

*European Workshop
on the future of the Amazon*

Brussels, December 11th, 2013

AMAZALERT

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1. INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this report is to provide an overview of the main methods and results related to the third and last in a series of stakeholder workshops conducted within the AMAZALERT project. It is especially intended for workshop participants and project partners that were directly involved. Two earlier workshops were conducted in Brazil that yielded a number of products related to future outlooks for the Brazilian Amazon in 2050, including qualitative stories, quantitative (land use) model results, and lists of policies and other actions that would need to be undertaken to decrease deforestation. This report is a short version of a longer and more complete report of the workshop's methods and results, that will be available upon request¹.

1.1 Scenarios and earlier workshops

Stakeholder participation is a crucial aspect of AMAZALERT, particularly related to the issue of (scenarios for) deforestation and land use change. Crucial is the combination of exploring plausible future outlooks and discussing potential policies and strategies to reduce deforestation. Socioeconomic scenarios were developed in order to explore a range of socioeconomic, political, and institutional drivers of deforestation and a set of plausible future outlooks of land use change in the Brazilian Amazon. These can then be used to discuss robust policies to slow deforestation. With this in mind, a series of three workshops was designed and executed (for some basic information see Table 1).

The first workshop took place in Brazil and focused on the development of exploratory land use change scenarios for the Amazon, partly building on previous scenario-development efforts in Brazil. Importantly, the workshop was used to generate qualitative and quantitative input for LuccME, the land use change modelling framework that is used in AMAZALERT. The workshop yielded two scenarios and related model input parameter settings. The second workshop focused on the discussion what policies would be needed to decrease deforestation, without jeopardising social development. The workshop resulted in two scenario-specific sets of policies and other actions and an evaluation on what policies would work in both scenarios, i.e. "no-regret policies".

¹ The report is not part of an official Deliverable of the AMAZALERT project and will therefore not be available from the project's website. A copy can be obtained by contacting Kasper Kok (kasper.kok@wur.nl).

Table 1. Main characteristics of the three stakeholder workshops in AMAZALERT.

Workshop	Location, Date	Aim	Outcomes	Participants
WS1	Belem, 24-26 June 2013	Develop exploratory scenarios	Input for land use model, qualitative scenarios, main drivers	Broad participation across science, business, government, and NGOs
WS2	Brasilia, 25 November 2013	Discuss Brazilian policies	Lists of “no-regret” Brazilian policies	Targeted sub-group with strong emphasis on policy makers
WS3	Brussels, 11 December 2013	Discuss European policies	Lists of “no-regret” European policies	Broad participation with some emphasis on policy makers

From the policy analysis in workshop 2, it was concluded that Brazil is firmly embedded in an international and global setting, where manifold outside forces could influence Amazonian policy making and deforestation. It was therefore decided to organise a third workshop in Europe, in order to discuss the broader setting of Brazilian deforestation, and particularly the potential role of the European Union to influence it.

1.2 Objectives of third workshop

A one-day workshop was organised in Brussels on 11 December 2013. The workshop’s main objectives were:

- **Dissemination.** Presenting and discussing an overview of the main results of the project and of the first two workshops was seen as essential, mostly because AMAZALERT was in its final stage and results were available.
- **List and discuss European (“no-regret”) policies.** Assess the current situation of policies and other initiatives in Europe to stop deforestation in the Amazon. Discuss possible policies and other actions that could be successful under various scenarios, i.e. no-regret policies.

The second objective was reached with three sub-objectives:

1. **Discuss current policies and their impacts.** Stakeholders were asked to draw the current policies and other initiatives from within Europe that targeted deforestation in the Amazon, and their impact. This activity served to establish the perception of the participants on the current situation.
2. **Discuss plausible future policies.** Stakeholders were asked to discuss possibilities to reduce deforestation in the Amazon by identifying policies from within Europe and their impact, building on the first activity. These policies were scenario-specific as two groups were given a contextual future outlook that predefined a number of global and European developments beyond the control of the participants.

3. **Identify potential no-regret policies.** Policies resulting from two scenario-specific contexts were compared and a list that would work in both scenarios, i.e. no-regret policies, was drafted.

1.3 Structure of report

The report is divided into two main parts. The first part includes Section 2 and 3 and describes the methods that were used (Section 2) and provides an overview of the main results that were obtained during the workshop (Section 3). The second part includes Section 4 and 5 and describes the post-workshop analysis by AMAZALERT scientists of the results in terms of policy robustness (Section 4) followed by an overall discussion and conclusion (Section 5).

2. WORKSHOP METHODOLOGY

2.1 Agenda

The final programme of the workshop was drafted after consultations with a number of project partners (see Table 2). The morning was reserved for dissemination of project results and an initial discussion on current policies, while it was planned to spend the afternoon for the discussion of future outlooks and policies for two distinctly different scenarios.

Table 2. Agenda of workshop

Time	Activity
8:45-9:10	Registration and welcome
9:10-9:30	Participant introduction
9:30-11:00	First objective: Dissemination (AMAZALERT-wide). Presentations on background and results of AMAZALERT, land use modelling in Brazil, and policies in the Amazon.
11:00-12:30	Second objective: Current policies. Break-out groups; session I. Central question: What is the current role of European policies and other actions related to deforestation in the Brazilian Amazon?
12:30-13:30	Lunch
13:30-14:00	Introduction to European and Brazilian scenarios
14:00-15:30	Second objective: Future policies. Break-out groups; session II. What future policies and other actions are needed to contribute towards the goal of reducing deforestation?
15:30-17:00	Second objective: No-regret policies. Plenary reporting back and discussion on robust policy options ¹
17:00-17:15	Conclusions and next steps

1: The planned discussion on robust policy options did not take place during the actual workshop (see section 2.5)

2.2 Stakeholder selection

A mixture of stakeholders was selected that had both relevant expertise on the impact of Europe on Amazon deforestation and the ability to influence policy and practice. In principle, we drew from four main stakeholder categories: Policy makers, scientists, environmental NGOs, and businesses. Additionally, we invited a small number of participants from the first workshops in Brazil to take part.



