

Cargill and World Resources Institute

Partnering globally to reduce deforestation, manage water risk, address food loss/waste and combat climate change

In 2015, Cargill adopted a companywide sustainability strategy, established priority sustainability focus areas and identified key partners to help us meet our goal to be the most trusted source of sustainable products and services in our industry. World Resources Institute (WRI) was named as one of those key organizations, and we've been partnering since 2015 to reduce deforestation and better manage water risk across our supply chains. Together, we are working to improve the effectiveness of analytical tools, such as WRI's Aqueduct Water Risk Atlas and Global Forest Watch, to analyze and measure land and water resource use in agriculture. As a member of WRI's Corporate Consultative Group, Cargill provides practical insights and financial support to help WRI scale the impact of tools, data and analysis needed to make data-based, sustainable decisions affecting key agriculture supply chains and create a more sustainable and food-secure future.



Our Work Together Includes:

Reducing deforestation – We are collaborating to assess deforestation, identify risks and accelerate implementation of Cargill's no-deforestation commitments detailed in our Policy on Forests and Forest Action Plans.

Managing water risk – We are partnering to assess water risk to food security and agricultural supply chains and improve existing measurement methodologies.

Reducing food loss and waste – We are assessing food loss and waste and exploring reduction targets and processes.

Reducing emissions – We are working together on internal greenhouse gas (GHG) reduction initiatives.



Protecting forests

As a member of WRI's Global Forest Watch Partnership, Cargill works with WRI to monitor and manage deforestation. Global Forest Watch combines satellite technology, supply chain information and analytical methods to measure forest change. Together, we are using this tool to prioritize action areas and improve transparency:

Global baseline assessment – Partnering to map sourcing areas for cocoa, palm and soy across 14 countries – including 1,918 areas mapped in 2016 to establish a baseline for tree cover loss in the year 2014 – for use in measuring and tracking progress toward our no-deforestation commitments. The analysis included priority supply chains for soy in Paraguay and Brazil, palm oil globally (including priority sourcing areas in Southeast Asia as well as other regions, such as Latin America) and cocoa globally (including priority sourcing areas in West Africa and other geographies, such as Brazil and Indonesia). Based on this analysis, we are focusing on protecting forests in key commodity supply chains, including soy in Paraguay, palm oil in Indonesia and cocoa in West Africa.

Soy in Paraguay – Using new WRI mapping insights and tools to reinforce best practices with the more than 3,000 farmers who supply soy to Cargill in Paraguay's Atlantic Forest region as part of our sustainable soy program begun there in 2009. We are providing training on sustainable practices to support farmers as they implement monitoring and analysis tools.

Palm oil in Indonesia – Implementing online monitoring systems using Global Forest Watch tools and methods to assess deforestation risk, including weekly forest clearing alerts that inform sourcing decisions. This work builds on the risk assessment conducted in 2015 with WRI using satellite monitoring to examine land use change, deforestation, burning and other instances of non-compliance with Cargill's sustainable palm oil policy among a sample set of palm oil mills and producers. Regular monitoring with WRI, combined with on-the-ground assessments and certification, supports Cargill's commitment to create a 100 percent transparent, traceable and sustainable palm oil supply chain by 2020.

Cocoa in West Africa – Working with WRI to contextualize baseline study information within the footprint of our cocoa and chocolate business in order to prioritize portions of the supply chain for intervention.

Managing water risk

Cargill is a member of WRI's Aqueduct Alliance. Together with WRI and other partners, we are working to identify and reduce water risk, understand the linkages between water quality and scarcity and food production, and build a more sustainable food system:

Risk and impact assessments – Supporting the Aqueduct Water Risk Atlas that provides data-driven, high-resolution global maps of water risk, including operational and supply chain risks such as droughts, floods and water supply variability. In addition, we are working with WRI to pioneer methodologies for analyzing our supply chain's impact on water quality. This information allows us to identify opportunities for improvement in the communities where Cargill operates and sources.

Food security – Participating with the Skoll Global Threats Fund to support WRI's Water Program in the development of the world's first Aqueduct Food tool to identify long-term water-related threats to and opportunities for agriculture and food security. Aqueduct Food will be an interactive, global platform for exploring water and climate risks to agricultural production and commodities, as well as the associated economic, environmental, health and geopolitical impacts.

Reducing food loss and waste

WRI is helping Cargill create and deploy an accounting system toolkit to reduce food loss and waste:

Measurement – Exploring reduction targets, conducting inventories of food loss and waste, creating measurement and reporting processes, and establishing a waste baseline for 2020.

Training – Creating awareness about food waste, conducting internal and external benchmarking, increasing compliance expertise, and training Cargill employees to identify, track and reduce food waste.

Exploring carbon reduction strategy

We are leveraging WRI resources and expertise to further reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions in our operations and supply chains around the world in alignment with the ambition of the Paris Climate Agreement.