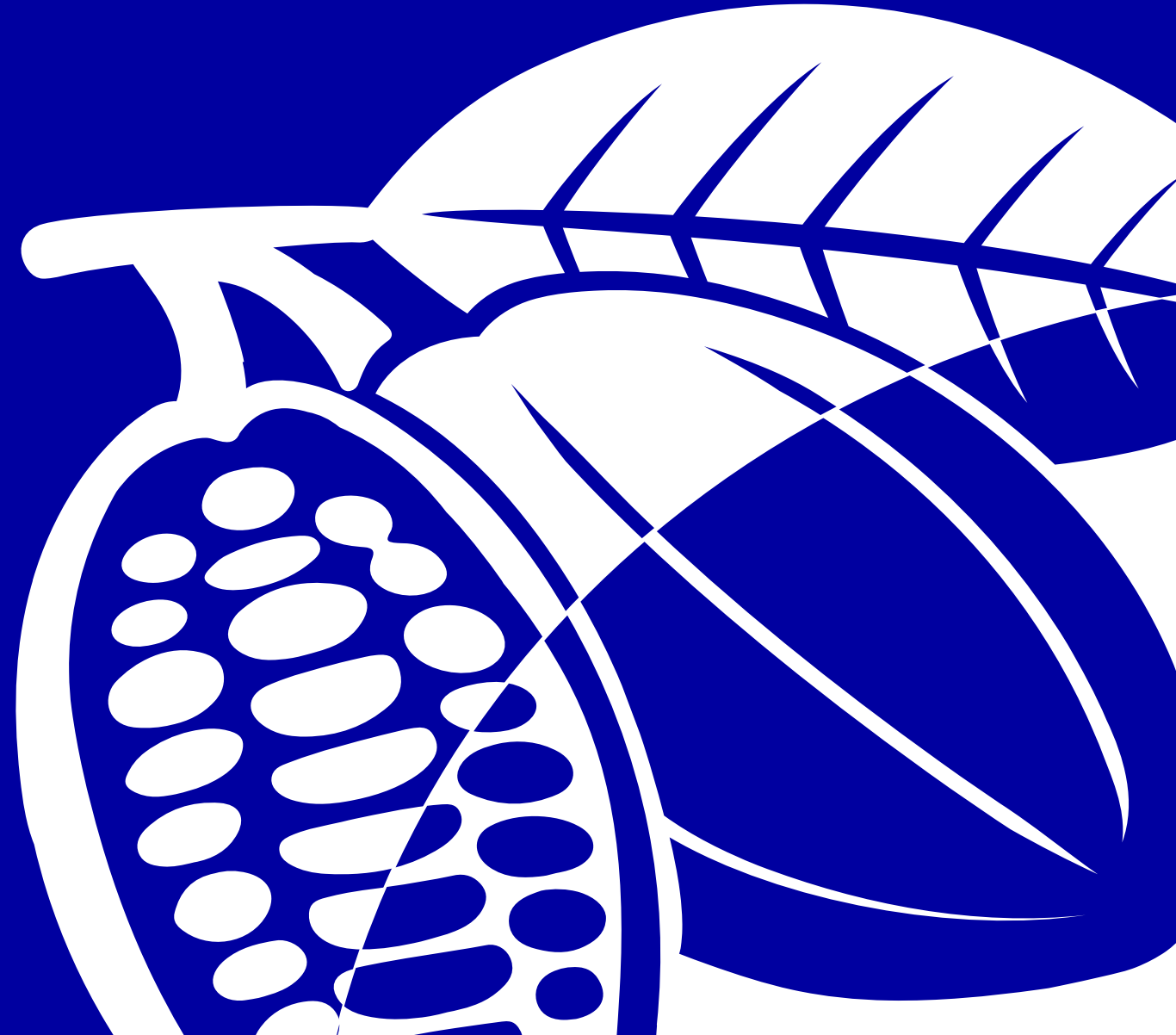


# Deforestation Verification App

## *Introduction*

November 2023



## Definitions

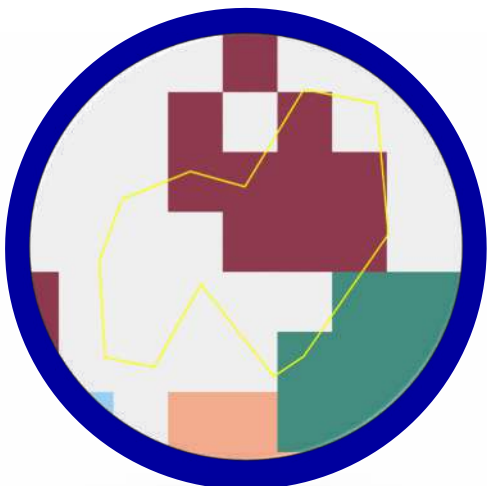
- **Forest (FAO):** Land spanning more than 0.5 hectares with trees higher than 5 meters and a canopy cover of more than 10 percent, or trees able to reach these thresholds in situ. It does not include land that is predominantly under agricultural or other land use. Forest includes natural forests and tree plantations. For the purpose of implementing no-deforestation supply chain commitments, the focus is on preventing the conversion of natural forests.
- **Deforestation (AFi):** Loss of natural forest as a result of: i) conversion to agriculture or other non-forest land use; ii) conversion to a tree plantation; or iii) severe and sustained degradation.
- **Cutoff date (adapted from AFi):** The date after which deforestation renders a given area non-compliant with no-deforestation commitments. Note: This deck uses Rainforest Alliance's cutoff date.
- **Negligible risk of deforestation (adapted from EUDR):** There is no cause for concern as being not in compliance with deforestation-free status.



# Overall process



## Starting point



### ASSESSMENT OF ALL PLOTS BASED ON SATELLITE IMAGERY DATA

Identify plots suspected of deforestation based on satellite imagery data.