Figure 1. Workshop participants listening to presentations

2.3 Dissemination - Presentations

Dissemination revolved around those aspects of AMAZALERT that directly related to deforestation in the Amazon. Short presentations covered the background of AMAZALERT and results until December 2013 including socioeconomic scenarios, land use modelling in Brazil, and policies in the Amazon and Europe. Presentations were followed by discussions. Topics included:

- Welcome and introduction of DG R&I (Marco Gemmer, Project Officer European Commission)
- Overview of main intermediate results of AMAZALERT (Bart Kruijt, Project coordinator)
- New insights on Brazilian deforestation: the Brazilian Perspective (Arnaldo Carneiro, stakeholder WS1 and WS2)
- Introduction to scenario method and scenarios as developed in WS1 and WS2 (Kasper Kok, scenario-expert AMAZALERT)
- Overview of Brazilian policies related to deforestation. (Mateus Batistella, Director, EMBRAPA Satellite Monitoring, Brazil)
- Overview European policies potentially having an impact on Amazon deforestation (Dorian Frieden, policy expert AMAZALERT)

Presentations will be made available online². The content will not be elaborated upon in this report.



Figure 2. Discussions in break-out group 2 on current policies

2.4 Current policies – Mindmapping

A mind map is a diagram used to visually organise information. A mind map is often created around a single concept – like deforestation –, drawn as an image or in key words in the centre of a blank landscape page, to which associated representations of ideas such as images, words or parts of words are added. Mindmapping was selected as the method to employ as it provides the opportunity for in-depth knowledge sharing between participants and researchers alike, while yielding structured outcomes with documented relationships between main factors and policies.

The activity took place with participants gathered around a table on which the mindmap was constructed. Participants were facilitated to brainstorm features of European policy and behaviour that impact upon deforestation of the Amazon, to explore the mechanisms through which these impacts occur, and to represent these relationships by arrows between items on the mindmap. The activity involved a facilitated discussion between participants about the relationships between European policy and Amazon deforestation and the role that Europe could play in reducing Amazon deforestation.

² Presentations will be available shortly after November 30, 2014 on the AMALERT website (www.eu-amazalert.org).



Figure 3. Construction of mindmap in break-out group 2.

2.5 Future policies and strategies - Backcasting

2.5.1 Scenarios: general purpose and method

The highly complex global interrelationships between social, environmental, political and economic issues mean that the future is often impossible to predict. We cannot afford to make strategies on how to tackle issues such as deforestation without examining the underlying assumptions that were made on what the future will be like. The success of any strategy or policy depends on the context for which it has been developed; if that context changes, so does the usefulness of the plan.

The use of scenarios allows groups of planners and decision makers to explore diverse, plausible (which means believable and consistent) futures and what challenges and opportunities they may pose to plans and actions. A scenario set is often a set of diverse narratives (in words, numbers, images) about the future. Each scenario represents a future that is very different from the others in the set. Scenarios offer a tool for the integration of different types of information and have been reported to increase systems thinking in those who develop or use the scenarios.

Robustness testing:

Important in the context of this workshop is the ability to use scenarios to test the robustness of strategies. Using a diverse set of scenarios ensures that a number of distinctly different futures are included. As a second step, scenario-

specific strategies can be discussed, in this case to reach zero-deforestation in the Amazon. These sets of scenario-specific plans can then be compared. Elements that are common to all scenario-specific sets can be considered “robust” in the sense that they would be successful in any future that might unfold. Seeing scenarios as a tool for testing plans is key – just like a car is not just tested on a smooth road but under extreme conditions, scenarios provide extreme futures to see whether plans hold up under such conditions. Several sets of global and European scenarios have been developed over the past two decades within important initiatives such as the IPCC, the Global Environment Outlook, the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment, and the Global Scenarios Group.

