our commodities, which they will not be able to afford if prices are increased (N=55) and Other obstacle(s) (N=24).



Other obstacles acting against the effective implementation of deforestation-free supply chains in the respondent’s own company included:

- A lengthy process to engage with farmers and improve farming practices since this is often beyond the scope of the law;
- Logistics obstacles, especially in the segregation of products that are not deforestation-free; and
- Lack of consumer demand (as seen from purchasing data).

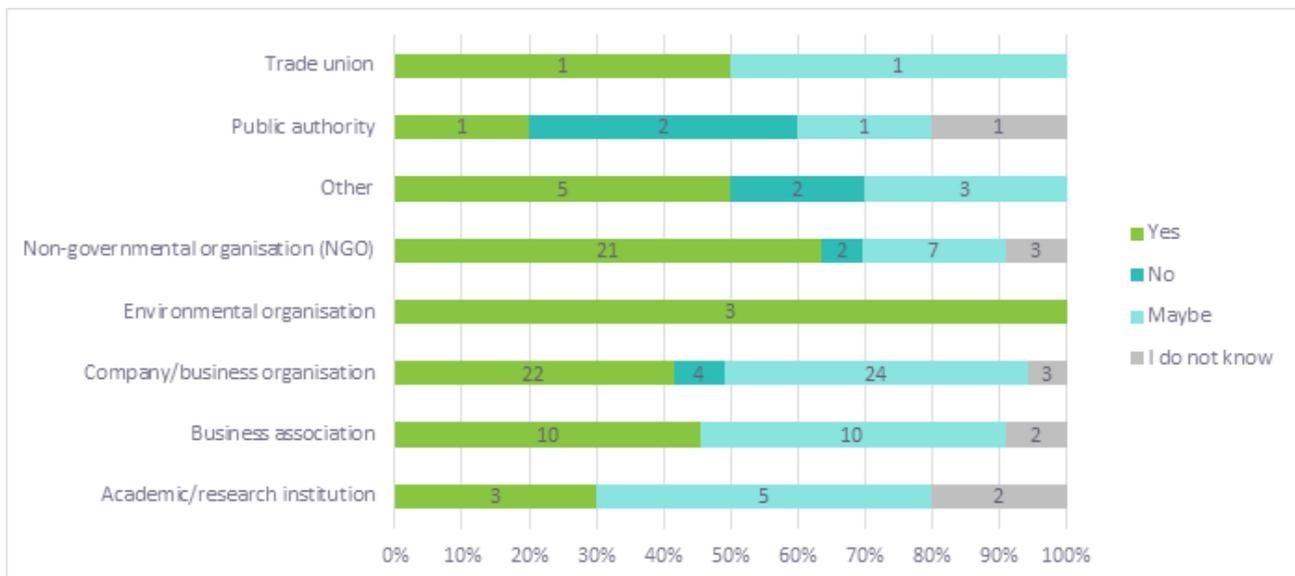
For companies / business organisations that have made voluntary pledges

As this section of the questionnaire was specific to companies/business organisations, there were no EU and non-EU citizen respondent groups taking part in this section. As a result, EU and non-EU citizen respondent groups were excluded from this part of the analysis.

Do you believe that EU-level demand-side measures would be consistent with your current voluntary pledge or commitment?

The responses given per respondent category have been shown in Figure 2.49 (total N=138). The number of respondents who believe that EU-level demand-side measures would be consistent with their current voluntary pledge or commitment is high for NGOs (63% responded “yes”) but seemingly lower for other respondent categories.

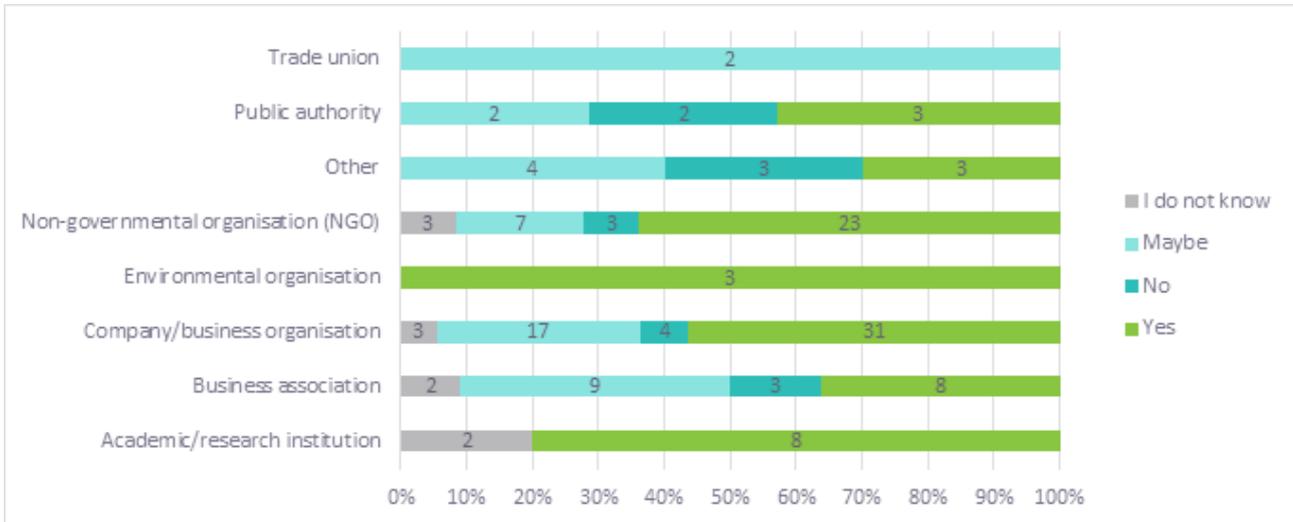
Figure 2.49 Proportion and absolute number of respondents to the question “Do you believe that EU-level demand-side measures would be consistent with your current voluntary pledge or commitment?”



*Do you believe that EU-level demand-side measures would **reduce unfair competition** from other businesses that have not made voluntary pledges/commitments?*

Figure 2.50 summarises the responses given to this question for each respondent category (N=145). Academic/research institutions, environmental organisations, NGOs and many company/business organisations responded that demand-side measures would reduce unfair competition from other businesses that have not made voluntary pledges/commitments. However, public authorities (amongst others) had less belief that demand-side measures would reduce this unfair competition.

Figure 2.50 Proportion and absolute number of respondents to the question “Do you believe that EU-level demand-side measures would reduce unfair competition from other businesses that have not made voluntary pledges/commitments?”



For third countries (outside the EU)

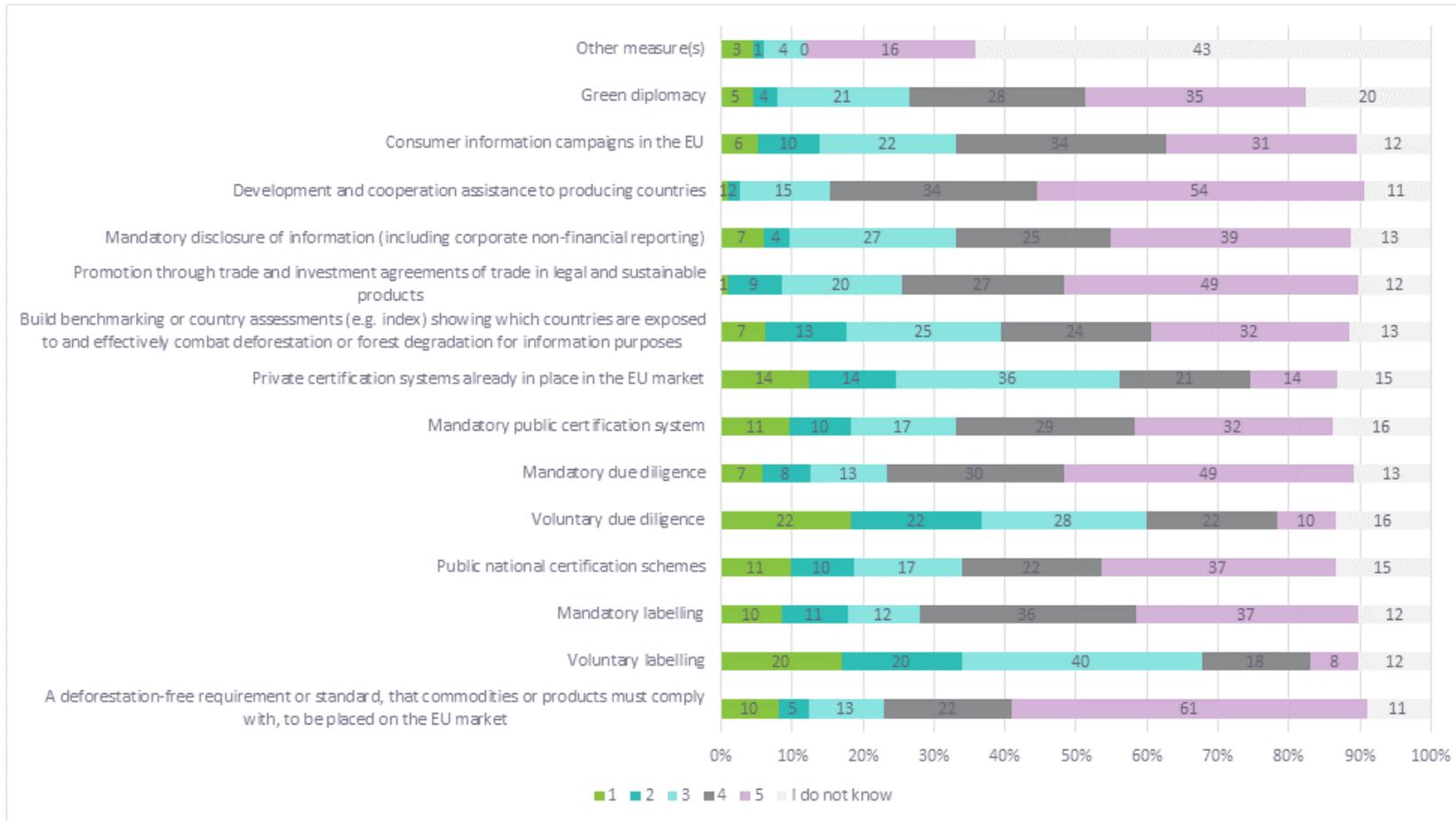
This section of the questionnaire was targeted at respondents from outside of the EU in order to assess the impact of EU demand-side measures on their own countries.

What impact in your own country would the following EU measures have?

Respondents were asked to rate each measure on a scale of 1 to 5, with 1 representing a very negative impact, 2 representing a negative impact, 3 representing no impact, 4 representing a positive impact, and 5 a very positive impact. The responses to each measure are summarise in Figure 2.51 where it can be seen that most measures have an overall positive response. However, the least supported measures are voluntary labelling, voluntary due diligence and private certification systems already in place in the EU market.



Figure 2.51 Proportion and absolute number of respondents to the question “What impact in your own country would the following EU measures have?”



Note: the total number of responses varied with the measure being assessed as follows: A deforestation-free requirement or standard, that commodities or products must comply with, to be placed on the EU market (N=122), Voluntary labelling (N=118), Mandatory labelling (N=118), Public national certification schemes (N=112), Voluntary due diligence (N=120), Mandatory due diligence (N=120), Mandatory public certification system (N=115), Private certification systems already in place in the EU market (N=114), Build benchmarking or country assessments (e.g. index) showing which countries are exposed to and effectively combat deforestation or forest degradation for information purposes (N=114), Promotion through trade and investment agreements of trade in legal and sustainable products (N=118), Mandatory disclosure of information (including corporate non-financial reporting) (N=115), Development and cooperation assistance to producing countries (N=117), Consumer information campaigns in the EU (N=115), Green diplomacy (N=113) and Other measure(s) (N=67).



If respondents identified that other measures may have an impact on their own country, they were prompted to state what these impacts would be. However, most respondents (total N=21) identified that without further information (e.g. the implementation of other measures) it would be difficult to say what the impacts would be.

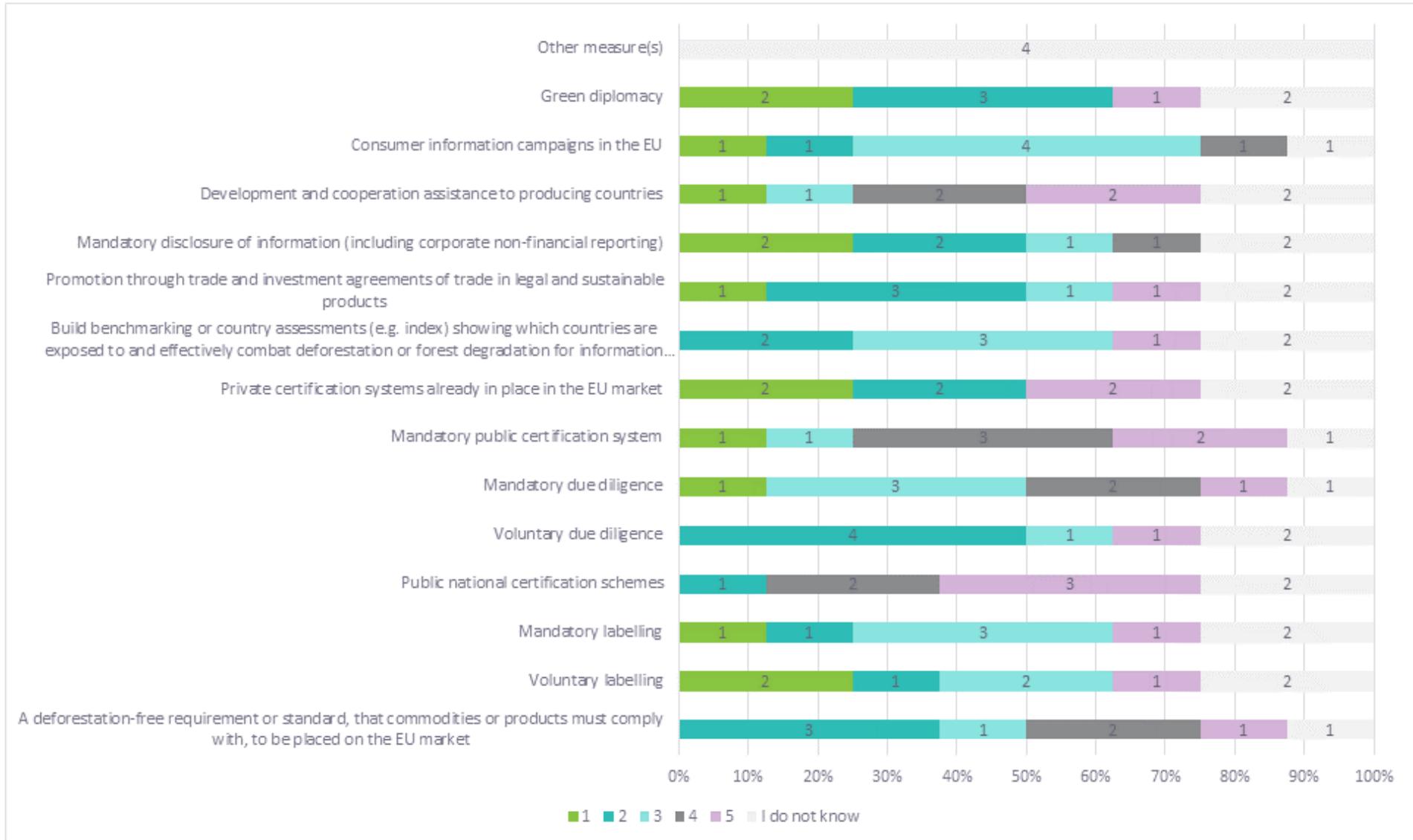
For public authorities in the EU

This section of the questionnaire was targeted at public authorities in the EU to gather views on enforcement and implementation, including costs.

What would in your view be the costs of enforcement and implementation of the measures listed below for public authorities in your own country?

The total number of responses to this question for each measure was low (N=8) except for the "other measure(s)" question (N=4). The responses to each measure are summarised in Figure 2.52. Respondents were asked to rate each response between 1 and 5 where 1 represents no or negligible costs, 2 represents low costs, 3 represents moderate costs, 4 represents high costs, 5 represents extremely high costs. The low total number of responses to each measure has led to apparent variation in the proportions of responses shown. However, it appears that public authorities associate public national certification schemes, a mandatory public certification system and development and cooperation assistance to producing countries with the highest costs.

Figure 2.52 Proportion and absolute number of respondents to the question “What would in your view be the costs of enforcement and implementation of the measures listed below for public authorities in your own country?”



No further information was given by those who indicated that costs of enforcement and implementation may arise from other measures.

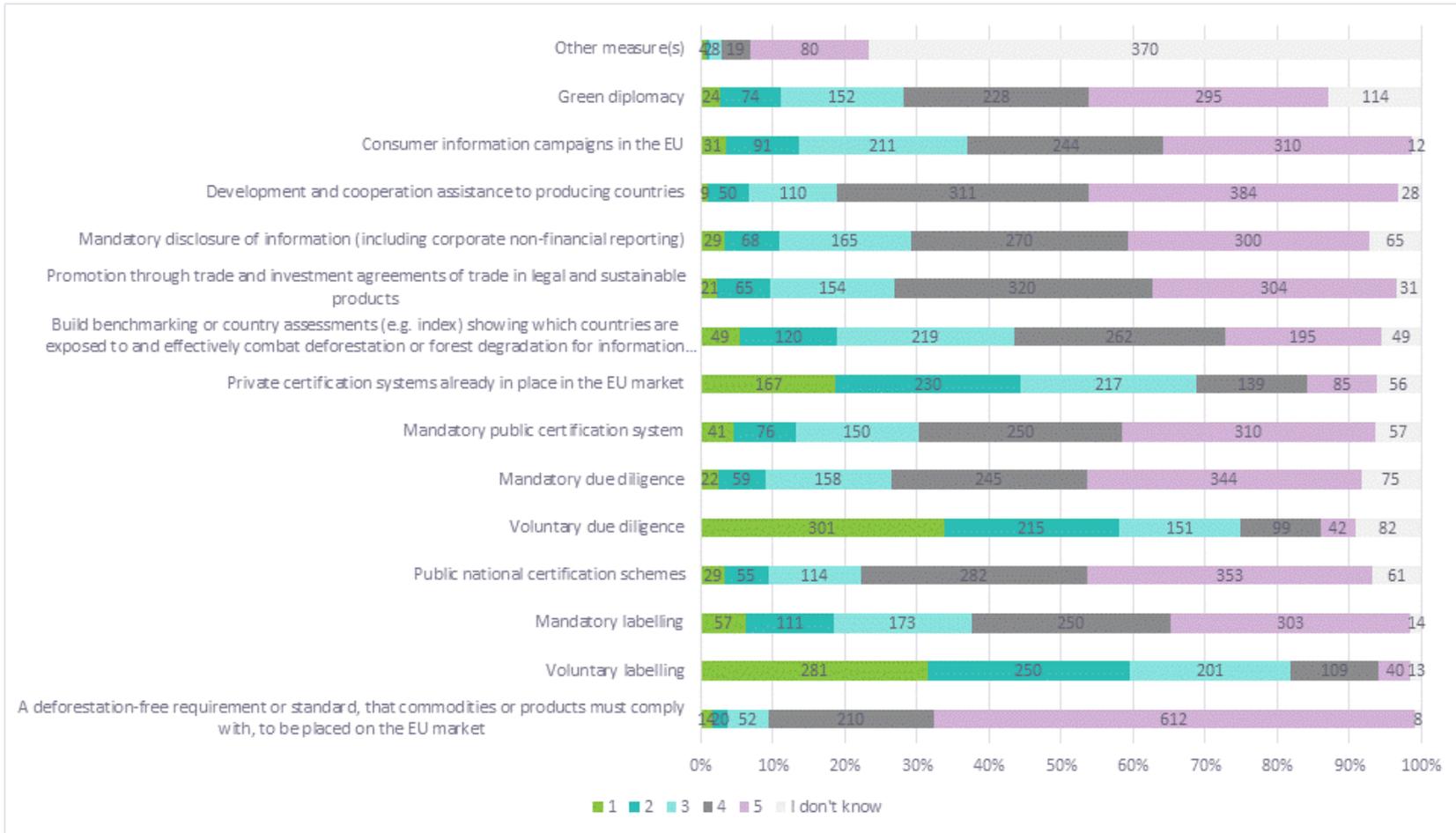
For businesses, researchers, academia, NGOs

This section of the questionnaire was targeted at businesses, researchers, academia, NGOs.

Regardless of any other consideration, what effect do you think the following measures will have in terms of halting and reversing EU and global deforestation?

Respondents were asked to rate the following options on a scale of 1 to 5, with 1 being completely ineffective, 2 being somewhat ineffective, 3 being neutral, 4 being somewhat effective, and 5 being perfectly effective. In general, respondents believed that voluntary labelling, voluntary due diligence and private certification systems already in place in the EU market would be the least effective measures in terms of halting and reversing EU and global deforestation as can be seen in Figure 2.53.

Figure 2.53 Proportion and absolute number of respondents to the question “Regardless of any other consideration, what effect do you think the following measures will have in terms of halting and reversing EU and global deforestation?”



