



'We've been negligent,' Indonesia's president Widodo says as fire crisis deepens'

President Joko Widodo

Indonesia's president has admitted negligence on the part of the government, as top officials engage in a blame game amid the worst spate of forest fires since 2015 that's sending clouds of toxic haze across large swaths of the country and abroad.

This year's fires, most of them set deliberately to clear land for planting, have burned nearly 340,000 hectares (840,000 acres) as of August 31—an area a third the size of Jamaica—according to data from the environment ministry.

"Ahead of the dry season, everyone should have been prepared," President Joko Widodo said on September 17 during a meeting with officials in Sumatra's Riau province, one of the worst-affected regions.

"But we've been negligent again [this year], so the haze has become big," he added.

He reminded the officials that during a meeting in Jakarta in July, he had emphasised the importance of preventive measures to stop the fires spreading out of control. "Because if there are already fires, especially on peatland, then it's very hard to extinguish [them], based on our experiences in past years," he said.

Widodo also lamented the failure of the relevant state institutions, including the police and the military, to respond quickly enough to the fires.

"We have it all, but these instruments aren't activated well," he said. "If they're activated well, then I'm sure a single fire hotspot will be detected first before it grows into hundreds of fire hotspots. And I've reminded that numerous times. What we're dealing with here isn't forest [fires], but peatland, which if it's already burned, then no matter how many million liters [of water] we expend, it's still difficult to extinguish."









Big brands

sourcing illegal palm oil from habitat of orangutans, rhinos, elephants and tigers



Some of the world's biggest consumer goods firms have been sourcing palm oil from plantations illegally developed in Indonesia's Leuser Ecosystem, one of Southeast Asia's most important remaining rainforests that is home to critically endangered elephants, rhinos, orangutans, and tigers.

An undercover field investigation by environmental group Rainforest Action Network found that two palm oil traders that supply the firms—Singapore-headquartered Musim Mas and Golden Agri-Resources (GAR)—have been sourcing from plantations that have been deforesting the nationally protected Rawa Singkil Wildlife Reserve in Sumatra's Singkil-Bengkung region.

Unilever, Nestlé, Mars, PepsiCo, Mondelêz, General Mills, Kellogg's and Hershey's were the multinational firms named in the investigation.

The findings undermine long-standing commitments made by the likes of Mars and Unilever to distance themselves from suppliers that fell rainforests to produce palm oil, an ingredient found in about half of all supermarket products.

The report, which is part of the website Leuser Watch, also points to the banks that are financing the palm oil traders. They include Singapore's OCBC Bank, Japan's Mitsubishi UFJ Financial Group, and Dutch bank ABN Amro.

Singkil-Bengkung is not only a wildlife hotspot. Its peatlands are the largest and deepest in Aceh, and the drainage of the carbon-rich land has left the area vulnerable to haze-causing fires that bedevil Indonesia almost every dry season. Over the past decade, 18,000 hectares of forests within Singkil-Bengkung have been cleared for plantations.



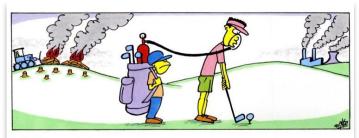
global snack companies including Unilever, Nestlé, and Mars are sourcing palm oil from Indonesia's Leuser Ecosystem, one of the world's most valuable conservation areas.

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[Big brands] are still sourcing from the companies driving palm oil plantation expansion into the heart of one of the highest priority conservation landscapes for addressing the climate crisis and wildlife extinction.

Gemma Tillack, forest policy director, Rainforest Action Network













Employee Profile



Everyone, meet Mohd Noor

Draftman

Its been 3 years since he joined the team on March 2016. Other than having a passion for his Engineering Drawing, he has a few number of motivation books in his personal collection inclusive from Anthony Robbin and Robert Kiyosaki.

It's too obvious, he wanted to become a Motivator when he was a little. Cool Bro, everyone needs motivation here :-D Not only that, he also has secret talent. He done his custom made cabinet aquarium at home since petting fish is his hobby. Say hi to this super daddy to 3 his heroes. Hi!!!

Practical Tips to Achieve a Positive Mindset

By, Larry Alton, Succes.com



1. Start the day with positive affirmation.

Talk to yourself in the mirror, even if you feel silly, with statements like, "Today will be a good day" or "I'm going to be awesome today." You'll be amazed how much your day improves.

2. Focus on the good things, however small. Focus on the benefits, no matter how slight or unimportant they seem.

3. Find humor in bad situations.

Allow yourself to experience humor in even the darkest or most trying situations. Remind yourself that this situation will probably make for a good story later and try to crack a joke about it.

4. Turn failures into lessons.

You aren't perfect. You're going to make mistakes and experience failure in multiple contexts, at multiple jobs and with multiple people.

5. Transform negative self-talk into positive self-talk. I'll be way better at this. I shouldn't have tried becomes That didn't work out as planned—maybe next time.

6. Focus on the present.

Most sources of negativity stem from a memory of a recent event or the exaggerated imagination of a potential future event. Stay in the present moment.

7. Find positive friends, mentors and co-workers. Their positive words will sink in and affect your own line of thinking, which then affects your words and similarly contributes to the group.