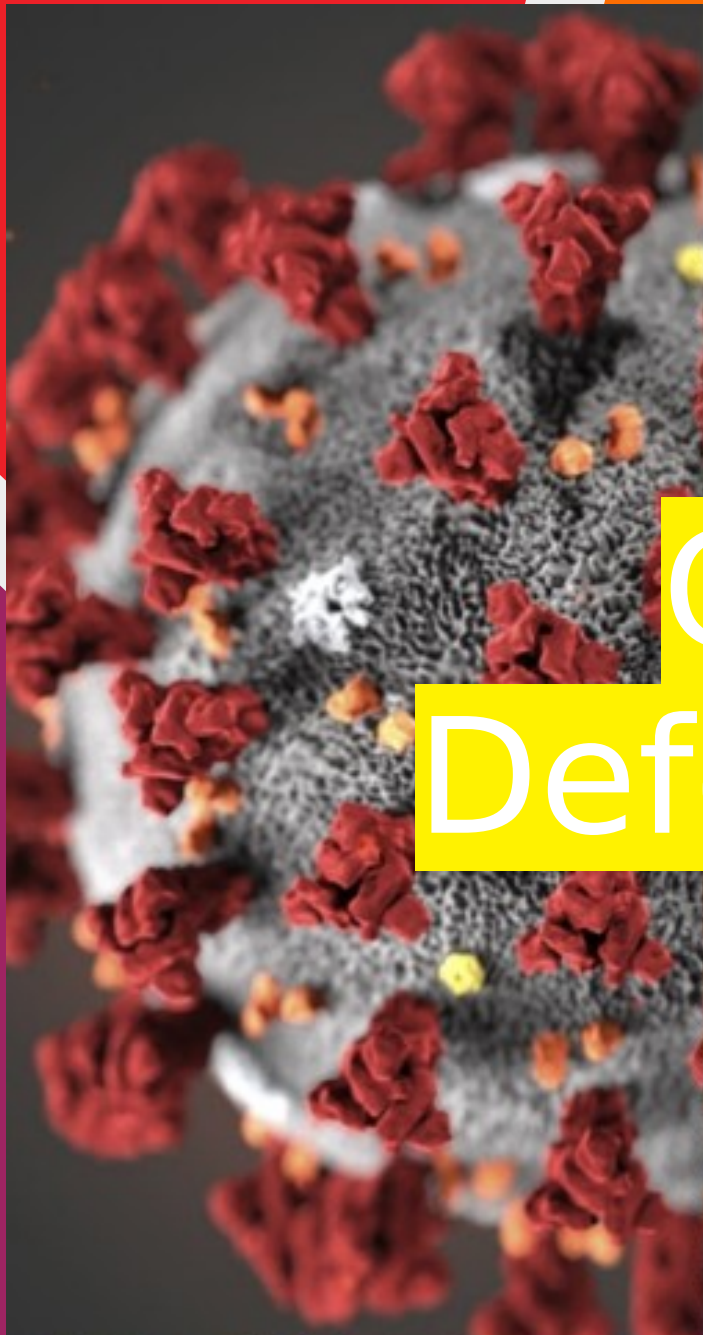


COVID-DeforestAlert



The Problem

- Conservationists claim that there has been an increase in deforestation in Brazil and Colombia since COVID-19 disruption

- 1) Are these claims true?
- 2) What is the cause?
- 3) What measures would protect forests and people?

Sustainable
Development
Goals
addressed

Protect both
human and
natural life



Focus on
low- and
middle-
income
countries

Methodology

NASA Landsat 8 satellite data



30m Satellite imagery

Global Forest Watch alerts

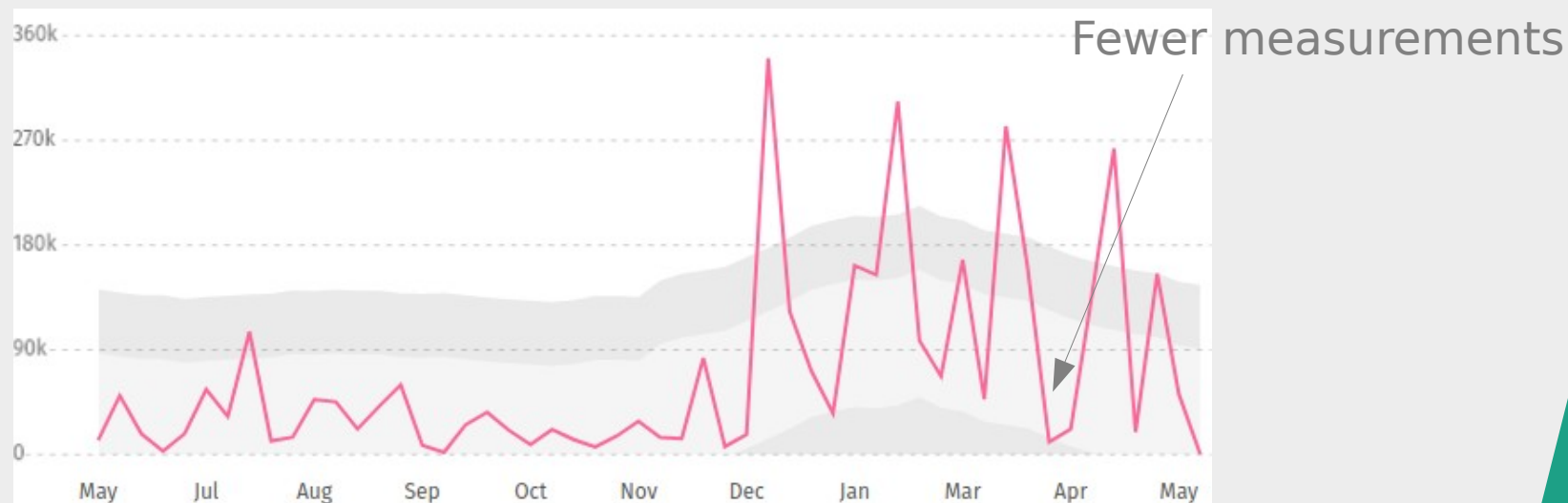


Likely deforestation events

COVIDeforestAlert

Results

- Unusually high deforestation rates for this time of year in Colombia y axis: number of deforestation alerts (trend in grey)



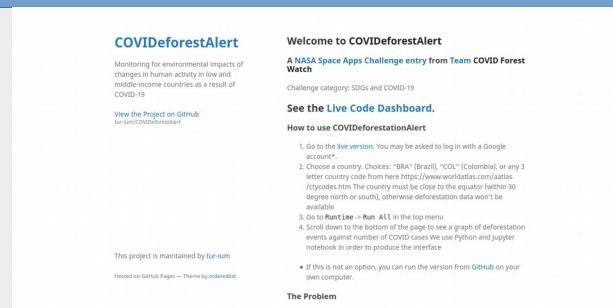
- Has a bad season been exacerbated by loss of income to buy fuel due to COVID?

Graph: Global Forest Watch website (Hansen et al., High-Resolution Global Maps of 21st-Century Forest Cover Change, 2013)

Solution



Link to website (click here to access)



- 1) Monitor for deforestation using satellite imagery
- 2) Look for correlation with COVID cases and other factors
- 3) Work with groups on the ground to protect forests and people

e.g. provide aid in the form of cooking fuel/efficient cookstoves