

- **European deforestation legislation**

The EU Deforestation Regulation, abbreviated as EUDR ([Regulation \(EU\) 2023/1115](#)) was published on 9 June 2023. The regulation imposes a ban on imports into and exports from the European Union of cocoa, chocolate, palm oil and soy that is sourced from areas that were deforested after 31/12/2020.

On 23/12/2024, the European Commission's approved proposal to delay the application of the EUDR by one year was published through [Regulation \(EU\) 2024/3234](#).

This legislation will therefore apply from :

- **30/12/2025 for large and medium-sized companies**
- **30/06/2026 for micro and small companies**

The core of the regulation is a ban on placing the products concerned on the EU market or exporting them, unless the companies can prove that:

1. The products cannot be linked to deforestation or forest degradation, with 31/12/2020 as the cut-off date.
2. The products were produced in compliance with the local legislation of the country of origin.
3. The products come with a due diligence statement, which shows that the risk of deforestation is negligible. In practical terms, this involves three due diligence requirements:
 - Collecting and providing data and information that complies with the information requirements, specified in the regulation.
Example: full traceability with geolocation down to the production location (plot of land)
 - Conducting a risk analysis
 - Developing risk mitigation measures

Information sources

Both the European Commission and the Belgian Federal Public Service (FPS) Public Health published useful info :

- [Version 3 of FAQ](#)
- [Guidance document for EUDR](#)
- [Information System User Guide](#) (in all EU languages)
- Presentations of the information session 'Cocoa & Coffee' of the FPS Public Health of 24/10/24
 - <https://www.health.belgium.be/nl/koffiecacao-presentaties> (Dutch and French)
 - <https://www.health.belgium.be/nl/eudr-douaneaspecten-2024> (Dutch and French)



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The European Commission has set up an 'Information System' where compulsory information, such as the origin (geolocation) and the due diligence statement of the raw materials, must be reported at the time of import and/or export of these raw materials and finished products.

If you do not import these products into the EU yourself, your supplier (e.g. couverture chocolate manufacturer) will have to provide you with this information.

Choprabisco EUDR Guidance

As the EU Commission itself does not provide concrete sector-specific guidelines, Choprabisco has prepared a summary document and practical guide : **“Choprabisco EUDR Guidance”** in Dutch and French..

We explain the new legislation in the simplest possible language and with concrete practical applications. It explains the products to which the EUDR applies, the obligations depending on your situation: SME or not, operator or trader, you buy cocoa beans (from a trader in the EU or directly from a country of origin) or you work with bulk chocolate, etc.

Of course, the Choprabisco EUDR Guidance only provides an explanation and the text of the EUDR is the only legally binding text.

The Choprabisco EUDR Guidance is only made available to Choprabisco members. Members can request this document by email from the Choprabisco secretariat.