

Land and Water

The future of food depends on the resiliency of the earth's natural resources. Productive farmland, thriving forests, and clean, available water are all essential to nourishing the world in a safe, responsible, and sustainable way.

By partnering with farmers, communities, customers, and non-governmental organizations (NGOs), we're scaling solutions that protect ecosystems; improve water access and quality; and reinforce the agricultural foundation that billions of people depend on. Together, we're working toward a more resilient food system that supports people and the planet for generations to come.

2.5 million

acres engaged in regenerative agriculture practices across North America since 2020

91 billion

liters of water restored — 93% through regenerative agriculture practices

1,580 metric tons

of water pollutants reduced

350,000+

people reached with improved access to safe drinking water and sanitation around the world since 2020

Our approach

At Cargill, we take a connected approach to land and water — recognizing that how we manage natural systems, grow food, and support farmers is deeply linked. Our work is grounded in science, shaped by local context, and focused on delivering measurable benefits for farmers, communities, and ecosystems alike.

Throughout our operations and supply chains, we advance solutions that work to improve soil health and water retention, reduce emissions and runoff, and boost productivity. We pursue these goals through innovative technologies, strategic partnerships, and aligning environmental outcomes with economic opportunity to create shared value across agriculture, ecosystems, and economies.

Land

Our integrated approach recognizes that ecosystem health and food security aren't competing goals — they're mutually reinforcing elements of a resilient food system.

We take a risk-based approach that identifies where deforestation and conversion are most likely to occur so we can take action across our high-priority commodities and regions. At the same time, we continue to support regenerative practices that strengthen soil health, biodiversity, and climate resilience.

Farmers remain central to this work. Through targeted programs and partnerships, we help connect them to the tools, training, and incentives they need to adopt practices that support both environmental and economic outcomes.

Learn more in [Supply Chain Sustainability](#).

Traceability for the European Union Regulation on Deforestation-free Products

Cargill shares the European Union's desired outcome of combating deforestation and forest degradation linked to agricultural commodities and products. When the law goes into effect, all Cargill flows into Europe will meet European Union Regulation on Deforestation-free Products (EUDR) traceability requirements.



“Rising global food demand can only be met through farming practices that nurture both people and the planet. Farmers know their greatest asset is healthy, resilient land — and preserving it ensures future harvests for generations to come.”

Roger Watchorn

Executive Vice President,
Agriculture and Trading
Cargill





PARTNERSHIP HIGHLIGHT
South America



WORLD
RESOURCES
INSTITUTE

Leveraging geospatial technology to reduce deforestation

Cargill is working to eliminate deforestation and land conversion from its direct and indirect supply chain of key row crops in Brazil, Argentina, and Uruguay by the end of 2025, focusing on soy, corn, wheat, and cotton.

To support this effort, we are leveraging the **World Resources Institute’s (WRI)** geospatial expertise that combines satellite technology, open-source tools, and analytical methods to monitor land use change. This collaboration focuses on monitoring land use in Cargill’s supply chains, providing insights that strengthen our monitoring capabilities, transparency, information sharing, supplier management, and feedback mechanisms to advance progress toward our work to eliminate deforestation and conversion.



WRI’s work with Cargill is vital to achieving our shared goals and driving innovation of global tools that help tackle some of the biggest challenges facing the food and agricultural sector. It leverages our collective strengths, with WRI’s cutting-edge research complementing Cargill’s on-the-ground action, to accelerate progress toward deforestation- and conversion-free supply chains.”

Craig Hanson
Managing Director of Programs
WRI



PARTNERSHIP HIGHLIGHT
United States



CONSERVATION
SCIENCE PARTNERS

Measuring biodiversity on cattle ranch lands

In partnership with Conservation Science Partners, Cargill is evaluating the biodiversity benefits of our sustainability programs on active cattle ranch lands in the U.S. Great Plains. The project is analyzing how ranch management strategies and local environmental conditions influence native animal species, with the goal of identifying ways to enhance wildlife habitat while maintaining working lands.

