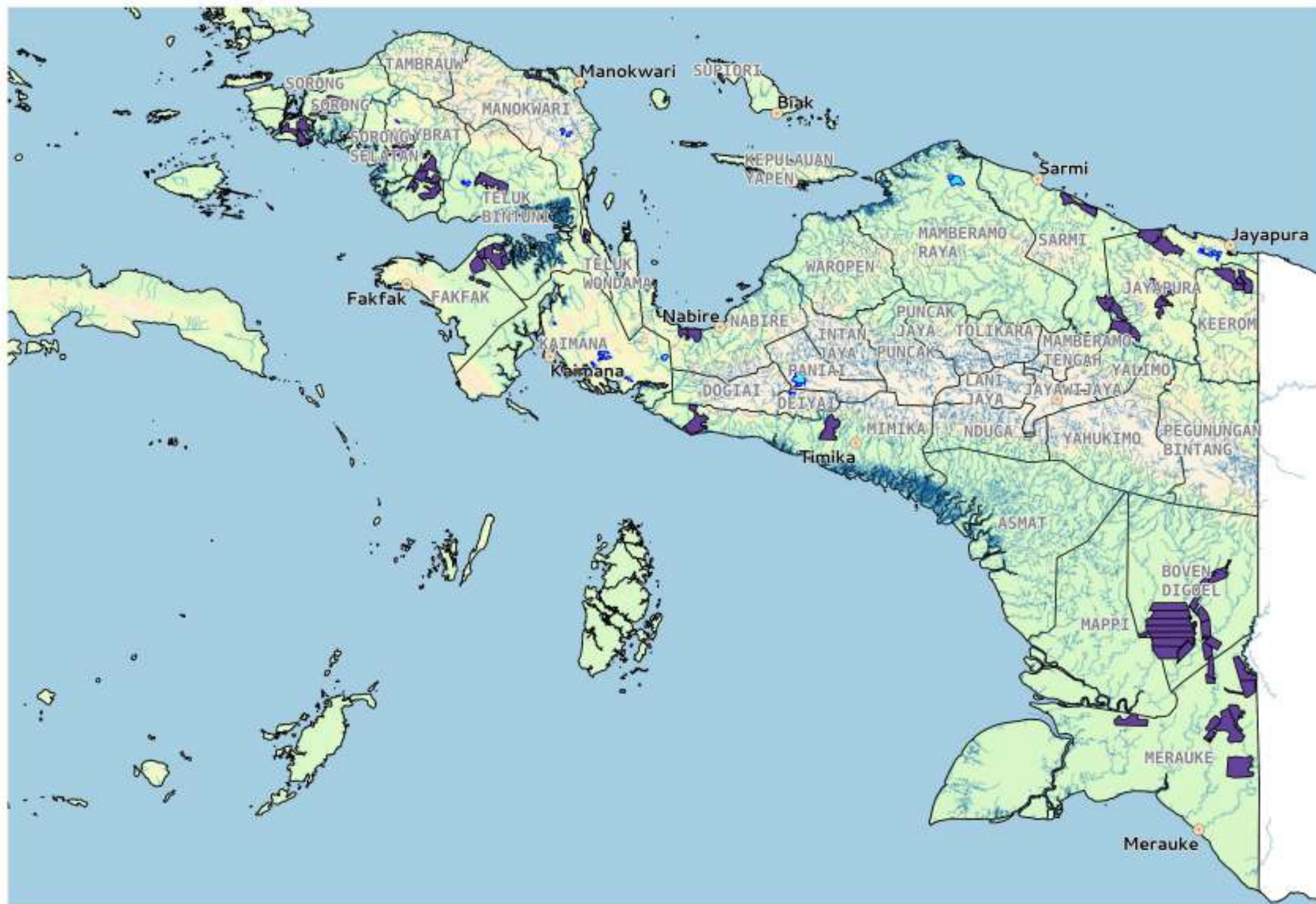
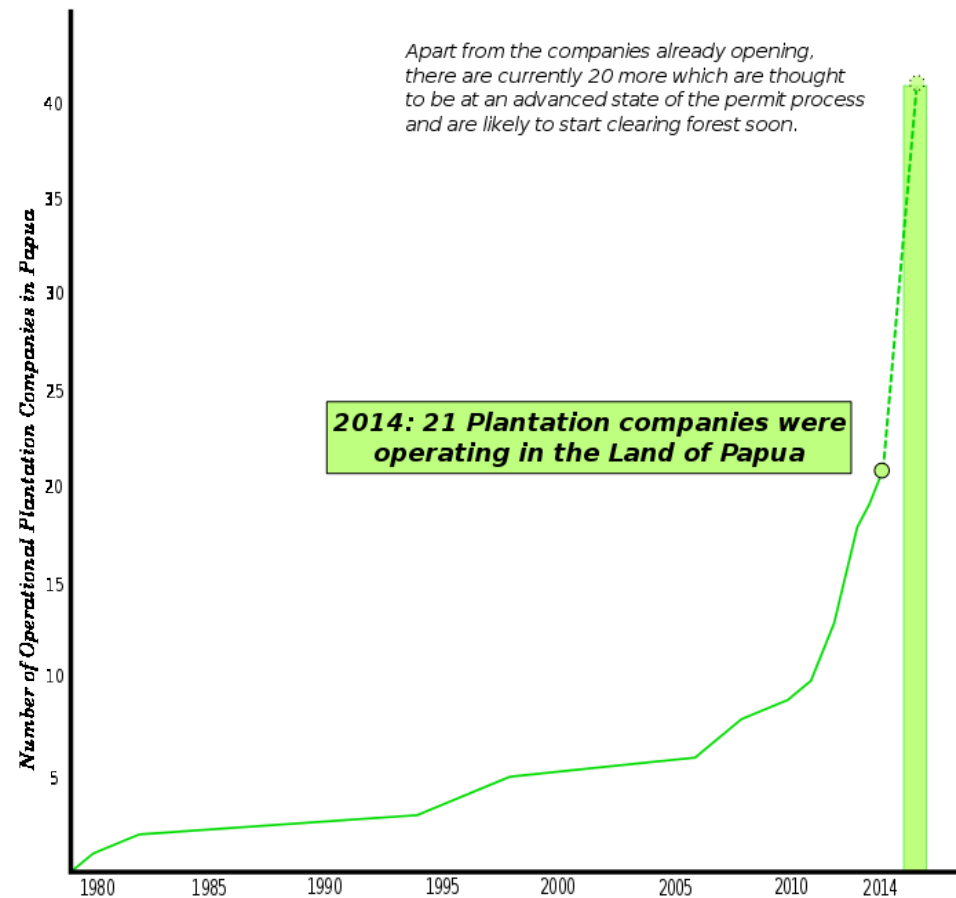




WEST PAPUA OIL PALM ATLAS

The companies behind the plantation explosion





During the last few decades, Indonesia's oil palm industry has been growing rapidly, but focussed almost entirely on the islands of Borneo and Sumatra. In Papua on the other hand, by 2015, only seven companies had successfully developed plantations. Now, as space becomes limited on those western islands, investors are increasingly looking to the east for new land. There are currently 21 companies that have cleared forests and started operating in Papua, the majority of which have only started their operations in the last five years. Twenty other companies are in an advanced stage of the permit process and appear to be almost ready to start clearing land. Dozens more are still applying for the permits they need. This rapid growth is having serious adverse effects on Papua's indigenous population. For almost every single existing plantation, there have been reports that local indigenous people have lost out when the forests they depend on for their livelihood become oil palm plantations which bring them no clear benefits. This publication is a portrait of that industry as it was at the end of 2014, and hopes to aid an understanding of the main players in this industry, and which areas are likely to be affected in the future



PAPUA OIL PALM ATLAS:

The companies behind the plantation explosion

Editors: Y.L. Franky and Selwyn Morgan

First edition: March 2015

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We want to express our thanks to other sources, organisations and activists that have been involved in sharing their information and documentation which have made this publication possible, including Charles Tawaru and Erens Womsiwor who are active with Greenpeace Papua, Leo Imbiri from YADUPA, Robertino Hanebora in Nabire, Yuliana Langowuyo from SKPKC Fransiskan Papua, Saul Wanimbo from SKP Timika, Marianus Maknaipeku and Dominikus Mitoro from LEMASKO, Esau Yaung from Paradisea, Sena from KAMUKI, Andi Saragi from Mrukwar, Agus Kalalu in Sorong, Tedi Kosamah in Teminabuan, SKP Sorong, Kartini Samon, Wensislaus Fatubun, Santon Tekege as well as activists in Europe working with EIA International, Greenpeace and TAPOL. The editors of this publication take full responsibility for the final report and any possible factual inaccuracies or misinterpretations contained within it.

Editors, Y.L. Franky and Selwyn Moran



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Over the course of several months, we have tried to collect as much data as we can about the oil palm industry in Papua. We have done this through a process of internet research, communication with local Papuan NGOs, church organisations, indigenous organisations and other activists, and attempts to contact government and corporate sources. We hope it is a reasonably good guide to the state of the oil palm industry in West Papua and its implications for local people.

Unfortunately the information is not as complete as we would like it to be. Our aim was to provide a picture of every oil palm company with a permit to operate in Papua, together with a location map, information about who owns it, and what permits it has. However, that is not always so easy. We have been unable to obtain full lists from local government offices in most parts of West Papua, so we are left to fill in the gaps from local community reports, media and our own research. The biggest difficulty is often trying to get information from the local government, many refuse to co-operate, most never pick up the phone and so are hard to contact if resources don't permit a personal visit.

INTRODUCTION

If an oil palm company wants to apply for permits, it usually has to approach the Bupati, the elected leader of each Regency. If the Bupati agrees in principle, they will look for suitable land and issue a Location Permit. Later the company will need recommendations at the provincial level, and if the land is classified as state forest, then it will need a permit from the Forestry Minister to release the land from the state forest estate.

Several observations might shed some light on why this permit process is so untransparent: Curiously, it appears that more location permits are given out towards the end of an leadership term in the run-up to new elections, which can lead to the view that natural resources are being held hostage to politicians' private interests. The company and government technical teams also frequently argue the case that the land is "secondary forest" so they won't have problems with the moratorium on new permits in primary forest areas. There is also very little consideration of the local social context when the government considers whether to release land from the state forest estate.

However, for the indigenous forest communities living on the land which the companies are eyeing up, it is vital that they get full information about the company's plans at the earliest possible stage. As they are the customary owners of the forest, and dependant on it, they have the right to make a free decision about what happens to the land. However, often the first time they hear about plans is when a company approaches them with a proposal to buy the land. By that stage, the company will have been given at least a location permit, without the community having sat down and discussed the plans. Companies then frequently use techniques of deception or intimidation to acquire that community's land, using state security forces or middlemen who have family connections to the local communities. It is very easy for a company to create conflict within a community in this way, splitting them into pro- and contra-, and these conflicts can be used to the company's advantage. Communities which are better informed before the situation gets complicated are in a much better position to decide how they want their forest to be used.

The Papua Oil Palm Atlas is also an attempt to provide information about the different companies controlling the oil palm industry in the land of Papua. These companies often use local names, or names which will give the impression of being pro-people and pro-environment, but in fact they are often controlled by members of the business elite, part of large corporate groups which work together with

multinational companies. Typically these companies will also have businesses in other sectors such as logging, industrial tree plantations, mining and industrial-scale fishing, both in Papua and in other parts of Indonesia.

Some of the corporate groups which are involved in the oil palm business in the land of Papua are amongst Indonesia's richest business people according to Forbes (2014) data: the Musim Mas group owned by Bachtiar Karim (personal wealth 2 billion US\$), the Raja Garuda Mas group owned by Sukanto Tanoto (\$2.11 billion), the Sinar Mas Group owned by Eka Tjipta Widjaja (\$5.8 billion), Salim Group owned by Anthony Salim (\$5.9 billion), the Rajawali Group owned by Peter Sondakh (\$2.3 billion). Most of these groups has more than one concession for an oil palm plantation, and some have other businesses, such as the Rajawali group which is also developing sugar-cane plantations in the Merauke area.

Other major companies involved in Papua are the Austindo Nusantara Jaya Group, owned by a wealthy businessman called George S. Tahija, who was well as oil palm is developing the sago palm processing industry in the Metamani area of South Sorong, and an electricity plant in Tembagapura, Mimika. The Kayu Lapis Indonesia Group has its roots in logging, and is the largest operator of timber concessions in Papua. The Medco Group is also active in industrial timber plantations, pulp and mining around Papua. A South Korean company, Korindo Group, is using land which it previously logged for its plywood business to plant oil palm. There are several other foreign companies operating in Papua: the Tadmax group from Malaysia and Pacific Interlink from Yemen which have concessions in Boven Digoel, the Lion Group from Malaysia, with a large plantation in Bintuni Bay, Noble Group, which has offices in Hong Kong has two operational plantations, and Carson Cumberbatch from Sri Lanka which is clearing land near Nabire for oil palm. In contrast with other parts of Indonesia, only one oil palm plantation is operated by the state - PTPN II in Arso. PTPN II's other plantation in Prafi, Manokwari has recently been contracted out to a Chinese company, Yong Jing Investment.

Apart from these big national and transnational companies, our research has also shown that there are also several 'mysterious' companies who pioneer new investments, using their links with local government to obtain permits for plantations. These companies operate very discreetly and try to avoid having any kind of public profile. They don't have websites, their offices in Jakarta bear no company names and reception staff invariably refuse to give out any information. Two such companies are the Menara Group which got permits for seven subsidiaries in Boven Digoel before selling most of them on (one of the Menara Group's commissioners is a former Indonesian police chief), and PT Pusaka Agro Sejahtera Group which has managed to get permits in South Sorong, Maybrat, Mimika and Jayapura. Another example is also in Boven Digoel, where three plantation

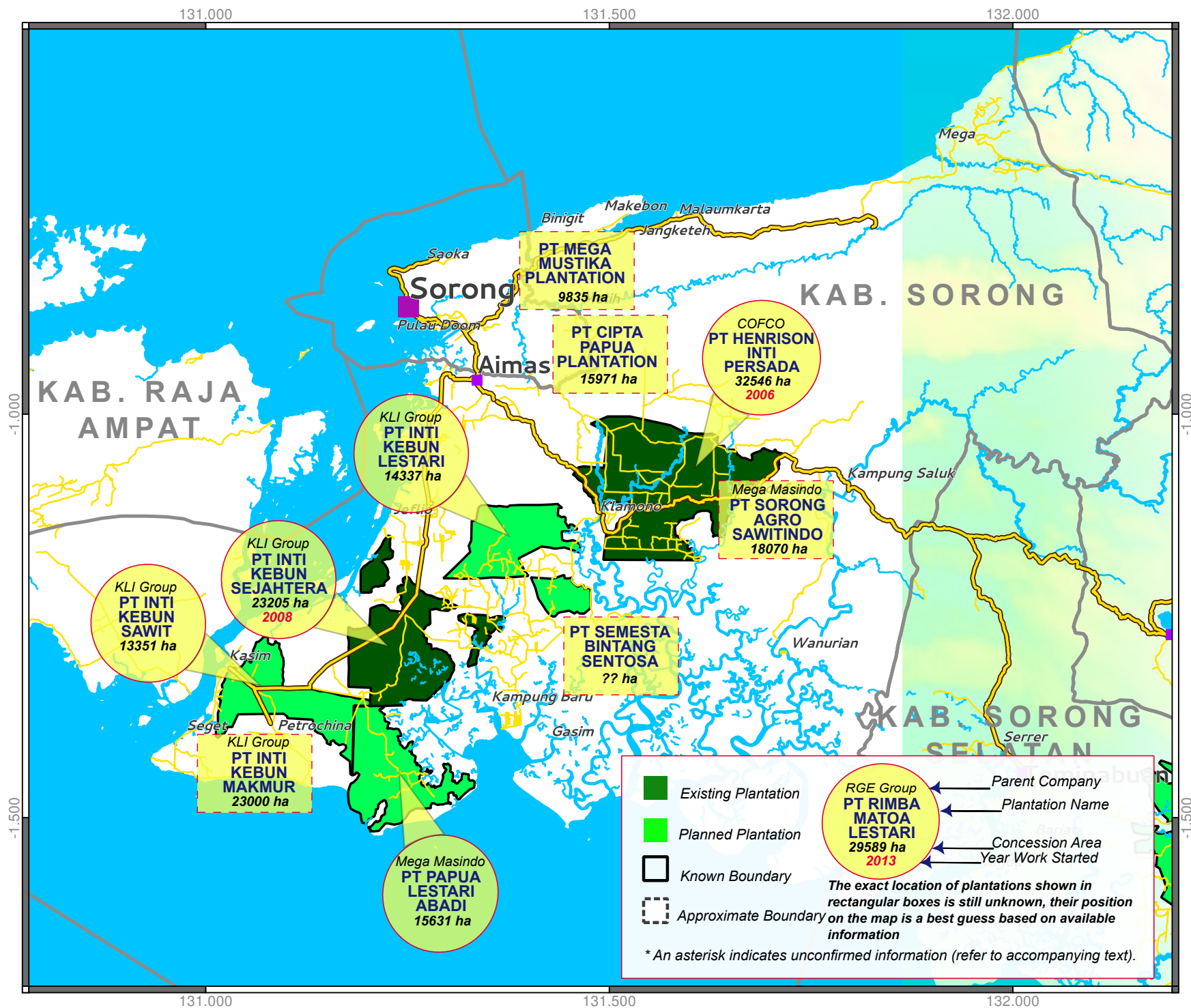
companies have listed their address at a law firm, but that law firm when visited refused to give out any information about any client which might want to start oil palm companies. Our visit was met with a similar response at the listed address of PT Mega Mustika Plantation and PT Cipta Papua Plantation, which both have plantation plans in Sorong. There are indications that this kind of company's interest is speculative - once all the permits have been obtained, then the individual plantation company will be sold on to another company (one of the big national or transnational companies), that has greater access to capital and will actually operate the plantation. However this type of shady behind-closed-doors business practice makes it impossible for any dealings with the local indigenous community to follow principles of free prior informed consent.

Our data isn't complete but we try to be honest about the holes in it. On the maps on the following pages, the plantations marked in darker green are where the borders are known with a reasonable degree of accuracy. Where we know the general location but not the exact boundary the plantation is marked in light green. Finally, where we do not have reliable location information at all, we just place a box with data about the company as near as possible to where we think the location might be. In the accompanying articles, as much as possible of the sources we have used has been referenced. We haven't included information which we regard as unreliable, but we have to acknowledge that the data here is only as good as the sources which it is based on.

