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FCN

Forest Conversion News

WWF's newsletter on forest conversion focusing on the expansion of palm oil and soy #27

Sustainable segregated palm oil supply chain gains foothold in Europe

The segregated supply chain for RSPO certified sustainable palm oil is starting to take off in Europe. The summer of 2010 saw announcements from IOI-Loders Crocklaan and New Britain Palm Oil (NBPOL) about new refineries opening in Europe and the UK that will be dedicated to sustainable palm oil.

IOI-Loders Crocklaan opened its new refinery in Rotterdam in June, treating oil originating from its own plantations in Malaysia. While the segregated oil will initially be an add-on product, making up around 10 per cent of IOI-Loders Crocklaan's total palm oil offering, the company is hoping to have certification for all its plantations by the end 2011, which will allow it to completely transform to 100 per cent sustainable oil.

In August, New Britain Palm Oil hosted an opening ceremony for its new £18 million palm oil processing plant in Liverpool docks. The plant processes fully traceable and sustainable palm oil from its Papua New Guinea plantations certified according to the RSPO standards. Unilever is one of the first clients.

In addition, the Spain-headquartered company Lipidos Santiga (Lipsa) received the first cargo of segregated sustainable palm oil from Papua New Guinea earlier this year, followed by a cargo of sustainable palm stearine. These shipments add to recent shipments secured by AAK.

The increasing availability of segregated CSPO is in clear response to demand from retailers and manufacturers that have made time-bound commitments to sustainable palm oil. The position of most retailers in the RSPO is that their customers demand full traceability of the sustainable product from "seed to biscuit". "This traceability is absolutely what customers want," said Alan Chaytor, Executive Director of NBPOL. "We have undertaken surveys and the results are absolutely clear that people want to know where their food comes from and that it is being responsibly and sustainably grown and sourced."

RSPO Latin America Conference takes place in Brazil

From August 24-27, the second RSPO Latin America Conference took place in Belém (Brazil). It brought together experts from different countries to discuss the sustainable growth of palm oil production, with a special focus on Latin America.



The NBPOL refinery in Liverpool. Copyright: NBPOL

More than 300 palm oil stakeholders from the whole supply chain attended the conference, including growers, producers, processors, banks, supermarkets, social and environmental NGOs, researchers, professors and students. All presentations can be downloaded from the conference website at www.rspolatinamerica2010.com.

Below, a representative of a Brazilian palm oil producer shares his impressions of the conference.

Interview

Building a sustainable palm oil industry in Latin America

Q: What were the outcomes of the RSPO Latin American conference?

A: The main outcome is that we will be challenged to construct a palm oil industry in a different basic form than South East Asia. We got to use their experience, taking the good things learned and avoiding the same mistakes regarding social and environmental impacts.

Q: What are the next steps in promoting sustainable palm oil in Brazil and Latin America?

A: We do have to closely follow the new developments in Brazil and Latin America. The conference was an opportunity to bring an alert to our society that we must watch who is coming to our market and if the new developments are being done in a sustainable way. One way to do it is calling the consuming companies already in the RSPO to also bring to Latin America the same sustainable initiatives used in Europe.

Q: What are the challenges?

A: Of course the pillars are not so different from Asia: Avoid new deforestation and loss of biodiversity and use new plantations in benefit for a new social and economical deal for the poor and degraded areas in the Amazon region. One of the greatest challenges will be the cost of production, which currently is much higher than in South East Asia, mainly due to labour costs.

Q: What countries do you see as forerunners for sustainable palm oil in Latin America?

A: We believe Brazil, Colombia and Ecuador will be leading the process.

Q: What is the status of the Brazil National Interpretation process?

A: We intend to re-start the process around January 2011. The conference helped to show to several stakeholders that we must run this process as soon as possible. I believe there is consensus among companies, government and civil society in this respect.



"We are optimistic to get the RSPO certification for Agropalma in 2010."
Marcello Brito

Q: What are Agropalma's plans for certification?