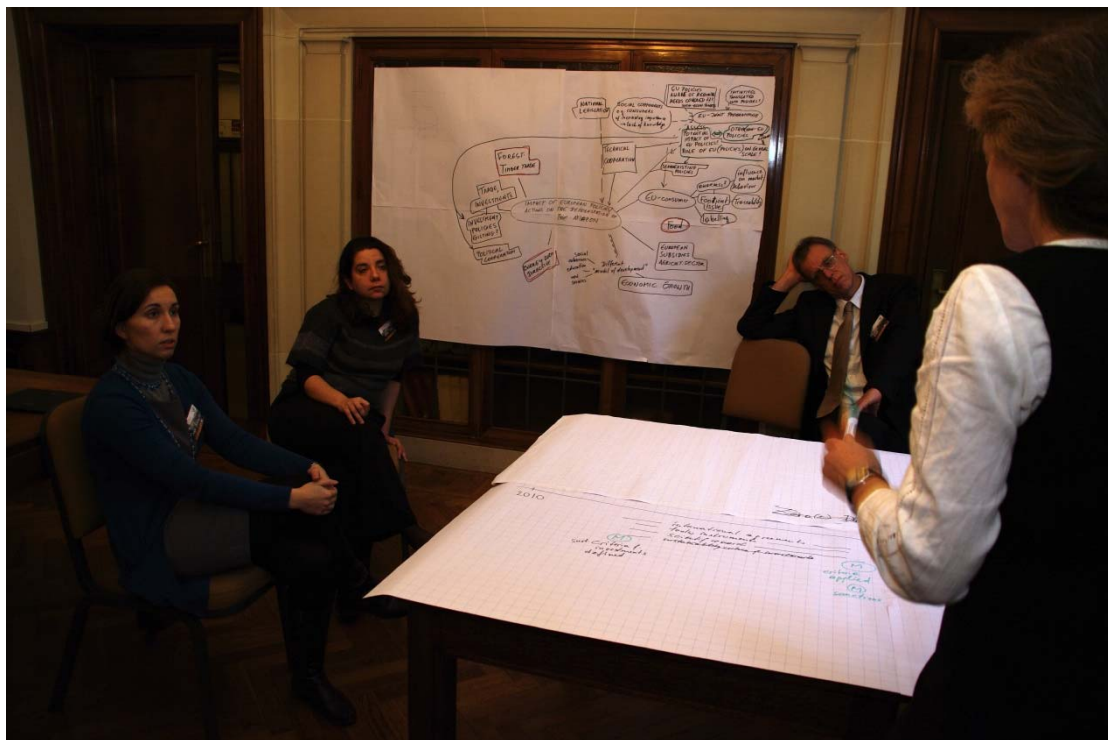


Figure 4. Discussion future strategies in break-out group 2, with mindmap of current policies in the background.

2.5.2 Contextual scenarios

For the purpose of this workshop, we used the GEO-4 scenarios as context, mostly because they have a global and a European version, which makes them particularly suitable for discussing European effects on Amazon ecosystems. Figure 5 illustrates the four GEO-4 scenarios with four cartoons.

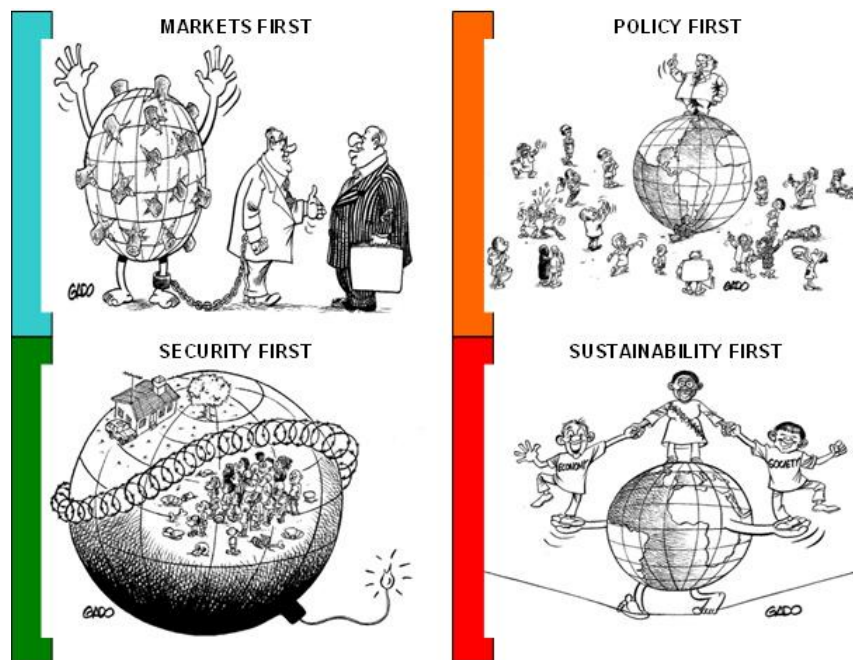


Figure 5. The four GEO-4 Scenarios.

Of those four scenarios, two were selected to be used by the two break-out groups.

Security First: The world becomes increasingly unstable due to a number of crises, which causes instability and an increase in terrorism across Europe. This leads to an increased exploitation and strict management of domestic natural resources, paying less attention to environmental consequences. The gap between the rich and poor countries widens, yet the EU survives.

Sustainability First: The main long-term changes towards 2050 include a transition towards environmental sustainability, in which the landscape has become the basic unit. The overall focus is on quality of life rather than economic indicators through local diversity which is governed by local networks. This transition to local sustainability is the result of a long-term process that starts with a set of strong top-down measures, and which is later accompanied by behavioural change and a new governance structure.

2.5.3 Backcasting

This activity was conducted in the same two breakout groups as in the first phase. Using the mind map from the previous activity as an object to stimulate discussion and focus thinking, participants were asked to brainstorm on strategies and policies which Europe could implement in order to minimise Amazon deforestation both by limiting its own negative impacts and exerting positive pressures. A backcasting approach was followed that started with the identification of a desirable end-point and intermediate milestones, and was using a backward reasoning from the end-point to a set of concrete actions needed to reach objectives, accounting for obstacles and opportunities as presented by the contextual scenario. Beforehand, possible desirable end-points were discussed and the following end-point was agreed upon to use as a first proposal:

Zero/strongly reduced deforestation and degradation in 2050 in the Amazon

Both mindmapping and backcasting were conducted in two breakout groups of about 5-10 participants. The same two groups were maintained in the morning sessions and in the afternoon scenario-specific sessions. The main logic to opt for more than one group was that by splitting we would quickly generate more information than in a single plenary session.