However, we do believe it is important to struggle for full and accessible information about plantations and other development plans, so it can become a tool of the wider struggle for communities to take control over their own future. If data is difficult to access, it is because it is deliberately being concealed by those with a vested interest in denying communities this right.

Hopefully this publication is one contribution to that struggle for open and accessible data about plantations in Papua, but our hope is that it is something that can be built on. Until the system changes, there is a need for more people to proactively go out and find information at the local level, and share it with others. Bringing necessary information that has been hidden into the public domain entails a collaborative effort of many people, as does ensuring this information reaches rural communities which are likely to be affected by development projects.

Ideally this will not be a static project, but it will be possible to produce future editions. The completeness of this however, is very much dependent on reliable information at the local level. Therefore we appeal to local activists, community members or those who have access to government data to recognise the importance of open and accessible information, and to publish yourself, or get in touch with us.



Kabupaten SORONG

Scale 1:700,000

SORONG: *Timber companies see the future lies in oil palm*



In 2003, the **Kayu Lapis Indonesia group** was the biggest logging company in Papua, operating 1.4 million hectares of concessions.¹ One of their largest concessions, PT Intimpura, was in Sorong, where it also owned a huge plywood factory producing 264,000 cubic metres of plywood per year. But with the forests vanishing fast, how can a massive timber company like this ensure it continues to grow?

In common with several other timber companies, the Kayu Lapis Indonesia Group opted to shift its investment into the swiftly expanding oil palm industry, a few years before its forest management permit (HPH) was due to run out in 2009². Using the links it had built up with local government over the 15 years it had been in the area, over the next few years it managed to get permits for five subsidiary companies to start oil palm plantations.

Currently, two of these subsidiaries are operational. **PT Henrison Inti Persada (HIP)** is the most established, getting the final permit for its plantation in Klamono in 2006 (although it had already started planting oil palm illegally a few years before)³.

PT HIP established its plantation on the land of the local Mooi people, who resent the company for taking their land through trickery, or by making promises of new facilities or education support that have never materialised. The compensation given to communities was exceptionally low, even compared to other cases around Papua. In one documented case ancestral land was handed over for 30000 Rupiah per hectare (\$3)⁴.

In 2010 PT Henrison Inti Persada was sold to the **Noble Group**, a Hong Kong-based agricultural commodities trading company. Noble became a member of the Round Table on Sustainable Oil Palm, which will allow it to apply for sustainability certification that will allow it access to premium markets. As the new owner, Noble cannot be held responsible for the illegal logging and land-grabbing which took place when PT HIP was owned by the Kayu Lapis Indonesia group, and so can present a respectable image without facing up to its duties towards the community. However new land conflicts are also continuing to emerge as PT HIP expands further.

In March 2014, Chinese company **COFCO** bought a majority stake in Noble's agribusiness division, as part of its aim to expand sufficiently to bypass the control of large western companies on the agricultural commodities business.⁵

PT Inti Kebun Sejahtera is the other Kayu Lapis Indonesia group company that is already operational, although planting has not been on such a large scale as PT Henrison Inti Persada. PT IKS was originally only given cultivation rights (HGU) on 4000 hectares, but it is likely that this will have increased after the forestry department agreed to release an extra 19,665 hectares in September 2012. In 2014, villagers were still waiting for PT Inti Kebun Sejahtera to fulfil promises to develop smallholdings for local people.⁶

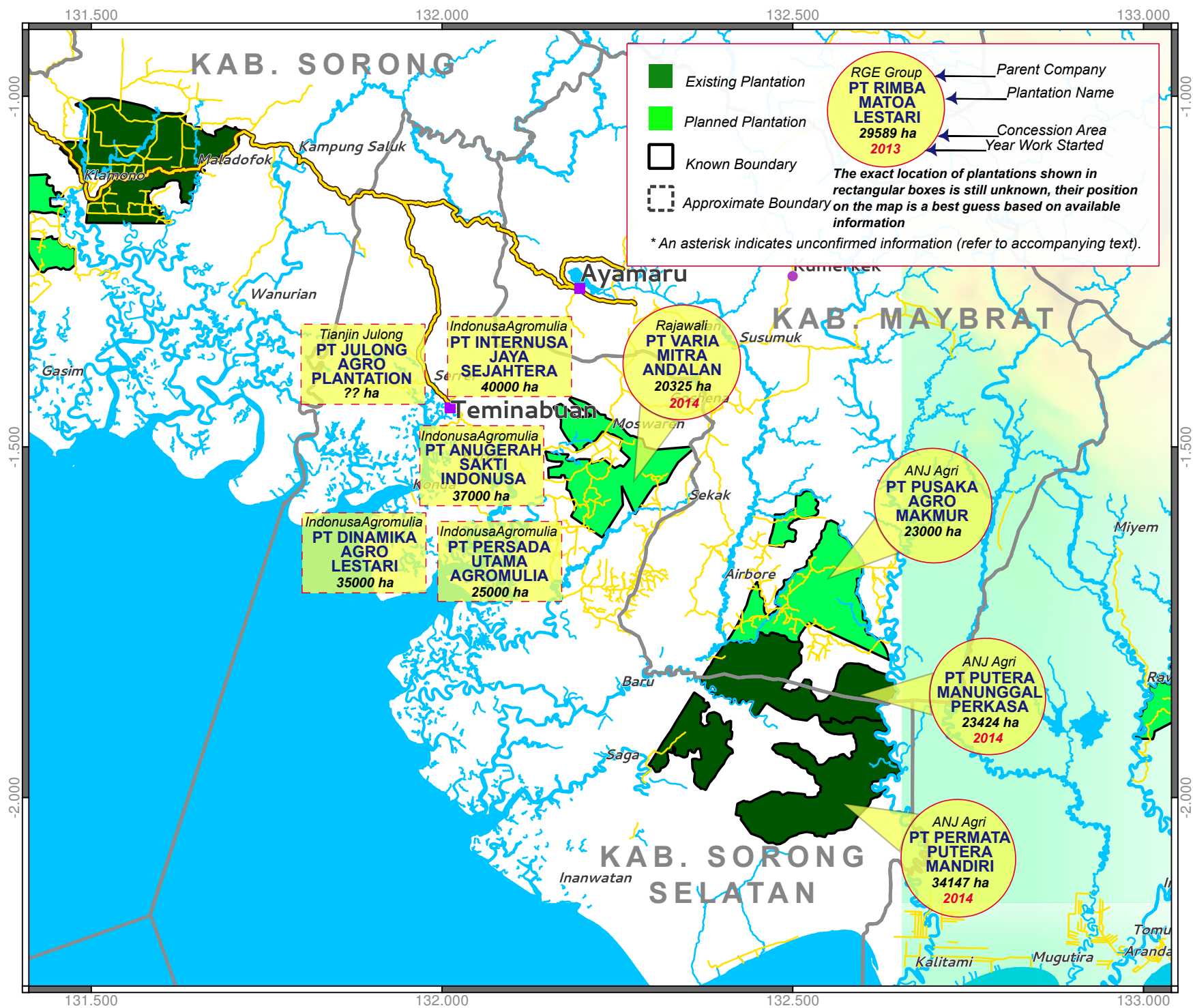


Other Kayu Lapis companies are waiting in the wings. The forestry ministry has released 14,377 hectares of land for **PT Inti Kebun Lestari**, from an original location permit area of 34,000 hectares. **PT Inti Kebun Sawit** also has received agreement-in-principle from the forestry ministry (location permit size 37,000 hectares) and **PT Inti Kebun Makmur** also has a 20,000 hectare location permit for oil palm, but has not yet applied for the forest release permit.

Other companies are also pursuing permits for oil palm. **PT Papua Lestari Abadi** and **PT Sorong Agro Sawitindo** are local registered companies which have been awarded in-principle permits to release state forest land of 15,631 and 18,070 hectares respectively. Their address suggests these two companies may be part of a group called the **Mega Masindo Group** which states on its website⁷ that it is involved in “Heavy equipment, mining and palm oil plantation.” PT Papua Lestari Abadi was also given a 10,000 hectare concession to explore for coal mining in the Sorong area in 2009, and the Mega Masindo Group has several other coal exploration permits in Mimika Regency. Little is known about the ownership of this company, which has described itself in job adverts as a foreign company.

Three more oil palm companies are listed on the Sorong Regency website, which doesn't give any details about the location or size of the plantations. The three companies are **PT Mega Mustika Plantation**, **PT Cipta Papua Plantation** and **PT Semesta Bintang Sentosa**.⁸ In late 2014, PT Mega Mustika Plantation applied for 9835 hectares of forest to be released from the state forest estate, while PT Cipta Papua Plantation applied for another 15,971 hectares, both in Sorong City (which is administratively separate from Sorong Regency).





Kabupaten SORONG SELATAN, MAYBRAT

Scale 1:800,000

SOUTH SORONG, MAYBRAT:

The public and private faces of the oil palm industry



Like Sorong Regency, which it was split off from in 2002, the logged-over forests of South Sorong are a prime target for the oil palm industry. Three oil palm companies have well-advanced plans to start new plantations, and several more are still applying for permits.

The story of PT Permata Putera Mandiri and PT Putera Manunggal Perkasa⁹ gives a good insight into the dynamics of how oil palm companies are conquering the Papuan frontier. These two companies were bought in 2013 by **Austindo Nusantara Jaya Group (ANJ Agri)¹⁰**. At the time of sale, both companies had most of the key permits necessary and had succeeded in releasing land from the state forest estate. Clearance work started on both these plantations in late 2013 or early 2014¹¹.

ANJ Agri is a 'respectable' company, listed on the Indonesian stock exchange and a member of the Roundtable on Sustainable Palm Oil. It already has a presence in

South Sorong through its sago plantation. As was the case with the Noble Group in Sorong, ANJ Agri chose to buy existing companies, rather than go through the messy (and frequently not-so-respectable) process of applying for permits itself.

The previous owner of the two subsidiaries was quite a different kind of company, one that operates very discreetly behind the scenes. To the best of our knowledge, the name of the parent company is PT Pusaka Agro Sejahtera, but it doesn't exactly go out of the way to maintain a public profile. It operates from a smart townhouse in Jakarta, with not even a plaque in the entrance to indicate who works there. This company has been attempting to get land for plantations across Papua since at least 2007. It is believed to own companies processing plantation permits in Mimika (PT Tunas Agung Sejahtera) and Jayapura-Sarmi (PT Permata Nusa Mandiri). Previously it also had location permits in the Merauke area and a forestry concession in Obi island, North Maluku¹². It may also have mining interests.

To the north of the PT Permata Putera Mandiri and PT Putera Manunggal Perkasa concessions, PT Pusaka Agro Sejahtera also obtained the permits for another subsidiary, **PT Pusaka Agro Makmur**, in adjacent Maybrat Regency. State forest lands were released for PT Pusaka Agro Makmur's plantation in January 2014. Eventually in October 2014 ANJ Agri also bought PT Pusaka Agro Makmur¹³, giving the company a band of 82,468 hectares of oil palm concessions along with its 40,000 hectares of sago plantations.

ANJ Agri is controlled by Indonesian-Australian businessman George Tahija, whose family has a long history in Papua. His father Julius Tahija was a key link supporting Freeport's initial investment in Papua in the 1960s. George continued his interest in the mining industry as a commissioner of Freeport Indonesia and also as President Director of ARC Exploration, which has been exploring for gold in West Papua¹⁴, until he resigned his directorship in May 2014¹⁵. He also owns a private energy company, PT Puncak Jaya Power, which generates 100MW of electricity and powers the Freeport mine.

Despite his involvement in these destructive industries, George Tahija also presents himself as an environmentalist and nature lover. As well as climbing some of the world's highest peaks and writing books about his travels¹⁶, he is an advisor to The



Nature Conservancy¹⁷, and founded his own environmental NGO, the Coral Triangle Center.¹⁸

Another oil palm company which has recently started planting, **PT Varia Mitra Andalan**, has seen a few changes in its operating structure in 2014. Until July it was reportedly owned by the **Green Eagle Group**¹⁹. This was a joint venture between the **Rajawali Group**, (Peter Sondakh's empire which amongst many other enterprises also operates sugar cane plantations near Merauke) and the **Louis Dreyfus Group**, a French commodity-trading multinational. However, Louis Dreyfus then pulled out of the partnership²⁰. In September 2014, publicly listed **BW Plantations** announced a rights issue to raise the capital to buy Green Eagle Group. However, Rajawali is still the principal owner, as it was at the same time buying up a majority of the shares of BW Plantations.²¹

PT Varia Mitra Andalan holds a 23,000 hectare location permit in Moswaren and Wayar Districts, and the forestry ministry has agreed to release 20,325 hectares for the plantation. Local media reported that the plantation was officially opened on 19th December 2014 when the bupati planted the first oil palm seedling.²²

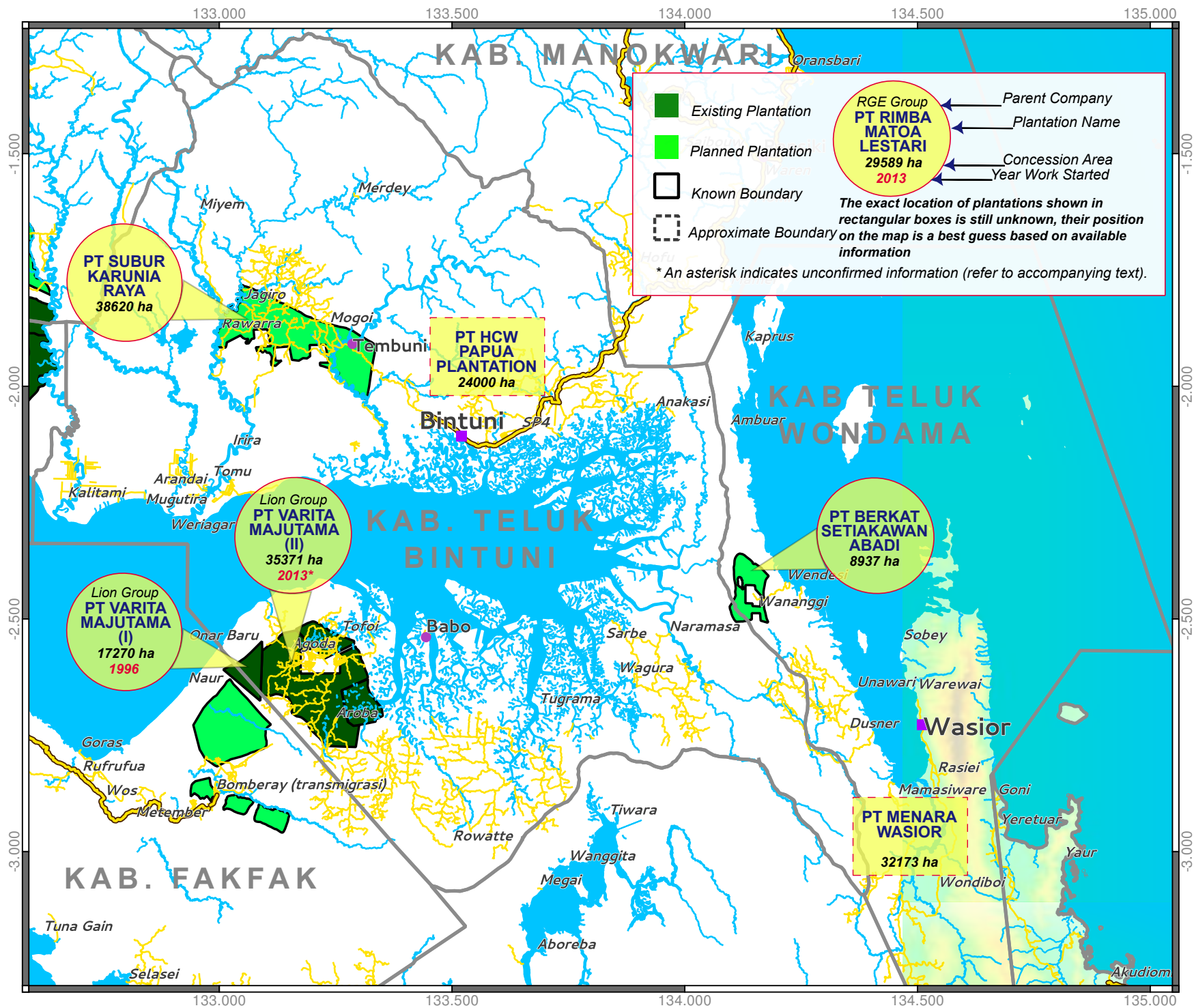
The new plantation is located in the old logging concession of PT Bangun Kayu Irian. Local activists in Sorong have related how the logging company suddenly left the area in 1997, leaving cut logs lying in the forest. Then in 2008, Rajawali started

logging in the area, taking over the still-active permit of PT Bangun Kayu Irian, presumably opening the way to a later oil palm plantation.²³

The **Indonusa Agromulia Group** also has location permits for four subsidiary companies in South Sorong: **PT Anugerah Sakti Internusa**, **PT Internusa Jaya Sejahtera**, **PT Dinamika Agro Lestari**, **PT Persada Utama Agromulia**. The 137,000 hectares of land would be an ambitious expansion for this relative newcomer in the oil palm industry, which also has property interests in Jakarta²⁴.

Finally, a Chinese company, the **Tianjin Julong Group**, is also reportedly aiming to start a plantation in Saifi and Seremuk districts, through its subsidiary **Julong Agro Plantation**, according to information from NGOs active in the area. There is no information whether this company has successfully obtained any permits to operate in Papua. The Tianjin Julong Group is a commodities trading company, which claims on its website to be the largest importer of crude palm oil into China, but has only ventured into developing its own oil palm plantations since 2006. Its existing plantations are in Kalimantan, and it plans to expand.²⁵ One of its Central Kalimantan subsidiaries, PT Graha Inti Jaya has caused problems for the Ngaju Dayak people in the Kapuas area. There the company has cleared food-producing land and the community's rubber farms, but failed to give a just level of compensation.

