

FORESTRY COMMISSION

(CORPORATE HEADQUARTERS)

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Your Ref:.....

Dear Sir,

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<u>Invitation to participate in the Pilot of Ghana's Forest Compliance Service for Export</u> Commodities

Following the Ghana Forestry Commission's official launch, on Thursday 28th January 2021, of the national land-use map and the successful development and testing of a system for monitoring the forest extent and condition in Ghana. The Ghana Forestry Commission, in collaboration with Ecometrica, are pleased to announce the piloting of a Forest Compliance Service for Ghana's agricultural export commodities (FCX).

This service is based on Ghana's national land-use map which is maintained and updated by the Ghana Forestry Commission and will be executed via the Ecometrica Platform. The map was produced by the <u>Ghana Forestry Commission</u>'s Resource Management Support Centre (RMSC) with the support of Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology (<u>KNUST</u>) and international partners, including Ecometrica and the University of Leicester as part of the <u>Forests 2020 project</u>, supported by the UK Space Agency's <u>International Partnership Programme</u>.

Ghana's land-use map provides authoritative and accurate information about the extent of forests, shaded and unshaded cocoa production areas, forest reserves, admitted farms and other agricultural areas. It will be used to determine progress towards the compliance with national laws on land use.

The underlying data for the map, which forms the basis of the Forest Compliance Service for Export Commodities (FCX), will be updated periodically by the Ghana Forestry Commission. The service will be executed via the Ecometrica Platform. It will provide an assurance report for any farm or production area, including multiple areas, requested by an exporter or regulatory agency. These reports will be updated annually and exporters with multiple sourcing arrangements will be able to generate aggregated reports at low cost and sign up to near real time alerts.

The FCX pilot is expected to focus on the cocoa and shea producing sectors and will run from February to April 2021. Companies involved in exporting are invited to register interest and participate in the trial use of the reporting system to generate reports for multiple sourcing areas.

We hope you will take advantage of this innovative opportunity to help stamp out illegal deforestation associated with our export crops and ensure a green future for Ghana's forests.

Yours sincerely,

JOHN ALLOTHY
CHIEF EXECUTIVE