



Annual Report 2025

Verification made practical for forest-connected supply chains.

Purpose, strategy, and leadership

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Board President's statement

Impact highlights

Making origin verification accessible
Replicable testing across jurisdictions
Industry-donated reference samples
Testing origin claims in practice
Building courtroom-ready evidence capability
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- Inferring origins across species
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Purpose, strategy, and leadership

World Forest ID translates peer-reviewed forensic science into practical verification tools. We provide the scientific infrastructure that makes origin verification accessible for timber and forest risk commodities as new regulations create due diligence requirements.

DR MELISSA FLAGG — Board Member



In our latest market study, 41% of tested products had incorrectly declared origins. These are gaps that paperwork alone cannot close.



Making market mechanisms trustworthy

Jade Saunders — Executive Director



The world increasingly relies on market mechanisms to solve environmental problems. Carbon credits, sustainable timber certification, deforestation-free supply chains; these systems channel billions toward conservation and will need to channel billions more to protect nature and stabilise our climate. But they only work if verification is trustworthy. Recent years have shown how vulnerable certification schemes can be, and how easily the connection between financial incentives and on-the-ground reality can break down. World Forest ID exists precisely to shore up that integrity. By providing independent, science-based verification of origin, we give regulators, businesses, and investors the confidence they need to make these systems work at scale.

What made me proudest in 2025 was not any single tool or partnership, though we achieved many. It was the culture that the World Forest ID team and collaborators have built to get to where we are. For decades, efforts to create shared global reference data for forests failed, not for lack of science but for lack of trust. World Forest ID succeeded by building a network of equal collaborators willing to lead with shared purpose. That culture is what produced our Georeferenced Sample Collection, our Evaluation tools, and the growing research consortium responsible for the peer-reviewed science behind it all. And it is that culture that will carry this work forward, whatever lies ahead.



What stands out is how our science is now being applied where it matters, in regulatory enforcement and commercial decisions that protect forests.

From data to governed use

Alexandra Banks — Board President



This year, the Board stewarded the organization through a challenging funding environment. Sector-wide financial pressures required disciplined prioritization, ensuring resources were directed toward core scientific infrastructure and public-good capabilities.

Despite these headwinds, World Forest ID continued to strengthen its foundations, expanding reference data, advancing peer-reviewed research, and improving the systems that underpin our verification tools. These elements are increasingly important as global policy shifts indicate mandatory nature-related reporting is on the horizon, and regulators place greater emphasis on evidence that goes beyond documentation.

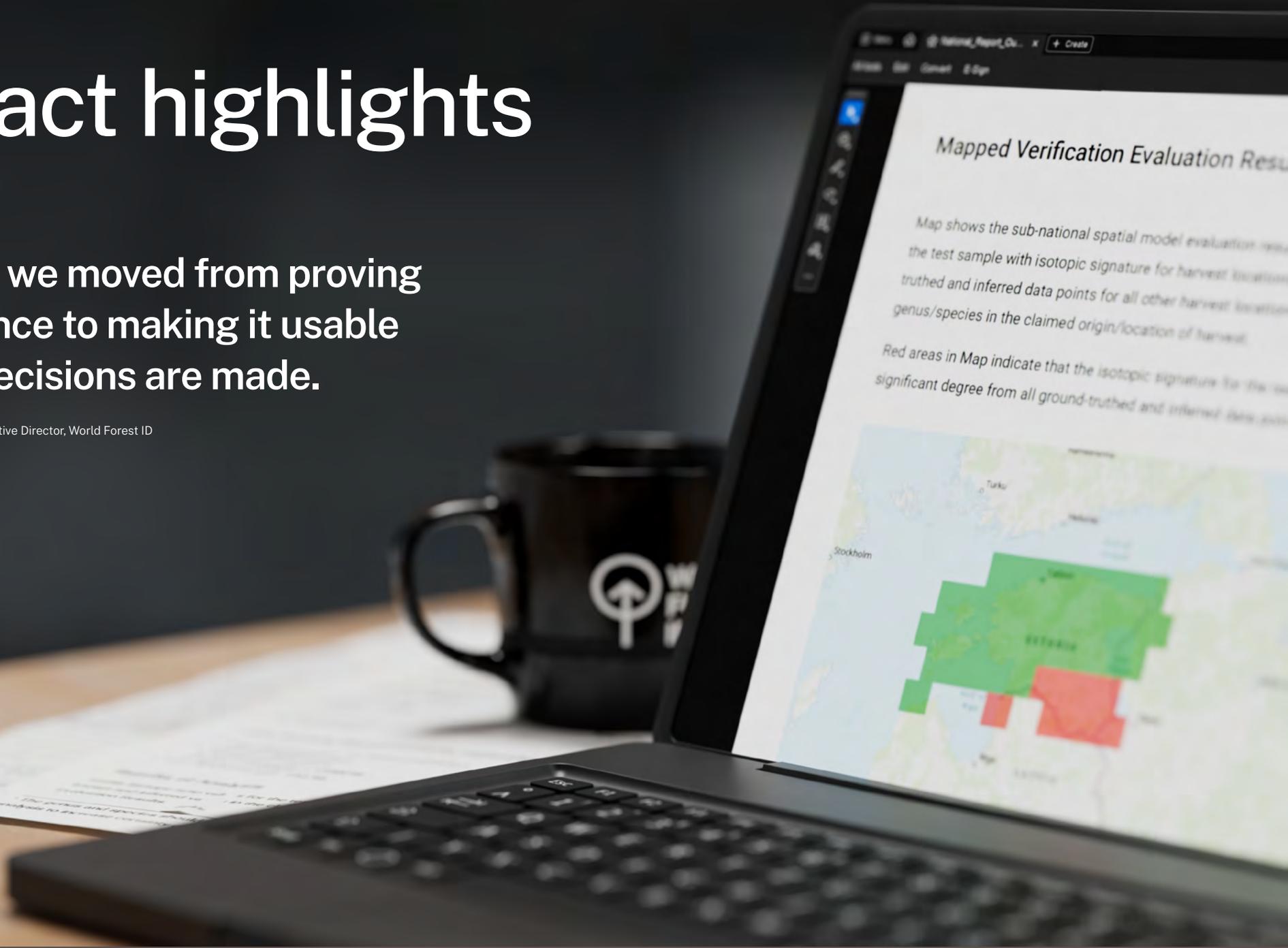
It has also been a year of governance transition. The establishment of a public interest legal entity in the Netherlands strengthens independent oversight and supports engagement with European regulatory systems as EU policy plays a growing role in shaping global supply chains.

What stands out is how World Forest ID's work is now being applied in real regulatory and commercial contexts. I would like to thank the Board, the Scientific Stewardship Committee, our Consortium partners, and the team for their continued commitment to our mission.

Impact highlights

In 2025, we moved from proving the science to making it usable where decisions are made.