## Step-by-Step Approach



### 1- DESKTOP ASSESSMENT OF AREAS SUSPECTED OF DEFORESTATION

Establish whether the risk of deforestation is negligible or not based on visual interpretation of historical very-high-resolution satellite imagery.



### 2- QUALITATIVE FIELD ASSESSMENT OF AREAS SUSPECTED OF DEFORESTATION

Establish whether the risk of deforestation is negligible or not based on farmer interview and field observations.



### 3- QUANTITATIVE FIELD ASSESSMENT OF AREAS SUSPECTED OF DEFORESTATION

Establish whether the risk of deforestation is negligible or not based on surveying the area.

*If inconclusive*

*If inconclusive*

# 1- Desktop Assessment of Areas Suspected of Deforestation



Overlay the area suspected of deforestation on very-high-resolution ( $\leq 5\text{m}$ ) satellite imagery back at the cutoff date (e.g., Google Earth, Planet)

Assess whether the area suspected of deforestation meets the forest definition parameters

# 1- Desktop Assessment of Areas Suspected of Deforestation



1- Was the area identified as deforested under agriculture on 31/12/2013?

Yes

**Negligible risk of deforestation**  
Area didn't qualify as forest on 31/12/2013  
**Take screenshot**

No or ?

2- Was the area with trees > 0.5 ha on 31/12/2013?

No

**Negligible risk of deforestation**  
Area didn't qualify as forest on 31/12/2013  
**Take screenshot**

Yes or ?

3- Was the tree cover of the area > 10% on 31/12/2013?

No

**Negligible risk of deforestation**  
Area didn't qualify as forest on 31/12/2013  
**Take screenshot**

Yes or ?

