Climate Change on Human Population

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Annotated Bibliography

There have been many developments in many sectors such as technology, population, among other sectors. Some of the changes have led to changes in climate. An example is the recent global warming that has led to a rise in global temperatures. The result has been devastating effects on the lives of humans. Global warming is caused by the greenhouse effect, whereby carbon (IV) oxide accumulates in the atmosphere. It then traps the sun rays as they try to leave the atmosphere. The rays have a higher intensity as they enter the earth's surface, but upon hitting the earth, they cannot penetrate the layer of gases. As a result, there is an increase in global temperature. This paper is an annotated bibliography on the issue of global warming and its impact on the effects of climate change on the human population.

Breisinger, C., Zhu, T., Al Riffai, P., Nelson, G., Robertson, R., Funes, J., & Verner, D. (2013). Economic impacts of climate change in Syria. Climate Change Economics, 4(01), 1350002.

Water has been an issue in most parts of the world, and its scarcity has led to a lot of conflicts. Water plays an important role in economic development as it is used in most of the agricultural activities and at times running the machines. Therefore, with the water shortage in some third world nations, the production levels in this country are likely to reduce, thus affecting the economic development. In the past century (1900- 2005), Syria has also experienced six droughts. Five of these have hit the country so hard that people migrated to other regions, agriculture was affected, and production dropped, and the economic setup of the country was affected. Five of the droughts lasted for one season, where the precipitation rates dropped to around one-third of the normal rates, while the last one lasted for two seasons. Between the years 2006 and March 2011, there was a major shift in the country in terms of economic development. The period has continued over the years and thus continued effects on the economic development of the country. Syria has no access to natural water and therefore the continued struggle over water resources and effect on agriculture. Agriculture is one of the most important economic activities in most counties; then, there is an impact on the economic response during the prevailing drought.

Cheng, L., Abraham, J., Hausfather, Z., & Trenberth, K. E. (2019). How fast are the oceans warming? *Science*, *363*(6423), 128-129.

Due to the rise in temperatures all over the globe, the oceans have been warming up. The results are devastating for the people. The first one is the disappearance of some of the fish species that people depend on to survive. The high temperatures may not favor some of the cold-water fish, which makes them more vulnerable to dying or extinction. In some cases, the warming f oceans may lead to the disappearance of certain plant species that fish depend on while in the ocean. The fish may therefore disappear, and the people lack enough food to sustain them. Apart from that, it may lead to the melting of ice in some of the cold regions of the world, such as Antarctica. The result is the rising of the sea levels, which displaces some of the people who live close to the seas or oceans. The rise in sea level also means that there are higher tides that affect the oceans. The result is that the people who are traveling by sea or even living close to oceans are exposed to higher risks. The analysis of the article is very efficient and can be understood even by the average language user.

Schleussner, C. F., Donges, J. F., Donner, R. V., & Schellnhuber, H. J. (2016). Armed-conflict risks enhanced by climate-related disasters in ethnically fractionalized countries. Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences, 113(33), 9216-9221.

Human interference with climate has led to climate change in Syria and therefore leading to severe droughts that in turn led to agricultural effect and migration of farmers to urban centers. The government has failed to encourage better agricultural systems and practices and, therefore, the continued drought effects. Drought contributed to the civil wars in Syria, and from the statistics provided by different researches, it is clear that there is a connection between conflict and drought. Lack of food security made people migrate to other places with the hope that they would find employment and sustain their lives. However, the situation was no different as they also experienced water shortages in these areas. Therefore, they resulted in other activities that would help them sustain life and thus increase in crimes. The government not taking the initiative to regulate water usage also led to the conflict in Syria.

Kelley, C. P., Mohtadi, S., Cane, M. A., Seager, R., & Kushnir, Y. (2015). Climate change in the Fertile Crescent and the implications of the recent Syrian drought. Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences, 112(11), 3241-3246.

Due to climate change, there has been a need to ensure that there are alternative measures to avoid the negative effects of water shortage. Some of the means that are used include irrigation. Poor management and planning on water use is also another factor that has led to conflict in the world. Most of the irrigation systems in many nations are still traditional, and therefore a lot of water is wasted. There is the use of sprinklers and flood irrigation. This, therefore, means that there is a need for modernization of the irrigation systems ensuring they apply the sprinklers or the drip irrigation. Water used in irrigation is from the underground, and it is over-pumped. Research shows that the underground waters are unsustainable, and therefore the dropping water levels have led to water shortages. The irrigation systems, therefore, have been affected by water shortages as the government officials have failed to plan better on the water usage. This has, in turn, affected wheat and food production in the country. The continued economic and political uncertainty has resulted from poor planning and water conflicts. This has, therefore, impacted the levels of food and export production in the country, therefore affecting economic development.

Healthaffairs. (, 2020). *Climate Change Is the Greatest Threat To Human Health In History | Health Affairs Blog*. Healthaffairs.org. Retrieved 29 December 2020, from https://www.healthaffairs.org/do/10.1377/hblog20181218.278288/full/.

Climate change also increases the risk to human health in several ways. The first one is that people are exposed to conditions such as hyperthermia and sunburns. Due to the droughts, there is alas the chance of getting infections due to dust. Moreover, there is a risk of people getting illnesses such as Kwashiorkor due to the shortage of food. The issue of climate change should, therefore, be controlled and avoided.

References

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