



## Livestock and soy are the main drivers of deforestation in the Amazon: WWF

- *At COP30, WWF presents the Amazon Footprint Report 2025, the first subnational analysis of the relationship between the production and consumption of agricultural products and deforestation in the Amazon.*
- *The main agricultural activities linked to deforestation are livestock farming for beef production and soybean cultivation, among others. In four years, 8.6 million hectares of forest were deforested due to agricultural expansion.*
- *Both domestic consumption in Amazonian countries and global demand strongly influence deforestation.*
- *WWF urges governments, businesses, and the financial sector to take immediate action to eliminate deforestation and the conversion of global supply chains and protect the future of the Amazon as a fundamental measure against climate change.*

**Belém, November 17, 2025.** Between 2018 and 2022, agricultural products were linked to the deforestation of 8.6 million hectares across the Amazon region. This area, larger than Austria, accounts for 36% of global deforestation during that same period.

This is reflected in the Amazon Footprint Report, by WWF in collaboration with Trase, Chalmers University of Technology, and the Stockholm Environment Institute. This is the first regional analysis to cover subnational data linking deforestation in the Amazon to the production and consumption of agricultural products, including beef, soy, oil palm, rice, and corn. These dynamics of agricultural expansion differ within the region.

**"Accurate assessment of the local and regional drivers of deforestation across the Amazon is the foundation for identifying and managing the impact of global supply chains—supporting not only accountability, but action that is targeted, efficient, and impactful,"** said Chandrakant Singh, Lead author of the Report and Researcher at Chalmers University of Technology.

The research used satellite data, subnational production statistics, and a sophisticated input-output model to create a detailed deforestation footprint, identifying hotspots to guide conservation strategies and public policy interventions.

**"Having accurate knowledge of land use dynamics and their connection to markets and finance is essential for engaging with governments, companies, and financial institutions to curb unnecessary conversion of Amazon forests,"** said Pablo Pacheco, WWF's Global Forests Lead Scientist.

This report, which also includes a [dashboard](#), is part of a broader effort to achieve deforestation- and conversion-free (DCF) supply chains from and within the Amazon, and globally. To this end, in addition to the scientific findings presented in the technical report, WWF also shares a series of recommendations for decision-makers in the public and private sectors to help achieve this goal.

### Topic of discussion at COP30

The call made at COP30 in Belém, in the heart of the Amazon, is for urgent action to eliminate deforestation and conversion of natural ecosystems from supply chains in the region and around the world, avoiding reaching a critical tipping point for the Amazon biome



Embargoed, please do not share before November 17th

and ensuring a just, inclusive, and positive transition for nature. The elimination of deforestation first appeared in the COP 28 Global Stocktake as a priority for compliance with the Paris Agreement, but there has been no progress in its implementation.

**“It is an urgent task to contain deforestation in the Amazon by transforming markets and the financial system so that they facilitate and expand efforts towards conservation and sustainable development in the Amazon,”** said Kurt Holle, director of WWF Peru and the WWF Amazon Coordination Unit.

WWF urges governments to integrate zero deforestation and conversion (DCF) targets into climate, biodiversity, trade, and development policies, with clear deadlines for eliminating ecosystem destruction. With the private and financial sectors, WWF insists on the urgency of consolidating traceability and transparency tools throughout supply chains and eliminating investments linked to deforestation.

In addition, WWF reiterates the fundamental role of indigenous peoples, afro-descendants, and local communities. It is necessary to guarantee secure land tenure, recognize governance systems, and protect environmental defenders to halt deforestation and ensure long-term conservation.

COP30 has ratified the importance of global cooperation and has placed the issue of deforestation at the top of the agenda as an indispensable measure in the face of climate change. The results of the Amazon Footprint 2025 Report highlight the need for changes in the current food system to ensure that products originating in the Amazon, both for export and domestic consumption, are not associated with the destruction of forests and other ecosystems.

This COP is a time to emphasize the importance of regional and global cooperation between producer and consumer countries to harmonize efforts and expand sustainable development in the Amazon.

**Note to the editor:**

The Amazon Footprint Report 2025: Drivers of Deforestation in Amazonian Agricultural Supply Chains is a collaboration between Trase, Chalmers University of Technology, the Stockholm Environment Institute, and WWF. It is available in English, Spanish, and Portuguese here: [link](#).

In this critical situation for the Amazon, a group of environmental and scientific organizations has come together to create the Amazon League, a global campaign that seeks to mobilize civil society and present a joint petition at COP30, demanding concrete actions to stop the collapse of the Amazon and protect the planet's other tropical forests.

We invite you to join us by signing the petition at: [www.amazonleague.org](http://www.amazonleague.org)

**Contact for press requests:**

Maria de los Angeles REYES MESA  
Media and advocacy specialist, WWF Colombia & ACU  
[mareyes@wwf.org.co](mailto:mareyes@wwf.org.co)  
+57 3125316676