

# Indonesian Rainforest and the threat of the pulp and paper industry



Presentation by Jens Wieting, Robin Wood, Germany



wilderness  
committee  
Victoria, British Columbia Chapter

**ROBIN WOOD**



## Program:

- Importance and state of tropical forests
- Indonesia: Country Information
- Indonesia's rainforest and threats
- Indonesia's pulp and paper industry
- NGO - Campaigns
- Action - What you can do
- *Break for letter writing*
- Slideshow

## Importance of tropical forests

- ~ two thirds of all species of the world live in tropical forests  
( ~ 1.7 mio. are described, real number 10 – 100 million)
- ~ 300 million people in the tropics depend directly on forest resources
- Indispensable role for climate, water cycle, protection of soils, prevention of flooding etc.  
(~20% of greenhouse gas emissions are caused by land use changes)

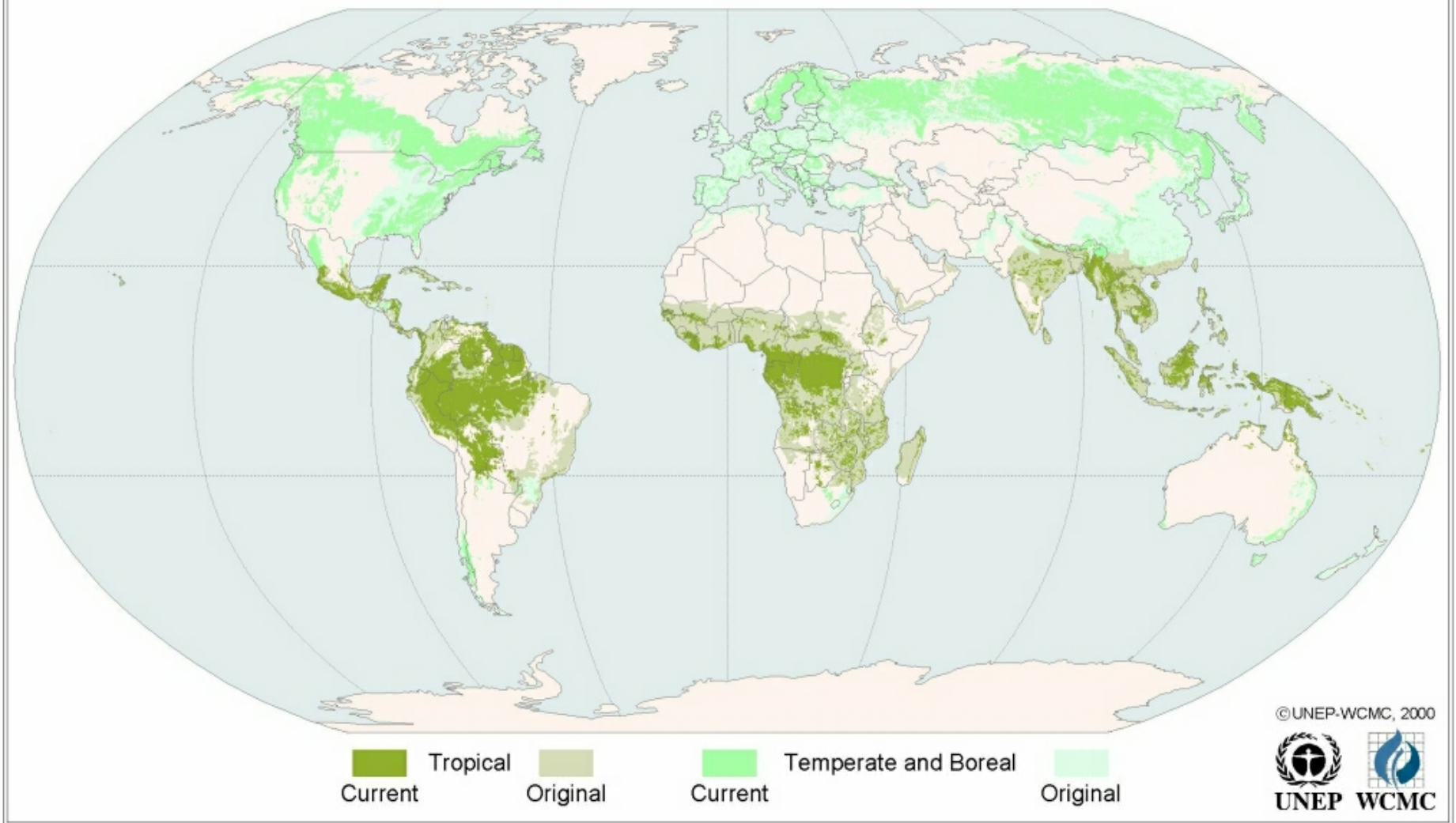


## Tropical forests – how much is left?

- Half of the world's forest are in the tropics (2 billion ha)
- Loss of tropical forests 14 million ha/a  
(FAO forest definition: tree crown coverage more than 10%)
- Rapid fragmentation and degradation,  
only 40 % of remaining tropical forests intact
- Regional allocation and deforestation:
  - Latinamerica (Brasil): ~ half, - 3.5 mio/a →
  - Africa (DR Congo): ~ one third, - 5.3 mio/a ↘
