

CORPORATE DESTROYERS OF BIODIVERSITY



PULP AND PAPER



Paper and pulp mill / Getty Images

WANTED FOR:

Driving deforestation, biodiversity loss, water stress and community harms through logging and/or pulpwood plantation expansion

ROLE IN DRIVING BIODIVERSITY LOSS:

The pulp and paper industry drives forest clearing, degradation and conversion to industrial plantations, depleting habitats, carbon stocks, and water resources while contributing to pollution and fires.

SOME OF THE LARGEST PLAYERS:

Asia Pulp & Paper, Asia Pacific Resources International Limited; Suzano, Arauco, CMPC; Smurfit Westrock; SCA, Stora Enso and UPM

IMPACTS:

- Ecological: Intact forest landscapes around the world have shrunk 7.2% since 2000. A third of forest loss is accounted for by paper products. More than 50% of all the paper made each year is used for single-use packaging. 3 billion trees a year are logged for paper packaging every year. Forest clearing and conversion to eucalyptus and acacia plantations destroy habitats and biodiversity, and overlogging reduces European forests' carbon-sequestration capacity. Eucalyptus plantations can increase water stress and fire risk.
- On communities: Numerous reports document land conflicts involving Indigenous Peoples and local communities in Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Indonesia and Finland. Many of them involve intimidation, criminalisation and the use of violence.
- Climate: Deforestation releases stored carbon, while short-lived single-use paper packaging rapidly returns carbon to the atmosphere. Development on drained peat releases even more CO₂ (up to 80 tonnes/year/hectare).



Mayawana Persada concession / Auriga Nusantara

LAST KNOWN ACTIVITY

In Indonesia, APP and APRIL are ramping up production beyond existing plantations. And that expansion is moving from Borneo to Papua. Plantations are also booming around the new hub in Brazil's Mato Grosso do Sul, with 7 giant pulp mills requiring more than 2 million ha of plantations.

INCIDENT LOG

- CASE #01: CLEAR-CUTTING AND PLANTATION EXPANSION IN INDONESIAN BORNEO
- CASE #02: MASSIVE FOREST FIRES CAUSED BY PLANTATIONS ON DRAINED PEAT, INDONESIA
- CASE #03: EUCALYPTUS EXPANSION AND FIRES IN CHILE

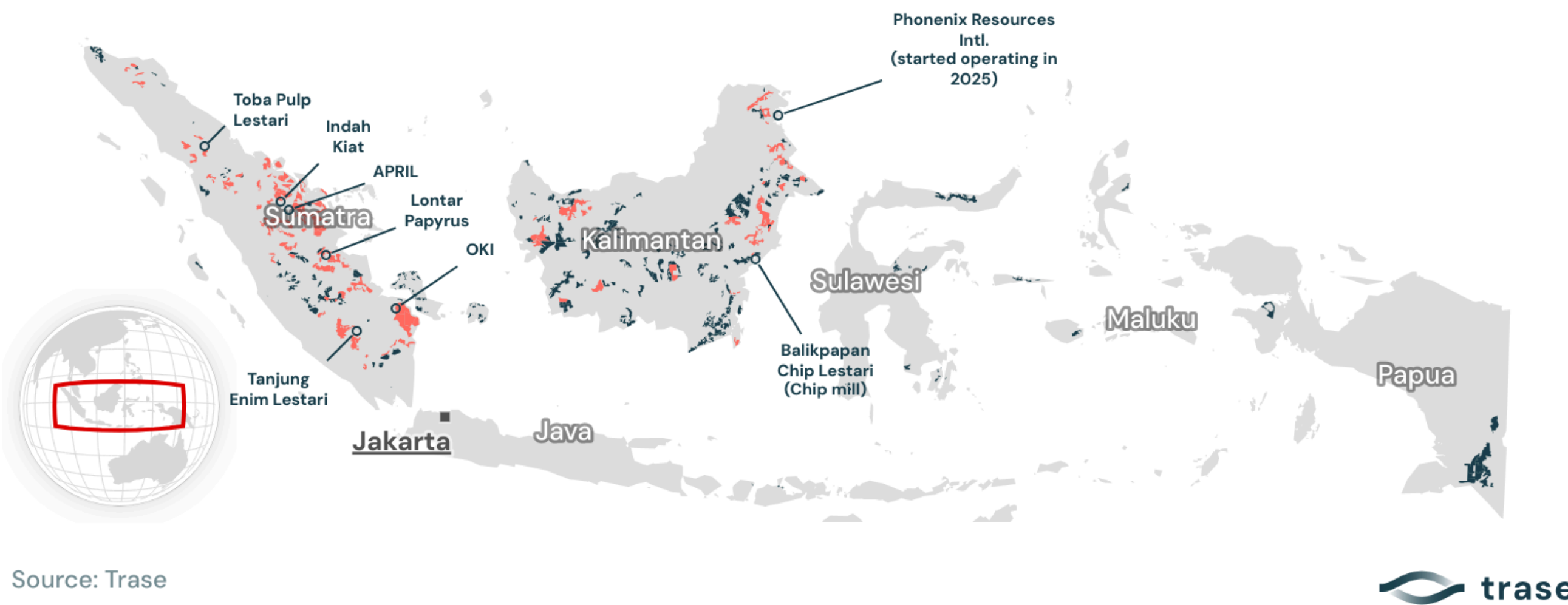


Indonesian pulp concessions (2023-2024)

Mills and pulpwood concessions in Indonesia

Active supplier refers to a pulpwood concession that is actively supplying woodfibre to mills in 2023 and 2024. Non-active supplier is a concession that has been identified as a pulpwood concession but is not yet supplying a mill.

■ Active supplier ■ Non-active supplier



Source: Trase, Indonesian pulp exports and deforestation, 2025

CASE STUDY: THE ROLE OF BANKS IN DRIVING TROPICAL DEFORESTATION

In eastern Borneo, an APRIL-linked company is reported to have cut at least 35,000 hectares of rainforest, converting it to acacia and eucalyptus plantations and expanding further. The conversion also affected local community gardens and orchards, while the remaining dense tropical forests continue to face pressure.

WITH INFO FROM:

- *The true cost of paper, Environmental Paper Network, 2026*
- *Unwrapping a disaster, Environmental Paper Network, 2023*



REAL SOLUTIONS



- Reduce reliance on single-use packaging and promote reusable packaging.
- Protect natural and ancient forests from conversion and overlogging.
- Prevent expansion of industrial plantations into natural ecosystems and peatlands.
- Strengthen safeguards for Indigenous Peoples and local communities and address land conflicts.

WRITTEN BY:



WITH SUPPORT FROM:

