

# Halt deforestation, achieve climate justice, and protect human rights

Contemporary challenges

September 29th, 2025

# Agenda

**EUDR and EU-Mercosur:  
traceability,  
greenwashing, unequal  
ecological exchanges**

**The Devastation Bill:  
challenges to just  
transitions**



**Alegria Community (Maranhão): Babassu forest**

# About Me

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SCAN ME



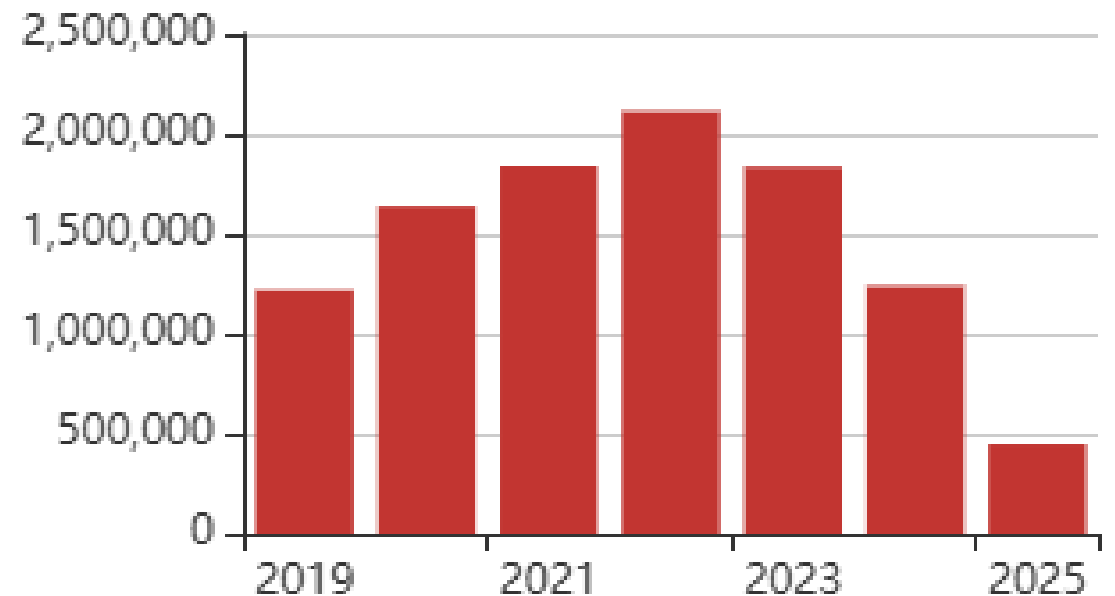
SCAN ME

# Deforestation in Brazil

## **Due diligence and monitoring:**

MapBiomas, DETER, and PRODES are important tools for monitoring land use and deforestation. However, reliable information about farms and suppliers is still necessary

**Strong public policies are key:** adequate budgets, independent institutions, and participatory, reliable processes



Deforestation dropped by 18% in the Amazon and 41% in the Cerrado between 2023 and 2024 (MapBiomas)

# Due diligence on human rights is a huge challenge

Brazil is the **second most dangerous country** for land and environmental defenders (Global Witness)