  - Asia (Indonesia): ~ one sixth, - 2.4 mio/a →



## Global Distribution of Original and Remaining Forests



## Indonesia: Country Information

- Population: ~ 240 million  
(88% muslim, 50% on Java)
- Area 1.9 million km<sup>2</sup>,  
18,000 islands (7,000 inhabited)
- More than 700 ethnic groups, majority Malay,  
first nations of Borneo Dayak
- Dutch colony until 1945, Suharto dictatorship until  
Indonesian revolution 1998 (financial crisis)
- Important resources: gas, oil, tin, copper, gold, timber
- Agriculture: palm oil, rice, tea, coffee, spices, rubber





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# Biodiversity



Rafflesia - the largest flower of the world (diameter up to 1 m)



Javan Rhinoceros – one of the rarest mammals of the world (~ 60 individuals)

## Borneo:

- Plant diversity: 15,000 species
- 361 new species of animals and plants discovered '94 - '04

Tesso Nilo, Sumatra: „record diversity“:

218 species of plants on 200 square meters (1,800 plots)



# Sumatra – Key Species



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Sumatra Elephant:  
~ 700 (Riau province)



Sumatra Rhino: ~ 150



Sumatra Tiger: ~ 500



Sumatra Orang Utan: ~ 7,000

# Indonesia's Rainforest...

Yearly forest loss (NGO estimate):  
3,8 mio. hectares/year (Brasil:2,5)

