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Originally published as:

Schmitz, C., Kreidenweis, U., Lotze-Campen, H., Popp, A., Krause, M., Dietrich, J. P., Müller, C. (2015): Agricultural trade and tropical deforestation: interactions and related policy options. - *Regional Environmental Change*, 15, 8, 1757-1772

DOI: [10.1007/s10113-014-0700-2](https://doi.org/10.1007/s10113-014-0700-2)

Available at <http://link.springer.com>

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1 **Agricultural trade and tropical deforestation -**

2 **Interactions and related policy options**

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7 the date of receipt and acceptance should be inserted later

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The manuscript contains 6303 words

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8 **Abstract** The extensive clearing of tropical forests throughout past decades
9 has been partly assigned to increased trade in agricultural goods. Since fur-
10 ther trade liberalisation can be expected, remaining rainforests are likely to
11 face additional threats with negative implications for climate mitigation and
12 the local environment. We apply a spatially explicit economic land-use model
13 coupled to a biophysical vegetation model to examine linkages and associated
14 policies between trade and tropical deforestation in the future. Results indi-
15 cate that further trade liberalisation leads to an expansion of deforestation
16 in Amazonia due to comparative advantages of agriculture in South America.
17 Globally, between 30 and 60 million ha (5% to 10%) of tropical rainforests
18 would be cleared additionally, leading to 20-40 Gt additional CO₂ emissions
19 by 2050. By applying different forest protection policies, those values could
20 be reduced substantially. Most effective would be the inclusion of avoided de-
21 forestation into a global emissions trading scheme. Carbon prices correspond-
22 ing to the concentration target of 550 ppm would prevent deforestation after
23 2020. Investing in agricultural productivity reduces pressure on tropical forests
24 without the necessity of direct protection. In general, additional trade-induced
25 demand from developed and emerging countries should be compensated by in-
26 ternational efforts to protect natural resources in tropical regions.

27 **Keywords** land-use change · trade liberalisation · tropical deforestation ·
28 forest protection · agricultural productivity growth

1 Introduction

Throughout the past three decades tropical deforestation has contributed between 12% and 25% to worldwide greenhouse gas emissions (Houghton, 2003; Fearnside and Laurance, 2003; van der Werf et al., 2009). Total net release of carbon from forest change in the 1990s varied according to different methodology and data sources between 0.5 and 2.2 PgC per year, having increased considerably since the 1950s (Ramankutty et al., 2006). A more recent study estimates average net emissions from tropical land-use change at 1.5 PgC per year in the 1990s and 1.1 PgC per year between 2000 and 2007 (Pan et al., 2011). Besides generating carbon emissions, deforestation leads to socio-economic damages for the local population (Barraclough and Ghimire, 2000), reduced water cycling (Fearnside, 2005), increased flood risk (Bradshaw et al., 2007), disruptions to the local climate (Costa and Foley, 2000) and severe loss of biodiversity (Gorenflo and Brandon, 2005). From FAO country studies it is assessed that since the 1980s on average around 13 million ha of forest area has been lost every year (Ramankutty et al., 2006; FAO, 2010).

Cropland expansion is considered to be one of the key drivers behind tropical deforestation. Commercial and subsistence agriculture are related to about three-quarters of deforestation (Hosonuma et al., 2012). Another study about deforestation in Brazil based on satellite data indicated that up to 23% is triggered by cropland expansion and 66% by pasture expansion (Morten et al., 2006). By using the Landsat database from FAO, Gibbs et al. (2010) revealed that between 1980 and 2000 about 55% of new agricultural land in the Pan-Tropics came from intact forests and about 30% from disturbed forests. Especially in South America, large-scale and enterprise-driven agriculture fuelled by rising consumer demand is a major cause (Parker et al., 2009). In contrast, in Central Africa, extraction of natural resources (e.g. timber) and

56 in Pacific Asia pressure from commercial agricultural plantations are seen as
57 the main driving forces behind the forest loss (Lambin et al., 2001). Although
58 some recent sources have referred to a decreasing deforestation rate (Kauppi et
59 al., 2006; FAO, 2010), the remaining rainforest worldwide is in severe danger
60 due to increasing demand for food and other agricultural products (Gibbs et
61 al., 2010).

62 Besides the general rise in agricultural demand, several studies point out
63 that further trade liberalisation is and will be an important factor for defor-
64 estation activities. Barbier (2000) demonstrated this relationship with case
65 studies from Ghana and Mexico. In Brazil, improved access to international
66 markets has pushed soy and beef production causing a surge in deforesta-
67 tion (Fearnside, 2005; Nepstad et al., 2006). Based on satellite data DeFries
68 et al. (2010) concluded that forest loss is largely driven by urban population
69 growth and international exports of agricultural products. Other studies have
70 used a global modelling approach to analyse future effects of trade liberali-
71 sation. Verburg et al. (2009) and Schmitz et al. (2012) have shown that the
72 rates of tropical deforestation and global greenhouse gas emissions are likely
73 to rise with increased trade liberalisation in the future. Similar studies have
74 emphasised that liberalising trade leads only to small land use shifts in Europe
75 but dramatic shifts in developing regions with negative implications for the
76 environment (van Meijl et al., 2006; Eickhout et al., 2010).

77 To induce climate change mitigation and reduce further deforestation dif-
78 ferent policies are available (Forner et al., 2006; Kolstad et al., 2014). These
79 include direct regulatory approaches, economic incentives, or government pro-
80 vision of technology to tackle the problem. Direct regulation is mainly ap-
81 plied to protected areas (PAs); it has been shown to be effective (Nelson and
82 Chomitz, 2011; Beresford et al., 2013) and is linked to the recent slowdown
83 of deforestation in the Amazonian rainforest (Soares-Filho et al., 2010). Eco-

84 nomic incentives include classic measures like taxes or subsidies but also trad-
85 able emissions allowances. Pricing greenhouse gas emissions from the land-use
86 sector has been proposed as one promising approach and has been analysed
87 extensively through the application of large-scale integrated land-use models
88 (Kindermann et al., 2008; Wise et al., 2009; Thomson et al., 2010). The seques-
89 tration and storage of carbon in vegetation can also be rewarded by Payments
90 for Ecosystem Services (PES). Rewarding measurable, below-baseline emis-
91 sions, is also the idea behind the REDD scheme (Reducing Emissions from
92 Deforestation and Degradation) currently discussed under the United Nations
93 Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). Governments could
94 also invest in yield increasing Research & Development that lowers the pres-
95 sure on expansion into forests. Whether this is a promising strategy has been
96 under discussion for several years.

97 The Borlaug hypothesis, named after the father of the Green Revolution
98 Norman Borlaug, suggests that yield increases lead to a lower spatial need for
99 production, and thus have and will save natural ecosystems such as forests. In
100 contrast, according to Jevon's paradox, at the local forest frontiers, new tech-
101 nologies can be labour saving, thus freeing workforce for expanding agricul-
102 ture. (Angelsen, 2001; Hertel, 2012)). Byerlee et al. (2014), however, conclude
103 in their recent literature review that at a global level, investment in R&D
104 to improve productivity remains one of the best ways to reduce pressure on
105 increasingly scarce land resources and conserve natural ecosystems.

106 Previous studies have either focused on trade liberalisation or on forest-
107 protection measures but none have looked at the important interplay between
108 these. We here integrate both effects and consider explicitly the interaction
109 between trade liberalisation and deforestation. We apply the economic land-
110 use model MAgPIE ("Model of Agricultural Production and its Impact on
111 the Environment"), which takes global and regional interactions into account

112 and simulates spatially explicit land-use patterns. MAgPIE uses endogenously
113 derived technological change and land expansion rates, which make it unique
114 in the field of land-use modelling. Biophysical processes and inputs are consid-
115 ered through the link with the global vegetation-hydrology model LPJmL. The
116 main goal of our study is to investigate consequences of different trade volume
117 scenarios and forest protection policies on land-use change, carbon emissions,
118 net exports, and technological change rates over the coming five decades. As
119 forest protection scenarios, we assume an expansion of protected areas, dif-
120 ferent carbon price scenarios and one case in which agricultural productivity
121 in forest regions is increased through higher investments in Research & De-
122 velopment and infrastructure. The latter is used to highlight the important
123 interplay between land expansion and technological change (Lotze-Campen et
124 al., 2010; Dietrich et al., 2013; Popp et al., 2012). We start by explaining the
125 model framework with the implementation of trade and forest and by describ-
126 ing the applied scenarios. Following this, we present results of the analysis
127 which are, finally, compared and discussed.

