ANNEX 03, Version 01

Glossary

Buffer zones[1]	Buffers zones are small areas or strips of land in permanent vegetation, designed to intercept pollutants and manage other environmental concerns. Buffer zones include among others: riparian buffer strips, filter strips, grassed waterways, shelterbelts, windbreaks, field borders, alley cropping, herbaceous wind barriers.
Certified seed	Internationally common name for seed that complies with the legal requirements.
Conversion[2]	Change of a natural ecosystem to another land use or profound change in a natural ecosystem's species composition, structure, or function. Deforestation is one form of conversion (conversion of natural forests). Conversion includes severe degradation or the introduction of management practices that result in substantial and sustained change in the ecosystem's former species composition, structure, or function. Change to natural ecosystems that meets this definition is considered to be conversion regardless of whether or not it is legal.
Cropland[3]	Arable and tillable land and agroforestry systems where the vegetation structure falls below the thresholds used for the Forest Land category, and is not expected to exceed those thresholds at a later time. Cropland includes: • annual crops, including cereals, oils seeds, vegetables, root crops and forages; • perennial crops, including trees and shrubs, in combination with herbaceous crops (e.g. agroforestry), or as orchards, vineyards, plantations and short rotation coppice, except where these lands meet the criteria for categorisation as forest; • temporary fallow land (i.e., land set at rest for one or several years before being cultivated again). Arable land which is normally used for cultivation of annual crops but which is temporarily (no longer than 5 years) used for forage crops or grazing as part of an annual crop-pasture rotation (mixed system) is included under cropland.
Donau Soja cultivation areas	The countries and regions of origin for Donau Soja are defined in both political and geographical terms. The enumeration of countries where Donau Soja can be produced is based on the list of countries in the Danube river basin as delineated by the International Commission for the Protection of the Danube River.[4]
Deforestation[5]	Loss of natural forest as a result of: i) conversion to agriculture or other non-forest land use; ii) conversion to a tree plantation; or iii) severe and sustained degradation.
Drainage[6]	Artificial removal of water from land; drainage is employed in the

[1] Compare with USDA: https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/detail/plantmaterials/technical/publications/?cid=stelprdb1042930#:~:text=Plants%20for%20Conservation%20Buffers,pollution%2C%20and%20improve%20wildlife%20habitat.

[2] https://accountability-framework.org/definitions/?definition_category=17

[3] Compare with IPCC: https://www.ipcc-nggip.iges.or.jp/public/2006gl/pdf/4_Volume4/V4_05_Ch5_Cropland.pdf

[4] https://www.icpdr.org/main/danube-basin/countries-danube-river-basin

[5] https://accountability-framework.org/definitions/?definition_category=17

[6] https://www.britannica.com/topic/drainage

	reclamation of wetlands, in the prevention of erosion, and as a concomitant of irrigation in the agriculture of arid regions.
Ecological corridor[7]	A clearly defined geographical space that is governed and managed over the long term to maintain or restore effectively the unimpeded movement of species and the flow of natural processes (i.e. ecological connectivity).
Europe Soya cultivation areas	The countries and regions of origin for Europe Soya are defined in both political and geographical terms. The borders of the Europe Soya region are based on the definition of the delimitation of the Russian border regions, as given by Philip Johan von Strahlenberg.

Forest[8]	Land spanning more than 0.5 hectares with trees higher than 5 meters and a canopy cover of more than 10 percent, or trees able to reach these thresholds in situ. It does not include land that is predominantly under agricultural or other land use. Forest includes *natural forests (see definition below)* and *tree plantations (see definition below)*.
	
