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Impacts of deforestation

- Since 1990: Deforestation in Indonesia = size of Germany
- Impacts the lives of millions who depend on the forests, as well as wildlife and climate
- Indonesia globally holds the highest rate of deforestation and ranks among the top 5 emitters of greenhouse gases:
 - over 60% of total Indonesia's GHG emissions stem from forest fire/peatland destruction and forest conversion mainly for plantation







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Solution to the environmental crisis: Responsible Palm Oil

- Palm oil production, like any other agricultural practice, must follow responsible standards.
- The industry across supply chain must adopt and implement No Deforestation policy that ensures:
 - protection of High Conservation Value (HCV) and High Carbon Stock (HCS) forests
 - no peatland development
 - respect human rights, including labour, local and indigenous communities
- Forest Definition → High Carbon Stock Approach as a win win solution



1) Progress towards deforestation free supply chains is slow

Indonesia Palm Oil Pledge

Monitoring progress for deforestation free supply chain

Greenpeace surveyed 14 Consumer Companies with "no deforestation" policies in place (2015)

Result: Slow Progress. Difficult for companies to say for certain that their supply chain is deforestation free



2) RSPO Principles and Criteria needs to be strengthened

Criticism on RSPO Standards

Weak standards:

- → does not prohibit forests conversion and adequately protect peat land
- → failed to prevent peat & forest fires

Outdated Standards:

Some RSPO members already go beyond RSPO

- → Palm Oil Innovation Group (POIG)
- → RSPO Next



3) Lack of transparency regarding land tenure and corporate ownership must be resolved

- Indonesian Government "One Map" initiative is still several years away from completion
- In the absence of official geospatial information, companies must:
 - publish concession maps covering their entire operations and supply chain, and
 - publicly disclose supplier information, i.e. mills, plantations & refineries



4) Smallholders must become part of solution

- About 40% of Indonesian palm oil is produced by smallholders
- Indonesian Government should:
 - protect local tenure rights of smallholders,
 - support them in complying with regulation & responsible agricultural practices,
 - while ensuring no palm oil expansion on forests and peatlands, and improving productivity
- Example of good practice: the Dosan community and Smallholders Roadmap for zero deforestation with SPKS (Palm Oil Smallholders Union)



The role of the EU in halting deforestation and forest degradation in SEA and worldwide

- The EU has a large and significant forest footprint:
 - Large volumes of agricultural products connected to deforestation are sold on the EU market (soy, beef, rapeseed, palm oil etc) every day
 - European banks lend to companies contributing to forest loss (e.g. palm oil & pulp and paper)
- The 7th EU Environment action programme 2013 recognises the need to develop an EU action on deforestation and forest degradation
- European Parliament should call on the European Commission to press ahead with the development of such action plan → concrete proposals before the end of the year



The EU needs to:

- Guarantee that all supply chains in the EU market are free from deforestation
- Cut off the money that finances forest destruction
- Support developing countries with increased funding to improve governance, protect forests and peatlands, uphold forest peoples' rights, and increase productivity through ecological farming practices



2015 was a year of new international commitments

- UN Sustainable Development Goals
- halting deforestation, restoring degraded forests and increasing afforestation & reforestation globally by 2020
- COP21 Climate deal
- Necessity to protect and restore forest lands to limit global warming to 1.5°C
- At COP21 Indonesian Government pledged to
 - reduce domestic emissions by 29% by 2030, and
 - enforce a moratorium on peat soil and to restore and protect peat ecosystem

2016 must be a time for implementing them and delivering results





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