A: The process of developing locally applicable indicators was done by IBD and presented to the RSPO EB. We are waiting for the approval of the indicators in order to run the final auditing process on our operations. We are optimistic that we can do this in 2010.

Q: Is there much consumer awareness on the issue of palm oil in Brazil?

A: We cannot say the status is already like in Europe, but it is in an advantageous stage compared to other parts of the world. We do have the condition to lead this process due to our small size and for the fact to be in an early stage of development.

Marcello Brito is the Commercial Director of the Brazilian Agropalma Group. Agropalma trades more than 85 per cent of its production within the region, the rest is exported to Europe and the US.

Marcello Brito is currently a member of the RSPO Executive Board representing the oil palm growers from producing countries outside Malaysia and Indonesia, and also a member of the RSPO GHG Working Group II.

News

Brazilian Government launches plan to restore and protect the Cerrado

On September 15, the Brazilian government presented its national plan to decrease deforestation, forest fires and loss of natural resources in the Cerrado biome (savannas). The government plan calls for investments from the federal budget of nearly 200 million US dollars in order to achieve the envisaged results by 2020.



Vagafogo Sanctuary, Vagafogo stream and waterfall, Pirenópolis, Cerrado, Brazil. Copyright: Juan Pratginestos / WWF-Canon

Targets include decreasing by 40 per cent the greenhouse gas emissions from Cerrado degradation causing global warming. Activities will focus on areas with higher deforestation rates and with the richest biodiversity and freshwater resources. This strategy involves the creation of over 25 thousand square kilometers of national parks and other protected areas, the ratification and demarcation of 5.8 million hectares of indigenous territories, and the ecological-economic zoning (land use plan) of the entire biome.

According to WWF-Brazil CEO, Denise Hamú, this is the first time that the Cerrado gets greater attention from federal public policies in Brazil. The Cerrado was traditionally seen as the ugly duckling among other Brazilian biomes, as a free area to expand the economic frontier on unsustainable basis. The Cerrado region, however, has one of the richest biodiversity in the world and it is a source of essential resources for Brazil's development.

The Brazilian federal plan includes the restoration of 8 million hectares of degraded pastures. Funds will be provided to finance plantations in agroforestry systems and for the production of raw materials for the steel industry.

Links: [Brazilian government plan](#), [Executive Summary](#)

Auditors confirm Sinar Mas' engagement in clearing of forests and peatlands

On August 10, 2010, PT Smart Tbk published an "Independent Verification Report" assessing the claims made by Greenpeace against PT Smart Tbk and its parent company Golden Agri-Resources Limited (GAR) regarding deforestation and the destruction of orang-utan habitats, clearing forests without permits, burning forests, clearing on peat land, and causing social conflict. The Greenpeace report has led several palm oil buyers, including Unilever, Nestle, and most recently Burger King, to cancel major contracts with Smart. Sinar Mas is a brand name covering a range of businesses owned by GAR, including Smart and the paper products brand Asia Pulp and Paper (APP). The investigation was conducted by two certification bodies, CUC (Control Union Certifications) and BSI (BSI Group), along with two academics.

After the publication of the audit report, Smart issued a statement claiming that the results confirmed that the company has not been engaged in destruction of forests and peatlands. However, the auditing companies involved later released a statement distancing themselves from these claims and noted that PT Smart had indeed engaged in clearing of forests and peatlands in violation of Indonesian law.

The statement from CUC and BSI stated that „it has come to the attention of BSI Group (BSI) that following the publication of the report “BSI-CUC Verifying Greenpeace Claims Case: PT SMART Tbk” on 10 August 2010, there have been ele-

ments of the report that have been misreported as it has been published and presented.“

The RSPO has taken on this case as an official complaint and the RSPO Grievance Panel is deliberating on what action GAR and the two subsidiaries that are RSPO members need to do as the consequences of the evidence presented in the report.

On September 23, the RSPO posted a statement on its website stating that its Grievance Panel has found serious non-compliance with the RSPO Code of Conduct and has written to PT Smart and GAR with a set of recommendations on how to address these non-compliances. The Panel has asked both companies to respond to its recommendations and to clarify their intention to comply fully with RSPO regulations in the future.

