



Business case

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Community & UN SDG(s):	SDG 15: Life on Land – Protecting forests and biodiversity. Sustainable Development Goals
Date:	02/06/2025

Proposed Project	Deforestation Data Platform – A Power BI-based multi-page report for tracking global deforestation trends.
Date Produced	02/06/2025
Background	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Deforestation is a major environmental challenge contributing to climate change, biodiversity loss, and land degradation. Understanding the scale and impact of deforestation requires data-driven insights that policymakers, researchers, and environmental organizations can use to make informed decisions.- This project proposes a Power BI dashboard that consolidates real-time and historical deforestation data, offering a comprehensive visualization of forest loss, carbon emissions, and other risks linked to deforestation. By performing data visualization on public datasets, the platform will provide a user-friendly, data-driven report for sustainability insights.
Business Need/ Opportunity	<p>The current challenges in deforestation tracking include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Lack of real-time data visualization for global deforestation trends.- Complex and scattered data sources that are difficult for policymakers and researchers to analyze.- Limited public awareness about deforestation's impact on climate and economy. <p>This project presents an opportunity to perform deforestation data analysis, making it accessible for decision-makers, environmental groups, researchers, students and general public through a centralized Power BI dashboard.</p>
Options	<p>Option 1: Proceed with the Project (Develop the Deforestation Data Platform)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Build an interactive Power BI dashboard using multiple datasets.- Integrate real-time deforestation data from public sources.- Provide customizable reports for different stakeholders.- Develop an easy-to-use interface for data access and analysis. <p>Option 2: Do Nothing (Maintain the Status Quo)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Continue relying on existing fragmented datasets, making analysis inefficient.- Policymakers and organizations struggle to derive insights from raw data.- No improvement in public awareness and engagement in deforestation issues.
Cost-Benefit Analysis	



Options	Costs	Benefits
Proceed with the Project	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Development time (data integration, Power BI reports)- Infrastructure (cloud storage, APIs)- Training for users if needed	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Centralized, real-time deforestation insights- Better policy decisions and research- Increased public awareness
Do Nothing	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- No direct costs	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Data remains unused and difficult to interpret- Limited impact on deforestation awareness- Missed opportunity for sustainability efforts

Recommendation

The best course of action is Option 1: Proceed with the Project.

- It addresses the need for an accessible, centralized deforestation data platform.
- It provides valuable insights for policymakers, researchers, and sustainability advocates.