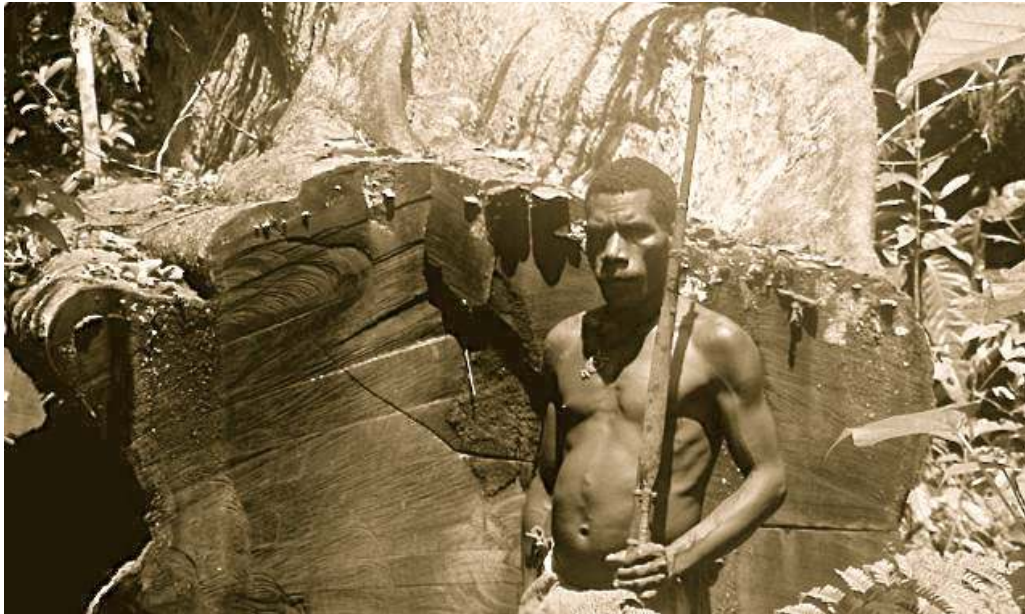




Kabupaten
TELUK
BINTUNI,
TELUK
WONDAMA
 Scale 1:1,200,000

TELUK BINTUNI, TELUK WONDAMA:

West Papua's new industrial landscape: oil and gas below ground, palm oil above ground



The low-lying Bintuni bay is the centre of oil and gas development in West Papua, with BP, Genting Oil and Eni Oil all developing or exploring subterranean reserves. BP's Tangguh natural gas project is huge, with two trains up and running and a third being built. Together with the area around Sorong, Bintuni Bay has been designated as a key node in oil and gas development in Papua in the Governments Masterplan for the Acceleration and Expansion of Development (MP3EI). This plan also promotes downstream processing based around these primary industries, and several multinational and domestic companies have declared an interest. Ferrostaal from Germany and LG from Korea, together with local partners, both want to develop methanol plants, and the Indonesia state-owned fertilizer company PT Pupuk Indonesia is also lining up to invest.²⁶ Much of the eastern part of Bintuni Regency is also covered with coal mining concessions, all still at the exploration

stage.

This means that Bintuni Bay, once a remote area covered with rainforest and mangrove forest, is in the process of being converted into an industrial landscape. Part of this will come from the industrial-scale cultivation of oil palm, because nowadays, as well as drilling for oil and gas, oil can also be grown on trees.

PT Varita Majutama was the first company to move in - in 1996 permission was given to develop three blocks of 6460, 5510 and 5300 hectares respectively. At that time the company was owned by the Jayanti Group, that was already operating a logging concession in the same area, under subsidiary PT Agoda Rimba Irian. Ownership of the company was transferred several times, to PT Karya Teknik and then PT Expedisi. Finally in 2012, 100% of the shares were bought by a Malaysian company, **The Lion Group**²⁷.

Since 1996 the company has been in conflict with the local community after it obtained the signatures of seven supposed clan chiefs, who were convinced to sign over rights to between 15,000 and 40,000 hectares of land (according to differing accounts) for the paltry sum of 10 million Rupiah. Some of the men were elderly and could not see the documents or were illiterate, and there is also some doubt that they were the actual customary land rights holders for the land in question.²⁸

PT Varita Majutama showed a similar attitude in 2009, when it compensated 100 million Rupiah for rights to 3300 hectares of land, 30,000 Rupiah per hectare. It also imposed the condition that the community would not be able to demand the land back before their grandchildren's generation²⁹.

The community around Tofoi has continued to demand adequate compensation for their loss, including for timber, sacred sites that have been destroyed, animals that have fled the area and incidents of intimidation from the security forces against the community. In 2007 and 2012 they have taken the initiative to blockade the plantation as the company continues to ignore their request³⁰.



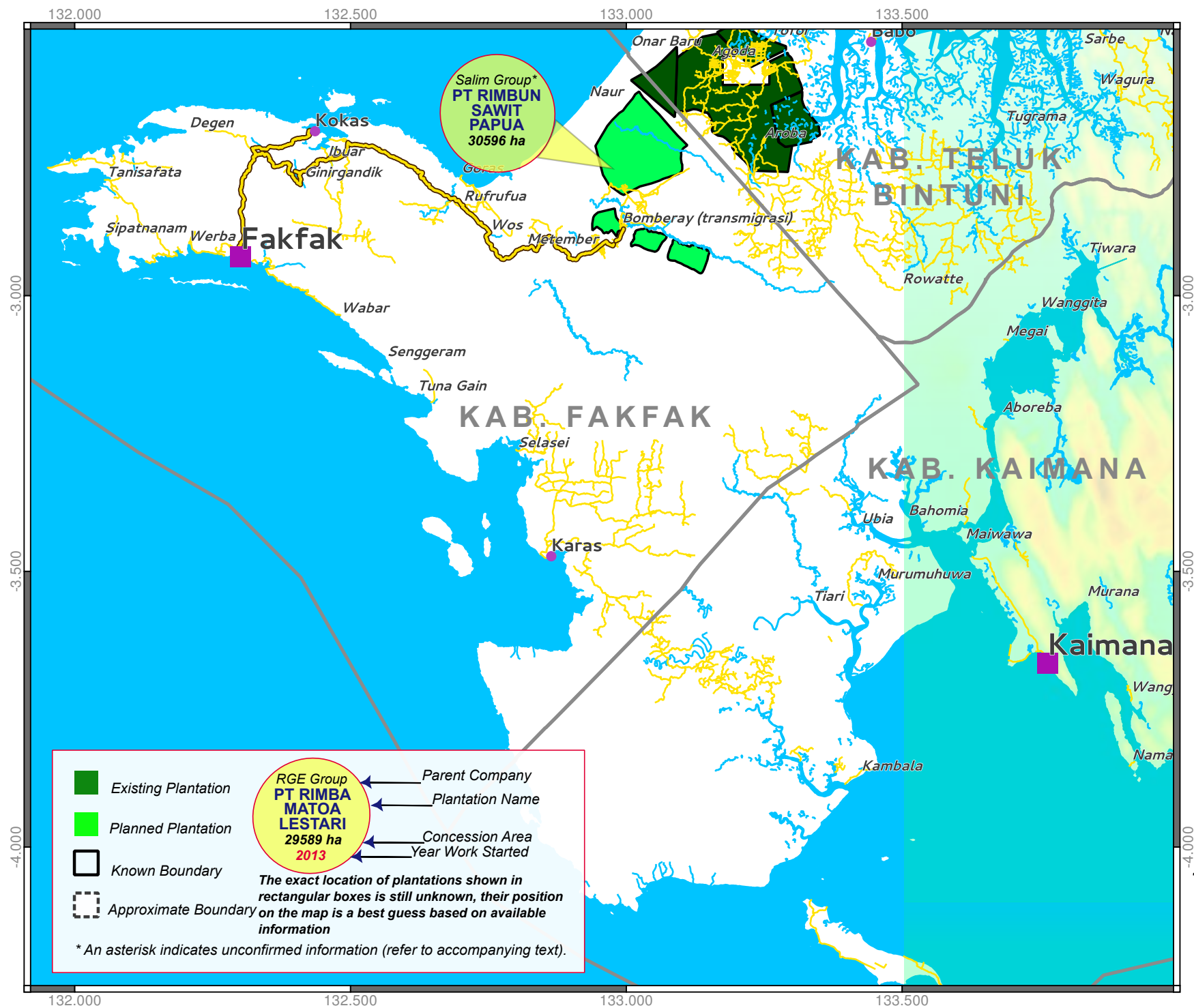
PT Varita Majutama nevertheless continues to expand. In January 2013 another 35,371 hectares of land were released by the forestry ministry to be planted with oil palm. The indigenous people around Tofoi also have to contend with two oil companies operating on their land, Genting Oil from Malaysia and Eni Oil from Italy, and those companies bring further problems, including an increased police and military presence. For example in 2012, the Kamisopa and Sodefa clans disputed the boundaries of land, until a fight broke out. Police brought criminal accusations against one man, and then forced his brother to sign a document handing over rights to their ancestral land to Genting Oil – threatening that if he didn't, his younger brother would face five years in prison.³¹

Another company, **PT Subur Karunia Raya**, is also planning an oil palm plantation in the northern part of Bintuni Bay, extending over Mayado, Biscoop, Aranday and Tembuni districts. Although this company obtained an in-principle permit to release state forest lands for their plantation back in 2011, no recent news confirms the progress to date.

News emerged recently that four landowning clans (Iba, Menci, Hornas and Irai) had handed the rights to 24,000 hectares to an oil palm company **PT HCW Papua Plantation**. That company has currently been unable to obtain the release of the land they seek from the forestry ministry, but has the right to try again. We have not been able to establish who owns PT HCW Papua Plantation. Staff at their registered address in North Jakarta (the same address as PT Mega Mustika Plantation and PT Cipta Papua Plantation which are trying to establish plantations in Sorong) refused to give any information whatsoever about the company, and no signboards gave any further clues.

In early March 2015, another prospective investor named **PT Menara Wasior** announced its intention to develop 32,173 hectares of oil palm and a factory with a capacity of 2x90 tons of fresh fruit bunches / hour, to be located in the Kuriwamesa and Naikere districts, Wondama Bay regency. The company holds a location permit from the regency head and an in-principle permit from the forestry ministry. The Naikere sub-district head said that he had heard of the plan, but the company had never presented its plans to the local people

Also in Teluk Wondama Regency, to the east of Bintuni Bay, a company named **PT Berkat Setiakawan Abadi** was granted a forest release permit for 8937 hectares of land in January 2014, but this company will plant rubber, not oil palm.



Kabupaten
FAKFAK

Scale 1:1,000,000

FAKFAK: *Big business holds the reins of agricultural expansion*



One company **PT Rimbun Sawit Papua** is planning an oil palm **plantation** in Otoweri and Mbina Jaya villages in Bomberay District. This area is just across the Regency border from the main industrial zone in Bintuni Bay Regency, and in the same way is facing oil palm and gas development simultaneously, as it also lies within the Kasuari block where Genting Oil is exploring for gas.

PT Rimbun Sawit Papua may be in a position to start clearing forest soon. In January 2014 the Forestry Ministry approved the release of 25,286 hectares of state forest. Additionally PT Rimbun Sawit Papua's location permit includes 7,581 hectares that are already classified as 'other use areas', in and around the Bomberay transmigration clusters.

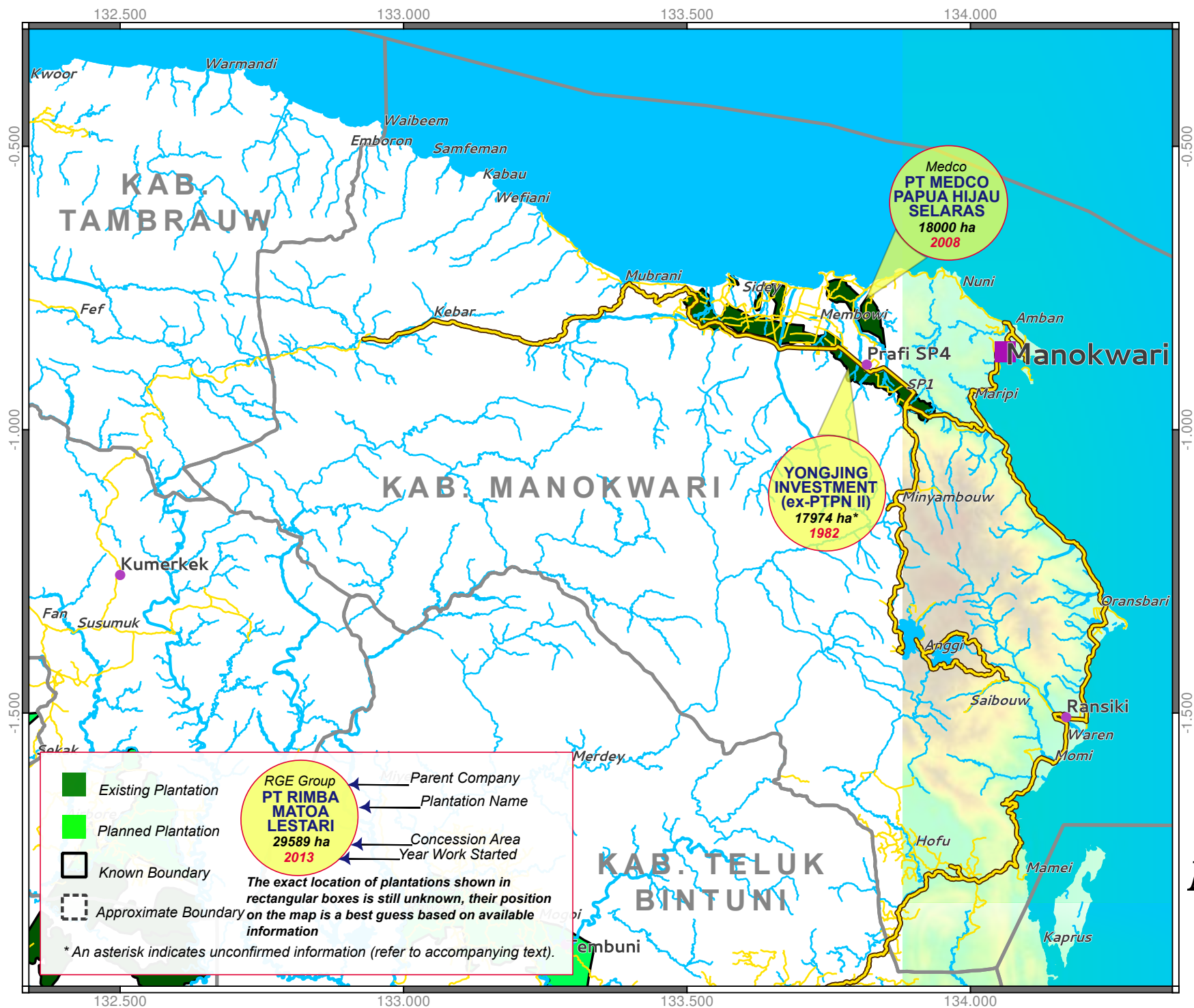
The company's address in its Environmental Impact Assessment is in the Duta

Merlin Office Complex on Jalan Gajah Madah, Jakarta. This is the same address as several subsidiary companies of Salim Ivomas Pratama, which is owned by **Indofood Agri Resources**, part of the **Salim Group**. The Director of PT Rimbun Sawit Papua is Jef Setiawan Winata, a businessman from Bandung who has operated several businesses in the Fakfak area for many years.

Although PT Rimbun Sawit Papua has not yet begun planting, there have already been reports of police repression when local people have expressed their opposition to oil palm. In February 2012, local media reported that ten people were arrested in Fakfak city after intercepting a team from the agriculture ministry that were coming to observe land for oil palm development in the Bomberay area.³²

Local activists fear that this oil palm plantation may be one part of a wider plan to develop agribusiness across much of the regency.³³ In the Bomberay area near PT Rimbun Sawit Papua's concession, the plan would be for an agricultural city (agropolitan), and large-scale cattle farming. Other potential plans include large corn and industrial forestry plantations. However, details of particular companies that may be involved are yet to be confirmed.

In Kaimana Regency, which borders Fakfak, two companies applied for permission to release land from the state forest estate in July 2013: **PT Cipta Palm Sejati** (49,000 ha) and **PT Agro Mulya Lestari** (50,500 ha). Their application was not successful and it is not known whether these two companies are still pursuing their investment plans. We have no further information about any companies which might have managed to obtain permits to plant oil palm in Kaimana.



Kabupaten MANOKWARI, TAMBRAUW

Scale 1:1,000,000

MANOKWARI, TAMBRAUW: *When land management norms are ignored, flooding and conflict can follow*



Manokwari Regency is mostly mountainous and unsuitable for oil palm, but at the base of the mountains one long plain runs from near Manokwari city westwards for about 100km, meeting the coast along its way. It is here that the two operational oil palm plantations are located. State-owned **PTPN II** was the first company to plant oil palm in Papua, moving into Manokwari in 1980. Planting oil palm in this area was intended to facilitate the migration of farmers from other parts of Indonesia such as Java and West Timor. Because of this, a large part of the plantation is a smallholder program, where mostly transmigrant families, as well as a few Papuans, were each allocated two hectares of oil palm, selling their produce to the company.

PTPN II is currently coming to the end of its licence to operate, and the future of the land remains uncertain. Some in the local government in Manokwari reportedly came up with a plan to take it over as a local-government owned business (the local government already operates a small amount of oil palm in the area), but this was never realised. Instead PTPN II auctioned off 3000 hectares of oil palm which they owned the cultivation rights for, as well as their factory, to a Chinese company, **PT Yong Jing Investment** for 87.3 billion Rupiah. The auction was somewhat irregular and imprecudural. It was only announced ten days before it happened, which meant that PT Yong Jing Investment, the sole bidder, was able to acquire the assets for far below their market value of 114 billion Rupiah, as calculated by PT Sucofindo. An agreement to sell the land and assets has surfaced, signed by the director of PT Yong Jing investment and the director of PADOMA, a company owned by the West Papua Provincial Government.³⁴

The government and PTPN II never informed local residents about this sale and transfer of assets. Transferring the cultivation rights without the knowledge of the community violates important agreements. Local indigenous communities still have customary rights over the plantation land and indeed in many cases have never received fair compensation for the land, nor the promised social facilities which were supposed to have been built. What's more, the period of tenure guaranteed by PTPN II's cultivation rights has actually expired.

On the other hand transmigrant smallholders are also anxious because in many cases their claim to the land is not secure. Many have never been issued a certificate for their land, meaning they have no guarantees whatsoever. The root of the problem lies with the government transmigration scheme itself, since the government never resolved the land rights issue with the indigenous landowners. The government just took indigenous land to be cultivated by transmigrants, never arranged a dialogue to resolve the issue, and never gave compensation. This has often become the trigger for tension between transmigrant and indigenous communities, and between the community as a whole and the government and company.³⁵

Medco was the second company to start a plantation in 2008, adjacent to PTPN II's

plantation in Sidey and Masni districts, and the plantation is operated by its subsidiary company **PT Medcopapua Hijau Selaras**. Medco started planting on land which wasn't classified as state forest, including land taken over from PTPN II, and then the forestry ministry also released an additional 6791 hectares of state forest land in 2012. The company is reportedly still trying to expand.

