



Global Legal & Sustainable Timber Forum 2023

Session III: Global Cooperating and Sharing Platform for the Timber Industry

The Key Challenges and Difficulties of International Cooperation in Timber Supply Chains

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Global lost of **4.1 million hectares** of tropical primary forests in 2022 which is **10% more** than that in 2021.

The countries that experienced significant loss of primary forest by area in 2022 are *(on the right)*:

Country	Primary Forest Loss Area, %	
	Percentage, %	Hectares
Brazil	43.1	1,767,100
Democratic Republic of the Congo	12.5	512,500
Bolivia	9.4	385,400
Indonesia	5.6	229,600
Peru	3.9	159,900
Colombia	3.1	127,100
Laos	2.3	94,300
Cameroon	1.9	77,900
Papua New Guinea	1.8	73,800
Malaysia	1.7	69,700
Others	14.7	602,700
Total	100%	4,100,000

Source: World Resources Institute

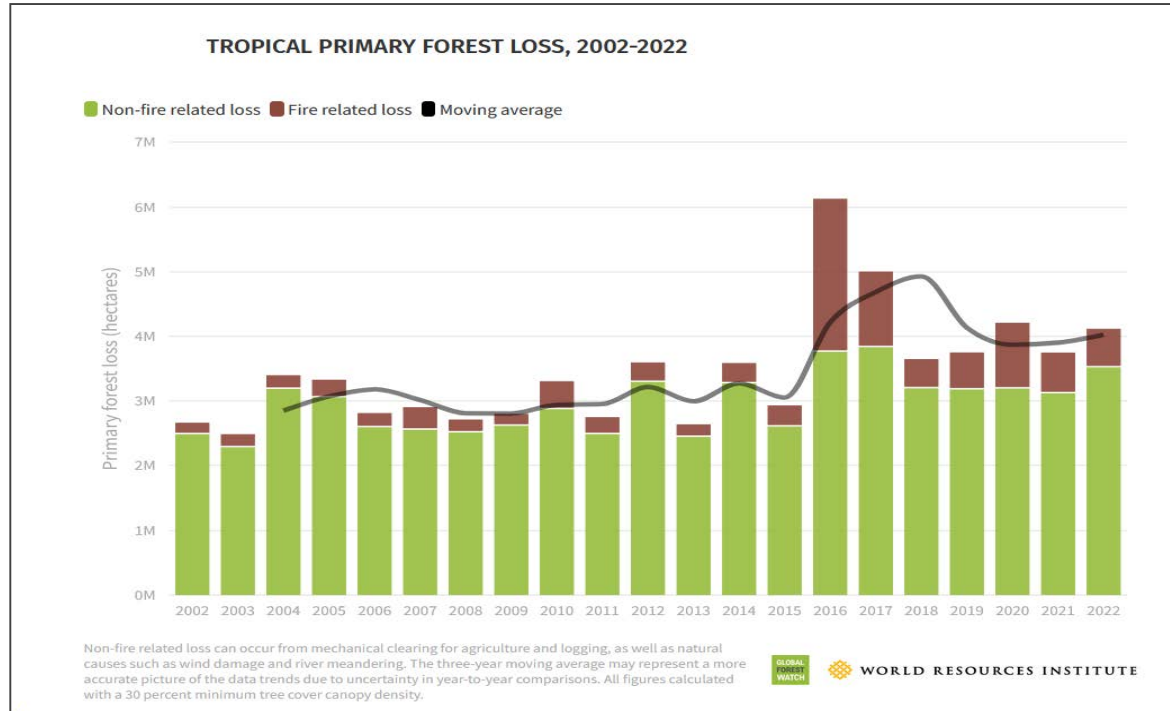



What is Deforestation?

Deforestation in the tropics is often associated with the expansion of commercial agriculture, timber extraction, forest fires, and infrastructure development.



Why the forest loss is continuing persistently? WHY???





What are the constraints, challenges and difficulties?



01 Timber players labelled as Culprits

When illegal activities take place, blame is always on timber players:

- Solely driven by economic gain
- Neglect the well being of forests & environment
- Exploit local natives & land grab

One person's wrong, positive contribution of timber players are forgotten??

Chinese saying “一竿子打翻一船人”



02 Where can responsible timber players find help?

How long can we still sustain without help??

Eventual cessation of forest harvesting lead to conversion to other uses.



03 **Uncertainties in tenure security**

- No security of tenure - hinder implementing sustainable forest management (SFM)
- SFM is an important tool for timber players to achieve 17 SDGs of the UN
- Advocate for good governance for all parties including NGOs and Government



04

Complex and disparity in consumer countries' legislations

- Different countries, different legislations
- Different legislations, different complexities
- Different complexities, different compliance

&

No market recognition



05 European Union Deforestation-free Regulation (EUDR)

- Unilaterally decided EUDR - Poses significant challenges for tropical timber-producing countries
- Especially developing countries – will cause market share lost, reducing income, increasing poverty, increase in deforestation for survival - vicious cycle



06 Timber products a more sustainable material

- One of the best renewable materials with a low carbon footprint.
- More efforts to promote timber as sustainable materials.

WAY FORWARD

GLSTF shall serve as a platform to continuously addressing challenges in the international timber supply chains and generating actionable solutions among stakeholders towards treating forests with sensibility and appreciation to enable sustainable management of forests for economic, social, and environmental benefits.





THANK YOU

CONTACT US

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