Note: The total number of responses varied with the measure being assessed as follows: A deforestation-free requirement or standard, that commodities or products must comply with, to be placed on the EU market (916), Voluntary labelling (894), Mandatory labelling (908), Public national certification schemes (894), Voluntary due diligence (890), Mandatory due diligence (903), Mandatory public certification system (884), Private certification systems already in place in the EU market (894), Build benchmarking or country assessments (e.g. index) showing which countries are exposed to and effectively combat deforestation or forest degradation for information purposes (894), Promotion through trade and investment agreements of trade in legal and sustainable products (895), Mandatory disclosure of information (including corporate non-financial reporting) (897), Development and cooperation assistance to producing countries (892), Consumer information campaigns in the EU (899), Green diplomacy (887) and Other measure(s) (483).

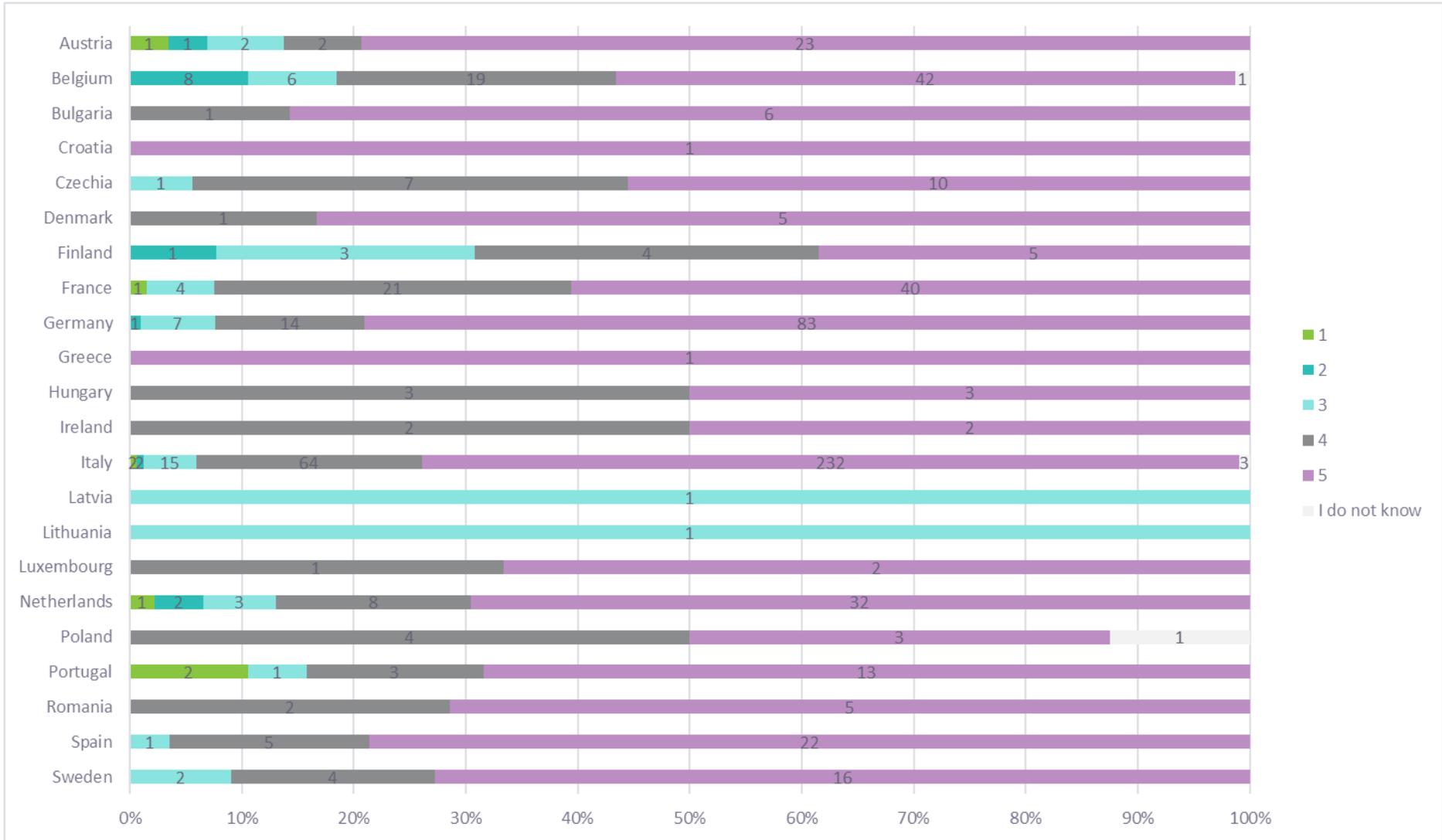


When asked what they thought the effect of other measures would have in terms of halting and reversing EU and global deforestation, most responses obtained were suggestions of measures that could be used to halt and reverse EU and global deforestation rather than specifically the effects of these measures. However, the following themes were indicated (N=104).

- Dialogue and cooperation with other demand-side countries;
- Incentivise producing countries (and farmers) to produce sustainably (financially and through technical support);
- Mandatory tracking and tracing of commodities such as timber from point of production/greater transparency in supply chains;
- Several respondents highlight that legislation is important whereas others indicate that a balance of legislation and broader policy measures would be most effective in this endeavour;
- Reforestation policies.

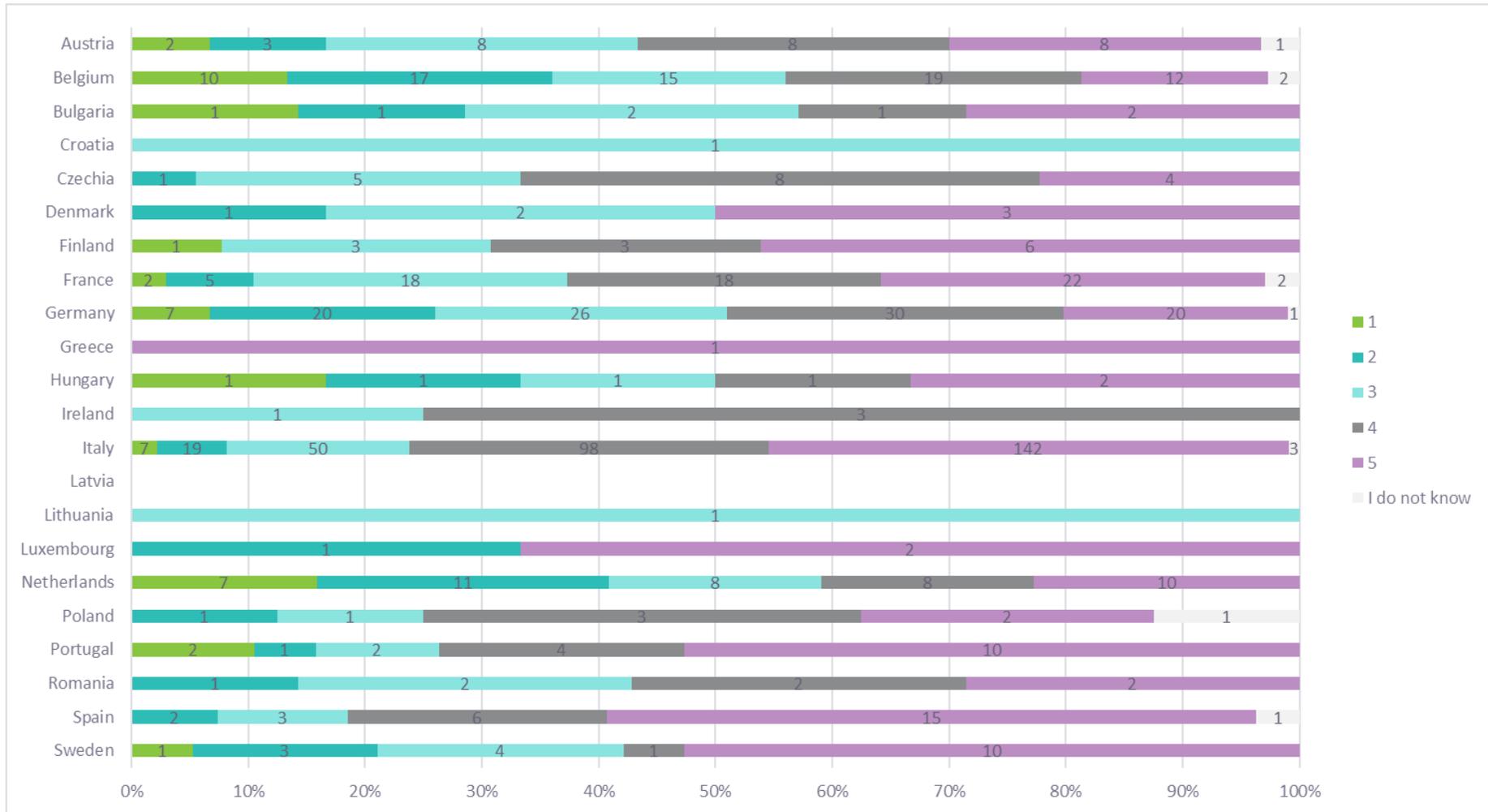
When the responses to the measure “for a deforestation-free requirement or standard” are viewed at the level of each EU Member State, the data suggests that nearly all EU Member States think this measure would be effective (Latvia and Lithuania have only one respondent from each) as shown in Figure 2.54 (total N=785). However, how effective the measure is believed to be varies between Member States such that Austria, Bulgaria and Denmark (among others) believe it would be perfectly effective. However, although others such as Czechia and Poland generally think this measure would be perfectly effective, a greater proportion of respondents from these Member States also suggested it would be somewhat effective instead.

Figure 2.54 Responses to the question "Regardless of any other consideration, what effect do you think the following measures will have in terms of halting and reversing EU and global deforestation?" by EU Member State, category: for a deforestation-free requirement or standard



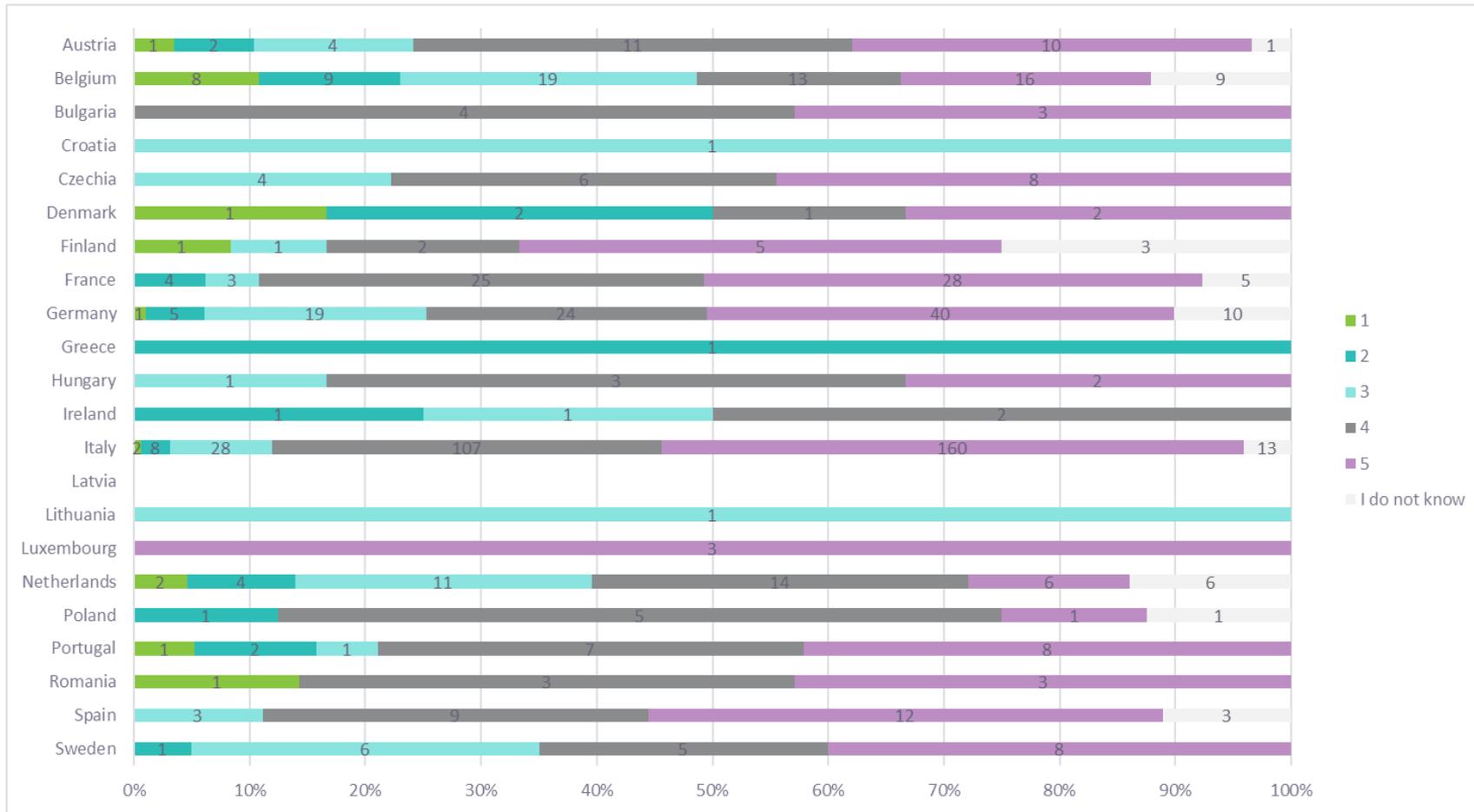
The responses (total N=779) given by respondents from EU Member States for the measure of "mandatory labelling" are shown in Figure 2.55.

Figure 2.55 Responses to the question "Regardless of any other consideration, what effect do you think the following measures will have in terms of halting and reversing EU and global deforestation?" by EU Member State, category: mandatory labelling



The responses total N=768) given by respondents from EU Member States for the measure of “public national certification schemes (based on international rules/standards), prohibited operators list, country carding system and export ban to the EU (a replication, with the necessary adaptations, of the legislation in place for illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing)” are shown in Figure 2.56.

Figure 2.56 Responses to the question " Regardless of any other consideration, what effect do you think the following measures will have in terms of halting and reversing EU and global deforestation?" by EU Member State, category: public national certification scheme



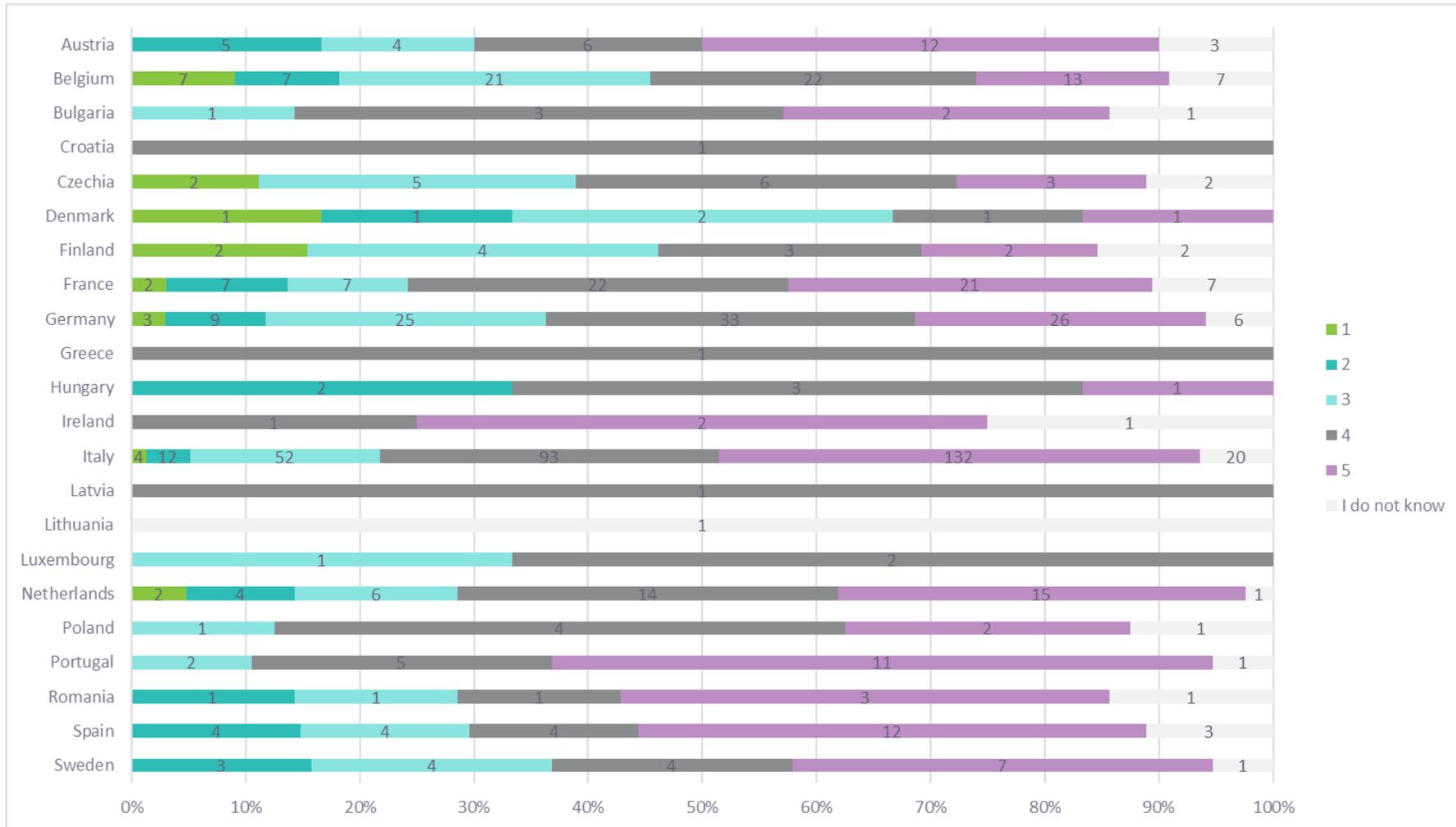
The responses (total N=772) given by respondents from EU Member States for the measure of "mandatory due diligence" are shown in Figure 2.57.

Figure 2.57 Responses to the question " Regardless of any other consideration, what effect do you think the following measures will have in terms of halting and reversing EU and global deforestation?" by EU Member State, category: mandatory due diligence



The responses (total N=771) given by respondents from EU Member States for the measure of "mandatory disclosure of information" are shown in Figure 2.58.

Figure 2.58 Responses to the question "Regardless of any other consideration, what effect do you think the following measures will have in terms of halting and reversing EU and global deforestation?" by EU Member State, category: mandatory disclosure of information



The responses (N=775) were given from respondent from EU Member States for the measure of "consumer information campaigns in the EU" as shown in Figure 2.59.

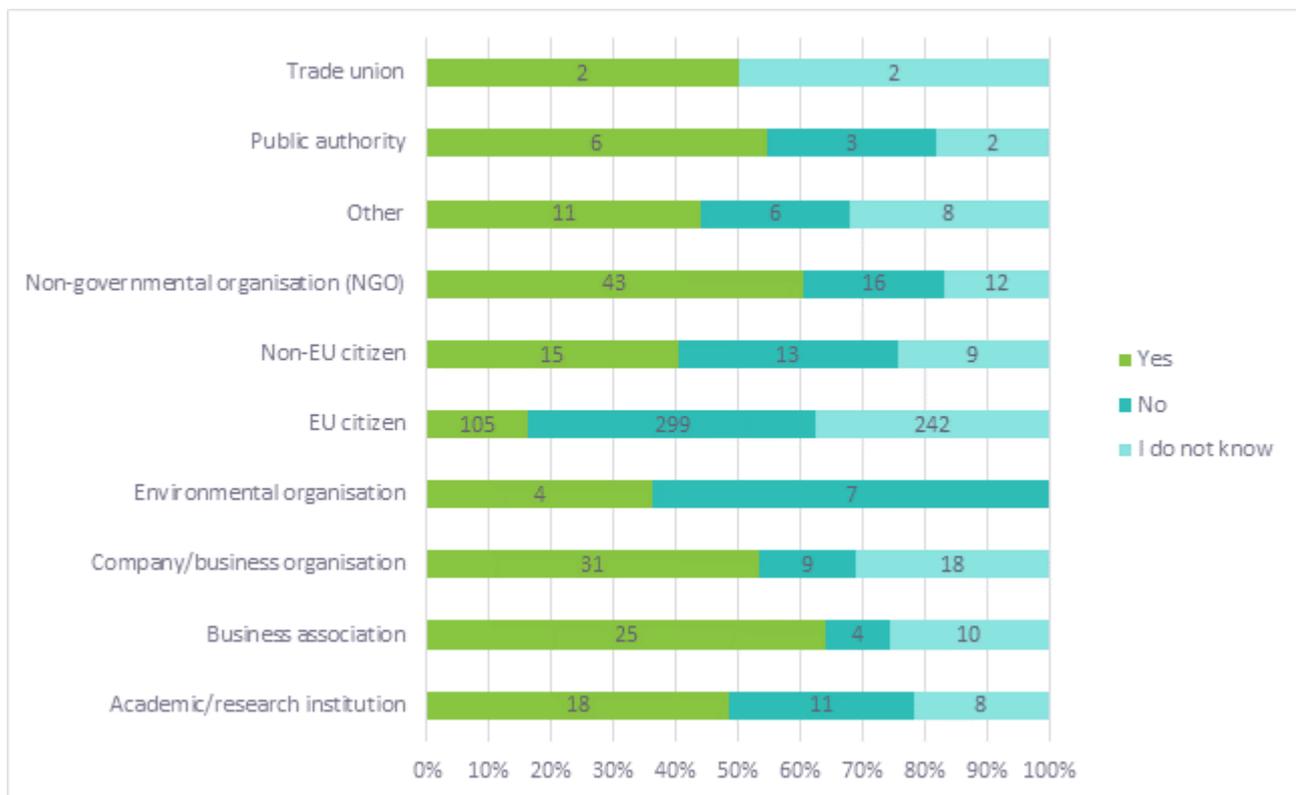
Figure 2.59 Responses to the question "Regardless of any other consideration, what effect do you think the following measures will have in terms of halting and reversing EU and global deforestation?" by EU Member State, category: consumer information campaigns in the EU



Do you think that reduced deforestation and forest degradation as a result of EU demand-side measures could have unintended impacts of increasing damage to other ecosystems (i.e. leakage problems)?