Medco bought land from the village chiefs who own the customary land rights at a flat rate of 450,000 rupiah per hectare for a 30 year lease. While this amount may be higher than other plantation companies in Papua have given, it is nevertheless a tiny fraction of the economic benefits that the forest could provide to the community over that time. In November 2012 media reported that local indigenous people closed down Medco's office, bringing the company to a standstill. They were objecting that the company had not fulfilled its promises to provide opportunities to local Papuans³⁶.



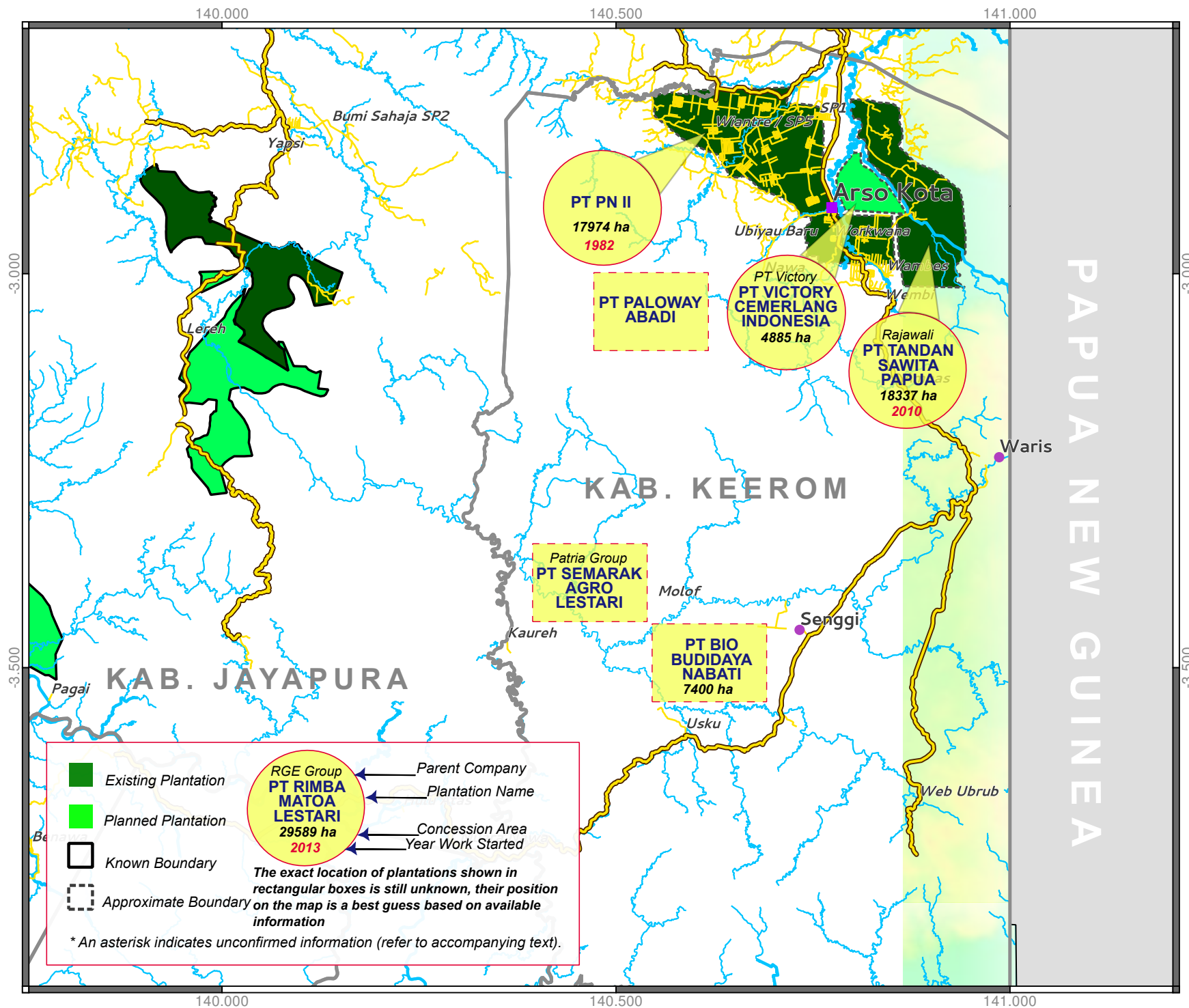
Since Medco started planting, residents in the area of Sungai Wariori have been complaining of increasingly frequent flooding. Then in March 2014, a huge flood swept through the area, severely damaging scores of houses and causing hundreds of people to be evacuated. Material losses were estimated to have reached billions of Rupiah. Medco had planted oil palm right up to the boundaries of the river,

violating flood protection regulations which require a buffer zone to be maintained.³⁷

The new Tambrau Regency was split off from Manokwari and Sorong in 2008. Currently there are not believed to be any oil palm companies active in the area. Previously, a company called PT Bintuni Agro Prima Perkasa had obtained an in-principle permit for almost 40,000 hectares in Abun and Kebar districts. PT Papua Sawita Raya (Rajawali) also had a location permit from the previous Sorong administration in Moraid. Both are now thought to be inactive, and in both cases the districts they are located in have been the subject of dispute between rival local governments wanting to claim control. It is hard to avoid the conclusion that these disputes are due to the different administrations wishing to benefit from any resource industries which might be located in the area, potentially including oil palm.

In the case of Moraid, the Sorong Regency has maintained its claim over the territory, including losing an appeal in the Constitutional Court, and a new law in 2013 clarified that Moraid District was indeed part of Tambrau.³⁸ Different villages supported different regencies and there were fears that violence might break out around the tie of the 2014 legislative elections. Indeed, violent incidents did occur, at one point the district chief was beaten up.³⁹ On the Manokwari side, a plan was hatched to divide Tambrau Regency once more, with Kebar District entering a new West Manokwari Regency.





Kabupaten KEEROM

Scale 1:700,000

KEEROM: *Indigenous people squeezed out as transmigration policy secures the border*

Keerom Regency lies along the border with Papua New Guinea, in the hinterland of Jayapura city. In the early 1980s plans were made to develop the Arso area for transmigration. As in Manokwari, a key element of this was an oil palm plantation operated by state owned company PTPN-II. Much of the oil palm land would be farmed by the new migrants - a scheme known as PIR.

Large amounts of the indigenous people's land was taken for this, with local people having no choice to object for fear of being labelled as separatist OPM fighters - the conflict between the Papuan guerrillas and the Indonesian state was rather hot at the time⁴⁰. PTPN II was no stranger to using these tactics of fear which had become legitimate throughout the Suharto dictatorship – previously in the 1970s it had acquired most of its land near its home base in North Sumatra by using the military to seize farmers' land, threatening them with being treated as communists.

PTPN II in Keerom was never successful economically, the transmigrant farmers who participated in the PIR scheme struggled to make a living, and the indigenous Papuans even more so⁴¹. However, the plantation did serve its purpose as a pioneer as Arso became a thriving agricultural area. However the overwhelming majority of the population are newcomers to the area, and indigenous Papuans are severely economically marginalised⁴².

In 2007 PTPN II estimated that its factory processed fruit from 8339 hectares of land. This includes 1068 hectares which is currently farmed by **PT Bumi Irian Perkasa**, a local company which also takes on construction contracts such as the Jayapura-Sentani road widening project.

In 2010 **PT Tandan Sawita Papua** became the second plantation company to clear the forests of Keerom, obtaining a 26,300 hectare location permit, which later became a plantation permit for 18,337 hectares of oil palm, . This company is operated by the Green Eagle Group, which until recently was a joint venture between the Rajawali corporation and the French multinational Louis Dreyfus Commodities. Louis Dreyfus pulled out in July 2014. The Green Eagle Group was then bought by publicly-listed BW Plantations, but Rajawali has maintained its overall control as it also bought a majority share in BW Plantations.⁴³

Many reports indicate that the experience with this new company has been no less

bitter for Keerom's indigenous population than PTPN II was previously. First of all, the money given in exchange for ancestral land was only an average of 384,000 Rupiah per hectare,⁴⁴ after negotiations only with the kereth (clan) leaders and other male community leaders.⁴⁵ Then after four years of operation, it appears that the company has not kept its promises to develop health and education facilities.⁴⁶ Working conditions and pay have also been a concern for PT Tandan Sawita Papua's employees⁴⁷. After demonstrations about the reduction in pay, two employees were summoned to the police station in April 2014, after which they were held in custody for two weeks. On their release they were made to sign statements accepting their dismissal from the company and saying that they would make no further demands.⁴⁸



Papuans who relied on the forest for food were increasingly squeezed out by these two companies and the growth of the transmigration zone. They have had to defend the remaining pieces of forest. One such area is known as the golden triangle between Arso Kota, Workwama and Wambes. Previously local people have resorted to burning

logging camps to try to save the forest⁴⁹. Now a company that has operated a timber business in the area for several years, **PT Victory Cemerlang Indonesia Wood Industries**, has obtained a permit for a 4885 hectare oil palm plantation. There is strong local opposition.⁵⁰

PT Paloway Abadi has had a permit in the area for some time, probably in Skanto District, and may even have started planting. However, it was not possible to find further information about its operations.

While Arso becomes more developed, further inland in Keerom is still isolated and forested, mostly still primary forest. However, there are plans to extend the transmigration zone to this area. A 2009 government policy for 'Integrated Independent Cities' was a strategic plan to consolidate Indonesia's presence along its land borders. One of these was designated in Senggi district in the south of Keerom⁵¹. Still-forested land was released from the state forest estate, and the land was designated for settlement when the Papua structure plan was published in 2014.

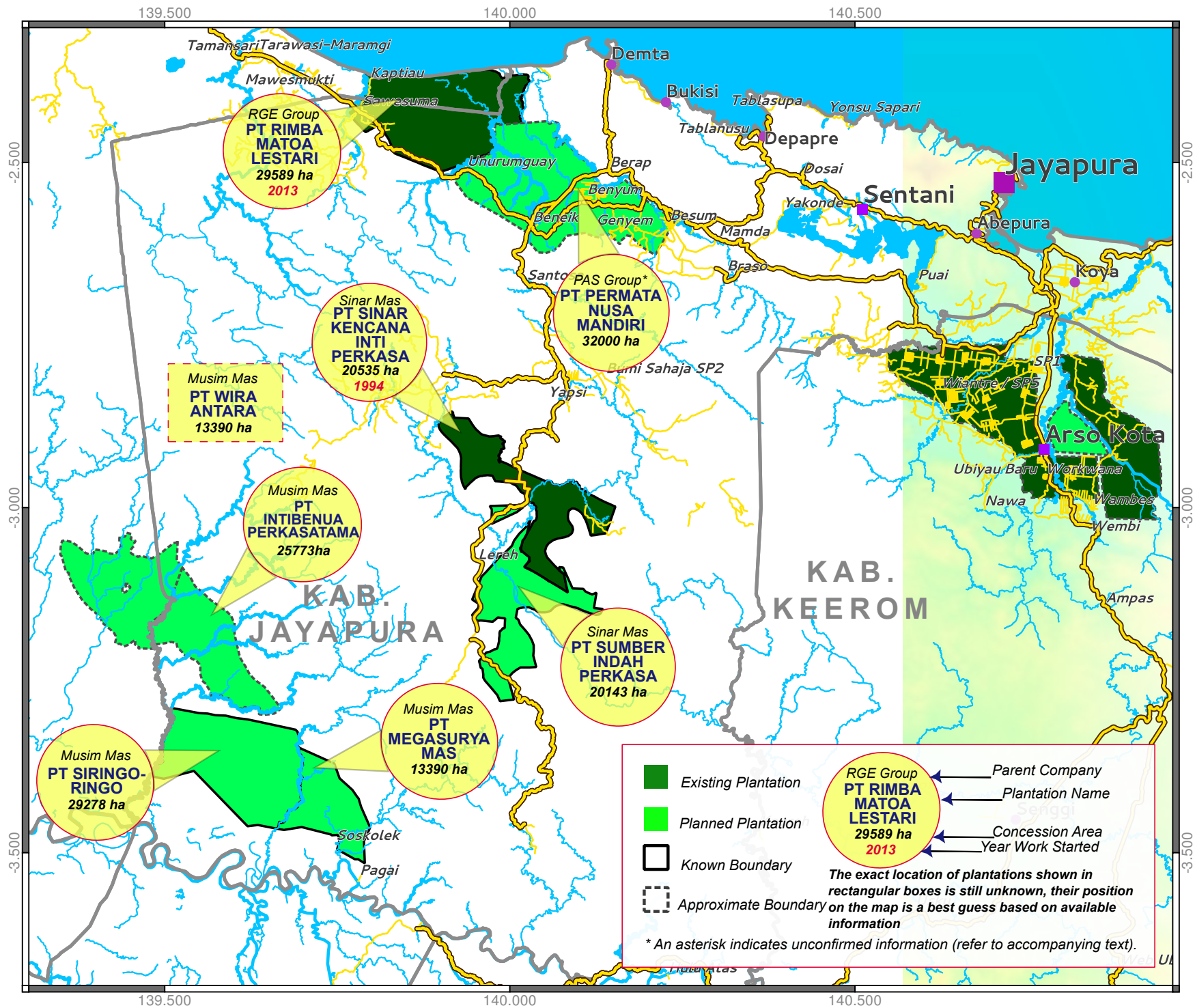
Oil palm will of course be part of this new development, just like in Arso and most of the other transmigration areas in Papua. Two company names have been mentioned in media reports as connected with oil palm development in this area⁵²: **PT Semarak Agri Lestari** is part of a company with a logging concession in the same area, PT Semarak Dharma Timber. Owned by Jemmy Tamstil and Fery Tamstil, it is sometimes known as the Patria Group. The other company mentioned, **PT Bio Budidaya Nabati**, is reportedly planning to plant 5000 hectares of oil palm from a 7400 hectare permit area. PT Bio Budidaya Nabati is registered to the same address as PT Bumi Irian Perkasa, the contracting company that also operates 1068 hectares of oil palm in PTPN's area. However, when contacted, PT Bumi Irian Perkasa said there was no link. Further information about the two companies and their plans is still lacking.

All these developments form a corridor along the border which will inevitably become dominated by transmigrants, and this will also fulfil the military's objective to place this area where OPM guerrillas still operate firmly under Indonesian control.

However at the moment there is still one gap where there are no plans for new plantations. The people of Waris district made it very clear that they did not want oil palm on their land, mobilising at an early stage, before any permits were issued to prospective investors. The government had announced that the area would be reserved for oil palm, but local people, aware of the bitter experience of Papuans living close to PTPN II and PT Tandan Sawita Papua, as well as the effect of illegal loggers in their own area, made it very clear that they were opposed to oil palm

development⁵³. It appears that so far, their wishes have been heeded and area has not been allocated to any oil palm companies. A show of opposition early, before government and companies are really committed to the investment, stands much more chance of being effective. However, this is only possible if local people have access to information about investment plans.





Kabupaten JAYAPURA

Scale 1:800,000

JAYAPURA: *The oil palm industry is a serious threat to the Mamberamo Valley*



Jayapura Regency extends from Kake Sentani all the way to the Mamberamo River in the far interior. It could be one of the next hotspots for oil palm plantations. Two of Indonesia's most well-known agribusiness companies have already established plantations there, and a third may follow as it has several concessions in a remote area of undisturbed primary forest. Other smaller companies are looking to the more populated Grime Valley, hoping to transform the area from small-scale cocoa production into huge oil palm estates.

PT Sinar Kencana Inti Perkasa is a subsidiary of the **Sinar Mas Group**, and one of the first private oil palm companies to enter Papua in 1994. It's presence has long been a bone of contention with the Kaureh-Yapsi people. When the company arrived, it paid just 11 million rupiah to each clan, and promised to give 0.5 percent of the value of palm oil the plantation produces back to the community, but when

this is shared between the different clans it turns out to be negligible.⁵⁴ Resentment rose to a head in 2011, when the community closed off access to the company's operation, demanding 50 billion Rupiah compensation for 12000 of the 22000 hectares.⁵⁵ Another blockade took place in 2012.⁵⁶

Sinar Mas also planned to develop an adjacent area for another plantation through its subsidiary **PT Sumber Indah Perkasa**, but has now been persuaded not to go ahead with the plans which would contravene the Forest Conservation Policy Sinar Mas's agribusiness division **Golden Agri Resources** signed up to in 2011.⁵⁷

The area concerned is mostly primary forest, which since 2011 has supposedly been protected by a Presidential Instruction which placed a ⁵⁸moratorium on new permits. However, as Sinar Mas had already received in-principle approval from the forestry ministry to use the land, they could lobby for it to be removed from the map of areas covered by the moratorium, and the land was also reclassified as 'other use area' in 2012 to accommodating Sinar Mas's plans.⁵⁹ That means that despite Sinar Mas's pledge, the land still remains outside the moratorium area and outside the state forest estate, meaning that it is now much easier for local government to grant permits to another company on the same land, or even for Sinar Mas to sell the concession to a company with less stringent policies.

The other operational plantation in Jayapura Regency is **PT Rimba Matoa Lestari**, part of the Agrindo group which is in turn linked to the giant **Raja Garuda Mas Group**. Although the company applied for its first permits in the area in the 1990s, operations on the ground have only commenced recently. Planting has reportedly started within the last couple of years, but no reports have been received about any conflicts with local indigenous people.

Another of the biggest plantation companies in Indonesia, **Musim Mas**, could be the next company to move into Jayapura's forests. Two subsidiaries have all the necessary permits to start operations in the Kaureh district, in a remote area near the great Mamberamo River which flows parallel to the coast, draining much of the northern part of West Papua. This low-lying basin is the Amazon of Papua, still mostly untouched by development or larger settlements. The subsidiary companies



are **PT Siringo-Ringo** (29,278 hectares) and **PT Megasurya Mas** (13,389 hectares).