JADE SAUNDERS — Executive Director, World Forest ID



Making origin verification accessible

TRADED SAMPLE



Identify declared species and harvest location from documentation

DATA EXPLORER



Check if reference data exists for the claimed species and region

CHEMICAL TESTING



Submit sample for chemical testing at an accredited laboratory

EVALUATION PLATFORM



Platform compares test results against reference data

EVALUATION REPORT



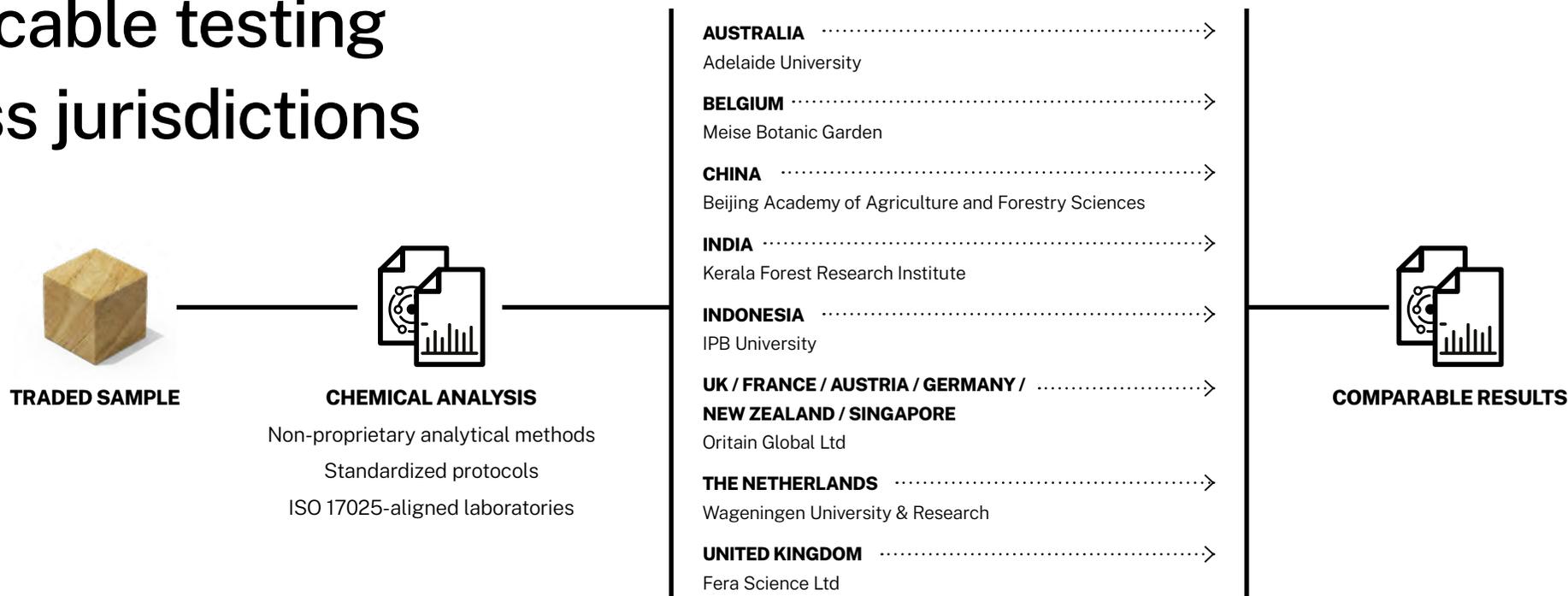
Receive independent, origin assessment

In 2025, World Forest ID launched the Evaluation Platform and Data Explorer, enabling regulators, certification schemes, and companies to independently test declared harvest origins against peer-reviewed reference models. Previously, verification required direct engagement with scientific experts for each case, creating bottlenecks that limited scale.

The Platform makes this capability self-service: users assess traded samples against spatial origin models trained on geolocated reference data, generating evaluation reports based on independent chemical and spatial evidence. These reports support enforcement, risk assessment, and compliance workflows alongside existing due-diligence systems.

In 2025, the Evaluation Platform supported the analysis of 364 traded samples, including 134 for industry, 98 for certification schemes, and 132 for enforcement authorities.

Replicable testing across jurisdictions



World Forest ID expanded its laboratory network to support replicable chemical testing across multiple jurisdictions. This included collaboration with the Beijing Academy of Agriculture and Forestry Sciences, new partnerships with the Kerala Forest Research Institute in India, continued collaboration with IPB University in Indonesia, and strengthened engagement with Oritain Global Ltd, a service provider with an expanding international laboratory network.

Across our network, non-proprietary methods and ISO 17025-aligned protocols ensure results are comparable and defensible across borders. Increasingly, samples can be processed in-region, reducing logistics costs and turnaround time while maintaining standards suitable for enforcement and trade disputes.

If evidence is going to stand up in a courtroom, the methodology has to be robust, calibrated, and standardised.

DR SIMON KELLY — Principal Scientist, Fera Science Ltd



Impact Highlight — 3

Industry-contributed reference data

World Forest ID expanded its reference dataset through a new channel: traded product samples donated by companies and certification schemes. These contributions increase species and geographic coverage for highly traded materials. Donated samples span different points along supply chains, from material collected during harvesting, to finished products in trade. For forestry operations, contributing samples helps protect domestic producers and processes; making it possible to distinguish legitimate products from fraudulent origin claims.

Sample locations are determined by industry, and commercial foresters, to achieve the broadest possible area of insight. In 2025, several contributors identified Oak (*Quercus* spp.) as a priority genus, reflecting its significance in US-Europe trade flows. This informed targeted oak sampling campaigns, strengthening reference data for one of the most widely traded temperate hardwoods.

COUNTRIES REPRESENTED IN DONATED SAMPLES — Canada, France, and the USA

GENUS/SPECIES REPRESENTED IN DONATED SAMPLES — Birch (*Betula* spp.), Larch (*Larix* spp.), Mahogany (*Swietenia* spp.), Oak (*Quercus* spp.), Okoumé (*Aucoumea klaineana*), Pine (*Pinus* spp.), Poplar (*Populus* spp.)