	Natural forest[9]
	A forest that is a natural ecosystem.
	Natural forests possess many or most of the characteristics of a forest native to the given site, including species composition, structure and ecological function. Natural forests include:
	• primary forests that have not been subject to major human impacts in recent history;
	• regenerated (second-growth) forests that were subject to major impacts in the past (for instance by agriculture, livestock raising, tree plantations, or intensive logging) but where the main causes of impact have ceased or greatly diminished and the ecosystem has attained much of the species composition, structure and ecological function of prior or other contemporary natural ecosystems;
	• managed natural forests where much of the ecosystem's composition, structure and ecological function exist in the presence of activities such as:
	  ○ harvesting of timber or other forest products, including management to promote high-value species,
	  ○ low intensity, small-scale cultivation within the forest, such as less-intensive forms of swidden agriculture in a forest mosaic;
	• Forests that have been partially degraded by anthropogenic or natural causes (e.g. harvesting, fire, climate change, invasive species, or others) but where the land has not been converted to another use and where degradation does not result in the sustained reduction of tree cover below the thresholds that define a forest or sustained loss of other main elements of ecosystem composition, structure and ecological function.
	
	Tree plantation[10]
	A forest predominantly composed of trees established through planting

[7] https://portals.iucn.org/library/sites/library/files/documents/PAG-030-En.pdf
[8] https://accountability-framework.org/definitions/?definition_category=17
[9] https://accountability-framework.org/definitions/?definition_category=17
[10] https://accountability-framework.org/definitions/?definition_category=17

	and/or deliberate seeding that lacks key elements of a natural forest native to the area, such as species composition and structural diversity.
GM-free	The GM-free status is based on the minimum requirements set out by the following European "GM-free" certification schemes: • German EG-Gentechnik-Durchführungsgesetz (EGGenTDurchfG), with audits conducted as stipulated by the German Verband Lebensmittel ohne Gentechnik (VLOG); • Austrian Food Codex (Codex Alimentarius Austriacus) and the corresponding "Leitfaden zur risikobasierten Kontrolle auf Gentechnikfreiheit" ("Guideline on the Risk-Based Monitoring of GMO-Free Production"); • Non-GM Danube Region Production and Labelling Standard & Non-GM Danube Region Inspection Standard.
Good Agricultural Practices[11]	The application of available knowledge to addressing environmental, economic and social sustainability for on-farm production and post-production processes resulting in safe and healthy food and non-food agricultural products.
Grassland[12]	Terrestrial ecosystems dominated by herbaceous or shrub vegetation for at least five years continuously. It includes meadows or pasture that is cropped for hay but excludes land cultivated for other crop production and cropland lying temporarily fallow.
Integrated Crop Management	A system of crop production which conserves and enhances natural resources while producing a crop on an economically viable and sustainable foundation. This is a whole-farm, long-term strategy incorporating both new technologies and traditional knowledge and practices.
Integrated Pest Management[13]	Integrated Pest Management means careful consideration of all available plant protection methods and subsequent integration of appropriate measures that discourage the development of populations of harmful organisms and keep the use of plant protection products and other forms of intervention to levels that are economically and ecologically justified and reduce or minimise risks to human health and the environment. Integrated Pest Management emphasises the growth of a healthy crop with the least possible disruption to agro-ecosystems and encourages natural pest control mechanisms. General principles of integrated pest management: 1. The prevention and/or suppression of harmful organisms should be achieved or supported among other options especially by: ○ crop rotation; ○ use of adequate cultivation techniques (e.g. stale seedbed technique, sowing dates and densities, under-sowing, conservation tillage, pruning and direct sowing); ○ use, where appropriate, of resistant/tolerant cultivars and standard/certified seed and planting material; ○ use of balanced fertilisation, liming and irrigation/drainage practices;

[11] http://www.fao.org/3/y8704e/y8704e.htm
[12] Compare with Commission Regulation (EU) No 1307/2014: https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=CELEX:32014R1307&from=EN
[13] Compare with Directive 2009/128/EC: https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=CELEX:32009L0128&from=EN

- preventing the spreading of harmful organisms by hygiene measures (e.g. by regular cleansing of machinery and equipment);
- protection and enhancement of important beneficial organisms, e.g. by adequate plant protection measures or the utilisation of ecological infrastructures inside and outside production sites.