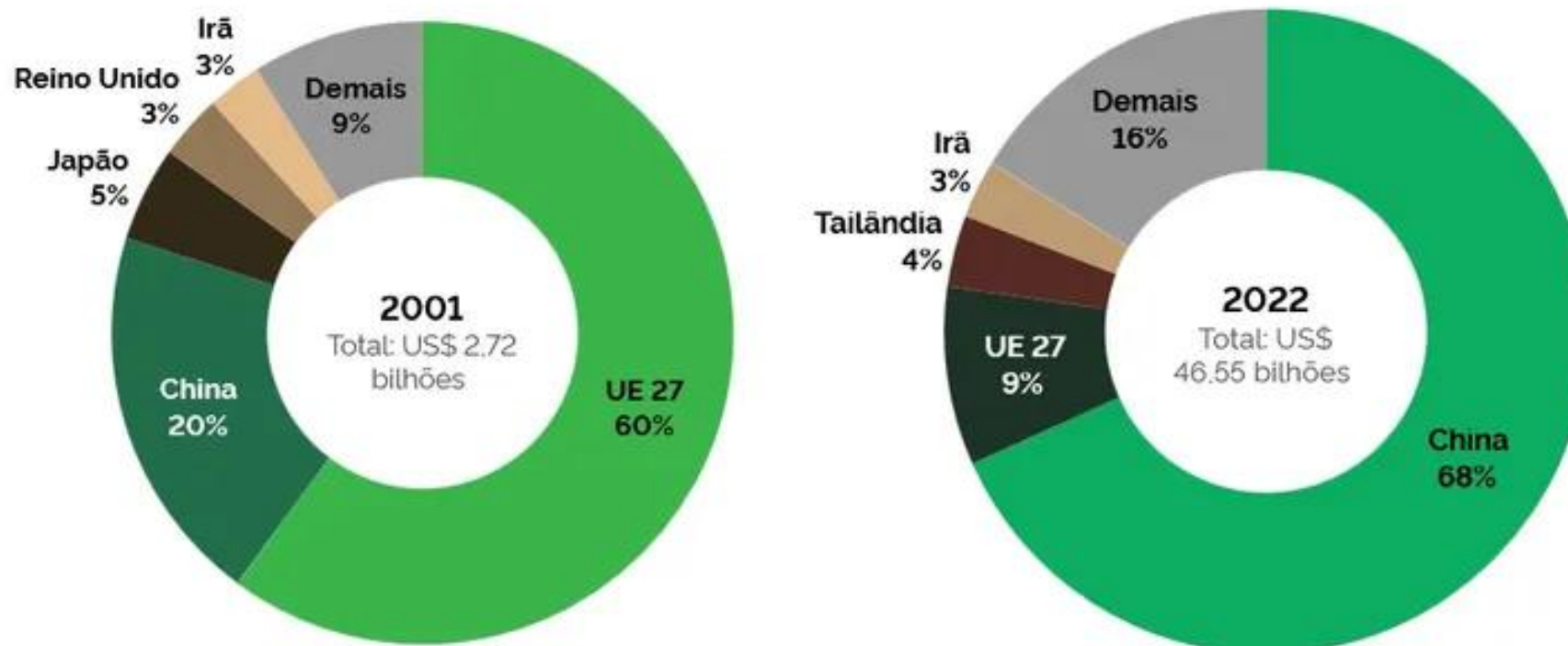
There is **no platform or system to verify** whether the **rights of Indigenous Peoples, Local Communities, or Peasants** are being protected, or if the FPCI has been respected

The threats faced by human rights, land, and environmental defenders should be addressed by the State, yet **institutional trust remains deeply compromised**



# EUDR and the trade deal

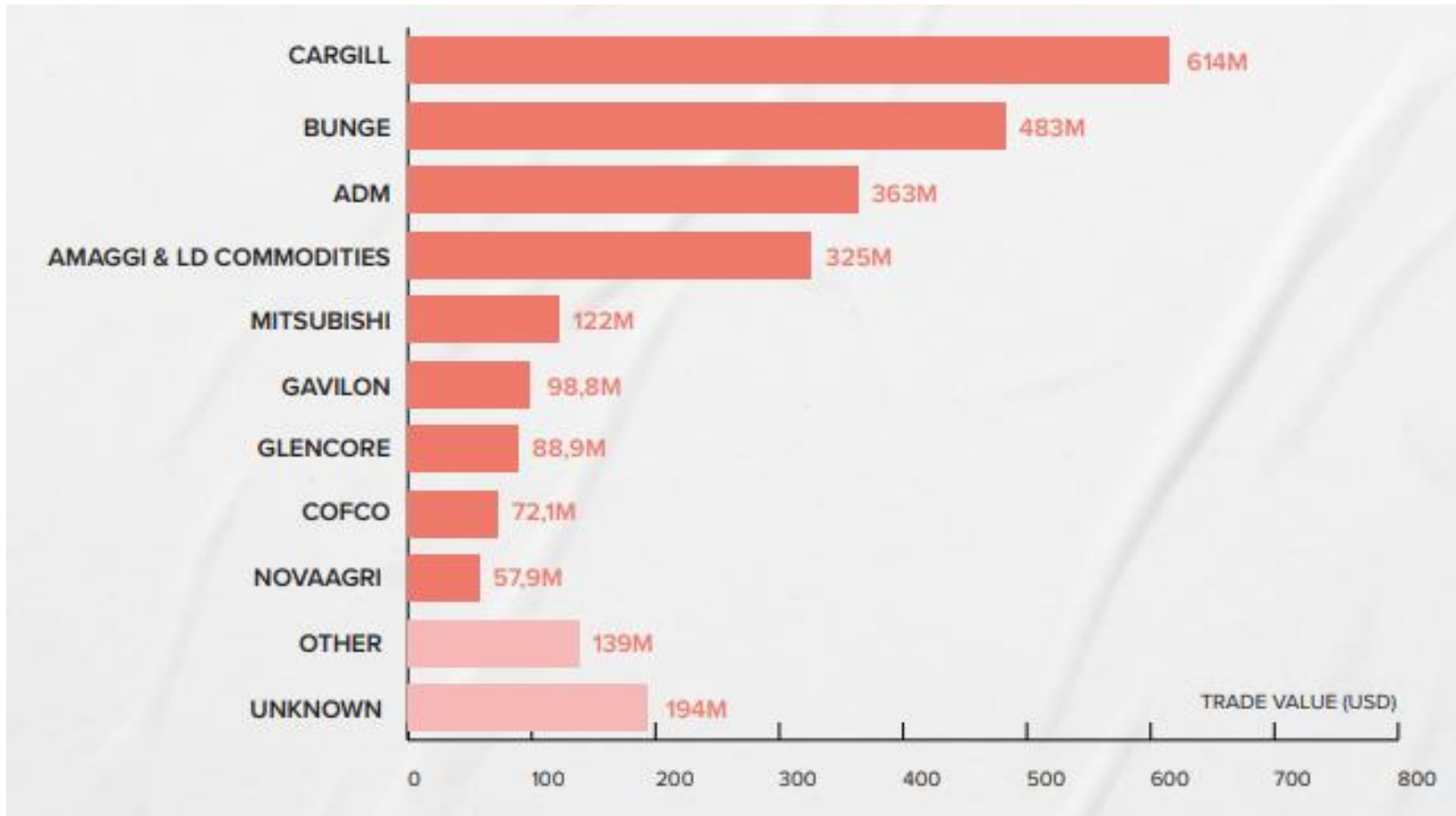
# Brazilian soy export destinations, 2001 - 2022