2.5.4 Robust policies

The original agenda included a comparison between the main strategy lines and a discussion on the robustness of the strategies that emerged from both groups. Unfortunately, as the day drew to an end, a number of participants had to leave. In order to keep the workshop's outcomes as much as possible a product of all participants, we concluded the day with both groups presenting the results of the backcasting session to each other. A summary of the main strategy lines and actions that emerged from the two groups and an analysis of similarities and differences, and thus robustness of strategy lines, was conducted *a posteriori* by AMAZALERT project members.

3. WORKSHOP RESULTS

3.1 Current impacts and policies

3.1.1 Break-out group 1

Figure 6 shows the mindmap as it was produced during the first session that was to discuss current policies and impacts on deforestation in the Amazon. It is beyond the scope of this report to provide a detailed analysis of all the richness of the product. What follows is a short summary of the main aspects that were discussed.

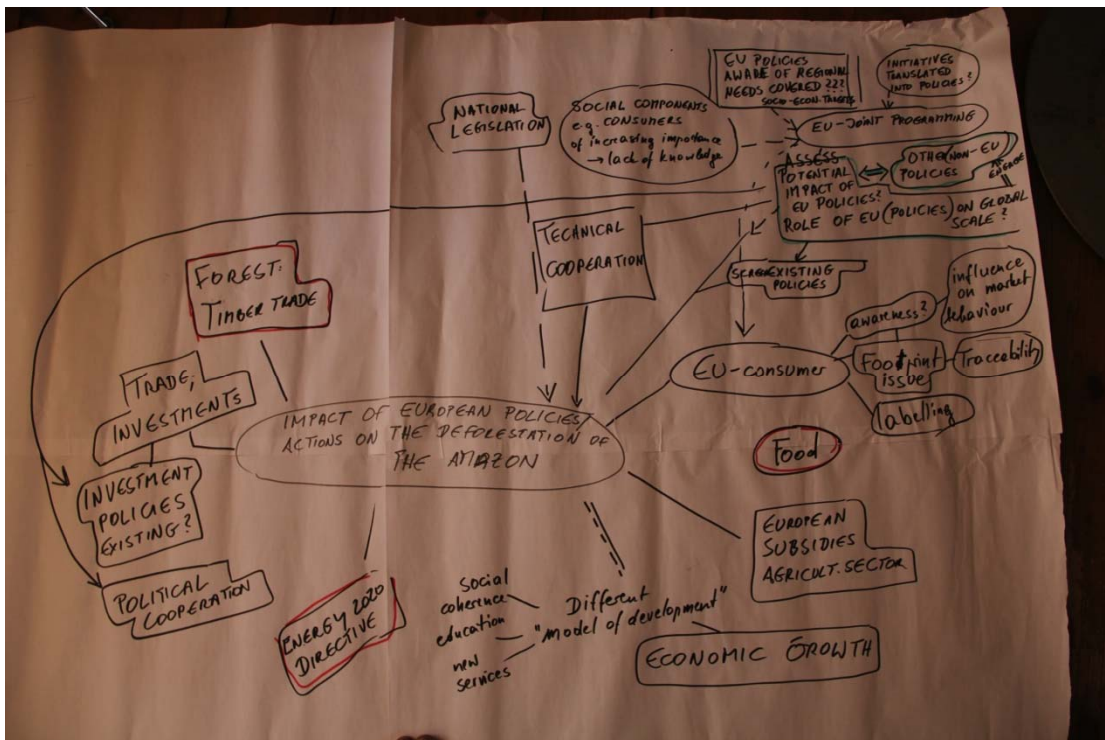


Figure 6. Current impacts and policies: Mindmap of break-out group 1.

Main aspects (marked in red in Figure 6):

- **EU consumers – food demand.** Participants agreed that there is a relatively large role for European consumers as they link to food and wood demand through their influence on global markets.
- **Forest trade and investment.** Participants identified trade in forest products as another main component in the discussion around deforestation.
- **Energy.** Participants agreed that the energy sector (biofuels) was an important factor, mostly through the current Renewable Energy directive.

Other important aspects:

- **EU policies.** An item discussed at great length throughout the session was the identification of current EU policies and their impact. A long discussion took place that covered many existing policies. Participants, in

general, agreed that the current direct impact of EU-level policies is limited. The Common Agricultural Policy, for example, was singled out as a key policy instrument, currently of little influence on deforestation.

- **Economic growth.** Participants discussed at some length the role of economic development and how a “different model of development” might be needed to decrease the current impact of economic growth.

Important insights from the group included:

- **Social aspects are becoming increasingly important as driving forces.** This is represented by the consumption issue in the EU and by socio-economic targets that have been set for fulfilling certain regional needs in the Amazon.
- **The EU cannot do it alone.** The EU is by far not the only international player with influence on the Amazon. The EU should deal with the role of its policies at the global level.

In short, the influence of EU policies on the Amazon mainly acts via the sectors EU consumption, trade and investment, technical cooperation and EU directives. Among these sectors, impacts emerge from timber trade, food supply and the EU Renewable Energy directive that have been identified as main drivers of deforestation. Especially “food” (including EU consumption of agricultural products on the one hand, and European subsidies in the agricultural sector on the other) was highlighted as one of the main driving forces; as for the consumption patterns (market behaviour), the role of certification and awareness raising have been highlighted. Additionally, but clearly secondary, “wood” was earmarked as important, again mostly through market mechanisms.

3.1.2 Break-out group 2

The group agreed that Europe affects the Amazon directly in terms of consumption behaviour, trade agreements and standards, and indirectly through setting an example and applying pressure. The group found it was easier to talk about what Europe was not doing in terms of managing its impacts than what is was doing. Accordingly the group listed the things that Europe was not doing or could do more of and therefore effectively jumped immediately to the response exercise. The results of their activity are summarized below and demonstrated in Figure 7 and 8.

