

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-001497/24
to the Commission
Alexander Bernhuber (PPE)
(7 August 2024)**

Subject: Economic impact of the provisions of the EUDR

The provisions of the regulation on deforestation-free products (EUDR) have a significant impact on the economic use of forests in the EU.

1. What economic impact of the provisions of the EUDR on forestry in the Member States has the Commission analysed?
2. How does the Commission intend to minimise and compensate for any negative economic impact on woodland owners and the forestry industry?

Submitted: 8.8.2024

**Answer given by Executive Vice-President Šefčovič on behalf of the European Commission
(22 November 2024)**

1. The EU forestry sector is in a good situation to implement the EU Deforestation Regulation (EUDR) ⁽¹⁾ adopted by the European Parliament and the Council. The EU Timber Regulation ⁽²⁾ has been obliging the sector's foresters to exercise due diligence since 2013. Given that in the EU the foresters are already complying with the highest legal standards, companies in the sector are well placed to meet the requirements of EUDR.

The legislative process entailed a comprehensive Impact Assessment ⁽³⁾ of the different regulatory options. The Impact Assessment concluded that the preferred option means a one-off cost for operators setting up their due diligence systems, and a small amount of annual cost for maintaining it. Operators sourcing from 'low risk' countries and short supply chains would benefit from higher demand of such products and are expected to increase their share in the EU market when producing legal and deforestation-free products.

2. The Commission has presented a comprehensive package to support the implementation of the EUDR, including the proposal ⁽⁴⁾ of a 12-month phasing-in period to allow companies more time to prepare. The Commission has also published a comprehensive guidance document and a third edition of Frequently Asked Questions ⁽⁵⁾. These documents provide information for the implementation of the regulation. Capacity building and training of private sector stakeholders, particularly small and medium-sized enterprises, in implementing the EUDR with a budget of EUR 1 million is also provided in the framework of the Programme for the Environment and Climate Action ⁽⁶⁾.

⁽¹⁾ Regulation (EU) 2023/1115 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 31 May 2023 on the making available on the Union market and the export from the Union of certain commodities and products associated with deforestation and forest degradation and repealing Regulation (EU) No 995/2010, OJ L 150, 9.6.2023, p. 206-247.

⁽²⁾ Regulation (EU) No 995/2010 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 20 October 2010 laying down the obligations of operators who place timber and timber products on the market, OJ L 295, 12.11.2010, p. 23-34.

⁽³⁾ https://environment.ec.europa.eu/topics/forests/deforestation/regulation-deforestation-free-products_en

⁽⁴⁾ https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_24_5009

⁽⁵⁾ <https://circabc.europa.eu/ui/group/34861680-e799-4d7c-bbad-da83c45da458/library/e126f816-844b-41a9-89ef-cb2a33b6aa56/details?download=true>

⁽⁶⁾ LIFE programme in general, https://cinea.ec.europa.eu/life_en ; the call for proposals addressing policy and legislative priorities: <https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/opportunities/topic-details/life-2024-plp-nat-env> . The projects are at present under evaluation.