

Market Access in EU FTAs

Promoting regenerative practices and nature-based solutions through market access: a pipe dream?

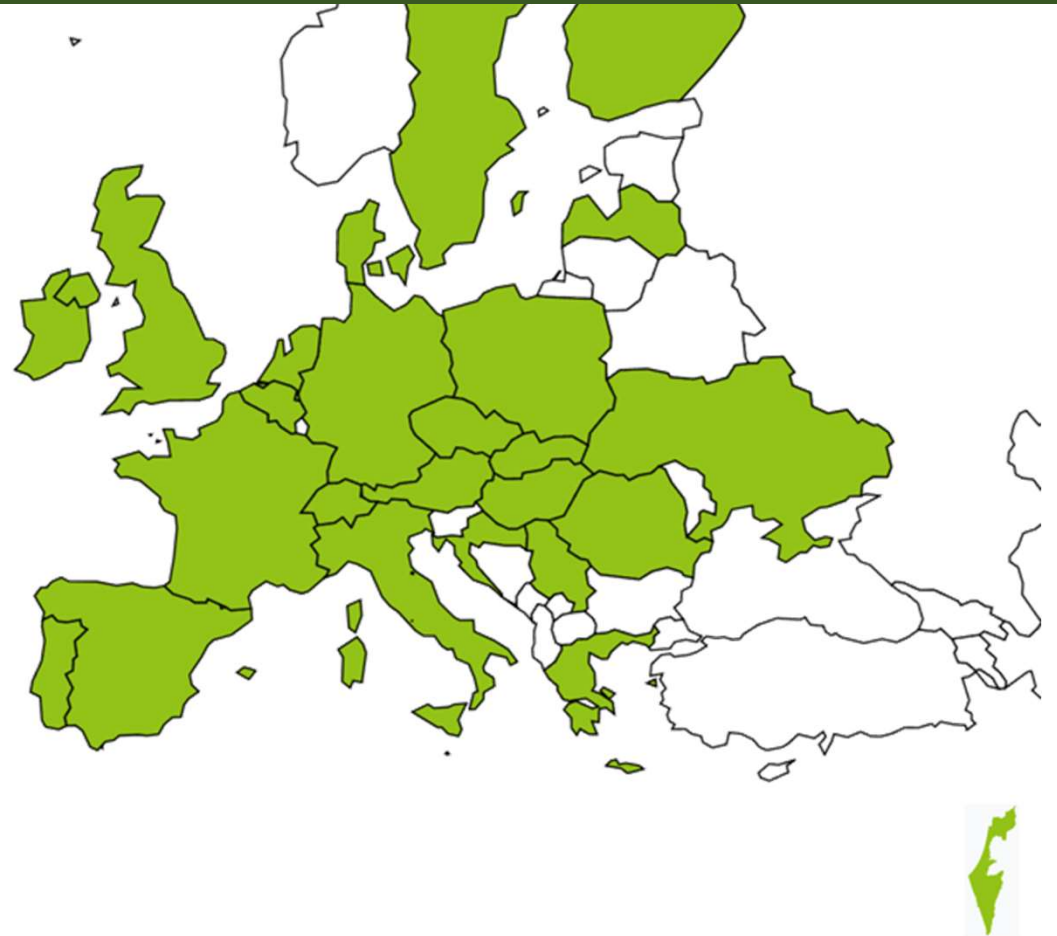
11 March 2024
Brussels





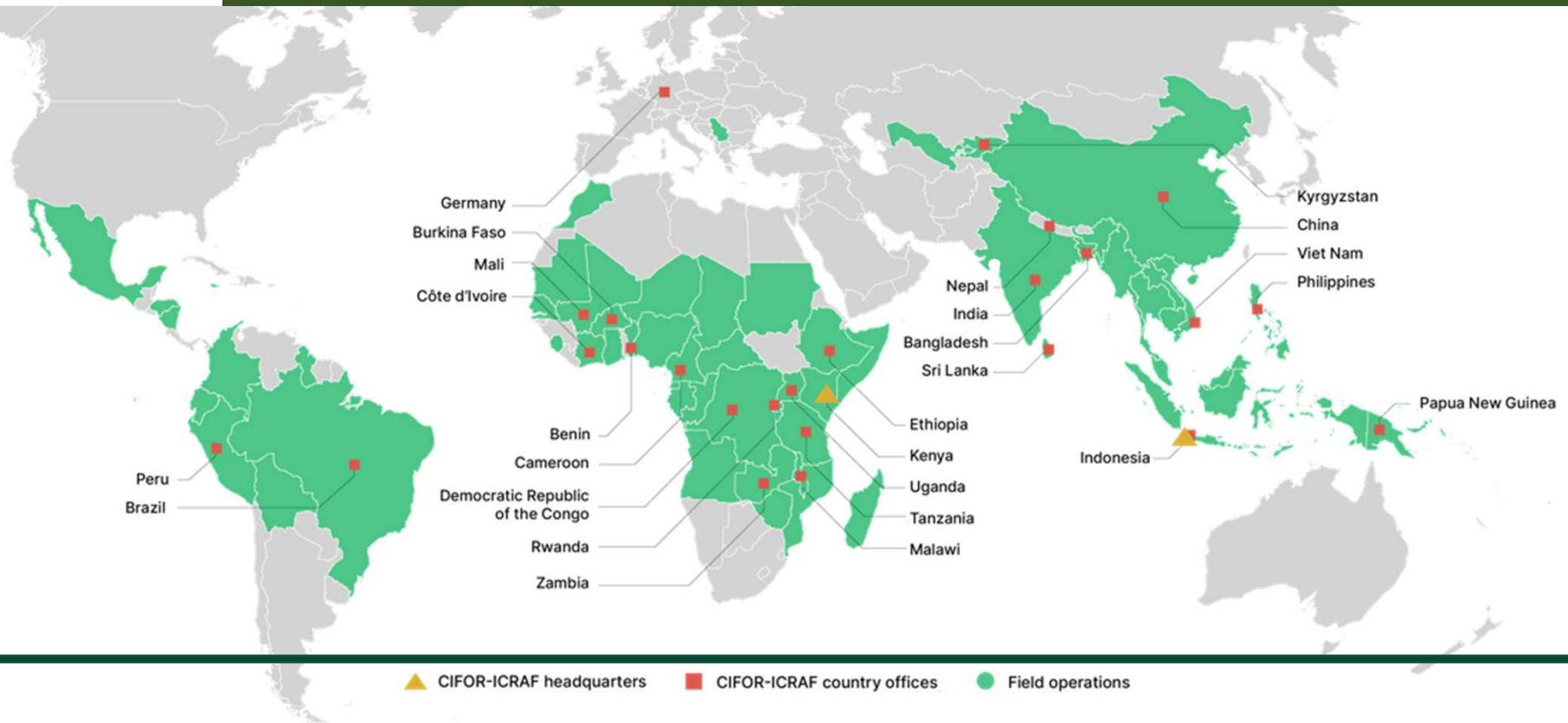
EURAF: the European Agroforestry Federation

7th European Agroforestry
Conference
27 – 31 MAY 2024
Brno, CZ





CIFOR: the Centre for International Forestry Research ICRAF: the international Centre for Research in Agroforestry (aka World Agroforestry)