The distribution of responses per respondent category are given in Figure 2.60 (total N=939). Compared to other questions, there were a larger number of "I do not know" responses to this question. If those respondents who did not know were excluded then the majority of respondents from organisations believed that reduced deforestation and forest degradation as a result of EU demand-side measures would have unintended impacts of increasing damage to other ecosystems. However, if the "I do not know" category was excluded for EU citizens then the majority of respondents did not believe that there would be unintended impacts of increasing damage to other ecosystems. This contrasts with non-EU citizens when the same analysis is applied (by removing the "I do not know" category) as non-EU citizens appear to generally have a stronger belief that there could be unintended impacts.

Figure 2.60 Proportion and absolute number of respondents to the question "Do you think that reduced deforestation and forest degradation as a result of EU demand-side measures could have unintended impacts of increasing damage to other ecosystems (i.e. leakage problems)?"



If a respondent answered "yes", they were asked to briefly describe these impacts and their drivers. From the total responses to this question (N=219), the majority identified that a focus on deforestation and forest degradation would cause a shift of production elsewhere and lead to greater destruction in other ecosystems. Commodity production could instead expand into less transparent supply chains as well as non-forest intact ecosystems that have value in their biodiversity and carbon storage.

In your opinion, how can we ensure that additional protection of forests does not result in more destruction of grasslands, wetlands, and other habitats?

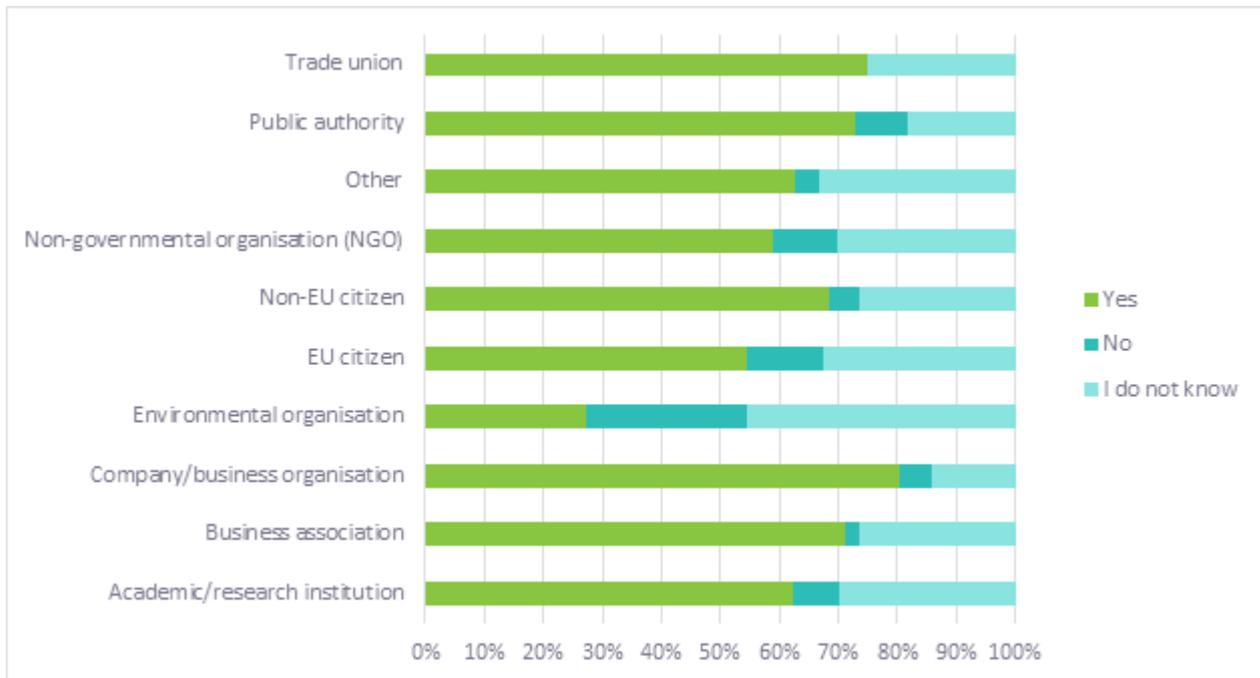
The responses to this question (N=217) can be summarised as follows:

- Many respondents highlighted the need to include other ecosystems in any approach taken by the EU;
- Some respondents identified that a mandatory due diligence system that covers both forest and ecosystem-risk commodities could be used;
- Some respondents identified that the EU should focus on reduced consumption and offering greater numbers of alternatives to these products. Others suggest working towards de-growth.
- Some respondents identified that the focus should be on stopping any products of deforestation being sold in the EU;
- Some respondents identified that a certification system could be used;
- Others suggested incentivising the expansion of food and commodities production on anthropized areas;
- Some respondents identified that products linked to legal deforestation should not be discriminated against;
- Some respondents identified that improvements in definitions related to legislation on deforestation are needed;

Do you think that EU demand-side measures might lead to supply-chain divergence, whereby companies may have a deforestation-free compliant production for placing on the EU market, and another one for the rest of the world?

A total N=927 responses were provided for this question of which the majority came from the EU citizens category of respondent. The proportion of responses per respondent category are summarised in Figure 2.61. Although there were a relatively high number of respondents who did not know, those who did (for each respondent category) generally thought that EU demand-side measures might lead to supply-chain divergence. Company/business organisations had the highest number of responses agreeing that EU demand-side measures might lead to supply-chain divergence.

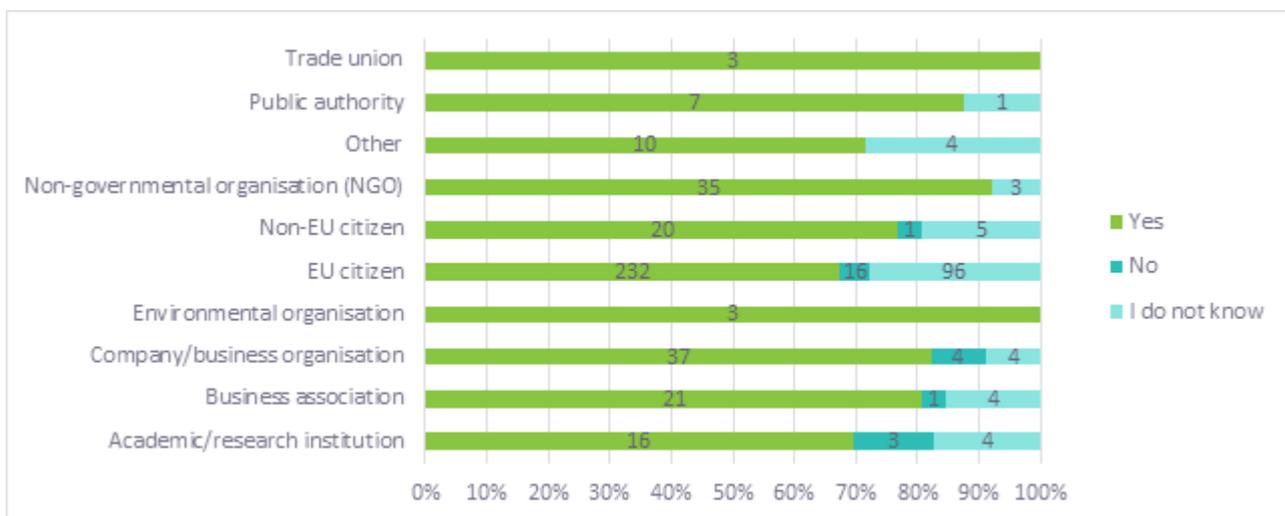
Figure 2.61 Proportion of respondents to the question “Do you think that EU demand-side measures might lead to supply-chain divergence, whereby companies may have a deforestation-free compliant production for placing on the EU market, and another one for the rest of the world?”



In your opinion, is there a way to encourage companies and suppliers to “clean” their supply chains not just for their sales in the EU market but also for other markets, preventing supply chain divergence?

The relative distribution of these responses per category has been shown in Figure 2.62 (total N=530). It is visible that all respondent categories believe there is a way to encourage companies and suppliers to “clean” their supply chains not just for their sales in the EU market but also for other markets, preventing supply chain divergence.

Figure 2.62 Proportion and absolute number of respondents to the question “In your opinion, is there a way to encourage companies and suppliers to “clean” their supply chains not just for their sales in the EU market but also for other markets, preventing supply chain divergence?” (N=530)



If a response of “yes” was presented, the respondent was asked to specify how to encourage companies and suppliers to “clean” their supply chains. Topics covered by responses included:

- International cooperation, agreements and treaties;
- Support in the form of incentives should be provided to suppliers;
- Investment in deforestation-free companies;
- Global consumer awareness;
- Encourage global enforcement of higher standards;
- Mandatory due diligence should be used;
- Ensuring that the whole of a supply chain fits EU standards; and
- Better labelling and consumer information is needed.

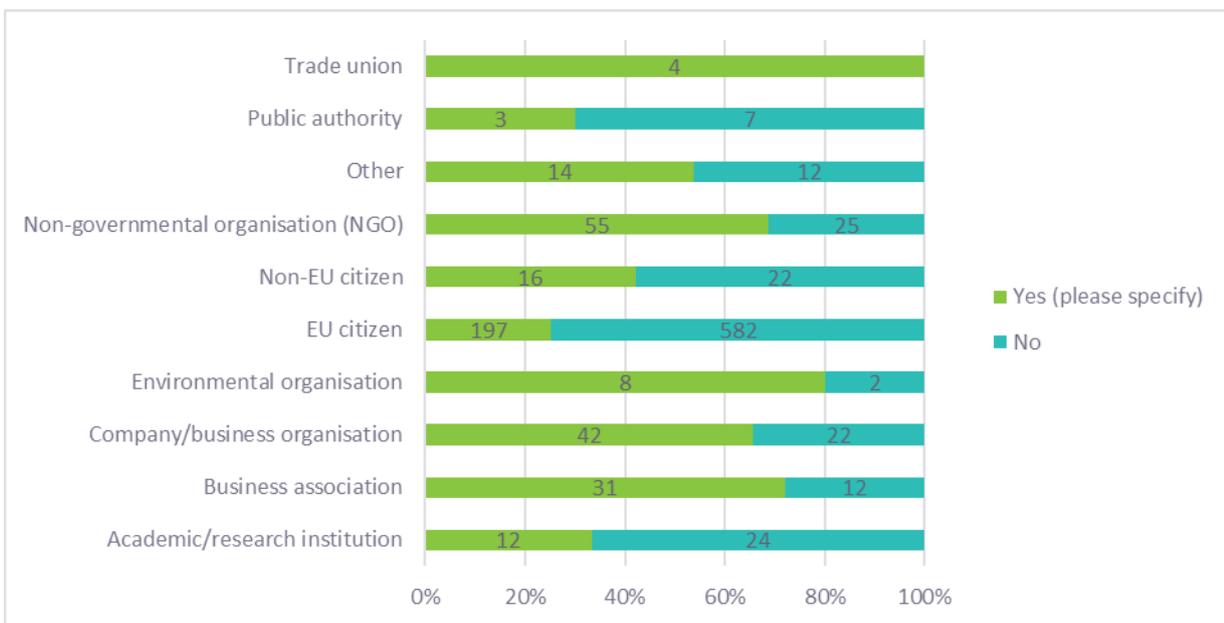
Concluding remarks

Do you have any further thoughts (that have not come up in the rest of the questionnaire) on the topic of EU and global deforestation?

There were a large number of responses to this question (total N=1090).

Most EU citizens, non-EU citizens, academic/research institutions and public authorities did not have any further thoughts following the questionnaire. However, the remaining respondent categories did and the results for this question are shown in Figure 2.63.

Figure 2.63 Proportion and absolute number of respondents to the question “Do you have any further thoughts (that have not come up in the rest of the questionnaire) on the topic of EU and global deforestation?”



The option to input any further thoughts following this question was provided. Although there were a large number of responses (N=375), some of the more commonly mentioned topics are as follows:

- New laws are necessary to ensure that product groups on the EU market are sustainable, free from forest and ecosystem destruction and traceable along the supply chain;
- There should be financial incentives to help ease the transition to a deforestation-free market;
- Monitoring and verification through certification will be an important tool to reduce deforestation;
- The role of the financial sector should be addressed with respect to deforestation;
- Any actions taken should strengthen human rights ;
- Several responses centred around deforestation in respondents' own countries and the effects of deforestation within them.

Arguments in relation to new laws generally focussed around the need to ensure that commodities on the EU market are sustainable, free from conversion and deforestation. However, it was also highlighted that such laws should also work in synergy with obligations on human rights and should maintain the rights of indigenous peoples. Others also highlighted the role the EU currently plays in deforestation and highlighted the need for the EU to take a proactive lead in this regard, as it is well placed to do so, and for action to occur sooner rather than later.

In the same line of thought, some responses identified that the EU should strengthen its approach to green diplomacy and carefully consider any actions taken with respect to the Mercosur agreement. Indeed, several respondents suggested that the EU should become more involved in cooperating with producing countries and helping them to reduce deforestation from the supply-side too.

Some responses highlighted the obligations of the finance sector in complying with any new legislation on tackling deforestation and forest degradation. Other identified that incentive, especially financial incentives, could play a much bigger role in reducing deforestation. Some suggest the need to subsidise or standardise investments in green development and the need for financial support for sustainable farming. Furthermore, it was also highlighted that implementing due diligence or certification has a price that is incurred by the farmer which they argue would require compensation.

Other responses explained that when assessing the EU impact on deforestation and forest degradation, both the drivers of deforestation and the end products should be reviewed. Others indicated that a risk-based approach to any legislation would be the most effective as it could be used to tackle the greatest points of import but keep administrative burdens as low as possible. The need for improved monitoring and verification was highlighted as something which should occur in unison with the introduction of any new legislation. It was also pointed out that the methodology which should be followed by operators in order to comply with any EU legislation should not create market access obstacles.

With regard to specific materials, some responses indicated the need to stop biofuel consumption due to it also being a driver for deforestation. Others highlighted that the import of tropical oils are essential to the survival of the European oleochemical Industry.

3. Position papers submitted as part of the OPC

In addition to the OPC questionnaire, respondents were able to submit specific evidence and relevant documents to accompany their contributions.

3.1 Overview of position papers

In total, 127 documents were submitted from 107 stakeholders. Some stakeholders submitted multiple documents, and there were some duplications of the same document (as indicated in Figure 3.1). Amongst the 107 stakeholders that submitted attachments, 104 submitted them directly through the online questionnaire, while 3 submitted their evidence through email. A large share of attachments came from business associations (27%), companies/business organisations (23%), and NGOs (22%) (see Figure 3.1).

Figure 3.1 Submission of attachments by stakeholder group



Note: Submissions that were received through email came from 2 companies/business organisations and 1 NGO, as highlighted by the * in the figure.

3.2 Detailed overview of the position papers

The table below provides an overview of all documents submitted through the public consultation.

Table 3.1 Summaries of attachments

Title	Author	Stakeholder category (self-reported in the OPC)	Summary
Deforestation and forest degradation – reducing the impact of products placed on the EU market	Conservation International Europe	Non-governmental organisation (NGO)	Participant asks that the Commission acts on measures to deliver on the five priorities outlined in 2019 Communication "Stepping up EU action to protect and restore the World's forests". Key recommendations include the prioritisation of an EU due diligence regulation on forest and ecosystem risk commodities placed on the EU market (going beyond illegal deforestation, including human rights and ensuring a broad scope). Recommendations also include the reinforcement of multilateral and bilateral cooperation with partner countries in order to tackle the drivers of deforestation (through increased support, improved Free Trade Agreement provisions and integrating forests into EU diplomacy).
Statement May 2020	Alliance pour la Préservation L des Forêts	Business association	The participant supports the use of European legislation to tackle imported product of deforestation. They emphasise that legislation should be based on a mandatory due diligence approach and legislation must be applied to all operators bringing products into the European market. No-deforestation commitments should also be enhanced.
A short summary of Klimatsvaret's opinion on biofuels	Klimatsvaret	Non-governmental organisation (NGO)	Participant has supplied a short summary of their opinion on biofuels and how biofuels emit at least as much carbon dioxide as fossil fuels when they are burned.
The urgency of action to tackle tropical deforestation	The Sustainable Trade Initiative	Non-governmental organisation (NGO)	This report covers the problems faced by producing countries and the causes of deforestation. The participant discusses the leading commodities responsible for deforestation, the issues with supply chains, the hidden carbon emissions of EU countries, followed by a list of recommendations for shifting industry away from tropical deforestation. Such measures include the adoption of mandatory reporting guidelines, mandatory sustainable sourcing requirements, investment, transparency and traceability, and cooperation between nations.
ENSA position on deforestation and forest degradation	ENSA	Business association	This paper focuses on the benefits of plant-based foods with respect to tropical deforestation and supports the use of national protein plans and the EU Agriculture Promotion Policy.
Position on upcoming European Commission legislative proposal to avoid or minimise the risk of placing products associated with deforestation or forest	Skogsindustrierna (Swedish Forest Industries Federation)	Business association	Position paper highlights that any legislative proposals should target commodities and products with the highest impact on deforestation and which are not already the focus of existing EU legislation that addresses deforestation. They also support the use of definitions used by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the UN for deforestation and forest degradation. Furthermore, it is acknowledged that the EUTR and market-based certification systems sufficiently address illegal timber entering the EU market.

Title	Author	Stakeholder category (self-reported in the OPC)	Summary
degradation on the EU market			
EU Action Plan to Halt Deforestation in Supply Chains	Amfori	Business association	Amfori request that the EU develop an action plan to address the issue of deforestation which includes the following: clear definition and scope for the action plan and due diligence requirements, an EUTR-like regulation that goes beyond legality and a carding system, focus on the commodities with the highest impact, adopt due diligence approach in the supply chain rather than complete ban of at-risk products, complement other legislation, contain non-regulatory measures and provide guidance and tools for SMEs
Public Consultation on Stepping up EU Action against Deforestation and Forest Degradation	Proforest	Company/business organisation	Proforest support the initiative and provide a list of measures that could be used to support the legislative instruments currently in development. Measures should target the drivers of deforestation. Such measures include: locally-owned, long term interventions in producer countries and support supply side measures, develop safeguards to ensure that policy does not outright prevent sourcing from topical countries at "high-risk", tier-based approach for large and small companies to make the burden of the legislation fairer, condense similar legislation.
2020 Annual Report - Sustainable Palm Oil	Unione Italiana Olio di Palma Sostenibile	Business association	Report covers the production and uses of palm oil in Italy and the issues of associated deforestation.
2020 Report Annuale	Unione Italiana Olio di Palma Sostenibile	Business association	<i>Same as previous report, but in Italian.</i>
A broad EU deforestation approach can help protect climate and biodiversity	Trase	EU citizen	Trase states that EU attempts at reducing deforestation and habitat losses are more likely to be effective if the scope of legislation is broadened to include the conversion of important ecosystems other than forests, if there is broad commodity and actor coverage, if legislation covers both legal and illegal habitat conversion and if legislation is built upon previous experiences.
Report: Paraguayan Chamber of Oilseed and Cereal Processors (CAPPRO)	Paraguayan Chamber of Oilseed and Cereal Processors (CAPPRO)	Business association	Within this document CAPPRO collect and report official data that is relevant to the support of the environmental status ("cultivation area under deforestation risk") of soybean production in Paraguay.
Étude Économique 2020: Surcoût D'Une Alimentation Animale Durable Sur Les Différents Maillons Des Filières Animales	Duralim	Business association	Committed to the fight against deforestation, the Duralim platform promotes the sustainability of livestock feed. The study, financed by Duralim, sheds light on the economic impact of animal feed that includes a specific sustainability guarantee (with a minimum criterion for non-deforestation) for soy and palm products. The footprint of soy products in the diet of French animals was calculated at 3.7%, while that of palm products at 0.1%. Sustainability premia were calculated for two traceability systems for sustainable soy and palm oil (the mass balance system, providing a guarantee for the sector, and the segregation system, separating flows). Premia were estimated to represent +€3.4/t for the mass balance scenario and +€18/t for the segregated scenario. The

Title	Author	Stakeholder category (self-reported in the OPC)	Summary
			additional costs linked to the purchase of sustainable products would thus represent around €20 and €70M, respectively. The study shows that accounting for sustainability has a real financial impact for the sectors in question. This impact needs to be carefully considered so as not to penalise French productions.
Europe needs to act against deforestation	Metsäteollisuus (by Tuomas Nirkkonen)	Business association	The participant describes the current situation with deforestation in some details along with current legislation. The viewpoints of Finnish forest industries (who are represented by the participant) are as follows: they support stronger European and global actions against deforestation, they want to ensure coherence with international definitions and other EU legislation, they wish to avoid overlapping legislation, they believe that due diligence of the EUTR should continue to focus specifically on the legality of commodities, they wish to reduce administrative burden on European business and support afforestation.
Extend the EU Timber Regulation to Printed Products	Intergraf	Company/business organisation	A position paper from Intergraf expressing their support for the inclusion of printed products within the scope of the EUTR. A summary of the impact of the EUTR on the European printing industry, the trade in printed products, the economic situation in the sector and distortion due to competition in the sector and an environmental loophole are presented.
Response to Consultation on “Deforestation and forest degradation – reducing the impact of products placed on the EU market”	Stockholm Environment Institute (prepared by Jonathan Green)	Academic/research institution	The Stockholm Environment Institute present a range of recommendations including: legislation should set a level playing field and set up a sustainability agenda, legislation should cover both illegal and legal land conversion, legislation should cover all natural habitats, progress on policy design should start now, the EU should support the coordination of curated data, and free trade agreements could be used with producer countries to promote sustainability.
COCERAL-FEDIOL-FEFAC joint annex to deforestation consultation	COCERAL, FEDIOL and FEFAC	Business association	The participant argues that demand-side measures in isolation would be insufficient to tackle global deforestation and that a mixed approach with supply-side measures would be favoured. The argue against several policy methods and state other measures which they would support including certification (ensuring additional prices paid for sustainable products work back to the producer) and better educating the customer on the sustainability of products.
FoodDrinkEurope contribution paper on forest protection and restoration	FoodDrinkEurope	Business association	FoodDrinkEurope discuss five primary measures relating to deforestation: the implementation of the UN Sustainable Development Goals, development of frameworks such as the Trade and Sustainable Development (TSD) chapters at EU level, support for a harmonised framework on due diligence at EU level, the production of more credible and reliable forest related certification schemes and the participation of multi-stakeholder groups in combatting deforestation.
Seeing REDD: We can’t beat climate change without	REDD+ (Peter Graham, Jos Cozijnsen)	Other	Participant supports the integration of the REDD+ mechanism into EU climate targets and finance (dated 2018) and highlights the environmental and social benefits of the mechanism.

