HASH TOTVS: 6A-3C-09-F5-5F-81-30-40-B6-52-8D-56-C2-6B-9C-4D-D2-30-0B-FE

CropLife Brasil Submission on the COP30 Presidency Roadmap for Halting and Reversing Deforestation and Forest Degradation by 2030

At COP28, the first Global Stocktake (GST) recognized that enhanced efforts are needed to halt and reverse deforestation by 2030 to achieve the Paris Agreement temperature goal. As an implementation-focused COP, the COP30 Presidency in Belém committed to developing a roadmap to provide next steps on GST commitment.

Given the fundamental role forests play in both climate stability and biodiversity, this submission focuses on practical insights for an action plan – one that places agriculture at the center of the solution.

1. Integrated approach towards reversing deforestation and forest degradation

Reversing deforestation and forest degradation cannot be achieved through isolated policies. It requires addressing a set of deeply interconnected structural challenges: inefficient land use, low agricultural productivity, fragile territorial governance, limited access to technology, and inadequate dissemination of technology and technical assistance.

Brazil's experience demonstrates that the most effective path forward lies in the synergy between science, public monitoring, and sustainable intensification. By combining these elements, it is possible to reduce the pressure on natural ecosystems while allowing production, restoration, and conservation to coexist.

2. Critical barriers

At the root of the challenge are economic and productive hurdles. In many tropical regions, deforestation is driven by the low productivity of areas already cleared. Degraded pastures, poorly managed soils, and limited integration between productive activities create a cycle of horizontal land expansion. Recovering these existing areas represents a major opportunity: increasing yields and building climate resilience without clearing new forest.

However, this transition is often stalled by financial constraints. Current instruments remain insufficient, fragmented, or poorly adapted to regional realities. Scaling up these solutions requires a robust connection between productive restoration and the integration of technologies with green financing.

Legal and governance gaps compound these difficulties. Even where sophisticated regulatory frameworks exist – such as Brazil's Forest Code, with instruments like the Rural Environmental Registry (CAR) and the Environmental Regularization Program (PRA) – operational bottlenecks and poor database integration limit their effectiveness. As a result, environmental compliance rarely translates into concrete economic benefits or improved access to credit, weaking the incentive for sustainable production.

Illegal activity remains another critical barrier. In tropical regions, nearly 90% of deforestation is associated with illegal practices such as logging, land grabbing, mining, drug production, and wildlife trafficking, many of which involve international criminal

networks. In Brazil alone, over 93% of deforested areas in 2024 showed indicators of illegality. [1]

Addressing this requires not only stronger national enforcement but also multilateral cooperation. Closer institutional interaction between the UNFCCC, the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crimes (UNTOC), the United Nations Office on Drug and Crime (UNODC) and the Convention on International Trade of Endangered Species of Wild Flora and Fauna (CITES) is essential to ensure that transnational environmental crimes are met with coordinated responses.

The scale of the challenge also varies significantly by land tenure. In the Amazon in 2022, approximately 75% of deforestation occurred on public lands, while 25% took place on private properties.[2] This heterogeneity demands differentiated, context-specific strategies. Strengthening monitoring, reporting, and verification (MRV) systems and integrated governmental databases is therefore critical: without the ability to distinguish legal from illegal activity, incentives for sustainable practices lose credibility.

Technological and implementation gaps add further complexity. Limited access to technologies adapted to tropical conditions, combined with insufficient technical assistance, restricts the adoption of sustainable practices at scale. Lengthy or fragmented regulatory approval process delay access to innovation that could otherwise reduce pressure on forests. More coordinated, science-based frameworks are needed to accelerate these solutions and reduce uncertainty for producers and investors.

Finally, social and territorial inequalities cannot be overlooked. In regions marked by poverty, informality, and limited institutional presence, enforcement alone is insufficient. Meaningful progress requires engaging producers, indigenous peoples, and local communities in inclusive and economically viable models. Without this, forests cannot be effectively valued as sustainable assets, and long-term conservation support remains fragile.

3. Strategic enablers

Accelerating the commitment to halt and reverse deforestation and forest degradation depends less on creating new approaches and more on scaling and coordinating existing solutions. Brazil's experience shows that the most effective path lies in aligning key instruments, such as the recovery of degraded lands, technological integration, environmental regulation, and stronger territorial governance.
Among these levers, the recovery of degraded lands stands out as one of the most impactful. Restoring degraded pastures and lands increase productivity in already cleared areas, reducing the economic incentive to expand into native ecosystems. Beyond climate and biodiversity benefits, productive restoration improves income stability, enhances land-use efficiency, and demonstrates that production and conservation can advance together.

