

Content

- National governments committed to deforestation-free agricultural supply chains
- Contributing to the Sustainable Development Goals with 4C
- Upcoming 4C Trainings and Events

National governments committed to deforestation-free agricultural supply chains

More and more national governments expand their active commitment to deforestation-free supply chains. During the annual meeting of the Tropical Forest Alliance (TFA) in Colombia on 6-8 May 2019, the German government has announced its accession to the TFA as have several other governments in the past, such as the USA, Norway, the Netherlands, UK, Colombia, [and many more](#).

The Tropical Forest Alliance, as an international partnership of governments, private sector and civil society, aims to improve the protection of tropical forests by creating sustainable agricultural supply chains. According to TFA, significantly more effort is needed from the international community in order to combat commodity-driven deforestation.

The ongoing loss of forest is precarious as it increases the threat to endangered species and boosts climate change. The protection of forests is crucial as they provide many ecological, economic and social services, such as serving as carbon storage, contributing to water and air purification, stabilizing climate and improving soil fertility and its protection from erosion. Furthermore, forests provide a habitat for wildlife, offer social and cultural benefits such as recreation, traditional resource uses and spirituality and provide goods such as timber, food and fuel.

Coffee is usually grown in humid and tropical regions being biodiversity hotspots. As global coffee production is growing annually, the risk of deforestation is high. Especially the impacts of climate change, such as rising temperatures, lead to farmers being forced to move into forested areas up-hill. This underlines the importance of sustainable, deforestation-free production systems to prevent further decline of forest cover.

During the **4C Global Sustainability Conference taking place on 06 June 2019 in Berlin, Germany**, it will be discussed how key sustainability and climate impact challenges in the coffee sector can be addressed, what the sustainability strategies of leading brand owners and traders are and how deforestation-free coffee supply chains can be verified using innovative tools and technologies based on remote sensing data and GIS technology.

The event is free of charge. Registration is required.
[Click here for further information and registration.](#)

Contributing to the Sustainable Development Goals with 4C

The European Sustainable Development Week (ESDW) is starting next week, where the organization of bottom-up activities are promoted, which have a thematic link to the [Sustainable Development Goals](#) (SDGs). The SDGs are a set of goals countries have agreed upon in 2015 in order to eliminate poverty, protect our planet and guarantee prosperity for all. The aim of the ESDW is to raise awareness for the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and its 17 SDGs.

On the occasion of this event, 4C has once again reflected which SDGs are addressed by the 4C standard, contributing to the achievement of these goals.

4C addresses most of the 17 SDGs, such as:

- **SDG 1 – End Poverty** through principles on profitability and long-term productivity and the payment of fair wages
- **SDG 2 – Promote Sustainable Agriculture, SDG 12 – Responsible Consumption and Production, SDG 13 – Climate Action and SDG 15 – Life on Land** through the principles on good agricultural practices and biodiversity conservation
- **SDG 3 – Good Wealth and Well-Being** through principles on occupational health and safety and use/handling of pesticides
- **SDG 4 – Quality Education** through the principle on the right to childhood and education
- **SDG 5 – Gender Equality and SDG 10 – Reduced Inequalities** through the principles on discrimination and on capacity and skill development where women and men must have the same opportunities to participate
- **SDG 6 – Clean Water and Sanitation** through the principles on water and waste management and good agricultural practices
- **SDG 8 – Decent Work and Economic Growth** through the principles on working conditions, collective bargaining, freedom of association and prohibition of forced labour
- **SDG 16 – Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions** through principles on prohibition of child and forced labour as well as business integrity

Upcoming 4C Trainings and Events

4C Events:

- 4C Global Sustainability Conference, 6 June 2019, Berlin

Click [here](#) for further information and registration.

4C Trainings:

- 12-13 June 2019, Abidjan, Ivory Coast
- 04-05 September 2019, Mexico City, Mexico
- 10-11 September 2019, Campinas, Brazil
- 06-07 November 2019, Ho-Chi-Minh, Vietnam
- 12-13 November 2019, Jakarta, Indonesia

Click [here](#) for further information and registration.

Best regards,

Your 4C team