128 2 Methods

129 2.1 General Model Description

130 For the analysis we use the recursive dynamic optimisation model MAgPIE
131 ("Model of Agricultural Production and its Impact on the Environment").
132 In the following, we briefly present the main model features for this study.
133 For further details we refer to the extensive model documentation (Lotze-
134 Campen et al., 2008, 2010; Popp et al., 2010, 2011; Schmitz et al., 2012) and
135 the mathematical description, which is attached as supplementary material.

136 Figure 1 presents a simplified flow chart of the inputs for MAgPIE. The
137 model reflects three layers: global, regional (reflected by ten world regions,
138 see Figure 1) and cellular layers (based on 0.5 degree resolution). MAgPIE
139 simulates time steps of 10 years (starting in 1995) and uses in each period
140 the optimal land-use pattern from the previous period as a starting point.
141 Required calories in the demand categories are derived through a cross-country
142 regression based on a medium population scenario (UN, 2011) and a medium
143 income-growth scenario (projections based on Heston et al. (2011)). With the
144 implementation of international trade it is determined how many calories are
145 produced domestically and how many are imported. In MAgPIE, trade can
146 be either fixed, if it is allocated according to historic self-sufficiency rates
147 (1995 values from FAO (2011a)), or liberalised, which means that regions
148 with comparative advantages produce more at the expense of less competitive
149 regions. The share of the two options is determined by the trade balance
150 reduction factor $p_t b$ (see Figure 1). More details on the trade implementation
151 are described in Schmitz et al. (2012). The resulting calories are produced
152 by 16 crop groups (temperate cereals, maize, tropical cereals, rice, soybean,
153 rapeseed, groundnut, sunflower, oil palm, pulses, potato, cassava, sugar beet,

154 sugar cane, cotton, others) and 5 livestock types (ruminant meat, pig meat,
155 poultry meat, egg, milk) in the particular regions.

156 Further inputs to MAgPIE are socio-economic data, mainly costs, which
157 define the cost minimisation objective function. In the baseline version of the
158 model four categories of costs arise: 1) Production costs are taken from GTAP
159 (Narayanan and Walmsley, 2008) and contain factor costs for labour, capital,
160 and intermediate inputs. 2) Technological change is endogenously implemented
161 in MAgPIE. That means the model decides (based on an investment regres-
162 sion) how much additional technological change is required and cost effective.
163 Costs are based on investments in agricultural Research & Development as
164 well as infrastructure investments (Dietrich et al., 2013). They rise exponen-
165 tially with the state of agricultural development of a region (Dietrich et al.,
166 2012). The endogenous implementation allows MAgPIE to project future yield
167 increases and the costs involved. 3) Land expansion involves costs for prepa-
168 ration of new land and basic infrastructure investments (Krause et al., 2012).
169 Land conversion costs are based on country-level marginal access costs gener-
170 ated by the Global Timber Model (GTM) (Sohngen et al., 2009). Regarding
171 the conversion of intact and frontier forests (IFF) we base our cost parameteri-
172 sation on reference values from case studies. Merry et al. (2002) analysed forest
173 transition in Latin America with a case study of Bolivia and calculated conver-
174 sion costs of 600 to 700 US\$/ha. Similar costs accrue in Indonesia where the
175 value for converting rainforest to cropland is 550 US\$/ha (Simorangkir, 2007).
176 Another case study from Latvia, however, reveals considerably higher costs of
177 1,500 US\$/ha (Lazdins et al., 2009). In developed countries this value (based
178 on marginal access costs) increases even further up to 7,500 US\$/ha (Sohngen
179 et al., 2009). The large variation in costs is due to topography, forest type, soil
180 conditions, applied technology, and the governmental system. As a base value
181 we assume 1,000 US\$/ha for tropical land conversion. We applied a sensitivity

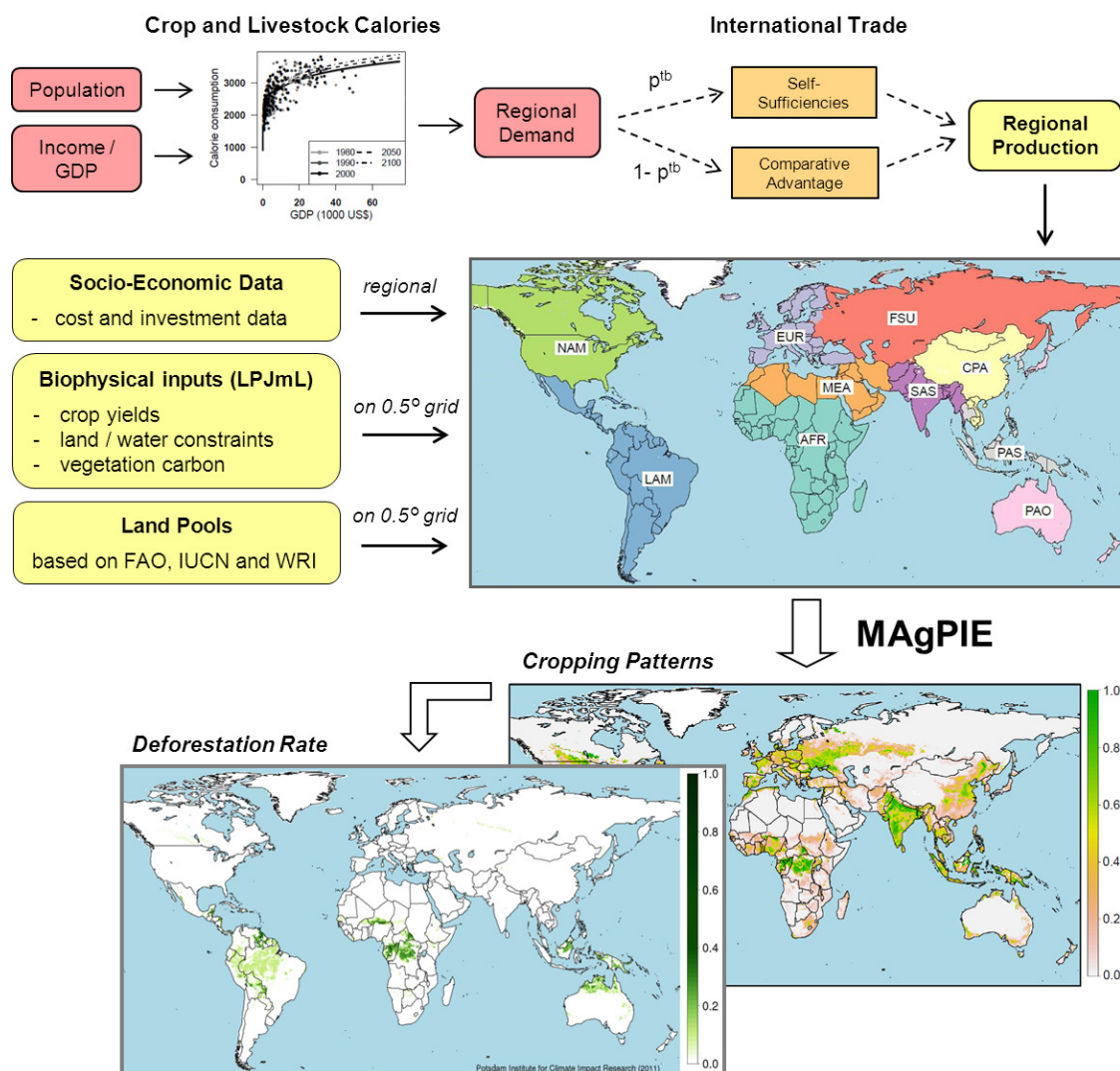


Fig. 1 Simplified MAGPIE flow chart of key processes highlighted in this study (demand and trade implementation, land pools and spatially explicit land-use change). With exogenous data about population and GDP development, we calculate regional demand and the livestock share. The former is then translated to regional production depending on the international trade scenario. Further inputs for MAGPIE are socio-economic data like production costs, biophysical inputs from LPJmL and land-type data based on various sources (FAO, IUCN and WRI). After optimisation of MAGPIE, possible outputs are cropping patterns of different crops or maps with deforestation rates. MAGPIE divides the world into ten regions: AFR = Sub-Saharan Africa, CPA = Centrally Planned Asia (incl. China), EUR = Europe (incl. Turkey), FSU = Former Soviet Union, LAM = Latin America, MEA = Middle East and North Africa, NAM = North America, PAO = Pacific OECD (Australia, Japan and New Zealand), PAS = Pacific Asia, SAS = South Asia (incl. India).

