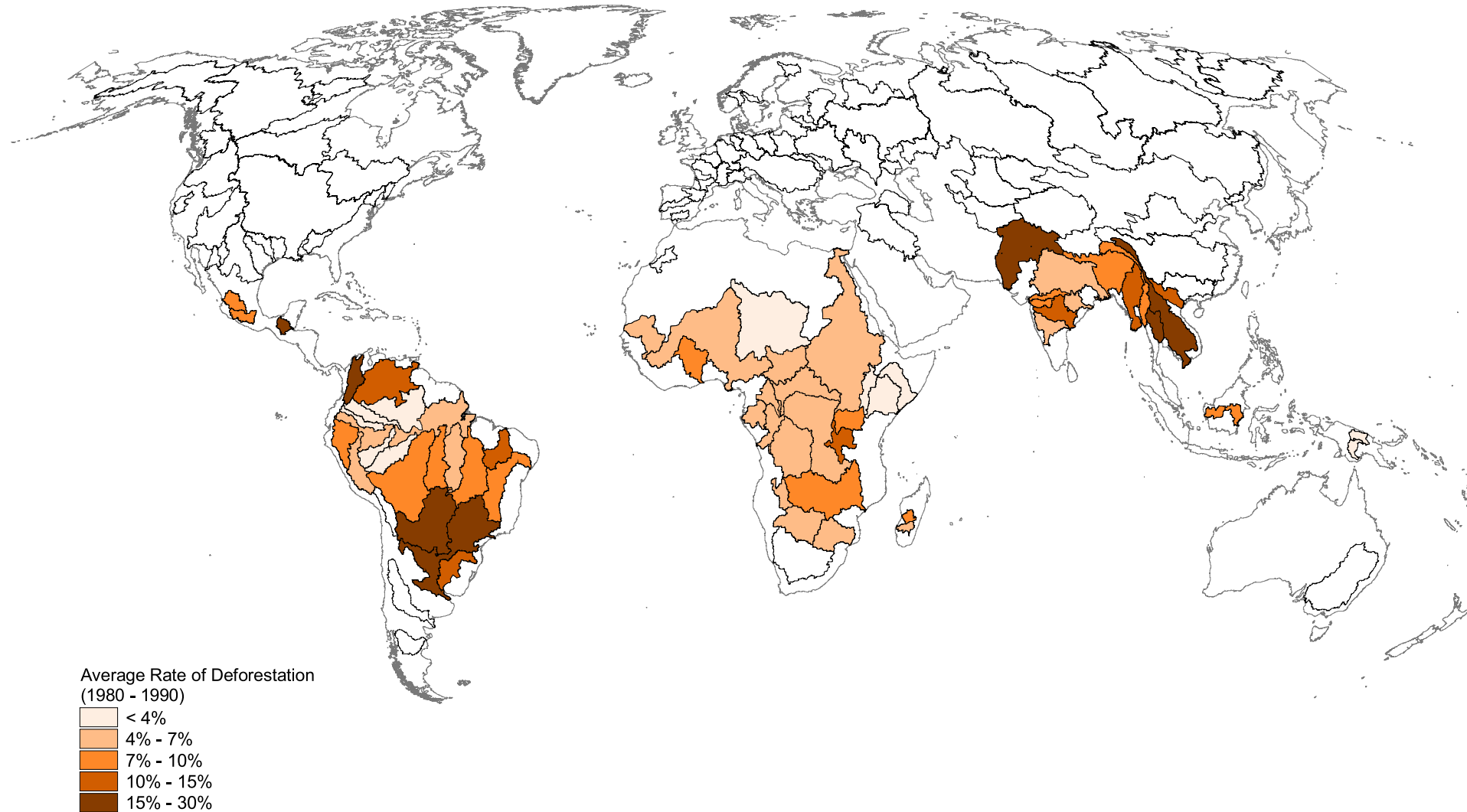


Watersheds of the World - Tropical Deforestation



Map Projection: Robinson

Citation: Revenga, C., S. Murray, J. Abramovitz, and A. Hammond, 1998. Watersheds of the World: Ecolo

Analytical Overview:

Watershed specific deforestation data were only available for 62 basins in the tropical forest areas. Deforestation rate is based on the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) data on forest area for the years 1980 and 1990. Deforestation rate was calculated for each district as forest area lost divided by forest area in 1980. The values were then converted to a grid and the mean was calculated for each basin. Data presented are not annual rates, but mean percent loss of forest for the period 1980-1990.

Description:

This map shows the deforestation rate by subbasin in the tropics for the period 1980 through 1990. The conversion of forestland to other land uses in a watershed is an indicator of watershed vulnerability. Of the 62 basins analyzed, 14 lost more than 10 percent of their forest cover between 1980 and 1990. Almost all these basins, except for Lake Tanganyika, are found in Central and South America and in mainland Southeast Asia. Minor basins in the Amazon and Paraná in South America, and the Indus, Mekong, Irrawady, and Chao Phrya basins in Asia have the highest average deforestation rate, between 15 and 30 percent for the period 1980 - 1990.

Source:

Revenga, C., S. Murray, J. Abramovitz, and A. Hammond, 1998. Watersheds of the World: Ecological Value and Vulnerability. Washington, DC: World Resources Institute, based on unpublished data from FAO (1980 and 1990).