**Need to visit the field**

## 2- Qualitative Field Assessment of Areas Suspected of Deforestation

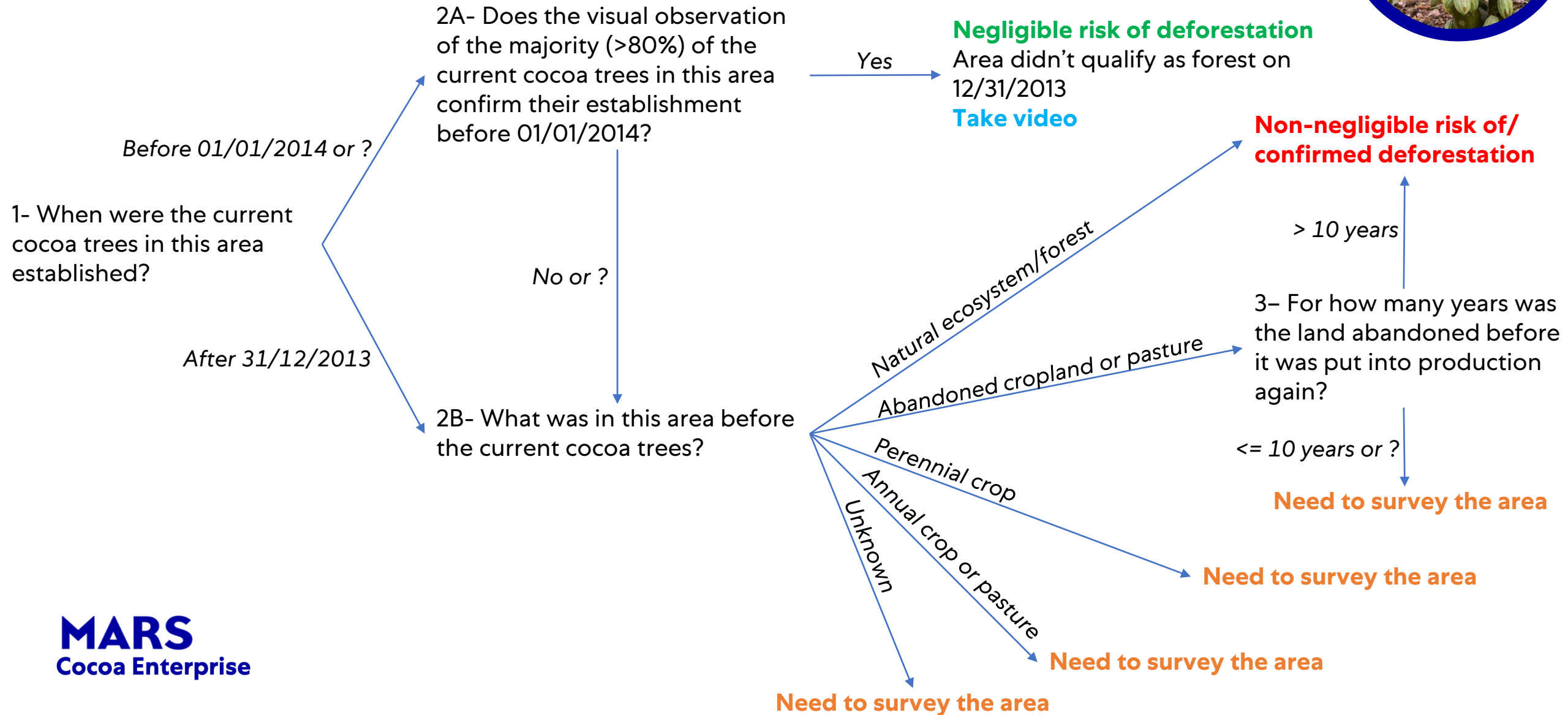


Go to the center of an area identified as deforested by satellite imagery data

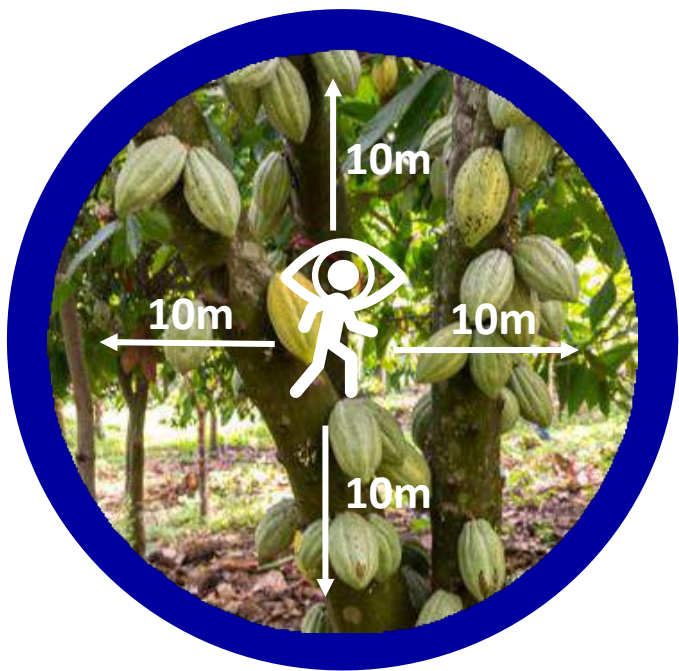
Interview the farmer and corroborate his/her responses with field observations



