

A photograph of a dirt road winding through a palm oil plantation. The road is reddish-brown and leads towards a dense line of palm trees in the distance. The sky is overcast and grey. The text is overlaid on the bottom half of the image.

Indonesia on the front line

Impacts of Europe's biofuel expansion
for people, forests and climate

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Palm oil expansion in Indonesia



- Indonesia has highest deforestation rate in world
- Indonesia's oil palm plantations - 13.5 million hectares
- Government plans to expand to 28m ha by 2020
- 11 million ha of oil palm on peatland

Biofuels and palm oil

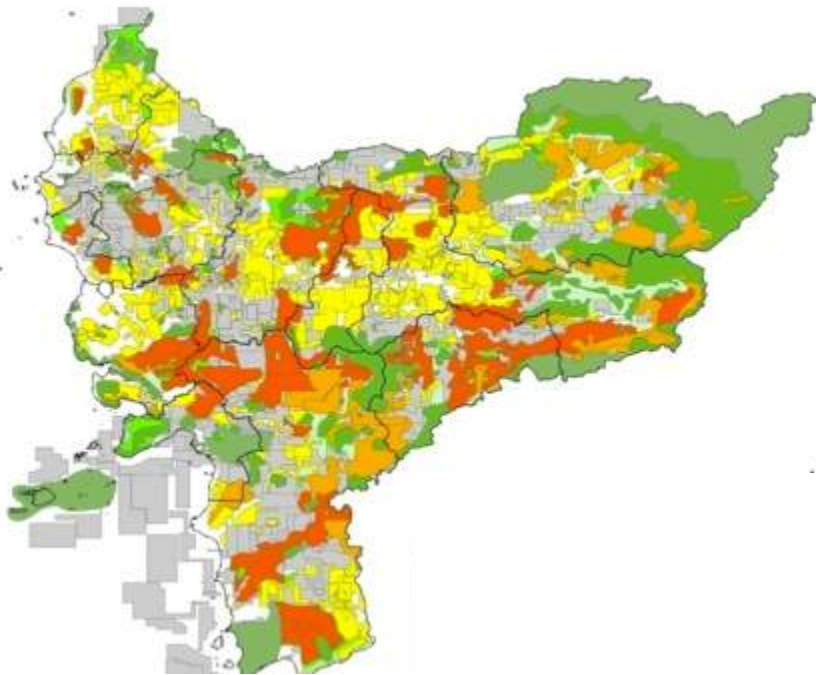
Biofuels policy is driving oil palm expansion:

1. Directly - through biodiesel production to hit biofuel targets
2. Indirectly - by causing higher prices and increased demand for vegetable oil imports into Europe



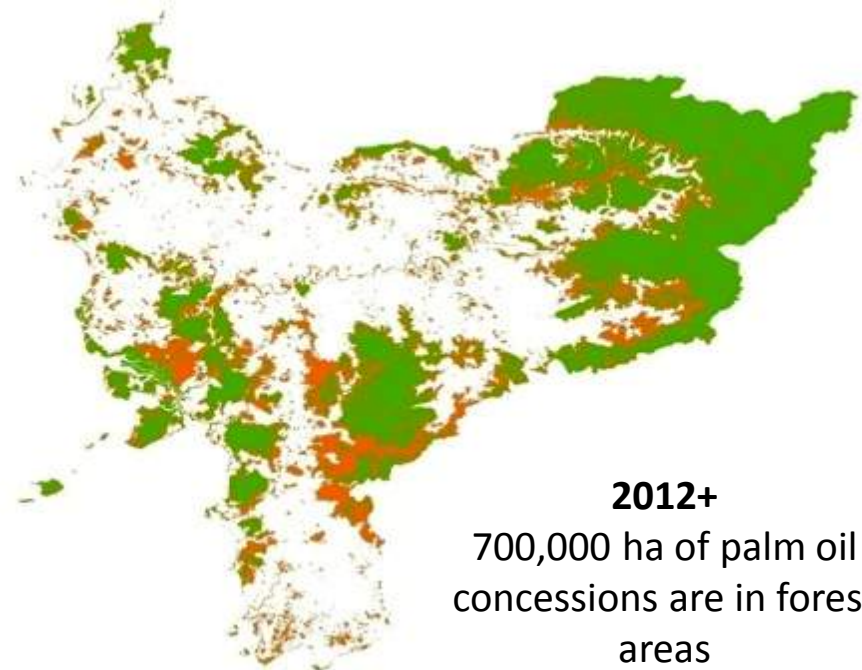
West Kalimantan at the front line of oil palm expansion

Allocation of land for extractive industries, 2012



30% of Indonesian permits to expand palm oil are in West Kalimantan (Borneo)