This logic is directly reflected in the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (GBF), which calls for participatory spatial planning across all land and sea areas by

[1] MapBiomas, 2025. Annual Report of Deforestation in Brazil – 2024. Available: https://alerta.mapbiomas.org/wp-content/uploads/sites/17/2025/05/RAD2024_15.05.pdf
[2] Ministry of Environment and Climate Change, 2024. Action Plan for Preventing and Controlling Deforestation in the Amazon - PPCDAm (2023-2027). Available: https://www.gov.br/mma/pt-br/assuntos/controle-ao-desmatamento-queimadas-e-ordenamento-ambiental-territorial/controle-do-desmatamento-1/amazonia-ppcdam-1/5a-fase-ppcdam.pdf

2030 (Target 1) and the restoration of at least 30% of degraded ecosystems (Target 2).[3] These biodiversity targets must be pursued in conjunction with UNFCCC climate commitments, reinforcing that deforestation is not a localized concern but a global challenge with transboundary consequences for climate, hydrological cycles, and biological diversity.

Strengthening land management and territorial governance is equally essential. Environmental registries, regularization programs, and economic incentives for conservation enhance legal certainty, attract investment and allow environmental compliance to become a source of economic and reputational value.

Integrated production systems, such as crop-livestock-forestry integration and no-tillage, further illustrate this complementary: they deliver productivity gains, soil restoration, carbon sequestration, and reduced deforestation pressure simultaneously. These approaches confirm that tailored, locally adapted strategies outperform standardized solutions.

Across all of these levers, multistakeholder cooperation is indispensable. Collaboration among producers, research institutions, governments, the private sector, and financial actors is what allow solutions to reach the scale needed for systemic changes.

4. Scaling climate finance

Current climate finance systems remain inadequate both in scale and in their ability to channel resources where they are most needed. Existing mechanisms, including REDD+ results-based payments, have improved but still fall short of making forest conservation economically competitive with land conversion. The limited number and scale of approved projects highlight a broader constraint: climate finance is not yet being deployed at the speed or volume required to match global needs.

In this context, voluntary carbon markets can play a complementary role, particularly when supported by transparency, strong standards, and predictable regulatory frameworks. International cooperation under Article 6 of the Paris Agreement similarly offers opportunities to scale finance, support sustainable practices, and promote technology transfer to developing countries.

Rather than designing new instruments, the priority should be to strengthen and expand what already exists, mobilizing coordinated action from governments, development banks, philanthropy, and the private sector. Blended finance mechanisms, guarantees, catalytic capital, and thematic bonds can enhance both the availability and the effectiveness of resources.

These efforts should be explicitly connected to global targets for mobilizing climate finance, such as the Baku-Belém roadmap to $1 trillion, ensuring that financial flows are directly efficiently and support both environmental outcomes and sustainable development.

5. Conclusions

Conservation, sustainable management, and restoration strategies must be context-specific. Tropical countries differ significantly in forest cover, land tenure, institutional

[3] Convention on Biological Diversity. Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework. Available: https://www.cbd.int/gbf

capacity, market integration, poverty levels, and technological access. Effective policies must reflect this diversity, being implemented gradually and aligned with varying development pathways.

At the same time, advancing international regulatory harmonization grounded in science is critical. Greater convergence in regulatory processes, including the mutual recognition of technical assessments between countries with robust frameworks, can accelerate access to sustainable agricultural technologies while reducing costs and uncertainty.

Ultimately, global efforts must work toward the full integration of climate, agriculture, land use, and food security policies. Forests will only be protected when these interconnected agendas move beyond competing priorities toward a unified strategy for sustainable development, built on cooperation, science, and share accountability.

Acknowledgements

This submission was developed by CropLife Brasil with technical support from Agroicone.

Protocolo de assinaturas

Documento

Nome do envelope: COP30 Roadmap on Halting and Reversing Deforestation by 2030_CropLife Brasil Contribution.

Autor: NATALIA MEDEIROS RODRIGUES PANONTI - natalia.medeiros@croplifebrasil.org

Status: Finalizado

HASH TOTVS: 6A-3C-09-F5-5F-81-30-40-B6-52-8D-56-C2-6B-9C-4D-D2-30-0B-FE

SHA256: 3cdecbb72286682285d574ed933db5a90ceaa11dbcfec81150d4c31158aacb4c

Assinaturas

Nome: Catharina Eugenia Gonzaga Pires - **CPF/CNPJ:** 658.208.001-68

E-mail: catharina.pires@croplifebrasil.org - **Data:** 31/03/2026 11:58:44

Status: Assinado eletronicamente

Tipo de Envio: Documento enviado por E-mail

Tipo de Autenticação: Utilizando validação de código enviado por E-mail

Visualizado em: 31/03/2026 11:58:30 - **Leitura completa em:** 31/03/2026 11:58:42

IP: 187.11.123.112

Geolocalização: Indisponível ou compartilhamento não autorizado pelo assinante

Autenticidade

Para verificar a autenticidade do documento, escaneie o QR Code ou acesse o link abaixo:

http://totvssign.totvs.app/webapptotvssign/#/verify/search?codigo=6A-3C-09-F5-5F-81-30-40-B6-52-8D-56-C2-6B-9C-4D-D2-30-0B-FE

HASH TOTVS: 6A-3C-09-F5-5F-81-30-40-B6-52-8D-56-C2-6B-9C-4D-D2-30-0B-FE