

NewGo!

New Ways for Forest Governance

Globally, forests are under significant pressure, with continuing high rates of both deforestation and forest degradation. A number of international and domestic governance initiatives addressed these pressures, but have they succeeded or failed? NewGo! analyses, experiences, and lessons learned from key established initiatives create a solid basis for any new efforts.

Stopping illegal logging



To help address the complex problem of illegal logging, the European Union adopted the Forest Law Enforcement, Governance and Trade (FLEGT) Action Plan in 2003 to combat illegal logging and trade in wood products. NewGo! will systematically collect and analyse the impacts of FLEGT from the scientific literature and key impact areas. The review will be publicly available for researchers, policy practitioners and media.

Zero deforestation



Reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation (REDD+) is a mechanism to encourage countries to reduce emissions and enhance removals of greenhouse gases through sustainable forest management and conservation. To achieve this, it provides technical and financial support for these efforts. We will find out to which extent success or failures in REDD+ on the ground interventions can be attributed to contextual factors such as low deforestation pressures and project design and implementation.

Sustainable financing



Will sustainable financing stop deforestation, illegal logging, and other social and environmental issues? We will explore how key actors envision a transition towards sustainable finance, what concepts and approaches they are advancing, and what implications for forests and international forest policy they foresee. Furthermore, we will analyse the EU taxonomy regulation of the [EU Action Plan on Financing Sustainable Growth](#) in regards to the importance of forests therein.

Influencing the online space



How is forest governance addressed and engaged online? We will make the very first attempt to reveal “what’s behind the web”. Driven by a case study on the 2019 Amazon rainforest fires, one of the most popular news items in the recent past, the project will reconstruct how the event has been engaged using online data from digital platforms including Twitter and uncover how science was presented and used in online media articles.

Approach



NewGo! takes a collaborative approach between research and practice partners. Building on a transdisciplinary design, it brings together policy and policy support practitioners with researchers and media in innovative ways such as co-designing salient research questions, and combining reviews of academic literature with policy analysis.

In Brief



Donor: German Federal Ministry of Food and Agriculture (BMEL)
Implementation: European Forest Institute (EFI)
Funding: EUR 1.2 million
Duration: November 2019 - October 2022



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