



Photo: Fairtrade Max Havelaar

# EUDR Tools for Deforestation-Free Supply Chains: A Decision Guide



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**Relevant for micro, small and medium and large traders or operators**

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## Using tools for EUDR compliance

Navigating compliance with the EU Deforestation Regulation requires companies (particularly operators and relevant downstream actors) to collect, manage, and report supply chain data, with a strong emphasis on high-quality geolocation data. This is central to EUDR due diligence, alongside deforestation risk analysis, legality assessments, and the submission of a due diligence statement (DDS). These requirements create significant operational demands especially for smallholder farmers, where external support may be beneficial.

At the same time, a wide range of digital tools are emerging to support EUDR implementation, from open-source solutions to integrated software platforms. This guide provides a simplified decision tree that helps companies identify suitable tools for their EUDR compliance setup.

To narrow down the selection of software solutions, companies may consider the following questions:

- What is your current system landscape for collecting and processing due diligence data (e.g. ERP Software, Excel, email)?
- Should the solution include consulting or process support?
- Do you need a flexible, customisable solution?
- How many users will work with the system?
- What is your available budget?

This guidance helps companies identify a setup that best fit their compliance obligations, supply chain structure, and technical landscape.

## Information System Article 33

(2) Without prejudice to the fulfilment of obligations established in Chapters 2 and 3, the information system shall provide at least the following functionalities:

(i) support communication between competent authorities and operators, downstream operators and traders for the purposes of implementation of this Regulation, including, where appropriate, through the use of digital supply management tools.

FAQ 5.18. While spatial imagery tools can greatly help operators and traders in conducting their due diligence obligations (to ascertain that a product is deforestation-free) and Member States' competent authorities in performing checks, the Regulation does not impose the use of specific satellite imagery tools, or threshold on satellite imagery resolution, to document the absence of deforestation.

### Example: Fairtrade's digital solution for supporting EUDR readiness

With Fairtrade, companies will soon be able to cover key requirements of EUDR readiness, particularly EUDR-aligned geolocation data and high quality deforestation risk analysis.

Fairtrade's Plot Insights tool includes automated data validations aligned with EUDR data requirements, to provide cooperatives with immediate data quality feedback. Cooperatives also receive a near real-time deforestation risk analysis from Satelligence to support with internal risk assessments and mitigation planning.

Coming in October 2026, cocoa and coffee cooperatives can securely share their geolocation data in the EUDR format, and a Satelligence risk summary, with exporters and importers in their Fairtrade supply chains.



# EUDR Software Tool Decision Tree

## What is your position in the supply chain?

This determines what your EUDR obligations are and thus your software needs. For detailed EUDR obligations, check the roles and obligations document.

### MIRCO AND SMALL PRIMARY OPERATOR

Placing an EUDR-relevant commodity on the market for the first time that has grown, harvested, or obtained it from a low-risk country from you. (Article 2 (15a))

- You need to submit an annual DDS in TRACES
- DDS covers estimated quantities per year and plot address/geolocations

### OPERATOR

Placing an EUDR-relevant commodity on the market for the first time or exports them. (Article 2 (15))

- You are required to exercise due diligence including geolocation data
- You are required to submit a DDS in TRACES

### FIRST DOWNSTREAM OPERATOR/TRADER

Placing or exporting EUDR-relevant commodities on the market for which a due diligence statement has already been submitted by the previous supply chain partner. (Article 2 (15b))

- You do not need to exercise due diligence for products with an existing DDS
- You do not need to submit a DDS
- Collect and keep information (5 years) on
  - Supplier & existing DDS reference number or declaration identifier
  - Direct downstream actor

### FURTHER DOWNSTREAM OPERATOR/TRADER

Commercialising or exporting EUDR-relevant commodities on the market. (Article 2 (15b))

- You do not need to exercise due diligence for products with an existing DDS
- You do not need to submit a DDS
- Collect and keep information (5 years) on supplier and direct downstream actor

## Functionalities

### Focus: Data generation and quality at origin

- Address/Plot data management
- Legality risk assessment
- Documentation management (permits, certificates)
- Data validation (accuracy, completeness)
- Deforestation risk analysis
- Basic traceability - Linking raw material to farm/plot
- Data storage and export
- Secure transfer to operators (e.g. via platforms)

### Focus: Full due diligence

- Supplier & supply chain mapping
- Geolocation data management (import, validate, and store plot-level data)
- Deforestation risk analysis integration with satellite/risk tools
- Legality risk assessment
- Documentation management (permits, certificates)
- Risk assessment
- Risk mitigation workflow
- DDS creation & submission
- Integration with EU Information System
- Reporting & dashboards

### Focus: Verification + continued due diligence

- DDS management - Receive, verify, and link upstream DDS
- Data validation
- Supply chain traceability
- Documentation

### Focus: Traceability and record-keeping

- Supplier/customer tracking
- Basic traceability covering data retrieval & provision to authorities on request

## Are you a large company?



No additional requirements



Reporting functionality

## How does Fairtrade support companies?

1:1 consultations  
EUDR Helpdesk  
Further guidance material

## When an end-to-end solution is a good fit:

### You are an operator with full due diligence obligations

→ You must cover geolocation, risk assessment, mitigation, and DDS submission in a consistent system

### You manage complex, multi-tier supply chains

→ Many suppliers, countries, and intermediaries require integrated data handling and traceability

### You source directly from producers or producer organisations

→ You need to manage and validate large volumes of geolocation data at plot level

### You handle high volumes of EUDR-relevant commodities

→ Automation and scalability become critical to ensure efficiency and consistency

### You operate in medium- or high-risk sourcing contexts

→ Strong integration of satellite monitoring and risk analysis is essential

### You need strong internal governance and audit readiness

→ Centralised documentation and audit trails simplify compliance checks

### You aim to integrate EUDR into broader ESG or supply chain systems

→ End-to-end tools allow alignment with sustainability strategies and reporting

## When satellite imaging software is suitable:

### You already have reliable geolocation data

→ Plot-level data is collected and validated through other systems or partners

### Your main gap is deforestation risk analysis

→ You need to assess forest cover change based on existing geodata

### You use a modular (non end-to-end) setup

→ Different tools handle geodata collection, traceability, and documentation

### You rely on upstream due diligence

→ You receive geolocation data and mainly need to verify deforestation risk

### Your supply chain is relatively simple

→ Limited number of suppliers and countries reduces integration needs

### You want flexibility in tool selection

→ Ability to combine best-in-class solutions rather than one system

## When an internal system can be sufficient:

### You have a simple and stable supply chain

→ Limited number of suppliers, products, and sourcing countries

### You receive complete and reliable upstream data

→ Geolocation data, risk assessments, and DDS references are already provided

### You mainly need to manage documentation and traceability

→ Focus on storing, linking, and retrieving data rather than generating it

### You have strong internal IT capabilities

→ Ability to adapt your ERP to include EUDR data fields, workflows, and reporting

### You have limited due diligence obligations

→ No need for risk assessment or risk mitigation



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### **Further information:**

[Software Solutions for the EUDR - Overview, Features, and Selection Guide](#)

### **Further guidance material:**

Data requirements, Simplifications for SMEs, Roles and obligations flowchart, Step by step guide

**EUDR readiness with Fairtrade**

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Is this helpful to you?  
Please let us know!