Links: [RSPO statement](#), [BSI statement](#), [WWF statement](#), [Reuters](#) (July 29), [Antara news](#) (July 29), [The Jakarta Globe](#) (July 30), [The Jakarta Globe](#) (Aug 10), [The Jakarta Post](#) (Aug 11), [mongabay.com](#) (Aug 19), [The Jakarta Globe](#) (Aug 20)

RSPO secretariat set to expand

The RSPO will expand its Secretariat to keep up with increasing membership and supply and demand for sustainable palm oil. Following a recent review by PricewaterhouseCoopers, the RSPO Executive Board has agreed plans to restructure and expand its administrative support at the Kuala Lumpur-based Secretariat.

Among other things, RSPO's three Standing Committees (Certification & Standards, Trade & Traceability, Communications & Claims) will get more operational flexibility and will receive support from dedicated Secretariat staff. Several departments, such as the certification and communications department, will grow to better enable the RSPO to build on its standards and certification foundation to develop new markets for RSPO-certified sustainable palm oil.

Leading the transformation as interim Secretary General will be Rikke Netterstrom, who is based in Malaysia as an executive director at CSR Asia. Netterstrom managed environmental and social issues for the Body Shop International and Novozymes, and served in the RSPO's Executive Board from 2004 to 2007.

The RSPO is currently recruiting a Secretary General and a Chief Technical Officer.

Links: [Application Secretary General](#), [Announcement Chief Technical Officer](#)

The World Bank Group develops palm oil strategy

The World Bank Group is working on its palm oil strategy, which will include a set of principles to guide the World Bank Group's future engagement in the palm oil sector. The key goal is to maximize development outcome for the communities and minimize the sector's adverse social and environmental impacts. The World Bank Group has temporarily suspended new investments in palm oil until it finalizes this approach.

The Bank has carried out an inclusive, participatory, and transparent consultation process to seek views from a diverse group of stakeholders including civil society organizations, affected communities, donors, shareholders, partners, private sector representatives, governments, agriculture and agribusiness-focused think-tanks. Initial consultations took place in Accra, Amsterdam, Jakarta, Medan, Pontianak, San Jose, and Washington, D.C. between April 23 and June 4, 2010. On July 26, the IFC and the World Bank released a draft framework for engagement in the palm oil sector, and a consultation round on this draft including moderated electronic discussions and a multi-stakeholder meeting in Frankfurt, Germany, ran until September 1, 2010. It is expected that the strategy will be finalized and released to the public in September 2010.

Meanwhile, a consortium of indigenous peoples, oil palm smallholders, and non-governmental organizations released a statement urging the Bank to keep its current freeze on funding the sector until it has a credible strategy to address the sector's manifold problems. According to the consortium, the draft strategy is not strict enough. Norman Jiwan, a Dayak from West Borneo and department head in the Indonesian oil palm monitoring NGO SawitWatch, claimed that the World Bank's draft framework contained "no new standards, nothing about how they address the deficient legal frameworks in Indonesia and Malaysia, and no measures at all to curb global warming."

Links: www.ifc.org/palmoilstrategy, [NGO statement](#)

UK government to undertake research project on palm oil

At the first Global Business of Biodiversity Symposium in London, the UK Government via its Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra) launched a research project to map how the UK uses imported palm oil. It will document how much is being used, how much of that is sustainably sourced, and consider how changes can be made to lessen environmental damage. Environment Secretary Caroline Spelman said: "Consumers and industry have the power to save rainforests and wildlife in areas like South East Asia. But, in the case of palm oil, we need to know more about our consumption in order to find solutions."

At the same time, a project was launched that aims at developing the business case for sourcing sustainable palm oil for Chinese companies and to draw up options for the Chinese Government to encourage sustainable sourcing. China is the world's second largest country consumer of palm oil after India.