182 analysis of this parameter by varying it in 200 US\$ steps from 200 US\$ to
183 1,800 US\$ (see Figure 9). 4) Intraregional transport costs for every commod-
184 ity unit reflect the distance to intraregional markets and the quality of the
185 infrastructure. Data for transport costs are derived from GTAP (Narayanan
186 and Walmsley, 2008) and travel time to the nearest city is reflected by a 30
187 arc-second resolution data set (Nelson, 2008). For long-term investments, like
188 land conversion or R&D, we assume an annual discount rate of 7%, which re-
189 flects the opportunity costs of capital at the global level (IPCC (2007), chapter
190 2.4.2.1).

191 For the representation of biophysical processes, MAgPIE is linked to the
192 global biophysical vegetation-hydrology model LPJmL (Bondeau et al., 2007).
193 LPJmL endogenously models the dynamic processes linking climate and soil
194 conditions, water availability and plant growth, and takes the impacts of CO₂,
195 temperature and radiation on yield directly into account. The link to MAg-
196 PIE is generated via rainfed and irrigated yields for different crops, rainfed and
197 irrigated land-use fractions (Fader et al., 2010), water inputs, like irrigation
198 requirements and water availability (Rost et al., 2008), and the carbon content
199 of the various vegetation types. These outputs from LPJmL are used in a 0.5
200 degree resolution in MAgPIE. The same resolution is used for the determi-
201 nation of land types per grid cell. The different land pools are taken from a
202 consistent land-use database developed by Krause et al. (2009) which is based
203 on Erb et al. (2007) and integrates crop suitability indicators (van Velthuisen
204 et al., 2007), intact and frontier forest types (Bryant et al., 1997; Potapov
205 et al., 2008), and protected areas (UNEP-WCMC, 2006). Intact and frontier
206 forests can also be denoted as undisturbed natural forests. Together with other
207 natural vegetation not defined as grazing land or forest (around 122 million
208 ha), it constitutes the land pool that is made available for cropland expansion
209 (around 734 million ha). The remaining land pools, like pasture and managed

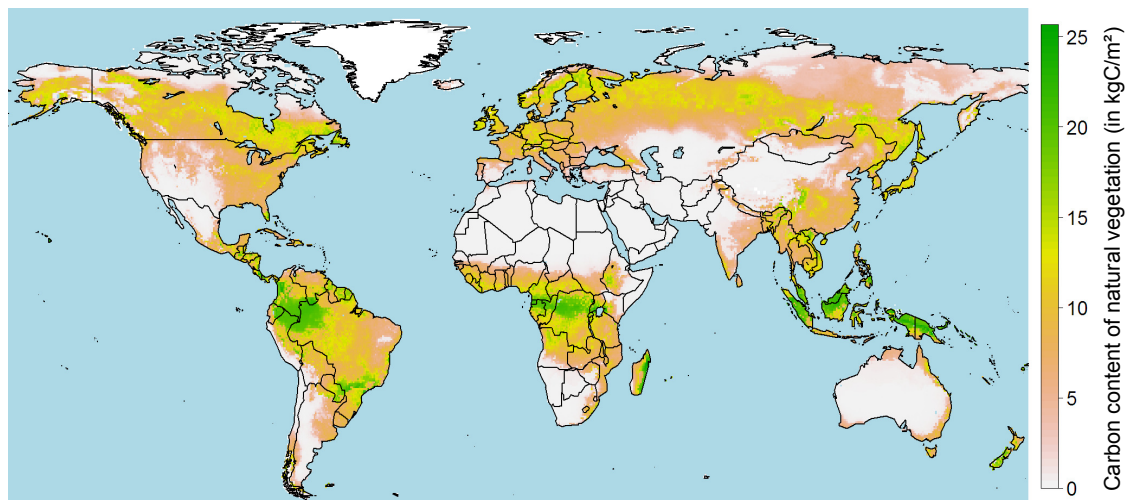


Fig. 2 Grid-cell specific carbon content (0.5 degree) of natural vegetation (in kgC/m^2) from LPJmL (average from 1990-1999) used in MAgPIE

210 forests, are not regarded for cropland expansion. When land-use change occurs
211 and land is converted to a different type (e.g. forest to cropland), MAgPIE
212 accounts for carbon emissions by taking the differences in LPJmL-derived car-
213 bon stocks between the two land pools. The used LPJmL model version is
214 able to capture changes in above- and belowground vegetation carbon (see
215 Figure 2) but not in soil carbon. Related carbon emissions are reported as
216 CO_2 -equivalent emissions after each time step.

217 2.2 Scenario Design

218 The aim of this study is to investigate interactions between international trade
219 policy and forest protection measures (Table 1) and their consequences on
220 tropical deforestation patterns.

221 Concerning trade policy, our analysis largely follows the policy scenario of
222 the predecessor study (Schmitz et al., 2012), except that trade liberalisation
223 starts in 2015 (instead of 2005). Hence, our reference case keeps the trade pat-

Table 1 Scenario Definition

Policies	Trade policy	Forest policy		
<i>Scale</i>	<i>global</i>	<i>AFR</i>	<i>LAM</i>	<i>PAS</i>
Reference Scenario [<i>reference</i>]	constant	- basic forest protection -		
Trade Scenarios:				
(a) no forest policy [<i>nopol</i>]	liberalisation	- basic forest protection -		
(b) Increasing forest protection over time [<i>time</i>]	liberalisation	until 2040	until 2030	until 2030
(c) Low CO ₂ price [<i>lowprice</i>]	liberalisation	- low CO ₂ -Price -		
(d) CO ₂ -price to achieve 550 ppm [<i>550ppm</i>]	liberalisation	- high CO ₂ -Price -		
(e) Additional investment in TC [<i>TC</i>]	liberalisation	- 1% TC p.a. -		

Table 2 Forest protection rate in the past (2000-2010) and assumed rates for the future (2010-2050) in the trade scenario *time*

Scenario	Region	2000-10	2010-20	2020-30	2030-40	2040-50
Basic protection (observed)	<i>AFR</i>	8%	8%	8%	8%	8%
	<i>LAM</i>	25%	25%	25%	25%	25%
	<i>PAS</i>	12%	12%	12%	12%	12%
Protection over time (assumed)	<i>AFR</i>	8%	31%	54%	77%	100%
	<i>LAM</i>	25%	50%	75%	100%	100%
	<i>PAS</i>	12%	41%	70%	100%	100%

224 terns fixed over time, whereas the trade scenarios assume further progress in
225 the Doha Development Round ¹, leading to liberalisation efforts comparable
226 to situations in the 1980s and 1990s, when large global liberalisation efforts
227 were undertaken. Based on Dollar and Kraay (2004) and Conforti and Salvatici
228 (2004), we assume that trade barriers are continuously reduced by 10% each
229 decade. The trade policy is the same in all five trade scenarios, but the scenar-
230 ios differ according to their forest policy (Table 1). Whereas the scenario *nopol*
231 assumes no forest protection measures in order to highlight the differences of
232 the trade effect compared to the reference case, the other four scenarios assume
233 different global and regional policy measures to reduce deforestation.

¹ The Doha Development Round is the latest round of trade negotiations of the World Trade Organisation (WTO). It was launched in 2001 with the aim of improving the access to global markets. For more information on the stage and agenda of the Doha Round, see Martin and Mattoo (2011).