Impact Highlight — 4

Testing origin claims in practice

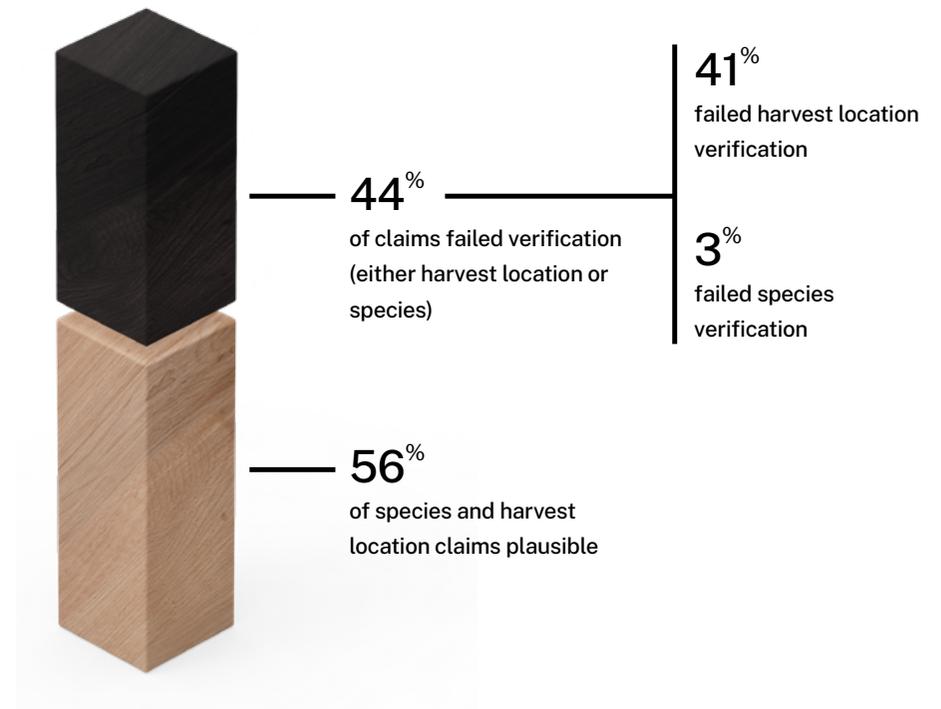
World Forest ID applied scientific origin testing to examine how independent chemical evidence strengthens existing traceability systems. Our timber market study of donated birch products found that 41 percent of samples had incorrectly declared harvest origins, revealing persistent gaps between documentation and material evidence.

For companies relying on documentation-based due diligence, this represents material compliance risk. In 2024, yacht builder Sunseeker was fined £358,000 under the UK Timber Regulation for importing Myanmar teak. Scientific testing offers a way to close that gap before enforcement does.

These findings informed targeted, risk-based follow-up with companies and certification schemes. World Forest ID worked with the Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) Integrity Programme and UK HM Revenue & Customs (HMRC) to explore how scientific testing complements certification and border enforcement processes.

41% of tested birch products had incorrect harvest location claims, with misdeclaration identified in both certified and uncertified products.

VERIFICATION RESULTS FOR WOOD FIBER HARVEST LOCATION AND SPECIES CLAIMS



Impact Highlight — 5

Building courtroom-ready evidence capability

World Forest ID invested in Bond Solon expert scientific witness training to ensure evidence meets courtroom standards. The training, covering report writing, courtroom skills, criminal law and procedure, and cross-examination, equips the team to present clear and credible evidence in legal proceedings. This shapes how World Forest ID writes evaluation reports, ensuring outputs are structured for evidentiary use from the start. For enforcement agencies considering scientific verification, this provides assurance that our reports can withstand legal scrutiny.



COURSES COMPLETED:

Excellence in Report Writing
Courtroom Skills
Criminal Law and Procedure
Cross-examination

Credibility depends on evidence that is transparent, well-documented, and legally robust. This training ensures our verification can be relied upon in formal proceedings.

MARÍA LAURA BARRERA — Board Member

Partnerships in practice



Through our partnership with World Forest ID, our clients can integrate independent scientific verification into their due diligence workflow, making objective origin testing a practical tool to manage risk in their global supply chains.

DARREN THOMAS - CEO, Double Helix Tracking



We've worked with World Forest ID since February 2024 to verify timber sourcing claims through testing of birch and oak products, which supports wider industry data gathering. **NEXT**



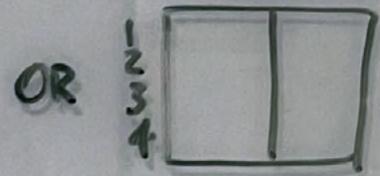
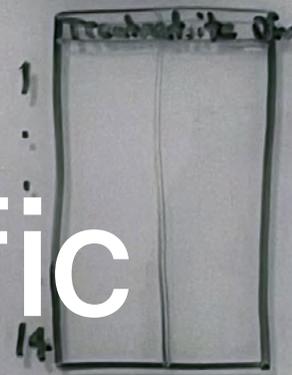
RELATED PUBLICATIONS:

Alliance for Wood ID Testing Charter
Timber market study (April 2025)

Scientific research

We advance origin science through collaborative research and focus equally on making that science usable in practice.

DR VICTOR DEKLERCK — Director of Science, World Forest ID

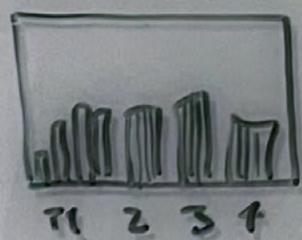


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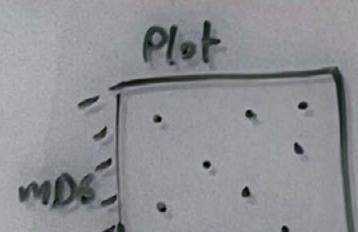
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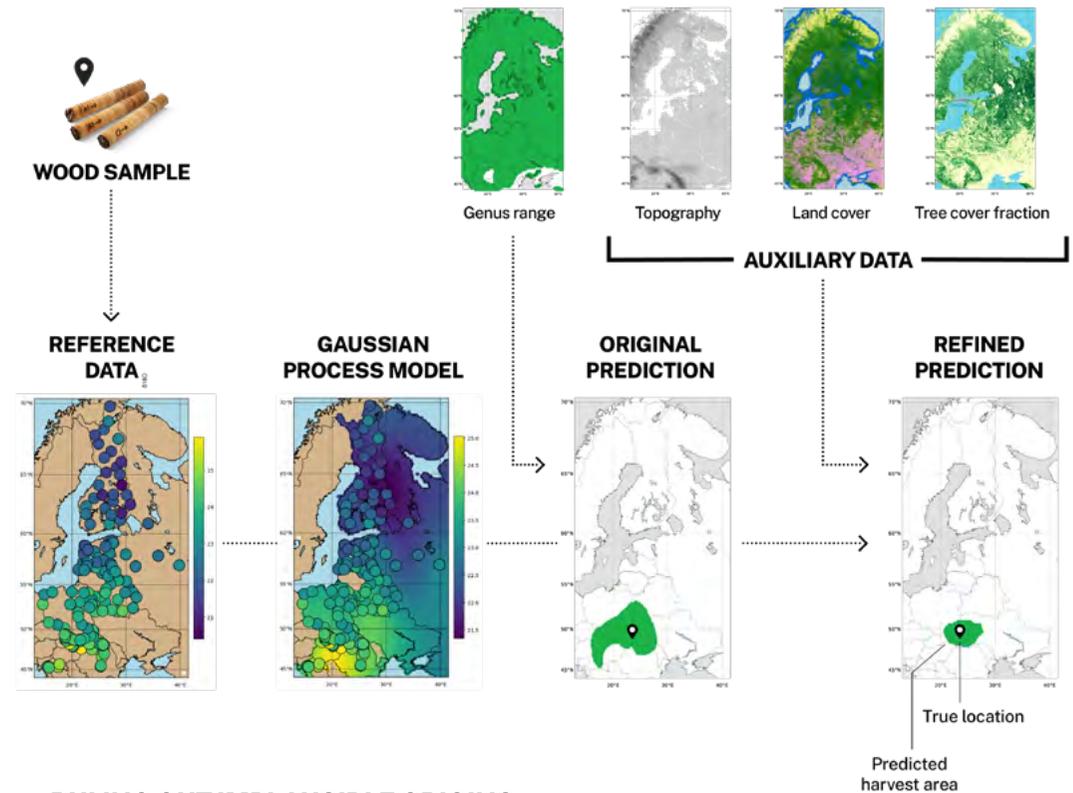
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Scientific Research — 1