Link: [Defra Press Release](#)

Insecurity around the Brazilian Forest Code

Brazil is currently experiencing a boost in forest fires. The total of 45,860 forest fires recorded so far this year is nearly 50 per cent higher than from the equivalent January to August period in 2009 and will probably be the highest in the last five years. High temperatures and low humidity are one reason.



Amazonian rainforest being burnt to create pasture for ranching. Brazil © WWF-Canon / Mauri RAUTKARI

However, it is believed that the high number of fires is also related to the undefined future of the Brazilian Forest Code. The proposed Forest Code changes downgrade protected area requirements for private land, steep land and watercourse fringes. Denise Hamú, WWF-Brazil's CEO, agrees with the possibility of criminal fires being connected to the Forest Bill. "The uncertainty about the future of our Forest Code may perfectly be leading some of these criminal fires," she said. "The possibility of reducing the compulsorily protected areas within properties may be encouraging farmers to prepare new areas for agriculture or cattle breeding, in advance, with an eye on the proposed amendment in the law."

Link: [WWF Press Release](#)

New RTRS Executive Director

Agustin Mascotena recently started his job as RTRS Executive Director. He has been working in the soy supply chain during the last fifteen years in both Argentina and Brazil, in different

areas such as the seed business, crushing, trading, farming & storing. He will be based in at the RTRS Secretariat in Buenos Aires and can be reached at agustin.mascotena@responsiblesoy.org.

RTRS seminars in Europe

On July 8 and September 1, seminars took place in Peterborough, UK and Copenhagen, Denmark to educate companies from the soy supply chain about the RTRS.

Link: [RTRS news](#)

Training on RTRS Standard implementation

On August 9 and 10 in Buenos Aires (Argentina), the RTRS carried out its first course on how to implement the RTRS standard, which was approved by the RTRS General Assembly in June 2010. Twenty-five participants, including producers, industry members, certification bodies, and implementers, attended the workshop, which was designed to help participants understand the standard, its requirements, and the benefits and obligations of producers, so that producers can successfully implement RTRS standards within their companies. On August 18 and 19, the same course took place in Santa Cruz de la Sierra, Bolivia, and was attended by thirty producers.

Link: [RTRS website](#)

Cargill smallholder scheme receives RSPO certification

Smallholders at Cargill's oil palm plantation, PT. Hindoli in South Sumatra, Indonesia, have received Roundtable on Sustainable Palm Oil (RSPO) certification. This is one of the world's first smallholder scheme to become certified under the RSPO's Principles & Criteria for Smallholders.

Link: [Cargill Press Release](#)



RSPO: Approved HCV Assessors and Supply Chain Certification Body

The RSPO recently published an expanded list of RSPO approved HCV assessors. It also announced the initial approval of ICEA, Italy as an RSPO approved Supply Chain Certification Body for the RSPO.

Link: [Read the article on rpso.org](http://rpso.org)

Progress in Ghana National Interpretation process

The process of the National Interpretation of the RSPO Principles & Criteria for Ghana is progressing. Several forums focusing on smallholder, social and environmental issues took place during summer of 2010 followed by a meeting of the Ghana National Interpretation Working Group on September 14. The final draft will be open for public consultation from September 10 through October 3.

Link: www.rspo-in-ghana.org

Update from the RSB

The Roundtable on Sustainable Biofuels (RSB) is currently collecting comments on the RSB Principles & Criteria and related guidance. In addition, the premier issue of the RSB newsletter “BioFood for Thoughts” has been published. To join the mailing list for the RSB newsletter, send an email to rsb@epfl.ch.

Links: [Public consultation](#), [BioFood for Thoughts, Issue 1](#)

Environmental issues for businesses

McKinsey recently released the results of its Global Survey containing information about what environmental issues are on the agenda for businesses. The survey revealed that, while climate change has been the number one topic for the last year, biodiversity is now emerging as a topic of keen interest. The majority of executives in the survey, 59 per cent, see biodiversity as more of an opportunity than a risk for their companies.