2. Harmful organisms must be monitored by adequate methods and tools, where available. Such adequate tools should include observations in the field as well as scientifically sound warning, forecasting and early diagnosis systems, where feasible, as well as the use of advice from professionally qualified advisors.
3. Based on the results of the monitoring, the professional user has to decide whether and when to apply plant protection measures. Robust and scientifically sound threshold values are essential components for decision making. For harmful organisms, threshold levels defined for the region, specific areas, crops and particular climatic conditions must be taken into account before treatments, where feasible.
4. Sustainable biological, physical and other non-chemical methods must be preferred to chemical methods if they provide satisfactory pest control.
5. The pesticides applied shall be as specific as possible for the target and shall have the least side effects on human health, non-target organisms and the environment.
6. The professional user should keep the use of pesticides and other forms of intervention to levels that are necessary, e.g. by reduced doses, reduced application frequency or partial applications, considering that the level of risk in vegetation is acceptable and they do not increase the risk for development of resistance in populations of harmful organisms.
7. Where the risk of resistance against a plant protection measure is known and where the level of harmful organisms requires repeated application of pesticides to the crops, available anti-resistance strategies should be applied to maintain the effectiveness of the products. This may include the use of multiple pesticides with different modes of action.
8. Based on the records on the use of pesticides and on the monitoring of harmful organisms, the professional user should check the success of the applied plant protection measures.

Land-use change[14]	Changes in terms of land cover between land categories (forest, grassland, cropland, wetlands). This means e.g. that a change from grassland to cropland is a land-use change, while a change from one crop (such as maize) to another (such as soya) is not. Cropland includes fallow land (i.e. land set at rest for one or several years before being cultivated again). A change of management activities, tillage practice or manure input practice is not considered land-use change.
Landscape	Features adjacent to an agricultural parcel. These include but are not

[14] Compare with Communication from the Commission on the practical implementation of the EU biofuels and bioliquids sustainability scheme and on counting rules for biofuels: https://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=OJ:C:2010:160:0008:0016:EN:PDF

features[15]	limited to hedges, ponds, ditches, trees (in line, in group or isolated), field margins and terraces.
Natural habitat[16]	Terrestrial or aquatic areas distinguished by geographic, abiotic and biotic features, whether entirely natural or semi-natural.
Peatland	Peatland soils are soils with horizons of organic material (peat substrate) of a cumulative thickness of at least 30 cm at a depth of down to 60 cm. The organic matter contains at least 20 mass percent of organic carbon in the fine soil.
Protected area[17]	A geographically defined area which is designated or regulated and managed to achieve specific conservation objectives.
Protection goals[18]	To fulfil the protection goals within a protected area means to contribute towards ensuring biodiversity in that area through the conservation of natural habitats and of wild flora and fauna.
Riparian buffer strips[19]	Linear bands of permanent vegetation adjacent to an aquatic ecosystem intended to maintain or improve water quality by trapping and removing various nonpoint source pollutants from both overland flow and shallow subsurface flow (interflow).
Semi-natural habitat[20]	An ecosystem with most of its processes and biodiversity intact, though altered by human activity in strength or abundance relative to the natural state.
Standard[21]	Document that provides, for common and repeated use, rules, guidelines or characteristics for products or related processes and production methods.
Wetlands[22]	Areas of marsh, fen, peatland or water, whether natural or artificial, permanent or temporary, with water that is static or flowing, fresh, brackish or salt, including areas of marine water the depth of which at low tide does not exceed six metres. Hence, wetlands include a wide variety of inland habitats such as marshes, peatlands, floodplains, rivers and lakes, and coastal areas such as saltmarshes, mangroves, intertidal mudflats and seagrass beds, and also coral reefs and other marine areas no deeper than six metres at low tide, as well as human-made wetlands such as dams, reservoirs, rice paddies and wastewater treatment ponds and lagoons. Natural Wetlands Marine and Coastal Wetlands A -- Permanent shallow marine waters in most cases less than six meters deep at low tide; includes sea bays and straits.

