

A photograph of a bird's nest in a tree. The nest is built on a branch and contains several small, fluffy chicks. The background is a dense, green forest. The text is overlaid on the image.

# TRACEABILITY & ACCOUNTABILITY

ILLEGAL LOGGING AND NZ'S RESPONSIBILITY

GREENPEACE

GREENPEACE

# ILLEGAL LOGGING REMAINS A KEY CHALLENGE GLOBALLY

# ILLEGAL LOGGING

## The good news

- ❖ Global efforts to tackle the issue of illegal logging are having an impact
  - Legislation like FLEGT and Lacey is in effect
  - Some regions are noting improvements

## The bad news

- ❖ 100 million m<sup>3</sup> illegal timber in the marketplace per year (2010)
- ❖ the face of illegal logging is changing internationally and is now on the increase again

# 1. NEW TIMBER MARKETS

## China

- Nearly ¼ of timber imports from top 9 timber countries
- Key processing hub for products to EU and USA

## Tropical countries

- e.g. South Korea, India, Thailand
- Producer countries now consuming
- Often without strong policies



# 2. FOREST CONVERSION



Wood derived from forest conversion is half the international timber trade

- 2/3 is estimated to be illegal
- Integrated step into cycle of deforestation

# 3. SMALL-SCALE PRODUCERS

Logging by small-scale producers has soared in many countries.

- Such activity is often illegal and lies beyond the scope of many policy and regulatory efforts
- makes chains of custody complex and opaque



# GREENPEACE & FORESTS

Priority is halting deforestation

- Indonesia
- Brazilian Amazon
- Congo Basin
- Boreal forests
  - Russia
  - Canada



# MAIN DEFORESTATION DRIVERS



## INDONESIA

- Palm oil expansion
- Agricultural expansion
- Timber plantations eg for pulp
- Fires

## BRAZILIAN AMAZON

- ❖ Illegal and predatory logging
- ❖ Agricultural expansion
- ❖ Cattle ranching
- ❖ Infrastructure - eg mega-dams





# MAIN DEFORESTATION DRIVERS



## CONGO BASIN

- ❖ Illegal and predatory logging
- ❖ Agricultural expansion
- ❖ Palm oil expansion

## BOREAL FORESTS

- Clearcutting for paper and pulp
- Illegal and predatory logging
- Fires
- Agricultural expansion



# CONGO BASIN

Illegal logging accounts for (as a percentage of all logging in region):

- ~65% in Cameroon,
- ~90% in the Democratic Republic of Congo,
- ~70% in the Republic of Congo. (ref: Chatham House Research)



# POLITICAL & CORPORATE ACTION



## Global imperative to stop forest destruction

- critical to fight climate change
- enough degraded land to grow food for all
- terrestrial biodiversity hotspots
- home to millions of Indigenous and traditional Peoples

# NEW ZEALAND MUST PLAY ITS PART



# OUR BACKYARD

Imported timber is just under 1% of domestic timber consumption.

- ❖ 13% of these imports were of questionable legality  
(2008 assessment. Ref: [Ministry for Primary Industries 2013](#)).

Greenpeace has worked for the last 20 years with the NZ Imported Tropical Timber Group (approx. 80% of importers and retailers)

- ❖ tropical wood product imports by ITTG members are now nearly all from either verified legal or certified sources

20% of the NZ market has no commitments and could be importing illegal timber

# CURRENT NZ GOVERNMENT INACTION

The current Government policy promotes a voluntary approach

However legislation/regulation is required

- ❖ voluntary agreements not enough to get sectorial compliance
- ❖ is an 'easy fix' as volumes not high
- ❖ would be consistent with EU and US efforts
- ❖ Apply same rationale for NZ exported wood products as imports

# INDUSTRY ACTION

NZ timber industry must keep building on the good work already done

- ❖ Move immediately to have all timber imports at a minimum verified legal compliance
- ❖ Within 18 months move to have all imported wood that is not low risk, fully independently certified as from a responsible source

# BEST PRACTISE - FSC

Only striving for legality is not enough - we can do better

FSC - most credible global certification scheme *but*

- ❖ care in some regions - in particular Amazon, Russia and Congo Basin
- ❖ Need to protect large tracts of Intact Forest (IFLs)



# NZ MARKET ADVANTAGE

Illegal logging legislation and market action is a powerful combination

Zero tolerance to illegal timber gives NZ timber an advantage in international markets

# SUMMARY - NEXT STEPS

- ❖ NZ GOVERNMENT - pass illegal wood product import legislation
  - time-bound implementation
  - transparent process
  - align with and learn lessons from EU, USA
- ❖ NZ INDUSTRY
  - agree a zero tolerance regime for illegal timber and wood product imports