Remaining forest:  
40 mio. hectares

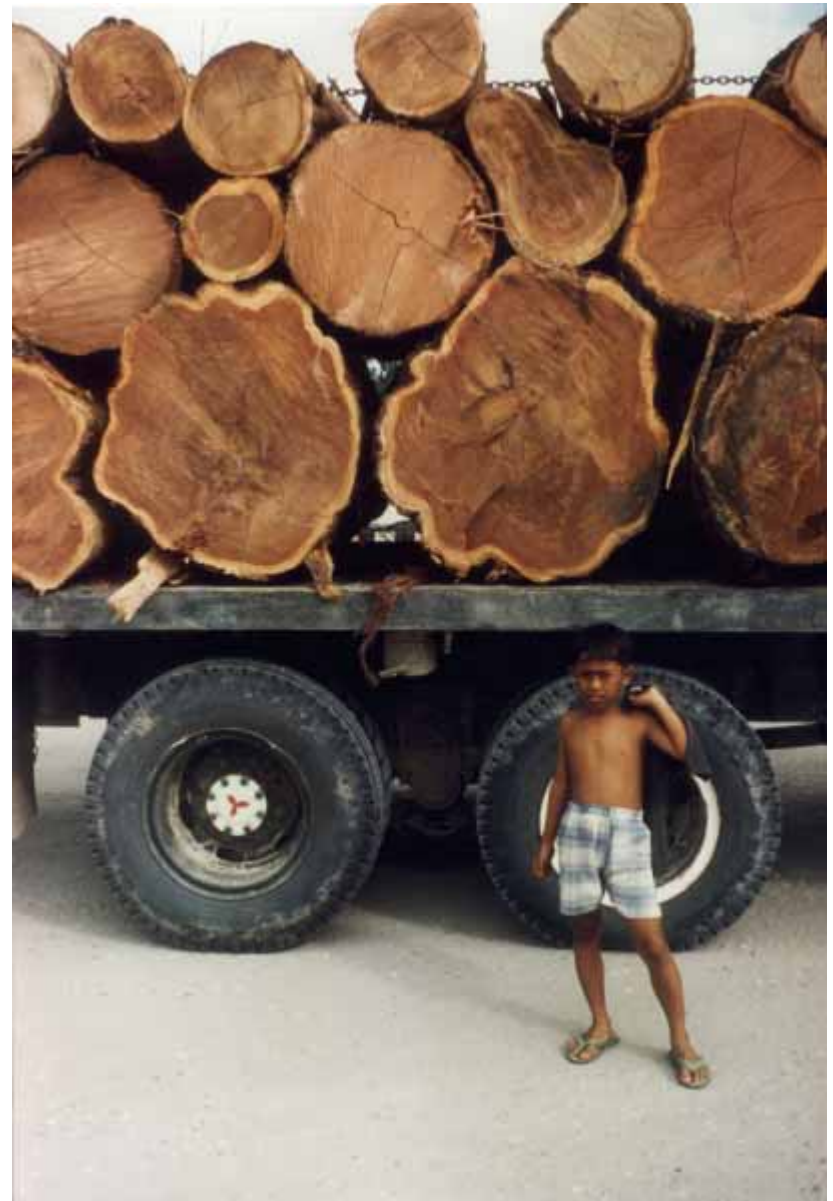
50 – 60 million Indonesians  
depend on the forest

## ...and threats

- Sawmills, Pulp & Paper, Oilpalm,
- Corruption, illegal logging (70%),  
also in protected areas
- Industrial overcapacity  
(Total industrial timber demand  
more than 10 times higher than  
the amount officially allowed)



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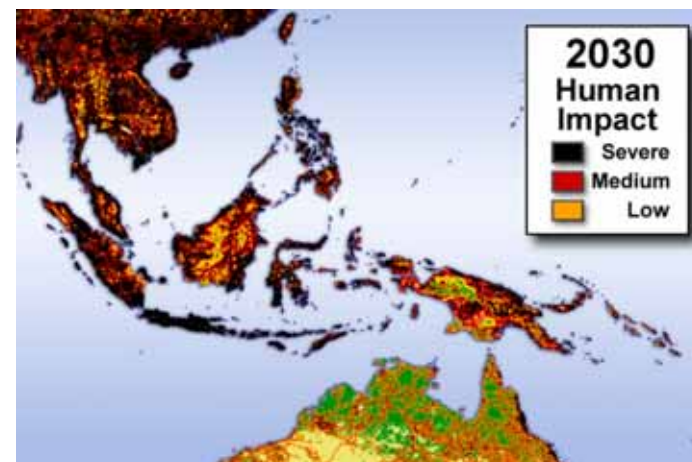