Greenpeace has reported that the two plantations are heavily forested and border on the Mamberama Foja wildlife conservation area. Several rare species have been found within the concessions including the critically endangered golden mantle tree kangaroo (*Dendrolagus pulcherrimus*), the endangered Cantor's giant softshell turtle (*Pelochelys cantorii*) and a palm cockatoo (*Probosciger aterrimus*).⁶⁰

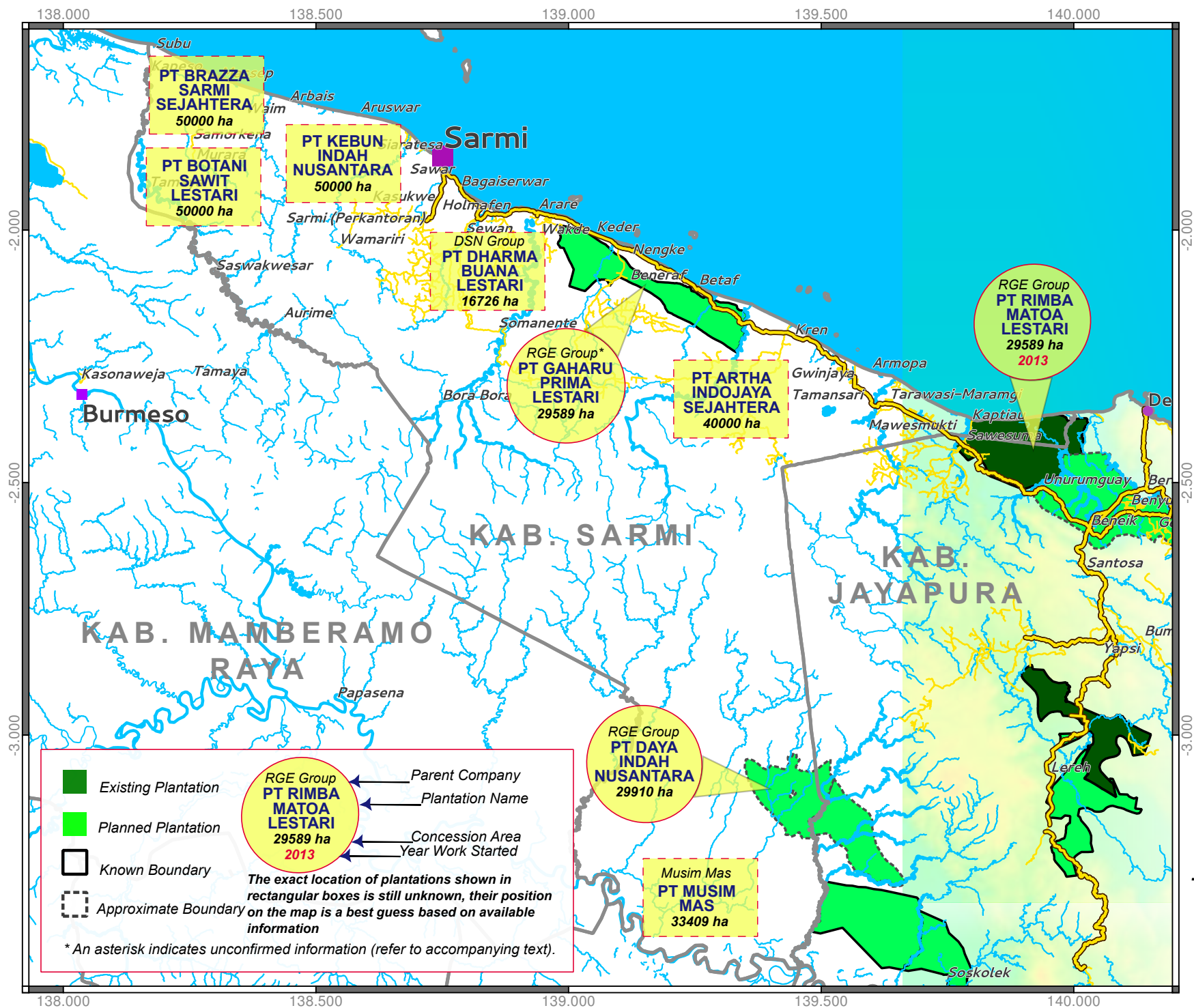
Another two Musim Mas subsidiaries have been applying for permits in the same area, but at the time of writing had been denied permission by the forestry ministry. **PT Intibenua Perkasatama** is applying for 25,773 hectares while **PT Wira Antara** has asked for 31,561 hectares. PT Intibenua Perkasatama appealed to the forestry ministry in May 2013, claiming that the land should not be covered by Indonesia's moratorium on new forestry permits in primary forest or peatland, because it was secondary forest with mineral soils. However, this seems somewhat unusual as there is no evidence that any logging company has officially operated in the area in recent decades. That area was duly excised from the moratorium in December 2013.⁶¹ Because it would mean opening up a remote and ecologically rich

area, with agribusiness development also inevitably increasing pressure on the surrounding rainforests in the Mamberamo Basin, Musim Mas's plantations have to be considered one of the most ecologically damaging proposals for Papua right now.

However, the fate of this area may have changed in December 2014 as the Musim Mas Group became the latest big plantation company to sign up to a sustainability policy, which commits all its subsidiaries to avoid developing plantations in high conservation value or high carbon stock forests. This means that the company will most likely not continue with its plans after the location permits reach the end of their three-year validity in March 2015. Whilst undoubtedly positive news for the forest, it will leave the land in a very similar position to the PT Sumber Indah Perkasa plantation: the company pulls out for sustainability reasons, but it is much easier for a new company to get permits in the same area, as the land has already been released from the state forest estate and excised from the area covered by the moratorium.

The valley of the Grime River, which flows westwards from near Lake Sentani towards the sea, is another prime site for oil palm expansion. This area is inhabited by both indigenous Papuans and transmigrants, many of which are cocoa farmers. Farming cocoa trees is not without its problems, but at least individual farmers have control over their own livelihoods. Oil palm is a threat to the cocoa industry and also these farmers' autonomy. Even the head of the Jayapura farming agency was quoted in one article as saying "If oil palm comes into Papua, the story is over for cocoa".⁶²

One company planning to move into the Grime Valley area is **PT Permata Nusa Mandiri**, believed to be a subsidiary of shadowy company **Pusaka Agro Sejahtera Group**, (see the entry on Pusaka Agro Makmur in Maybrat for further details). PT Permata Nusa Mandiri is also reported to have permits in nearby areas of Sarmi Regency, but it is not clear whether this is the same permit, or two separate ones.



Kabupaten SARMI

Scale 1:1,100,000

SARMI: *A cluster of oil palm permits nestle against the boundary of protected forest*



Sarmi lies to the East of Jayapura, with a broad coastal plain rising to the Foja mountains, whose southern slopes then feed down to the broad Mamberamo river below. With much of the mountains and Mamberamo valley protected, most of the planned oil palm industries is thought to be located along the coastal strip. Currently eight companies are looking to develop plantations in the area.

In theory at least, the closest to being operational is **PT Gaharu Prima Lestari**, which obtained the release of 31,378 hectares of forest land back in the year 2000, and more recently a business licence (IUP) issued by the agriculture ministry in February 2012. However research in 2013 by Jerat Papua indicated that the

company was not yet active on the ground⁶³. There are several indications that PT Gaharu Prima Lestari may be, currently or previously, part of the **Raja Garuda Mas Group**.

PT Dharma Buana Lestari is a subsidiary of the **Dharma Satya Nusantara (DSN) Group**, owned by Indonesian billionaire businessman Theodore Rachmat. It has a permit for 16,726 hectares of oil palm plantation. NGO Jerat Papua reports that the company has already been active in the area, describing its plans to local communities.

Data from Sarmi provincial administration states that **PT Permata Nusa Mandiri**, believed to be part of the **Pusaka Agro Sejahtera Group**, has a permit for 23,813 hectares on the border with Jayapura Regency. It is not clear whether this is a separate concession from the one noted above in Jayapura, or if the concession crosses the border.

Further west, three companies are seeking permits in the Western Coastal strip of Sarmi Regency. Their names are **PT Brazza Sarmi Sejahtera**, **PT Kebun Indah Nusantara** and **PT Botani Sawit Lestari**. Each company is hoping for up to 50,000 hectares but no further details are available on these companies.

Further inland, two **Musim Mas Group** subsidiaries also have location permits in Sarmi, near to the company's other four subsidiaries in Jayapura Regency. **PT Daya Indah Nusantara's** 29,910 hectare concession adjoins that of PT Intibenua Perkasatama, while another 33,409 hectare concession under the name of **PT Musim Mas** is also nearby (although we haven't been able to obtain data about the exact location).

Finally, unconfirmed information reveals that another company obtained a plantation permit in Sarmi in May 2014: The name of the company is **PT Artha Indojava Sejahtera**, and the permit covers an area of 40,000 hectares.

WAROPEN, MAMBERAMO RAYA, YAPEN:

The Kuriye people reject oil palm



Local NGOs have reported that although in recent years oil palm companies have kept trying to find land in Waropen Regency and have expressed an interest in investing, they have not been successful. One of the reasons has been strong local opposition, and there is no company known to be active in this area.

In 2012, when one of the authors of this report visited the head of the Kuriye people in Oadate District, Waropen, they openly said that they rejected oil palm plantation companies using their ancestral land and forests. This attitude gained the support of the head of the Waropen District Legislative Council (DPRD), who has visited Sumatera to compare the locations of communities and the benefits they get from oil palm there.⁶⁴

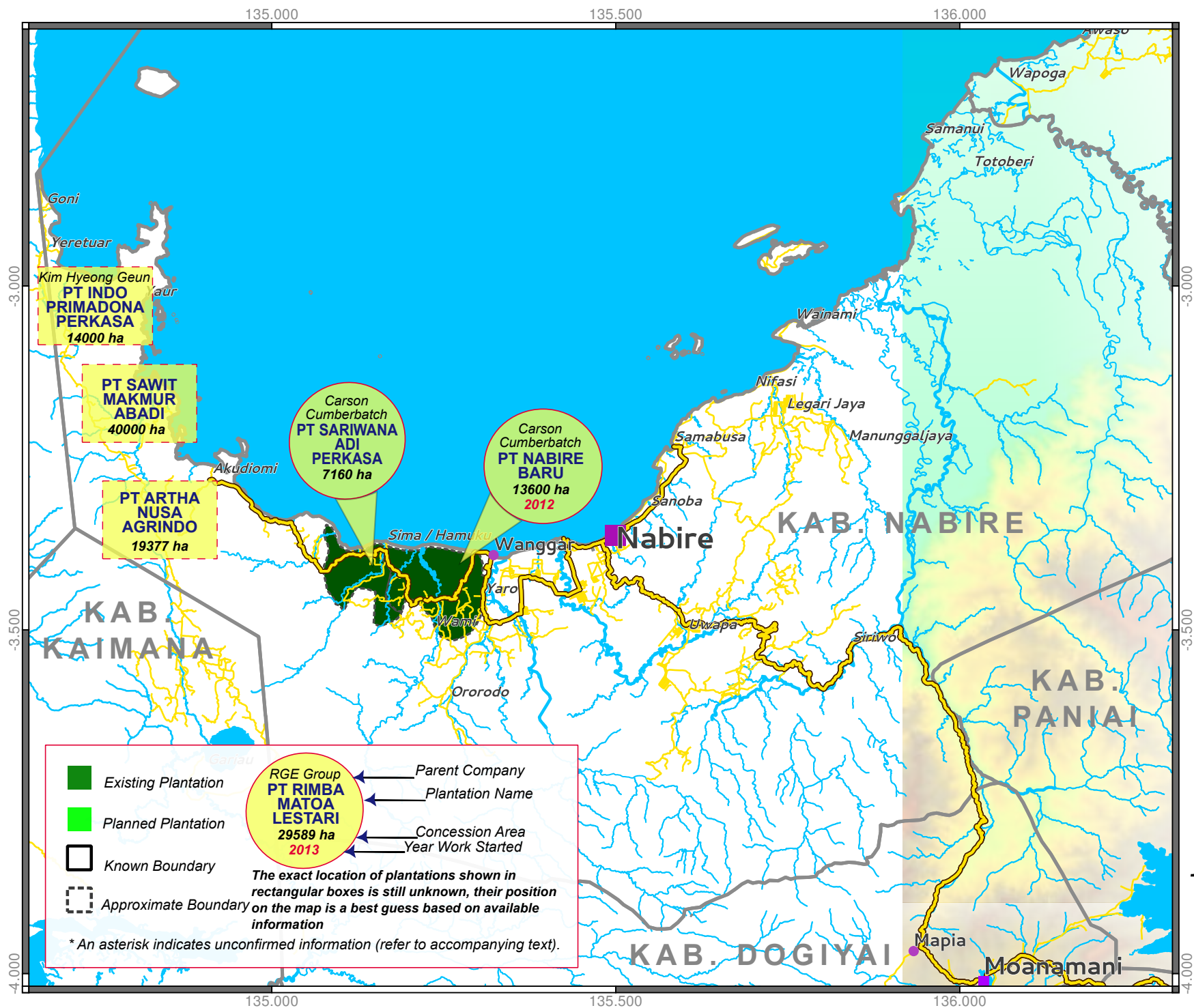
However, there remains a large area of forest classified as 'production forest that can be converted' (HPK), which often becomes a target for companies to get new

permits, and so it is very likely new permits could be given in the future.

Mamberamo Raya Regency also contains a significant area of forest allocated for conversion, but no companies are known to have obtained permits there.

On the island of Yapen a company called PT Bina Mitra Global, had an initial location permit for a 30,000 hectare plantation in District Kosiwo, which was opposed by local people.⁶⁵ It is believed that that company has not been able to obtain the necessary further permits because the land it wished to use was classified as a conservation area, and so is no longer active in the area.





Kabupaten NABIRE

Scale 1:800,000

NABIRE: *A company starts work illegally, a forest is destroyed and a community divided*

The tale of PT Nabire Baru is a story of how the chaos and vested interests involved with oil palm permits has created a situation with many losers – workers intimidated and abandoned, indigenous people's rights ignored, the forest cut down, with no obvious solution.

One of the main underlying causes of these problems was that PT Nabire Baru was given a permit on land where another company, PT Jati Dharma Indah, still had a forest management permit, valid until 2017. PT Jati Dharma Indah previously was actively involved logging operations on the land, and even had its own plans for oil palm in the area⁶⁶, but has not been working since 2010.



PT Nabire Baru, with the legitimacy of its permit clearly questionable, appears to have chosen to bypass some important requirements, such as the need to negotiate with local indigenous landowners to use their land and to submit to the Environmental Impact Assessment process, for which the company clearly had bureaucratic backing. Instead in 2011 PT Nabire Baru and sister company PT Sariwana Unggal Mandiri, which holds a timber use permit, started logging the forests around the villages of Sima and Wami, Yaur District. The logs have reportedly been shipped out of the area, and local indigenous people from the Yerisiam ethnic group are angry because they have not given their consent to this. Yerisiam Tribal leader Simon Petrus Hanebora repeatedly tried to draw attention to this theft before he passed away recently. *“The way PT Nabire Baru and PT Sariwana Unggal Mandiri ignore the Yerisiam indigenous peoples rights is not compatible with legal provisions and violates national and international law on indigenous people’s rights”*, he has said.⁶⁷

The company hired around 1800 workers, some which were brought from other parts of Indonesia, and cleared thousands of hectares of forest, including sago forests which are the source of local people's staple food, and sacred sites. Two million saplings were placed in pots, ready to be planted out. Then in 2013 the Papua Provincial Natural Resources and Environment Management Agency stepped in, ordering the company to stop work until they obtained an Environmental Impact Assessment (AMDAL).⁶⁸

Work stopped, leaving the workforce abandoned without work⁶⁹ but the company was soon operating again, supported by the police mobile brigade (Brimob), who act like the company's security guards, despite the illegality of its operations. Brimob guards have been accused of a litany of violent acts, including beating up workers demanding decent pay and arresting an indigenous farmer, claiming he was involved with OPM rebels for West Papuan freedom⁷⁰. Anyone opposing the company will have to contend with intimidation from these officers of the state.

Some local people feel the company has lied to them and broken its promises and should still be resisted, others feel that now their forest is gone, they need the work the oil palm plantation could provide.

Some are now resigned to the company operations. As Susana Inggelina Weiwei, a woman from Yaur village put it, they had no choice. *“I was unemployed, lots more young women are unemployed. We have lots of younger sisters. So, our fathers are going to have problems because we all need to eat. Our sago forests and the places we used to hunt pigs have been clear-felled. So, let the company go ahead. Let us work there.”*⁷¹

PT Nabire Baru is a subsidiary of the **Goodhope Company**, which is owned by a Sri Lankan multinational company, **Carson Cumberbatch**. This company with diverse interests is a medium-sized player in the oil palm industry, claiming 63971 hectares of planted oil palm, mostly in Indonesia, in 2013⁷². In fact there are three companies linked to the same group active in the area. **PT Sariwana Unggal Mandiri** is the timber business which markets logs taken from the PT Nabire Baru concession around Wami, while in Sima village, another subsidiary called **PT Sariwana Adi Perkasa** has an 8000 hectare permit to plant oil palm. The latter company was formally bought by Bukit Darah PLC (a company linked to Carson Cumberbatch), in 2013⁷³.

In December 2014, the Regency Head finally approved PT Sariwana Adi Perkasa's

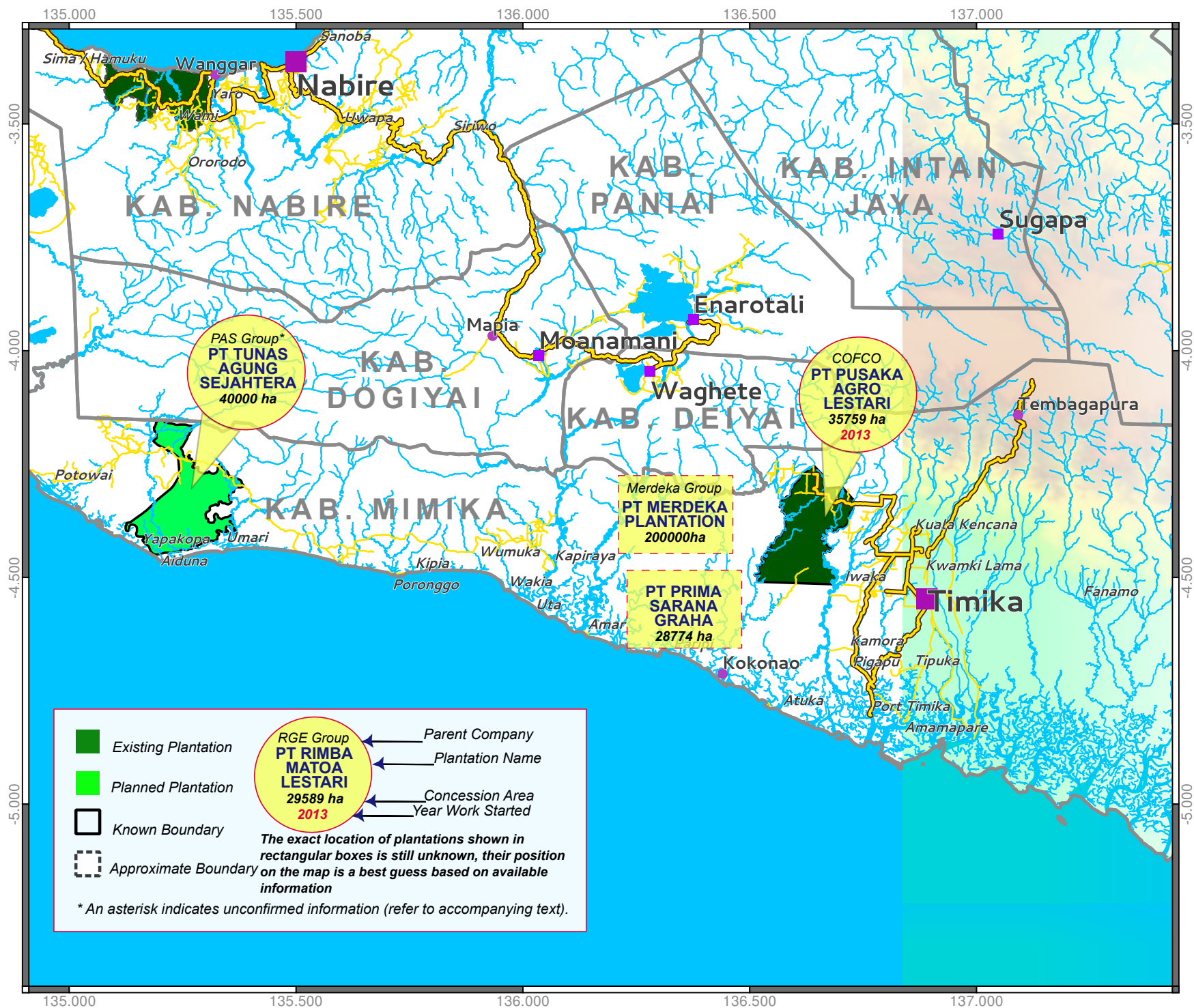


Environmental Impact Assessment, despite the fact that the company was already operational, had cleared thousands of hectares of forest and planted oil palm.

