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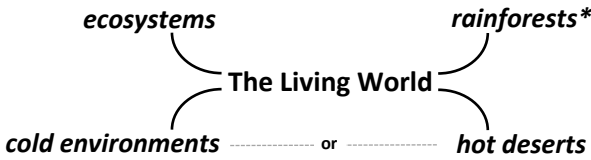
THE LIVING WORLD

Rainforests



quiz

The Big Picture



Value

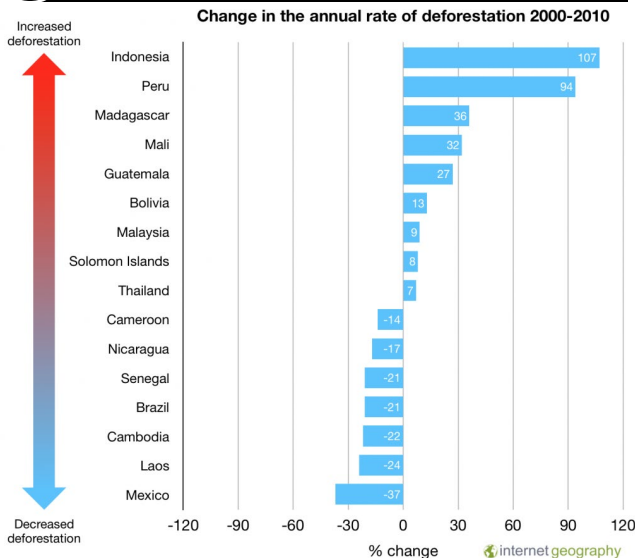
Services

- Carbon sink
- Water and nutrient cycling
- Protection against soil erosion
- Wildlife habitats
- Biodiversity
- Employment opportunities

Goods

- Native food crops (fruit and nuts)
- Wild meat and fish
- Building materials (timber)
- Energy from hydro electric power
- Water
- Medicines

Deforestation Rates



Causes of Deforestation

- Logging** – Hard wood (mahogany & teak) valued for furniture. Small trees pulped/charcoal.
- Road building** – Increased accessibility encourages development e.g. Trans-Amazonian.
- Mineral extraction** – Minerals (gold, bauxite, and copper) mined extensively.
- Energy development** – High rainfall creates ideal conditions for HEP.
- Settlement and population growth** – Settlements developed to service developments.

Impacts of Deforestation

- Economic Development**
 - Commercial farming and mining generate employment and tax income
 - Education, health care and social conditions are improved from tax revenue.
 - Raw materials used by processing industries increasing the value of exported products.
 - Cheap, renewable energy = development.
 - Long-term economic losses due to forests being destroyed and rivers polluted.
 - Loss of biodiversity affects tourism.
- Soil Erosion**
 - Exposed land increases soil vulnerability to soil erosion reducing fertility.
- Climate Change**
 - Local environment becomes hotter and drier.
 - Reduction in carbon sink due to deforestation.
 - Burning trees releases carbon dioxide.

Sustainable Management