Involvement in international trade policies and standards WTO, FTAs ...
 ↳ integration of environmental impacts

IMPROVE INTERNAL SUSTAINABILITY

Lack of policies addressing
 overconsumption
 (just using more resources)

European agricultural policies concerning imports etc. → soy, GMO's etc.

Explore balancing of domestic production and imports (→ CAP...)

Build STANDARD TO CHINA

Lack of policy coherence

Consumption habits in EU influence global markets and demand on agricultural

Lack engagement w/ BRIC in transatlantic relations

internal sustainability

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A major discussion line was that the EU's direct impact on deforestation is relatively small as compared to major importers such as China. The EU demand for forest products has low impact on forests in Brazil as the big majority of products are consumed in Brazil or exported to Asia. An expansion of forest plantations for export could however potentially emerge. Due to the currently perceived limited direct impact of the EU, Europe should act at the international scale (e.g. WTO, FTAs).

Specific (EU) standards on trade and imports could address bioenergy and soy. Support criteria for REDD projects in compliance with local/reciprocal arrangements and the risk of "backfiring" when REDD programs are badly designed were discussed (Risk of "good intentions"). Norway, Germany, UK and the Netherlands were specifically mentioned in the context of REDD.

European trade should go beyond satisfying its own demand and should be more broadly engaged. Specific rules for ethical company behaviour were discussed and covered policies governing TNCs (trans-national companies) and their investments, such as the establishment of a baseline for importing based on forest law compliance.

Regional cooperation, between Amazon countries and between Latin America and Europe, and dialogue should be fostered including hosting and enhancing dialogues on experiences of regional sustainable development, trans-border cooperation on institution building, and support of international and national efforts such as REDD and FLEGT both financially and in terms of expertise. In terms of technical cooperation, addressing agricultural planning and development, environmental planning, sustainable infrastructure, land use/landscape planning and forest conservation were mentioned. A lack of focus on social benefits/innovations of domestic production systems was mentioned. Fostering social inclusion and pro poor action could include the development of a small scale forest sector (native species) near to demand in Brazil, and a support of community banks, economies and products. The current policy was perceived as distorting farming in terms of large scale producers.

A last main discussion line referred to the EU internal sustainability and its magnitude of demand for imports which impacts global markets. Here the EU could set an example by attempting to reduce demand for products that are less sustainable. A lack of policies addressing the overall consumption in Europe (except for energy) as well as a lack of policy cohesiveness was pointed out. Besides reducing the overall consumption/increasing efficiency, the balance of domestic production and imports could be addressed (CAP). The role of the civil society for improving internal sustainability was mentioned.

3.1.3 Communalities between break-out groups

Looking at the results from both break-out groups, there is an apparent and rather large overlap in the issues that were addressed. Generally, speaking, two main elements stand out:

Firstly, the current impact of EU policies as well as EU consumption is (very) limited.

Secondly, issues to be discussed, therefore, needed to revolve around the lack of policies rather than current presence. Among those, both groups identified the following aspects as having potential to increase the impact of the EU on the deforestation issue:

1. **Enhanced (regional) cooperation.** This broad category refers to cooperation between Amazon countries, between Brazil and the EU, and within Brazil between the different states. It includes cross-border cooperation, EU-national-local collaborations, and cross-sectoral collaboration. Cornerstones for a successful collaboration are increased transparency (of internal Brazilian and EU policies) and enhanced knowledge transfer (between Brazil and the EU).
2. **Improve/strengthen (trade) policies and standards.** This includes altering EU-level policies such as the CAP and the Renewable Energy Directive.
3. **Increase influence of EU in international policies.** This includes REDD+ but also social policies and trade standards and rules.
4. **Pay more attention to social cohesion and awareness.** This includes all activities that relate to better informing EU consumers, increasing quality of life, and working towards a new development model that puts less emphasis on economic growth and more on aspects of social capital.