Title	Author	Stakeholder category (self-reported in the OPC)	Summary
ending deforestation. Tropical forest countries are ready to do their bit – but need support to do so.			
The destruction of the global forest - what to do?	PlanBe Foundation (Michael Bellwinkel)	Environmental organisation	The problems associated with deforestation from environmental, social and economic perspectives were discussed. Global forest levies and compensation payments were suggested but these were less relevant to this particular study.
IKEA input on the European Commission's Deforestation and Forest Products Impact Assessment [Inter IKEA Group]	IKEA	Company/business organisation	IKEA support the ECs commitment to reduce deforestation and forest degradation and propose a combination of mandatory due-diligence requirements in combination with market-based third-party certification and "financial and technical support for producer countries". Specific measures include: the creation of an enforceable and mandatory due diligence system, the provision of guidance on this system, the inclusion of market based certifications, the inclusion of a risk-based and step-wise approach rather than taking a broad focus at first and the provision of alternatives for small-scale farmers.
EU Regulation to combat illegal fishing Third country carding process	The Environmental Justice Foundation (EJF), Oceana, The Pew Charitable Trusts and WWF	Non-governmental organisation (NGO)	A report on the effectiveness of, and suggested improvements to the EU Regulation to combat illegal fishing.
Paradise Lost? Protecting the Pantanal, a precious ecosystem in crisis	Environmental Justice Foundation	Non-governmental organisation (NGO)	This paper focuses on the Pantanal region of Brazil and the biodiversity and environmental benefits derived from it as well as the damage that is being caused due to deforestation in the region. Recommendations include conditionally halting the ER-Mercosur trade deal, improvements to the definitions of deforestation and forest degradation, the demand for a forest-free supply chain regulation, the requirement for mandatory due-diligence and a public national legality verification scheme among others.
Public Consultation: Deforestation and forest degradation – reducing the impact of products placed on the EU market	Meat & Livestock Australia	Business association	A paper primarily focussed on the Australian meat industry and the indicators and monitoring in place within the sector to reduce the damage it causes to forests. Most relevantly, there is reference to trends on forest cover.

Title	Author	Stakeholder category (self-reported in the OPC)	Summary
Additional evidence for public consultation: Deforestation and forest degradation – reducing the impact of products placed on the EU market	Forest Peoples Programme	Non-governmental organisation (NGO)	Paper explaining different measures that the EU should include in its intervention and how they should be developed. The intervention must cover the abuse of human rights associated with deforestation in an integrated way through demand and supply-side regulatory measures
APP's Forest Conservation Policy	Asia Pulp & Paper group (APP)	Company/business organisation	Paper listing the policy commitments of Asia Pulp & Paper group with respect to HCV and HCS, Peatland Management, social and community engagement, and third party suppliers
IMACE POSITION PAPER on the EU Sustainable deforestation-free market	Imace European Margarine Association	Company/business organisation	Paper briefly explaining regulatory and voluntary measures that should be included in the EU intervention, that should be undertaken in parallel with measures supporting the overall transformation of the different supply chains
Projekt Greenhouse-BIT	BUND e.V. Ortsgruppe Neckargemünd	Environmental organisation	Article explaining an EU project in which CO ₂ from the atmosphere is bound to vegetable oil through photosynthesis and this vegetable oil is then pumped into empty oil fields until the CO ₂ content of the atmosphere has dropped. The insight is that in the short term the planting of forests should be pursued, but in the long term the storage of vegetable oil in empty oil fields offers better prospects.
Waldvernichtung in Brasilien Deutschlands steigende Sojaimporte befeuern das Problem	Deutsche Umwelthilfe	Non-governmental organisation (NGO)	Paper reporting of illegal soy production in Brazil and export to the EU, increasing deforestation and land grabbing due to soy production. Voluntary approaches by companies are believed to be a failure. They call for a legal framework that demands transparency from the soy field to the store shelf, as well mandatory standards and functioning controls. Useful for product selection.
Anticipated Indirect Land Use Change Associated with Expanded Use of Biofuels and Bioliquids in the EU – An Analysis of the		Non-governmental organisation (NGO)	This study represents a first analysis and estimate of the effects on GHG emissions of Indirect Land Use Change associated with the increased use of conventional biofuels that EU Member States have planned for within their National Renewable Energy Action Plans. This analysis underlines the need to address the question of ILUC as a priority for biofuels policy and to include ILUC in the criteria for assessing whether biofuels should count towards the delivery of targets under the RED for 2020, and more generally EU European climate change mitigation goals

Title	Author	Stakeholder category (self-reported in the OPC)	Summary
National Renewable Energy Action Plans			
Sustainability and certification – Messages to the European Commission	APAG/Cesio	Business association	Paper on the sustainability of palm oil. Relevant part is on the fact that banning palm oil would not solve the problem of deforestation as the increase of production of other vegetable oils would have a higher impact on deforestation because they require more land. Finally, any scheme imposing sustainability requirements upon the imports of these oils (palm, palm kernel) should apply to the imports of all derivatives imported in the EU.
Removed for privacy reasons	<i>Removed for privacy reasons</i>	Public authority	Paper listing in details some concerns about the OPC in terms of scope of the intervention, implementation of the measures, feasibility, compliance, impacts on trade.
Main migration routes of birds	<i>Removed for privacy reasons</i>	EU citizen	Map of main migration routes of birds.
Protecting forests, natural ecosystems and human rights: a case for EU action	Client Earth, Conservation International Europe, Environmental Investigation Agency, Fern, Forest Peoples Programme, Global Witness, Greenpeace, Wildlife Conservation Society, WWF	Non-governmental organisation (NGO)	Paper listing a detailed set of measures that the EU should include in its intervention
Deforestation impact assessment	Sebastian Kirppu	EU citizen	Paper calling on the enforcement of legislation that is not being effective in Sweden and on the fact that we cannot rely on national legislation or responsibility to tackle deforestation.
European Imports of Brazilian Beef and Soya Driving Deforestation	The bureau of investigative journalism	Other	Investigative report on soy and beef as drivers of deforestation. Key points are in companies' responsibility for forest fires for the production of EU exports, Brazilian laws make it legal, voluntary commitments are not enough, global demand is a major cause of deforestation because suppliers will not stop producing.
Principais marcos regulatórios	Federação das Indústrias do Estado de São Paulo - Fiesp	Business association	List of the main Brazilian legislations on forest protection.

Title	Author	Stakeholder category (self-reported in the OPC)	Summary
Stepping up EU action to reduce EU-driven deforestation	European Coffee Federation	Business association	Paper listing a detailed set of measures that the EU should include in its intervention.
COCERAL-FEDIOL-FEFAC joint annex to deforestation consultation	COCERAL, FEDIOL, FEFAC	Company/business organisation	Paper listing effective measures and saying that to tackle global deforestation rates it is necessary deploying supply and demand side measures in conjunction and ensuring effective partnership with producer countries.
Rainforest alliance response to "deforestation and forest degradation - reducing the impact of products placed on the EU market"	The Rainforest Alliance	Non-governmental organisation (NGO)	Paper listing a detailed set of measures that the EU should include in its intervention.
Comments by the national federation of oil palm growers	Fedepalma	Business association	Paper listing a detailed set of measures that the EU should include in its intervention targeting suppliers and countries of origin of those products related to deforestation and forest degradation.
Removed for privacy reasons	<i>Removed for privacy reasons</i>	Business association	Paper providing evidence on the sustainability of the Brazilian poultry meat production (including strict environmental legislation, rigorously enforced) and listing a detailed set of measures that the EU should include in its intervention, that should consider the producing countries' laws, because "it would make no sense to impose environmental laws and specifications on products from third countries".
Removed for privacy reasons	<i>Removed for privacy reasons</i>	Company/business organisation	Paper on the sustainability of palm oil. Relevant part is on the fact that banning palm oil would not solve the problem of deforestation as the increase of production of other vegetable oils would have a higher impact on deforestation because they require more land. Finally, any scheme imposing sustainability requirements upon the imports of these oils (palm, palm kernel) should apply to the imports of all derivatives imported in the EU.
Removed for privacy reasons	<i>Removed for privacy reasons</i>	Company/business organisation	Paper on the sustainability of palm oil. Relevant part is on the fact that banning palm oil would not solve the problem of deforestation as the increase of production of other vegetable oils would have a higher impact on deforestation because they require more land. Finally, any scheme imposing sustainability requirements upon the imports of these oils (palm, palm kernel) should apply to the imports of all derivatives imported in the EU.
Deforestation and forest degradation – reducing the impact	European Meat and Livestock Trade Union	Business association	Paper listing initiatives for sustainable production of soy and explaining the state of play at worldwide level

Title	Author	Stakeholder category (self-reported in the OPC)	Summary
of products placed on the EU market			
Sustainable Deforestation-Free Palm Oil the Norm in the European Union	European Palm Oil Alliance (EPOA)	Company/business organisation	Paper listing a detailed set of measures that the EU should include in its intervention and explaining the role of sustainable palm oil production.
Reply to public consultation: EU Deforestation & Forest Products Impact Assessment	Procter&Gamble	Company/business organisation	Paper listing a detailed set of measures that the EU should include in its intervention.
Removed for privacy reasons	<i>Removed for privacy reasons</i>	Business association	The paper gives a lot of information in regards to the sustainability of the Brazilian citrus sector, and how it benefits biodiversity and has less land use intensity than other agricultural practices. The paper states that any legislation introduced on commodities will have a negative impact on the industry (extra costs, trade barriers), in a sector which already "operates under very high sustainability standards".
Indonesian NGOs Joint Statement- EU Communication (2019) on stepping up EU's action to protect and restore the world's forest	Indonesian Civil Society Communications Forum (FKMS)	Non-governmental organisation (NGO)	States that differences between the definitions of "deforestation" and "forest degradation" between the EU and Indonesia, which can impact the effectiveness of initiatives. The NGOs suggest the use of the Accountability Framework Initiative to align this. DD must include sustainability standards and human rights within its remit, whilst the financial sector must be a subject as these institutions back the supply of raw materials through to trade. DD should also include independent monitoring or a 'grievance system' as part of compliance to increase supply chain tracing. The paper recommends the following: the EU aligns various policy domains and incorporates principles on human rights; create a common understanding on keywords between the EU and IND; develop clear DD and sustainability standards; adopt the 'Carding Country' scheme based on national standards; improve stakeholder integration; implement DD requirements for the financial sector; develop an independent platform to identify and monitor supply chains; focus on the impacts of deforestation from palm oil; incorporate on-the-ground monitoring within DD.
Client Earth position paper to the public consultation 'Deforestation and forest degradation – reducing the impact of products placed on the EU market'	Client Earth	Non-governmental organisation (NGO)	Client Earth believes that the EU's share of responsibility is undeniable and has long called for the development of new demand and supply side measures, particularly mandatory due diligence (DD) to address deforestation and associated human rights violations. The NGO believes that mandatory DD should go beyond compliance with laws in producer countries (i.e. it should go beyond the risk of illegal deforestation). It should also protect the rights of Local Communities and Indigenous Peoples (LCIPs), which are often not legally protected by producer countries. Businesses need to go beyond simply complying with relevant laws, since they are often lacking or weak. There is also a necessity to protect other ecosystems. Furthermore, the legislative proposal should apply to all businesses placing forest risk commodities (FRCs) on the EU market. Client Earth notes the importance of the financial sector,

Title	Author	Stakeholder category (self-reported in the OPC)	Summary
			<p>as well. The European Commission should assess the link between the financial sector and the production of FRCs, and consider it in its legislative proposal.</p> <p>The NGO states that effective enforcement will rely on sufficient human and technical resources, effective sanctions, opportunities for third parties to submit substantiated concerns, and transparency. The legislative proposal should also not overly rely on certifications and industry-led schemes, as they have their limitations. The legislative proposal should include reporting obligations.</p> <p>Other measures that are considered important are: working in partnership with producer countries, and FTAs and sustainable development chapters.</p>
A short summary of Klimatsvaret's opinion on biofuels	Klimatsvaret	EU citizen	<p>Klimatsvaret (a citizens climate lobby) state that biofuels emit as much CO₂ as fossil fuels when burned, and presents multiple reasons why trees should not be felled for biofuel (sequestering potential, regrowth required to attain original sequestering levels, clear cutting causes further emissions from soil release). The paper stresses that the majority of tree felled in Sweden are used for biofuel, whilst pellet imports from North America, the Amazon and European old growth forests is 'disastrous' and will continue to rise in the coming years. The paper states that land not used for food production be used to sequester carbon rather than produce biofuel crops as this will keep us locked in a combustion economy. Klimatsvaret recommends that the EU increase the fee on all fuels which harm the environment, with revenues redistributed to citizens as a uniform dividend to alleviate transition costs.</p>
Dansk Alliance for Ansvarlig Soja Handlingsplan Danish Crown	Danish Crown	Company/business organisation	<p>Danish Crown commits to certifying/verifying all soy used in the company's production as responsible and deforestation-free, in line with its obligation within the Danish Alliance for Responsible Soy. The company will request RTRS or RTRS-equivalent certificates/credits, meaning that purchases will be based on availability and within an overall framework determined by the current market prices of RTRS credits to allow a steady expansion of the credit market. Danish Crown will work on a comprehensive model that can replace credit purchases with requirements for suppliers, ensuring that their feed is responsibly produced, deforestation-free and complies with the European Feed Industry's FEFAC guidelines for responsible soy. In parallel, Danish Crown will contribute to FEFAC's work on tightening the guidelines for responsible soy, with the view that all soy that is included in Danish pig production to be traceable and deforestation free by 2025. The company also works with Dansk Protein Innovation to develop alternative, Danish-produced sustainable protein sources.</p>
Wilmar's position on deforestation and forest degradation – reducing the impact of products placed on the EU market	Wilmar	Company/business organisation	<p>Wilmar is one of the largest processors of palm oil - sourcing over 90% of its crude palm oil from third parties. They state that the EU should introduce a fair and comprehensive mandatory due diligence system tackling legality, forest-related sustainability impacts, and human rights violations. They outline 6 key components that the system should be developed on the basis of: 1) a level playing field-all products that are substitutes for each other on the market are covered by the same mandatory due diligence system.2) address leakage markets- introduce a compensation mechanism (they refer to RSPO example) to allow operators to reforest and take other actions so they can be reintegrated back into supply chain, partner with producing countries to address supply side measures such as improving forest governance, and ensure smallholders can participate in sustainable supply chains through</p>

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			incentive structures and other support. 3) define clear DD and liability requirements- Cover all inputs into the production process and oblige operators to conduct DD per input and commodity or derivative used. 4) work with already accepted definitions- adopt the HCV/HCS approach 5) promote 3rd party verification- integrate and improve certification such as RSPO and Rainforest Alliance 6) cooperate with producer countries - use VPAs to enable coordinated efforts
Soy Sustainability Assurance Protocol	SSAP	Trade union	Outlines the approach undertaken by the U.S. Soy Sustainability Assurance Protocol to verify the sustainability of soybean production in the US, describing the national laws, processes and management practices. The document outlines 4 soybean production directives, related to biodiversity and high carbon stock production control, production control measures and regulations, public and labour health and welfare, and continuous improvement of production practices and environmental protection. The document outlines some statistics regarding soil erosion rates, coverage of soy cropland under environmental legislation, energy use, and GHG emissions. The document also outlines the process for international verification (sustainability) and aims for 2025 (reduce land impact, soil erosion, GHG emissions further, increase energy efficiency).
BDSI general comments on an EU legal framework to halt and reverse EU-driven global deforestation	BDSI	Business association	BDSI (association of German confectionery industry) state that rules should be focused on deforestation and forest degradation rather than other ecosystems. The paper outlines a definition issues that could impact this study- such as the lack of definition for 'ecosystems' which leads to legal uncertainty. The paper states that no monitoring mechanisms are in place for other ecosystems (beyond forests). The paper states that EU companies are not in a position to tackle deforestation as they are often at the end of supply chain, therefore the EU should analyse the processes and supply chains of all economic operators and identify risks they face to optimise their processes and take action where needed. They also state that clear definitions on liability need to be integrated, whereas the reversal of the burden of proof is questionable. BDSI state that SMEs can only become involved if their responsibilities are aligned with their level in the supply chain- with a graduated responsibility providing a more effective protection of forests. Training is required in producing countries to raise awareness of deforestation. MS should enforce appropriate penalties, yet no sales ban should be imposed as a penalty as this would make companies withdraw from the supply chain.
Statement of the BDSI's position on human rights due diligence in global supply chains	BDSI	Business association	Stresses the need for a uniform approach to complying with human rights DD in global supply chains. The document states that VPAs rather than trade agreements are the most effective way to align with EU policy as tariffs can lead to a redistribution of measures across supply chain rather than encouraging governments to act. BDSI state that SMEs must rely on certifications to align with human rights and environmental compliance. The document recommends that companies should be subjected to a responsibility that is tiered based on their respective size, whereas grievance systems should be established by the state (rather than individual companies).
The role of supply-chain initiatives in reducing deforestation	Lambin et al.	EU citizen	Presents a review of current supply chain initiatives undertaken by public-private entities, reflecting on their effectiveness and impacts. The paper categorises supply chain initiatives into the following: (1) collective aspirations by stakeholder groups that go beyond the direct control of individual actors; (2) company pledges that express a company's commitment in their operations or supply chains; (3) company codes of conduct that define specific

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			<p>production or sourcing practices; and (4) sectoral standards including principles, criteria and forms of verification. The effectiveness of each of these categories are summarised in the following: 1 and 2) the translation of pledges into time-bound actions is lagging, with only 20-25% of quantifying and enforcing time-bound actions on pledges. 3)scarce information on this, however evidence shows that audit-based approaches encounter difficulty in changing supplier practices because they can conceal violations during audit visits 4) standards which assign incentives shows mixed impacts, standards which assign sanctions have been shown to change suppliers land use decisions and practices. Challenges to these initiatives include: greenwashing; achieving changes in land use within supply chains or regions is not sufficient to reduce global deforestation; leakage, low and selective adoption, and unintended social consequences all undermine the potential of private interventions to meeting broader goals.</p> <p>In regards to public policies to contribute to deforestation reductions the following challenges apply: 1) legal reforms and enforcement- laws can be weak and contradictory, and often poorly enforced. 2)Reforming land tenure- Unclear and insecure property rights may weaken incentives for land users and financial institutions to invest in sustainable land-use. A lack of documented property boundaries can also pose difficulties, whereas land tenure reforms may also trigger deforestation through greater investments in agriculture etc. 3) reaching marginal users- moratoria and certifications often do not reach forest users.</p>
Reducing tropical deforestation	Frances Seymour and Nancy Harris	EU citizen	<p>Sets out a range of drivers to tropical deforestation (agriculture, climate change impacting rainfall and subsequent forest fires, subsistence farming) and actions to protect rainforests (moratoriums, protected areas, awareness campaigns etc. The paper stresses the need to calibrate positive and negative incentives and to engage stakeholders (farmers) with governmental actors. Tackling fires can be achieved through reducing forest fragmentation and degradation, while the effectiveness of law enforcement depends largely on the adequacy of state involvement. To motivate action, the paper states that market based instruments (REDD) are dubious as to whether they produce benefits, certified products do not command substantial price premiums, and corporate commitments have not translated into political pressure (as long as insensitive markets remain available as alternatives this will not change).</p>
Subject: Deforestation and Forest Products Impact Assessment	<i>Removed for privacy reasons</i>	Company/business organisation	<p>The organisation recommends a "smart mix" approach composed of national legislation, EU policies, and improved governance, diplomacy, and innovative investment strategies for sustainability and (local) employment, as critical factors to establishing long-term solutions. They believe that DD is the right tool for continued improvements, whereas prohibition-based approaches mean there is no option for producers - and they will drop suppliers or entire regions as a consequence (increasing illegal logging as a consequence). They also recommend certifications ("are one of the main instruments that EU-based companies apply to influence or verify on-the-ground practices and inform their due diligence obligations") and state that voluntary certification should be recognised and not undermined. They finally recommend that provisions should be extended to cover downstream products, and that sustainable forest management practices should be encouraged.</p>
Removed for privacy reasons	<i>Removed for privacy reasons</i>	Other	<p>With regard to the problems of deforestation and forest degradation, the author notes that forest land has been increasing and that large-scale ecosystem conversion is not occurring in the US as in some other regions of the</p>

