

Fact Sheet Norway-Indonesia Partnership REDD+

Indonesia's Forestⁱ

Indonesia has the world's third largest tropical rainforest covering 120 million hectaresⁱⁱ, or 62% of the total land surface, with total carbon storage of 60 gigatons (billion tons). The area covered by Indonesia's forest is roughly the size of France, Italy and Spain combined.



Source: CIFOR

Deforestation

Indonesia's deforestation rates are significant, and recent estimates indicate that between 2000 and 2005, 3.5 million hectares of forests have been lost (an area larger than Belgium), or around 2.9% of Indonesia's total forest area.

Increasing global demand for pulp and paper and palm oil and a growing domestic demand in Indonesia for food crops is expected to result in conversion of additional 21–28 million hectares of forest by 2030 under a business-as-usual scenario.

Java and Sumatra have already lost most of its forest. Going forward, deforestation is expected to shift to other still largely forested Indonesian islands such as Kalimantan, Papua and Sulawesi.

Greenhouse Gas Emissions

Indonesia's greenhouse gas emissions from forestry is estimated to 750 million ton CO₂ per annum, which equals around 37% of Indonesia's current emissions.

The capacity of Indonesia's forest to absorb CO₂ is large and preserving it represents a unique emissions reduction potential. Indonesia's forest currently has estimated total carbon storage of 15 gigatons CO₂ above ground.

Reduced Emissions from Deforestation and Degradation (REDD)

One focus-area of the partnership is sustainable management of forest and reduced emissions from the forest. Papua and Kalimantan are two areas of Indonesia with large tropical rainforests intact. They are also areas where insecure land tenure currently gives indigenous people and local communities little incentive to contribute to more sustainable management of forest.

Indonesia will declare a two-year suspension on new concessions on conversion of natural forests and peat forests into plantations. Natural forests are essential to the livelihoods of indigenous people and local communities, and the suspension of new concessions for natural forests conversion is a breakthrough for a more sustainable management of forest in Indonesia.

Preventing emissions-causing activities in forested areas in Indonesia represents a combined emission reduction opportunity of more than 570 million tons CO₂ annually.



Photo: Jarle Kottmann

ⁱ All data from the Indonesia National Council on Climate Change unless otherwise cited
ⁱⁱ http://www.forest-trends.org/documents/files/doc_107.pdf