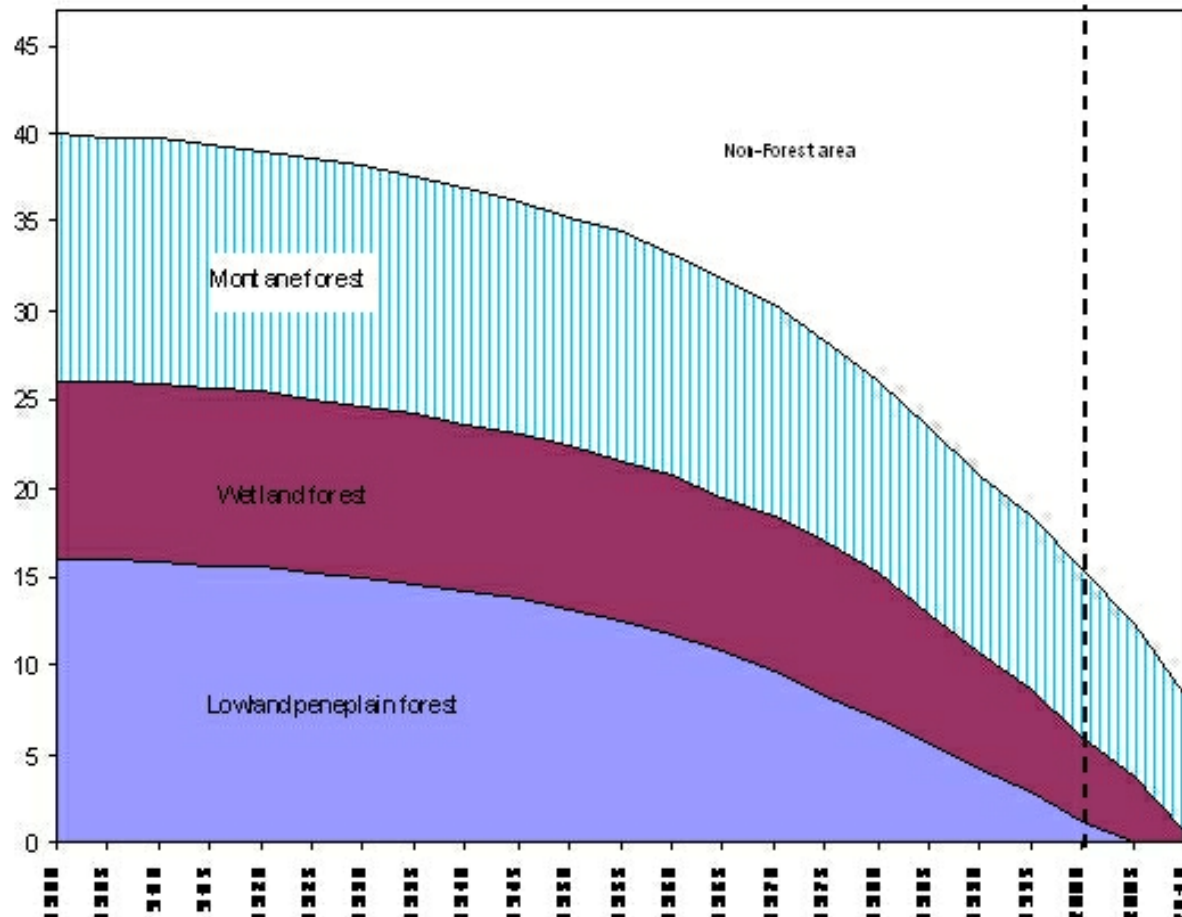
# GLOBIO

Global Methodology for Mapping Human  
Impacts on the Biosphere

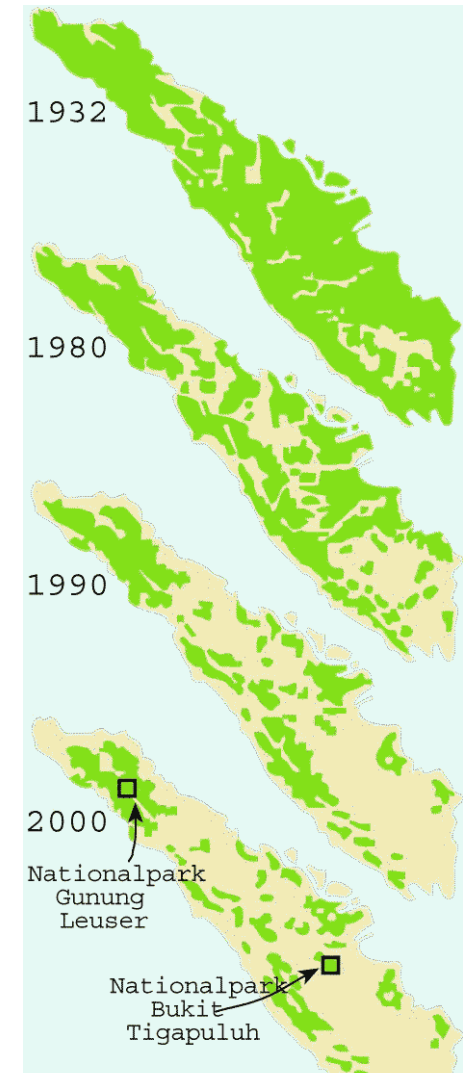
<http://www.globio.info>