Making our sample data work harder



INFERRING ORIGINS ACROSS SPECIES

Multi-species analysis paper

This study demonstrated that chemical data from co-occurring species can be used to infer origin signatures for unsampled plant species within the same region. It enables origin prediction in areas where direct sampling is impractical, while maintaining analytical robustness and evidentiary integrity.

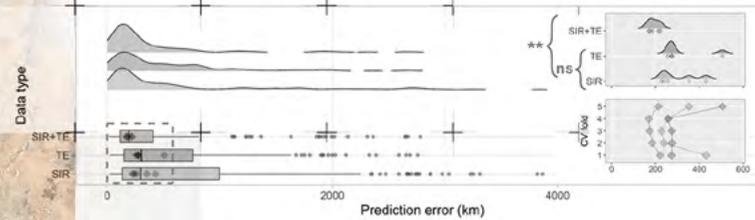
RULING OUT IMPLAUSIBLE ORIGINS

Priors modeling paper

This paper introduced methods to systematically exclude locations where a species could not plausibly grow, such as unsuitable environments or altitudinal ranges. By narrowing the geographic area under investigation, the approach improves precision and efficiency while reducing analytical and operational burden.

The most cost-efficient reference sample is the one we don't have to collect.

JADE SAUNDERS — Executive Director, World Forest ID



Scientific Research – 2

Origin models for soy

SOYBEAN TRACEABILITY PAPER

In 2025, World Forest ID, with the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, developed our first scientific origin models for soy, focusing on South America, where soy production is most strongly linked to deforestation and land-use change. The research established how chemical signatures can be interpreted alongside spatial and environmental variables to assess declared origins for traded soy within complex global supply chains.

Using geolocated reference samples from major soy-producing regions, the study established at what scale chemical evidence can reliably verify origin claims for traded soy. This work provides a scientific foundation for applying origin verification to agricultural supply chains subject to deforestation regulation and due-diligence requirements.

When enforcement agencies can apply the same scientific model across cases, it strengthens confidence that origin claims are being assessed on consistent grounds.



Scientific Research — 3

Testing feasibility beyond plant-based systems

SHRIMP TRACEABILITY PAPER

In 2025, World Forest ID, with funding from the Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation, tested whether its chemical and spatial origin-verification approach could be extended to aquatic supply chains through a shrimp traceability pilot. The research was preceded by an extensive physical sampling campaign, combining farm-level reference collections, including pond shrimp, feed, and water, with retail sampling from major consumer markets.

The study confirmed that chemical fingerprints persist through commercial processing, enabling origin verification for export-ready shrimp products. Shrimp farming is a major driver of mangrove deforestation, but heavy processing has made origin claims difficult to verify using existing traceability systems. This study shows chemical methods can bridge that gap, laying the groundwork for verification in aquatic supply chains.

Shrimp farming is a major driver of mangrove deforestation, but heavy processing has made origin claims difficult to verify. This study shows chemical fingerprints survive that processing.

Data and coverage

Reference data is most powerful when its coverage is clear and its limitations are transparent, enabling targeted investment in new collections.

DR CHARLOTTE SMITH — Geospatial Data Platforms Manager



Data metrics

2025 DATA

Samples

Samples collected:	4,292
Expeditions:	18
Countries sampled:	18

Area of Insight*

Timber:	163.5 million hectares
Forest-Risk Commodities:	16.7 million hectares
Total:	180.2 million hectares

2017—2025 CUMULATIVE DATA

Samples

Samples collected:	42,502
Expeditions:	97
Countries sampled:	56

Area of Insight*

Timber:	979.1 million hectares
Forest-Risk Commodities:	639.7 million hectares
Cumulative Total:	1.62 billion hectares

***AREA OF INSIGHT:** The area around each sample within which we can confidently infer the chemical characteristics of trees and crops. Where we do not have samples for a target species, we are able to produce increasingly precise and accurate results by modeling multi-genus data from other sampled species ranges.

CARBON IMPACT: The area of insight derived from our timber samples stores more than ~45.6 billion tons of above-ground carbon.

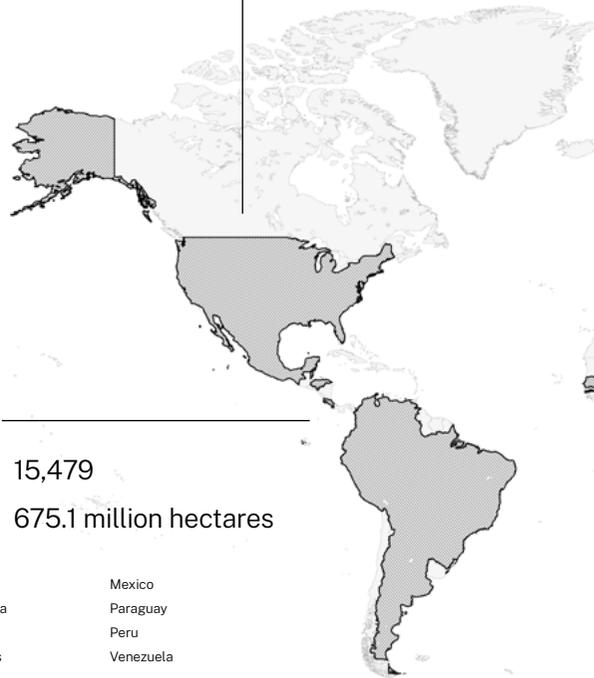
Data coverage

NORTH AMERICA

Samples collected: 1,458

Area of Insight: 38.7 million hectares

United States
Canada



EUROPE AND CENTRAL ASIA

Samples collected: 13,776

Area of Insight: 435.1 million hectares

Armenia	Croatia	Germany	Poland	Ukraine
Austria	Czechia	Hungary	Romania	United Kingdom
Azerbaijan	Estonia	Kazakhstan	Russia	
Belarus	Finland	Latvia	Slovakia	
Belgium	France	Lithuania	Spain	
Bosnia and Herzegovina	Georgia	Moldova	Turkey	