[15] Compare with Regulation (EU) No 1306/2013: https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=CELEX:32013R1306&from=EN

[16] Compare with Council Directive 92/43 EEC: https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=CELEX:31992L0043&from=EN

[17] https://www.cbd.int/doc/legal/cbd-en.pdf

[18] Compare with Council Directive 92/43/EEC: https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=CELEX:31992L0043&from=EN

[19] https://climate-adapt.eea.europa.eu/metadata/adaptation-options/establishment-and-restoration-of-riparian-buffer-s

[20] https://ipbes.net/glossary/semi-natural-habitats

[21] https://www.isealalliance.org/sites/default/files/resource/2017-11/ISEAL_Standard_Setting_Code_v6_Dec_2014.pdf

[22] Compare with An Introduction to the Convention on Wetlands (previously The Ramsar Convention Manual). Ramsar Convention Secretariat, Gland, Switzerland: https://www.ramsar.org/sites/default/files/documents/library/handbook1_5ed_introductiontoconvention_e.pdf

B -- Marine subtidal aquatic beds; includes kelp beds, sea-grass beds, tropical marine meadows.
C -- Coral reefs.
D -- Rocky marine shores; includes rocky offshore islands, sea cliffs.
E -- Sand, shingle or pebble shores; includes sand bars, spits and sandy islets; includes dune systems and humid dune slacks.
F -- Estuarine waters; permanent water of estuaries and estuarine systems of deltas.
G -- Intertidal mud, sand or salt flats.
H -- Intertidal marshes; includes salt marshes, salt meadows, saltings, raised salt marshes; includes tidal brackish and freshwater marshes.
I -- Intertidal forested wetlands; includes mangrove swamps, nipah swamps and tidal freshwater swamp forests.
J -- Coastal brackish/saline lagoons; brackish to saline lagoons with at least one relatively narrow connection to the sea.
K -- Coastal freshwater lagoons; includes freshwater delta lagoons.
Zk(a) -- Karst and other subterranean hydrological systems, marine/coastal

Inland Wetlands
L -- Permanent inland deltas.
M -- Permanent rivers/streams/creeks; includes waterfalls.
N -- Seasonal/intermittent/irregular rivers/streams/creeks.
O -- Permanent freshwater lakes (over 8 ha); includes large oxbow lakes.
P -- Seasonal/intermittent freshwater lakes (over 8 ha); includes floodplain lakes.
Q -- Permanent saline/brackish/alkaline lakes.
R -- Seasonal/intermittent saline/brackish/alkaline lakes and flats.
Sp -- Permanent saline/brackish/alkaline marshes/pools.
Ss -- Seasonal/intermittent saline/brackish/alkaline marshes/pools.
Tp -- Permanent freshwater marshes/pools; ponds (below 8 ha), marshes and swamps on inorganic soils; with emergent vegetation water-logged for at least most of the growing season.
Ts -- Seasonal/intermittent freshwater marshes/pools on inorganic soils; includes sloughs, potholes, seasonally flooded meadows, sedge marshes.
U -- Non-forested peatlands; includes shrub or open bogs, swamps, fens.
Va -- Alpine wetlands; includes alpine meadows, temporary waters from snowmelt.
Vt -- Tundra wetlands; includes tundra pools, temporary waters from snowmelt.
W -- Shrub-dominated wetlands; shrub swamps, shrub-dominated freshwater marshes, shrub carr, alder thicket on inorganic soils.
Xf -- Freshwater, tree-dominated wetlands; includes freshwater swamp forests, seasonally flooded forests, wooded swamps on inorganic soils.
Xp -- Forested peatlands; peatswamp forests.
Y -- Freshwater springs; oases.
Zg -- Geothermal wetlands
Zk(b)-- Karst and other subterranean hydrological systems, inland
Note: ”floodplain“ is a broad term used to refer to one or more wetland types, which may include examples from the R, Ss, Ts, W, Xf, Xp, or other wetland types. Some examples of floodplain wetlands are

	seasonally inundated grassland (including natural wet meadows), shrublands, woodlands and forests. Floodplain wetlands are not listed as a specific wetland type herein.