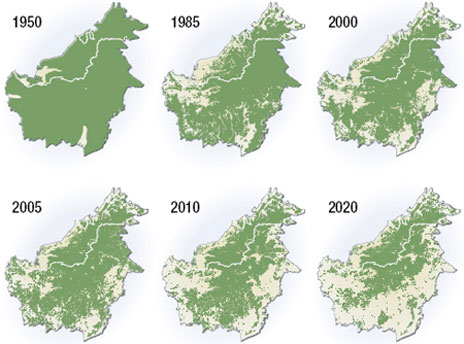
**Loss of Tropical Rainforests**

* **In the Brazilian Amazon, the largest tropical rainforest in the world is being traded in for hamburgers. Brazil is the largest producer of beef worldwide and it’s cattle pastures are the main driver of deforestation within the country.**
* **Due to the demand in palm oil in recent years, much of the rainforests in Borneo have been cleared for oil palm plantations. This is especially so for Malaysia and Indonesia.**
* **The transmigration of people from Java and Bali to Kalimantan, Borneo is also a major cause of deforestation as the government of Indonesia have to provide settlement and farming space for the migrants**
* **Legal as well as illegal logging is also a cause of deforestation, and this is especially true in Borneo and Brazil. This activity is done because of the increasing value of timber which is due to the decrease in availability of supply.**
* **The Congo Basin in Africa has some of the world’s richest mineral deposits. Poor management and mining operations have led to a great impact on the rainforests.**

**Today, rainforests cover only about 6% of the Earth’s surface, yet they are home to over half the species of plants and animals in the world. It is estimated that in 40 years all of the remaining rainforests would have been deforested. This would ultimately have a great impact on biodiversity.**

Why?

Why?



How Much?

* **Since 1996, 10 million hectares have been deforested in the Brazilian Amazon just for cattle pastures – an area of land the size of Iceland.**
* **In Indonesia, about 1.8 million hectares of forest was destroyed each year between 2000-2005.**
* **The net loss of the world’s forests is estimated at 7.3 million hectares (18 million acres) per year according to Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations**
* **It has been suggested that around 300 football fields of forest is cleared every hour for oil palm plantations. Malaysia and Indonesia being the main drivers.**

Rate of deforestation in Borneo