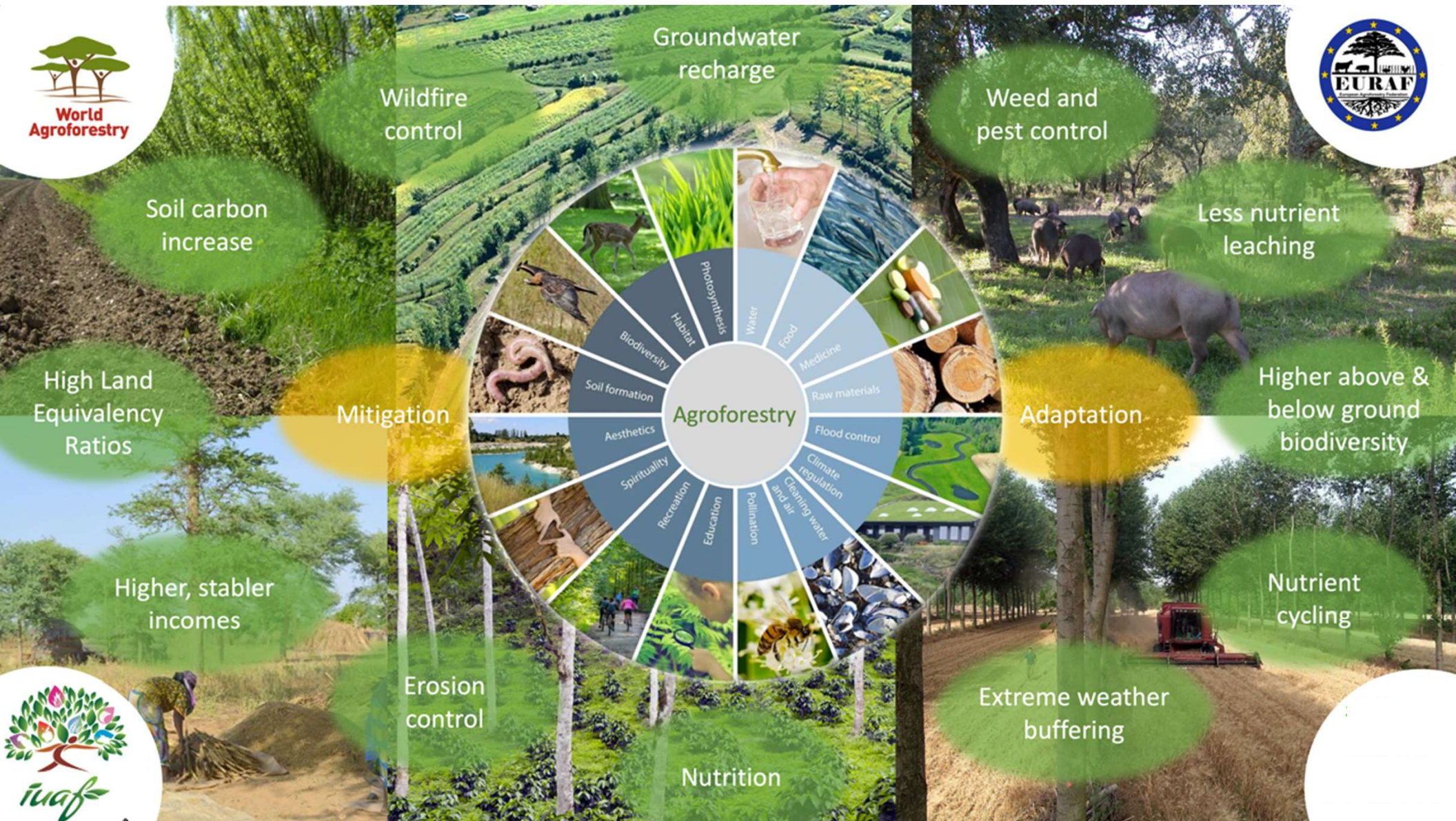
IUAF: the International Union of Agroforestry

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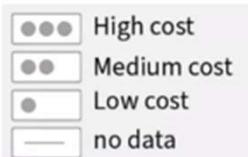
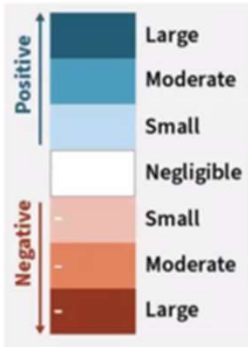
INNOVATION FOR ADOPTION OF AGROFORESTRY SYSTEMS