LATIN AMERICA

Samples collected: 15,479

Area of Insight: 675.1 million hectares

Argentina	Colombia	Mexico
Belize	Costa Rica	Paraguay
Bolivia	Ecuador	Peru
Brazil	Honduras	Venezuela



SOUTH/EAST ASIA AND THE PACIFIC

Samples collected: 4,421

Area of Insight: 148.5 million hectares

China	Laos	Solomon Islands
India	Malaysia	Thailand
Indonesia	Papua New Guinea	



AFRICA

Samples collected: 6,826

Area of Insight: 136 million hectares

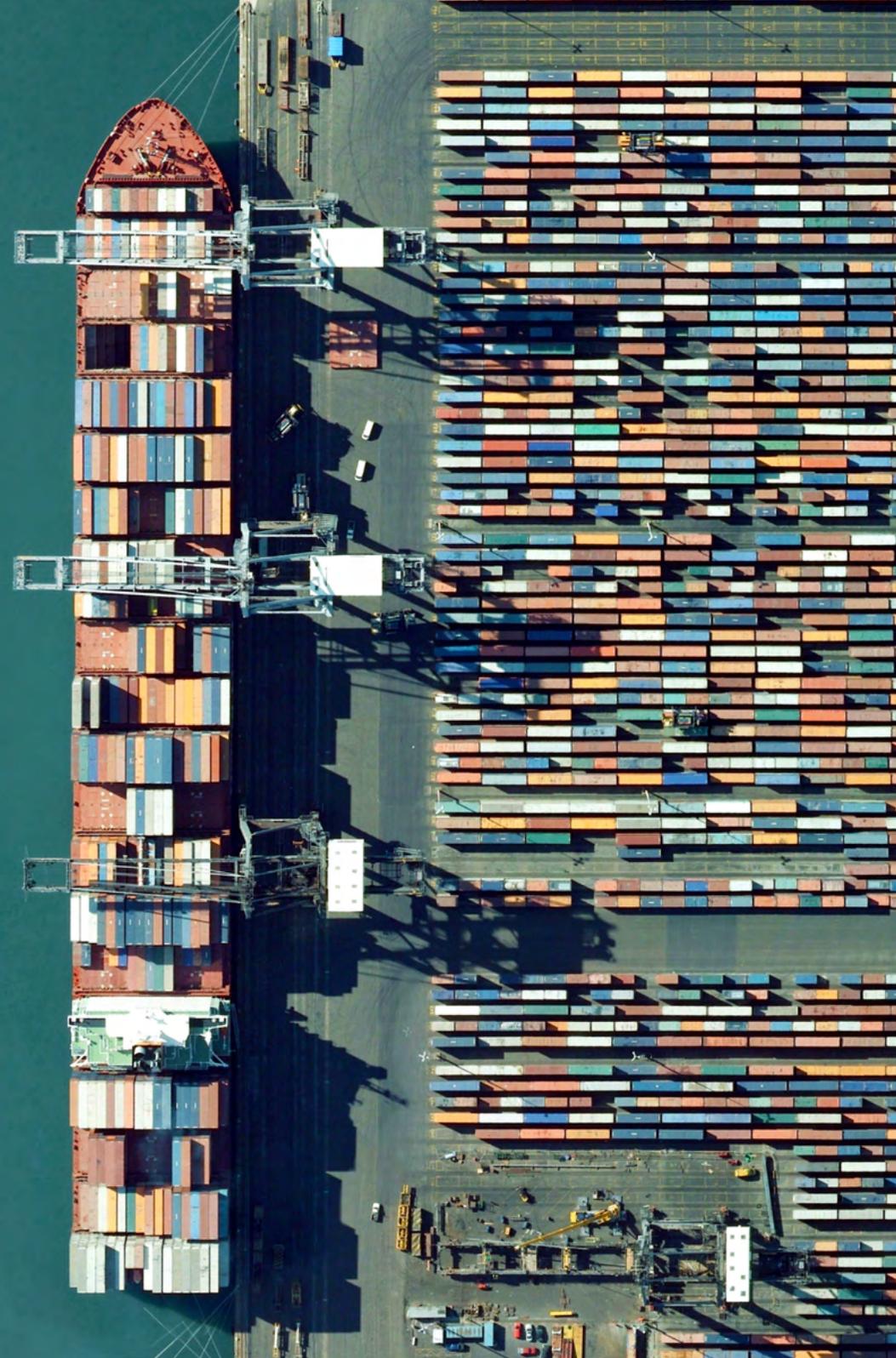
Cameroon	Gabon
Central African Republic	Liberia
Côte d'Ivoire	Nigeria
Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC)	Republic of the Congo
Equatorial Guinea	



Strategy and priorities

Scale comes from increasing the value of each reference sample and making that value accessible and straightforward to adopt in practice.

ALICIA SULLIVAN — Board Member



Priorities for 2026

Operating shared scientific infrastructure

Provide governed, membership-based access to the Evaluation Platform and Data Explorer. Members can conduct targeted checks on harvest origin claims, support investigations into potential falsification, and define risk thresholds aligned with their sourcing goals.

Expanding reference data through contributions

Expand reference data through membership-supported field collections and industry-donated samples, addressing priority species and geographic gaps, while maintaining scientific independence. Increased coverage strengthens verification in actively traded regions where due diligence challenges are concentrated.

Advancing origin models for agricultural commodities

Develop operational origin models for soy and cocoa, moving from research to field testing. These models will enable verification in agricultural supply chains subject to deforestation regulation, providing the same independent evidence capability now available for timber.

Strengthening origin models with environmental data

Refine origin models by integrating land cover, topography, and tree cover data. These constraints reduce implausible predicted origins and increase spatial precision, making verification results more actionable for enforcement and compliance decisions.

Driving adoption through applied use cases

Work with members, regulators, certification bodies, and companies to refine guidance on sampling, interpretation, and governance. Real-world application in operational contexts ensures tools meet practical needs as origin verification scales beyond pilot programs.