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			<p>world. The author encourages the use of voluntary approaches such as voluntary labelling (e.g. similar to organic labels for organic products) and voluntary due diligence – particularly for countries with a demonstrated record of forest management and conservation policies. More legally binding approaches such as a deforestation-free requirement or standard, or the use of national legality verification schemes are considered to be more trade-restrictive. The author cautions against a one-size-fits-all regulatory approach, and supports policies adopted at EU level, as opposed to measures taken at Member State or sub-Member State level.</p> <p>The author highlights efforts made to improve the sustainability of its soybean, beef and wood pellet productions, and lists a variety of national strategies and programmes aimed at restoring and protecting forest landscapes. For example, the paper notes that the (voluntary) Soybean Sustainability Assurance Protocol (SSAP) is widely used in the US, and that soybean exporters to the EU adapted the SSAP for the Renewable Energy Directive (RED). However, the additional declarations required for the RED programme have resulted in some supply-chain divergence. EU regulations can thus affect the trade and marketability of US products.</p> <p>The author encourages the EU to consider a pragmatic approach, focused on a tiered assessment of risk, and targeting a reduced number of products. It also supports defining the scope of deforestation and forest degradation as solely focusing on illegal deforestation.</p>
Nestle's commitment and progress towards no deforestation	Nestlé	Company/business organisation	<p>Nestlé is one of the world's biggest sources of palm oil and other deforestation related commodities. Nestle first introduces their Responsible Sourcing Standard as the tool that they use to operationalize their no deforestation commitment. They define zero deforestation as 1) not expanding or producing on areas converted from High Carbon Stock (HCS) forests and habitat such as peatland(except where farming practices protect peat), wetlands, savannas and IUCN protected areas categories I-IV, UNESCO World Heritage Sites and wetlands on the Ramsar List. 2) Identifying, protecting and avoiding producing on High Conservation Values (HCV) lands in and around the producer territory. The approaches are defined in their High Carbon Stock Approach Toolkit.</p> <p>Their toolkit for achieving 100% deforestation free supply chains consist of supply chain mapping, certification schemes, satellite monitoring, on the ground verification with farmers and collaboration with other organisations. In March 2020, 85% of their key commodities are verified deforestation-free in line with their Responsible Sourcing Standard. They expect over 90% to be verified deforestation-free by the end of 2020.</p> <p>Nestle recommends a "smart mix" for legislation on an EU level: 1) EU legislation including the obligation to assess, act and report on deforestation risks 2) capacity building in producer countries via partnership agreements, 3) dialogue and cooperation with other demand-side countries and 4) strengthened verification, including existing certification schemes.</p> <p>Commenting on the Human Rights and Environmental Due Diligence regulation, Nestle supports appropriate legislation to provide further incentives for companies to address their potential impact on HR and the Environment. In their view appropriate legislation would look like:</p>

Title	Author	Stakeholder category (self-reported in the OPC)	Summary
			<p>1) mandatory due diligence as defined in the UNGPs 2) at the European level: scale up effect for the benefit of affected people and communities, trigger collaborative action and creating a level playing fields for big and small 3)including all business sectors, increasing legal certainty, avoiding ‘forum shopping’ or unfair competition from countries with different standards 4) appropriate and proportionate sanctions, which avoid discouraging full transparency and undermine effective action, focusing on failures to comply with due diligence obligations.</p> <p>They outline their commodity-specific activities on palm oil, paper and pulp, soya, cocoa and coffee, which include the certification schemes they participate in and the organisations they support or are part of.</p>
<p>Cargill’s additional submission to the EU Public Consultation on Deforestation and Forest Degradation</p>	Cargill	Company/business organisation	<p>Deforestation is a problem that is both linked to the expansion of agriculture and to the social and economic wellbeing of local communities. Policies that recognise global trade flows and are geared at improving livelihoods for farmers of all sizes should be promoted. Cargill encourages the EU to consider a “smart mix” of tools that would contribute to solving the root cause of the challenge at hand. In this respect, partnerships with producing countries and alignment in collective global action are considered important. It is essential to support and enable producing countries to strengthen land use planning, governance, land tenure, and other underlying factors. International trade and investment agreements that reward sustainably produced products are also seen as potentially relevant tools.</p> <p>Mandatory due diligence (DD) can play a role as long as it is seen within and as part of an interconnected set of measures (including a requirement to assess, and on a risk-based basis, prevent or mitigate significant environmental and human rights risks). Obligations should be applicable to stakeholders across the supply chain and should take guidance from the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights (UNGPs) and from the OECD-FAO Guidance for Responsible Agricultural Supply Chains. Furthermore, obligations should be supported by a robust monitoring and reporting framework, which should be harmonised and standardised (e.g. the Accountability Framework initiative (AFi) provides important context in this respect).</p> <p>Certification can be a valuable tool but will not be powerful enough in isolation. It should be complemented with other supply chain strategies including and combining traceability, monitoring and landscape approaches.</p>
<p>A broad EU deforestation approach can help protect climate and biodiversity</p>	Persson et al.	Other	<p>The EU contributes considerably to the deforestation and natural habitat loss through its agricultural and forestry commodities imports. Therefore, it is urgent that the EU takes actions in legislative terms in order to meet the internationally agreed targets. Persson et al. suggest that to apply effectively the legislation, the scope of the policies should be broad enough to cover forest and non-forest ecosystems, commodities and actors that are potentially linked with natural habitat loss and to focus on the sustainability and not on the legality of the measures. Further, the main principles that the EU policies should follow to increase the effectiveness according to Persson et al. are that the policies and measures should be based on effective theories that are already tested, mixed policies should be applied that can result to synergies and reduce spillovers, and to involve a broad range of stakeholders from the finance, supply-chain and governmental sector to ensure that both private and public sectors are engaged.</p>

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Global Witness material on deforestation	Global witness	Non-governmental organisation (NGO)	The investigations of Global Witness at six major agribusiness during the period 2013-2019 showed that European financial institutions have supported those agribusinesses by providing funds up to 7 billion euros. The NGO suggests that the EU legislations should stress corporate responsibility on the environmental destruction. Also, it is important that the finance sector will not be excluded from the legislations with regards to deforestation, since they often support companies that are engaging in deforestation activities.
Deforestation and Forest Degradation – Reducing the Impact of Products Placed on the EU Market	<i>Removed for privacy reasons</i>	Non-governmental organisation (NGO)	The commodity supply chains of the EU should comply with effective legislation covering deforestation, forest degradation and conversion or degradation of other natural ecosystems. To that extent, the organisation stresses that the measures should be applied to the entire supply-chain of the European companies and not only to the commodities entering the EU market. Further, the organisation highlights the importance of implementing the legislation in the farms and forest frontier, introducing the “Forest-First Approach”; a strategy that addresses the deforestation, land use change emissions and supply chain risk. The strategy consists of 4 main pillars; a) “Prioritise areas where commodity production and at-risk forests of conservation importance intersect”, b) “Support Indigenous Peoples, Local Communities (IPLCs) and smallholder inclusion”, c) “Catalyse collective action between the private sector and small-scale producers” and d) “Support common climate and biodiversity goals through nature-based solutions (NBS)”.
Designing an effective, ambitious and coherent EU regulatory framework to tackle deforestation	Tropenbos International	Non-governmental organisation (NGO)	<p>The EU needs to take some legislative measures in order to decrease its share on global deforestation and to achieve the climate targets agreed under the Paris Agreement. TBI suggests that those measures should include three main components; first, an ambitious demand-side legislation as part of a wider set of measures, which will comprise due diligence requirements and minimum criteria regarding deforestation and human rights. Secondly, implementation of additional supporting measures to ensure the effectiveness of the EU regulatory framework across countries and landscapes. Thirdly, supply-side measures aiming at improving producer’s capacities, harmonizing policies with international frameworks, improving governance capacity and provide clarification on tenure and user rights.</p> <p>(Second report) Towards the development of a feasible EU action plan against deforestation This report provides some considerations to be taken into account by the EU when developing a regulatory framework to protect the forests and ecosystems, based on the characteristics of the Indonesia oil palm sector. First, the establishment of a long-term partnership between Indonesia and Europe will enable defining the main drivers of deforestation and subsequently determine a minimum set of requirements. Second, due diligence will be an important aspect of the EU legal framework which will oblige companies to prove low risk of deforestation. Third, investing in smallholders’ supply will play a major role in promoting inclusiveness and simultaneously contributing to the sustainable production of palm oil. Fourth, 2008 is suggested as cut-off date in order to enable EU to source palm oil from land deforested earlier than that year. Finally, it is important that northern and southern countries will engage in partnerships that will allow the sustainable production of palm oil while protecting the human rights. Further these collaborations will boost responsible palm oil consumption and incentivize investments towards deforestation free supply chains.</p>

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Waarom is houtgebruik goed voor het bos? (Why is wood use beneficial for the forest?)	Vandecasteele Houtimport	Company/business organisation	<p>Note: this article of FSC was submitted by Vandecasteele Houtimport. The FSC (Forest Stewardship Council) issues the FSC-certification for wood that makes sure that the wood complies with high standards for nature conservation, social impact (e.g. protection of indigenous people's rights) and economic impact (e.g. creation of well-paid, local jobs). This short position paper argues why the use of FSC-certified wood – and certified wood in general – can contribute to a sustainable future.</p> <p>Forests play a large role in the battle against climate change and sustainable wood use can help to protect forests and absorb CO2. The FSC-certificate makes sure that wood is harvested selectively and that new trees are replanted; in this way, certified wood does not contribute to clearcutting forests. Thus, the main takeaway of the paper is that sustainable and certified wood production can be beneficial for the protection of forests and not detrimental.</p>
Ecolabels are not perfect. Let's tell it as it is	Vandecasteele Houtimport	Company/business organisation	<p>This is a short opinion piece by Peter Feilberg, director of NGO NEPCon/Preferred by Nature that helps with getting certifications such as FSC, in which he states why certification is no 'silver bullet', to contrast the view of attachment ID67 above.</p> <p>In the piece Feilberg argues that certification bodies and brands should be more vocal about what certification can and cannot do. It cannot make hard promises about there being no child labour or deforestation involved in the certified product. However, certifications still help raising global standards, although they cannot fix everything. Clear communication can help prevent future misconceptions about how certification works.</p>
COCERAL-FEDIOL-FEFAC joint annex to deforestation consultation	COCERAL-FEDIOL-FEFAC	Business association	<p>The consortium of COCERAL, FEDIOL and FEFAC provide some legislative suggestions regarding the "Deforestation and Forest Products Impact Assessment". They argue that the proposed measures will not have significant impact if they will act in isolation, therefore mixed measures both in demand and supply sides will be needed. Moreover, the EU should be careful not to put additional financial burdens to the producers by applying measures such as deforestation-free standard or mandatory labelling. To avoid that, it should provide sufficient financial incentives to the producers/farmers and to ensure that all the appropriate players are engaged in the origin countries. Also, in addition to the information campaigns aiming at improving the consumers' awareness on sustainable products, additional measures on the supply side should be taken, in conjunction with partnership with the producer countries. Finally, the consortium is in favour of a due diligence approach in combination with complementary actions, such as certification and verification, labelling and financial tools.</p>
MPOC Submission to EU Consultation: 'Deforestation and forest degradation – reducing the impact of products placed on the EU market'	MPOC	Public authority	<p>The report from MPOC provides a consultation on last year's EU action on "Stepping up EU Action to Protect and Restore the World's Forests". MPOC stresses that the EU legislation should take into account the challenges and demand of Malaysia as well as the domestic legislations that are already in action. Further, they support that the decision of the EU phasing out palm oil from biodiesel should be reconsidered given that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The conclusion that phasing out palm oil will reduce deforestation rates is not scientifically sound; - The EU does not maintain an equal position against all products related to deforestation (e.g. beef); - The switch to ethanol will be an inevitable result of the palm oil phase out, which has less GHG savings potentials than the palm oil.

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MPOC's Comments in the context of the European Commission's public consultation regarding the legislative initiative on: "Deforestation and forest degradation – reducing the impact of products placed on the EU market"	MPOC	Public authority	<p>- It could result to 8% of higher losses in the net income per hectare of the smallholder farmers in Malaysia, while the European consumers will not be affected.</p> <p>Moreover, they claim that the MSPO certification scheme is a way to contribute against deforestation, while they are open to cooperate closely with the European Commission to explore actions against deforestation.</p> <p>The Malaysian Palm Oil Council (MPOC) represents the interest of the Malaysian palm oil producers, exporters, end-users, consumers as well as palm oil growers and small holder farmers — Malaysia is the second-largest producer of palm oil worldwide. MPOC states that the priorities under the EU Green Deal should be conducted with the following drivers: 1) in actual partnership with producer countries, 2) that the EU indeed "strengthen international cooperation to halt deforestation and forest degradation, and encourage forest restoration", and 3) that, in adopting and advancing its initiatives, actions and policies on forestry, the EU does indeed improve "the availability and quality of information on forests and commodity supply chains, the access to that information, and support research and innovation". These should be available not only for consumers but also for regulators and legislators.</p> <p>The paper further points out the following aspects to be considered in EU policymaking: 1) Factor-in existing sustainability schemes in Malaysia related to sustainability, which includes a Malaysian Sustainable Palm Oil standard (71% of all Malaysian palm oil estates already comply). In addition to this, further EU rules targeting all commodities would do justice to the efforts already undertaken. Relying on existing sustainability schemes while linking them to EU due diligence schemes and concerted international efforts, will deliver the intended impact and effects. 2) Not only the EU should act. It is also important to enhance international cooperation and developing global sustainability standards that can then be locally implemented and enforced through due diligence requirements for operators. That way, enforcement could take place in the country of origin, as well as in the country or place of consumption. 3) Policy measures should be consistent with WTO rules, particularly those on non-product related process and production methods, and not be biased or discriminatory vis-à-vis third countries and "like products" that compete with the ones produced in the EU. 4) The EU's approach should be holistic and organic with respect to all economic activities related to CO2 emissions; climate change and its mitigation; deforestation, forest management, and reforestation; agricultural, industrial and transport activities; and international trade. 5) EU initiatives should be balanced on facts and measurable scientific evidence, be commodity-neutral, and not result in disguised restrictions on international trade. 6) The EU only viable and sustainable action must be to provide incentives for the continued and increased production of sustainable products, on the basis of standards of sustainability that are multilaterally or plurilaterally agreed and not unilaterally imposed in ways that, experience shows, all too often end-up hiding or disguising protectionist and discriminatory policies under an "environmental blanket".</p>
WWF European Office additional comments to the European	WWF	Environmental organisation	<p>In its input document for additional comments for the OPC, the WWF provides an overview of what the new, clear EU legislation, aiming to help protecting forests and other ecosystems, should include: 1) The scope includes deforestation and degradation of natural forests as well as the conversion of natural ecosystems and their degradation. This needs clear definitions on what constitutes a natural forest or a natural ecosystem, deforestation,</p>

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<p>Commission's public consultation: Deforestation and forest degradation - reducing the impact of products placed on the EU market</p>			<p>degradation and conversion, preferably aligned with the Accountability Framework (see document for suggested definitions, p.10-13). 2) Products and commodities on the EU market are sustainable instead of only being legal according to the country of origin. Whilst the WWF considers the agriculture sector as main contributor to deforestation, a broad range of commodities and products linked to deforestation and ecosystem destruction need to be addressed by EU legislation in order to address the EU's role but also to prevent indirect land use change and substitution with commodities whose production could also have very harmful effects. 3) Human rights violations linked to the harvest or production of commodities placed on the European market are addressed. 4) EU measures should tackle both legality and forest-related sustainability as national laws do not always provide these requirements which might lead to confusion whether forest, but also other land may be converted for other uses. 5) Legal measures should include mandatory due diligence (mandatory product-specific approach, focusing on information, risk assessment and risk mitigation covering the whole supply chain), disclosure of information (including corporate non-financial reporting) and traceability of commodities and products along the supply chain by companies, reward of voluntary actions and proper and clear enforcement of new legislation by EU and Member State authorities. 6) Whilst regulatory measures to address environmental and/or social challenges in supply chains are in place or under development in some Member States, a harmonized framework across the EU is essential to ensure the EU consumption does not contribute to nature destruction or human right violations. 7) Provision of a framework for all companies with legal instruments to hold those businesses accountable that do not want to follow the rules, including ways to stop them from placing their products on the EU market, and give clear rules for companies willing to tackle their environmental and social footprint. 8) The finance sector is covered by the legislation, to ensure financial institutions, investors etc. are not directly or indirectly supporting the destruction of ecosystems (including forests) or their degradation, neither the violation of human rights. 9) The new legislation should go in parallel with the overall sustainable corporate governance law, currently explored by DG JUST, which will ensure that environmental and social sustainability is fully embedded in companies' operations and policies overall. 10) The EU should also lead on complementary efforts, providing support for producer countries to address underlying drivers, such as securing the rights of Indigenous Peoples and local communities and supporting poverty alleviation and better land governance in producer countries. Through cooperation with and development support for producers (technical and financial support), the drivers of deforestation and ecosystem conversion will be addressed, and the rights of Indigenous Peoples and local communities ensures while also allowing for better transparency along the supply chain. Special support should be provided to smallholders and small & medium size enterprises.</p> <p>Challenges and unclear points that the WWF raised are: 1) Unclearness what is meant by "clean" supply chains. However, though certification systems exist, they do not cover the whole market and there are challenges linked to implementation. 2) Companies face challenges in reporting on their impacts on other ecosystems or commitments they have made to halt deforestation.</p>
<p>Soja Plus Report on Achievements</p>		<p>Business association</p>	<p>This paper presents a very short introduction of the Soja Plus programme, which is a technical assistance programme for rural farmers in Brazil (training, technical assistance, materials) to improve property management and the imagine of the agri-business sector. It is funded and run by the Brazilian Association of Vegetable Oil</p>



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			Industries and the Mato Grosso State Soil & Corn Production Association. Since 2011, the Programme has offered courses to 6,500 producers, and provided technical assistance on 2,465 farms that produce 9.6 million tonnes of soy (8% of Brazil's soy production).
Soybean Sustainability: Cerrado and Amazon Biome	ABIOVE	Business association	This report presents facts and figures about deforestation and soybean production in the regions of the Amazon and Cerrado in Brazil. The report explains that deforestation caused by soybean plantation decreases. Recent numbers show that 7% of expansion occurred on deforested areas after 2013 in the Cerrado region, and 2% of expansion did so from 2008 in the Amazon biome region. As final thoughts, the short report argues that Brazilian soybean should not be considered a forest-risk commodity, by pointing to the small portion of the Amazon covered by soy and the decline in the soybean expansion in the Cerrado (among other numbers).
Monitoring non-compliant soy plantations using satellite images: Crop year 2018/19		Business association	This is the executive summary of a report which looks into the Soy Moratorium, an initiative which aims to ensure that soy produced and traded in the Amazon Biome (Brazil) is not associated with the suppression of forest vegetation (i.e. deforestation). It does so by encouraging planting in areas that were clearer before 2008. Governance and operations fall under the responsibility of two companies (ABIOVE and ANEC) and civil society organisations. They explain that deforestation linked to soy production has significantly decreased since the initiative began, and that non-compliance is concentrated in certain areas.
Geospatial Analysis of Soy Crop: Cerrado Biome		Business association	This is the executive summary of a report on recent trends regarding land use and land cover changes resulting from soy expansion in the Cerrado Biome (Brazil). They explain that while the soy area of the region has grown 2.4 times since 2000, soy expansion in deforested areas has continuously decreased. They expect the soy area to continue to grow further, with the conversion of pastures to provide most of the land needed for that expansion.
N/A	Utuart	Academic/research institution	Only provides a link to a Uni research group that focuses on biogeography, ecology and evolution of the Amazon forest: https://sites.utu.fi/amazon/ I did a word search for deforestation and Europe/EU and could not find anything, so I don't think that this is too relevant. Perhaps there are some papers looking into forest cover change in the Amazon.
Contribution of agroforests to landscape carbon storage	Schroth et al.	Academic/research institution	This academic paper demonstrates the significant contribution that traditional agroforests with shaded tree crops can make to landscape-level carbon storage, focusing on the cocoa agroforests of southern Bahia (Brazil). They calculated average aboveground C stocks of 87 and 46 Mg ha ⁻¹ in traditional and intensified cocoa agroforests, respectively, 183 Mg ha ⁻¹ in old-growth forests, 102 Mg ha ⁻¹ in disturbed forests and 33 Mg ha ⁻¹ in fallows. In order to conserve the climate stabilizing effect of traditional agroforests and steer necessary intensification measures towards climate-friendly solutions, they suggest that biodiversity and C-rich traditional agroforests should be included in current discussions about REDD+ and/or their owners be rewarded for their environmental services through other incentive mechanisms.
Conservation in tropical landscape	Schroth et al.	Academic/research institution	This academic paper introduces two strategies for conservation in agricultural landscapes - land sparing and land sharing - and argues that a mix of both is needed to effectively protect biodiversity in the cacao production

