

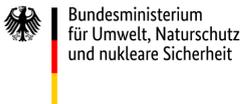
The COUPLED network

COUPLED is a European research and training network, coordinated by Humboldt University Berlin and funded by the European Commission. By 2022, 15 doctoral students will be trained for a more just and sustainable world. They are supported by an experienced network of universities, companies, public institutions, and NGOs. Activities include PhD projects, various internships, and training courses.

Beneficiaries



Partners



This project receives funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under Marie Skłodowska-Curie grant agreement No 765408.



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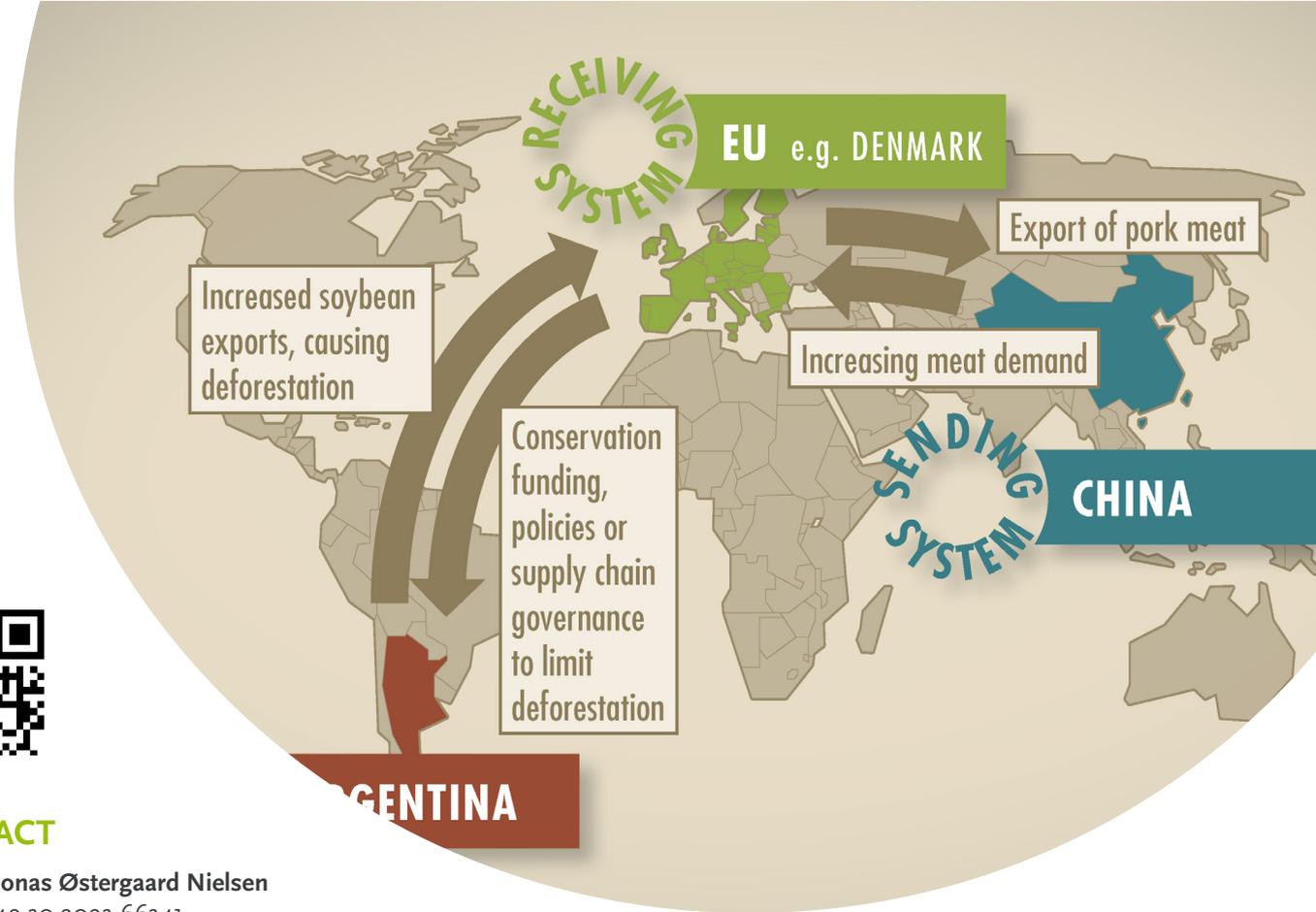
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COUPLED



Operationalising Telecouplings for Solving Sustainability Challenges for Land Use

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Land use and sustainability as key challenge of a globalized world

Land use is essential to our well-being and therefore central to many of the largest sustainability challenges of today, including global food security, climate change mitigation, and biodiversity conservation.

Finding pathways for a sustainable land use is challenging because of the complex processes of globalization that tie distant places together. For example, the products we consume are often directly or indirectly connected to far away land-use changes such as deforestation of the tropics.

These links are embedded in a net of long-distance flows of products and raw materials, but also of people, information, policies, technology, and capital. These complex flows are difficult to untie and lead in many places to abrupt and unexpected land-use changes.

Scholars in the field of land system science have started analysing such global connections through the concept of telecoupling. **COUPLED** puts the approach of telecoupling into action for contributing to a better understanding of processes and actors that influence land use in an increasingly interconnected world. By this, we aim to solve sustainability challenges for land use.

COUPLED – OPERATIONALISING TELECOUPLINGS FOR SOLVING SUSTAINABILITY CHALLENGES FOR LAND USE

COUPLED is a European research and training network. Together we try to understand land use processes that link distant places (telecouplings) and how to govern these processes towards sustainability in an interconnected world.

COUPLED is a global network of 18 partners from research, business, government, and civil society, coordinated by the Humboldt University of Berlin.

COUPLED receives funding from the EU's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme (2018–2021).



Research objectives

- Operationalising the concept of telecouplings for solving sustainability challenges for land use and identifying actors and processes that impact land use over long distances.
- Understanding what makes land-use systems sustainable in an increasingly interconnected world and how to get there.
- Assessing the social, economic, and environmental impacts of sudden and unexpected changes in land use.
- Identifying general conditions for sustainability while at the same time capturing specific local conditions.
- Finding solutions to increase the efficiency of land use in a sustainable way, for example through strategic governance of international trade.

Expected results

- Successful training of fifteen young researchers and establishment of a strong network in the field of land use and sustainability.
- Discussion forum for research, business, government and civil society groups to bring together expertise on sustainable land use in a globalized world.
- Contribution to the development of Land System Science.
- Vivid case studies on land-use systems in the Global South and Europe and their interrelation.
- Expertise on how to implement and promote sustainable land use and transfer scientific results to business, policy, and practice.