

Exactly **9** months since signing of IPOP

30 June 2015

ZERO IMPACT

on protecting the Leuser Ecosystem





97°42'34.7"E 4°29'43.7"N – 24 June 2015

**No solutions from Wilmar,
Musim Mas or IPOB**

Background

This report is the third report prepared by Greenomics Indonesia that questions the solutions offered by IPOP signatories, particularly Wilmar, to their supplier (Mopoli Raya Group), which was continuing to clear HCS forest and elephant habitat on its concession in the Leuser Ecosystem as per 24 June 2015, which marked precisely 9 months since the signing of IPOP. Meanwhile, Musim Mas itself signed IPOP in late March 2015, so that the end of June 2015 marked the third month of its participation in the scheme. However, the outcome on the ground is just the same as before in the case of both Wilmar and Musim Mas. Neither group has been able to come up with solutions that are capable of providing real protection to the Leuser Ecosystem.

The first and second Greenomics reports related to issues involving the Leuser Ecosystem were published on 6 May and 10 June 2015, respectively. After the second report was published, during a meeting between Greenomics, Wilmar and Musim Mas in mid-June, **Wilmar stated that it had suspended purchases from Mopoli Raya Group for three months, counting from 15 June 2015.**

Further, Wilmar said that if during that three-month period Mopoli Raya Group continued to engage in forest clearance, Wilmar would impose a permanent ban on the sourcing of palm oil from the company. **However, Musim Mas gave no commitments during the meeting as regards its policy towards Mopoli Raya Group, which also supplies palm oil to Musim Mas.**

Essentially, Greenomics Indonesia is eager to see what solutions can be offered by the two IPOP signatories, as well as the IPOP secretariat. Certainly, the suspension of palm oil purchases is not a solution as one of the main objectives of IPOP is to find solutions for sustainable palm oil that is deforestation-free.

It is only reasonable that Greenomics Indonesia should continue to urge IPOP to ask what solutions are envisaged on the ground, given the lack of conceptual clarity and direction surrounding “cleaning up the supply chain of deforestation,” especially given a lack of sufficient data and an adequate monitoring system.

IPOP implementation in the case of the Leuser Ecosystem represents a microcosm of IPOP implementation across Indonesia.

IPOP's apparent hesitancy and inability to provide a solution in this case shows that it is too slow in taking the necessary initiatives so as to provide solutions in accordance with IPOP's objectives, especially given that this Leuser Ecosystem case was highlighted previously in a report by the Rainforest Action Network (RAN) that was published at the end of last November.

This case clearly shows that the monitoring of IPOP implementation represents a key element in achieving the initiative's overall objectives. Without continuous monitoring, implementation will be confined to the pages of IPOP press releases only. Our report provides a number of conclusions and recommendations in this regard.

Methodology

This report presents photographs whose coordinates show that exactly nine months since the introduction of IPOP, that is, on 24 June 2015, a supplier of Wilmar and Musim Mas was continuing to bulldoze HCS forests and the Leuser Ecosystem on its concession.

This report is also supported up by video evidence, which can be shown to the IPOP signatories, especially Wilmar and Musim Mas, as well as the IPOP secretariat.



IPOP has no solutions to offer for just **2,000 hectares** of Leuser Ecosystem

If IPOP is not able to provide a solution in respect of the some 2,000 hectares of Leuser Ecosystem (consisting of HCS forest and elephant habitat) that makes up the Mopoli Raya Group's concession so as to prevent it being cleared, what does the future hold for the implementation of IPOP, especially as regards achieving its paramount objective, namely, finding solutions for sustainable palm oil that is deforestation-free?




This report shows excavators operating at various locations on the concession of PT Aloer Timur (Mopoli Raya Group). These photos, which were taken on 24 June 2015 – nine months from the commencement of IPOP implementation – clearly reveal that the bulldozing of Leuser Ecosystem forest for the development of oil palm plantations is continuing apace on the concession.

It would appear, therefore, that IPOP is incapable of providing an effective solution. Further, the zero deforestation policies adopted by Wilmar and Musim Mas would also appear to be incapable of providing solutions.








Conclusions

-  The suspension of palm oil purchases from a company that is continuing to clear HCS and HCV forest is apparently incapable of preventing this supplier from developing new oil palm plantations. In other words, the clearing of HCS and HCV forests – in the present case, in the Leuser Ecosystem – will continue to occur despite the suspension of palm oil purchases from the company by Wilmar.
-  The efforts made by Wilmar and Musim Mas to date to engage with this supplier as part of their efforts to clean up their supply chains from deforestation in the Leuser Ecosystem have failed to provide any solutions or produce any beneficial impact on the ground. It is also regrettable that such engagement is not supported by sufficient and adequate data.
-  In the exactly nine months since the signing of the IPOP, nothing has emerged that could constitute solutions for palm oil that is deforestation-free, which is one of the major objectives of IPOP.



97°42'01.4"E 4°30'14.1"N – 24 June 2015

Recommendations

-  The IPOP Secretariat and IPOP signatories, especially Wilmar and Musim Mas, need to make public whatever constraints they face in addressing this issue involving the Leuser Ecosystem, including what they have done to date so as to find solutions for sustainable palm oil that is deforestation-free, particularly as regards their efforts to protect the some 2,000 hectares of Leuser Ecosystem forest that is located on the concession of this supplier.
-  Bearing in mind that the facts on the ground after nine months of implementation of IPOP reveal zero benefit in protecting the Leuser Ecosystem, this should serve as a lesson-learned pointing to the failure of IPOP to provide solutions for sustainable palm oil that is deforestation-free.
-  Once again, we would like to remind the IPOP Secretariat to promptly put in place a robust monitoring system to oversee the implementation of IPOP, bearing in mind that monitoring is a powerful instrument to ascertain the extent to which IPOP can be successfully implemented on the ground and at the policy level so as to provide realistic input to all involved, especially government.

IPOP implementation in the case of the Leuser Ecosystem represents a microcosm of IPOP implementation across Indonesia



97°42'25.3"E 4°29'48.8"N – 24 June 2015

IPOP-OBSERVER – an initiative by Greenomics Indonesia to identify the extent to which IPOP is being implemented in Indonesia – uses the results of spatial monitoring, field observations and legal analysis to question the extent of the role played by IPOP signatories in providing solutions to their suppliers in their efforts to fulfill one of the objectives of IPOP, namely, to find solutions for sustainable palm oil that is deforestation free. The main purpose of IPOP-OBSERVER is to share lessons learned from the implementation of IPOP.

For further discussion please contact:

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