



VEGETABLE OILS: FROM FICTION TO FACTS

DISSEMINATION OF JOINT STUDY ON

“CONTRIBUTION OF VEGETABLE OILS TOWARDS SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS: A COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS”

4 & 5 FEBRUARY 2020





FICTION: PALM OIL = DEFORESTATION



The Bungle In The Jungle

This land belongs to the endangered Sumatran tiger and orangutan. Those that survived this disaster will be killed if they ever return.
This is a so-called sustainable palm oil plantation.





FOREST DEGRADATION > DEFORESTATION



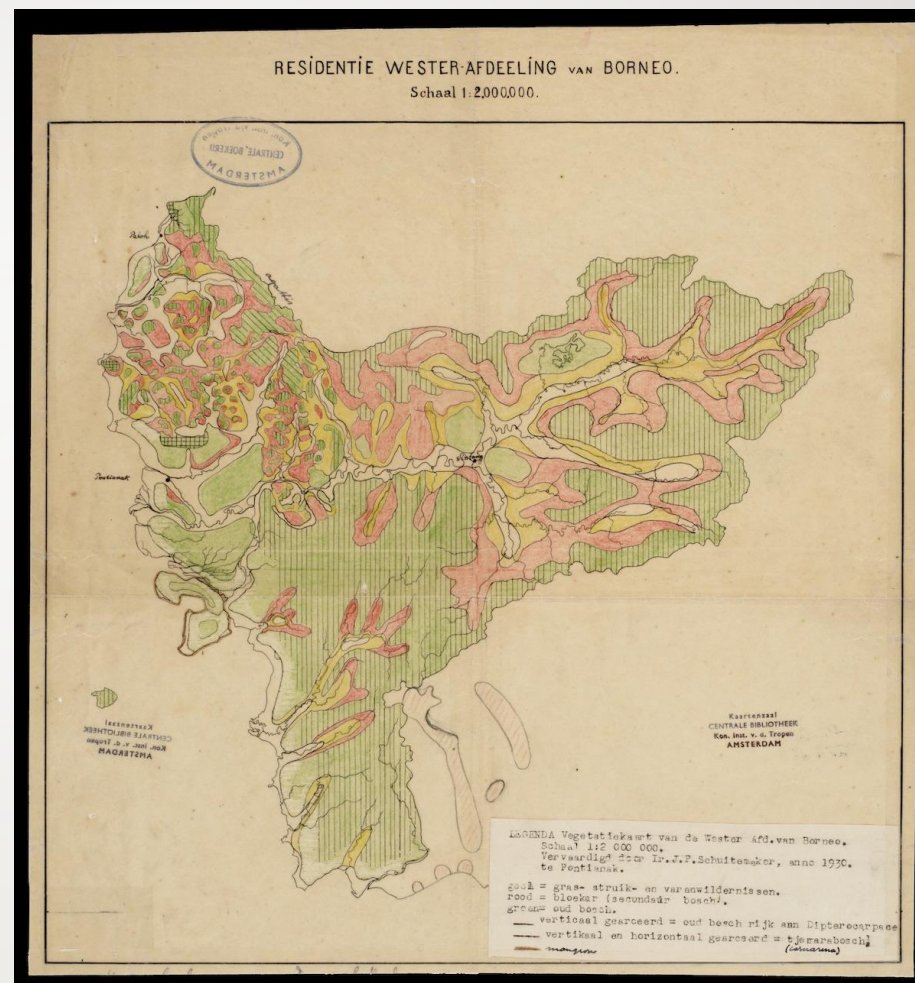


1930 VEGETATION MAP OF WEST- KALIMANTAN

green = primary forest

red = secondary forest

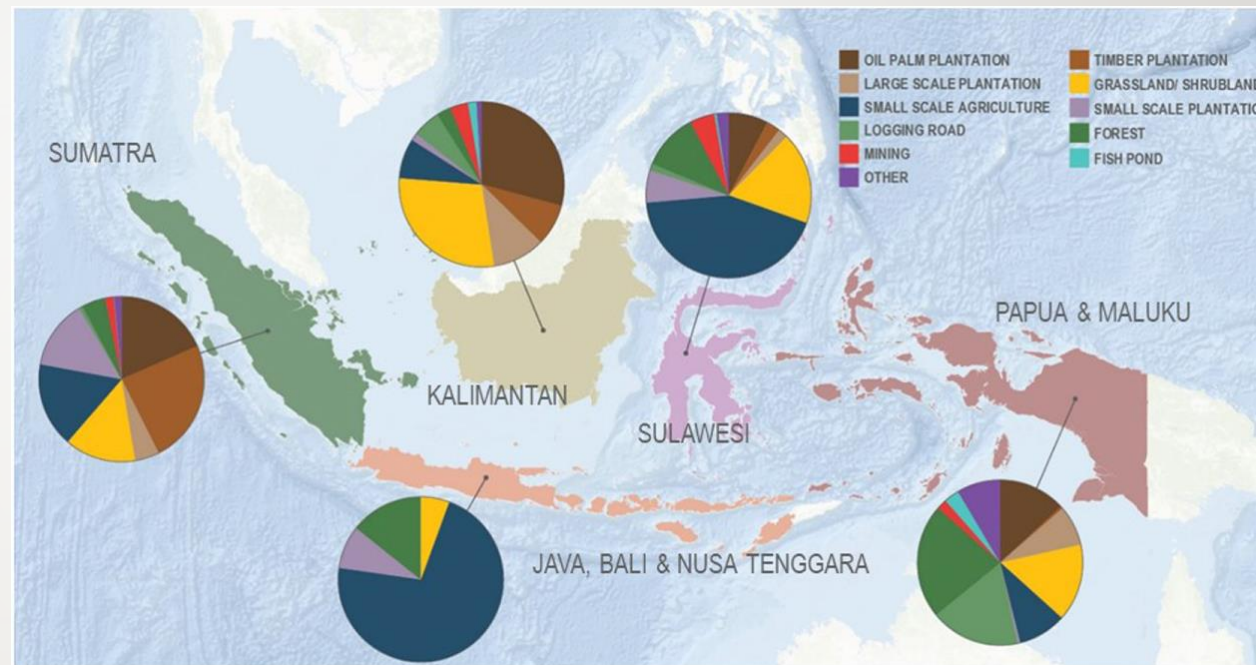
yellow = non-forest





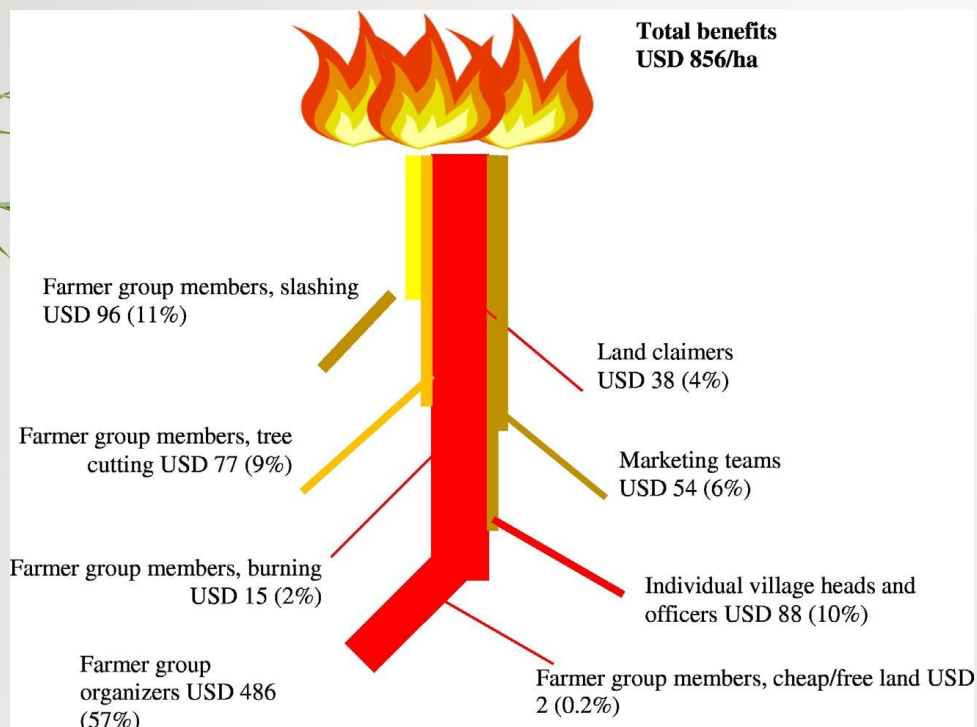
DEFORESTATION 2001–2016

proportion caused by each driver
category, by major region of
Indonesia





FICTION: WILDFIRES = FOREST FIRES

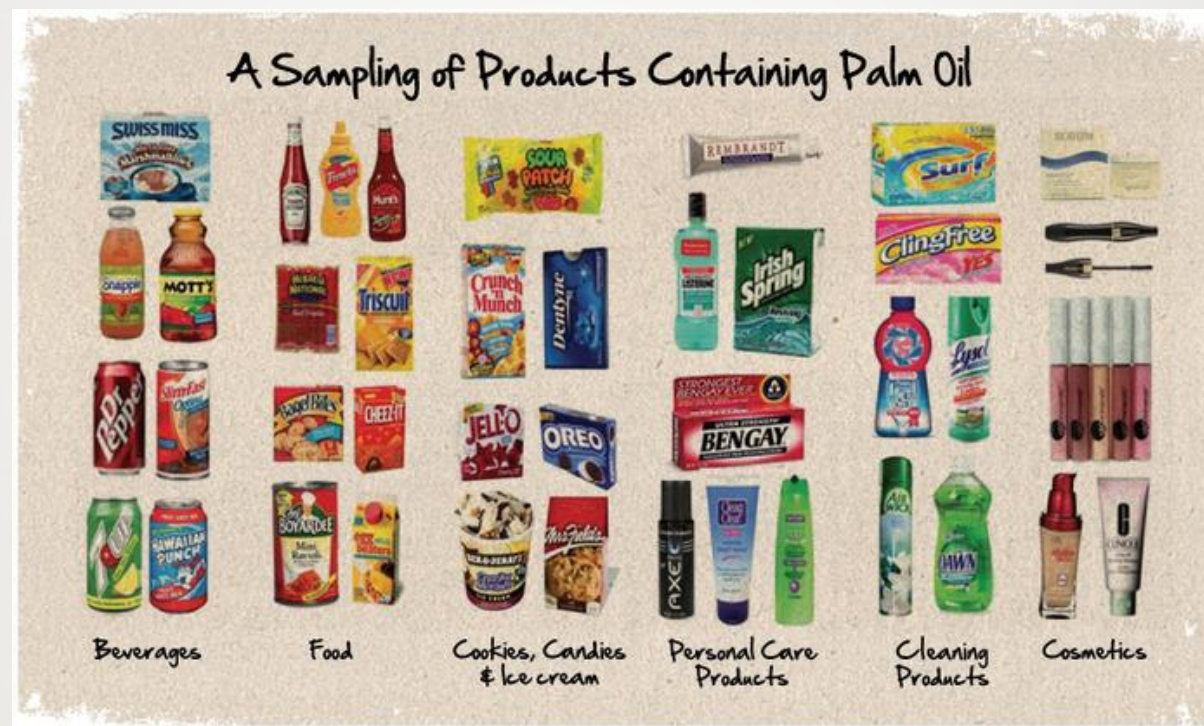


1. Although only 30% of the fire was on peatland area, it had a much higher impact than that on mineral land because of its fire density.
2. 86% of peat forest that burned in 1997 in Kalimantan was replaced by scrub&fern in 2015. 74% of burning in 2015 was on those same degraded lands.





FICTION: PALM OIL IS IN 50% OF PRODUCTS





PALM OIL OFTEN IS A MINOR INGREDIENT

flour (35%), chocolate chips (30%), sugar (19%),
butter/cheese (16%), **palm oil (0.01%)**

certified sustainable palm oil is available, but are
the main ingredients too?

