

# Royal Golden Eagle Group (RGE) Singapore

**Sectors:** Agriculture for Palm Oil, Oil and Gas Extraction, Pulp, Paper and Paperboard Mills

## ● On record

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## Sectors

Agriculture for Palm Oil, Oil and Gas Extraction, Pulp, Paper and Paperboard Mills

## Headquarters



## Ownership

The company is owned by its founder Sukanto Tanoto, listed by [Forbes](#) as one of Indonesia's richest businessmen.

## Subsidiaries

[Apical Group](#) – Indonesia  
[April](#) – Indonesia ([profile](#))  
[Asia Symbol](#) – China  
[Asian Agri](#) – Indonesia  
[Bracell](#) – Singapore  
[Pacific Oil and Gas](#) – Singapore  
[Sateri Holdings](#) – China

## Website

<http://www.rgei.com>

Royal Golden Eagle Group (RGE), previously known as Raja Garuda Mas, is a global resources-based manufacturing group with companies operating in the palm oil, pulp and paper, cellulose, gas and oil industries. The company was founded in 1973 in Singapore, by [Sukanto Tanoto](#), who still chairs it. The company employs some 50,000 people and has assets of more than USD 15 billion. Its subsidiaries, affiliates and brands include **APRIL**. Please refer to the [APRIL dodgy deal profile](#) for updates.

## Social and human rights impacts

The paper mills run by APRIL and Toba Pulp have had [serious impacts on local communities](#), as a result of forest concessions being granted for industrial exploitation without the free, prior and informed consent (FPIC) of the people with claims on the land and dependent on the forest resources for their livelihoods. This situation has led to significant social conflict and human rights violations. With the [Constitutional Court ruling "MK 35"](#) last year, there is also a material risk that areas in concessions allocated to APRIL, Toba Pulp Lestari and their suppliers and claimed by indigenous communities may be illegal.

## Environmental and climate impacts

RGE daughter company [APRIL](#), the [affiliated](#) company Toba Pulp Lestari (which is also owned by Mr. Tanoto) and their suppliers, are

having profound negative impacts on biodiversity and the climate. Many concessions supplying the mills owned by Mr. Tanoto are in areas representing some of the last refuges for the critically endangered Sumatran elephant and Sumatran tiger. [Forest clearance](#) of these areas pushes these species closer towards extinction. Drainage of deep peat soils both for natural forest clearance and for plantation establishment is an issue of global concern due to greenhouse gas emissions: a study released by the [University of Helsinki](#), shows that APRIL's Acacia plantations on peatland in Sumatra release around 80 tons of carbon dioxide per hectare per year. Additional concerns include the continued subsidence of [peatland](#) areas, caused by drainage, leading to longer terms risks of flooding and inundation.

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## Other impacts

In 2012, the founder and chairman of RGE, Sukanto Tanotom was involved in one of the biggest tax evasion cases in Indonesian history. RGE daughter company Asian Agri Group, one of Asia's largest palm oil producers, was found [guilty of tax evasion](#). The company agreed to pay 2.5 trillion rupiah (S\$ 250 million) in fines after the Attorney General's Office threatened to seize its assets.

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2021

**2021**

### **Mar 16 2021 | Indonesia's Royal Golden Eagle Group involved in deforestation, despite its sustainability commitments**

One of Indonesia's largest companies, the Royal Golden Eagle (RGE) group, is connected to [9,400 hectares of deforestation in 2020](#). RGE is among Indonesia's largest companies in palm oil, pulp, paper and textile fibers. It claims to have a no-deforestation commitment.

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**2019**

### **May 9 2019 | Bracell (part of RGE) starts a major expansion project in the state of São Paulo**

Bracell's pulp mill in Lençóis Paulista (formerly Lwarcel) has also officially launched '[Project Star](#)', an ambitious expansion effort to increase its current production capacity of 250,000 by an additional 1,250,000 per annum to reach 1.5m ton per annum. Work on the expansion has already begun, and is expected to be completed by the end of 2021. By the time of its completion, Project Star is expected to represent the largest private investment in the state of São Paulo in the last 20 years. Bracell also announced that Bahia Specialty Cellulose (BSC) in Camacari, Bahia, and Lwarcel Celulose in Lençóis Paulista, São Paulo, will now operate under the unified Bracell brand.

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**2015**

### **Jun 4 2015 | APRIL, RGE finally commit to zero deforestation**

Indonesian paper company APRIL and its parent RGE group have joined the growing industry movement to tackle deforestation, with new policies that promise to end development on forest and forested peatlands (source: [eco-business.com](#)).

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## Financiers

For updated information on financiers of APRIL/RGE, please visit the [Forests and finance](#) database (flagging "Royal Golden Eagle Group"), and/or visit the [APRIL](#) Dodgy Deal profile.