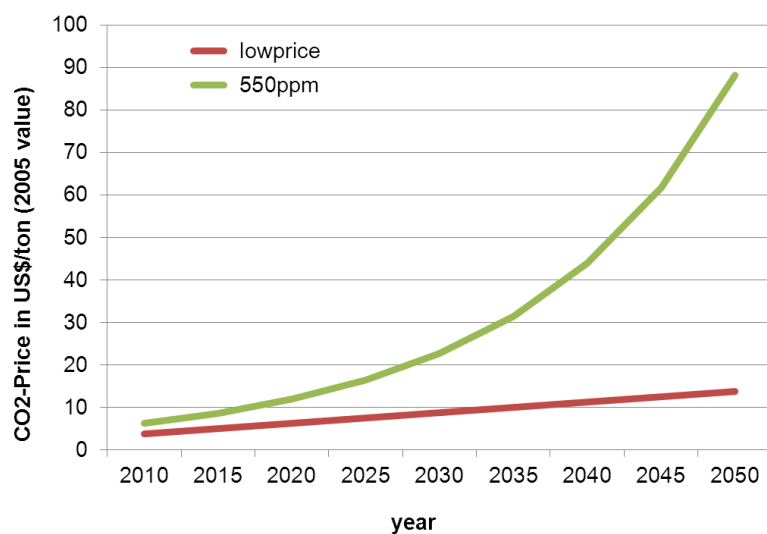


Fig. 3 Modelled CO₂-Price (in US\$/tonne) for the *lowprice* and *550ppm* scenario until 2050

234 As a first scenario, we introduce policies to restrict deforestation and to
235 implement protected areas (PAs). Based on Soares-Filho et al. (2006) we con-
236 sider a defined share of intact and frontier forest as protected and increase
237 this share over time (*time* scenario). For the three main tropical IFF regions
238 we assume a different time span (2040 in AFR and 2030 in LAM and PAS)
239 until full forest protection is achieved depending on awareness level and gov-
240 ernmental structures (Table 2). For comprehensibility reasons and to depict
241 the whole range of possible outcomes we allow for no deforestation in these
242 protected areas.

243 As a further scenario set-up, we introduce a CO₂ price as climate mitiga-
244 tion policy, which has to be paid in cases of deforestation and increases the
245 costs of land conversion. In contrast to other approaches, which use constant
246 carbon prices over time (e.g. Kindermann et al. (2008)), our price assumption
247 rises over time. We differentiate two cases. First, we reflect a low price sce-
248 nario (*lowprice*), in which the price per tonne of CO₂ starts at 5 US\$ and rises

249 continuously to 12.5 US\$ (Figure 3). In 2013 an average of 4.9 US\$ was paid
250 per tonne of CO₂ on the voluntary offset market (Peters-Stanley and Gon-
251 zalez, 2014). In a second CO₂ price scenario, called *550ppm*, we consider the
252 other case, in which CO₂ emissions from deforestation are included in a po-
253 tential global carbon market. The CO₂ price is in this case based on modelling
254 results from the ReMIND model for the Energy Modeling Forum (EMF-24)
255 (Luderer et al., 2012), which assumes a maximum concentration of greenhouse
256 gas emissions of 550 ppm (Figure 3).

257 Finally, the last scenario assumes that the three forest regions, Latin Amer-
258 ica (LAM), Sub-Sahara Africa (AFR) and Pacific Asia (PAS) receive financial
259 means to increase their yields by 1% per year. This kind of exogenous tech-
260 nological change (*TC*) is a special case since no direct intervention of forest
261 protection is assumed and only indirect effects on the forest area will be ob-
262 tained. At the same time, the countries are allowed to invest in TC on top of
263 that external investment. The hypothesis behind this scenario is that higher
264 investments in TC can reduce the rate of forest destruction without any forest
265 protection.

Table 3 Intact and Frontier Forest (IFF) in 2050, deforestation area (2010-2050), associated CO₂ emissions and the net average carbon emissions of deforested area in the different scenarios

Region	Result	Unit	reference	nopol	time	lowprice	550ppm	TC
Latin America (LAM)	IFF in 2050	10 ⁶ ha	339.5	299.7	388.5	411.1	459.6	343.3
	Deforestation (2010-50)	10 ⁶ ha	140.5	180.3	91.5	68.9	20.4	136.7
	CO ₂ emissions (2010-50)	Gt CO ₂	60.0	84.5	42.9	27.3	5.5	58.3
	Average carbon emissions	kgC/m ²	11.7	12.8	12.8	10.8	7.4	11.6
Sub-Sahara Africa (AFR)	IFF in 2050	10 ⁶ ha	0.7	0.9	9.2	34.5	63.6	1.1
	Deforestation (2010-50)	10 ⁶ ha	63.7	63.5	55.2	29.9	0.8	63.3
	CO ₂ emissions (2010-50)	Gt CO ₂	40.8	40.5	36.2	17.0	0.5	38.8
	Average carbon emissions	kgC/m ²	17.5	17.4	17.9	15.5	15.4	16.7
Pacific Asia (PAS)	IFF in 2050	10 ⁶ ha	31.2	35.0	50.3	47.1	45.2	49.4
	Deforestation (2010-50)	10 ⁶ ha	24.3	20.5	5.2	8.4	10.3	6.1
	CO ₂ emissions (2010-50)	Gt CO ₂	10.9	9.9	2.6	0.9	2.1	2.8
	Average carbon emissions	kgC/m ²	12.2	13.2	13.6	2.9	5.6	12.5

266 3 Results

267 3.1 Tropical Deforestation and Carbon Emissions

268 Table 3 provides an overview showing the potential area of tropical intact and
269 frontier forest (IFF) in the three forest regions in 2050 as well as the change
270 between 2010 and 2050 under the different scenarios. The concentration of IFF
271 in Latin America ($\sim 80\%$) is also reflected in the deforestation patterns, as
272 the region sees the highest forest loss in all scenarios. Since a much smaller
273 share of tropical IFF is located in Central Africa ($\sim 10\%$) and South-East
274 Asia ($\sim 9\%$), deforestation is quite small in absolute terms, but percentual
275 changes in IFF are much higher than in LAM (in Central Africa up to 99%
276 depending on the scenario).

277 In Latin America around 140 million ha of IFF is deforested between 2010
278 and 2050 in the reference case, leading to 60 Gt CO₂ emissions. With additional
279 trade liberalisation this value grows to 180 million ha and about 85 Gt CO₂
280 emissions. The forest protection scenario (*time*) and the two price scenarios

281 (*lowprice* and *550ppm*) lead to lower deforestation rates than in the reference
282 case and to almost no emissions after 2040 (Figure 4). With exogenous TC,
283 additional CO₂ emissions can be reduced to a similar level to that of the
284 reference case (60 Gt CO₂). Most effective is the integration of deforestation
285 in a potential carbon market (*550ppm* scenario), leading to a total IFF loss
286 of only 20.4 million ha and corresponding emissions of 5.5 Gt CO₂. In the
287 *lowprice* scenario deforestation is reduced to 69 million ha and with full forest
288 protection until 2030 around 92 million ha will still be cleared prior to 2030.

289 For the Central African rainforest the picture looks different. Almost all
290 IFF will be gone under the *reference*, the *nopol* and the *TC* scenarios (around
291 63 million ha). This leads to relatively more CO₂ emissions (40 Gt), since the
292 average carbon content in AFR is higher than in the deforested area in LAM.
293 Full forest protection until 2040 saves 9.2 million ha of IFF, the *lowprice*
294 scenario saves around 35 million ha and the *550ppm* scenario saves almost the
295 whole IFF (64 million ha). In Pacific Asia, deforested area decreases under
296 trade liberalisation. Additionally, in contrast to the other regions, the *time*
297 and *TC* scenarios are most effective by conserving around 50 million ha of
298 the original 55.5 million. Additionally, the lower CO₂ price saves 2 million ha
299 more than the higher price scenario (*550ppm*).

