



OIL PALM EXPANSION IN INDONESIA: SERVING PEOPLE, PLANET AND PROFIT?

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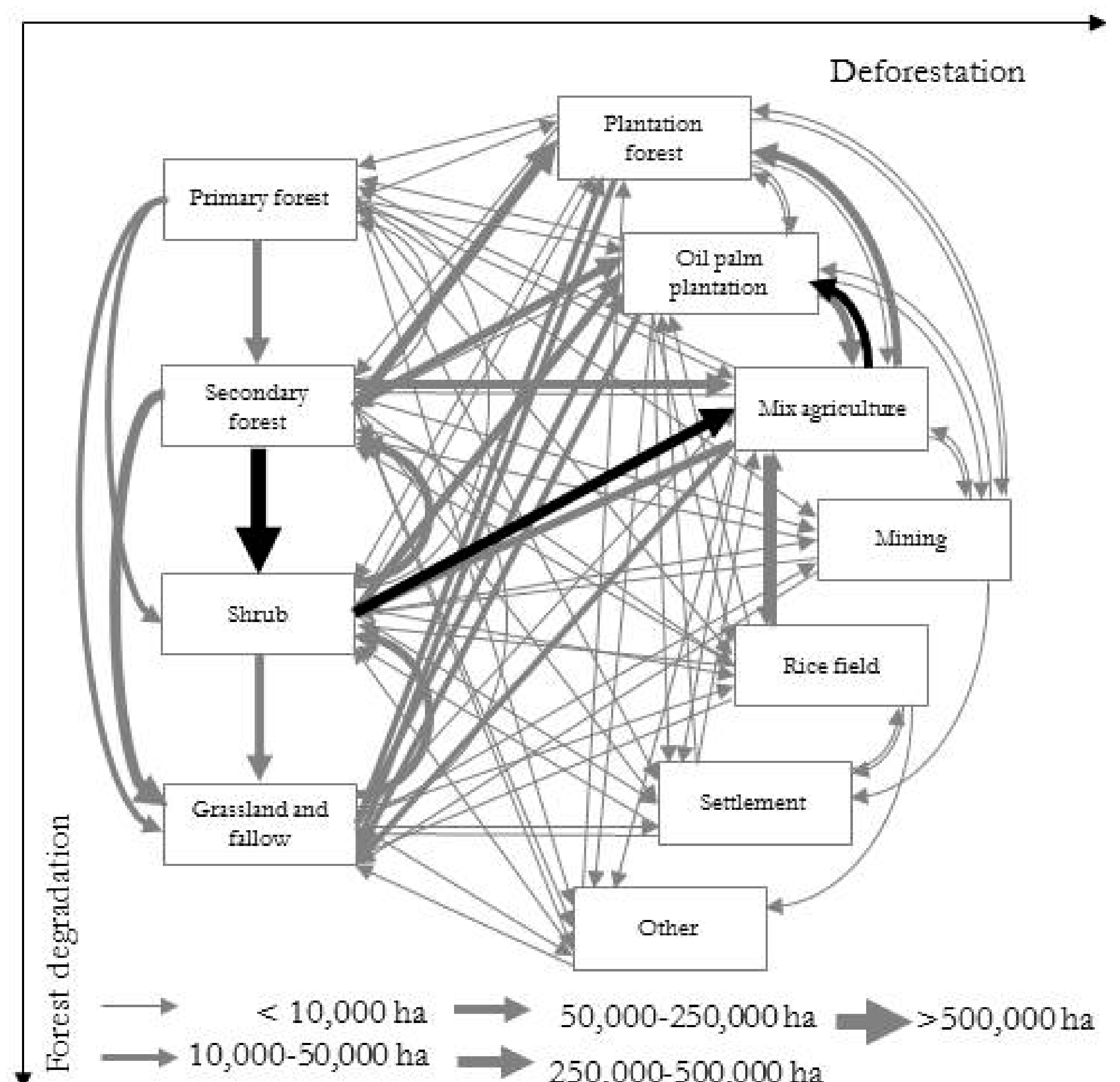
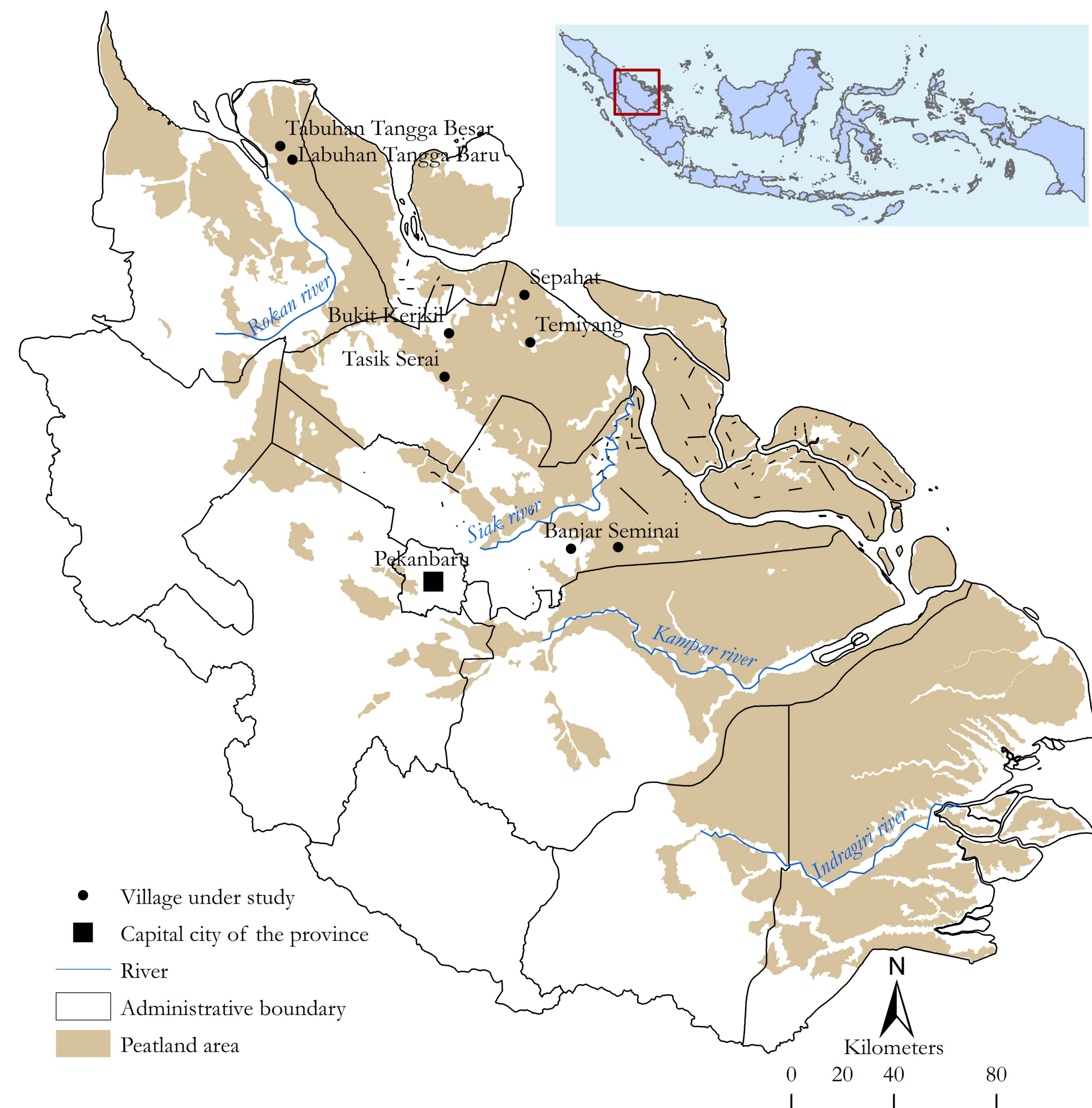
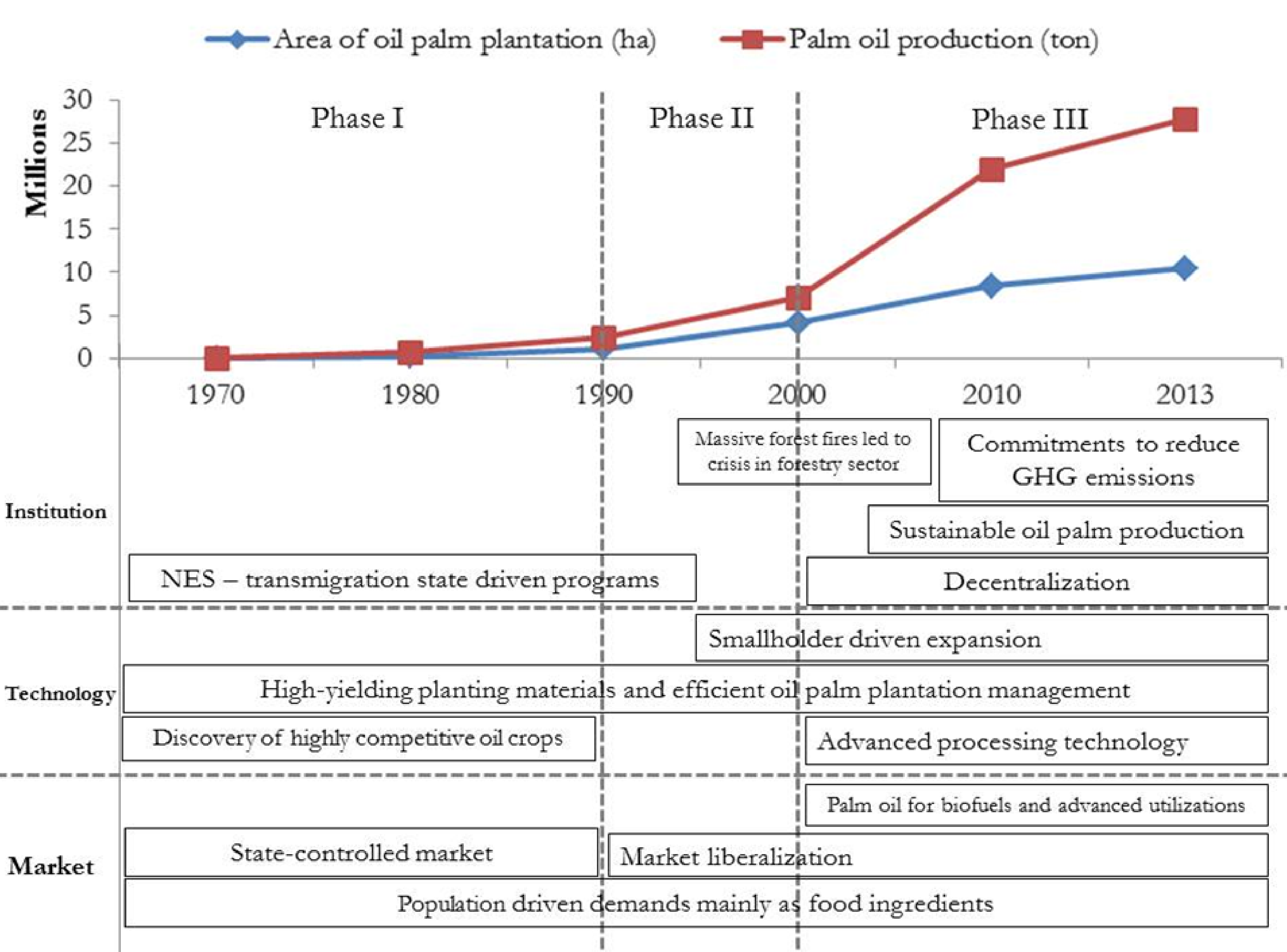
Background

LUCC and deforestation in particular have become a widespread concern in Indonesia. Recent studies suggested that the solution to reduce or even prevent future deforestation is no longer in the forest and forestry sector. The recent history of Indonesia shows that the expansion of oil palm plantations has severely influenced the LUCC especially deforestation process.

Objective

This study aimed to provide a more holistic understanding of how drivers at various levels interplay and continue to feed the expansion of oil palm plantations with its associated land use/cover change (LUCC) particularly deforestation, local economic development and people's livelihoods.

Findings



- The drivers for rapid oil palm expansion in Indonesia come from multiple levels, especially in relation to satisfying the increasing demands for food and energy;
- Institutions have played important roles in facilitating the expansion of oil palm plantations and thus LUCC processes;
- Oil palm has brought positive and negative impacts to the producing regions such as Riau province;
- Smallholder households are playing increasingly important roles in oil palm production and in shaping the landscapes in the forest frontiers of Riau province.