

GET FOREST SMART



THE PROMISE OF AGRICULTURAL VALUE CHAIN INNOVATIONS FOR FOREST CONSERVATION

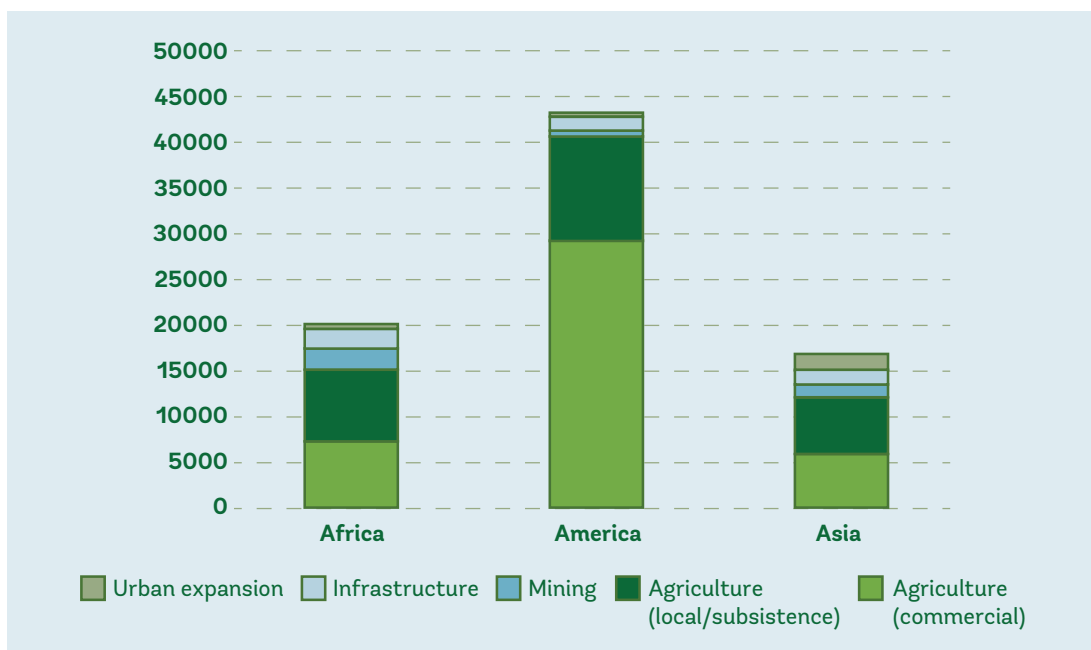
FACT

ROUGHLY
1/2
OF ALL TROPICAL
DEFORESTATION AND
FOREST
DEGRADATION IS
DRIVEN BY DEMAND
FOR COMMODITIES
SUCH AS BEEF, SOY,
PALM OIL, PULP AND
PAPER, TIMBER,
RUBBER, COCOA,
AND COFFEE.

(Global Canopy
Programme)

Context & Facts

- Agriculture is the largest single driver of deforestation and severe forest degradation.
- Between 2010 and 2050, the demand for crops is projected to increase by 70 percent, and demand for meat and dairy products could rise by 80–90 percent.
- Around the world, forests are being converted to plantations to grow oil palm, soy, rubber, coffee, tea, and rice, among other crops.
- A growing number of commodity buyers, traders, and financiers are committed to not purchasing deforestation-linked products.



The graph shows the continental-level estimations of the relative area proportion of deforestation drivers; and of the relative disturbed forest area fraction of degradation drivers, which indicates agriculture as the largest driver (Source: FAO 2010/ IOP Science).

WHAT IS FOREST SMART?

“Forest-smart” is a development approach that recognizes forests’ significance for sustaining growth across many sectors, including agriculture, energy, infrastructure, and water. It transforms how sectors operate by identifying opportunities for mutual benefit and creating practical solutions that can be implemented at scale. Forest-smart solutions support development outcomes and impact such as improved food security, green growth, and climate change mitigation and adaptation.

Forest-Smart Development for Agriculture

- Conserving and restoring forests features prominently in the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), and is an integral part of climate and development agendas at the national and global levels. The fact that agriculture is the leading driver of deforestation has created a significant impetus for policy makers to promote forest-smart interventions that avoid or minimize its potential adverse impact on forests.
- Using a forest-smart lens can guide the transformation of agricultural value chains that are disproportionately driving tropical forest loss and degradation—especially those delivering beef, soy, and palm oil. Multi-sectoral landscape approaches can also be implemented to enable agricultural commodities that come from trees, such as coffee, cacao, and shea butter, to evolve in ways that enhance rather than reduce tree cover. The public and private sectors also have an important role to play in promoting forest-smart approaches through various interventions in the agricultural value chains. In fact, more countries and companies are making commitments to avoid deforestation by exploring

opportunities to protect and enhance tree cover in tropical forest countries. In Brazil, for example, cattle farms are adopting certification criteria that promote the conservation of natural resources, which offer promise to reduce deforestation from the expansion of commercial agriculture.

PROFOR's Forest-Smart Innovations on Agricultural Value Chains

Recognizing the need and the potential for agriculture to be part of the solution to forest conservation, PROFOR is designing a program that will promote an understanding of how agricultural value chains can play a positive role in tropical forest conservation as well as tree cover restoration and enhancement. The program will specifically inform the focus and design of large-scale public sector interventions that interact with value chains to help bring about tree-enhancing agricultural landscapes. The program will build the knowledge and capacity of project leaders, government officials, and agricultural value chain stakeholders to catalyze change by analyzing and seizing opportunities that have been missed due to limitations of knowledge creation and exchange.



What Approach is PROFOR Using?

PROFOR will develop a variety of activities to build the needed knowledge and capacity of public and private stakeholders, mainly along three categories:

1. Generation of knowledge products:

The program will develop case studies and policy notes to bring out and discuss the effectiveness of the public sector's roles and interactions with others; and to derive practical lessons that can be applied in new contexts.

2. Client-driven analytics:

Activities will be driven by country teams and/or the needs of government agencies. These will include support for ongoing country dialogues, a client's request for advisory services, ongoing lending project design, or preparatory analysis and diagnostics.

3. In-person exchanges:

The program will curate virtual and in-person events that convene stakeholders and facilitate targeted and meaningful exchange, including workshops, BBLs, trainings, webinars, and study tours.

The program will also focus on the following commodity value chains:

- Forest frontier: beef, soy, and palm oil
- Trees on farms: shea trees, shade-grown coffee, and silvopastoral systems

Finally, this program will equip stakeholders with the latest operational knowledge they need to identify, evaluate, scale up, and scale out successful approaches that leverage agricultural value chains. It will also actively seek to enhance learning across global regions and commodities.

For more information about this program, visit <http://profor.info/>

Interested in learning more? Contact our communications focal point: Laura Ivers: laivers@worldbankgroup.org

The Program on Forests (PROFOR) multi-donor partnership generates innovative, cutting-edge knowledge and tools to advance sustainable management of forests for poverty reduction, economic growth, climate mitigation and adaptation, and conservation benefits. Through its programs, PROFOR is advancing forest-smart development, which recognizes forests' significance for sustaining growth across many sectors, including agriculture, energy, infrastructure, and water.