Further to the west, straddling Yaur and Teluk Umar districts, **PT Indo Primadona Perkasa** is also claiming to have obtained a permit to start an oil palm plantation. This company appears not to be owned by a large group but rather by a Korean businessman, **Kim Hyeong Geun**, who as well as brokering trade in diverse commodities between Indonesia and Korea, also is trying his hand at some new businesses in Papua. Emails from a consultant published online reveal that he also has a coal mining concession in an adjacent area, under the name of PT Inko Bersatu International. That concession previously went under the name of PT Indo Primadona Perkasa, but the name is now being used for the palm oil plantation instead.⁷⁴

Local people are confused about what is going on. Local newspaper Papua Pos Nabire reported in October 2013 that although PT Indo Primadona Perkasa was supposed to hold a plantation permit, on the ground the company was claiming to have a timber use permit (IPK). They were demanding clarification from the company on what its plans were. A contractor had previously cleared 200 hectares in 2012, and planted a few oil palm trees, but in a meeting between local people, the council and the company in October 2013, the company was unable to make a clear presentation of its plans.⁷⁵ Hendrik Andoi, a member of the Nabire District Representative Council (DPRD), was quoted as saying *“We in the Council know the difference between a plantation permit and a timber use permit, the timber permit is a follow-on from the plantation permit - if there is no plantation permit there cannot be a timber permit, as was explained by the head of the forestry service”*

Information which is still unconfirmed indicates that two more plantation companies were given plantation permits in Nabire in July 2014: PT Sawit Makmur Abadi (40,000 hectares) and PT Artha Nusa Agrindo (19377 hectares).



Kabupaten MIMIKA

Scale 1:1,200,000

MIMIKA: *As if Freeport wasn't enough, now the Kamoro people must learn to live with oil palm.*



Mimika is the area where the indigenous people have suffered the effects of large-scale investment hardest and longest, as the US based Freeport gold and copper mines have brought decades of conflict and pollution to the area. Currently one company has started work but at the time of writing had been forced to stop because of local opposition. Two more companies are known to be planning oil palm plantations in the area. A fourth, which had aimed to plant a massive 200,000 hectares alongside a logging concession, has been forced to put its plans on hold, but maybe has not entirely given up.

PT Pusaka Agro Lestari started clearing land in 2012 on a 38,000 hectare concession (of which it intended to plant 30,817 hectares), in an area lying to the west of Timika city. PT Pusaka Agro Lestari, established in 2004, was bought in 2011 by Hong Kong based commodity trading company Noble Group for US\$30.9 million.⁷⁶ Noble had previously bought another oil palm plantation, PT Henrison

Inti Persada, in Sorong. In 2014 a majority share of Noble's agribusiness division was bought by Chinese state company COFCO.

The company claims that it has paid compensation to all landowning clans in the area, although no details have emerged about the terms of the deal. Once forest clearance work started, opposition mounted as people came to terms with the effects of the plantation. The Justice and Peace Secretariat (SKP) of Timika Diocese, for example, expressed their concern about the effect the plantation would have on Kamoro communities downstream. The Kamoro are a river-based people, navigating with traditional canoes, who eat sago as their staple food.⁷⁷ PT Pusaka Agro Lestari was also shut down for several days in October 2013 by workers demanding a pay increase from 75,000 Rupiah to 100,000 Rupiah per day.⁷⁸

Shortly before this report went to press, news came in that in response to the many complaints about the effect of PT Pusaka Agro Lestari's operations on communities living downstream, including from the bishop of Timika⁷⁹, the Bupati of Mimika Eltinus Omaleng cancelled the company's permits in December 2014, saying that he did not see how an oil palm plantation would benefit the local community, specifically the Kamoro people living near the coast.⁸⁰ The final outcome of this case remains to be seen as the company will likely pursue the matter through the courts.

One more company, **PT Tunas Agung Sejahtera** is still in the process of getting permits for a plantation of around 40,000 hectares in the far west of Mimika Regency, between the Aindua and Umar Rivers. It's Environmental Impact Assessment was being evaluated in 2013, and it applied to the Forestry Ministry to release forest land in early 2014.

PT Tunas Agung Sejahtera is thought to be owned by the **Pusaka Agro Sejahtera Group**, which has launched plantation companies across the land of Papua, despite having no public profile whatsoever. See the description of PT Pusaka Agro Makmur in Maybrat, West Papua Province for more information on this company.



Another company, **PT Prima Sarana Graha** applied to the forestry ministry in June 2014 to release 28,774 hectares of forest land. We have not yet been able to obtain information about either the ownership or exact location of this company.

The most ambitious plantation plan for Mimika Regency now appears not to be going ahead, at least for the time being. The **Merdeka Group**, based in Hong Kong but incorporated in the Cayman islands, obtained a logging permit for 313,500 hectares, 200,000 hectares of which it hoped to plant with oil palm.

Logging started in earnest in 2010 and continued in 2011. A study in 2010 indicated that in Kokonau, West Mimika district, families were each given 2.5 million Rupiah to give up their land. The same study noted that the Kamoro, 70% of whom are semi-nomadic, are also the kind of people who will easily give in to newcomers, making it easy for outsiders to exploit them⁸¹

By 2012 the company had put its operations on hold, citing the adverse political situation in Papua. In its 2012 report to shareholders, the company reported : *“We had to refine our production plan and scale down the operation. Upstream operation of logging was stopped in 2012. During the year, downstream operation of timber processing came to a halt as well. Unlike the sales of woods in 2011, the Group therefore did not record any revenue from the business in 2012. .. As to the associated plantation business, there was no new plantation made in 2012 as the logging and*

*clearing activities were suspended. Considering that economies of scale could not be achieved at this stage and the resumption of logging in near term was uncertain, the management decided to dissolve the in-house team taking care of the plantings and write off the biological assets of approximately HK\$9,579,000.”*⁸²

However, the company hopes to resume its operations in the future if the political climate becomes more favourable to them. In 2013 it noted that it had *“disposed certain idle plant and equipment to preserve its financial resources before the resumption of the forestry project”*.⁸³ It remains present in the area with a deal to trade in 0.8 million metric tonnes of tailings from the Freeport mine. In August 2014 the company said that although its staff had left Timika due to the ongoing conflict in that city, it had employed a local Timika resident as consultant on the forestry project who would advice on gaining permits⁸⁴ indicating the company has not totally given up hope yet.



ASMAT, MAPPI, YAHUKIMO:

Tracks of the oil palm industry reach the Koroway interior



Oil palm companies have been spotted in some of the most remote locations in Papua. The village of Tokuni, in Yahukimo Regency, is inaccessible by road, to travel overland would mean a long journey up the Eilanden River from the Asmat coast. However, in early 2014 local residents reported that a company called **PT Dewi Graha Indah** was surveying a nearby piece of forest in that area for oil palm.

PT Dewi Graha Indah is a company that is registered to an address in Jayapura City. It is not known whether this company has been awarded a location permit or not.

This area is the land of the Korowai and Kombay peoples, amongst the most well-known tribes in Papua because of their custom of living in treehouses high in the forest canopy. While the Korowai lifestyle is romanticised in magazines and

documentaries about 'exotic' indigenous peoples, for many of Indonesia's bureaucrats in Papua, they are a symbol of the need to bring development to the forest interior.

Former army general Bambang Darmono, who was appointed by President Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono to head the Unit for Acceleration of Development in Papua and West Papua (UP4B), gave a prime example of this attitude when he said after visiting the Koroway *"I am honestly so sad I want to cry that after this country has existed for nearly 70 years there are still people who live naked"*⁸⁵.



How would the nomadic Korowai manage if oil palm were ever to replace their

forests? Wherever oil palm has been established elsewhere in Papua, local people have complained that they are marginalised by the new developments. Could such a community, who are so deeply connected to the forest, really be able to make the adjustment to being plantation workers? It is hard to believe that agribusiness development in this area would bring them any benefit, but the key principle at stake is whether anyone in a position of power respect the Korowai and Kombay people's right to determine their own future, whether they want development and if so, what kind of development?

South from the Korowai area lie two large regencies, Mappi and Asmat. Asmat is mostly classified as protected forest, or limited production forest, so it is unlikely that many companies will obtain permits to operate there in the near future.

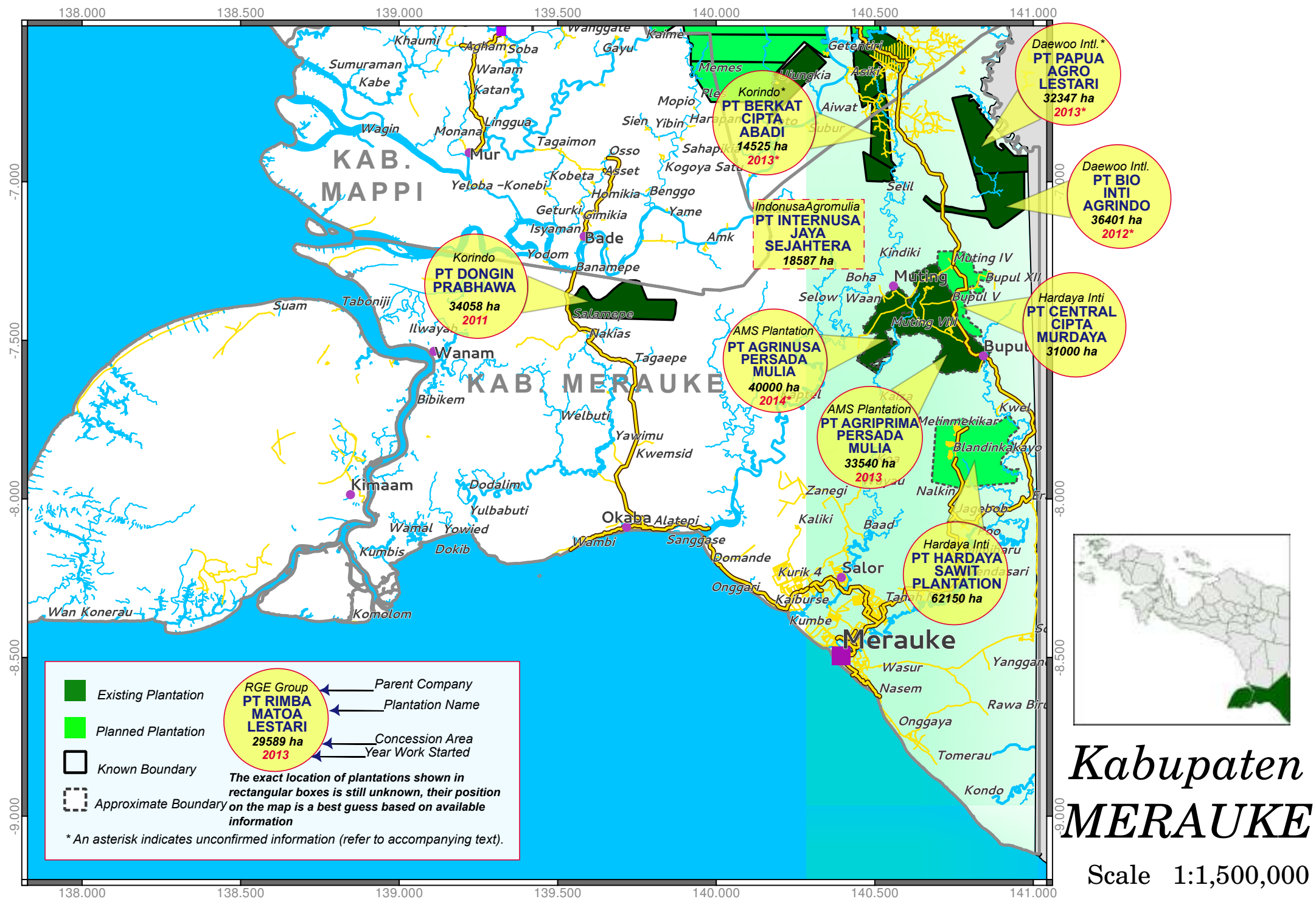


In Mappi, on the other hand, there is a large swathe of production forest that is designated for potential conversion to plantations, and it would be surprising if no companies were interested in the area. They have been interested before. Around 1998 several companies obtained in-principle permits from the forestry ministry to release state forest land for plantations in Assue and Haju districts (company names: PT. Aboge Maju Perdana, PT. Agats Sawit Lestari, PT. Asmat Sawit Lestari, PT. Atsy Sawit Makmur), but they are believed to be no longer active. Then in 2007,

Sinar Mas and the Chinese National Offshore Oil Company had a plan to develop one million hectares of oil palm in Mappi as well as Merauke and Boven Digoel. That plan fell through, but as Merauke and Boven Digoel have subsequently become centres for oil palm production, Mappi is likely to also become an important target.

In fact it appears there are several companies that are interested in investing in Mappi, but information about their plans is limited. During 2014, four new companies have requested permission to release state forest land. Three are subsidiaries of the Himalaya Everest Jaya Group: PT. Bangun Mappi Mandiri (20,000 hectares), PT. Mappi Sejahtera Bersama (20,000 hectares), PT. Himagro Sukses Selalu (40,000 hectares). Reports indicate that these companies are planning to plant rubber and annual crops rather than oil palm.⁸⁶

In 2010 the fourth company, Putra Palma Cemerlang (33,775 hectares) obtained a location permit for an oil palm plantation in Sarmi Regency, but this was later cancelled by the Regency head in favour of another company. At that time the company's address was on Jalan Gajah Mada in Central Jakarta. That address is associated with the Sawitindo Group, which is part of Salim Ivomas Pratama (Indofood Agri Resources).



MERAUKE: *Sacrificing the Malind people to 'feed the world'*



The mixed woodland, savannah and swamps which characterises Papua's southernmost region was never a major target for the logging industry, but has held great appeal to the agribusiness industry for some time. Several mega-projects, combining large areas of land with policy incentives, were planned and then abandoned over the years: Sinar Mas and the Chinese National Offshore Oil Company wanted to plant a million hectares of oil palm here and in neighbouring areas, and the Bin Laden Group from Saudi planned to be the major shareholders in the 500000-hectare Merauke Integrated Rice Estate⁸⁷.

In 2010, one of these mega-projects finally become reality as the Merauke Integrated Food and Energy Estate (MIFEE) was launched in August 2010, with the objective of strengthening national food and agrofuel supplies, improving food security with an eye on the world market and so on. The MIFEE plans would also support existing initiatives for developing large-scale food agriculture in Merauke.⁸⁸ In reality, for various reasons, plans for rice and other food crops such as cassava,

soya, and corn have struggled to take off, and MIFEE has only really benefitted large plantation companies wanting to develop immense oil palm and sugar-cane plantations. Millions of hectares of forest savana and swamps belonging to the Malind people will be consumed by the project. The Malind people's access to use the products of their environment is being curtailed, while the promises of jobs from the companies will not bring them economic security

In MIFEE's Masterplan, oil palm was supposed to be limited to 20% of the project area, and sugar-cane another 30%. In the end those two commodities are dominating development plans in the area⁸⁹. According to PUSAKA's records, 33 oil palm companies are known to have obtained in-principle permits between 2007 and 2014, with an average size of 30,000 hectares. There are currently 10 active oil palm companies in Merauke which are either engaged in surveying or planting⁹⁰.

The **Korindo Group**, which has operated logging, plywood and oil palm businesses from neighbouring areas in Boven Digoel Regency for many years, has been one of the main driving forces behind oil palm expansion. This Korean company with diverse investments in Indonesia has two operational plantations under its wing in Merauke: **PT Dongin Prabhawa** close to the Digoel River at Mam and **PT Berkat Cipta Abadi** in Ulilin district near Korindo's established plantation in Asiki.

Korindo appears to be closely linked with **PT Bio Inti Agrindo**, and **PT Papua Agro Lestari**, two plantations owned by another Korean multinational **Daewoo International Corporation**, which is part of the giant POSCO empire. It seems highly likely that Korindo used its local experience and contacts to help Daewoo establish itself in the area. The two groups continue to co-operate, and local people report that the management of the two Daewoo companies and Korindo's PT Berkat Cipta Abadi appear to be the same.

Two more oil plantations are operated by **Agro Mandiri Semesta Plantations**, otherwise known as the **Ganda Group**. Ganda is the brother of Wilmar International founder Martua Sitorus, and his company is closely linked to Wilmar. While Wilmar aims to present a responsible image of its plantation business to ensure its trading arm continues to gain lucrative contracts with major palm oil consumers such as Unilever, Ganda appears to have few scruples. The most well-known case involving the two companies was in Jambi Province, Sumatra, where Wilmar, reluctant to see through commitments made in a World Bank-sponsored

mediation with the Suku Anak Dalam indigenous people, quietly sold its subsidiary PT Asiatic Persada to the Ganda Group⁹¹, which then several months later violently evicted all the indigenous people living in the area⁹².



