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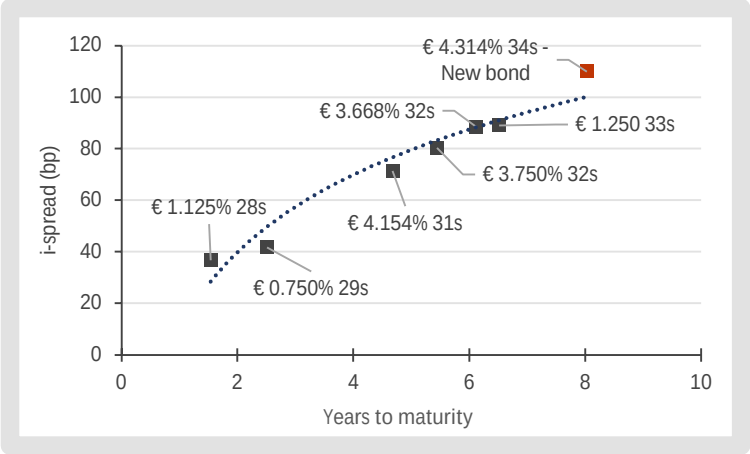
Glencore's deforestation exposure in the spotlight

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SUMMARY

- Glencore has returned to the bond market with a EUR600mn 8yr deal
- The company is exposed to deforestation through its minority ownership stake in Bunge Global, following its 2025 merger with Viterra
- Glencore has also been accused of carrying out deforestation itself
- It is planning a secondary market listing in Australia later this year to support growth ambitions. Bond investors may have the opportunity to engage as the company regularly raises capital

Figure 1. Glencore EUR bond curve (excl. bonds with maturity <1yr). Source: Bloomberg Finance L.P., accessed 27 Aug 2026



Glencore, one of the world's largest mining companies, printed a new EUR600mn 8yr bond on 27 Aug 2026. This marked the company's third visit to capital markets this year, following USD5bn and CAD650mn deals in March and April. The transaction closed 2.5x covered, and final pricing tightened 30bps from IPTs to land at MS+110bps. The new bond and Glencore's EUR curve are shown in Figure 1.

While Glencore is predominantly known for its mining operations, the company is part of AFII's Deforestation Debt Universe, a list of significant fixed income issuers with substantial exposure to deforestation.[1] Glencore currently has an equivalent of c.USD28bn of bond debt outstanding across several currencies.

Glencore's deforestation exposure is largely due to its ownership stake in grain handling company Viterra, which merged with Bunge Global in 2025.[2] Glencore retained a 16.4% stake in the enlarged company.[3] This exposes Glencore to deforestation linked to palm oil, soy, and beef, and the company also stands accused of causing deforestation directly, in Colombia,[4] and in the Amazon.[5]

Recent media reports have also indicated that Glencore is planning a secondary listing in Australia later this year.[6] Given its reported desire to access Australia's sizable pension fund market to support growth ambitions, bondholders may have the opportunity to influence the company's strategy, as it issues to try and access this pool of capital.

[1] "Deforestation Debt Universe: update", AFII, 29 Jan 2026.
[2] "Bunge-Viterra merger: an ESG analysis", AFII, 14 Jun 2023.
[3] Viterra had previously appeared in our 2025 universe, while Glencore's minority stake in the newly merged company means it surpasses the threshold to be included in this year's universe.
[4] "Glencore's mining activities in Colombia and Peru", UK Parliament Early Day Motions, 4 Dec 2023.
[5] "Ibama authorizes expansion of mining in northern Pará", Comissão Pró-Índio de São Paulo, accessed 28 Aug 2026.
[6] "Glencore plans secondary listing in Australia", FT, 5 Aug 2026.

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Glencore's deforestation exposure

Glencore's deforestation exposure stems from its former 50% ownership stake in Viterra, one of the world's largest grain handling businesses. As previously covered by AFII,[7] Viterra subsequently merged with global commodity trader Bunge Global, with Glencore retaining a 16.4% stake in the enlarged Bunge company.[8] Bunge is a constituent of AFII's Deforestation Debt Universe,[9] while Glencore's ownership stake means it is also part of this group of deforestation-exposed issuers.

