



Global Demands on Forests - Scoping Dialogue on Climate Positive Forest Products  
26 April 2021  
K. Fernholz, Dovetail Partners

*Photos by cptfernholz*

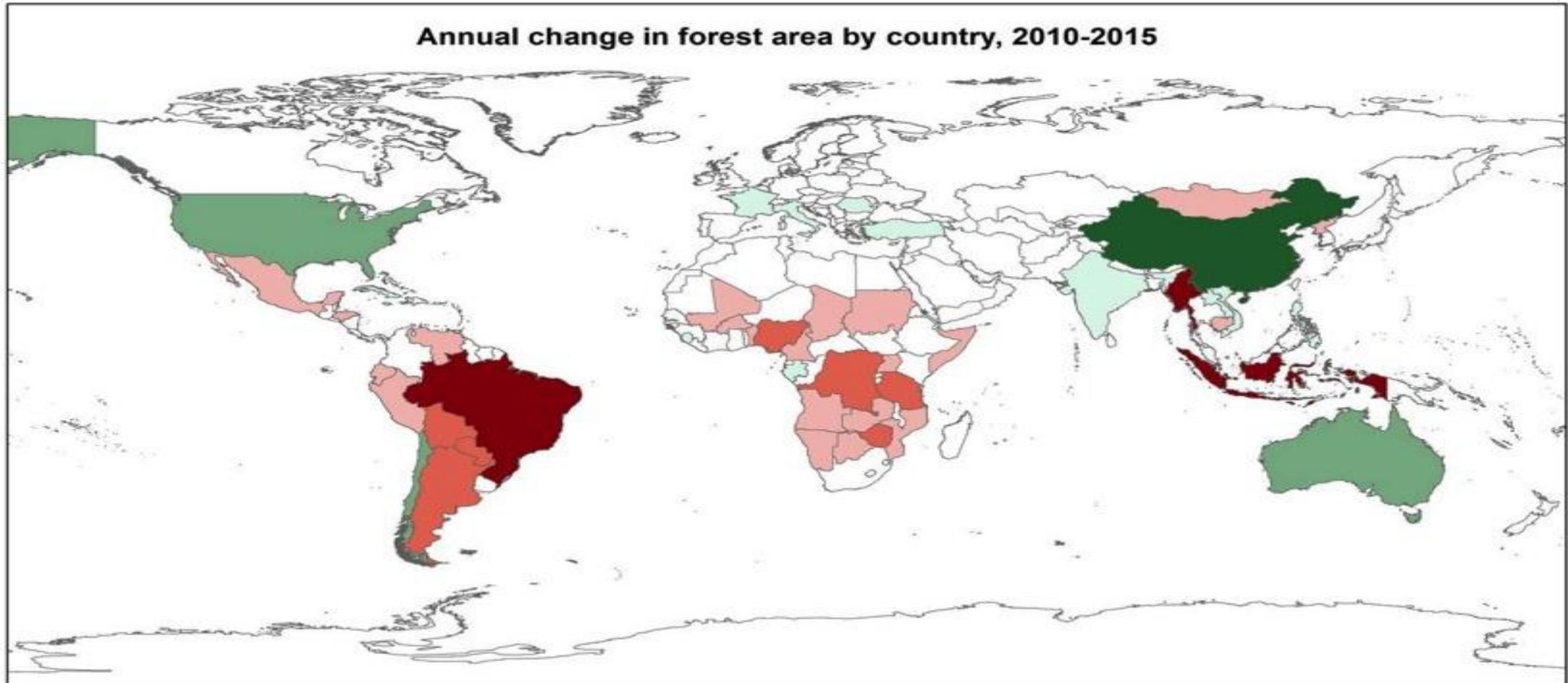
## How has global forest cover changed over time?