In Merauke Ganda Group company **PT Agriprima Cipta Persada** was turned down for a permit to release state forest land, but has nevertheless cleared a huge stretch of forest and started planting oil palm. It is thought that some of this land-clearing is on land still classified as state forest (therefore illegal)⁹³. Another subsidiary company, **PT Agrinusa Persada Mulia** now has obtained an in-principle permit, and has also reportedly commenced land-clearing.

A smaller area of 403 hectares has been planted by **PT Cahaya Bone Lestari**, which is owned by the Merauke government but operated by a private company.

Two companies belonging to the **Berca Group / Hardaya Inti Plantations**, the company associated with the husband and wife team of Murdaya Poo and Siti Hartati Murdaya also have permits in Merauke. However, there have been few signs of progress from **PT Hardaya Sawit Plantations** or **PT Central Cipta Murdaya** in the last year. This may have something to do with the fact that Siti Hartati Murdaya has been convicted of bribing local officials to get permits for oil palm plantations in Buol, Central Sulawesi, and is currently in prison serving a two year and eight month sentence⁹⁴.

While most of the other companies obtained their permits around the time MIFEE was being established or before, there is also one new company on the scene. **PT Internusa Jaya Sejahtera** obtained a location permit in July 2013 for a 18,587 hectare oil palm plantation. This company is reported to have already distributed money to local people, on average some five million Rupiah per person, and this has caused conflict to break out within and between landowning clans⁹⁵. PT Internusa Jaya Sejahtera is also applying for a 40,000 hectare permit in South Sorong Regency, part of a 137,000 hectare development there by parent company **Internusa Agromulia Group** – a smallish company but with big expansion plans.

The tsunami-like effect of so many oil palm plantations being developed at once, along with an even larger amount of planned sugar-cane plantations and industrial tree plantations, are seen by the Marind people in Merauke as a major threat to their existence. The Marind identity is very closely connected to the landscape they live in – for example each clan's identity is closely related with different animals or plants.⁹⁶ Few indigenous people in the area are under any illusions that plantations will bring them security, instead they fear suffering, sickness and death. News circulates around the villages, and people know that where the plantations arrived first, the local people have experienced deadly conflict between villages or within villages, raised infant mortality, loss of sago groves, sacred sites and animals to hunt, pollution of rivers that are the main water supply, broken promises from the companies to build community facilities, intimidation from state security forces.. and the list goes on⁹⁷.

In many villages around Merauke, locals have resisted the companies, and refused to sell their land⁹⁸. However, in most cases, the companies have eventually been able to convince many of the land-owning clans to sign their rights to their ancestral lands away for (at most) 300,000 Rupiah per hectare, a tiny amount. In many cases there have been accusations of intimidation or deception, especially in the main oil palm areas which are close to the border where there has been a constant military presence for many years, and where the soldiers now become security guards for the companies.

BOVEN DIGOEL: *Shady plantation companies open the door to foreign capital*



Boven Digoel is known to many in Indonesia as the remote place where leaders of Indonesia's independence movement were incarcerated by the Dutch between 1928 and 1942. If they could return to the Boven Digoel of the twenty-first century, they might be shocked to see what their nationalist dream has turned into in this furthest corner of the Indonesian state. Between a business-orientated military and a corrupt local government the indigenous people's forests have been ravaged by the logging industry for plywood, and oil palm is now gearing up for a major invasion.

One company, the South Korean-owned **Korindo**, has been the main pioneer in this area. Two large logging concessions fed the native forests into a plywood factory, and then in 1998 Korindo got permission to plant oil palm on two plots near Asiki.

The new plantations were strongly resisted by some of the local residents in the area, and when that failed, conflicts broke out within the community. For example some people who had previously lived in the concession were resettled by Korindo in another area – but when they started harvesting sago around their new home, existing residents attacked them with machetes⁹⁹.

Korindo has had a long association with the military, who are attracted to the business opportunities in the area. A 2004 investigation by Kontras revealed that not only were soldiers being paid directly by the company as security (in a deal made between military and company bosses in Jakarta), but also making an informal income by selling alcohol, and forcing local people to hand over tradeable goods such as crocodile skin, deer antlers or arwana fish.¹⁰⁰

In 2009 a investigation by Justice Peace and Integrity of Creation discovered that there were a total of 12 military outposts within Korindo's concession area¹⁰¹. In 2014, a naval outpost which was linked to attacks on local youths downstream in Bade was also thought to have been attracted to the area because of opportunities to profit from Korindo¹⁰².

Korindo's oil palm plantation company in Boven Digoel **PT Tunas Sawaerma** is applying for a permit to extend its plantation by 20,000 hectares. It is likely that Korindo is also using its connections to support another three companies which want to develop a strip of plantations over 100 km long and 10 km wide, roughly following the Trans-Papua road through Boven Digoel to Mindiptana. The company names are **PT Wahana Agri Karya**, **PT Duta Visi Global** and **PT Visi Hijau Nusantara**, however details of ownership are being kept secret. Their registered address is a law firm in Jakarta (Supramono, Vyori, Santoso), but staff at that office refused to reveal any information about the oil palm companies.

Military rule may be strong in Boven Digoel, but civilian government is widely regarded as being in utter chaos, brought about by corruption. The former Bupati Yusak Yaluwo was already a suspect in a graft case at the time of his election, shortly afterwards he was found guilty and sent to prison. However, incredibly he continued to do the work of a bupati from behind prison bars on Java, signing official decisions documents and so on¹⁰³. Local anti-corruption activists have

alleged that other local politicians, such as the council, have been complicit in this situation, as it is profitable to them¹⁰⁴.

It was in this context that one of the greatest land grabs in Papua has been allowed to take place, almost unnoticed and unchallenged. The obscure company at the centre of the puzzle is the Menara Group¹⁰⁵, which is owned by an Indonesian businessman, Chariul Anhar, and with former national police chief and ambassador D'ai Bachtiar as a key executive. This company obtained permits for 400,000 hectares of oil palm plantations, on mostly primary forest, land of the Auyu people¹⁰⁶.

Menara Group, which has strong links with Malaysia, then proceeded to sell the land off to Malaysian companies. Two subsidiaries **PT Manunggal Sukses Mandiri** and **PT Trimegah Karya Utama** were sold to a company named **Tadmax**, which has a history of logging in Sarawak, Malaysia. Documents published by Tadmax indicate that the company is mostly interested in the valuable timber on the land, and has little interest in oil palm. Tadmax's own calculations shows that 75% of the value of the company lies in the timber.

Although unconfirmed, it is highly likely that another four subsidiary companies (160,000 hectares) have been sold to **Pacific Inter-Link**, a Malaysian-based company trading in palm oil and related products that is owned by Yemen's largest business conglomerate, the Hayal Saeed Anam group. Those four subsidiaries are probably **PT Energy Samudera Kencana**, **PT Graha Kencana Mulia**, **PT Kartika Cipta Pratama** and **PT Megakarya Jaya Raya**.

Tadmax and Pacific Inter-link have joined forces with Malaysia timber company Shin Yang, Al Salam Bank Bahrain and Yakima Dijaya Sdn Bhd to build an integrated timber complex to process the wood cleared from the area. There is no news that work has commenced on the ground for this mega-project, but the companies do appear to have obtained the key permits needed to be able to plant oil palm, including releasing land from the state forest estate. Menara Group officials made a tour of four villages in the area in April 2013, handing giving bewildered villagers a total sum of 11.75 billion Rupiah, and so the companies will no doubt try to claim that they have negotiated and compensated the people to take over their land.¹⁰⁷

Aside from the six companies which Menara Group has sold on, four more subsidiary companies were originally part of the Menara Group, and there is no information that they have also been sold on. PT Usaha Nabati Terpadu also has been granted a permit to release state forest land, while the other three companies do not have these permits yet, hence their locations are unknown: PT Buana Prima Sakti, PT Pelita Mega Kencana and one more (name also unknown).

It is possible that four more plantation companies are also still active in Boven Digoel: PT Agro Tanita Sejati (30,000 hectares), PT Irian Agro Lestari (45,000 hectares), PT Nusa Palma Sentosa (40,000 hectares) and PT Mitra Usaha Sawitindo (40,000 hectares). The last news from these companies was in 2011.¹⁰⁸

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Central and local government should adopt laws and procedures to protect, respect and guarantee communities' rights to choose freely whether or not to agree to accept plantation plans without intimidation, before work starts, and with full access to relevant information, in line with the principle of *free, prior, informed consent*.
- Central government should put in place and enforce a transparent system of issuing permits, along with a website which would enable all documents and permits concerning land acquisition, land management and plantations issued at local and national levels to be easily accessed by the public. Firm action should be taken against any operator which fails to report these permits and documents, whether deliberately or through oversight.
- The government should conduct a review of cases where large-scale plantation companies have been issued permits or started work without local community agreement and should initiate studies to evaluate each company's record and impose just penalties for any violations of community rights or environmental problems that company has caused, as well as placing limits on further expansion, or even closing down company operations if necessary.
- The government should readdress its top-down approach to development in the Land of Papua, and instead adopt an approach based on indigenous Papuans' rights and needs. The push for large-scale plantations, driven by central government in Jakarta, may well bring economic growth. However it also carries a great potential for further injustice and marginalising indigenous Papuans, as well as perpetuating the wider conflict which has beset the land of Papua for decades. Papuans themselves, in particular indigenous communities in rural areas, must be the ones to determine the development that they want to see, and in a way that will benefit them. The government should be sufficiently humble and prepared to listen to the Papuan people.
- The government should take steps to resolve conflicts which have emerged and ensure effective access to justice for violations of indigenous people's rights, which means ensuring they are given recognition, or receive fair compensation, or what is rightfully theirs is returned to them.
- The Indonesian government must take serious steps to limit the extent of the oil palm industry and forest destruction in Papua. The Papuan forest is a unique ecosystem, not a commodity which can be divided up into concessions and destroyed as a government chooses. Much of the biodiversity in the Papuan forest exists nowhere else on earth because of the island's geological history, never having been joined by land bridges to the Asian continent.
- Put an end to the military-business link and withdraw police and military forces from oil palm plantations. The government and companies should work together with local indigenous organisations to oversee operations, manage security and resolve any conflicts according to local customary practices.
- Companies must be serious about respecting and protecting local community rights, engage sincerely in consultation and give full information about any project, before a community decides whether or not to agree to that company's plan, and should also make sure that community economic resources, food sources and livelihoods are protected.
- The community should have the freedom to consult or engage independent support organisations to help them understand government policy, company practices, and any agreements made, whether from a legal perspective or addressing technical aspects of the companies' operation. These supporting organisations can also help to defend the community and minimize any unwanted pressure from irresponsible parties.
- It is essential to develop a mechanism of contracts for land use and guidelines about how to calculate rates of compensation for community land used by oil palm companies which is based on mutual agreement, social, cultural and economic values, so that the community can obtain recognition and a more just level of compensation when their land is used.

CONTACTS

Yayasan Pusaka is a non-profit organisation whose work focusses around advocacy communities can act autonomously research, documenting and promoting indigenous people's rights, capacity building, education and empowerment connected with indigenous peoples' right issues, land rights, economic social and cultural rights, and strengthening community organisation.

Address: Kompleks Rawa Bambu Satu, Jl H No. 4, RT 001 RW 006, Pasar Minggu, Jakarta Selatan, Indonesia, Phone and Fax: +62 21 7800844, yay.pusaka@gmail.com <http://pusaka.or.id> Contact Person: Y.L. Franky (angkytm@gmail.com).

awasMIFEE is a website which gathers news concerning the forests and indigenous peoples of West Papua, usually translated into English from the original Indonesian. Originally the focus was on Merauke, as since 2010 this area has been targeted for major investment under the MIFEE megaproject. However, awasMIFEE also includes news from the whole land of Papua. Another objective is to investigate the plantation industry in West Papua and the companies involved.

awasmiffee@potager.org <https://awasmiffee.potager.org>

JASOIL in the land of Papua is an umbrella group for communication and resource capacity building throughout the land of Papua, for civil society and state organisers who care about humanity and the environment

Address: Jl. Manunggal No. 15, Amban, Manokwari, Papua Barat. Contact Person: Pietsaw Amafnini: menawi2001@yahoo.com; <http://www.jasoilpapua.blogspot.com/>.

BIN MADAG HOM is an NGO with the aims of conserving natural resources and environmental advocacy, based in Bintuni Bay, West Papua Province.

Address: Jl. Bina Kampung, Bintuni Timur, Distrik Bintuni, Kabupaten Teluk Bintuni, Provinsi Papua Barat (99302), Indonesia. Kontak Person: Yohanes Akwan, mobile. 0852 5456 2446 dan email: anesakwan@yahoo.co.id

Belantara Papua was formed in 2005 with the aim of advocacy and empowerment of Papuan indigenous people, to raise capacity and critical awareness so

Contact Address: Jl. Puyuh no.3 Kampung Pisang, Remu Utara, Kota Sorong, Papua Barat (98416) Indonesia. Web: www.belantarapapua.org; Email: papua.belantara@gmail.com; Facebook: [belantarapapua](https://www.facebook.com/belantarapapua). Contact Person: Max Binur, Email: macx.binur@gmail.com

Merauke Archdiocese Justice and Peace Secretariat (SKP KAME) is an internal catholic church institution created in 2001, a collaboration between the archdiocese and the MSC order in Papua. This organisation looks at local, regional, national and international situations in context. The core issues and work areas are human rights, harmony with nature, freedom, gender equality, justice and peace.

Address: Jalan Kimaam Nomor 2, Merauke – Papua. Contact Person: P. Anselmus Amo, MSC: amo.anselmus@yahoo.com and skp_merauke@yahoo.com

Sawit Watch is an Indonesian NGO which is concerned with the negative social and environmental impacts of the oil palm industry. It is active in 17 of the provinces where oil palm is being developed in Indonesia

Address: Perumahan Bogor Baru Blok C1 No. 10, Bogor, Jawa Barat 16129, Phone: +62 251 8352171 and Fax: +62 251 8352047, info@sawitwatch.or.id; www.sawitwatch.or.id. Contact person: Jefry Saragih: jefri@sawitwatch.or.id

JERAT Papua is a NGO network based in Jayapura, Papua province. Its vision is to bring about the recognition and protection of indigenous rights in social, cultural, economic and environmental spheres. Its mission is to organise education and training in sustainable natural resource management, indigenous community organising, campaigning for indigenous rights, monitoring, investigation and reporting cases relating to natural resources and the environment, social economic and cultural rights and so on.

Address: Jalan Bosnik Blok C, No. 48, BTN Kamkey, Abepura (99351).: jeratpapua@gmail.com: <http://www.jeratpapua.org>,

1 <http://www.greenpeace.org/seasia/id/Global/seasia/report/2006/5/kayu-lapis-indonesia.pdf>
2 <http://putusan.mahkamahagung.go.id/putusan/downloadpdf/512f866db56de9ffc41033c159c856e5/pdf>
3 http://eia-international.org/wp-content/uploads/EIA_Clear_Cut_Exploitation_0512_FINAL.pdf
4 This was first published in an EIA / Telepak report, where the amount given was thought to be even lower (6000 Rupiah per hectare): http://eia-international.org/wp-content/uploads/EIA_Clear_Cut_Exploitation_0512_FINAL.pdf. However, recent confirmation from the Gilik clan reveals a slight misinterpretation. The confusion was caused by bad handwriting on the transaction note. Although it appears to read 1420 hectares, it actually says ±420 hectares. Calculating
5 using this smaller land area gives a figure of 30,000 Rupiah per hectare. Either way, it is peanuts. <http://www.reuters.com/article/2014/04/02/us-noble-group-cofco-idUSBREA3103E20140402>
6 <http://pusaka.or.id/menolak-takluk-pada-iks/>
7 www.megamasindogroup.com - under construction in February 2014
8 http://www.sorongkab.go.id/Sektor_perkebunan.html (accessed July 2014)
9 NB. PT Putera Manunggal Perkasa's concession lies partly in South Sorong, and partly in neighbouring Maybrat Regency.
10 http://www.kppu.go.id/wp-content/uploads/2013/09/PendapatKPPU_Austindo_PublikVer_19092013.pdf
11 http://www.greenomics.org/docs/ANJ-clearance-Papua-forest_%28LowRes%29.pdf
12 It is also distinctly possible that PT Pusaka Agro Sejahtera was also the previous owner of PT Pusaka Agro Lestari near Timika, which was bought by the Noble Group in 2011. The similarity in names gives cause for suspicion, but no direct link has been obtained.
13 http://www.idx.co.id/Portals/0/StaticData/NewsAndAnnouncement/ANNOUNCEMENTSTOCK/From_EREP/201410/c5ee9e51f3_6d9db1a5f7.pdf
14 http://www.arcexploration.com.au/IRM/content/projects_papua.html The same company was the target of protests in Sape, Bima, in 2011, in which the police opened fire, killing three people. George Tahjia was formerly also a commissioner of Freeport Indonesia.
15 <http://www.arcexploration.com.au/IRM/Company/ShowPage.aspx/PDFs/1647-22486449/DirectorRetirementMrGeorgeTahjia>
16 One of these books, 'A walk in the clouds' (2005) described a journey through Papua to its highest peak in Puncak Jaya.
17 <http://www.tnc.org.hk/about-us/asia-pacific-volunteer-leadership/>
18 <http://coraltrianglecenter.org>
19 An article about Green Eagle Group in Sorong Selatan <http://sawit-indonesia.com/index.php/berita-terbaru/123-sepak-terjang-green-eagle-group> is unfortunately now no longer online.
20 <http://in.reuters.com/article/2014/07/24/louisdreyfus-greeneagle-idINL6N0PZ3WT20140724>
21 <http://www.thejakartapost.com/news/2014/09/25/bwpt-raise-trillions-rights-issue-acquisition.html>
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<http://www.liongroup.com.my/images/company/Report20131127115257.pdf>
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31 Bin Madag Hom, press release 17th April 2013, Konflik Tapal Batas antara Marga Ateta-Agoba, Suku Sumuri
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33 <https://awasmiffee.potager.org/?p=745>
34 <http://www.radarsorong.com/index.php?mib=berita.detail&id=24131>
35 <https://awasmiffee.potager.org/?p=754>
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40 <http://nasional.kompas.com/read/2010/02/08/0501214/Ketika.Kebun.Kelapa.Sawit.Datang>
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- 44 [http://www.wartapapuarbarat.org/index.php/component/content/article/1-latest-news/548-3-](http://www.wartapapuarbarat.org/index.php/component/content/article/1-latest-news/548-3-m2-tanah-adat-senilai-sepotong-pisang-goreng)
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longer online
- 50 <http://www.aldp-papua.com/pt-victory-diduga-akan-merusak-segitiga-emas-orang-keerom/>
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siapkan-lahan-investasi (link broken)
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1.websitetestlink.com/wp-content/uploads/up-for-grabs.pdf
- 55 <https://pauapost.wordpress.com/2011/06/10/tuntut-rp-50-m-warga-palang-pt-sinar-mas/>
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- 60 [http://www.greenpeace.org/international/Global/international/briefings/forests/2014/Procter](http://www.greenpeace.org/international/Global/international/briefings/forests/2014/ProcterGambleDS_MediaBriefing_Final.pdf)
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perusahaan-kelapa-sawit-bakal-beroperasi-di-kepulauan-yapen , [http://www.aldp-](http://www.aldp-papua.com/kelapa-sawit-jawaban-untuk-kesejahteraan-masyarakat-yapen/)
papua.com/kelapa-sawit-jawaban-untuk-kesejahteraan-masyarakat-yapen/,
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plantation company called PT Harvest Raya with a Korean Investor, which was opposed by
local people and never materialised.
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English translation: <https://awasmiffee.potager.org/?p=443>
- 68 <https://awasmiffee.potager.org/?p=908>
- 69 <https://awasmiffee.potager.org/?p=908><https://awasmiffee.potager.org/?p=1025>
- 70 <https://awasmiffee.potager.org/?p=1025>
- 71 [http://www.mongabay.co.id/2013/05/30/sawit-masuk-nabire-dari-hutan-sagu-sampai-hutan-](http://www.mongabay.co.id/2013/05/30/sawit-masuk-nabire-dari-hutan-sagu-sampai-hutan-keramat-dibabat-bagian-2/)
keramat-dibabat-bagian-2/ “*Saya ini pengangguran. Masih banyak anak perempuan*
pengangguran. Kami punya adik-adik banyak. Jadi, kami pu bapak dong bermasalah
karena kami anak-anak butuh makan.” “*Kami punya hutan sagu dan tempat cari babi*
dong su tebang habis. Jadi, biar sudah perusahaan jalan saja. Biar kami kerja di sana.”
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y_reports_2013/bukit_2nd_quarter_30_9_2013.pdf
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grpid=1N4TC&fldid=mVtP&datanum=165&openArticle=true&docid=1N4TCmVtP165201
30206120347
- 75 [http://pauaposnabire.com/index.php/nabire/450-persoalan-sawit-pt-indo-primadona-](http://pauaposnabire.com/index.php/nabire/450-persoalan-sawit-pt-indo-primadona-perkasa-belum-tuntas)
perkasa-belum-tuntas
- 76 [http://www.rspo.org/file/acop2013/submissions/NOBLE%20PLANTATIONS%20PTE](http://www.rspo.org/file/acop2013/submissions/NOBLE%20PLANTATIONS%20PTE%20LTD.pdf)
%20LTD.pdf
- 77 [http://bintangpapua.com/index.php/lain-lain/papua/papua-selatan/item/13158-skp-](http://bintangpapua.com/index.php/lain-lain/papua/papua-selatan/item/13158-skp-perkebunan-kelapa-sawit-ancam-warga-kamoro)
perkebunan-kelapa-sawit-ancam-warga-kamoro English translation:
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timika-ancaman-bagi-masyarakat-pesisir
- 80 [http://papua.antaranews.com/berita/448472/bupati-mimika-resmi-hentikan-operasional-](http://papua.antaranews.com/berita/448472/bupati-mimika-resmi-hentikan-operasional-perkebunan-sawit-pt-pal)
perkebunan-sawit-pt-pal