Link: [McKinsey Quarterly](#)

Publications

Most new farmland comes from cutting tropical forest

A new study by the Department of Environmental Earth System Science at Stanford has revealed that more than 80 per cent of the farmlands created in the tropics between 1980 and 2000 came from felling forests. “This has huge implications for global warming, if we continue to expand our farmland into tropical forests at that rate,” said Holly Gibbs, a postdoctoral researcher in the Department of Environmental Earth System Science, who led the study.

Link: [Download the report](#)

Wildlife-friendly oil palm plantations fail to protect biodiversity effectively

This article published in the Conservation Letters states that the expansion of agriculture is a principal driver of biodiversity losses in the tropics. It calls for plantations that are made more hospitable to wildlife. Such “wildlife-friendly” practices contrast with the alternative “land sparing” strategy, which promotes separation of agricultural and conservation areas.

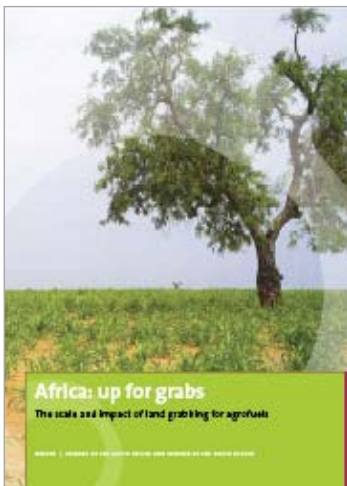
Abundances of imperilled bird species were 60 times lower in fragments and 200 times lower in oil palm than in contiguous forest.

Forest fragments also did not increase bird abundances in adjacent oil palm, had lower species richness than contiguous forest, and had an avifaunal composition that was more similar to oil palm than to contiguous forest.

Link: [Download the report](#)

Africa: Up for grabs

This report by Friends of the Earth Europe focuses on the fact that the African continent is increasingly being targeted as a source of agricultural land (for example for oil palm plantations) and natural resources for the rest of the world. “Land grabs” – where land traditionally used by local communities is leased or sold to outside investors (from corporations and from governments) are becoming increasingly common across Africa. Whilst many of these deals are for food cultivation, there is a growing interest in growing crops for fuel – agrofuels – particularly to supply the growing EU market. The consequences are social and ecological problems.



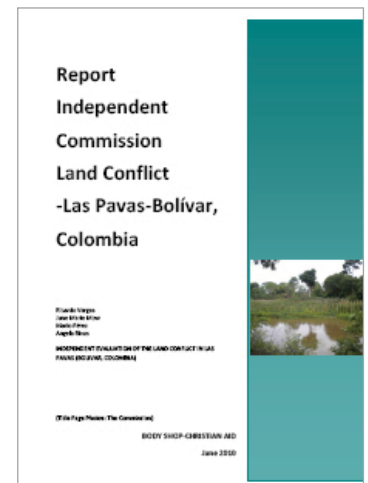
Link: [Download the report](#)

Independent evaluation of the land conflict in Las Pavas

The Body Shop and Christian Aid hired a Commission of four researchers to conduct an independent analysis of the complex land dispute over the Las Pavas lot in the District of Buenos Aires, Municipality El Peñón in the South of the Department of Bolivar, Colombia. The dispute

involves Colombian palm oil producer Daabon, which has been criticized for being associated with the displacement of around 150 families in Las Pavas. Daabon is an RSPO member and has supplied palm oil produced according to RSPO standards to the Body Shop. The independent report is the result of a six month long enquiry and points to specific areas where on-the-ground cooperation could solve some of the difficulties of the case.

Links: [Download the report](#), [Statement from Daabon](#), [Statement from the Body Shop](#)



Rising global interest in farmland - Can it yield sustainable and equitable benefits?

Interest in farmland is increasing, especially in developing countries where large suitable areas are not cultivated. One reason is the growing population. The report therefore states that one of the highest development priorities must be to improve smallholder productivity, especially in Africa. When done right, large scale farming can also help to promote sustainable agricultural and rural development. One conclusion of the report is that access to information is very important for all stakeholders in order to implement agricultural systems that benefit all.