**Forest Cover Sumatra 1900 – 2010**  
(World Bank)





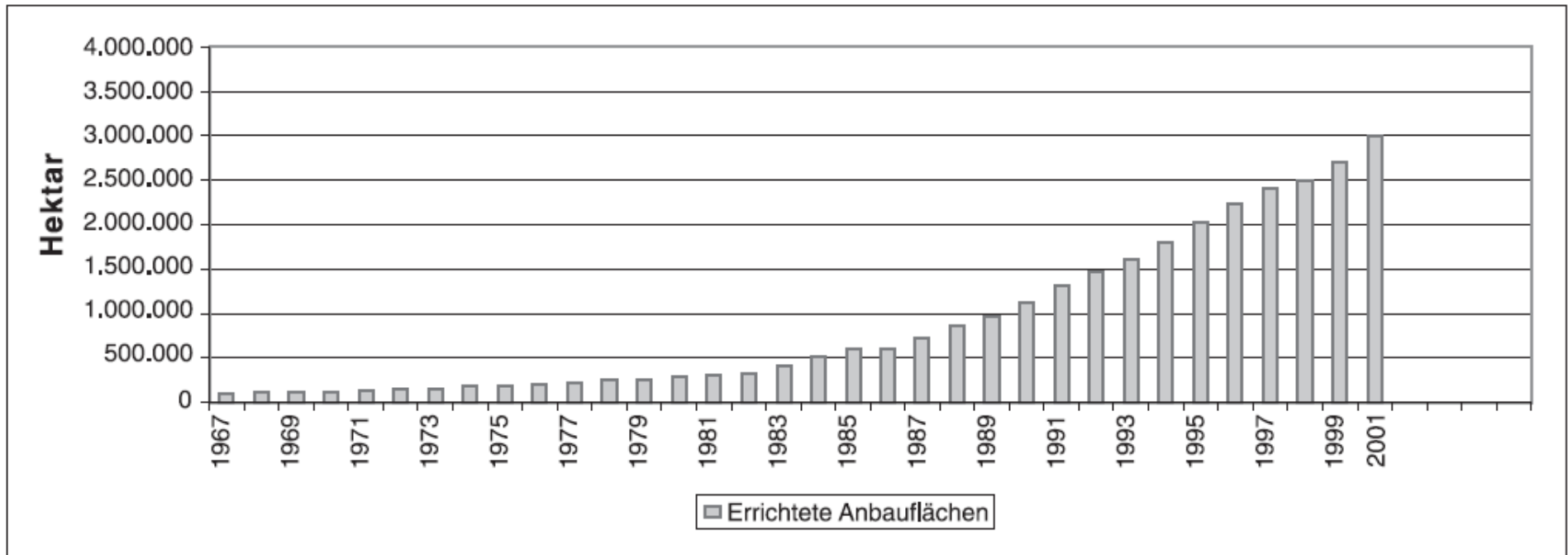
**Habitat fragmentation,  
e.g. Gunung Leuser  
Nationalpark,  
North Sumatra**