Glencore's inclusion in the universe is in relation to palm oil, soy, and beef. It shares palm oil and soy exposure with Bunge due to its ownership stake, while beef exposure stems from Glencore's cattle operations, through its subsidiary Colinta Holdings.[10] Forest 500 data scores Glencore 5/5 for soy, indicating 'critical exposure'. Its performance reporting for soy, comprising commitments strength and actions reporting, is scored 5/10, indicating 'moderate' performance.[11]

The company is also accused of causing deforestation in the Amazon and in Colombia, for bauxite and coal mining respectively. While these commodities are out of scope of the Deforestation Debt Universe, these allegations are nonetheless worthy of consideration for investors concerned about deforestation.

The importance of access to institutional capital

Glencore is currently listed in London, but reports have suggested that it is pursuing a secondary listing in Australia later this year. [12]

Reportedly, the motivation behind the secondary listing is driven by Glencore's desire to access the sizable institutional capital of Australia's pension funds, estimated at AUD4.4tn currently and projected to grow to AUD12.4tn by 2045.[13] This is to fund the company's growth ambitions and possibly enable M&A activity. Based on our understanding, however, listing in Australia would be done via CHESS Depositary Interests (CDIs)[14] and would involve no capital raising (such as the issuance of new shares).

Therefore, to support its growth ambitions, Glencore may also need to issue in fixed income markets to access broader pools of capital, subsequently exposing bond investors to the company's deforestation and broader sustainability risks. Fixed income investors will have the ability to engage and influence Glencore's strategy as it regularly raises capital, so that deforestation concerns can be addressed.[15,16]

Conclusions

[7] "Bunge-Viterra merger: an ESG analysis", AFII, 14 Jun 2023.
[8] "Closing of Viterra/Bunge Merger", Glencore, 2 Jul 2025.
[9] "Bunge's new bond brings investors EUDR compliance risks", AFII, 19 Aug 2026.
[10] "Colinta Holdings", Glencore, accessed 27 Aug 2026.
[11] This data is at 7 Jan 2026 and was obtained under license from Global Canopy as part of its proprietary Forest IQ project https://forestiq.com. More up-to-date data may be available from Forest IQ.
[12] "Glencore's planned Australian debut draws interest as investors look past coal", Reuters, 18 Aug 2026. Should Glencore list in Australia and achieve a local market capitalisation of AUD1.5bn, the company would be included in the S&P/ASX 200 Index, a target which CEO Gary Nagle believes is achievable within 12 months. The corresponding figure for the larger S&P/ASX 100 Index is AUD5.5bn.
[13] "Glencore's Australia listing taps mining-friendly capital for copper, M&A ambitions", Reuters, 28 Aug 2026.
[14] CHESS Depositary Interests (CDIs) are financial instruments traded on the Australian Securities Exchange (ASX) that allow foreign companies to list and trade their shares electronically.
[15] "AMAGGI: engagement opportunity for bondholders", AFII, 21 May 2026.
[16] "Glencore: A chance for fixed income engagement", AFII, 21 Aug 2024.

Glencore accessed the market on 27 Aug 2026 with a EUR600mn 8yr bond transaction. While scrutiny is likely to focus on the company's mining operations, this paper highlights Glencore's links to deforestation. As a member of AFII's Deforestation Debt Universe, the company is a significant bond issuer with substantial deforestation exposure.

Partly through its former ownership of Viterra and currently of Bunge Global, the company is exposed to deforestation via palm oil, soy, and beef. It has also been accused of facilitating deforestation itself.

Glencore is planning a secondary listing in Australia later this year, to enable better access to Australia's large pension fund pool of capital. As this may not involve new capital being raised, future bond issuance may be used to support the company's growth ambitions, potentially exposing fixed income investors to the company's deforestation risks. Therefore, for bondholders, the company's response to the issue is worthy of analysis and engagement.

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