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mosaics: the case of the cacao landscape of southern Bahia, Brazil			<p>landscape of Bahia (Brazil). The region has managed to preserve its biodiversity while developing its cocoa industry. The paper explains the approach adopted in the region and the evolving regulatory and political context. They also argue that environmental certification could provide mechanisms of control (against agricultural intensification) and technical assistance to farmers, while increasing awareness and providing access to market for sustainably-produced cocoa and farm timber. A key strategy being developed and implemented by a strong group of environmental organisations and government agencies to promote sustainable development (env, soc, eco dimensions) includes the following key elements: the expansion and consolidation of the protected area system, the promotion of agricultural practices that are beneficial to biodiversity conservation based on the traditional cabruca system, and technical and legal assistance as well as economic incentives to land owners to implement both legally required and voluntary on-farm set-asides</p>
Preservation des forêts aux échelles européenne et mondiale: Réponse au questionnaire par France Nature Environnement	France Nature Environnement	Environmental organisation	<p>The paper appears to be an answer to another questionnaire, but the responses are still relevant to the IA. They explain the causes of deforestation (mainly agriculture, with the main crop/cattle contributing to deforestation varying per region). Soja, palm oil and cacao represent 80% of products imported into the EU which can contribute to deforestation in producer countries (cite an EU study). They delve into deforestation linked to soy in South America, linked to cocoa in West Africa, and linked to palm oil in South-Eastern Asia. They also discuss the main consequences of deforestation for indigenous people living in forests in the three regions. They then move on to discuss forest certification, and the relationship between biodiversity and monoculture. On this late point, they explain the complexity of the question and cite two academic papers. Recommendations to the EU: (1) to achieve high levels of forest protection and protect the people residing there, the EU should adopt binding regulations on the responsibility of multinationals, allowing the harmonization of national vigilance laws (including environmental aspects such as the fight against imported deforestation); (2) to address deforestation linked to soy in South America, the European Union must send a strong signal to the markets by requiring companies to implement transparency and traceability measures in their supply chains to ensure that agricultural products are free from deforestation, rights violations of man and land grabbing; (3) to address deforestation linked to palm oil in SE Asia, the EU should include specific criteria for the fight against deforestation due to palm oil in its trade agreements, for example on product traceability.</p>
Collective position paper on EU action to protect and restore the World's forests: proposal for a 'smart mix' of measures	Tropical Forest Alliance	Non-governmental organisation (NGO)	<p>A group of 50 NGOs and companies from across the supply chain recommends a "smart mix" of measures to help tackle the negative impacts of deforestation associated to commodities. They state that no single policy instrument is capable of addressing by itself all these drivers of unsustainable production, which therefore requires a smart mix of policies and measures should be mutually supportive. The proposed mix covers producer partnerships, demand-side measures, international cooperation, verification and finance. Partnerships between EU and produce countries are necessary to put in place conditions necessary to protect forests and improve the standards of production of agriculture commodities. They propose due diligence on companies involved in commodity supply chains as well as demand-side measures to support markets for sustainably produced commodities. Furthermore, they highlight that stricter standards in EU markets do not simply diver the unsustainably produced products to other markets but instead, a dialogue between EU and other consumer countries must be started. Finally, they encourage the</p>

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Global Canopy response to the EU consultation on deforestation and forest products	Global Canopy	Non-governmental organisation (NGO)	development of a practical system and approaches with which companies can assess, verify and report on the risk and risk mitigation in their supply chains.
Reducing Commodity-Driven Tropical Deforestation: Political Feasibility and 'Theories of Change' for EU Policy Options	Bager, Persson and Reis	Non-EU citizen	A research study that reviewed 1141 policy proposals for the EU and other consumer countries to address deforestation related to commodities. These are summarized into 86 unique policy options including: Encouraging reporting, transparency and public disclosure of information identifying conservation hotspots, promote due diligence and encourage traceability among others. The policy options are broken down into different actors to which they apply: Producer governments, Supply-chain actors, Consumers, EU governments and Finance actors. Finally they are assessed on their feasibility and discussed in a political context.
Country Profile Ivory Coast	Climate Chance	EU citizen	The report covers a case study of Deforestation and LULUCF in Ivory Coast. Deforestation has been one of the primary reasons for increasing GHG emissions, which are now being addressed in light of new National Action Plans. Agriculture, in particular cocoa farming, is the primary driver of local deforestation and pressure continues to increase. Ivory Coast's economic development policy has been focused on exports of agricultural products, thus further incentivizing the habitat loss. 40% of Ivory Coast's cacao comes from protected areas that have been cleared for the farming practices. A report cited in this report states that international exporters and companies across the supply chain were indeed aware that the cocoa stemmed from illegally cleared land. Ivory Coast is both a member of the REDD+ and has a VPA agreement with the EU. The report indicates the complications linked to ensuring deforestation free commodity production due to political struggles and corruption.
Preserving Peruvian Amazon rainforest: a societal challenge	Climate Chance	EU citizen	The report covers a country profile of deforestation and LULUCF in Peru. 50% of Peru's GHGs stem from LULUCF sector. Peru has signed the Paris Agreement, Convention on Biological Diversity and the UNFCCC. It has set ambitious targets for its Internationally Determined Contributions (INDCs) to reduce LULUCF related GHG to 30%. Cocoa, coffee, palm, papaya rice and maize are farming practices primarily related to deforestation. The social factors have been difficult to determine but small migrant farmers have shown to have an impact on illegal

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			<p>deforestation. Failure to act has come from the government, which has provided international companies with allocated farm concessions. These are acquired either through loopholes or corruption of regional governments, or local communities sell to them under pressure. The problem of land grabbing appears to be severe in Peru and has direct implications on the mass of illegal deforestation. A number of different adversaries are trying to stop the illegal farming practices, including researchers and NGOs. Although in recent years the Peruvian government has set up a rich institutional and legislative framework, which should increase the governments fight against deforestation, the system is fragile in light of economic interest of local actors and pressure from international investors.</p>
<p>Étude sur le surcoût d'une alimentation animale durable sur les différents maillons des filières animales</p>	Duralim	Business association	<p><i>See summary of Duralim paper above.</i></p>
<p>IUU Carding system source of inspiration</p>	FERN	Non-governmental organisation (NGO)	<p>FERN provided an overview of the different policy options that they have provided in previous years and in other reports. The document links out to the original reports and study findings of the suggested options. Notable is ferns proposed carding system similar to the Illegal Unreported and Unregulated (IUU) fishing carding system. This could promote the implementation of the VGGT and EU sustainability requirements under new legislation. An example of how the carding system for deforestation could work is provided. Secondly, they encourage stronger enforcement of new regulations including a more effective due diligence, such as through stronger procedures for monitoring and implementation, mechanisms that allow competent authorities to gather proofs of infringements and the coherent enforcement across all Member States, to name a few. Finally, they propose that the EU should complement an EU due diligence regulation with partnership agreement with major. Forest Risk Commodity producing countries, which can directly address the direct and underlying causes of forest lost and human rights violations.</p>
<p>Position Statements on the EU Deforestation and Forest Degradation Legislation</p>	Resource Trust Network	Non-governmental organisation (NGO)	<p>The ResourceTrust Network focuses on the fact that the majority of deforestation risk commodities are produced by largely smallholders living below the poverty line with inadequate sustainable production capacity. They make two recommendations. One focuses on the EU level demand side legislation and other measures that need to combined with forest degradation commodity level supply side measures with producing countries. These supply side measures should be aimed at supporting producer country government implementing the enabling environment measures. The second is a request to have legislation working with existing initiatives such as the Accountability Framework Initiative, that provides a framework with common definitions on deforestation and ecosystem conversion and human rights, and elaborate guidance documents to support commitment gaps.</p>
<p>Sustainability and certification –</p>	Undesa-Italmatch Chemicals	Company/business organisation	<p>APAG and Cesio are two major sectors of bioeconomy that use palm oil and palm kernel oils as feedstock, and they provide a combined statement here. They argue that banning palm oil from EU will likely have more significant</p>

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Messages to the European Commission			impacts on other crop oils increasing in production. However, other palm crops have the highest yield in palm oil and thus a complete ban would likely aggravate pressure on deforestation further. They promote the use of sustainability and monitoring schemes for the imports of palm oils, but also argue that these should apply to imports of all oil derivatives imported into the EU in order to not affect the EU competitiveness.
GAR position on EU Actions	Golden Agri-Resources	Company/business organisation	Gar Agribusiness and Food represents palm oil industries in Indonesia and argues that while palm oil has a role to play in tackling deforestation, palm oil only accounts for 3% of deforestation and therefore, other sectors must be addressed more stringently. They encourage EU to focus on encourage proactive engagement with Indonesia's smallholders, who's impact on deforestation has increased. They provide a list of recommendations for the EU to act. First they encourage the EU to require European buyers of high risk commodities to adopt better forest protection sourcing policies, in order to stop the demand for high risk products in source countries. Secondly, the involvement of SME's and smallholders in the supply chain of palm oil means that the EU must put effort into creating buyer's policies that seek to identify, engage and transform these producers rather than to exclude them. They also encourage the EU to develop a more streamlined and user friendly verification system across Member States that builds on existing initiatives. They also call for more funding towards local initiatives and local NGOs that help transform rural communities through sustainable livelihoods programmes.
Accountability Framework initiative cover letter for the public consultation "Deforestation and forest degradation - reducing the impact of products placed on the EU market"		Other	Accountability Framework Initiative submitted a position paper on behalf of 17 members of the AFI coalition representing environmental and human rights organizations. The paper supports the increase in demand-side measures and particularly encourages going beyond legality issues of land use, requesting the inclusion of a mandatory due diligence obligation for companies importing soft commodities and inclusion of the financial sector in halting deforestation through limiting funding to deforestation associated commodity. It proposes critical points to be addressed during new policy approaches: Expand the scope to include ecosystem conversion, ensure that scope addressed respect for human rights, clearly specify obligations for integrated supply chain due diligence, include smallholders and establish robust and standardized disclosure requirements.
IPOA and GAPKI response	Indonesian Pam Oil Association	Business association	The IPOA and Gabungan Pengusaha Kelapa Sawit Indonesia (GAPKI) state that Indonesia has more forest protection than many EU Member States and has, thanks to a number of legislative and private sector initiatives, been reducing its deforestation rates. They acknowledge that deforestation remains a concern, but note that statistically palm oil is a significantly lower driver of deforestation than other tree plantations and that palm oil footprint is overall lower than for other commodities, such as beef and soy. They note that Palm oil is the largest agricultural product and largest export in Indonesia, thus playing a significant role in the social and economic development of the country, particularly for rural development thus contributing to poverty reduction. The relationship between EU and Indonesia is generally perceived as positive and should be further strengthened with the Indonesia European Union Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement, where it should be clear that palm oil cannot be excluded from the agreement. Finally, the position paper states that GAPKIs view on sustainability criteria to be introduced will disrupt the trade between Indonesia and the EU, and potentially

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			challenge the WTO agreement. The paper points out that the EU should acknowledge Indonesia's own Sustainable Palm Oil certification (ISPO) and that this should serve as a legality assurance for the EU.
Urgency and Opportunity: Addressing Global Health, Climate, and Biodiversity Crises by Scaling-up the Recognition and Protection of Indigenous and Community Land Rights and Livelihoods	<i>Removed for privacy reasons</i>	Non-governmental organisation (NGO)	This paper makes four key recommendations on how to close the gap in the legal recognition and protection of the customary land and forest rights of communities. These aim to secure the well-being of local peoples, mitigate climate change, protect vital ecosystems, and accelerate progress towards inclusive and sustainable development. The four recommendations are in short: (1) dramatically increase ambition and funding to secure the land and resource rights of communities; (2) prioritize the legal recognition of indigenous and community land rights in the context of international climate, conservation and sustainable development commitments and priorities; (3) adapt and operationalise rights-based international standards and UN sanctioned guidance on the voluntary governance of tenure across all land-related investments and initiatives; (4) recognise and support communities' rights to own, manage and control land, forests and resources which are the basis for their livelihoods, community well-being and food security.
Reduction of crude protein in EU animal feed diets is a readily available solution to reduce EU imported deforestation	Ajinomoto	Company/business organisation	This paper argues for the possibility of reducing EU imported deforestation by implementing reduction of crude protein in EU animal feed diets. This can be a complementary solution to certification of soy supply chain in the feed industry. The reduction of crude protein in animal feed diets, combined with amino acids supplementation, enables to address the roots of the deforestation issue, by decoupling EU livestock production from increased consumption of soy. Limiting the overall demand on soy in the feed industry is an effective tool to reduce pressure on forests and natural resources.
The carbon opportunity cost of animal-sourced food production on land	Hayek, Harwatt, Ripple and Mueller	EU citizen	This paper discusses the impact of shifting dietary preferences on carbon sequestration. The authors find that shifts in global food production to plant-based diets by 2050 could lead to sequestration of 332-547 GtCO ₂ , equivalent to 99-163% of the CO ₂ emissions budget and consistent with a 66% chance of limiting warming to 1.5 °C.
Laser Talk for Bengt Gunnar Jonsson's Forestry Lecture	Jonsson	EU citizen	Forests are crucial for the climate because they act as carbon sinks. There is too much consumption of forest products and energy, and it is consumption that needs to be changed. Less felled forests should be seen as a safer carbon sink than CCS technology. Proponents of biofuel production from deforestation say that biofuel production is sustainable because afforestation is greater than deforestation, however, they overlook that the felled trees would have continued to absorb CO ₂ for many years if they had not been felled. As such, biofuels lead to felling of more forests which leads to reduced carbon sinks and more CO ₂ emissions
Deforestation and forest degradation – reducing the impact	Henkel	Company/business organisation	Henkel is committed to ensure that all palm and palm kernel oil used in their products is derived from sustainably cultivated sources in line with the Mass Balance certification model of the multi-stakeholder initiative "Roundtable for Sustainable Palm Oil" (RSPO). Overall, Henkel calls on the Commission to take into account three considerations: (1) putting EU consumption in perspective – and prioritizing actions towards the highest

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of products placed on the EU market			contributors, i.e. fodder crops for animal feed, soybeans, as well as timber and pulp products; (2) demand-side measures at EU level can have a limited impact – need to provide more support to progress in achieving global commitments and taking action on the ground (for this – existing industry standards need to be acknowledged as a fundamental element of a smart mix of measures; (3) global problems need global solutions – stronger partnerships and collaboration between the Commission, Member States and producer countries set the right framework to implement sustainable forest management and sustainable agricultural practices.
A systematic mapping protocol: what are the impacts of different upstream business models in the agriculture and forestry sector on sustainable development in tropical developing countries?	Environmental Evidence	EU citizen	Academic paper which suggests an approach to researching systematically the topic at hand (see title). Study inclusion criteria includes but are not limited to: (1) studying the impact of business models on either the environment or on the human population within tropical developing countries; (2) studying interventions (e.g. outgrower schemes, tenant farming schemes, nucleus-plasma schemes, farmer-owned businesses); (3) evaluation of business models against measures of “sustainability” – e.g. (i) economic – productivity and profitability gains; (ii) social – equity, conflict and well-being; (iii) environment – deforestation, degradation and pollution; (4) relevant timeframe – 1945 - 2014.
CAOBISCO Statement Due Diligence	CAOBISCO	Business association	CAOBISCO is supportive of an EU-wide due-diligence approach aligned with the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights and with the OECD-FAO Guidance for Responsible Agricultural Supply Chains. Members support a comprehensive EU strategy that creates the enabling environment required to make progress. Due Diligence is a shared responsibility for all supply chain actors who must act collectively to achieve a sustainable industry from “farm to fork”. CAOBISCO members are committed to ensuring that their products are manufactured responsibly and to the highest standards, minimising environmental impact and respecting the human rights of those in their value chains. Many CAOBISCO members have private initiatives to become more climate-resilient, protect the environment and combat deforestation – altogether part of seeking transparency along the supply chain.
FAO additional inputs in response to the public consultation questionnaire	FAO	Other	In FAO’s experience, significant improvement in land use governance in producer countries is most effective when demand-side measures, such as due diligence legislation, are accompanied by targeted and sustained support in producer countries. Therefore, FAO recommends incorporating measures to strengthen the capacity of producer countries to meet EU requirements, so that countries and producers with lower capacity do not risk being excluded from EU supply chains. The new Forest Partnerships mechanism could offer a framework for this support. The FAO lists various recommendations, including but not limited to: (1) determine the list of commodities covered by the new EU legal framework on the basis of objective and science-based considerations that such commodities pose high-risks for the destruction and degradation of forests and high-carbon stock and biodiversity-rich ecosystems; (2) consider lessons learned from the implementation of the FLEGT Action Plan; (3) develop and implement a due diligence approach and guidance on the due diligence approach in the agricultural sector – and utilize National Action Plans (NAPs) on Business and Human Rights; (4) foster political will to develop and implement verification

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<p>Remarks by companies and civil society organisations associated with the German Initiative for Sustainable Agricultural Supply Chains</p>	<p>Initiative for Sustainable Agricultural Supply Chains (INA)</p>	<p>Other</p>	<p>systems; (5) risk mapping through land-use change monitoring; (6) due diligence law should require companies to report their compliance under the EU regulation, and this process should be integrated with existing climate and financial disclosure processes.</p> <p>The INA advocates for a smart mix of both regulatory and non-regulatory demand side measures to minimise deforestation in EU-supply chains that covers all relevant commodities to level the playing field. The list of commodities should include at least soy, palm oil, meat and leather, cocoa, coffee, rubber and maize. The INA emphasises that we need regulation specifically on deforestation and forest degradation. It should be well aligned with the upcoming EU-legislation on mandatory due diligence for human rights and the environment as announced by the European Commissioner for Justice, Didier Reynders, in April 2020. We encourage the EU and member states to support production countries - especially their smallholders and indigenous communities - and to strive for sustainable commodity production. The INA strongly encourages the Commission to draft an ambitious legislative proposal based on the current impact assessment on potential regulatory and non-regulatory demand side measures to tackle deforestation and forest degradation.</p>
<p>N/A</p>	<p>ProVeg International</p>	<p>Non-governmental organisation (NGO)</p>	<p>ProVeg International places special emphasis on animal agriculture as one of the leading causes of deforestation globally. In addition to ensuring new legislation guarantees products sold in the EU are not linked to deforestation, ProVeg International calls on the EU to take immediate action on the issue of animal agriculture and its disastrous effects on the climate, environment and public health. Specific targets for the reduction of the consumption of meat and other animal products need to be determined on the basis of the targets laid out in the Farm to Fork Strategy, which not only aims to “improve animal welfare and reverse biodiversity loss” but which states that “moving to a more plant-based diet [...] will reduce not only risks of life-threatening diseases, but also the environmental impact of the food system”. The deforestation report by MEP Burkhardt offers a great opportunity to take action on the causes of deforestation. The European Commission now needs to use this opportunity and translate concrete measures into European law.</p>
<p>RTRS positioning on the Communication on Stepping up EU Action to protect and Restore the World's Forests</p>	<p>Round Table on Responsible Soy Association (RTRS)</p>	<p>Business association</p>	<p>RTRS particularly welcomes the inclusion of sustainable development provisions in trade agreements, the establishment of a multi-stakeholder platform on deforestation, the focus on partnering with producer countries to support smallholder producers, and finally, the framework for strengthening existing standards and certification schemes. RTRS believes incentives and economic instruments should be developed by EU governments and the private sector rewarding farmers’ efforts in producing countries to conserve areas of native vegetation as well as to step up efforts to support the work of large companies in the commodity supply chains, currently taking legitimate initiatives to guarantee zero deforestation and zero conversion. RTRS supports strengthening large-scale initiatives such as the Amsterdam Partnership Agreement and the Cerrado Manifesto, which seek to eliminate deforestation from the soy supply chain at every level. RTRS supports the focus on partnering with producer countries to scale up improved land governance with a focus on local producers. Through enhanced collaboration with producing countries and the support from the Commission, smallholders should be given the right means at local level to promote the use of sustainable agricultural practices while upholding their social rights.</p>



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Beyond Deforestation	Round Table on Responsible Soy Association (RTRS)	Business association	RTRS understands that, though not the silver bullet, soy certification is a valuable and holistic (economic, social and environmental) instrument that is already in place and promoting sustainable agricultural practices on the ground. More specifically, it delivers on today's hot topic: verified zero deforestation and zero conversion soy. RTRS further emphasizes how their certification system is a truly holistic approach that guarantees responsible business and agricultural practices, preserving biodiversity, soil and water and protecting human and worker's rights, all while respecting the customs and cultures of indigenous peoples and improving the well-being of local communities.
Amazon and the Cerrado situation	Round Table on Responsible Soy Association (RTRS)	Business association	The paper discusses the Amazon fire (Cerrado) back in 2019, where conservations have claimed that soybean producers are responsible. The RTRS suggest call for action and claim that no RTRS covered land were impacted by the fire. Furthermore, the paper explains its certification scheme already elaborated in position paper #104.
Deforestation and forest degradation: reducing the impact of products placed on the EU market	Institute for European Environmental Policy (IEEP)	Academic/research institution	In this paper, the IEEP highlights two additional issues not addressed in the OPC survey: (1) the formulation of sustainability criteria and definitions for deforestation-free products; and (2) the role EU trade agreements and supporting processes can play in addressing deforestation and forest degradation. The IEEP proposes a set of principles for the Commission to consider for the sustainability criteria in both the EU and third countries. These proposals must be viewed in context of trade, e.g. the importance of enhancing environmental protection in the EU-Mercosur trade agreement. IEEP emphasises the need to make trade work for the environment by reinforcing the forestry elements in trade agreements and their underpinning processes, i.e., the TSD Chapters and Sustainability Impact Assessments; and by ensuring the coherence of the deforestation-free supply chains proposal with the upcoming legislative proposal on 'due diligence'. The IEEP also stresses the need to update or complement the official EU SIA Guidance Handbook with more explicit guidance for assessing environmental impacts (e.g. deforestation and biodiversity) to improve the extent and robustness of environment-related analysis.
Deforestation and forest degradation – reducing the impact of products placed on the EU market: developing EU measures modelled after the IUU Regulation	National Wildlife Federation	Non-governmental organisation (NGO)	This report analyses the benefits and challenges of adapting one of the proposed measures to address imports of products driving deforestation – the EU Regulation to prevent, deter and eliminate illegal, unreported, and unregulated fishing (IUU). If core components of the IUU Regulation can be adapted and adjusted to account for differences between fisheries and deforestation-driven commodity expansion, the result could be an effective mechanism for implementing a deforestation free market requirement, one that comes with benefits not available with labelling, certification or due diligence approaches. These benefits include: (1) Comprehensive application at scale – covering all relevant forest-risk commodities volumes entering the EU and thereby accelerating shifts driven by governments as well as upstream and downstream global supply chain actors; (2) Combines a carrot and stick approach, focused on dialogue and action that can be accelerated by the threat of potential sanctions, with a focus on additional measures in areas at highest deforestation risk; (3) Avoidance of problems with self-reporting, as performance can be verified by either an independent body or the European Commission; (4) Can build upon existing credible schemes developed to address forest-risk commodities; (5) Complementary with other regulatory approaches such as due diligence requirements; (6) Allows for a government to government approach, which can be aligned with development aid.

