Wood Based Panel Industry in Indonesia: Production and Trade
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Abstract

Forest products industry plays an important role for Indonesia economic through a significant role as domestic product, foreign exchange, and government revenue in the period 1980-2007. The Indonesian wood processing industry experienced both rapid growth and structural change in this period. However, the growth of this industry has decreased in line with the decline log production from natural forests, while the production of logs from plantation forest has not been able to replace it. This paper analysis the development of Indonesia's wood based panel industry, particularly the plywood industry, particleboard and fibreboard. A non-experimental research design was used for this study. Data were obtained from the monthly report on the export of plywood as prepared by Indonesian Forest Revitalization Body (BRIK-Badan Revitalisasi Industri Kehutanan). Forest Product Statistics and the Forestry Statistics of Indonesia in various years were also used to describe of production and trade sector of wood based panel industry. Indonesian wood based panel industry especially plywood product has exported to many countries around the world. The major importer countries were Japan, China, Saudi Arabia, Taiwan and South Korea, which together accounted for 80% of Indonesia’s plywood.

Keywords: plywood, production and consumption

Introduction

Indonesia’s forests are among the most extensive, diverse and valuable in the world. Based on interpretation of available Satellite imagery of 2009/2010 conducted by the Bureau of Forestry Planning, Ministry of forestry, the total area of Indonesia was ± 187.9 million ha. Of this, 98.56 million ha (52.4%) was forested land, 89.03 million ha (45.7%) non-forested land, and 79.900 ha (0.04%) had no data. Most of these forested lands are located in Papua, Kalimantan and Riau, which accounts for 67.7% of Indonesia total of terrestrial forest area. Forests area are then classified based on their main functions: conservation Forest (21.1 million ha or 16.1%), a forest with main function to conserve biodiversity and ecosystem thereof, (include the hunting resort); Protection Forest (32.0 million ha or 24.5%), a forest that protects life buffer system to arrange water management, prevent flood, erosion, prevent brine water intrusion and maintain land fertility; Production Forest (77.7 million ha or 59.4%), a forest with main function to yield forest product.

The production forests, with total area 59.4% of the total forestland is further divided into limited production forest (22.7 million ha), convertible production forest (20.9 million ha) and production forest (33.9 million ha). In 2009, the total log production from natural forest was at 11.47 million m³ consisting of log from concessionaire (HPH) at 4.86 million m³, IPK at 6.62 million m³, plantation forest at 19.0 million m³ and other license at 3.8 million m³.[1]

These forests do not only provide habitats for a wide range of flora, but also play a pivotal role in supporting economic development, the livelihoods of the rural people and the