300 The net average carbon emissions per deforested hectare in all scenarios
301 is highest in Central Africa (Table 3), where the northern part of the rainfor-
302 est has the highest carbon densities (see Figure 2). In South America average
303 carbon intensity is lower, since mostly cells at the border with a lower carbon
304 content are affected by deforestation (see Figure 5). As the model minimises
305 costs, considering a CO₂ price for released carbon (as in the *lowprice* and
306 *550ppm* scenarios) includes an additional decision criteria to the objective
307 function. In these scenarios, we observe a substantial reduction in the aver-

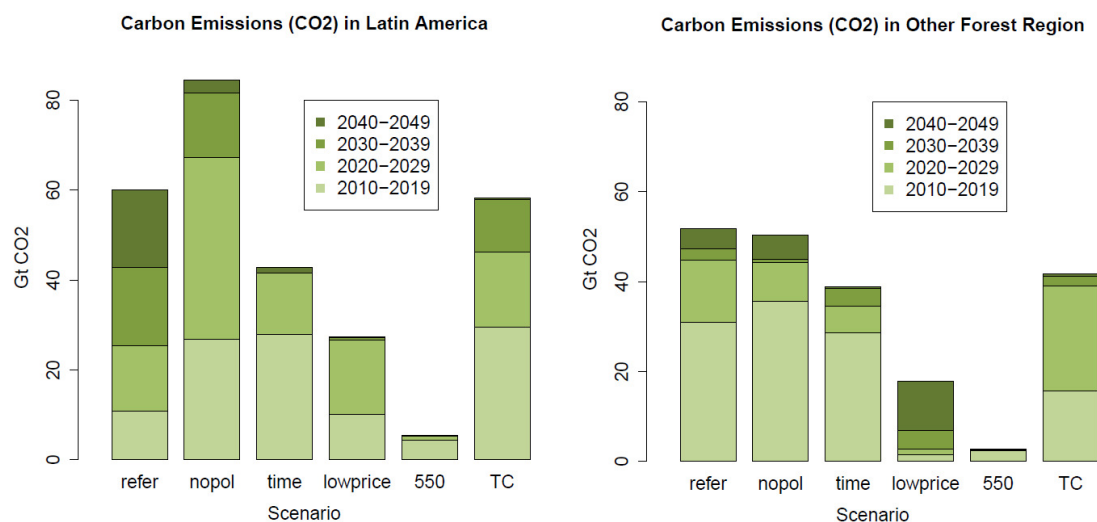


Fig. 4 CO₂ Emissions (in Gt) from tropical deforestation over time and for the two forest regions (LAM and OFR)

308 age per hectare carbon emissions since the model has an explicit incentive to
 309 minimise carbon release by choosing low carbon cells for land conversion.

310 For presentation purposes we have aggregated the model results into four
 311 regions. Latin America is treated separately due to its importance for IFF
 312 and the agricultural sector. Sub-Sahara Africa and Pacific Asia are grouped
 313 in the category "Other-tropical-Forest Regions" (OFR). For net export and
 314 technological change rates, the remaining regions are grouped together as Non-
 315 tropical-Forest Developing Countries (NFDC) (mainly China, India, Russia,
 316 and the Middle East) and OECD countries. The pace of deforestation varies
 317 substantially between scenarios (Figure 4). Forest clearance in LAM is much
 318 faster under the *nopol* scenario than under the reference scenario (drawing
 319 level with the 2030 baseline values in 2020 and exceeding the 2050 baseline
 320 in 2030). Including a low CO₂ price reduces emissions in LAM until 2050 to
 321 a level compared to the *nopol* scenario in 2020. In OFR, we obtain that in
 322 some scenarios (reference, *nopol*, *lowprice*) deforestation is higher in the last

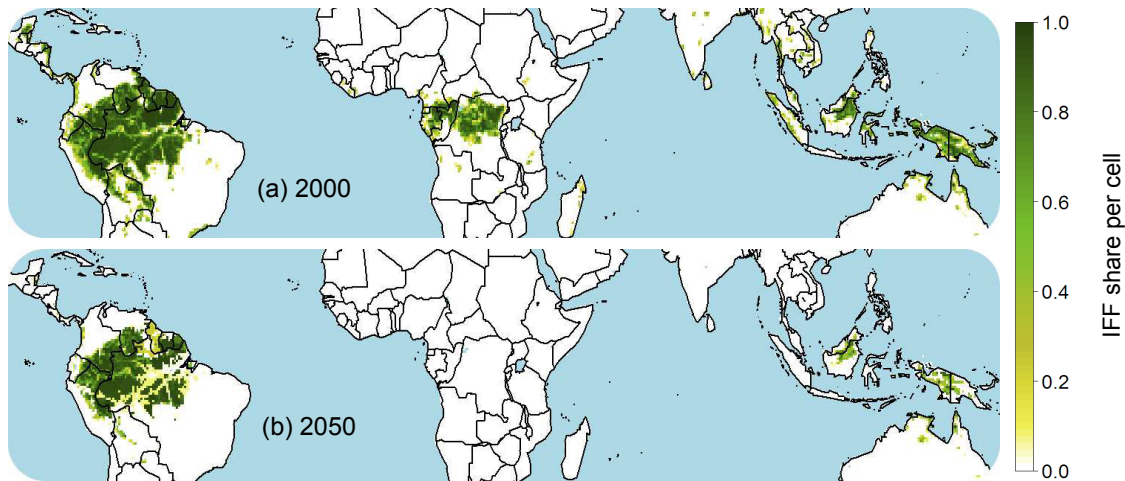


Fig. 5 Share of tropical intact and frontier forest per grid cell in the reference case in the years 2000 and 2050

323 time step than in the penultimate time step. In the other scenarios almost no
 324 deforestation takes place after 2040 due to full protection (*time*), high CO₂
 325 prices (*550ppm*) or high agricultural productivity (*TC*).

326 In the following, we present grid-specific maps, which support the under-
 327 standing of local dynamics. Figure 5a presents the tropical intact and frontier
 328 forest (IFF) in the year 2000. The tropical IFF forest is mainly located in
 329 Amazonia, Central Africa (mainly DR Congo, Cameroon, Gabon and Congo)
 330 and South-East Asia (mainly Malaysia, Indonesia, the Philippines and Papua
 331 New Guinea). Compared to the state in 2000, Figure 5b highlights the po-
 332 tential area of IFF in 2050 for the reference case. The Amazonia rainforest is
 333 considerably reduced especially at the borders in the south and west, but also
 334 within the forest, where infrastructure exists. The situation in Central Africa
 335 is even more intense, since in the reference case almost all IFF area would be
 336 cleared. In Pacific Asia forest area is reduced significantly in some locations,
 337 up to a complete loss of IFF.

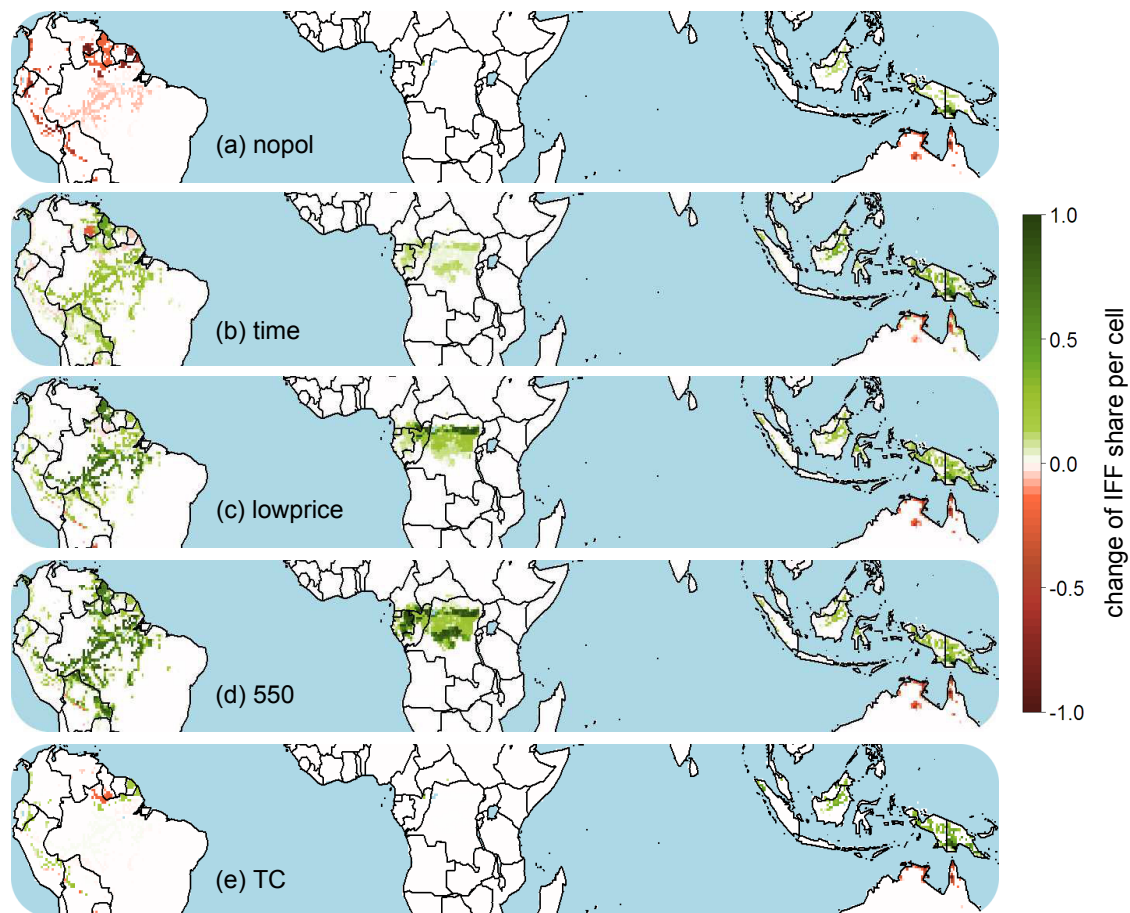


Fig. 6 Change of intact and frontier forest share per grid cell in the five trade scenarios compared to the reference case in 2050 (Red cells display additional deforestation, green cells display less deforestation)