Link: [Download the report](#)

Upcoming events

Interpretation and Implementation of the RSPO Principle & Criteria

Wild Asia and ProForest have developed a series of RSPO endorsed training courses. The next one will take place from October 5-7 in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia and provide practical guidance for oil palm growers, buyers, sellers and other interested stakeholders to address the most challenging requirements of the RSPO Principles & Criteria.

Link: [More information](#)

8th Roundtable Meeting on Sustainable Palm Oil

The 8th Roundtable Meeting on Sustainable Palm Oil (RT8) will be held from November 8 - 11, 2010 in Hotel Mulia Senayan, Jakarta, Indonesia. Titled "RSPO is also for Smallholders," this year's conference theme reiterates the RSPO's commitment to sustainable palm oil production by smallholders. The RSPO's General Assembly will meet on November 11 in the same venue after the conclusion of RT8.

Link: [More information](#)

RTRS standard auditor training course

On October 12-14, the RTRS will hold a training course for auditors in Berlin, Germany. It is meant for auditors, certification agencies, accreditation agencies, consultants, and other individuals that are responsible for quality and sustainability. The course is also open for other interested parties that would like to have a deeper understanding of the RTRS standard and the certification process. The course is mandatory for those auditors wishing to certify under the RTRS standard and for accreditation body auditors who want to be recognized by the RTRS to carry out the accreditation process.

Link: [More information](#)

Seminar on the development of RSPO certified sustainable palm oil

IOK/Loders Craoklaan Europe will host a seminar for German buyers of palm oil on October 27 in Düsseldorf/Neuss, Germany. The programme will include perspectives on certified sustainable palm oil from traders, manufacturers, supermarket chains, and NGOs.

To join the seminar, contact rsposeminar@croklaan.com

Media review

Another food goliath falls to palm oil campaign

mongabay.com, September 22, 2010

One of the world's biggest food makers, General Mills, has pledged to source only sustainable and responsible palm oil within five years time. With

this announcement, General Mills becomes only the most recent food giant to pledge to move away from problematic sources of palm oil, which is used in everything from processed foods to health and beauty products.

Link: [The article](#)

Oil palm plantations on peatlands won't get carbon credits under CDM

mongabay.com, September 19, 2010

Plantations on peatlands will no longer be supported by the Clean Development Mechanism (CDM), a framework for industrialized countries to reduce their emissions via projects in developing countries, reports Wetlands International.

Link: [The article](#)

Unilever says palm oil deal edges it closer to 2015 pledge

Foodnavigator.com, September 16, 2010

Greenpeace has accused one of the world's largest pulp, paper and palm oil companies of aggressively clearing Indonesian rain forests and throwing into doubt a landmark billion-dollar deal that aims to fight climate change by curbing deforestation.

Link: [The article](#)

Government ups ante against illegal logging, mining and plantations

The Jakarta Post, September 7, 2010

The Indonesian President has pledged to intensify the government's battle against companies operating illegally in rainforests. The Forestry said that some 2 million hectares of forest land had been illegally converted into oil palm plantations, mostly in Kalimantan and Sumatra. The ministry said it found around 800 mining and palm oil companies operating without legal permits.

Link: [The article](#)

Burger King to stop buying oil from Indonesian company

Associated Press, September 4, 2010

Burger King is getting thumbs up today from environmentalists after the giant hamburger

chain decided to stop buying palm oil from an Indonesian company accused of destroying rain forests.

Link: [The article](#)

Protest against palm oil smear campaign in Aussie zoos

The Star, September 3, 2010

The Malaysian Palm Oil Council has submitted official protest to the Australian Government - to express its anger over the move by zoos in Australia to allow activists to blatantly smear Malaysia's and Borneo's image through anti-palm oil public posters.

Link: [The article](#)

Liberia signs U.S. \$1.6 billion oil palm investment agreement

allAfrica.com, September 3, 2010

The Government of Liberia and Golden Veroleum (Liberia) Inc. announced a partnership for the cultivation of sustainable palm oil by the company and by Liberian smallholders and farmers, mill processing and value-added manufacturing. The investment is expected to total US\$1.6 billion, creating more than 35,000 direct jobs and building a whole new economic sector in Liberia's south eastern counties.