3.2 Future policies and strategies

3.2.1 Break-out group 1 – Policies in *Sustainability First*

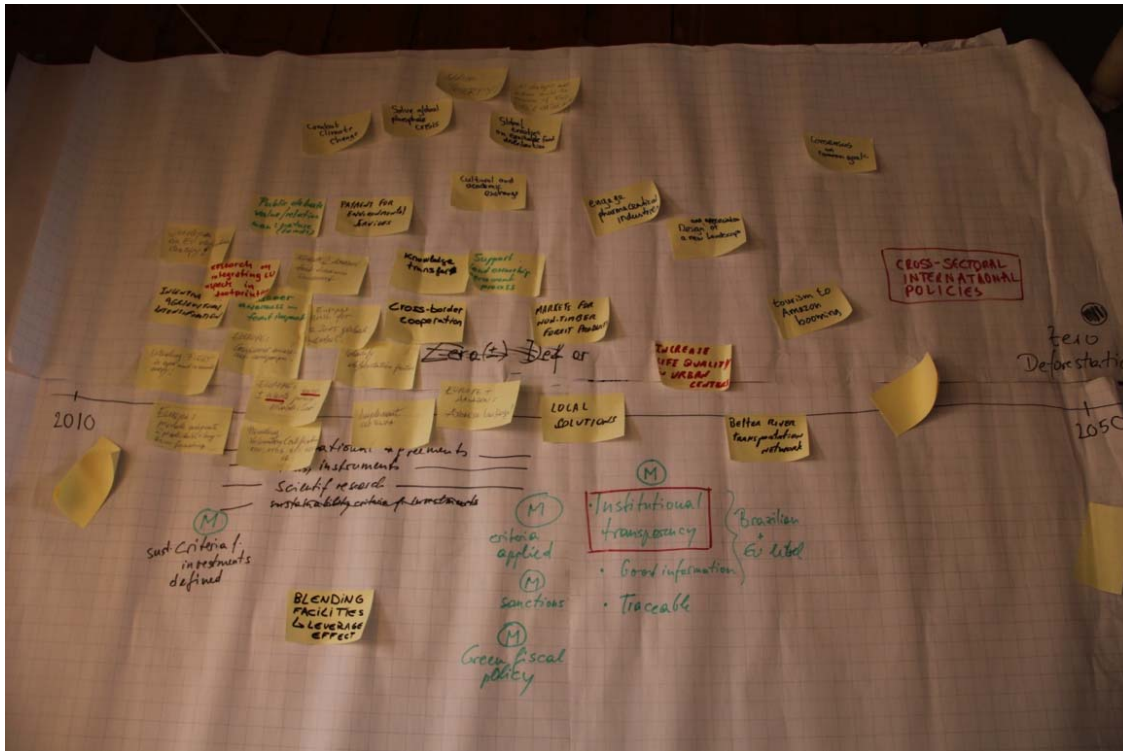


Figure 9. Future policy options. Results of backcasting exercise of break-out group 1.

The context-scenario for this group was *Sustainability First* which assumes a transition towards environmental sustainability. This was interpreted as a scenario that offers many possibilities to develop and implement new policies and strategies. In fact, the discussions assumed that to a large extent the scenario did not influence the main conclusions. The discussions therefore largely built on the outcomes of the previous session. The session started with discussing the implications of a desirable end-point of zero deforestation in 2050. It was decided that in order to reach this, an essential milestone would have to “Cross-sectoral international policies achieved”. Figure 9 shows the results of the backcasting exercise that followed. Again, it is beyond the scope of this report to present the results in all detail. Below a short summary is given, focusing on the important milestones that need to be reached, some examples of individual actions, and the main strategy lines that were discussed during the session.

Important Milestones:

- **Institutional transparency increased.** This includes better information and better information provision, protocols to increase traceability, and new international agreements. Concrete elements are the definition and application of precise criteria for decisions and sanction setting in cases of non-adherence to demonstrate the credibility of control systems.
- **New cross-sectoral international policies developed.** Directives, actions, and agreements become policies that can and will be enforced. This includes that criteria are applied, and sanctions are agreed and enforced.
- **Sustainability criteria for investments defined and applied.** Crucial is an early agreement on what criteria need to be enforced, followed by the actual application around 2030.

Important actions:

There was consensus that deforestation can only be stopped through better policies if many different key actions are taken, some examples of which are given below.

- **Tackling global challenges related to Amazon deforestation,** including combatting climate change; addressing the global phosphate crisis; implementing global treaties on equitable food distribution; and securing payment for environmental services.
- **Strengthening strategic aspects of EU-Amazon cooperation,** including developing an EU deforestation strategy; extending FLEGT to agro and renewable energy; implementing CBD POWPA; and Europe providing adequate and predictable and long term funding.
- **Strengthening strategic issues inside the Amazon,** including supporting the land ownership agreement process; improving the river transportation network; and enhancing local solutions.
- **Intensify knowledge exchange and knowledge transfer,** including cross-border cooperation; cultural and academic exchange; and identifying deforestation frontiers
- **Increase consumer awareness,** including forest impacts; targeted campaigns; and promoting voluntary certification.
- **Explore new markets and engage industries,** including pharmaceutical industries; markets for non-timber forest products; and tourism.

Main strategy lines:

Summarising the milestones and key actions, three main strategy lines for the EU were discerned:

1. **Stimulate scientific research** related to environmental sustainability. There was agreement that the EU could invest more in scientific research, which through collaborations and knowledge transfer would help stopping deforestation.

2. **Establish international agreements and ultimately policies.** In line with the overall objective, crucial in the strategy were collaborations, cross-border, cross-scale, and cross-sectoral. These would start relatively informal but with clear criteria, but would quickly (towards 2030) be transformed to strict policies with sanctions and consequences.
3. **Market investments and public awareness.** Much of the discussions in this session and in the previous one revolved around markets, investments, and incentives for companies on the one hand, and public awareness and transparency on the other hand.

Other observations:

- It was noted that even if all actions would successfully be implemented and international policies enforced, the impact on deforestation in the Amazon would be limited. A percentage of 25% was mentioned as the influence of Europe.
- A rather large number of the suggested actions were, in fact, largely the responsibility of Brazil and other Latin American countries (e.g. “local solutions”). As such, they need to be treated with care as they could not be directly tied to stakeholders present in the discussion.

3.2.2 Break-out group 2 – Policies in *Security First*



Figure 10. Future policy options. Results of backcasting exercise of break-out group 1. Overview.

