

How business can tackle deforestation

28th September

29th September

Timeslots are provisional and exact timings may change

09.00

Welcome and opening remarks

Brendan May, chairman, **Robertsbridge**
Tobias Webb, founder, **Innovation Forum**

09.15

Keynote: International cooperation – ASEAN agreement on Transboundary Haze Pollution

Indonesia formally ratified the ASEAN Agreement on Transboundary Haze in 2014, the last country to do so. And then in May 2015, Indonesia’s moratorium on palm oil concessions was renewed.

What are governments doing to work together to counter deforestation? And how much do these recent developments reflect a willingness on Indonesia’s part to engage and cooperate with other regional governments to tackle the haze problem, and its roots in slash and burn deforestation?

Download the brochure

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Our forthcoming events

- Circular Advantage Business Forum - 8th-9th June 2015
- The Measurement and Valuation of Corporate Sustainability - 29th-30th June, 2015
- Sustainable Sugar Forum - 16th-17th June 2015 - London
- How business can tackle deforestation - 28th-29th September - Singapore

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9.45

Indonesia palm oil pledge – the road to deforestation-free palm oil. Will it really make a difference?



In September 2014, at the UN climate summit in New York, Wilmar, Golden Agri-Resources, Cargill and Asian Agri – four of Indonesia’s largest palm oil producers – alongside the Indonesia Chamber of Commerce (Kadin), signed a landmark commitment to further efforts to eliminate deforestation and peatland destruction in Indonesia. The companies reaffirmed their commitments to eliminate deforestation in their supply chains.

In this session we will debate what the pledge means in practice. We’ll ask our expert panel to explain whether it really is a game-changing agreement.

Bruce Blakeman, vice president corporate affairs, Asia-pacific, **Cargill**

Nurdiana Darus, executive director, **Indonesia Palm Oil Pledge**

Pablo Pacheco, principal scientist, **Center for International Forestry Research**

Commentary by: Ambassador Stig Traavik, Norwegian ambassador to ASEAN, **Royal Norwegian Embassy**

Moderator: Jeremy Goon, chief sustainability officer, **Wilmar International**

10.45

Networking break



11.15

Impact of sustainability strategy on markets, market access and how/whether investors value sustainability activities



There is a growing concern amongst investors to minimise their risks of financing potentially socially and environmentally damaging projects. Norway's Government Pension Fund Global, for example, has expectations for its portfolio companies to reduce deforestation and forest degradation in their operations and supply chains.

In this session we will ask our panellists their views on:

- the role of regulation in terms of disclosure on deforestation impact.
- how to stimulate greater investor engagement in Asian companies, especially consumer goods companies that have not committed to deforestation-free supply chains – thus far most of the engagement has been focused on international brands.
- the extent that investors understand the real impact on access to markets on their portfolio companies – or is there still a view that India, China and Indonesia continue to be a dumping ground for unsustainable commodities and deforestation.

Darius Sarshar, director, investments and operations, **New Forests Asia**

Gabriel Thoumi, senior sustainability analyst, **Calvert Investments**

Vemund Olsen, senior policy adviser, **Rainforest Foundation Norway**

Iain Henderson, REDD+ and sustainable land use, **UNDP Finance Initiative**

Commentary by: Jeanne Stampe, Asia finance and commodities specialist, **WWF International**

12.30

Lunch



1.45

Breakout groups – case studies



Breakout one: smallholder farmers and rural development – a multi-stakeholder approach. Partnerships to develop alternative zero-deforestation livelihoods

Growing population and price instability in international markets are putting pressure on global food security. Climate change and land-use conversion to bio-fuels are leading to less availability of arable land and water for food crops. This means that the world will need to produce more food using fewer environmental resources.

The two billion people who live and work on small farms in developing countries have an enormous potential to increase food production. At the same time they can improve their lives and contribute to greater food security for all.

But how to help them develop? Innovative multistakeholder collaboration is crucial.

In this breakout session we will what different stakeholders are they doing to safeguard sustainable land use and increase productivity while creating equitable opportunities for smallholder farmers and improving rural livelihoods.

Kavita Prakash-Mani, executive director, Grow Asia,
World Economic Forum

Ruslan Krisno, Agrigroup sustainability director, **Great Giant Pineapple**

Petra Meekers, director of CSR and sustainable development, **Musim Mas**

Breakout two: reconciling forest protection with

development needs

The current level of development of industrialised societies has been achieved to a considerable extent by deforestation. But continued deforestation and ruthless exploitation is no longer an option. Instead governments, companies and civil society must encourage long-term forest conservation and sustainable use of natural resources.

In this session Dharsono Hartono CEO of PT Rimba Makmur Utama, an Indonesian based company developing a 110,000 hectare peat-land forest REDD+ project in central Kalimantan, will talk about the social and economic benefits of forest protection and restoration.

Dharsono Hartono, CEO, **Rimba Makmur Utama**

Johan Verburg, senior advisor programme development and private sector engagement in agribusiness, **Oxfam Novib**

Breakout three: high carbon stock approach – toolkit

In recent years several companies – many of them multinationals with supply chains that span the globe – have announced their commitments to removed deforestation from their operation and supply change. However, the lack of a consensus in the definitions of forest and deforestation make it challenging to monitor and verify progress towards meeting deforestation-free commitments.

The HCS Approach Toolkit: No Deforestation in Practice was launched in April 2015. The toolkit provides guidance for producers on how to identify high carbon stock forests and integrate them with other land use planning approaches such as high conservation value areas, the protection of peat-lands, and respect for the rights of indigenous and traditional communities to their lands.

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