19 - 23 MAY 2025
KIGALI CONVENTION CENTER



IPCC – Special report on CC and land

Response options based on land management		Mitigation	Adaptation	Desertification	Land Degradation	Food Security	Cost
Agriculture	Increased food productivity	L	M	L	M	H	—
	Agro-forestry	M	M	M	M	L	●●
	Improved cropland management	M	L	L	L	L	●●●
	Improved livestock management	M	L	L	L	L	●●●●
	Agricultural diversification	L	L	L	M	L	●
	Improved grazing land management	M	L	L	L	L	—
Forests	Integrated water management	L	L	L	L	L	●●
	Reduced grassland conversion to cropland	L	—	L	L	L	●
Soils	Forest management	M	L	L	L	L	●●
	Reduced deforestation and forest degradation	H	L	L	L	L	●●
	Increased soil organic carbon content	H	L	M	M	L	●●
	Reduced soil erosion	↔ L	L	M	M	L	●●
Other ecosystems	Reduced soil salinization	—	L	L	L	L	●●
	Reduced soil compaction	—	L	—	L	L	●
	Fire management	M	M	M	M	L	●
	Reduced landslides and natural hazards	L	L	L	L	L	—
	Reduced pollution including acidification	↔ M	M	L	L	L	—
	Restoration & reduced conversion of coastal wetlands	M	L	M	M	↔ L	—
	Restoration & reduced conversion of peatlands	M	—	na	M	L	●





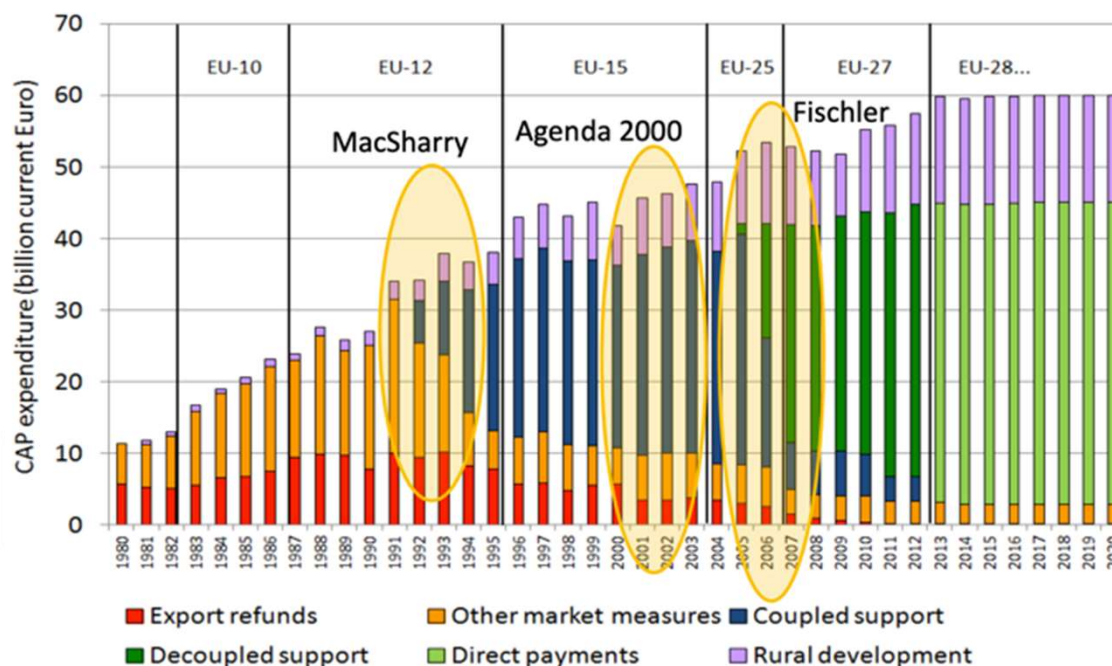
Agri trade: a recap

- 1962 – 1992: market intervention to...
 - increase agricultural productivity;
 - ensure a fair standard of living for farmers;
 - stabilise markets;
 - ensure the availability of food supplies;
 - ensure reasonable prices for consumers
- Results?
 - Agricultural consolidation
 - Massive surpluses
 - Export dumping – damage to a.o. ACP producers



