

Background

Deforestation is an ongoing issue in many conflict-affected countries.

The civil war in Colombia lasted sixty years and in spite of a peace agreement being signed in 2016, there remains high rates of deforestation. The Amazon rainforest extends into Colombia and the country has a rich natural heritage.

Colombia is ranked as one of the most biodiverse countries in the world - with more 51,000 species of plants and animals – but there are ongoing threats which are driving deforestation.

Worksheet exercise

NASA allow free access to satellite data which can be used to monitor environmental degradation.

Explore the NASA satellite data to see recent evidence of deforestation in the Colombian Amazon.

Step 1. View the January 2021 satellite [image](#) to see recent evidence of deforestation in the Colombian Amazon.

Question 1. Can you identify any new locations which have been cleared since January 2021?

Question 2. What do you think is driving deforestation in Colombia?

Question 3. Can you think of a problem in relying on satellite data?

Resources to use and links to find out more

Information about Colombia and about deforestation in other areas affected by conflict can be found here:

- <https://ceobs.org/country-brief-colombia/>
- <https://ceobs.org/assessment-of-recent-forest-loss-in-conflict-areas/>

More information and data on global deforestation can be found here:

- <https://www.globalforestwatch.org/>