# 2- Qualitative Field Assessment of Areas Suspected of Deforestation



### 3- Quantitative Field Assessment of Areas Suspected of Deforestation

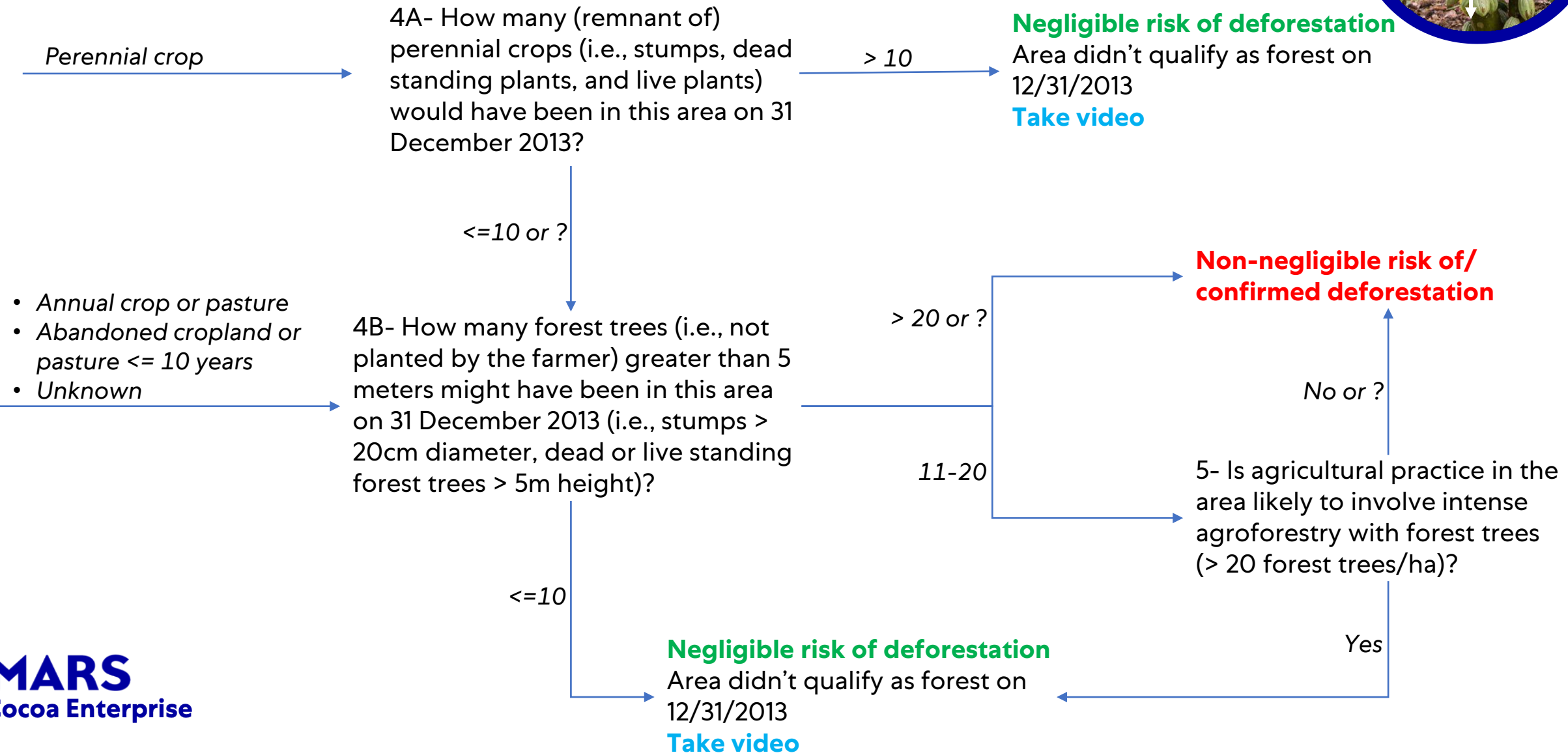


Walk 4 10m-long perpendicular transects from the center of the area identified as deforested