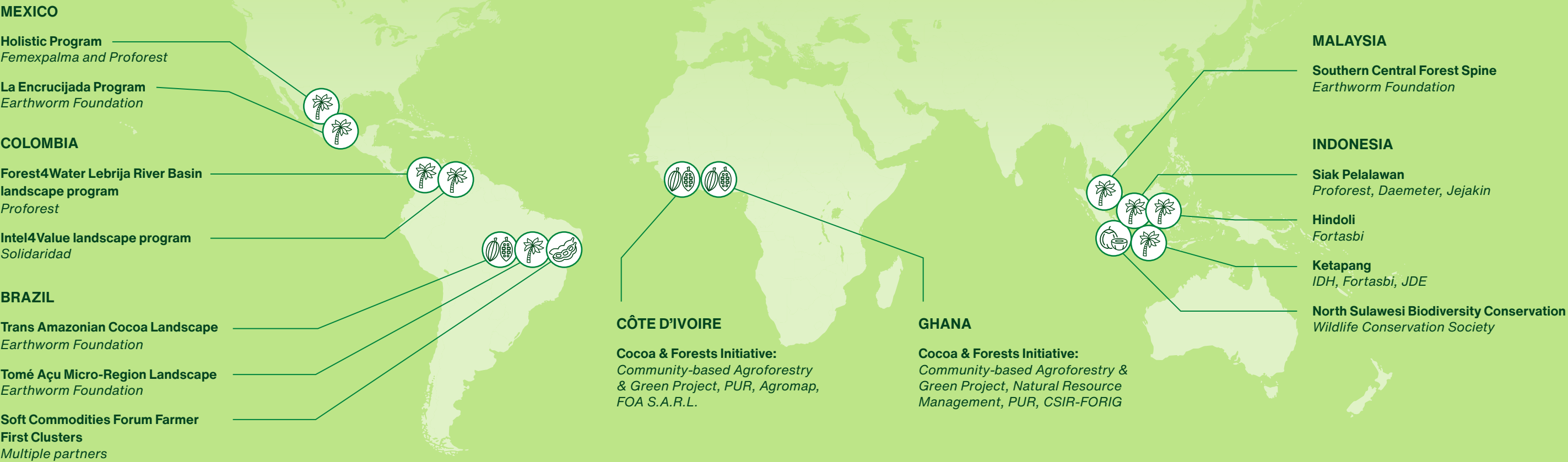
Findings will help guide future conservation efforts and offer valuable insights to the scientific and grasslands conservation communities.



Global landscape programs

Landscape programs strengthen our deforestation-free (DF) and deforestation- and conversion-free (DCF) commitments by taking a holistic approach that looks across and beyond our own supply chains. These efforts also help strengthen food security through coordinated action at the regional level, often in areas facing shared deforestation risks. Working together, companies, governments, financial institutions, NGOs, local communities, and Indigenous peoples are able to address environmental and social challenges in ways no single actor could achieve alone.

This collaborative work reduces risks that can disrupt food production while building long-term resilience. By aligning environmental protection with local livelihoods, conservation supports — rather than competes with — the communities who grow our food, helping maintain both healthy ecosystems and more reliable food supplies. Below is a global map of landscape programs contributing to our DF and DCF commitments, along with our partners helping bring them to life.



- In general, the primary focus of landscape programs covers four areas:
1. Minimizing impacts and advancing restoration of forests, peatlands, and natural ecosystems
 2. Supporting smallholders and local communities to strengthen livelihoods
 3. Upholding labor and land rights
 4. Promoting more sustainable farming practices

Some programs have specific focal areas such as water, agroforestry, and biodiversity conservation.

Advancing regenerative agriculture

A more food secure world starts on the farm. Regenerative agriculture practices — like cover cropping, reduced tillage, grassland restoration, and rotational grazing — can reduce emissions, enhance biodiversity, improve soil health and water retention, limit runoff and erosion, and help crops withstand extreme weather.

The benefits are clear, but adoption isn’t always easy, requiring time, resources, and risk tolerance from farmers. That’s why Cargill supports the transition to regenerative agricultural practices through a combination of financial incentives, inputs, and on-the-ground training — delivered through programs and partnerships in more than 16 countries. These include [SustainConnect](#), [BeefUp](#), [ReSol](#), and [Cargill RegenConnect™](#), which support a range of production systems from row crops to beef. We design these programs to evolve alongside the needs of customers, farmers, and the broader market.

A 2024 survey of U.S. farmers participating in Cargill RegenConnect found that 75% reported yield benefits, 95% observed reduced erosion, and 85% saw improvements in water infiltration. These on-farm gains demonstrate the tangible value of regenerative practices and their potential to strengthen farm resilience.

