

# Implementation of the EUDR in Argentina:

reduction of deforestation or greenwashing?



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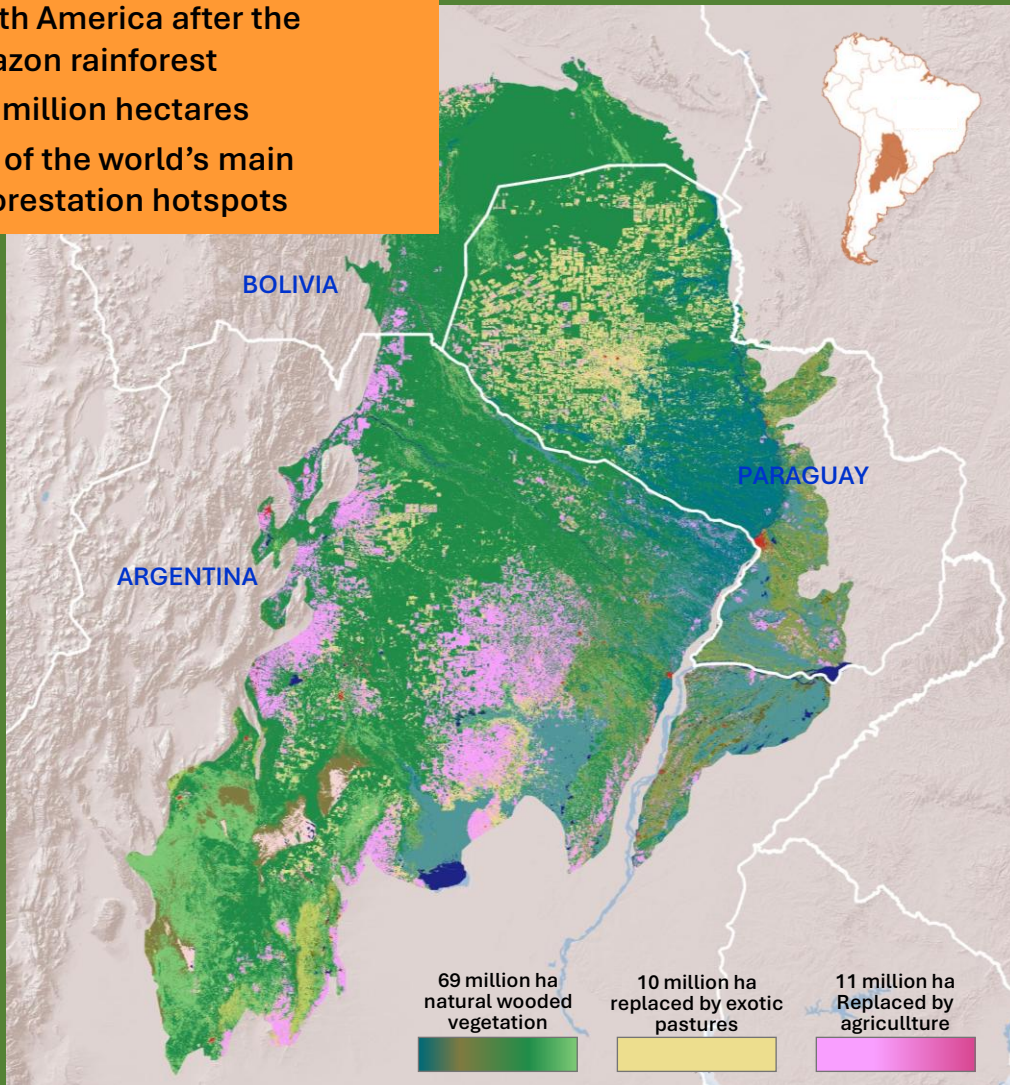
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## LAND USE CHANGE IN THE GRAN CHACO

