

# Getting ready for the EU Forced Labour Regulation

## Information and stakeholder exchange workshop

21st November 2022, 13.30 – 17.00h, University of Bern

### PRELIMINARY AGENDA

13:30-14:00	Arrival and coffee	
14:00	Welcome and context	CDE
<b>Block 1: Understanding the EUFLR</b>		
14:15	EUFLR: Overview of the legislation, implications for businesses, and links to related legislation (e.g. CSDDD)	Franz Ebert, ILO
14:45	The EUFLR: Developments in Switzerland	Andreas Oeschger, SECO
15:00	What challenges might Swiss companies face? Insights from research	CDE researchers
15:20	Open discussion	
15:40	Coffee Break	
<b>Block 2: Implementing the EUFLR</b>		
16:00	Context and exchange	Sustainability Platforms
	<i>Potential questions: What are companies already doing to prepare for the EUFLR? How do they intend to comply with the legislation? What still needs to be done to get ready? How do companies plan to respond to challenges? Which open questions remain?</i>	
17:00 -17:30	Apéro	

# Background

Many new sustainability regulations for soft commodities in Switzerland, the EU and producing countries are increasingly being implemented. This poses various challenges for companies, particularly to SMEs, to master the changing regulatory landscape.

The **Swiss sustainability platforms for cocoa, coffee, palm oil, soy and textiles** have joined forces, supported by various industry and trade associations, to offer a **workshop series** throughout 2024/2025 to address relevant cross-sectoral topics around "Regulation Readiness" that are relevant for their members. This workshop series is for **members only** of the abovementioned platforms and associations.

## ABOUT THIS WORKSHOP

The Centre for Development and Environment (CDE), University of Bern, has offered to host the first in-person workshop on the regulation "[Prohibiting products made with forced labour on the Union market](#)" on **21st November 2024 from 13:30 to 17:00 in Bern**.

This regulation aims to combat forced labour by banning products made with forced labour, including forced child labour, from the EU market. The goals of this workshop are to (1) provide comprehensive **information on the upcoming EU forced labour regulation** and its **implications for Swiss businesses**, and (2) start a **multi-stakeholder dialogue** for timely adaptation to these regulatory changes.

## DETAILS

- Date: Thursday, 21st of November 2024, 13.30 – 17.00h
- Location: University of Bern, Mittelstrasse 43, Room 224
- Language: Presentations in English. Questions and group work in English, German, or French
- Participants: Members of Swiss sustainability platforms for cocoa, coffee, palm oil, soy and textiles
- Output: Short workshop report to be shared with all participants
- **Chatham House rules** apply to the workshop discussions and summary report.