338 To analyse the importance of trade liberalisation and forest protection
 339 measures in a spatially-explicit way, we investigate the scenarios' differences
 340 to the baseline setting in 2050 with difference maps (Figure 6). Positive values
 341 indicate a higher share of IFF in the scenarios and a negative value indicates
 342 further deforestation. The effects of trade liberalisation on deforestation rates
 343 are shown in Figure 6a (*reference* in 2050 minus *nopol* in 2050). In Latin
 344 America, the northern part of Amazonia and some border areas in the west
 345 are most negatively affected by trade liberalisation. Additionally, the inte-

rior close to existing infrastructure faces slight increases in deforestation. In Africa nothing changes as the whole forest would be gone in both scenarios, whereas Pacific Asia has lower and North Australia higher deforestation rates. Analysing the effects of forest protection measures, we show that deforestation in LAM is very sensitive to forest protection. If parts of the rainforest are protected with an increasing rate (Figure 6b), it mostly helps interior areas of the forest. Only some cells in the north of the forest are still deforested but to a lower extent than without protection policy. Both CO₂ price scenarios lead to much lower deforestation rates in the interior of the forest. In the 550ppm scenario this is most effective in the south (Figure 6d). Finally, in the TC scenario almost no differences can be detected compared to the reference case with respect to South America, except for some border cells in the north and west. In Africa, the CO₂ price scenarios have the biggest effect on deforestation, protecting the northern part and in the 550ppm scenario also the southern and western part. The expansion of protected areas (*time* scenario) has only small effects on deforestation patterns and investments in agricultural productivity (TC scenario) have no effects on deforestation as the whole forest is still cleared for agriculture. In Pacific Asia, all forest protection measures have positive effects with highest forest savings in Papua New Guinea.

3.2 Net export and Technological Change Rates

The analysis of net export rates indicates regions with comparative advantages in agricultural production. Figure 7 illustrates net export rates for cereals, oilcrops, sugar, and meat in the reference case and the trade scenarios.

In general, under trade liberalisation, Latin America exports more of every commodity compared to the reference scenario. In case of cereals, LAM turns from a net importer to a net exporter. Under forest protection, LAM becomes

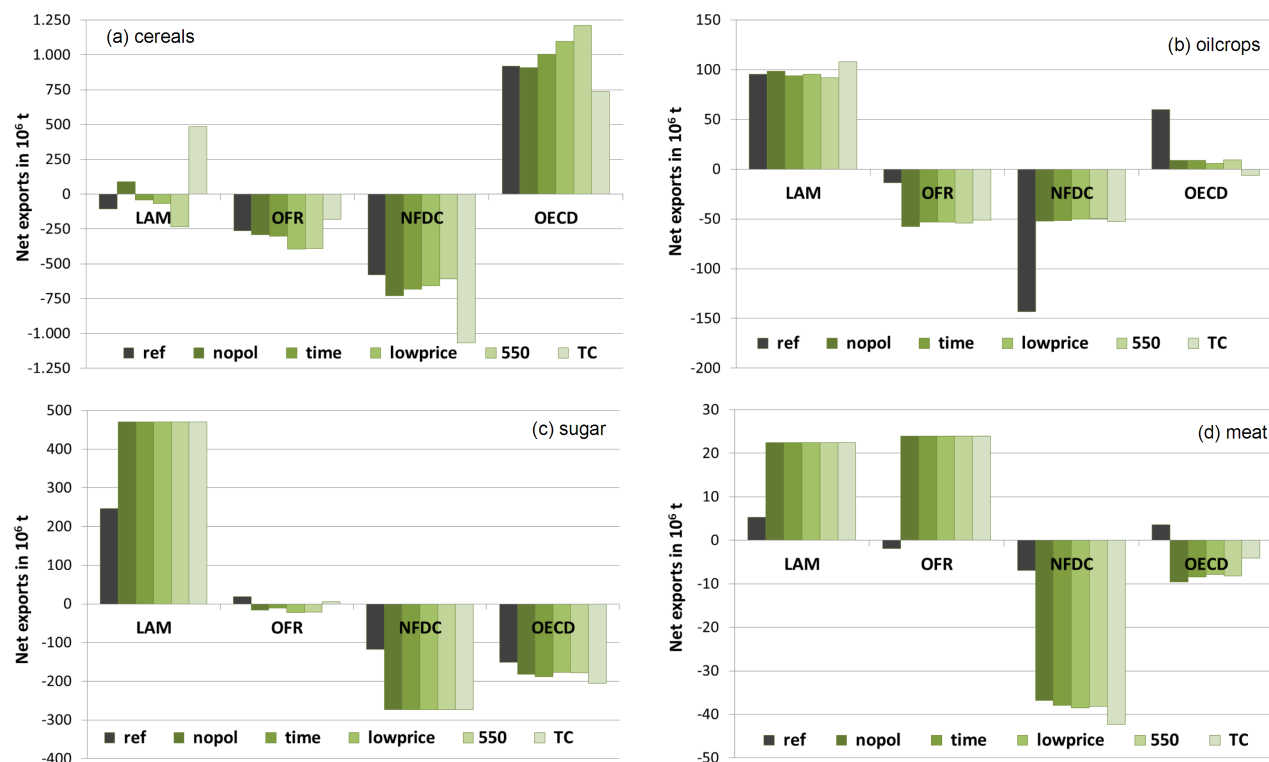


Fig. 7 Aggregated net exports (2010-2050) for the traded commodities (cereals, oilcrops, sugar and meat) in Latin America (LAM), Other Forest Regions (OFR), Non-tropical-Forest Developing Countries (NFDC) and OECD countries

372 a net importer again whereas the *TC* scenario generates the highest cereal net
 373 exports. Other commodities are less (oilcrops) or not at all (sugar, meat) af-
 374 fected by various forest protection policies and remain on a high export level.
 375 Trade liberalisation allows Non-tropical-Forest Developing Countries (NFDC)
 376 to reduce their imports in oilcrops at the expense of OECD countries, which
 377 face a drop in export levels. The rise in sugar exports in LAM leads to addi-
 378 tional imports in NFDC and OECD countries. Concerning meat, the overall
 379 extent of trade is rather low in 2050. Regions with tropical IFF increase their
 380 exports in livestock, whereas NFDC increase imports and OECD countries
 381 turn from exporters to importers.