# Oilpalm plantations



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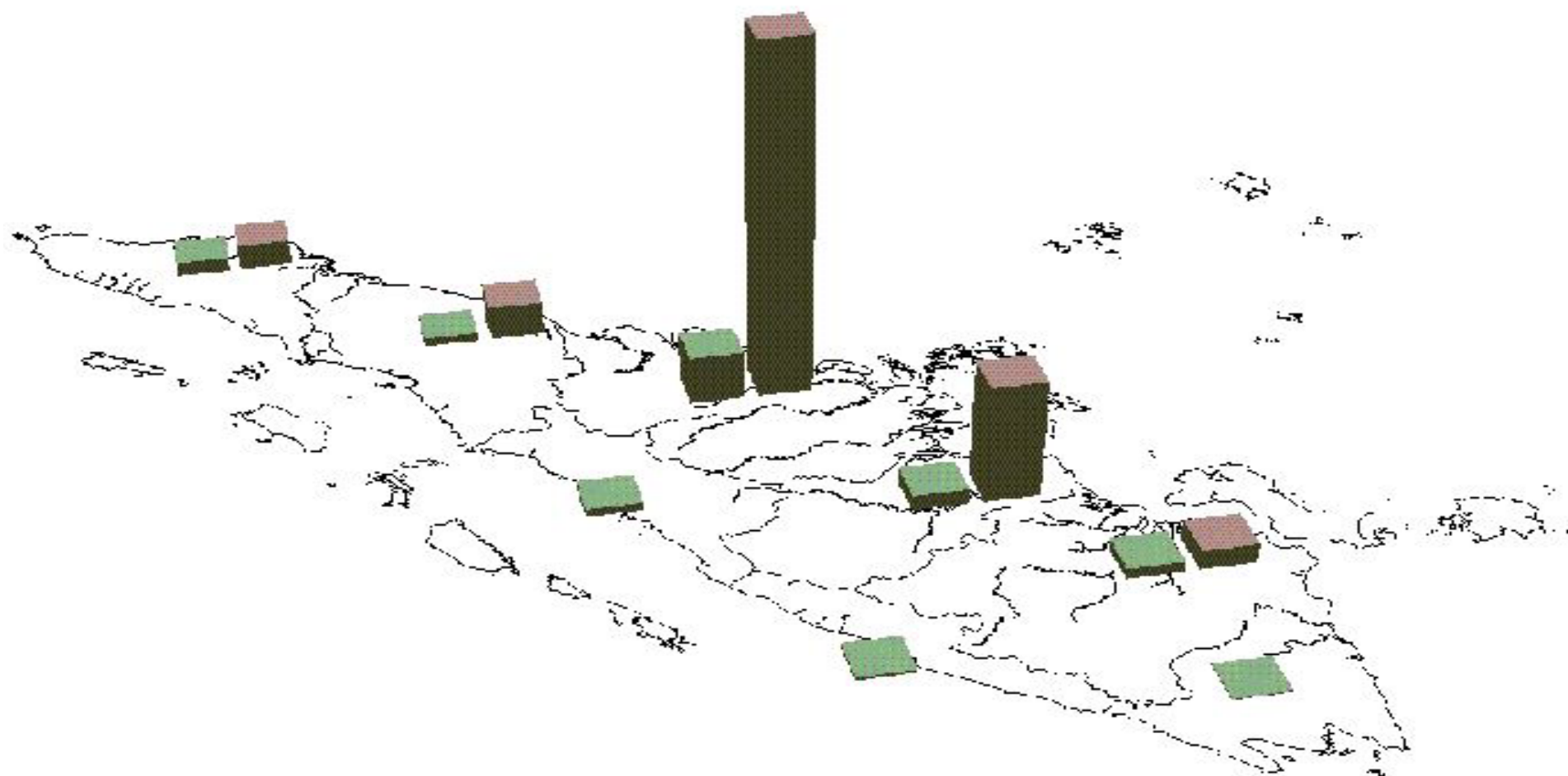