At scale, these changes support broader environmental outcomes — from healthier soils and cleaner water to more resilient farms and surrounding ecosystems. We are working to advance regenerative agriculture practices **across 10 million acres of North American agricultural land by 2030**.

Regenerative acres advanced



¹ This figure reflects cumulative acres engaged in one or more regenerative agriculture programs supported by Cargill since 2020. An Engaged Regenerative Agriculture Acre is a unit of agricultural land actively managed using regenerative practices enabled through Cargill's direct engagement — either directly with farmers and ranchers, or through partners supported by Cargill. Engagement may include financial investment, technical assistance, or farmer and rancher training. Only acres where Cargill has played a role in enabling or influencing regenerative practices are counted toward our goal.

 PARTNERSHIP HIGHLIGHT
Côte d'Ivoire



Embedding agroforestry into cocoa supply chains

Nestlé, in partnership with Cargill and [PUR](#), is advancing a transformative 25-year agroforestry initiative in Côte d'Ivoire, one of the world's most critical cocoa-producing regions. This ambitious program builds on years of foundational work and represents a strong focus on regenerative agriculture and climate resilience.

The first phase of the project, structured as an 8-year agreement, aims to distribute between 1.1 and 1.3 million trees for on-farm planting across cocoa cooperatives linked to Nestlé and Cargill's supply chains. These trees are not only vital for restoring biodiversity and improving soil health, but also for enhancing farmer livelihoods through diversified income sources — such as selective timber harvesting and fruit tree cultivation — and long-term

carbon sequestration. This in turn reduces the pressure to expand cocoa production into areas of natural forest.

Now in its third year, the project has already begun to take root in local communities. Activities are being implemented under a community-based agroforestry and carbon validation framework, with PUR providing technical expertise and on-the-ground coordination.

By embedding agroforestry into the heart of their cocoa supply chains, Cargill and Nestlé are empowering farmers to adapt in the face of climate change so they can continue to grow food in a way that supports their livelihoods, the natural environment, and cocoa production.



**PARTNERSHIP HIGHLIGHT**
Brazil

Studying the benefits of regenerative practices

Regenera Cerrado is a research initiative focused on understanding the impacts of regenerative agriculture practices in soybean and corn production systems across Brazil's Cerrado biome. The project aims to establish a scalable model that can be applied across the supply chain to encourage broader adoption among growers.

Early research results point to promising outcomes. Practices such as using bio-inputs — natural products like beneficial microbes or organic compounds that improve soil health and reduce the need for synthetic fertilizer — and maintaining native vegetation buffers

near crops were linked to a 44% reduction in certain fungal diseases. The findings also suggest that while transitioning from conventional to regenerative systems requires upfront investment, regenerative practices can reduce production costs and increase margins over time. That economic benefit can ease pressure to expand soy production into native vegetation — supporting wider adoption of regenerative agriculture while also advancing Cargill's goal to eliminate deforestation and land conversion in our South American soy supply chain.



The Regenera Cerrado project has played a leading role by generating scientific evidence that strengthens producers' confidence in adopting regenerative practices, contributing to the transition toward more sustainable agriculture in the Brazilian Cerrado."

Dr. Eliana Maria Gouveia Fontes

General Coordinator
Regenera Cerrado

**PARTNERSHIP HIGHLIGHT**
United States

PepsiCo and Cargill join forces to scale regenerative farming

Cargill and PepsiCo are partnering to advance regenerative agriculture across 240,000 acres of Iowa farmland from 2025 through 2030, focusing on our shared corn supply chain. Through this effort, both companies aim to support farmer livelihoods, build supply chain resilience, and help scale sustainable agriculture across the region.

Implementation will be led by Practical Farmers of Iowa (PFI), a trusted nonprofit with deep roots in the Midwest farming community. Participating farmers will receive tailored agronomic guidance, incentive payments, and access to technical resources to support their transition to regenerative practices. These practices are designed to improve soil health, reduce greenhouse gas emissions, and strengthen long-term productivity.

The collaboration contributes to PepsiCo's goal to drive the adoption of regenerative, restorative, or protective practices across 10 million acres globally by 2030. It also supports Cargill's goal to advance regenerative agriculture on 10 million acres of North American farmland by the same year. This demonstrates how value chain partners can work together to drive impact from the ground up.