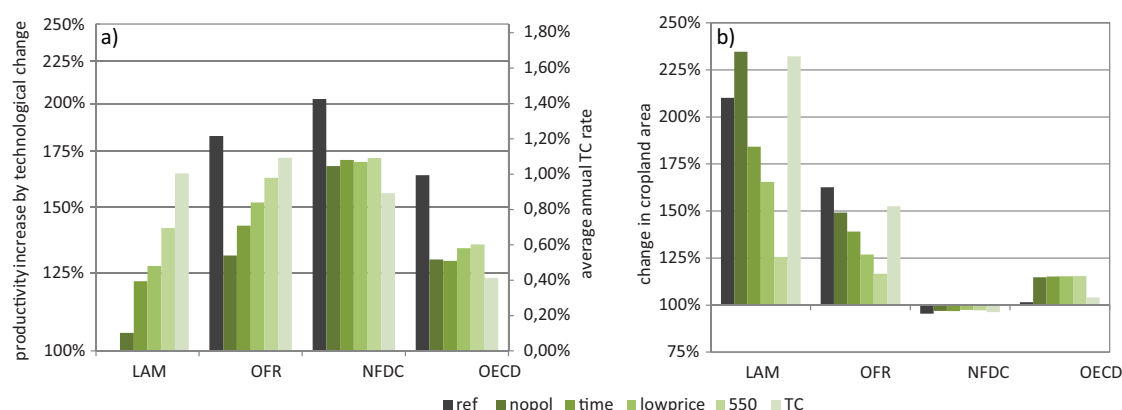


Fig. 8 a) Productivity increase by technological change and respective annual TC rates and b) increase in cropland of food and fodder crops in Latin America (LAM), Other Forest Regions (OFR), Non-tropical-Forest Developing Countries (NFDC) and OECD countries

382 Technological change (TC) rates are endogenously derived by MAGPIE
 383 (Dietrich et al., 2012, 2013), indicating the need for investments in technolog-
 384 ical development of the agricultural sector per region. In LAM, no investment
 385 into TC is observed in the reference case, production increase is mainly the
 386 result of an increase in cropland at the expense of tropical rainforests (Figure
 387 8). In turn, in all other regions, TC rates decrease with trade liberalisation
 388 compared to the reference case. Among the trade liberalisation scenarios, TC
 389 rates are lowest in the *nopol* scenario in LAM (0.1%) and OFR (0.54%) and
 390 highest where 1% annual Technological Change is provided at no costs (*TC*
 391 scenario). These high TC rates, however, do not change cropland area in these
 392 two regions a lot, but slightly reduce the expansion of cropland in OECD coun-
 393 tries. In general, forest protection increases the need for TC in regions rich in
 394 intact and frontier forests, if growing food demand is to be fulfilled.

395 3.3 Sensitivity Analysis

396 Our model results depend largely on exogenous parameters. In order to verify
 397 the results we regularly perform sensitivity tests with the crucial parameters.

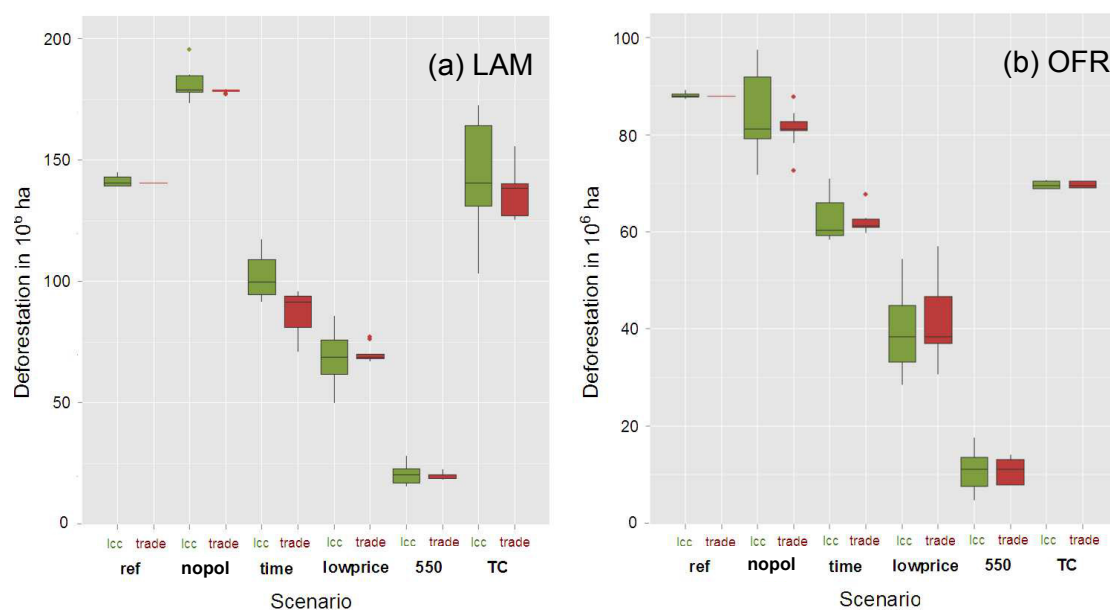


Fig. 9 Sensitivity of intact and frontier forest (IFF) area in LAM (Latin America) and OFR (Other Forest Regions) in 2050. For the analysis, land conversion costs (*lcc*) are varied in 200 US\$/ha - steps from 200 US\$/ha to 1,800 US\$/ha (green boxplots) and the trade balance reduction (*trade*) is varied in 2.5% steps (up to 10%) around the current setting (red boxplots). The boxplots display minimum, lower quartile, median, upper quartile and maximum values.

398 For this study we have chosen land conversion costs (*lcc*) and the trade balance
 399 reduction factor, which triggers the amount of trade liberalisation. In the first
 400 case we vary *lcc* from 200 US\$/ha to 1800\$/ha in 200 US\$/ha steps in each
 401 scenario, which amounts to 54 model runs. The same amount of model runs
 402 is required for the second sensitivity test, in which we vary the trade balance
 403 reduction factor by 2.5%, 5%, 7.5% and 10% below and above current values
 404 in each time step.

405 Resulting boxplots display the variation (minimum, lower quartile, median,
 406 upper quartile and maximum) in deforestation area of land conversion costs in
 407 green and the trade balance reduction in red for each scenario and the forest
 408 regions (LAM and OFR) (Figure 9). We obtain a quite heterogeneous picture
 409 with the general trend that the model outcome appears to be much more sen-

410 sitive towards variations in land conversion costs than in trade liberalisation.
411 However, in most cases the rank order between scenarios is not affected, except
412 two cases: The *TC* scenario in LAM and the *nopol* scenario in ORF appear to
413 be either higher or lower in deforestation than the reference case depending
414 on the chosen land conversion costs.

415 **4 Discussion**

416 In the preindustrial period, demand for agricultural land, fuelled by population
417 growth, was the main driver for deforestation in temperate zones (Simmons,
418 1987). After the industrial revolution the situation started to change and the
419 rising wealth of industrialised countries initiated a domestic forest transition
420 (Meyfroidt and Lambin, 2011). However, globalisation and increasing demand
421 for goods in developed countries has shifted parts of the production to land-rich
422 developing countries, leading to tropical deforestation (Lambin et al., 2001).
423 This relation, also referred to as the virtual trade in land (Würtenberger et al.,
424 2006), is triggered by the costs of trade (like tariffs, transport and information
425 costs), which have been substantially reduced during the past century (Feen-
426 stra, 1998; Jacks et al., 2008). Since it is likely that this trend will continue
427 (Josling, 2010), further deforestation is likely to lead to considerable damage
428 to local environments and populations, as well as to the climate system. It
429 is therefore relevant to examine how future growth in trade will affect defor-
430 estation rates and how different forest protection policies might influence the
431 interplay between land expansion and trade competitiveness.

432 With the spatially explicit land-use model MAgPIE we analyse effects of
433 trade liberalisation and different forest protection policies. Compared to other
434 global land-use models it has the advantage that technological change and
435 land expansion are implemented in an endogenous and competitive way. Asso-
436 ciated investment costs are optimised together with production and transport
437 costs on a global level. Biophysical inputs are derived from the process-driven
438 vegetation-hydrology model LPJmL. In this study we do not explicitly consider
439 future scenarios of bioenergy demand, since that has been done in separate
440 studies with the ReMIND-MAgPIE model system (Popp et al., 2011, 2012).
441 As these and other studies (e.g. Gibbs et al. (2008)) have shown, bioenergy

442 production only saves carbon, if the associated additional agricultural produc-
443 tion does not come at the expense of forest land or alternatively, is achieved
444 by agricultural productivity gains.

445 Nor do we here explicitly consider different governmental systems and po-
446 litical situations in the regions, and how this would influence investments in
447 agriculture. A further drawback of the model is the current lack of a link
448 between pasture and cropland expansion. As the interaction between these
449 elements is crucial, future model development will concentrate on this link to
450 improve the accuracy of model outcomes.

451 Our simulation results for 2000 to 2010 are in good agreement with ob-
452 servation data (FAO, 2011b). For instance, in the case of Latin America, we
453 simulate an average annual deforestation rate of 3 million ha of intact and fron-
454 tier forest (IFF) compared to 4.25 million ha observed by FAO in this period.
455 However, since FAO considers the whole unmanaged forest, the deforested IFF
456 area in FAO statistics should be lower and much closer to our value. Nepstad
457 et al. (2009) report an annual value of around 2 million ha (1996-2005), only
458 for the Brazilian Amazon. In contrast, in Central Africa (4.5 vs. 3.4) our values
459 are moderately higher and in Pacific Asia (2.7 vs 0.9) significantly higher than
460 FAO observations. The large gap in Pacific Asia can be partly explained by
461 recent reforestation efforts in this region (Lamb, 2011), which are considered
462 in FAO statistics but are not relevant for our definition of IFF.