Overview of actions and strategies (see Figure 10 and 11):

The context-scenario for this group was *Security First*, an increasingly unstable world with increased levels of terrorism, which triggers the need for security and resulting focus on market protectionism and an increased gap between poor and rich. This was interpreted as a scenario that presents many obstacles in order to achieve zero deforestation. The end-point was not defined as strictly as in break-out group 1, but kept more general as “zero deforestation in 2050”. Figure 5 shows the results of the backcasting exercise that followed. Below is a summary of the overall ‘storyline’ that was developed that explains how the overall goal could be achieved despite the contextual scenario:

European NGOs offer posts to Chinese nationals developing relationships, cultural exchange and training. A SINO-EU ethical business partnership is set up

("The Club of Good Business"), which invests in protective projects – to conserve forests, but also social, human, and financial capital in the broadest sense – collaboratively in return for improved terms of trade. There is cultural exchange with China through web, TV etc. promoting conservation and social inclusion. Many active civil society movements begin in response to the unequal, unsustainable status quo. These movements gain a great deal of strength. Social media is used to raise awareness globally about grounded realities for the forest and rural poor. Domestic and international interest in sustainability is further built in this way. Brazilian civil society movements channel EU civil society support to build the effectiveness of local movements. Through public pressure stronger policies of command and control for environmental and socio-economic quantities are put in place. There are stronger policies to stop deforestation as well as pro poor agricultural and environmental policies. Bilateral agreements are negotiated to enforce these conditions as the WTO no longer exists in this scenario. Civil society applies pressure for these agreements to also include economic incentives for engagement in social or environmental improvement. Environmental obligations are included in trade conditions.

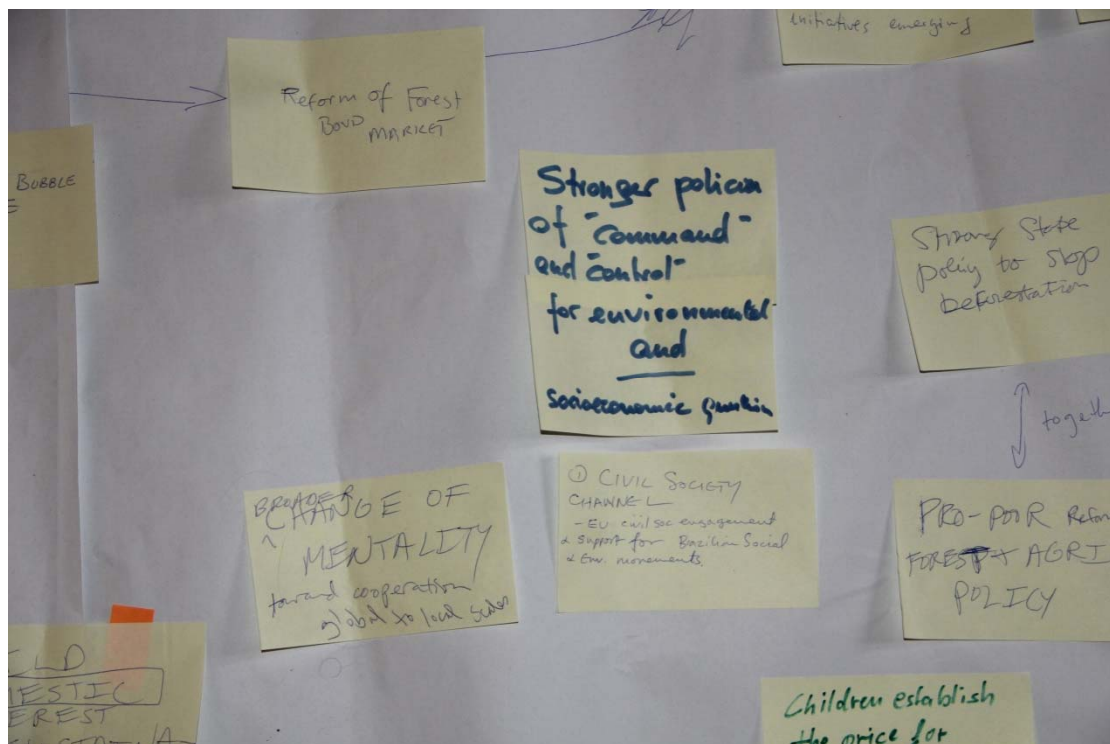


Figure 11. Future policy options. Results of backcasting exercise of break-out group 1. Detail.

Most important newly developed strategies in the afternoon session:

- **Strengthen civil society.** Because of the fragmented nature of governance institutions, civil society played a huge role in establishing the sustainable pathway, through social media and other awareness raising campaigns
- **Incorporation of the cost of harm.** A novel item in the afternoon session was the notion that the costs of harm needed to be included in goods and services.

Strategies that were a continuation from the morning exercise:

- **Education of the next generation.** Education is what in many ways is indispensable to start any other action, and was seen as absolutely crucial.
- **New and strong trade agreements.** Agreements were particularly seen as important with the other BRIC countries, notably China.
- **Europe 'cleans up its own act'.** Despite the strong arguments for collaborations, it was also stressed that this cannot successfully take place without the EU better organising financial, political, and environmental issues at the same time.

3.2.3 An artist's impression

Ms Bridget Currie, a professional artist, attended the afternoon sessions of the workshop and was asked to make impressions of the workshop, in order to produce outcomes in addition to the formal products. As visualisations can be potentially powerful, we asked for images. Figure 12 and 13 give examples of images that were produced to illustrate the inequalities in the *Security First* scenario.



Figure 12. Example of an image drawn by artist during afternoon session of workshop illustrating the inequalities in the *Security First* scenario.



Figure 13. Example of an image drawn by artist during afternoon session of workshop illustrating the sustainable solutions discussed within the context of the *Sustainability First* scenario.

4. POLICY ROBUSTNESS AND COMPARISON

As indicated in Section 2, the final part of the methodology was not executed during the workshop. Results on the analysis of policy robustness and comparison across scenarios were generated *a posteriori*, based on an analysis by AMAZALERT project members. Because it yielded important additional insights and because it was based on the results as generated during the workshops, we opted to include the main findings in this report.