Governance and accountability

Trust in scientific outputs depends on transparent governance, independent oversight, and clear accountability for how evidence is generated

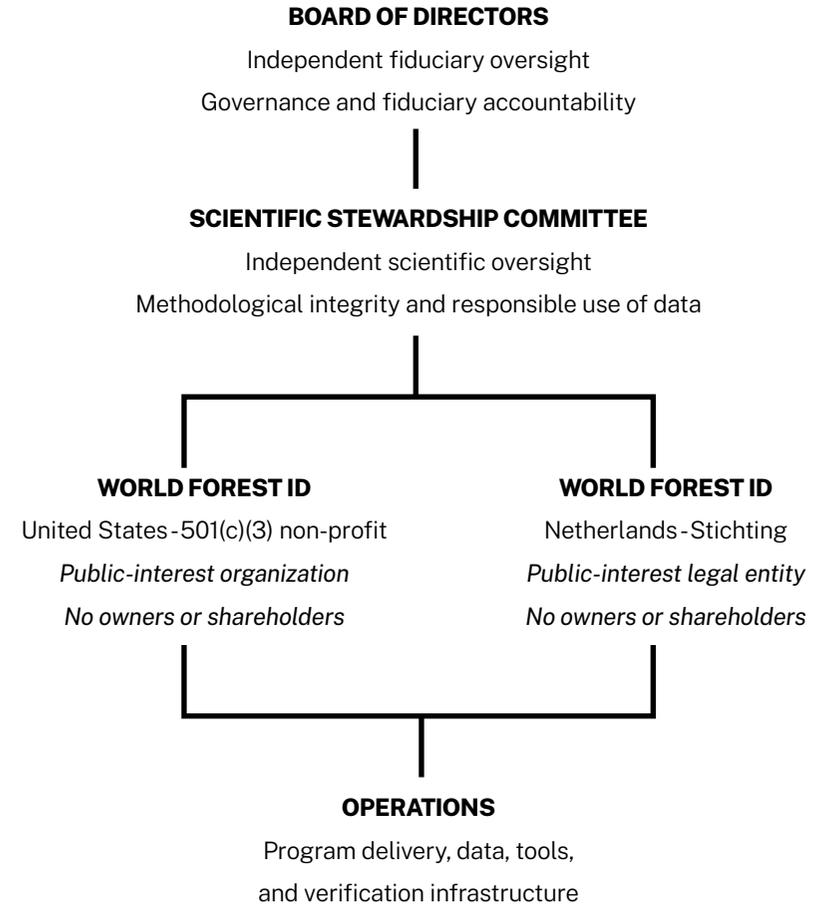
DR CHARLES (CHIP) BARBER – Board Member

Governance and oversight updates

In 2025, World Forest ID formally established a Stichting in the Netherlands, reflecting the organization's continued growth. Like its existing 501(c)(3) status in the United States, this public-interest legal structure has no owners or shareholders, ensuring that the organization's assets remain dedicated to its mission. It also provides World Forest ID with a permanent legal presence in Europe, supporting engagement with regulators, research partners and funders as EU policy and regulation play a growing role in shaping global supply chains.

This expansion was accompanied by Board appointments that deepen governance, regulatory, and sustainability expertise. Vincent van den Berk and Dr Arthur Blundell joined the Dutch Board to support European oversight. Nigel Haskins joined as Treasurer, strengthening financial governance, and Alexandra Banks, Sustainability Partner at EY, was appointed Board President, bringing senior-level experience in responsible trade, corporate governance, and international regulatory frameworks.

World Forest ID operates through public-interest legal entities with independent board and scientific oversight, ensuring organizational and scientific independence across jurisdictions.



World Forest ID Board



ALEXANDRA BANKS — President

Expert in corporate social responsibility, modern slavery risk management, and responsible trade, Alexandra has deep knowledge of auditing, international trade regulation, and responsible business oversight.



MARÍA LAURA BARRERA — Board Member

María Laura is a lawyer specializing in anti-corruption, procurement, and sustainability, with global experience leading investigations, advising NGOs, and advancing transparency-focused policy and litigation.



DR ARTHUR BLUNDELL — Secretary

Arthur specializes in conflict and natural resource management. He has chaired the UN Security Council's panel on Liberia and worked on forest governance in Myanmar with Forest Trends.



NIGEL HASKINS — Treasurer

Nigel works across finance and governance, focusing on responsible finance, climate-risk integration, and public-sector sustainability, alongside board roles in social, environmental, and energy initiatives in Australia and the Pacific.



DR MELISSA FLAGG — Board Member

Founder of Flagg Consulting, Melissa has served in senior roles at the US Department of Defense and is affiliated with several research institutions. Her expertise spans defense science and technology.



VINCENT VAN DEN BERK — Board Member

Vincent has worked for the Dutch Government, the European Commission and the European Forest Institute on international nature conservation, in particular on wetlands in West Africa and Russia, and on responsible sourcing of timber and agricultural commodities for the European market.



ALICIA SULLIVAN — Board Member

Alicia brings experience in applied remote sensing and scaled technology development, with roles at Weyerhaeuser, Microsoft and Google. She focuses on applying technology to challenges spanning mapping, environmental science and resource management.



DR CHARLES (CHIP) BARBER — Board Member

Chip is the Director of Natural Resources Governance at WRI, with experience as Forest Division Chief at the US Department of State and as a consultant for the World Bank and The Nature Conservancy.

Combining complementary scientific methods and modeling allows us to strengthen timber identification and expand the global evidence base.

PROFESSOR DR ISKANDAR SIREGAR – IPB University, Indonesia

Our Consortium

The World Forest ID Consortium is a group of public research institutions that are committed to protecting forests and other ecosystems using science. The research institutes drive innovation and ensure scientific excellence in the development of novel forensic techniques and global verification standards, reflecting their complementary areas of expertise. The Consortium is facilitated by World Forest ID, an independent legal entity with a mission to support collaboration, data interoperability and scale in the science necessary to make forest connected supply chains transparent and enforce environmental laws. Together the group works to expand the realm of relevant knowledge and utilize non-proprietary science and technology for global good.



CITEmadera (Peru)
José Ugarte Oliva



Institut de Recherches Agronomiques et Forestières (IRAF) (Gabon)
Dr Dyana Ndiade Bouroubou



IPB University (Indonesia)
Prof. Dr Iskandar Siregar



Meise Botanic Garden (Belgium)
Dr Victor Deklerck



Adelaide University (Australia)
Professor Andrew Lowe



The University of Dschang (Cameroon)
Dr Abubakar Shidiki



The University of São Paulo (Brazil)
Professor Luiz Martinelli



Wageningen University (Netherlands)
Professor Pieter Zuidema



Scientific Stewardship Committee

The Scientific Stewardship Committee provides independent oversight of World Forest ID's scientific work. Composed of senior researchers from across the Consortium, it safeguards methodological rigor, scientific integrity, and responsible use of data as research moves into applied verification.

The Committee reviews scientific progress, assesses risk, and guides strategic priorities, ensuring that methods, models, and tools remain credible, reproducible, and aligned with public-good science. It does not direct operations, but provides assurance that World Forest ID's work meets internationally recognized scientific best practice.

In November 2025, the Committee met at Meise Botanic Garden in Belgium to review progress and agree priorities for 2026. Discussions focused on strengthening sampling and analytical methods, improving model robustness, supporting adoption across jurisdictions, and enhancing the clarity and interpretability of outputs from the Evaluation Platform.

SCIENTIFIC STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE MEMBERS (2025)

Dr Victor Deklerck — Director of Science, World Forest ID (Meise Botanic Garden, Belgium)

Dr Dyana Boubou — Institut de Recherches Agronomiques et Forestières (IRAF), Gabon

Prof. Dr Andrew Lowe — Adelaide University, Australia

Dr Gabriela Nardoto — University of Brasília, Brazil (representing University of São Paulo)

José Ugarte Oliva — CITEmadera y del Mueble, Peru

Prof. Dr Pieter Zuidema — Wageningen University & Research, Netherlands

Prof. Dr Iskandar Siregar — IPB University, Indonesia

A close-up photograph of a person's hand adjusting a white microscope. The hand is positioned on the side of the microscope's body, with fingers spread. The background is blurred, showing other laboratory equipment and a person in a white lab coat. The lighting is bright and clinical.