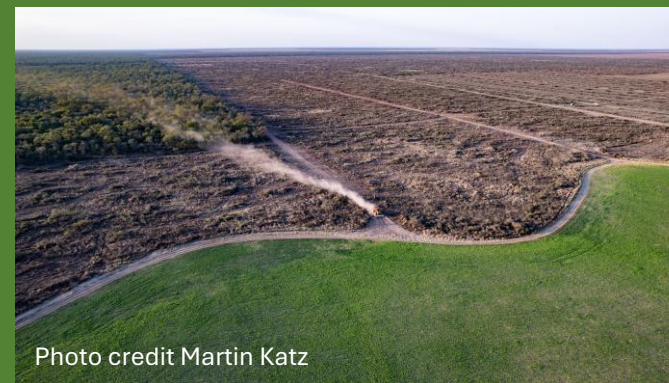
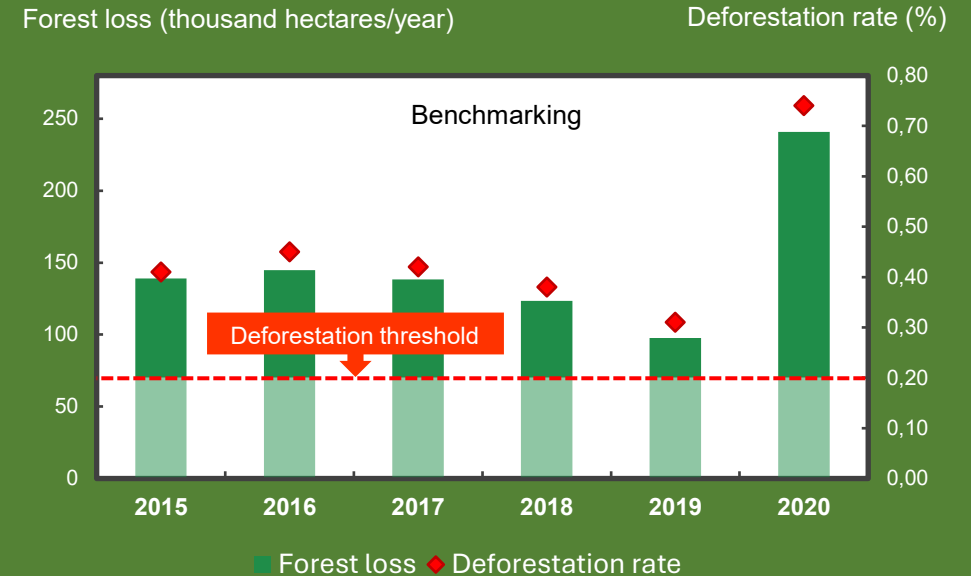
- second largest native forest of South America after the Amazon rainforest
- 108 million hectares
- one of the world's main deforestation hotspots



Source: Proyecto Mapbiomas Chaco - Mapa Anual de Cobertura y Uso del Suelo del Chaco - Colección 4.0 <https://plataforma.chaco.mapbiomas.org/>

## DEFORESTATION IN THE ARGENTINE CHACO

4 million hectares since the enactment of National Forest Law in 2007\*  
driven by agricultural expansion



47%

53%

\*Source: Monitoreo de la superficie de bosque nativo de la República Argentina – Año 2023

# EUDR IMPLEMENTATION IN ARGENTINA



**CONDITIONS FOR PRODUCTS ENTERING THE EU:** A) THEY MUST BE DEFORESTATION-FREE, B) THEY MUST HAVE BEEN PRODUCED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE RELEVANT LEGISLATION OF THE COUNTRY OF PRODUCTION, AND C) THEY MUST BE COVERED BY A DUE DILIGENCE STATEMENT

## DUE DILIGENCE



- In hands of a private organization (VISEC) led by powerful associations of the seed processing and exporting industry and partnered with the main actors of the **soybean and beef agribusiness**
- This organization is legitimized by the Argentinean Government and by the EU

## BENCHMARKING



- **Argentina was assigned a standard risk of deforestation**
- The **National Government** asked for a reconsideration and pleaded for the assignment of a Low Risk category