4.1 Robust policies

The results are presented in Table 3. Included are seven strategy lines that followed directly from the results presented in Section 3. The following conclusions can be drawn:

- Three strategy lines, international policy agreements; strengthen civil society; and create sustainability criteria for investments, could be considered fully robust as they were discussed in the context of both scenarios. A fourth strategy line, international trade agreements could also be considered potentially robust.
- For most of the strategy lines, further analysis is needed to establish the degree of robustness in terms of underlying objectives, timing, actors involved, and overall approach. The international trade agreements strategy line shows that there might be differences.
- In general, none of the strategy lines except 'more scientific research' were evaluated as not robust.

Table 3. Comparison of main strategy lines and evaluation of robustness in the two scenarios. Underlining indicates scenario within which strategy was proposed.

Strategy line	Sustainability First	Security First	Potentially robust?
More scientific research	<u>Yes</u>	No	No
International policy agreements	<u>Yes</u>	Yes	Yes
Sustainability criteria for investments	<u>Yes</u>	Yes	Yes
Strengthen civil society	Yes	<u>Yes</u>	Yes
International trade agreements	Yes	<u>Yes</u>	Yes
Incorporation of cost of harm	Not discussed	<u>Yes</u>	To be determined
Increase strength of EU-level agreements	Not discussed	<u>Yes</u>	To be determined

In short, there is a rather large degree of similarity between the strategies that resulted from the context of two radically different future scenarios. Although more and more detailed analysis is needed to substantiate whether the potential similarities hold when further elaborated, it seems that there are at least elements of a number of strategies that could be successful in both *Sustainability First* and in *Security First*, and particularly related to:

- Working towards new international policy and trade agreements
- Supporting sustainability criteria for (market) investments
- Investing in public awareness raising campaigns

4.2 Current and future policy needs

A final comparison that was made after the workshop was between the items identified as currently important in the morning session and future strategies in the context of a scenario in the afternoon session. Table 4 compares the results presented in Section 3.1 (current impacts) and Section 3.2 (future actions). It can be concluded that a number of main elements were discussed both to describe the current situation and in the context of a future scenario to actively aim at reducing deforestation, including the need to strengthen civic society, the potential role of international trade and trade agreements, and regional collaboration. Given the fact that the same groups discussed present and future, this is perhaps not unexpected. More interesting, however, is that a number of issues emerged from the discussions that were framed by contextual scenarios and desired endpoints within those, including the need for scientific research and the strategy to incorporate costs.

Table 4. Comparison between issues discussed as currently important in discussing deforestation in the Amazon and future strategies to reduce deforestation.

Current issues	Future strategy	Conclusion
Social cohesion	Strengthen civic society	Continuously discussed
International trade agreements	International trade/policy agreements	Continuously discussed
Standards and norms for trading	Trade agreements	Continuously discussed
Regional collaboration	International agreements;	Continuously discussed
Technical cooperation	-	Less important in scenario discussion
-	Scientific research	Emerged from scenario discussions
-	Strengthen EU	Emerged from scenario discussions
-	Incorporate costs	Emerged from scenario discussions

Besides those mentioned in the table, the example of bilateral collaboration with China as proposed in the context of *Security First* serves to illustrate how new discussions were triggered. It can be concluded that it is potentially beneficial to use multiple methods in a single workshop, as they provide different pieces of the puzzle, in this case ‘current problems’ and ‘future solutions’, that together help identifying key elements of how Europe can contribute to slowing deforestation in Brazil.



Similar to the analysis on robust strategies, however, this is but an initial analysis that only provides hints of what general issues seem most important to further investigate. Other methods would be needed to corroborate these findings, particularly (quantitative) models that can, for example, provide more information on the role of trade.

5. DISCUSSION

5.1 Process

We aimed at fulfilling a rather large number of objectives in one single-day workshop. We knew up front that this was a challenging undertaking. One day did indeed turn out to be very short for what we planned to do. Because of the animated discussions during the presentations in the morning, time pressure on the actual workshop sessions was very high. The final session in which strategies are compared and the robustness of policies is analysed was ultimately not conducted during the workshop, but by AMAZALERT project members afterwards. For any future cases, we recommend to conduct a two-day workshop to increase time availability.

On the other hand, throughout the day, participation was very active and in both break-out groups there were animated discussions. Lunch was similarly used to continue discussions. Additionally, most participants arrived in time and stayed for the duration of the day. Moreover, there was an active interest in results of AMAZALERT project. Presentations were followed by lively discussions and detailed questions.

5.2 Results

A large amount of material was generated. The choice for two break-out groups during all sessions and the choice for mindmapping and backcasting as two central methods yielded a wealth of information. The two scenarios that were selected to shape discussions on future policies gave rise to sets of policies and strategies that were highly complementary. Overall, the different methods yielded results that together provided a complete picture of the current situation, possible future changes, and (robust) strategies to decrease deforestation.

On the downside, almost all actions that were identified remained rather vague. This was partly related to a lack of time and partly to the fact that being concrete on future action within a contextual scenario is difficult. A two-day workshop will increase time available to flesh out the policies and other actions in more detail.

6. CONCLUSIONS

The workshop was successful in terms of process and outcomes. In general terms, all objectives were met, although the last and synthesising session was completed after the workshop. A (small) list of potentially no-regret policies was obtained, importantly related to strengthening civil society and social cohesion; a better embedding of the EU in international agreements and policies; and investments based on sustainability criteria. Together these might increase the influence of the EU on reducing deforestation in the Amazon.