Link: [The article](#)

Indonesian association says RSPO certification too costly

The Star, August 26, 2010

Only 10.5 per cent members of the Indonesian Palm Oil Producers Association have the RSPO status due to the high cost for certification and low premiums for sustainable crude palm oil.

Link: [The article](#)

Brazil taps small farmers for biofuels campaign

Reuters, August 25, 2010

With its biofuels business increasingly dominated by giant corporations, Brazil is seeking to extend its biofuels sector to include smallhold farmers who sell for example soy.

Link: [The article](#)

Indonesia gets first \$30M from Norway under \$1B forest deal

mongabay.com, August 19, 2010

Norway has agreed to transfer an initial \$30 million to Indonesia under its \$1 billion REDD+ (reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation) partnership with the Southeast Asian country.

Link: [The article](#)

Felda gets RSPO certification

Starbiz, August 13, 2010

Felda Group has become one of the world's first smallholder organisation to receive the RSPO certification.

Link: [The article](#)

Indonesia forest moratorium to stymie palm oil firms

PlanetArk, August 13, 2010

Indonesia's plans to halt forest clearing will slow the aggressive expansion of plantation firms in the world's top palm oil producer, leading to higher costs as firms will need acquisitions or improved yields to boost growth.

Link: [The article](#)

Indonesia may let palm oil growers collect CO2 credits

Reuters, August 9, 2010

Indonesia may propose palm oil plantations be

eligible to earn carbon credits under a U.N.-backed scheme aimed at preserving forests.

Link: [The article](#)

RI prepares pilot project for Norway deal

The Jakarta Post, July 29, 2010

The Indonesian government is determining which province will be the host of a pilot project for the implementation of the Indonesian-Norway forestry deal.

Link: [The article](#)

Scientists commend Indonesia for conservation measures, but urge immediate action on forests and peatlands

mongabay.com, July 23, 2010

Scientists convening at the annual Association for Tropical Biology and Conservation (ATBC) meeting in Sanur, Bali urged Indonesia's leaders to strengthen measures to protect the country's biologically-rich ecosystems.

Link: [The article](#)

Orangutan genocide continues in Indonesia

The Huffington Post, July 19, 2010

An international stakeholders conference organized by the Indonesian Forestry Ministry, entitled "Man of the Forest: Orangutan and the Future of Humanity" was held July 15-16 in Bali.

Link: [The article](#)

In balancing palm oil output, conservation hybrid approach urged

The Jakarta Globe, July 21, 2010

While palm oil producers frequently take flak for their dubious environmental policies, one expert

believes the solution to large-scale forest clearances is a so-called hybrid approach on the part of all stakeholders.

Link: [The article](#)

New licenses “consistent with Norway deal”

The Jakarta Post, July 9, 2010

The Indonesian government insists that new permits awarded to industrial forest concessions (HTI) to fell 10 million cubic meters of trees in Riau this year did not run counter to the country’s climate deal with Norway.

Link: [The article](#)

Government may increase forest moratorium to five years

The Indonesian government said it will propose a five-year moratorium on issuing permits to develop peat lands — three more years than

Indonesia agreed to under a billion-dollar deforestation agreement recently signed with Norway. Activists however said that this is a half-hearted policy if the country still wants to seriously mitigate climate change. They said the moratorium to shift the peatland for business use should be permanent since the area held huge stocks of carbon emissions.

Links: [The Jakarta Post](#) (July 8), [The Jakarta Post](#) (July 12)

Who benefits from 2-year moratorium on forest clearing?

The Jakarta Post, July 5, 2010

This article states that choosing the environment needs not be at the expense of development. In fact, in the long run it is consistent with development, perhaps not as much for us as for our children’s future.

Link: [The article](#)

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- conserving the world’s biological diversity
- ensuring that the use of renewable natural resources is sustainable
- promoting the reduction of pollution and wasteful consumption.

