BIC Green Supply Chain

Update: November 2025

BIC

Summary of current position:

- The BIC Green Supply Chain Work Plan tracker has been updated to show what was completed in June. The tracker has been submitted to the BIC Executive Director.
- The Designed for Recycling Project, Part 3 Manufactured Book to End-of-Life, did not meet in November. The project consultant completed the draft version of the final report and shared it with the Task & Finishing Working Group (T&FWG). The T&FWG has reviewed the report, and the project consultant is now revising the report.
- The Sustainability and Environmental Date Reporting Project Part 2 T&FWG did not meet in November. The BIC Environmental Consultant had a meeting with the BIC Executive Director to discuss the project. There is a concern that if BIC and the PA publish results around carbon reporting and the figures are very different it would not make a very good impression. It was agreed that the consultant would send the BIC Executive Director the results of the research carried out by the T&FWG. The BIC Executive Director would then have a meeting with the CEO of the PA to discuss the best way forward for the project.
- The EUDR Practicalities A BIC Fast Track project has been set up with the kick-off meeting being held on the 29 May 2025. The project has now run for seven weeks, and several updates have been provided during the project's duration. The documentation was reviewed and published on the 14 August 2025.
- The Task and Finishing Working Group (T&FWG), met three times during November to discuss the latest position on EUDR. They agreed the following points:
 - o To continue meeting weekly until go-live,
 - o The T&FWG have had long discussions around the 'transition period' and will it be possible to sell books currently with UK distributors and warehouses into the EU after the 30 December 2025. The transition period Is from the 29 June 2023 to 30 December 2025. For the book supply chain, this means organisations must prove that books produced during that period are in accordance with EUTR and therefore can be covered by EUDR. This is a very contentious point and people's understanding varies greatly in this area. A small sub-working group created an update for organisations on how they can assess products that fall into the transition period. This update is with the BIC Executive Director for approval
 - Since the last update the EU Parliament, Council and Commission have all come up with different proposals on how to manage EUDR,
 - On the 26 November, the EU Parliament voted for a year's delay and the removal
 of printed matter from EUDR. Although this needs to be ratified by the EU
 Parliament, Council, and Commission.
 - Even if printed matter is removed from EUDR there are still many unanswered questions:
 - What does this mean for printers and the paper they buy and use?
 - O What happens to stock in the transition period?



- What does it mean for books that are printed outside the EU on non-EU paper?
- The new proposal still must receive approval from the EU Parliament, EU Council, and EU Commission. This is the current timeline for approval of any changes, or EUDR will go live as it currently stands.
 - On the 2nd December, the Commission, Parliament, and Council will meet for the 1st trilogue, and it is likely the final legislative process will be very short, with the Parliament ratifying the outcome of the trilogues on 15 December and the Council on 18 December enabling it to be published in the Official Journal before 30 December.

Initial Deliverables Achieved to Date:

• The deliverables for the BIC EUDR Practicalities Project have been published.

Next steps:

- Complete the revisions for The Designed for Recycling Project, Part 3 Manufactured Book to End-of-Life and send to the T&FWG for review again and sign-off,
- Wait for the outcome of the meeting between the BIC Executive Director and the CEO of the PA to see what the next steps will be for the The Sustainability and Environmental Date Reporting Project Part 2,
- Continue to work with the EUDR project team to provide information around EUDR for the book industry supply chain.

Simon Crump Environmental Consultant for BIC 1st December 2025