## Indonesia's pulp mills



Total installed capacity (Pulpmills) = 14,121,000 m<sup>3</sup> of roundwood per year  
Estimated long-run sustainable supply of Pulpwood = 2,767,903 m<sup>3</sup> per year

## PULP WOOD



Red = Current Roundwood Requirement for Pulp  
Green = Sustainable Available Pulpwood Supply

# Two of the largest pulp and paper companies of the world

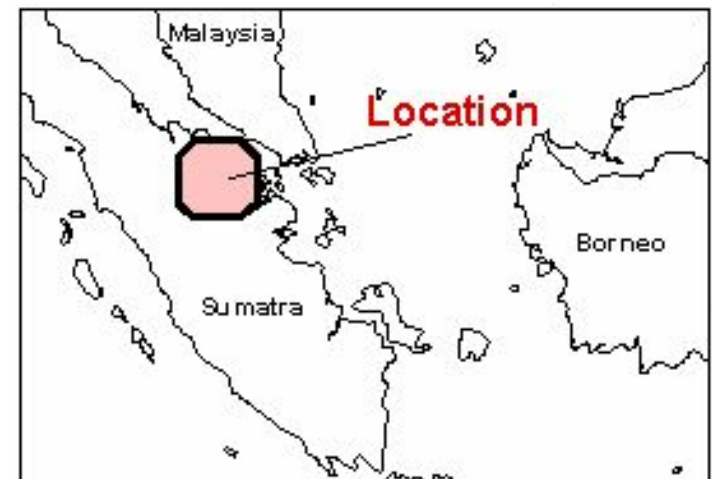
(2 mio t/pulp/a each)



**Asia Pulp & Paper Company Ltd.  
(APP)**



**Asia Pacific Resources  
International Holdings Ltd.  
(APRIL)**







The record of **APP** and **APRIL**:

- Environmental degradation (forest, rivers)
- Social Conflicts (land rights, human rights)
- Financial scandals (debt into billions)

(with the involvement of Western banks and government)

**Most dramatic example of  
negative impacts of the paper  
industry worldwide**





## Hunger for wood



APP and APRIL consume 9 Mio. m<sup>3</sup> wood/a,  
Two thirds from clear-cut of tropical forests

***Current destruction: ~ 300.000 ha each***

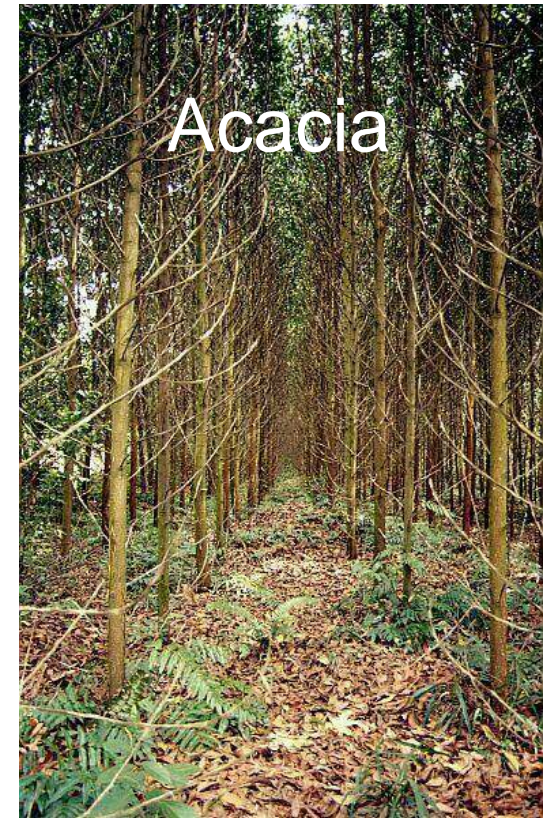
***Planned destruction: ~ 200.000 ha each***