Financial report

Rather than one-off project funding,
sustained investment is essential to build
long-term, scientific infrastructure.

DR ARTHUR BLUNDELL — Board Member

TOTAL SUPPORT AND REVENUES:

\$1,126,605

Includes revenue from government donors, foundations, private sector partners, NGO partners, and income from interest.

TOTAL PROGRAM SERVICES EXPENSES:

\$1,531,964

The majority of our funds were allocated to direct program activities, including sample collection, data analysis, and forest advocacy.

SUPPORTING SERVICES EXPENSES

\$697,598

Covers essential governance, administration, and fundraising functions necessary for organizational operation.

Funding overview

In a year marked by widespread funding cuts across the NGO sector, World Forest ID secured \$1,126,605 in funding and continued to diversify its funding base. This has been directed toward building core technical infrastructure, including the Evaluation Platform, and advancing modeling approaches that maximize the value extracted from existing reference samples. By focusing investment on tools and methods with long-term value, this funding supports practical, science-based verification across forest-risk supply chains.

In a constrained funding environment, we have focused investment on enduring capabilities, data, methods, and tools that deliver sustained value.

NIGEL HASKINS — Board Treasurer

Financial summary (Year Ended December 31, 2025)

SUPPORT AND REVENUES		NET CHANGE IN ASSETS:		STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION:	
Program Fees:	\$1,126,605	Net Change in Assets:	-\$1,102,956	Total Liabilities:	\$101,898
Interest Income:	\$46,837	NET ASSETS:		Total Net Assets:	\$1,177,051
Other Income:	\$4,717	Net Assets at Beginning of Year:	\$2,280,006	Without Donor Restrictions:	\$1,177,051
Total Support and Revenues:	\$1,126,605	Net Assets at Year End:	\$1,177,051	With Donor Restrictions:	\$0
EXPENDITURES:				Total Net Assets and Liabilities	\$1,278,949
Program Services:	\$1,531,964				
General and Administrative:	\$600,877				
Fundraising:	\$96,721				
Total Expenditures:	\$2,229,561				

Funding partners

Our broad funding base is essential to advancing our efforts to address deforestation and expand fair access to environmental resources. We could not achieve this impact without the trust and support of our funding partners. Continued investment is needed to expand sample collection into new regions, broaden the spatial coverage and accuracy of our AI-enabled models, and make our data more actionable and effective in driving supply chain accountability.

GOVERNMENT AGENCIES:

Australian Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry (DAFF)

Ministry for the Ecological Transition and the Demographic Challenge (MITECO)

UK Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA)

UK Office for Product Safety and Standards (OPSS)

US Animal & Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS)

US Department of Justice

US Department of State

US Forest Service International Programs

PRIVATE FOUNDATIONS:

Climate and Land Use Alliance (CLUA)

Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation

Mulago Foundation

NONPROFITS AND INTERNATIONAL ENTITIES:

American Hardwood Export Council (AHEC)

European Panel Federation

Forest Stewardship Council (FSC)

Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew (RBG Kew)

World Resources Institute (WRI)

Forest Trends

CORPORATE PARTNERS:

Assurance Services International (ASI)

IKEA

Kingfisher

How funding fits our strategic framework

Pillar 1/3. — Sample collection and data creation

Creating primary reference data for high-risk tree species and forest risk commodities (FRCs) is the foundation of our work. Trees and plants have chemical, genetic, and anatomical signatures that are specific to their species and location of harvest. By collecting and analyzing geo-referenced tree and plant samples from around the world, we create the ground-truthed data needed to develop origin models for traded forest products. The credibility of this reference data is ensured through replicability testing with ISO 17025-accredited laboratories.



FUNDING NEEDS: This pillar requires significant investment in fieldwork and chemical analysis. We need to train and equip sample collectors in new forest areas, and expand our collection protocols for new ‘liquid’ deforestation-driving commodities, including palm oil and rubber. Continued investment expands our ability to make supply chains transparent and accountable in high-risk regions.

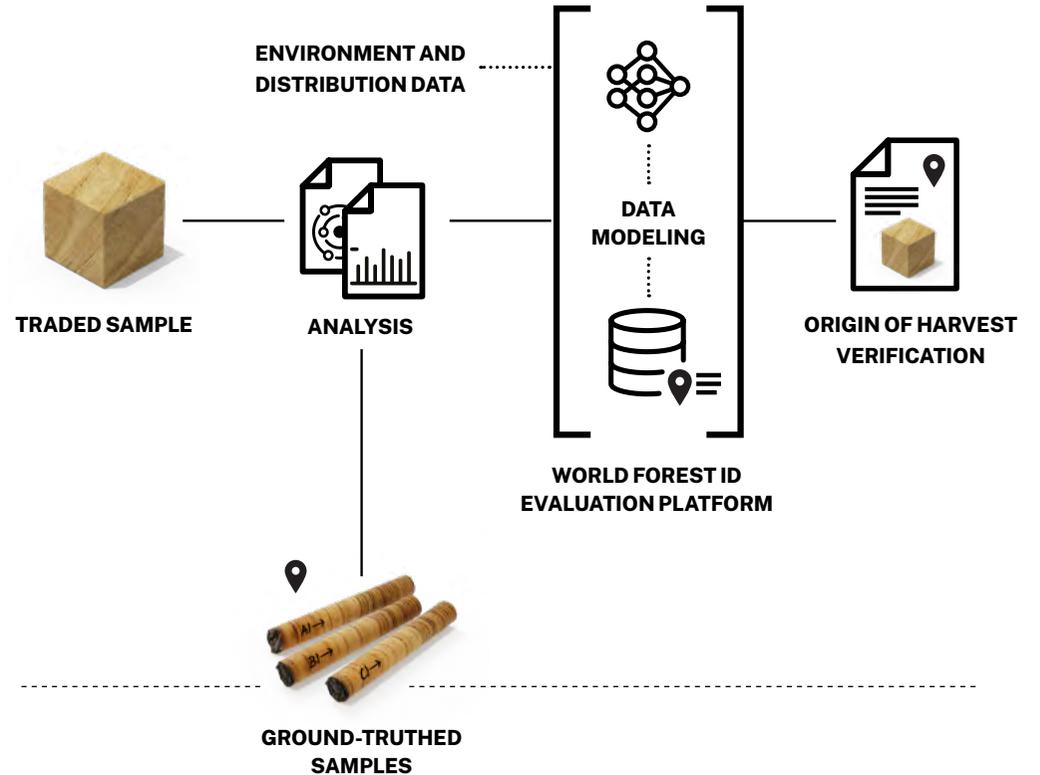
How funding fits our strategic framework

Pillar 2/3. – Data modeling, hosting, and security

By combining our sample data with freely available environmental information, we are able to increase the precision and range of our models by inferring chemical values for areas where physical sampling is not possible due to security, access, or international constraints. To support use at scale, we have developed a secure Evaluation Platform that turns georeferenced data from our ground-truthed samples into actionable knowledge available to multiple laboratories and end users.