Fonte: AgroStat Brasil  
Elaboração: MAPA/SCRI/DNAC/CGEA  
Dados extraídos em ago/23. Sujeitos a alteração.

**And only 3,39% of all beef produced in Brazil goes to EU**

# Soy Trade in Brazil (2021) – Total Value (USD) per Exporter in the Main Producing Municipalities of MATOPIBA







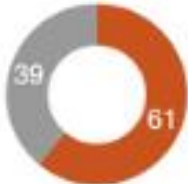



# Traceability: social monitoring vs. greenwashing

**"Will Cargill be EUDR compliant on December 30, 2025?"**

Yes. Our supply chains will meet the EUDR requirements when the regulation takes effect. Cargill shares the European Union's vision of combating deforestation and forest degradation which aligns with our commitment to transparency and traceability".



# Key performance indicators

	Metric	Progress Argentina	Bolivia	Brazil	Paraguay	Uruguay
 <b>Transparency</b>	Industrywide soy production (million tons)	25.0 <sup>i</sup>	3.2 <sup>i</sup>	154.6 <sup>ii</sup>	9.5 <sup>iv</sup>	0.6 <sup>v</sup>
	Approximate number of suppliers selling soy to Cargill	4,670	200	14,200	2,000	480
	Percentage of Cargill volume by suppliers					
 <b>Traceability</b>	Percentage of directly sourced volumes coming from suppliers whose farms have been polygon mapped	Argentina	98.25			
		Bolivia	100			
 <b>Deforestation- and conversion-free (DCF)</b>	Percentage of sourced volumes estimated to be DCF. Reference Date: 2020	Brazil	99.99			
		Paraguay	99.82			
		Uruguay	99.68			
		Argentina	99.80%			
		Bolivia	96.30%			
		Brazil	99.30%			
		Paraguay	99.80%			
		Uruguay	100			

References:  
 i. Source: MAGYP  
 ii. Source: ANAPO  
 iii. Source: CONAB  
 iv. Source: INBIO-UGP  
 v. Source: MGAP

Improved  
practices are  
still absent on  
the ground



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**Bunge promete desmate zero em 2025, mas seus fornecedores derrubaram 11 mil hectares de Cerrado em 2 anos**

# Deeper unequal ecological exchanges and the chilling effect on environmental and human rights

Country benchmarking: what can we expect?

“Prior informed consent” replacing the right to “free, prior, and informed consent”

The “rebalancing mechanism”: what will be the impact on the EUDR and other key measures, such as the UNGPs and human rights legislation?

**Neo-colonial trade and commercial relationships** continue to position Latin American countries as exporters of raw materials. The monoculture under the **Plantationcene** reflects the enduring legacy we still confront



**Fire in Timbiras Community (Maranhã)**

# The Devastation Bill and just transitions

# Keys points

## Among 400 items, Lula vetoed 63

- Vetoed some attempts to exempt agriculture from requiring environmental authorization
- Vetoed some items that would weaken the rights of Indigenous, Quilombola, and Traditional communities

## Most problematic items that remain (MP or Bill)

- LAE - Special Environmental Authorization: high-polluting activities subjected to faster authorization processes, without adequate time or resources for proper evaluation. Applied to "strategic projects."
- LAC - License through Declaration and Commitment: an online self-declared process, based on simplified studies that lack sufficient information. Annual inspections are performed on a sampling basis, with no guarantees of verification or oversight by environmental agencies

## Other challenges

The provisional measure received **833 amendments** in less than one month

**Public participation, access to information, and access to justice** remain major challenges — participatory socioeconomic and ecological zoning is still not being implemented

**Climate** considerations are still absent from **assessment processes**

A just transition in agrifood systems also means a transition away from the commodity-based model



**Thank you!**