## Sustainable forestry?



**Plantations  
are not  
forests**

- Loss of natural and cultural landscape
- Dislocation of local people, loss of income
- Biodiversity loss
- Disturbance of climate and water cycle
- Frequent clear cut, use of pesticides







## The latest threat: clear cut in peat swamp forest

- up to 20.000 years old
- peat horizon up to 18 meter
- up to 120 tree species/ha
- extremely fire prone when logged or drained
- huge carbon store

(carbon stored in Riau peat soils  
equivalent to annual emissions  
from fossil fuels worldwide;  
global impact of 97/98 fires)





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# nature

11 November 2004 Volume 432 Issue no 7014

## Burning issues

The Kyoto Protocol is just a small first step in restricting man's influence on climate. If we can't prevent fires in Indonesia, such international efforts to limit the effects of climate change could be in vain.





**e.g. APRIL's Pelalawan concession,  
50.000 ha peat swamp forest destroyed '04/'05**

Including habitat of:

- Sumatra-Tiger
- 5 species of monkeys
- 78 species of bird





## Proposed Nationalpark Kampar Peninsula (450.000 ha) (by Jikalahari/WWF)

# Corporate strategies

## Industry engages in „Greenwash“...

- move towards „legality“ (but not sustainability)
- create conservation areas (and log other sites)
- sign agreements with ngos (even failed agreements help)



...and increases  
the production  
(APP and APRIL  
expand in China)





## APP and APRIL as environmentalists?

e.g. Tesso Nilo: proposed as protected area by WWF



Both companies committed themselves not to use or buy any wood from Tesso Nilo

**But: illegal loggers continue to destroy TN using roads maintained by APRIL, incl. for pulpwood**



## Market Campaigns (garden furniture, paper)

- Push products from the German market that are linked to the destruction of forests and violation of land rights
- Negotiate acceptable environmental and social standards with German companies to exclude products from such sources





## Environmental and social standards for paper

- Land rights and human rights
- Compliance with forest laws
- High Conservation Value Forest
- No conversion of natural forests
- No GM-Trees

Independent verification (FSC)

**German call on the paper industry: [www.paperwatch.info](http://www.paperwatch.info)**

## German Companies that committed themselves not to buy paper from rainforest destruction in Indonesia:

- METRO-Group (APP)
- Deutsche Post (APRIL)
- Karstadt (APP)
- McPaper (APRIL)
- Dohle (APP)
- Schreyer (APP)
- Kloppenburg (APRIL)



*„Forests for Sale“*





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**„Paperworld“, Frankfurt  
2004/2005**



# What you can do...



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- Buy recycled paper
- Ask for recycled paper products where not available
- Ask for the origin of paper products and the buying guidelines of stores/chains (no-go areas e.g. Indonesia)

## Support Indonesian NGOs



### **Demands of Indonesian NGOs:**

- **boycott pulp and paper and other wood products from Indonesia**
- **pressure banks and export credit agencies to change their funding policies**
- **persuade our governments to pressure the Indonesian government towards policy change**
- **raise public awareness about this ecological and social disaster**





## Indonesian paper in Victoria

**FUTURE SHOP**  
We get it.

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 LEARNING CENTRE
 CLEARANCE OUTLET
 MAIL-IN REBATE

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# **Write to the Governor of Riau Province, Sumatra**

## **Governor Province Riau**

Jl. Jendral Sudirman no. 460

Pekanbaru – Riau - Indonesia

## **Express your concern about**

- **loss of livelihood of local communities**
- **loss of biodiversity**
- **the importance of peat swamp forests for the climate**

## **Ask for support**

- **to stop further conversion of natural forests into plantations**
- **to declare Kampar Peninsula a National Park**
- **to fight illegal logging and corruption**
- **community landrights against company interests**

**terima kasi!**



[www.robinwood.de/sumatra](http://www.robinwood.de/sumatra)



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