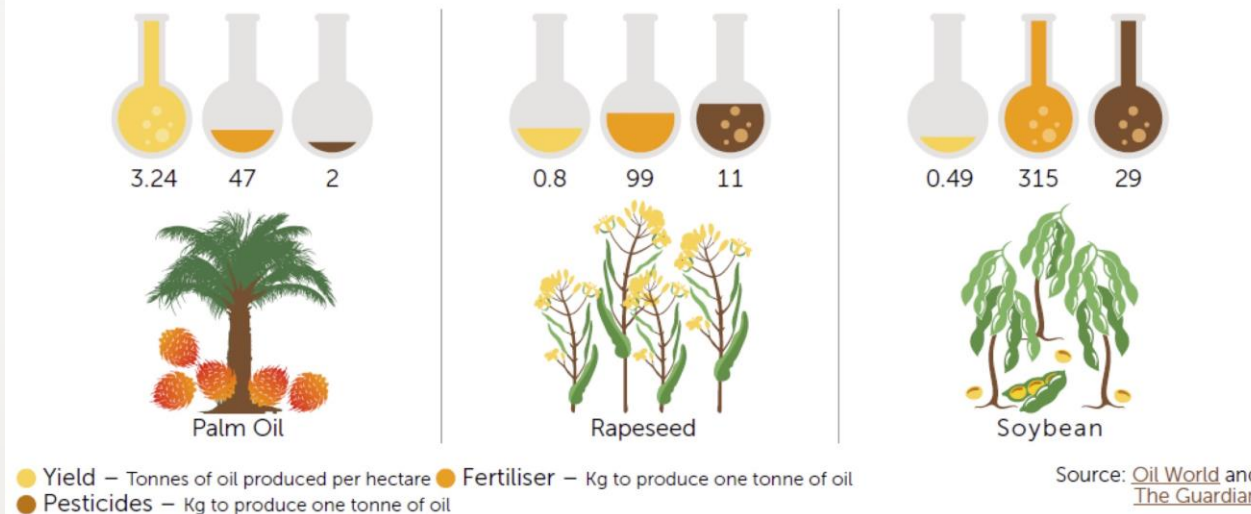




PRODUCTIVITY

Oil palm produces 7-10 times more oil than its competitors

Resources needed to produce major vegetable oils (MT/ha/y)



confusing terminology

- jungle versus plantation (e.g. coffee, rubber & timber)
- legal status (*karwasan hutan*) versus land use (change)

rule of thumb:

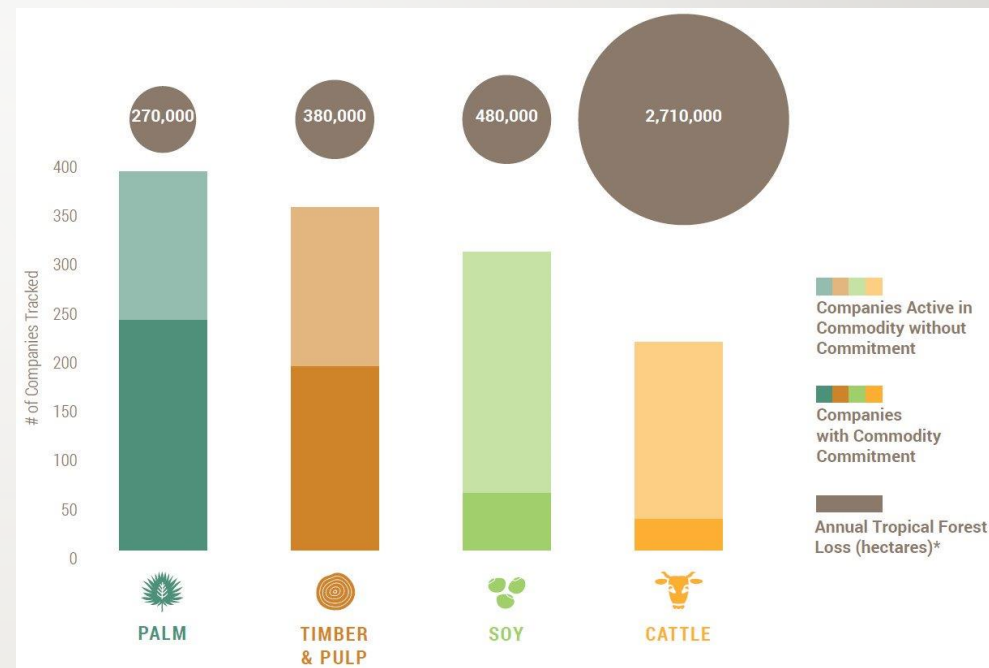
- ½ forestry (e.g. timber plantations)
- ½ non-forestry
 - ¼ non-oil palm (e.g. rubber & soy; animal husbandry)
 - ⅛ commercial enterprises
 - ⅛ smallholders (slash-and-burn?)
 - ¼ oil palm
 - ⅛ commercial enterprises
 - ⅛ smallholders (slash-and-burn?)





don't throw away the baby with the bath water!

- improved transparency and commitments by key commodities
- drives the mental leap from “backward” communities to valued partners
- catalyst for new initiatives





Questions

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