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- 82 Merdeka Annual Report 2012, <http://www.merdeka.com.hk/wp-content/upload/1364443987.pdf>
- 83 Merdeka 2013 interim Report, <http://www.merdeka.com.hk/wp-content/upload/1376474707.pdf>
- 84 <http://www.merdeka.com.hk/wp-content/uploads/2013/12/GLN20140814197-Interim-Report.pdf>
- 85 <http://www.up4b.go.id/index.php/prioritas-p4b/10-sosial-budaya/item/108-suku-korowai-batu-bangun-lapangan-terbang-dengan-kapak-batu> “*Sungguh saya sedih dan mau menangis, hampir 70 tahun negara ini ada ternyata masih ada yang hidup telanjang,*”
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Company Name	Location	Area (Ha)	Parent Company	Current stage of operation	Year of First Planting	Location Permit	Forest Release Permit	Plantation Permit
PT Pusaka Agro Lestari	Mimika	35759	Noble Group / COFCO	Operational until stopped by Mimika Bupati 2014	2012	SK Bupati Mimika 36/2007	SK.611/MENHUT-II/2009	SK Gubernur Papua 143/2008
PT Tunas Agung Sejahtera	Mimika	40000	Pusaka Agro Sejahtera	In-principle permission to release state forest land		SK Bupati Mimika 169/2013	S.164/MENHUT-II/2014(in-principle permit)	
PT Merdeka Plantations	Mimika	200000	Merdeka Group	Non-active after experiencing difficulties, but wishing to return				
PT Prima Sarana Graha	Mimika	28774		Requested release of state forest lands				
PT Nabire Baru	Nabire	13600	Carson Cumberbatch	Operational until stopped by Mimika Bupati 2014	2012		Land is not state forest	
PT Sariwana Adi Perkasa Irian Jaya	Nabire	7160	Carson Cumberbatch	Obtained plantation permit			Land is not state forest	
PT Indo Primadona Perkasa	Nabire	14000	Kim Hyeong Geun	Unknown				
PT Sawit Makmur Abadi	Nabire	40000		Obtained Plantation permit (2014)				
PT Artha Nusa Agrindo	Nabire	19377		Obtained Plantation permit (2014)				
PT Dharma Buana Lestari	Sarmi	16726	Dharma Satya Nusantara	Presented plans to locals (2013)		Sudah ada	Belum	
PT Gaharu Prima Lestari	Sarmi	31738	Raja Garuda Mas*	Obtained Plantation permit, forest land release			184/Kpts-2/2000	90/KTS/HK.3150/DJ.BUN/II /2012
PT Musim Mas	Sarmi; Pantai Timur Barat District	33409	Musim Mas	Yet to obtain release of state forest lands		SK Bupati Sarmi 11/2012		
PT Brazza Sarmi Sejahtera	Sarmi; Pantai Barat District	50000		Unknown				
PT Kebun Indah Nusantara	Sarmi; Pantai Barat District	50000		Unknown				
PT Botani Sawit Lestari	Sarmi; Pantai Barat District	50000		Unknown				
PT Daya Indah Nusantara	Sarmi; Pantai Timur Barat District	29910	Musim Mas	Yet to obtain release of state forest lands		SK Bupati Sarmi 12/2013		
PT Artha Indojoya Sejahtera	Sarmi	40000		Obtained Plantation permit (2014)				
PT Sumber Indah Perkasa	Kab. Jayapura	20143	Sinar Mas (Golden Agri Resources)	Sinar Mas will not operate this plantation			SK.394/MENHUT-II/2009	
PT Sinar Kencana Inti Perkasa	Kab. Jayapura; Kaureh District	20535	Sinar Mas (Golden Agri Resources)	Sudah Beroperasi	1994			
PT Permata Nusa Mandiri	Kab. Jayapura; Unurum Guay, Namblong, Nimboran, Nimbokrang, Kemtuk, Kemtuk Gresi Districts	32000	Pusaka Agro Sejahtera*	Unknown		SK Bupati Jayapura 213/2011		
PT Siringo-ringo	Kab. Jayapura; Kaureh and Airu Districts	29278	Musim Mas	Obtained state forest release permit (2012)		SK Bupati Jayapura 117/2011 (revised by SK 250/2013)	SK. 21/MENHUT-II/2012	05/94/IUP/PMDN/2013
PT Wira Antara	Kab. Jayapura	31561	Musim Mas	Application to release state forest lands rejected				

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PT Intibenua Perkasatama	Kab. Jayapura; Kaureh District	25773	Musim Mas	in-principle permission to release state forest land?		SK Bupati Jayapura 118/2011		
PT Rimba Matoa Lestari	Kab. Jayapura; Kaureh District	29589	Agrindo Group (Raja Garuda Mas)	Operational	2013		184/Kpts-2/2000	
PT Megasurya Mas	Kab. Jayapura	13390	Musim Mas	Obtained state forest release permit (2012)		SK Bupati Jayapura 119/2011	SK.111/MENHUT-II/2012	04/94/IUP/PMDN/2013
PT Paloway Abadi	Keerom		PT Paloway Abadi	Unknown				
PTPN 2	Keerom	17974	BUMN	Operational	1982			SK Menteri Kehutanan 107/Kpts-II/1999
PT Bumi Irian Perkasa	Keerom	1068	PT Bumi Irian Perkasa	Operational	?			
PT Bio Budidaya Nabati	Keerom; Senggi District	7400		Unknown				
PT Semarak Agro Lestari	Keerom; Senggi District		Patria Group	Unknown				
PT Victory Cemerlang Indonesia Wood Industries	Keerom; Arso Timur District	4885	PT Victory	Presented plans to locals (2014)			Land was not state forest	
PT Tandan Sawita Papua	Keerom; Arso Timur District	18337	BW Plantations (Rajawali)	Operational	2010	Land was not state forest		
PT Berkat Cipta Abadi	Merauke; Ulilin District	14525	Korindo	Operational	2013	SK Bupati Merauke 13/2007	SK 328/MENHUT-II/2011	
PT Bio Inti Agrindo	Merauke; Ulilin District	36401	Daewoo International	Operational	2012	SK Bupati Merauke 9/2007	SK 572/MENHUT-II/2009	
PT Dongin Prabhawa	Merauke; Ulilin District	34058	Korindo	Operational	2011	SK Bupati Merauke 12/2007	SK 750/MENHUT-II/2009	
PT Papua Agro Lestari	Merauke; Ulilin District	32347	Daewoo International	Operational	2013	SK Bupati Merauke 16/2007	SK 552/MENHUT-II/2012	
PT Hardaya Sawit Papua	Merauke; Jagebob District	62150	Hardaya Inti Plantations	Unknown		SK Bupati Merauke 2/2010 (diperpanjang SK 161/2010, dirubah SK 322/2011	part of land is not state forest	
PT Agriprima Cipta Persada	Merauke; Muting District	33540	AMS Plantations / Ganda Group	Operational	2013	SK Bupati Merauke 42/2010	application rejected once, part of land is not state forest	
PT Agrinusa Persada Mulia	Merauke; Muting District	40000	AMS Plantations / Ganda Group	Operational	2014	SK Bupati Merauke 04/2010	S.132/Menhut-II/2014(in-principle permit)	
PT Cahaya Bone Lestari	Merauke; Muting District	403	Pemkab Merauke	Operational	2013			
PT Central Cipta Murdaya	Merauke; Ulilin, Muting, Elikobel District	31000	Berca Group	Unknown				
PT Internusa Jaya Sejahtera	Merauke	18587	Indonusa Agromulia Group	Location Permit, EIA Consultation		SK Bupati Merauke 339/2013		
PT Usaha Nabati Terpadu	Boven Digoel	37467	Menara Group	Obtained state forest release permit (2012)		SK Bupati Boven Digoel 113/2007	SK.120/MENHUT-II/2013	

Company Name	Location	Area (Ha)	Parent Company	Current stage of operation	Year of First Planting	Location Permit	Forest Release Permit	Plantation Permit
PT Megakarya Jaya Raya	Boven Digoel	39338	Menara Group / Pacific Interlink	Obtained state forest release permit (2012)		SK Bupati Boven Digoel 106/2007	SK.127/MENHUT-II/2012	
PT Energi Samudera Kencana	Boven Digoel	36206	Menara Group / Pacific Interlink	Obtained state forest release permit (2012)		SK Bupati Boven Digoel 110/2007	SK .217/MENHUT-II/2012	
PT Graha Kencana Mulia	Boven Digoel	39478	Menara Group / Pacific Interlink	Obtained state forest release permit (2012)		SK Bupati Boven Digoel 107/2007	SK.218/MENHUT-II/2012	
PT Kartika Cipta Pratama	Boven Digoel	39505	Menara Group / Pacific Interlink	Obtained state forest release permit (2012)		SK Bupati Boven Digoel 109/2007	SK.126/MENHUT-II/2012	
PT Buana Prima Sakti	Boven Digoel	40000	Menara Group	Unknown		SK Bupati Boven Digoel 111/2007		
PT Pelita Mega Kencana	Boven Digoel	40000	Menara Group	Unknown				
PT Visi Hijau Indonesia	Boven Digoel	24180	?	In-principle permission to release state forest land			S.64/MENHUT-II/2014 (in-principle permit)	
PT Wahana Agri Karya	Boven Digoel	14915	?	In-principle permission to release state forest land			S.66/MENHUT-II/2014 (in-principle permit)	
PT Duta Visi Global	Boven Digoel	33970	?	In-principle permission to release state forest land			S.62/MENHUT-II/2014 (in-principle permit)	
PT Trimegah Karya Utama	Boven Digoel	39716	Tadmax Sdn Bhd	Obtained state forest release permit (2011)		SK Bupati Boven Digoel 108/2007	SK.703/MENHUT-II/2011	(08/02/11)
PT Manunggal Sukses Mandiri	Boven Digoel	38552	Tadmax Sdn Bhd	Obtained state forest release permit (2011)		(08/12/07)	SK.702/MENHUT-II/2011	(08/02/11)
PT Tunas Sawaerma (lama)	Boven Digoel	14461	Korindo	Operational	1998		171/Kpts-II/1998	
PT Tunas Sawaerma (baru)	Boven Digoel	19335	Korindo	In-principle permission to release state forest land			S.63/MENHUT-II/2014 (in-principle permit)	
PT Mitra Usaha Sawitindo	Boven Digoel	40000	?	Unknown				
PT Agro Tanita Sejati	Boven Digoel	30000	?	Unknown				
PT Irian Agro Lestari	Boven Digoel	45000	?	Unknown				
PT Nusa Palma Sentosa	Boven Digoel	40000	?	Unknown				
PT Putra Palma Cemerlang	Mappi	33775	Salim Group / Indofood Agri*	Requested release of state forest lands				
PT Dewi Graha Indah	Yahukimo			Unknown				
PT Henrison Inti Persada	Sorong; Klamono District	32546	Noble Group / COFCO	Operational	2006		SK.409/MENHUT-II/2006	
PT Inti Kebun Sejahtera	Sorong; Seget, Salawat Districts	23205	Kayu Lapis Indonesia Group	Operational	2008		SK.516/MENHUT-II/2012	
PT Papua Barat Inti Kebun Sawit	Sorong; Seget District	13351	Kayu Lapis Indonesia Group	In-principle permission to release state forest land			SK .582/MENHUT-II/2011 (in-principle permit)	
PT Inti Kebun Lestari	Sorong; Seget District	14377	Kayu Lapis Indonesia Group	Obtained state forest release permit (2012)			SK.262/MENHUT-II/2012	
PT Inti Kebun Makmur	Sorong; Seget District	20000	Kayu Lapis Indonesia Group	Unknown				
PT Papua Lestari Abadi	Sorong; Segun District	15631	Mega Masindo Group	In-principle permission to release state forest land				

Company Name	Location	Area (Ha)	Parent Company	Current stage of operation	Year of First Planting	Location Permit	Forest Release Permit	Plantation Permit
PT Sorong Agro Sawitindo	Sorong; Klamono, Beraur, Segun Districts	18070	Mega Masindo Group	In-principle permission to release state forest land			S.122/MENHUT-II/2014 (in-principle permit)	
PT Mega Mustika Plantation	Sorong City	9835	?	Unknown				
PT Cipta Papua Plantation	Sorong City	15971	?	Unknown				
PT Semesta Bintang Sentosa	Sorong		?	Unknown				
PT Permata Putera Mandiri	South Sorong	34147	ANJ Agro Group	Operational	2014	SK Bupati Sorong Selatan 83/2010	SK.731/MENHUT-II/2011	SK Gubernur Papua Barat 132/2010 dan 95/2010
PT Putera Manunggal Perkasa	South Sorong / Maybrat	23424	ANJ Agro Group	Operational	2014	SK Gubernur Papua Barat 522/30/II/2011	SK.41/MENHUT-II/2012	SK Gubernur Papua Barat 522/90/II/2011
PT Varia Mitra Andalan	South Sorong; Moswaren and Wayer Districts	20325	BW Plantations (Rajawali)	Operational	2014	SK Bupati Sorsel 9/2007	SK .462/MENHUT-II/2013	
PT Julong Agro Plantation	South Sorong; Saifi and Seremuk Districts		Tianjin Julong Group	Unknown				
PT Anugerah Sakti Internusa	South Sorong	37000	Indonusa Agromulia Group	Requested release of state forest lands				
PT Internusa Jaya Sejahtera	South Sorong	40000	Indonusa Agromulia Group	Requested release of state forest lands				
PT Dinamika Agro Lestari	South Sorong	35000	Indonusa Agromulia Group	Requested release of state forest lands				
PT Persada Utama Agromulia	South Sorong	25000	Indonusa Agromulia Group	Requested release of state forest lands				
PT Rimbun Sawit Papua	Fak-Fak	30596	Salim Group / Indofood Agri	Obtained state forest release permit				525/208/XII/2010
PT Cipta Palma Sejati	Kaimana	49000		Unknown				
PT Agro Mulia Lestari	Kaimana	50500		Unknown				
PT Pusaka Agro Makmur	Maybrat	24897	Pusaka Agro Sejahtera	Obtained state forest release permit				
PT Varita Majutama	Bintuni	17270	Lion Group	Operational	1996		112/Kpts-II/1996	
PT Varita Majutama (II)	Bintuni	35371	Lion Group	Obtained state forest release permit (2013)			SK 46/MENHUT-II/2013	
PT Subur Karunia Raya	Bintuni	38620	?	In-principle permission to release state forest land			SK.285/MENHUT-II/2011 (in-principle permission)	
PT HCW Papua Plantation	Bintuni	24000	?	Application to release state forest lands rejected				
PTPN II	Manokwari; Prafi Distrcet	17974	Yong Jing Investment	Operational	1980		638/Kpts-II/1992	
PT Medco Papua Hijau Selaras	Manokwari; Sidey and Masni	18000	Medco	Operational	2008		SK 313/MENHUT-II/2012	
PT Menara Wasior	Teluk Wondama	32173	?	Obtained Location Permit				