Credit: Practical Farmers of Iowa



This collaboration among PepsiCo, Cargill, and Practical Farmers of Iowa creates shared value and long-term sustainability that we believe will strengthen our business today and in the future."

Jim Andrew

Executive Vice President,
Chief Sustainability Officer
PepsiCo

Water

Our goals:

Operations:
Implement the Cargill Water Stewardship Program at all priority water facilities by 2025¹

Supply chains:
Enable the restoration of 600 billion liters of water and reduction of 5,000 MT of water pollutants in water-stressed regions by 2030

Communities:
Enable improved drinking water and sanitation, reaching 500,000 people in priority communities by 2030



Water is essential to producing the food we eat. With roughly 70 percent of the world’s fresh water used for agriculture, we must find ways to safeguard this shared resource — especially as climate change drives more droughts, floods, and water stress across key growing regions.

Cargill’s global ambition is to enable a water positive impact across our operations, supply chains, and communities by 2030, focusing on water availability, water quality, and access to safe drinking water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH). While we act across our full value chain, the greatest opportunity to create impact is in our agricultural supply chains, which represent more than 90% of our water footprint. We work with farmers, ranchers, and local partners to implement water-efficient practices, protect ecosystems, and build resilience where it’s needed most.

Our approach builds on two pillars: avoid and reduce, and restore and regenerate. Through avoid and reduce, we focus on efficiency — helping farmers prevent pollutants from reaching rivers and lakes by improving nutrient uptake, reducing field run-off, and advancing precision irrigation. In our own operations, we recycle water and optimize wastewater treatment to lower withdrawals and reduce pollutant loads.

Through restore and regenerate, we focus on ecosystems — building soil health through regenerative agriculture and advancing large-scale projects such as wetland restoration and agroforestry. By combining efficiency with nature-based solutions, we are strengthening water resilience for agriculture, communities, and ecosystems.

This year, we enabled:

91 billion liters
of water restoration

1,580 metric tons
of water pollutants reduced

350,000+
people reached in communities where we live and work, enabling improved access to safe drinking water and sanitation

¹ Water Stewardship Program implemented means at least 90% of the defined water stewardship practices are implemented at the location. For more information on supply chain water goal accounting and our priority facilities, please go [here](#) and [here](#).

² Cargill defines a water positive impact as effectively improving watershed health by addressing the shared water challenges of availability, quality, and access to safe drinking water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH), using an approach that is informed by our footprint and the severity of local water challenges.

Water in our operations

Across our operations, we are working to reduce water use, strengthen measurement and reporting, and ensure access to clean water and sanitation for employees and contractors. All Cargill facilities are required to meet the standards outlined in our Water Management Program, which establishes the minimum expectations for compliance, monitoring, and continuous improvement in water management.

Building on that foundation, 68 priority water facilities — identified based on water stress exposure and water usage, together accounting for more than 80% of our total operational water footprint — are implementing Cargill's Water Stewardship Program. This program consists of three key elements:

- **Enhanced measurement and monitoring** of water use and discharge, with integration into operational reporting, performance reviews, and target setting
- **Implementation of sustainable water management practices**, including benchmarking, mapping water use, and identifying shared challenges within local watersheds
- **Understanding the broader water context**, including facility water balances, rate structures, and engagement with external stakeholders.

68
priority water facilities have implemented¹
the Cargill Water Stewardship Program.

¹ Water Stewardship Program implementation is defined as having at least 90% of the specified water stewardship practices implemented at the facility.

IN PRACTICE

Global

Improving water efficiency and quality across our global operations

As part of our water stewardship program, Cargill facilities around the world are implementing industry-leading approaches to improve water quality and reduce freshwater use:

- Our facility in **High River, Alberta**, uses a state-of-the-art membrane system to treat and purify wastewater, reducing pollutants and minimizing the risk of algae blooms that can harm plants and wildlife in nearby wetlands. The system minimizes any impacts to critical habitat for migratory bird species in Canada, demonstrating how operational innovation can support local ecosystem health.
- In our **Orleans, France**, poultry facility, a refrigeration system upgrade replaced evaporative condensers with a system that only uses water during peak temperatures, resulting in a 65% reduction in water consumption.
- Across our protein business in **Thailand**, targeted process improvements helped reduce water intake by 8% per unit of production, contributing to better water efficiency in a region facing increasing water stress.