1992 on: WTO rules

- EU guaranteed prices aligned with world prices; farm incomes supplemented with direct payments.
 - This allowed “hidden dumping” to continue (WTO dumping rules are based on internal prices, not costs of production)





2001 onwards: Economic Partnership Agreements

- EU push to liberalise ACP agriculture through EPAs
 - Example: dumping of EU skimmed milk into West Africa, destroying local dairy production.
- 2014 onwards: area payments allow subsidies to be classed as non-trade distorting. The result is nevertheless the destruction of commercial agriculture in ACP countries (latest example: the collapse of the Senegalese onion industry)



Farm to Fork

2030 targets

Increase agriculture, fisheries and aquaculture GHG reduction target¹ to over

50%

UP FROM PREVIOUS 40% TARGET

25%

of agricultural land to be used for organic farming¹

COMPARED TO THE CURRENT 7.5%

50%

reduction in sales of antimicrobials used for farmed animals

20%

reduction in the use of fertilisers

50%

reduction of the use and risk of pesticides

- Hidden export subsidies (area payments etc.) continue, leading to dumping to ACP countries
- Trade rules are unfair to EU producers (compliance with stricter EU rules, yet exposure to competition through FTAs, with non-enforceable sustainability chapters)
- Liberalised EU commodity imports contribute to rapid land degradation in the global south (peatlands and rainforests to oil palm in Southeast Asia, savannas to soybeans/cereals in Argentina and Brazil, etc.)

Regulations to ensure compliance with F2F?

CBAM!

EUDR!

CSDDD!

NRL!





EU Deforestation Regulation

- All companies selling beef, soy, palm oil, timber, coffee and cacao to prove they have not contributed to deforestation or forest degradation.
- BUT...
 - Sugar, bioethanol, processed meats, rubber are not included
 - Key biomes like wetlands and savannas are not included
 - Reliance on local legislation (how much time do I have?)
 - Traceability requirements will exclude the most vulnerable smallholders







Some ideas for future rules

- EU agricultural and food products should not be exported at prices below European production costs (i.e. include hidden subsidies like area payments in calculations).
- Simplify EFSA/HACCP requirements for Sub-Saharan African producers
- Development partnerships: invest in financial and insurance guarantees, supply chain logistics, administrative support for small-scale producers to meet deforestation, food safety, and other requirements
- Revise enabling texts and future iterations of NRL, EUDR, CBMA etc. to explicitly recognise agroecological production methods, e.g. standardised baselines for carbon removals and soil emission reductions.



Sustainable Finance Initiative



Strengthening land carbon sinks, including through avoiding deforestation and forest degradation, restoration of forests, sustainable management and restoration of croplands, grasslands and wetlands, afforestation, and regenerative agriculture (Reg 2022/852)

(see EURAF Policy briefing nr. 28)



A close-up photograph of three people, likely from an indigenous community, smiling warmly. The person on the right is in the foreground, showing their teeth. The person in the middle is slightly behind, and the person on the left is partially visible. They are all wearing traditional headwraps. The background is a blurred forest scene.

Thank you!

cifor-icraf.org | globallandscapesforum.org | resilient-landscapes.org

The Center for International Forestry Research and World Agroforestry (CIFOR-ICRAF) harnesses the power of trees, forests and agroforestry landscapes to address the most pressing global challenges of our time – biodiversity loss, climate change, food security, livelihoods and inequity. CIFOR and ICRAF are CGIAR Research Centers.



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