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Tetra Pak Reply To Consultation	Tetra Pak	Company/business organisation	<p>Tetra Pak calls for mandatory compliance towards deforestation free supply chains and mandatory due diligence using recognised sustainable forest management standards and certification schemes such as the FSC. They claim that from an industry leadership perspective, in 2007, the beverage carton industry was the first to voluntarily commit to full traceability and due diligence for all wood fibres we use in our cartons³. This action was inspired by the FLEGT Action Plan and is fully aligned with it. Drawing on their experience, Tetra Pak calls on the EC to consider the following recommendations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All EU policies should incentivise and mandate sustainable sourcing of materials. • The EU should propose mandatory compliance on deforestation free supply chains with recognised sustainable forest management standards and certification schemes as well as mandatory due diligence. Voluntary commitments can only move the needle so far, now is the right moment to make voluntary standards and due diligence systems mandatory as their adoption has been too low: certification only covers about 10% of the world's forests. An effective EU policy framework can ensure all users of commodities meet such standards and that these become the norm. Our experience can serve as a model to learn from for other major material categories. • Certification schemes for sustainable sourcing should cover all products that have a proven impact on deforestation. Efforts should focus initially on those products with the most detrimental impact. Where those standards do not exist, sectors should be required to develop them. • Level the playing field. Measures like mandatory third-party certification would make sustainably sourced products more competitive, thereby ensuring that early adopters of such certification schemes remain competitive. • Clear, common definitions must be elaborated to set standards effectively. These definitions should be developed by means of a deliberative and fact-based process involving all stakeholders. We support the launch of the global cooperation platform to fight deforestation. • Empower consumers to make informed purchasing decisions. Certification standards and labelling contribute to consumers' awareness. Studies show that more than 54% of consumers say they are always and often looking for environmental logos on the products they buy. • Seize the opportunity of the May 2021 UN Biodiversity Conference (COP15) to produce a new, ambitious global biodiversity framework that effectively ends deforestation. Tetra Pak welcomes the opportunity to assist the European Commission in their preparation for these international negotiations.
Climate Focus additional comments on EU Consumption and Deforestation and Forest Degradation	Climate Focus	Company/business organisation	<p>This position paper backs the introduction of mandatory due diligence requirements for companies importing products linked to human rights abuses and environmental damage. Voluntary approaches has had limited impact on mitigating deforestation, and producer countries and private stakeholders have few incentives to increase the sustainability of production in the absence of credible demand-side measures from major importers. Progress has been limited to a few sectors, in particular palm oil and timber. Recommendations from Climate Focus include: (1) that enforcement and governance must be key pillars of the EU response; (2) Legislators would do well to learn from the experience gained from the EU Timber Regulation (EUTR) and the Forest Law, Enforcement and Governance Action (FLEGT) Plan; (3) Building on the urgent and shared goal to protect forests, the EU should form partnerships with supplier countries, in particular developing countries; (4) Tackling deforestation requires tackling underlying drivers – often weak institutions, limited resources and governance challenges such as corruption; (5)</p>

Title	Author	Stakeholder category (self-reported in the OPC)	Summary
<p>Due diligence in the supply chain as an instrument to reduce the impact of products placed on the European market with regards to deforestation and forest degradation</p>	ETRMA	Business association	<p>Any credible approach to address deforestation at scale needs to be focused on the national – or at least jurisdictional – level; (6) Finally, the EU should ensure coherence between due diligence legislation and its broader laws, policies, and agreements – for example trade policy and food policy (meat is the largest driver of deforestation globally).</p> <p>The paper, written by the European Tyre and Rubber Manufacturers’ Association (ETRMA), includes recommendations related to EU policy options for deforestation and forest degradation potentially affecting the natural rubber supply chain.</p> <p>Under general considerations, the ETRMA recommends that 1) specificities of the rubber and tyre supply chain should be taken into account and ensure that the legal obligations have a step-by-step approach, so that all actors in the supply chain can adapt (the work on traceability in the natural rubber industry is still at its early stages). A proper impact assessment should be carried out for the supply chain of each of the identified forest risk commodities. 2) The legislative should not put EU/UK businesses at disadvantage compared to international competitors. Instead, the objective should be of establishing an international level playing field. The initiative should stipulate upfront how compliance and market surveillance will be ensured. 3) Deforestation should be approached not only with intra-EU legislation, but also through EU’s trade agreements and other appropriate treaties and commitments with non-EU countries. 4) It is key that any legislative initiative should be as precise as possible, particularly concerning definitions and procedures. This is to avoid all possible grey zones with regard to implementation and enforcement. 5) The diversity of size and characteristics of EU industry should also be taken into account as well as its ability to reach supply chain players beyond EU jurisdiction. All players should be included, but in a proportional way, while measures are tailored to the role, power, and resources of players in the value chain.</p> <p>Relevant points made related to Due diligence obligations are: 1) The focus, as a first step, should be on the tier-one suppliers. 2) Any assessment should be risk-based instead of exhaustively. 3) That it focuses on continuous improvement through mitigation measures which are what is really needed in order to ensure a positive evolution within the value chain. 4) There is the need to ensure that manufacturers are not given responsibilities beyond their reach. The processes and resources implemented in a due diligence activity should be proportionate, effective and define the liability of EU based enterprises. 5) It should be the role of the EU to ensure a dialogue with producing third countries on best practices and implementation on international human rights and environmental engagements. 6) The consequences on small farmers should be considered when building a mandatory due-diligence system. It will be impossible for them to show compliance through a mandatory due-diligence system. 7) Attention should be given to the involvement of stakeholders on risk assessment and mitigation measures. Comments to other options are: 1) ETRMA discourages the option to label “deforestation-free products”. An attempt to combine the fight against deforestation with the existing EU tyre label, might have adverse consequences on the industry, not gain consumers’ understanding, and ultimately not meet the regulatory objectives. 2) Third party certification represents a useful instrument and of support for certain actors. The use of certification tools to help achieve objectives should not be mandatory and other assurance models could be</p>



Title	Author	Stakeholder category (self-reported in the OPC)	Summary
Deforestation and Forest Product Impact Assessment Consultation – Explanations supporting ETRMA’s responses to the questionnaire	ETRMA	Business association	<p>considered as well. To ensure ease of implementation and enforcement, legal questions regarding liability and responsibility should be clarified.</p> <p>In addition to its position paper, ETRMA provides additional information to its submitted questionnaire. Only those aspects not mentioned there, will be listed here. Overall, ETRMA doubts the effectiveness of the EU-action, instead, it stresses the importance to develop policies on a local or global level. On these levels, policies are still missing while rubber manufacturers have only very little choice on whether to source natural rubber. The role of the EU is that of forging with producing countries international agreements with elements on sustainability and also observing the proper application of these agreements creating a fertile territory in producing countries to better devise and implement their local legislation to achieve agreed objectives regarding to deforestation and forest degradation.</p> <p>Regarding consumers, ETRMA experience in the EU over the last decade shows that, even when product information is made available, clear, and provable with official standards, consumers still tend to base their purchasing decisions on the basis of price and brand. Therefore, before considering the option of introducing deforestation-related information on products, ETRMA recommends that the legislator should conduct very thorough ex-ante impact assessments, including studies on consumer interests, preferences and de facto purchasing behaviour.</p> <p>In relation to the origin of products (commodities) in focus of the upcoming EU legislation on deforestation, ETRMA supports both their legality and their forest-related sustainability. The former being understood as compliance with rules in the country of origin as relates to forestry and land use. The latter being understood as compliance with internationally agreed standards and requirements (compliant with WTO rules and building on international commitments) as relates to forestry and land-use change based on an international definition of “deforestation-free”.</p> <p>From the proposed options, ETRMA considers the following as feasible for its industry: 1) Voluntary due diligence and mandatory due diligence (these options appear to be the most feasible and fairly impactful measures). 2) Private certification systems: if already in place, these should be maintained, however, the industry is sceptical on the impact that such certification systems alone might have. All the more so as such certification does not exist for natural rubber. 3) Promotion through trade and investment agreements is the essential and non-negotiable measure that would enable most of the other suggested options, incl. and esp. option 1. 4) Development and cooperation assistance to producing countries is key to ensure the involvement and effective operational commitment of producing countries. 5) Green diplomacy is in line and complementary to those regarding to the external action of the EU–trade and investment agreements and development and cooperation assistance.</p>
Indústria Brasileira de Árvores Response: Public Consultation on Deforestation and	IBA	Business association	<p>IBA institutionally represents the planted tree production chain (49 companies and 10 state forestry estates). Regarding the scope proposed in the consultation, IBA agrees with the choice of forest risk commodities (beef and leather, cocoa, palm oil, rubber and soya) which excluded paper and pulp as this is already regulated. Whilst the EUTR regime does (and will) ban operators from placing illegally produced timber, paper and pulp on the EU (and</p>

Title	Author	Stakeholder category (self-reported in the OPC)	Summary
forest degradation – reducing the impact of products placed on the EU market			<p>UK) markets and requires them undertake due diligence accordingly, those further down the supply chain are subject only to lesser traceability obligations. For IBA, the consultation appears to contemplate a regime which would apply more detailed due diligence obligations to a broader range of operators further down EU (and UK) supply chains than in the existing EUTR regime. This may result in other forest risk commodities being more heavily regulated in the UK than timber, paper and pulp.</p> <p>As an industry association representing responsible paper and pulp producers in Brazil which each adopt high levels of compliance with their local Brazilian regulatory requirements, IBA: 1) does not have a view on the different options proposed by the European Commission; 2) would support a regime which imposed due diligence and reporting duties with specific reference to compliance with the substance of the relevant laws applicable in the country in the relevant commodities are grown, irrespective of the extent to which such are laws are enforced; and 3) may support the imposition a consistent regime which applies across all forest risk commodities in the same way. To the extent that the regime was so extended, we would suggest that the detailed substance of any regulatory measures take account of the EUTR in order to promote consistency with the existing EU-based regime for timber, paper and pulp as far as possible.</p>
Deforestation and forest degradation – reducing the impact of products placed on the EU market Supplementary comments to public consultation questionnaire	WRI	Non-governmental organisation (NGO)	<p>The WRI states in its position paper that it supports demand-side policy options that institute mandatory due diligence regulations. This should come along with a strong focus on bilateral partnerships with commodity source countries. However, the WRI encourage the EU to explore looking at a broader “produce and protect” strategy to complement the focus of this effort. The paper also recommends a mix of different policy measures used jointly as this is more likely to achieve the stated objectives of the EU. This mix should also include a comprehensive engagement with producer countries that focus on: 1) building on existing EU-funded efforts to work with producer countries on forest governance and land use reform, increasing transparency, and ensuring multi-stakeholder participation. 2) increasing productivity on existing agricultural land to reduce pressure on forests (any land use ultimately contributes to deforestation risk). 3) supporting producer countries in the enforcement of existing laws. 4) establishing support programs where necessary to help companies in these countries comply with the law, in particular smallholders and small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs). 5) considering engaging at other levels beyond national governments where relevant.</p> <p>In order to ensure the effectiveness of the policy measures, the WRI recommends that the EU: 1) Adopts an approach based on natural ecosystem conversion, and not only forest conversion, to avoid conversion pressure shifting from forests to other threatened ecosystems. 2) Engages with the Accountability Framework Initiative to ensure the definitions adopted in the legislation would correspond to the definitions and processes defined for MRV and corporate reporting to avoid confusion among companies. 3) Includes protections for indigenous peoples and local communities as central component of the EU’s approach. 4) Includes a focus on protecting and including smallholders and SMEs. 5) Includes measures to tackle the role of the finance sector in forest and ecosystem conversion. 6) Continues to apply the lessons learned from the past decade on the EUTR and FLEGT Regulation. 7) Makes use of the existing suite of tools to help manage supply chains for forest-risk commodities and monitor the associated deforestation. 8) Designs the proposed legislation to encourage a “race to the top” by choosing and encouraging relevant elements of the Consumer Goods Forum Forest Positive agenda. 9) Considers that if an</p>

Title	Author	Stakeholder category (self-reported in the OPC)	Summary
European Cocoa Association (ECA) and CAOBISCO note EU Commission Public Consultation on stepping up EU Action on Deforestation and Forest Degradation	ECA	Business association	<p>approach focused on excluding illegal imports does not achieve the EU policy objectives, a periodic review mechanism should also encompass the option of strengthening the legislation by including sustainability standards.</p> <p>Along with better government action, the ECA considers that the EU should complement the actions already taken by private companies and ensure that the specificities of all thirteen identified forest risk commodities are well taken into account.</p> <p>The ECA believes that the EU should develop an initiative with a coherent framework to address deforestation and forest degradation, incl. measures that support and enhance the coherence of existing commitments and initiatives by EU Member States governments, civil society and the private sector. Beyond this, the EU should support procuring countries' capacity for integrated rural development and land use policies that do not risk unintended consequences on livelihood opportunities for farmers. A collaborative framework and multi-commodity approach are favored options to build effective partnerships with producing countries and promote a sustainable and transparent cocoa supply chain.</p> <p>Overall, the ECA supports the five actions that were listed in the EU Commission Roadmap preceding the OPC as they believe that their combination would ensure positive long-term results. Complimenting aspects that the ECA recommends to the EU are: 1) The EU's added value should include mapping of forest and cacao farms, land tenure and enforcement of existing legislative framework. 2) The evaluation of the possibility to provide alternative livelihoods for farmers living in protected forest areas to minimize the adverse social impact for forest-dependent communities. The ECA encourages the EU Commission to ensure that data used to assess risk and progress remain up to date and action is taken to support broader monitoring and datasets. 4) The avoidance an over-regulated environment, i.e. the EU Commission should mainly focus on the already existing initiatives and collaborate with existing frameworks such as the Cocoa and Forests Initiative.</p>
ECA position paper on civil liability and public enforcement in EU Due Diligence legislation	European Cocoa Association (ECA)	Business association	<p>This position paper was made by the ECA in context of the Due Diligence legislation (October 2020) specifically on civil liability and public enforcement. ECA members acknowledge the objective of MEP Burkhardt report "An EU legal framework to halt and reverse EU-driven global deforestation" to ensure protection of natural forests and human rights potentially affected by the production of commodities that can be associated with deforestation. Whereas the ECA supports the EU global strategy, they have concerns regarding certain proposals on civil liability outlined in this report. It concludes that liability should apply only if it can be demonstrated that a company failed to adhere to its legal due diligence obligations as foreseen in the upcoming mandatory EU Due Diligence legislation. Adopting at EU level a stricter legislation which would allow for companies to be held liable in court for concerns associated with indirect supply chain, over which they have very little to no influence, would provide an opportunity for unsustainable cocoa to be sold in emerging markets where sustainability plans are not in place.</p>
N/A	European Cocoa Association (ECA)	Business association	<p>This submission is a copy of the OPC questionnaire, presented in Word format. The respondent believes that EU-level interventions on EU consumptions of goods would somewhat reduce global deforestation and forest degradation. Stimulants are considered a commodity group that contributes to the problem of deforestation and forest degradation. The most significant factor that contributes to the problem was seen to be the lack of agreed</p>

Title	Author	Stakeholder category (self-reported in the OPC)	Summary
			<p>regulations and standards on “deforestation-free” products/commodities. The absence of sound policies at global level and national/sub-national levels in non-EU countries, the lack of enforcement of policies in non-EU countries, and the lack of investment in sustainable land management in non-EU countries were seen as problems that contribute significantly to deforestation and forest degradation (i.e. they have a very high level of contribution). Similarly, poverty, uncertain land tenure, lack of resources and other similar problems were considered to have a very high level of contribution. To address these challenges, international action was acknowledged to be the most effective.</p> <p>Amongst the responses provided in Section III of the questionnaire, the respondent suggested that a large number of products should be covered by the future EU policy measures and that both their legality and forest-related sustainability should be taken into account. The respondent considers that countries at origin should be equally committed to tackling deforestation and illegal production of commodities associated with EU-imported deforestation. Enforcement of environmental protection legislation in origin countries coupled with traceability programmes are recommended. In addition, EU mandatory requirements for deforestation-free products embedded in bilateral agreements and public-private partnerships should be developed. The respondent also notes that there are many farming families in forests and protected areas and there is currently no acceptable approach in place for the relocation of these families. The most suitable policy measures were therefore considered to be mandatory due diligence, promotion through trade and investment agreements, and development and cooperation assistance.</p>
PepsiCo Position Paper on Deforestation	PepsiCo	Company/business organisation	<p>Although PepsiCo claims to be a minor user and sourcer of palm oil products, it submitted a position paper outlining six priorities on future deforestation policies:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Legislation should be developed as part of a portfolio of solutions by the EU – mandatory and voluntary measures, national and international. 2) Based on internal and industry dialogue, PepsiCo identified that any proposals for due diligence legislation should align with the OECD Guidelines and UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights in setting a standard of conduct for companies. 3) PepsiCo would be sceptical of a requirement for an existing or newly created label for products containing ingredients linked to deforestation. Companies should retain the choice of whether to use labelling related to deforestation. The wide range of existing labels with varying relevance to deforestation can cause confusion for consumers. A “no deforestation” label could imply a presumption that it covers all the ingredients within that product that may be linked to deforestation (e.g. palm oil, sugar, cocoa, etc.). The alternative (a label for each of the commodities) would be very complicated and costly to implement. 4) Support for producer partnerships should be a key element of the portfolio of solutions undertaken by governments in consumer countries. 5) Any legal measures to ensure sustainable and deforestation free supply chains are closely interlinked to a stronger international cooperation and partnership with countries of origin. 6) The EU and other governments should support credible verification and certification schemes as one of the means of tackling deforestation and meeting regulatory due diligence requirements. PepsiCo support a