Deforestation



2012+
700,000 ha of palm oil concessions are in forest areas

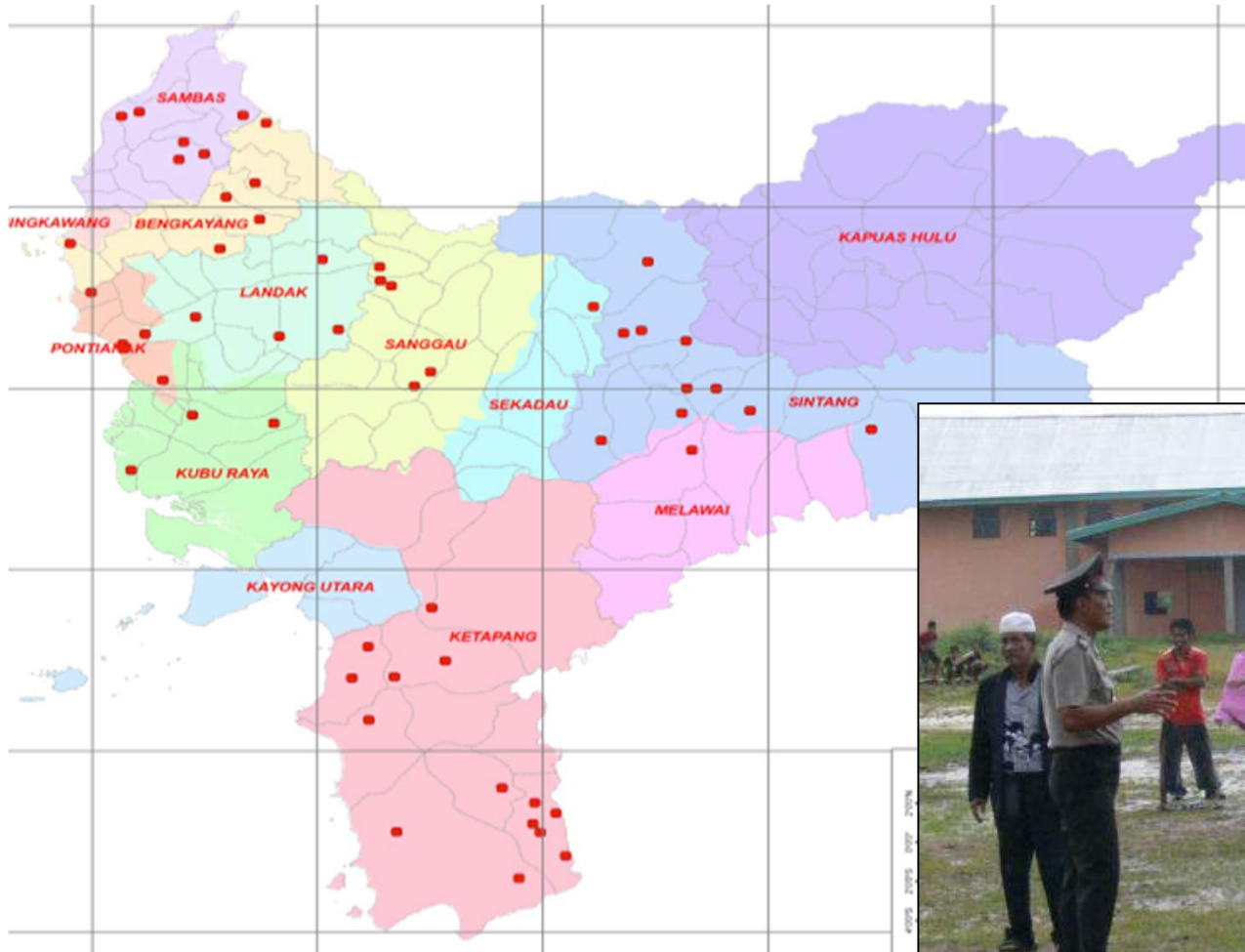
Impacts of Direct & Indirect Land Use Change

‘Globally significant’ carbon emissions from Indonesia’s peatland



- Forest fires: 2,020 firespots in W. Kalimantan oil palm concessions, including peatland (Jan - Sep 2014)
- Peatland drainage for plantations

Land grabbing and conflict



124 land conflicts related to palm oil in West Kalimantan.

731, nationally.

(Sawit Watch, 2014)



Violence and criminalization: blaming the victims



Sarimi & Ramadi put on trial for protesting
against grabbing of their land



Leziardi (Gemawan staff member) attacked after
palm oil protest

Loss of food sovereignty and livelihoods

Communities rely on land and forest to gather, hunt and grow their food, and for livelihood products



Palm oil monocultures destroy diversity of food supply, food sovereignty and sustainable livelihoods

Women's and labour rights



(Sawit Watch)



Down to Earth Indonesia

- Informal labour, poverty wages
- Exposure to hazardous chemicals
- Women forced to assist husbands without pay, in addition to domestic duties



(Sawit Watch)

Certification and sustainability standards are not working on the ground



A photograph of a dirt road winding through a palm oil plantation. The road is reddish-brown and leads into the distance, flanked by rows of palm trees. The sky is overcast and grey. The text is overlaid on a dark semi-transparent rectangle in the center of the image.

Indonesian civil society asks

No biofuels before all substantial problems are solved!

The EU should not source palm oil for biofuels which:

1. Cause land conflict
2. Comes from companies which do not respect human rights – including violations of workers' rights, women's rights, and child labour
3. Takes land from communities without their consent
4. Threatens the food sovereignty and livelihoods of local communities