KEY COMPONENTS:

- Secure data hosting
- Stakeholder confidentiality
- Spatial reference model expansion
- Interoperability standards
- Data governance protocols
- Data integrity and security



FUNDING NEEDS: Investment is critical to strengthen data security, expand verification systems, and improve interoperability across regions and commodities. Expanding data inference helps overcome financial and security-related barriers to sample collection, driving greater accountability in forest-connected supply chains.

How funding fits our strategic framework

Pillar 3/3. — Use cases and tool development

Simply creating data does not change the world. Impact lies in transforming data into tools that meet the needs of regulators, businesses, and certification schemes. By working with these groups, we ensure our tools are practical, scalable, and help drive transparency and compliance across supply chains. Through our partnerships we pilot and refine tools in real-world settings. Whether it's risk screening, origin verification, or compliance support, we help businesses manage supply chain exposure while enabling regulators to enforce environmental laws.

SERVICES

- Capacity building
- Risk screening
- Origin verification
- Legal evidence
- Norm setting

USERS

- Local producers
- Investigators & prosecutors
- Regulators
- Customs authorities
- Trade federations
- Certification schemes
- Service providers



FUNDING NEEDS: Investment will support the expansion of tools for partners, businesses and enforcement agencies, ensuring they can seamlessly leverage our data for conservation, compliance, and commercial purposes across existing systems and platforms.



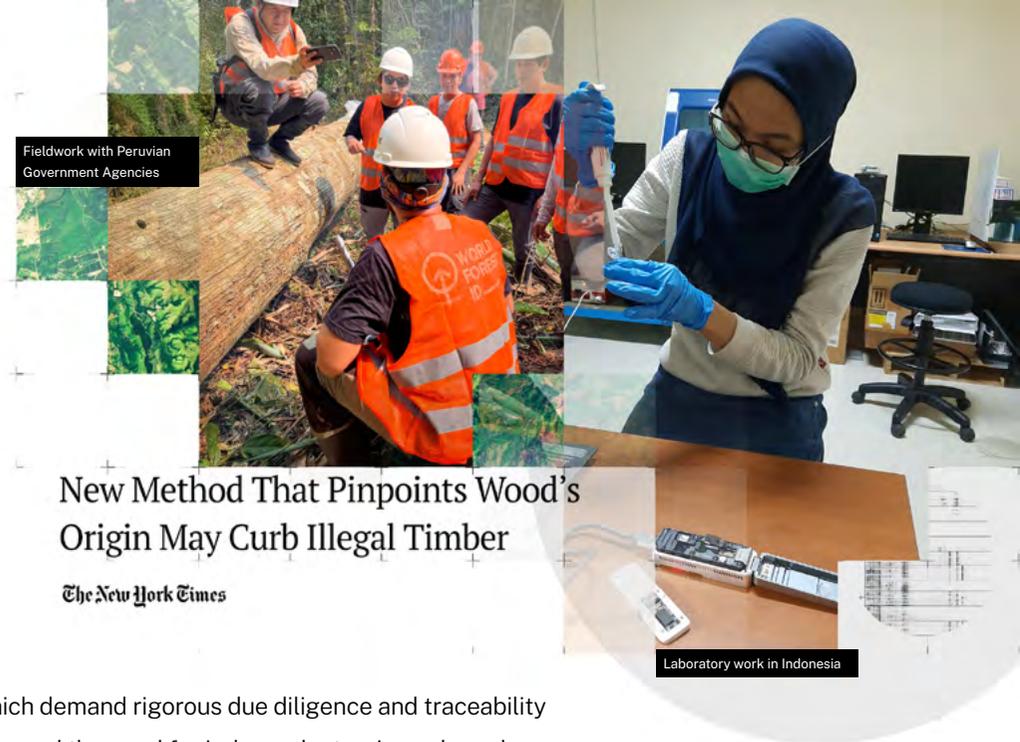
Organizational background

International agreements and restrictions mean no single government or commercial laboratory can legally collect reference samples everywhere. World Forest ID's non-profit, collaborative model was designed to navigate this.

Our history

The roots of World Forest ID trace back to 2017, when WRI came together with USFS International Programs, Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew and FSC, bringing their expertise in science, traceability, and forestry to create a new approach to species and origin verification for forest risk commodities. Initial discussions led to the formation of the World Forest ID Founding Consortium, an informal collaborative effort focused on building the reference data necessary to enforce timber related regulations such as the EU Timber Regulation and the Lacey Act Amendment.

In 2021, World Forest ID was granted 501(c)(3) status by the US Government as a private, non profit organization. This milestone allowed the organization to expand its reach, securing crucial funding and partnerships that enabled the rapid scaling of its global reference collections. World Forest ID's official incorporation coincided with a pivotal moment in international environmental policy, marked by the adoption of the UK Environment Act in 2021, the EU Deforestation Regulation in 2023 and the EU Corporate Sustainability Due Diligence Directive in 2024.



New Method That Pinpoints Wood's Origin May Curb Illegal Timber

The New York Times

These regulations, which demand rigorous due diligence and traceability in supply chains, reinforced the need for independent, science based verification. As the world's legal frameworks evolve to address deforestation more effectively, World Forest ID develops and applies science backed tools that support enforcement and compliance.

Today, World Forest ID operates at the intersection of science, technology, and law, applying its global reference data through standardized analytical tools to support enforcement and evidence-based decision making in global supply chains. The organization's work spans continents, from the Amazon Basin to the European single market, where its data is used to trace the origins of timber, supporting efforts to verify legally sourced wood. In just a few short years, World Forest ID has transformed from a concept into an operational organization supporting independent verification in forest risk supply chains.

How to engage

FOR COMPANIES, CERTIFICATION SCHEMES, AND AUDITORS:

Access the Evaluation Platform to verify origin claims, conduct targeted checks on harvest origins, and strengthen due diligence.

FOR FOREST MANAGERS AND PRODUCERS:

Contribute reference samples to protect your markets and distinguish legitimate products from fraudulent origin claims.

FOR GOVERNMENT AGENCIES AND ENFORCEMENT AUTHORITIES:

Pilot forensic verification methods, build analytical capacity, and access experts for regulatory proceedings.

FOR RESEARCH INSTITUTIONS:

Join the Consortium, contribute reference samples, or collaborate on methodological development.

FOR PHILANTHROPIC AND INSTITUTIONAL FUNDERS:

Support targeted sample collection, agricultural commodity expansion, and infrastructure development.