Title	Author	Stakeholder category (self-reported in the OPC)	Summary
			harmonized framework to certification that could enable the promotion of higher certification standards and adequate monitoring systems.
A broad EU deforestation approach can help protect climate and biodiversity	Trase	Academic/research institution	This position paper by Trase include the following key messages – EU action to reduce deforestation and other habitat loss is more likely to be effective and feasible if: (1) legislation is extended to include not just deforestation and forest degradation but also the conversion of other ecologically important ecosystems, including savannahs and wetlands; (2) there is broad commodity and actor coverage, going beyond first importers of key forest risk commodities to include legislation that imposes similar obligations and liabilities on companies working across the supply chain, as well as financial institutions that invest in or lend to these companies; (3) legislation encompasses both legal and illegal natural habitat conversion, aiming to promote sustainability in a broad sense; (4) legislation draws upon existing knowledge and experience of what works, and reflects an understanding of how change will be delivered. Sequencing policies in a tiered approach and gradually expanding scope over time will help prioritise the companies and commodities most exposed to deforestation risks in their supply chains.
A broad EU deforestation approach can help protect climate and biodiversity	Trase	Business association	<i>See previous summary.</i>
Removed for privacy reasons	<i>Removed for privacy reasons</i>	Business association	The position paper acknowledges that the main direct driver of deforestation is land use change caused by agricultural expansion (accounting for 80% of total deforestation) with weak governance, illegal activities and lack of investment in sustainable forest management also playing a role. The main cause for forest degradation is illegal logging. The association wishes to put forward the following recommendations on a new initiative to establish demand-side measures to halt deforestation: (1) clear and implementable definition of deforestation where internationally accepted definitions should be used (e.g., as defined by the FAO – which facilitates enforcement of legislation); (2) no need for the adoption of additional EU legislation for what concerns wood forest products – instead the existing legislative framework on timber products should be better implemented and enforced; (3) improving due diligence for timber products (building on EU initiatives such as FLEGT and the EU Timber Regulation); (4) The association fully supports the role of EU Trade Agreements as a leverage to promote sustainable forest management through a partnership approach and halt deforestation worldwide.
Zeroing-in on Deforestation: Which agricultural commodities companies are addressing deforestation issues?	Carbon Disclosure Project (CDP)	Non-governmental organisation (NGO)	This report outlines that agriculture and forestry sectors are responsible for 80% of deforestation globally largely driven by four forest risk commodities (FRCs): palm oil, timber, soy and cattle. The report ranks 27 of the largest and highest-impact FRC traders and producers on the extent to which they are managing risks and seeking opportunities to tackle deforestation within their supply chains. Three key areas assess, which are aligned with the recommendations from the Task Force on Climate-related Financial Disclosures (TCFD) are: (1) transition risks (e.g., related to land use for commodity production, supply chain traceability, and deforestation-related certification); (2) transition opportunities (related to investment opportunities to tackle deforestation and improve the sustainability

Title	Author	Stakeholder category (self-reported in the OPC)	Summary
			<p>of commodity production); (3) governance and strategy (related to companies’ deforestation-related commitments, targets, risk management policies and board level expertise). Some key findings include: (1) that timber and palm oil companies are held to higher standards than soy and cattle companies due to widespread uptake of sustainability certification – however which companies need to go beyond in order to end deforestation; (2) no third party deforestation certification standards exist for cattle producers; (3) supply chain traceability among cattle producers is extremely poor; (4) the tree loss to production ratio is 10x greater for cattle companies than it is for soy companies; (5) timber companies are ahead of the other FRCs on transformative sustainable forest management practices; (6) soy and cattle companies’ innovations fail to tackle innovation at scale; (7) palm oil companies have strong deforestation-related policy commitments, reflecting the RSPO’s more stringent standards; (8) timber policy commitments focus on avoiding illegally produced timber and protecting high conservation value areas.</p>
<p>The Money Trees: The role of corporate action in the fight against deforestation</p>	<p>Carbon Disclosure Project (CDP)</p>	<p>Non-governmental organisation (NGO)</p>	<p>This report is based on the disclosure of 306 companies that reported via CDP on one or more of four critical forest risk commodities, including cattle, soy, palm oil or timber and derivate products. The key findings are: (1) disclosure and transparency on the topic of deforestation from the largest brands in the world is poor (e.g., 70% of CDP invited companies failed to report critical forest-related information); (2) despite global commitments and mounting public pressure, companies are still unaware of deforestation risk (29% do not include forest-related issues in their risk assessments – but nearly all that do – 92% - identify substantial risks); (3) Companies that understand the risk report USD 30.4 billion in potential losses due to the impacts of deforestation (the number is expected to be higher in reality as typically 15 % of revenue for the companies analysed is dependent on commodities driving deforestation); (4) despite this risk, 24% of reporting companies have yet to begin removing deforestation from identified commodities within supply chains (there is furthermore an execution gap as 90% of retailers and manufacturers have begun implementation whilst only 28% of suppliers have); (5) there is significant opportunity for companies willing to lead the way (business opportunities from 76 reporting companies are valued at USD 26.8 billion, of which 55% are highly likely or virtually certain to transpire).</p>
<p>Raising Ambitions Towards Sustainable Palm Oil in Indonesia</p>	<p>Carbon Disclosure Project (CDP)</p>	<p>Non-governmental organisation (NGO)</p>	<p>The report by CDP stresses the criticality of forests in mitigating climate change, and the role of sustainable palm oil in Indonesia. In light of the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic, the need to protect and restore the world’s forests has never been clearer. The report highlights: (1) the risks in producing, sourcing, or using unsustainable palm oil products (e.g., reputational and market risk, physical risk and regulatory risk); (2) how many companies have turned these risks into opportunities (e.g., improving brand value and increased demand for certified material); (3) corporate leadership (driven by building positive brand reputation and gaining consumer trust); (4) traceability in corporate sourcing policies for a sustainable value chain; (5) the use of certification schemes (third party verification) as a transition tool for a responsible palm oil industry; (6) supplier engagement to transform supply chains; (7) the importance of supporting smallholders (who today manages 40 % of Indonesia’s palm oil plantations, a number that will grow to 60% by 2030); (8) the importance of tackling supply chain complexities through multi-stakeholder approaches (e.g. jurisdictional approaches); (9) investment in ecosystem protection and restoration.</p>



Title	Author	Stakeholder category (self-reported in the OPC)	Summary
20200428_FINAL - Position_Paper*	Bayer	Company/business organisation	<p>Agricultural giant Bayer submitted this first position paper to summarize its views on deforestation and forest degradation along with its contribution to solving the issue.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Bayer has committed to reduce the environmental impact of crop protection and greenhouse gas emissions on their customers' fields by 30% by 2030. They claim that: - agriculture innovations can help reduce the need to expand crop production areas into natural habitats such as woodlands and forests. Innovation in seed varieties, crop protection products and digital farming solutions combined with stewardship measures and training on responsible use enable farmers and forest farmers to achieve higher yielding crops and forest plantations on existing land. These innovations can do this with lower inputs of land, water, energy or crop protection resources and are consistent with their commitment. - Bayer is helping 100 million smallholder farmers increase their livelihood in farming. The increase in productivity will decrease the need for farmers to convert forests into agricultural land or to find additional income in forest exploitation - Bayer is implementing native species afforestation programs with the help of well selected native seedlings and modern agronomic technology. They claim that the use of herbicides to control invasive grass species has been found to provide a 3 times greater above ground biomass and improved species richness compared to less intensive, spontaneous regeneration methods (Brancaion et al, 2019) thanks to well selected native seedlings and modern agronomic technology. - with digital farming technologies they hope to support and incentivize farmers to protect existing forests and natural habitats on their land by helping them to better evaluate the benefits of preserving habitats and forests versus farming marginal or less-productive land - Bayer aims for net-zero deforestation in their supply chain by 2021 and will encourage their licensees to do the same. E.g. they ensure 100% compliance with the Brazilian Forest Code in our production fields
Bayer Input to Impact Assessment Inception*	Bayer	Company/business organisation	<p>Bayer identifies five priority areas with regards to acting on deforestation.</p> <p>Priority 1: Reduce the EU consumption footprint on land and encourage the consumption of products from deforestation-free supply chains in the EU.</p> <p>Priority 2: Work in partnership with producing countries to reduce pressures on forests and to 'deforest-proof' EU development cooperation.</p> <p>Priority 3: Strengthen international cooperation to halt deforestation and forest degradation and encourage forest restoration.</p> <p>Priority 4: Redirect finance to support more sustainable land-use practices.</p> <p>Priority 5: Support the availability of, quality of, and access to information on forests and commodity supply chains. Support research and innovation. This includes partnerships in the area of research, cooperation with various</p>



Title	Author	Stakeholder category (self-reported in the OPC)	Summary
EU Public Consultation on Forest Risk Commodities – Raízen’s Contributions*	Raízen	Company/business organisation	<p>stakeholders in different countries on actions to conserve and enhance biodiversity and forests and, include for instance, activities to support habitat creation for pollinators, birds and other wildlife.</p> <p>This position paper focuses on the sustainability advantages of the sugarcane industry sector in Brazil regarding forest risk production, approaching two main pillars: (1) land use dynamics; and (2) circular economy. The paper outlines Brazilian sustainability standards as a qualified raw cane supplier to the EU market. Apart from its proven product quality, sugar and ethanol produced by Raízen in Brazil contribute significantly to sustainable land management and climate mitigation. The Brazilian sugarcane industry is a true, concrete example of circularity and contribution to responsible production. The combination of such practices with a third party verified sustainability certificate positions Brazilian sugarcane in the spotlight as a sustainable sugar and bioenergy feedstock to most rigorous markets in the world, such as the EU.</p>
The Donau Soja Protein Strategy for Europe*	Donau Soja Association	Non-governmental organisation (NGO)	<p>This report on the Donau Soja Protein Strategy for Europe evolves around 5 key pillars: (1) sustainable and responsible imports; (2) increased production of grain legumes in Europe (implies that trans-Atlantic trade would be partly replaced by east-to-west sourcing in Europe); (3) improved use of existing and new protein resources; (4) increased efficiency of protein use; (5) healthier and more sustainable diets. In the short-term (1-5 years), implementing this strategy requires in the short term an immediate tightening of standards within European value chains with a commitment to high social and environmental standards, and zero conversion of natural and semi-natural lands to agriculture and cropping respectively. This can be delivered by joint commitment across all trading organisations operating in Europe. The retail sector can contribute significantly to an impulse for change. For soy, there is a need to switch to 100% certification. In the medium term (1-10 years), technological innovation on farms and in other parts of the value chain is needed. As well as the development of global standards in collaboration with China. The reform of the Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) can also be steered to support the Protein Transition. For the long term (1-20 years), improvements in plant breeding are particularly relevant. Traditionally, because the conventional genetic improvement of in-bred crop species such as wheat, barley and grain legumes such as soybean is not well rewarded by Plant Breeders Rights, there is under-investment by the private sector.</p>

Note: Submissions that were received through email are highlighted with a * in the table above.

Appendix C

Detailed overview of the targeted consultation - minutes from the expert workshop

Multi-Stakeholder Platform on Protecting and Restoring the World's Forests

Report on Stakeholder Workshops

Introduction

On **1-2 October 2020**, an expert meeting for the Multi-Stakeholder Platform on Protecting and Restoring the World's Forests took place online. As part of this meeting, four workshops were organised to support the ongoing impact assessment (IA) on demand-side measures to eliminate demand-driven deforestation and forest degradation. 55 stakeholders from Member States (MS) Competent authorities (CAs) gathered on October 1st, and they were joined by other stakeholder organisations, third-country representatives, international organisations, and EU representatives on October 2nd. 103 participants were welcomed on October 2nd and they were divided into three groups (A, B, and C), each participating in a different workshop (Workshops 2-4). This document provides a summary of the information gathered during the workshops.

The structure of all workshops was identical, and covered the following topics:

- Definition of 'deforestation free';
- Products and commodities to be covered by potential demand-side measures;
- Policy measure 1: Illegal, unreported, and unregulated (IUU) (fishing) approach;
- Policy measure 2: Due diligence (DD) approach;
- Policy measure 3: Verification systems.

It is to be noted that the three measures listed above are not the only measures being explored.

Workshop 2: Group A

On **deforestation free definition**, participants suggested using the definition by the accountability framework. It exists for a long time and is accepted but also the definition is being used in several initiatives with similar objectives (e.g. dialogues on soy). A challenge remains in the proof of "negligible risk. There is a need for an auditable checklist, and there should be clarity for CAs on how to determine negligible risk.

On the **baseline**, participants indicated that **cross-commodity scope** is key to avoiding shifting impacts from one commodity to the other. Participants also raised the possibility to include other biomes as well, to avoid impacts from being **moved** to wetlands. Here, the lessons learnt from REDD about commodity scope should be applied. The need for the approach to be implementable for **small producers** was raised.

On the **IUU approach**, stakeholders wondered if it is possible to consider a carding system at the sub-national level. On certification, stakeholders agreed that the definition of deforestation-free will be crucial and will need to be in line with international standards. Stakeholders indicated some challenges for using the IUU like approach beyond legality. In particular challenges were raised for instance who would be responsible for country cards and what would be applicable criteria. If there is a red card issued, do the key producers have the possibility to move on and back to green and if so, how? Overall, it was agreed that measurable and

implementable criteria would need to be agreed upon by various countries and that there will be different views from the EU and producing countries.

On **labelling**, stakeholders agreed that labelling on its own is unlikely from is not enough to change consumer behaviours and could be counter-productive if the label is superficial. The links between certification and labelling were questioned.

On **due diligence approach**, stakeholders questioned whether it should be in the hands of the competent authorities or the Commission. Some stakeholders indicated that due diligence allowed a proportionate approach. Risk assessment tools are useful, but stakeholders reminded that the objectives should be kept in mind of reducing deforestation overall. As such, it should not be about moving away from riskier areas only but also incentivise them to reduce deforestation.

Workshop 3: Group B

Participants agreed that it was important to get the **definition of 'deforestation free'** right, so as not to diminish progress that has been made so far. In trying to define 'deforestation free', some participants brought up the **High Carbon Stock Approach (HCSA)**, which is recognised and integrated by a number of trade associations (e.g. palm oil, cocoa). This approach was developed to address marketplace uncertainty. Another definition that was recommended was the **FAO definition**, whereby land-use change should be the focal point. The latter would avoid confusion amongst consumers who may associate deforestation with the wood-working industry only. However, the FAO definition was not considered strong enough by all participants. The **Accountability Framework Initiative (AFI)**⁷ was deemed by some participants to provide better guidance than the FAO definition. Two participants also highlighted that it was important to take into account peatlands⁸. Additionally, compliance with WTO rules was noted as important.

When talking about **commodities and products** that could be covered by potential demand-side measures, some participants suggested adding some additional commodities or products to the list presented, namely **avocado, leather**⁹, **natural rubber**¹⁰, and **dairy** (as part of a wider 'cattle' category). Two participants reflected on the risk of banning or restricting a list of commodities, which could distract from wider sustainability concerns and lead to unwanted consequences.¹¹ Several participants underlined the importance of considering **embedded risk** (e.g. pork and chicken imports may have an embedded risk due to their consumption of soy and corn) and to define risk thresholds. Risk assessments need to be **flexible** as the drivers of deforestation may change with time, and there are big discrepancies with regard to risk at **sub-national** levels. **Different approaches** to incorporating products and commodities were discussed; some participants were in favour of focusing on the riskiest products/commodities to start with (for efficiency reasons), while others favoured a more encompassing approach (to avoid discrimination). Furthermore, imposing restrictions on **downstream companies** becomes trickier as it becomes less clear what ingredients are used and in what proportion.¹²

The final three discussions focused on three potential policy measures:

- Many participants agreed that although a **DD system (DDS)** can be effective, it can also be difficult to enforce and can be burdensome. The EUTR system is an example of this, whereby in the absence of **penalties and sanctions**, the system cannot constitute a 'carrot and stick' approach. **Certification schemes** are also important for companies to prove that they have

⁷ The link was provided in the chat: <https://accountability-framework.org/>.

⁸ This was expanded to peatlands, wetlands, and ecosystems like the Cerrado/Chaco in the second discussion.

⁹ A report on the impact of the leather industry on deforestation was shared: <https://www.earthsight.org.uk/grandtheftchaco-en>.

¹⁰ A report on the impact of natural rubber on forest conversation was shared: <https://www.earthsight.org.uk/news/investigations/the-coming-storm>.

¹¹ Depending on the list of commodities targeted by future policy measures, one participant noted the risk of 'demonising' these commodities and referenced the following article: <https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2020/sep/30/marks-and-spencer-cuts-soya-production-milk-deforestation>.

¹² KPMG's 'soy ladder' study was referenced as an illustrative example of the problem (<https://www.idhsustainabletrade.com/uploaded/2017/06/Soy-reporting-initiative-Final-IDH-Report-May-2017.pdf>).

performed their DD; however, such proof is not always reliable.¹³ Consequently, some participants agreed that certification should not be enough to prove compliance.¹⁴ Incorporating a **risk-based approach** to the DDS was suggested as a way to make the system more efficient; if the risk of deforestation is considered high at state level, companies can trace back to farm and processing levels.

- The **IUU approach** was deemed a successful policy instrument for seafood and fishing, but several participants were hesitant about its **applicability to agricultural commodities**. Some supply chains are heavily dependent on a handful of top producers, and it would not be credible to give them 'red cards'. In our context, getting down to farm level or group supply chains would be more appropriate; however, a more **nuanced** IUU approach may be a solution. Having a **country-rating system** to help identify which companies need inspection in a DDS would be useful, but it should not get political. Two participants also reiterated the importance of capturing wider **sustainability concerns** (e.g. slavery) into whatever measures the EU decides to adopt.
- When talking about **verifications systems** in the final session of the workshop, participants expanded on the arguments brought up during the DDS discussion. Several respondents noted that certification schemes should not be the most important part of a risk assessment, and certifying bodies also need to be **controlled** by authorities.¹⁵ One MS authority highlighted the **inadequacy** between public legislation being dependent on private certification schemes, which may change their sustainability criteria over time. Some participants agreed that **certification schemes** are still needed to support risk assessments and promote sustainability, despite the weaknesses of (some) schemes; and they can complement and be enhanced by future legislation.¹⁶ A few participants also suggested that **labelling** may have limited impact.

Workshop 4: Group C

Numerous workshop participants recommended the consideration of the Accountability Framework¹⁷ for **definitions** regarding a broad range of themes of deforestation. The Accountability Framework was developed by several NGOs to align specific definitions to assist companies developing good social, environmental conditions regarding deforestation. Two participants stated that the FAO definitions¹⁸ would be a better suited set of definitions that are likely to derive greater acceptance from the international community. These participants stated that using the Accountability Framework definitions would lead to stakeholders enquiring as to why a private initiative would be chosen over those of an intergovernmental body. Advocates of the Accountability Framework reiterated that the framework incorporates definitions such as the FAO's. In relation to the use of criteria to assess 'deforestation free', a participant stated that they supported the "no gross deforestation or ecosystem conversion approach", and it was also emphasised to focus on the development of a context/biome- specific set of metrics for monitoring land conversion etc.

The discussions surrounding **commodities and products** centred on the possible inclusion of sugar cane, corn and wheat to the presented list. A participant in the workshop stated that due to the projected increase of ethanol production in which some of these commodities will be used, it would be wise to include these products within the scope. Another key discussion point brought forward was to not only include specific commodities, but include derived products across supply chains. If this option was undertaken, it was

¹³ An example was provided (<https://www.earth-sight.org.uk/flatpackedforests-en>) and countered by another example (<https://preview.thenewsmarket.com/Previews/IKEA/DocumentAssets/569809.pdf>). This was complemented by a statement from the FSC: <https://fsc.org/en/newsfeed/fsc-statement-on-earth-sight-report-2020>.

¹⁴ A paper on sustainable cocoa supply chains was referenced: <https://www.fern.org/publications-insight/towards-sustainable-cocoa-supply-chains-regulatory-options-for-the-eu-1978/>.

¹⁵ One respondent shared the following link on multi-stakeholder initiatives (MSIs): https://www.msi-integrity.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/07/MSI_Not_Fit_For_Purpose_FORWEBSITE.FINAL.pdf.

¹⁶ The following links were shared: <https://www.idhsustainabletrade.com/publication/european-soy-monitor-2018/> and <https://www.isealalliance.org/credible-sustainability-standards/iseal-credibility-principles>.

¹⁷ Accountability Framework (2020) Definitions. Available at: https://accountability-framework.org/definitions/?definition_category=17

¹⁸ FAO (2020) Global Forest Resource Assessment 2020. Available at: <http://www.fao.org/3/I8661EN/i8661en.pdf>

commented that the use of HS codes could be useful in the early stages of processing a specific commodity, but may not be appropriate further down the supply chain. Finally, the use of thresholds to ascertain how much of a specific commodity is contained within a product was preferred to be used uniformly to ensure environmental objectives are met.

The final three sessions focused on three potential policy measures:

- **Verification systems.** Certification/labelling schemes were discussed in detail, with such approaches deemed to be a useful tool when used simultaneously with other legislative frameworks. Participants stated that certification is not enough on its own to change consumer behaviour, can change trade flows without tackling deforestation issues, whereas governance and coherence issues can make them an unsuitable system for compliance. Furthermore, it was stated that such schemes are not appropriate for smallholders in many instances due to the administrative and cost burdens often associated with such schemes.
- **Due diligence (DD).** Similar to the smallholders comment above, it was stated that DD legislation has a risk of disengaging smallholders due to the burden associated with implementation, which can in turn lead to additional deforestation from loss of livelihood. Furthermore, it was stated that such legislation has the potential to provide an opportunity for unsustainable products to be sold in emerging markets where sustainability plans are not in place. A stakeholder commented that the EUTR DD systems are not clearly understood in regards to expected outputs, whereas terminology such as 'negligible risk' remain ambiguous. It was emphasised that European Commission and Competent Authority developed guidance documentation could be a way to prevent uncertainty at courts and a way to garner cooperation from SMEs.
- **IUU approach.** Limited feedback was received in this session, and conflicting views were given regarding the country card approach. One participant voiced their support for such measures, whereas another stated that the reliance on the state-to-state level approach would not be effective. Additionally, it was stated that such approaches would need to be backed by legislation to gain traction. A discussion around the 'traffic light' system then proceeded, particularly with regards to how to incentivise those who receive a 'orange' or 'red' notification. Finally, experience with the IUU approach in fisheries was stated to be found cumbersome and slow to implement, with many loopholes present to ensure compliance.

wood.