Currently **32%** of land on earth is covered by forest



### Annual change in forest area by country, 2010-2015



(1000 ha)

Net loss

- >500
- 250 - 500
- 50 - 250

Small change (gain or loss)

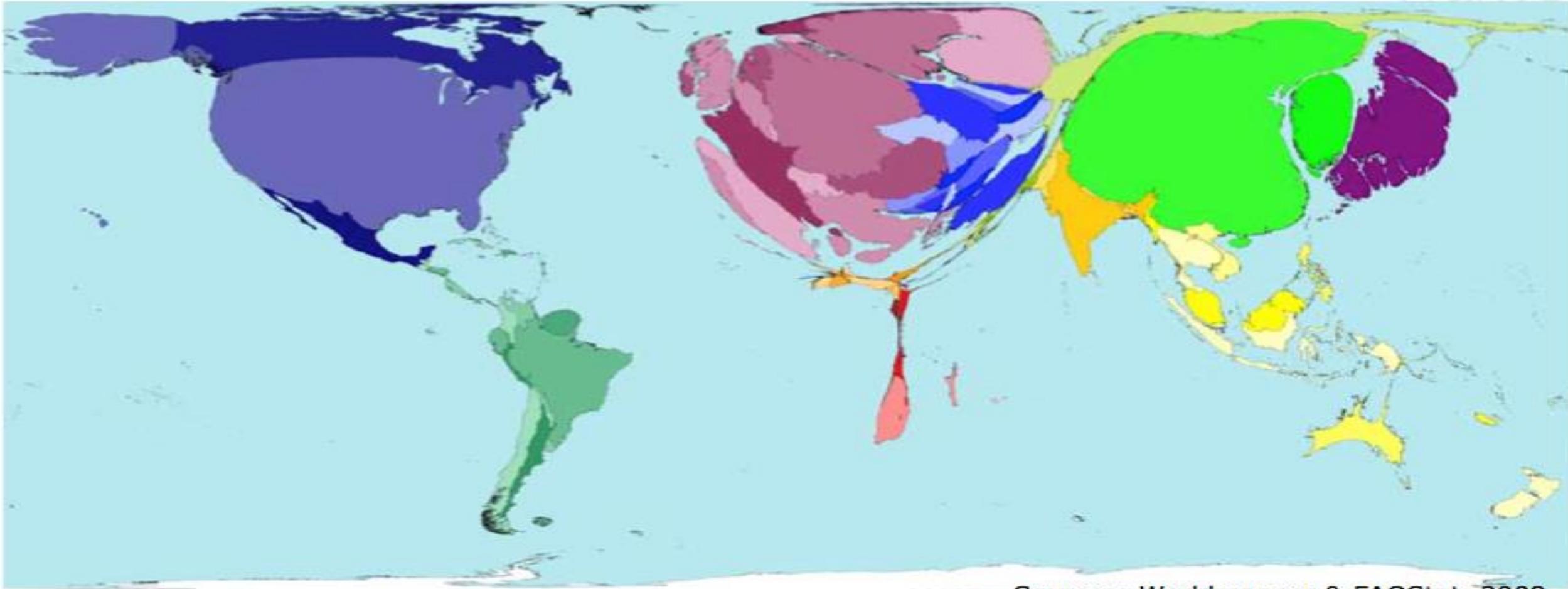
- <50

Net gain

- 50 - 250
- 250 - 500
- >500

*Timber harvesting is not  
the primary cause of deforestation  
in any region in the world*