463 Overall, our results show that in the main forest regions, Latin America,
464 Sub-Saharan Africa, and Pacific Asia, cropland area would significantly increase
465 over time under constant trade and forest protection. With growing trade lib-
466 eralisation the most prominent region in terms of IFF area, Latin America,
467 would clear an additional 40 million ha of forest area, leading to 25 Gt ad-
468 ditional CO₂ emissions by 2050. At the same time, due to its comparative
469 advantage, Latin America is the only region which requires higher technolog-

470 ical change (TC) rates than in the reference case and expands its exports in
471 each of the four major traded commodities (cereals, oilcrops, sugar, and meat).
472 In contrast, Sub-Sahara Africa reduces its production level due to trade liber-
473 alisation. However, this decrease has no influence on the level of deforestation
474 and is purely triggered by lower investments in technological change. In the
475 *reference* and *nopol* scenarios the low forest protection of the past in Africa
476 is assumed to continue. This leads to dramatic forest loss in Central Africa in
477 these scenarios. Although the disappearance of the whole tropical rainforest
478 seems unrealistic, it gives an indication that especially the forests of Central
479 Africa are likely to come under huge pressure in the future if no policy interven-
480 tion is undertaken. Countries in Pacific Asia decrease their deforestation rate
481 under liberalisation compared to the reference case. The main reason for this
482 is that these countries have low comparative advantages in most agricultural
483 commodities, which leads to further imports under liberalisation. However, the
484 pace of deforestation there still increases with liberalisation, leading to higher
485 rates until 2020. Land-scarce regions like the Middle East, North Africa, and
486 South Asia are projected to see the highest growth in imports. With increasing
487 liberalisation there is less pressure to increase productivity in these regions,
488 resulting in significantly lower investment in technological advances.

489 Reducing emissions from land-use change requires intervention to protect
490 forests. We combined trade scenarios with different forest protection mea-
491 sures, divided into direct regulations, market instruments, and compensation
492 payments. Only in Latin America, forest protection leads to higher invest-
493 ment in TC. Except for some slight reductions, net export rates stay constant
494 due to higher agricultural productivity. Hence, forest regions do not lose their
495 competitive advantage as a consequence of forest protection.

496 As a direct regulation we increased protected areas (PAs) over time. We
497 chose the rather extreme scenario of full forest protection in order to depict

the whole range of possible outcomes. Soares-Filho et al. (2010) tried to quantify the impact of PAs in the Amazonian rainforest and concluded that 37% of the recent decline in deforestation was due to new PAs and 44% due to lower agricultural activity. In another study they estimated a reduction in deforestation of around 100 million ha by comparing a business-as-usual case with a strict governance scenario (involving an expansion of PAs and other legal protection enforcement) (Soares-Filho et al., 2006). Our continuously increasing rate of PAs in Latin America (*time* scenario) follows their governance scenario as far as possible and achieves savings of almost 90 million ha compared to a scenario without any further forest protection (*nopol*). Nepstad et al. (2009) even discussed the possibility of ending deforestation by 2020 (which is confirmed by our *550ppm* scenario), based on the assumed continuation and extension of recent efforts, like expansion of PAs, externally-financed funds and regulation efforts by the agri-business sector. However, if not monitored or applied globally, protecting forests in one place can lead to displacement of land use to other regions (Soares-Filho et al., 2010; Meyfroidt et al., 2010) and resulting carbon leakage (Wunder, 2008). Although we have not directly analysed this mechanism, we observe some non-continuous effects between different time steps and scenarios. For instance, in ORF between 2030 and 2040 deforestation is higher in the scenarios *time* and *lowprice* compared to the *nopol* scenario, whereas it is the other way round for LAM. Since agricultural area is not allowed to expand into IFF in LAM and PAS in this time step, agricultural area in Central Africa expands at the expense of IFF area. The establishment of protected areas should, therefore, be an international effort in order to avoid leakage effects and to support the political will in target countries (Soares-Filho et al., 2006).

As a representative policy for market instruments, we included a CO₂ price as a climate mitigation policy for avoided deforestation. With a price suffi-

526 ciently high to reach the 550ppm concentration target, total emissions related
527 to deforestation are below 10 Gt CO₂ by 2050. This rather sensitive behaviour
528 is in line with other studies. The MiniCAM model is even more sensitive to-
529 wards a CO₂ price by generating no land use related carbon emissions in a
530 550ppm scenario (Wise et al., 2009). Its successor, the GCAM model, cal-
531 culates deforestation levels under a 526ppm scenario amounting to around
532 30 Gt emissions between 2020 and 2050 (Thomson et al., 2010). Finally, the
533 study by Kindermann et al. (2008) provides a comparison of three different
534 models, GTM, DIMA and GCOMAP, by calculating marginal abatement cost
535 curves. They show that with assumed constant carbon prices, deforestation in
536 Latin America is fully avoided in 2020 with a CO₂ price of between 30 and
537 40 US\$/tonne. In our study, this is already achieved with prices of 12 to 20
538 US\$/tonne. With regard to climate mitigation, the inclusion of CO₂ prices has
539 the advantage over other measures that the carbon intensity per unit of land is
540 explicitly considered. As a consequence carbon-rich vegetation is valued higher
541 and land expansion moves to places where forests and other natural vegetation
542 contain relatively less carbon.

543 Lastly, we applied a scenario of indirect forest protection in order to inves-
544 tigate the effect of additional growth in agricultural productivity on deforesta-
545 tion (*TC* scenario). Results suggest that investment in technological change
546 could potentially reduce the pressure on tropical rainforests. However, it has
547 to be noted that an additional yield growth of 1% per year requires huge in-
548 vestment in the agricultural sector (Dietrich et al., 2013) and that this yield
549 increase would not be sufficient to prevent deforestation completely. As shown
550 by others as well, additional and complementary measures are needed (Wise
551 et al., 2009; Thomson et al., 2010). In this context, Angelsen (2010) points out
552 that local yield increases may encourage local deforestation and that, there-

553 fore, agriculture in low-forest areas should be supported instead of agriculture
554 close to the forest frontier.

555 5 Conclusion

556 From our analysis we draw several conclusions. First, more trade liberalisa-
557 tion leads to a substantial increase in tropical deforestation in Latin America,
558 driven by the strong growth in agricultural exports. Therefore, global liberal-
559 isation efforts, for instance by the World Trade Organization (WTO), should
560 not be undertaken without considering global forest protection measures.

561 Second, policies to protect forest area do not necessarily lead to losses
562 in trade competitiveness, since the reduced land availability is compensated
563 in most cases by higher technological change rates. This contradicts often
564 expressed concerns that policies to protect forests reduce economic growth or
565 international competitiveness (Banerjee et al., 2009).

566 Third, pricing CO₂ emissions from deforestation could effectively conserve
567 large parts of the tropical rainforests, avoid over 100 Gt of carbon emissions,
568 and also preserve some of the most biodiverse ecosystems. Voluntary payments
569 for avoided deforestation, as discussed under REDD+ can provide the same
570 incentive.

571 Fourth, developed countries accelerate tropical deforestation due to their
572 agricultural demand and should be aware of their responsibility regarding the
573 virtual trade in land. Awareness of this problem has risen in recent years, and
574 first attempts to tackle it have been made. The European Union, for instance,
575 has set sustainability standards for biofuels. But also a decreasing demand
576 for agricultural products by the global North would reduce the pressure on
577 tropical forests.

Acknowledgements

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We thank our colleagues in the land-use research group of PIK for many valuable discussions. We gratefully acknowledge financial support by the German BMBF projects "Hydrothermal carbonization of biomass" and "GLUES Global Assessment of Land Use Dynamics on Greenhouse Gas Emissions and Ecosystem Services" and the EU FP7 project "Visions of Land Use Transitions in Europe (VOLANTE)". Finally, we thank Alison Schlums for proofreading. The authors declare that there is no conflict of interest.

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