Collect evidence in the ~20x20 m<sup>2</sup> sample to reconstitute what was likely there back at the cutoff date



# 3- Quantitative Field Assessment of Areas Suspected of Deforestation

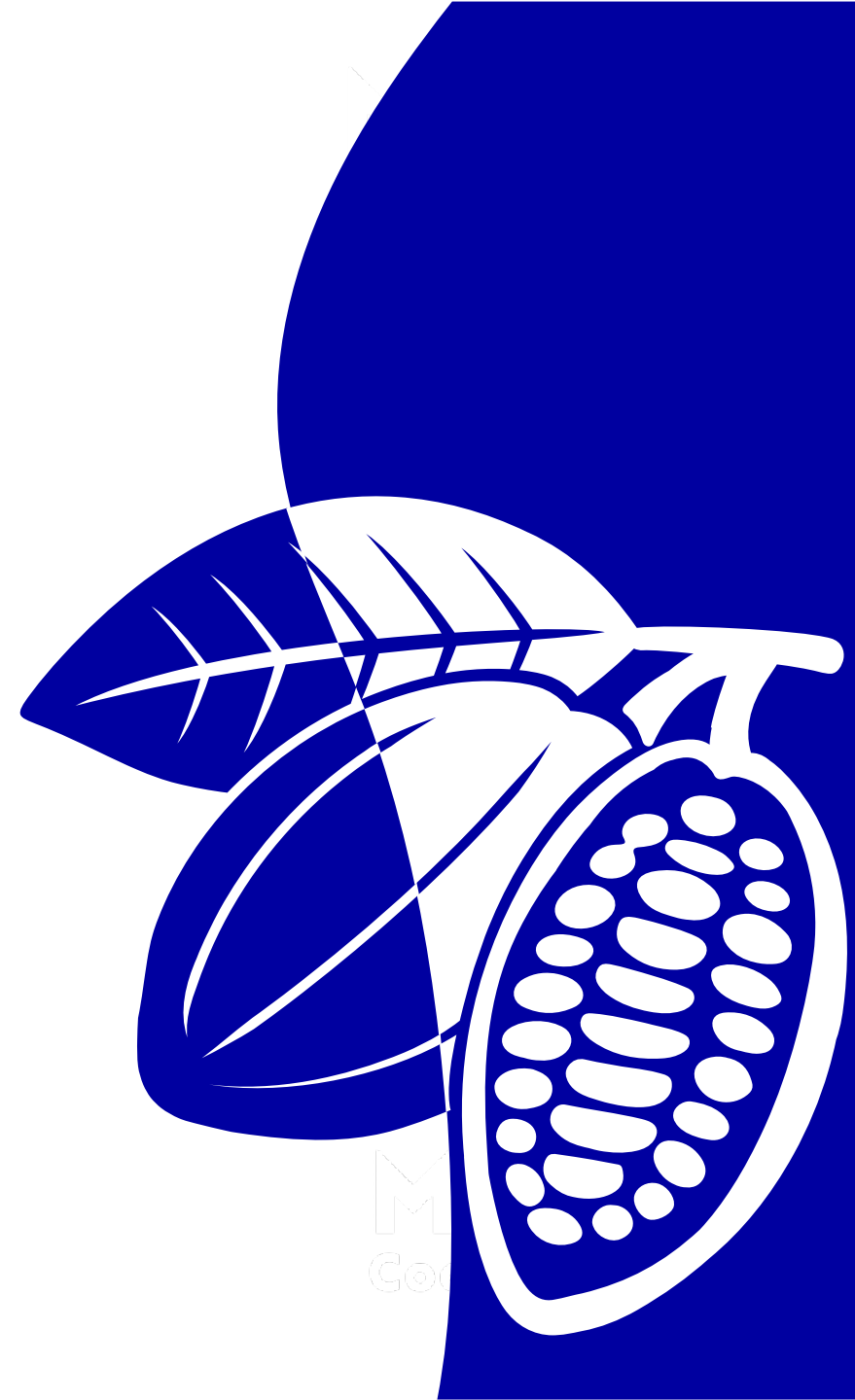


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