## LEGISLATION

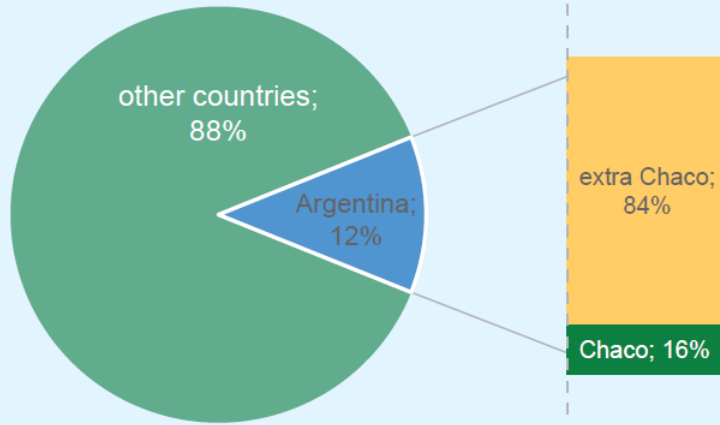
- **Peasant and indigenous people** who inhabit the Chaco forests, land tenure conflicts and systematic human rights violations are being excluded from the “accordance with the legislation” requirement
- Official reports with critical information were made unavailable

**POLITICAL CONTEXT:** The current National Government is advancing towards an extractivist agenda, actively dismantling existing mechanisms for environmental and human rights protection and rejecting the international environmental policy consensus in which the EUDR is rooted.

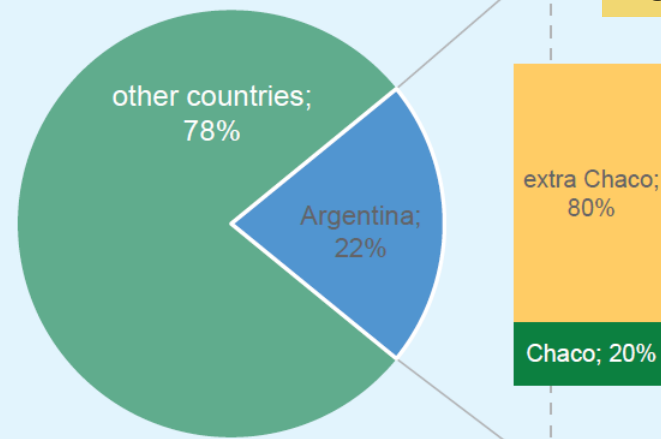


# SOYBEAN AND BEEF PRODUCTION AND TRADE

## EU soybean imports



## EU beef imports



The majority of Argentina's exports originate from extra Chaco regions, mainly the Pampas (**a region with no deforestation risk**), where 84% of soybean cultivation and 80% of cattle stock and are concentrated.

As such, **strict implementation of the EUDR would likely not disrupt the EU's supply chains** to a significant extent.

However, 16% of Argentina's soybean cultivation and 20% of its cattle stock are in the Chaco region, a global deforestation hotspot which should be considered a high-risk region.

In summary, strict implementation of the EUDR would not only not disrupt the EU's supply chains but could have a meaningful impact in protecting the Argentinean Chaco and its people.





## TAKE HOME MESSAGES



- Assigning a single deforestation-risk category to Argentina will underestimate the risk of the Chaco Region and overestimate the risk of the main agricultural non-forest area of the Pampas

Under the current scenario, the implementation of the EUDR in Argentina could

- mask the infringement of human rights of people that inhabit native forests of the Chaco Region and
- exclude mechanisms of participation and control of key stakeholders

## WHAT WOULD HELP



- Access to information on land units classified as deforestation-free within the due diligence process
- Evidence based databases on land conflicts
- Effective whistleblowing mechanisms to report illegal practices or violations of EUDR requirements, such as tampering with the traceability system.
- Channels to raise conflicts concerning human rights violations or other infringements of legal protections that are directly relevant to EUDR compliance.







*30 years working alongside peasant  
and indigenous communities for  
human well-being and the  
preservation of the Chaco forest*

Thank you for your attention!