# World shaped by forest products production



Sources: Worldmapper & FAOStat, 2009

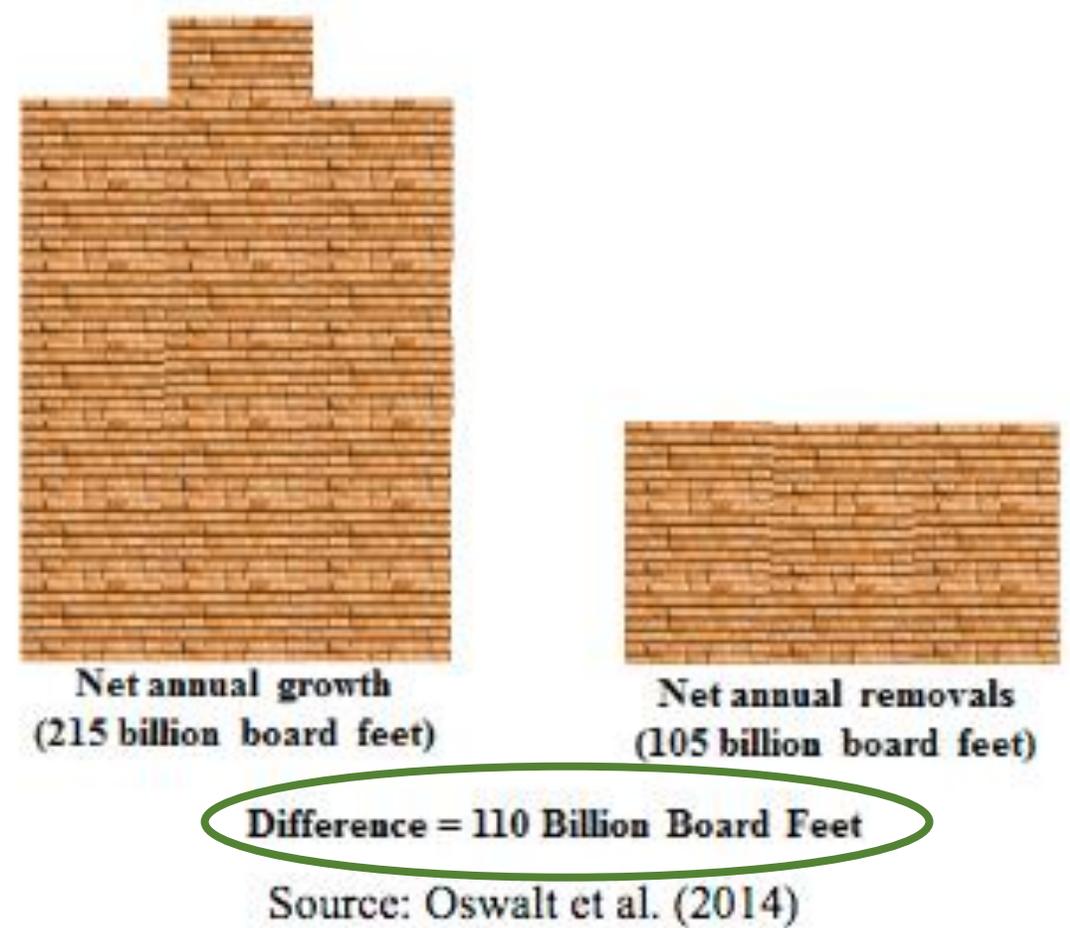
*Regions with the highest levels of industrial timber harvest and forest product output are also regions with the lowest rates of deforestation*



*“...we identified the rise in timber net returns as the most important factor driving the increase in forest areas [in the United States] between 1982 and 1997.”*

*(Lubowski et al. 2008)*

# Net annual growth in U.S. forests is at or near double annual removals





## World Growth in Consumption of Principal Raw Materials, 1961-2017

(Population growth during this period: 2.45x)

<u>Steel</u>	<u>Cement</u>	<u>Aluminum</u>	<u>Plastics</u>	<u>Wood</u>
4.9x	12.7x	12.7x	25.8x	1.6x

Source: Data for wood from FAO (2018); for cement, steel, and aluminum from the U.S. Geological Survey (2018); and for plastics from the Association of Plastics Manufacturers in Europe (2018). Wood and plastics data are for 2016.

A close-up photograph of a green leaf with a dark silhouette of a human profile overlaid on it. The leaf's veins are clearly visible, and the silhouette is positioned on the right side of the leaf, facing left. The text is located on the left side of the leaf, overlaid on the green background.

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