Water in our supply chains and communities

The vast majority of Cargill's water footprint lies in our agricultural supply chains, where we believe we have the greatest opportunity for impact. Our supply chain water strategy focuses on building resilience by partnering with farmers and ranchers to optimize irrigation, improve nutrient management, and support the adoption of regenerative agriculture practices. These efforts are complemented by programs and partnerships that protect and restore grasslands and aquatic habitats, improve water quality, and enhance biodiversity in water-stressed regions.

In parallel with our supply chain efforts, Cargill is also working to drive positive change at the community level. Access to clean, safe water — as well as adequate sanitation and hygiene — is essential for people to thrive. While global progress continues, water insecurity remains a critical challenge across many regions. Through targeted, locally-led programs and partnerships, we're working to expand WASH access and help strengthen community health and resilience.





PARTNERSHIP HIGHLIGHT

United States



Bringing water-saving technology to cotton farms

The Mississippi Delta region — home to the third largest area of irrigated cropland in the U.S. — has seen a significant decline in ground-water levels, making it a priority region for innovative water management solutions. We've partnered with Australian company Goanna Ag to bring precision irrigation technology to cotton farms in the Delta, a major cotton-growing region. This system uses sensors, satellite imagery, and crop data to help farmers make more

informed decisions about when and how much to irrigate — aiming to optimize crop yields, reduce water withdrawals, and lower operational costs. In 2024, participating farmers achieved over 6% higher water productivity and used at least 10% less water per acre.¹ We are initially piloting the program with a select number of cotton growers in Missouri, Tennessee, Arkansas, and Mississippi, in areas of water stress or aquifer decline.



I followed every irrigation recommendation to a T and grew the best cotton I've ever raised on these fields.”

Danny Parker

Participating Cotton Farmer



¹ Measured as yield per volume of water applied.



PARTNERSHIP HIGHLIGHT

Global



Improving access to safe drinking water with Global Water Challenge

Through **Cargill Currents**, our partnership with Global Water Challenge, we've helped improve access to safe drinking water and sanitation for more than 150,000 people since 2021 across Brazil, Ghana, Cameroon, and Côte d'Ivoire.

Cargill Currents demonstrates the power of strategic partnerships in addressing critical water challenges. Solutions are co-developed with community stakeholders and tailored to local needs — combining infrastructure like solar-powered water systems with programs such as school-based WASH education and

training to support ongoing operation and maintenance of these resources.

With a focus on empowering women and improving public health, the program strengthens not just infrastructure, but long-term resilience — helping communities build and sustain safe water and sanitation access well into the future. This work directly contributes to Cargill's goal of improving access to safe drinking water and sanitation for 500,000 people by 2030, demonstrating how collective action can create lasting change in water-stressed regions worldwide.





CONNECTING THE DOTS

Global

How regenerative practices protect and restore water

Water is essential to growing food and sustaining life. It's also a shared resource under increasing pressure from climate change, pollution, and overuse.

In 2025, Cargill helped restore 91 billion liters of water across our global supply chains, equivalent to the annual water use of 800,000 people. Of that impact, 93% is from regenerative agriculture practices. By improving soil health, these methods help hold more water in the ground, reduce runoff, and keep water clean — providing lasting benefits for farms, communities, and ecosystems.

Cargill is also advancing industry alignment on water stewardship. In August 2024, we published a water position paper outlining our methodology for quantifying, attributing, and tracking supply chain water targets.

Cover crops, typically planted between harvests, keep soil covered year-round. Their roots act like living sponges, helping the soil absorb and store more water while

preventing erosion that can carry sediment and nutrients into rivers and lakes (see [Advancing regenerative agriculture](#)).

Agroforestry integrates trees into croplands and pastures, creating natural barriers that slow water movement and protect soil from erosion. Deep roots help store more water and nutrients in the soil (see [Embedding agroforestry into cocoa supply chains](#)).

Rotational grazing is a land management method where ranchers frequently move livestock across different pasture areas, allowing each section to rest and regrow. This approach helps restore grasslands, whose deep roots help retain water in the soil and naturally filter it — improving water quality over time (see [Measuring biodiversity on cattle ranch lands](#)).

Together, these practices show how regenerative agriculture can play a powerful role in restoring water resources across agricultural landscapes.

