

The impact of Climate Changes- Alejandra Navascués

As we know, climate change and global warming are problems that humans must face nowadays. These are consequences from human activities like the greenhouse effect, deforestation and industrialization. This is affecting our life in a very serious way: our quality of life, the economy, weather patterns and the ecosystem. That's why we need to change some of our habits right now.

The greenhouse effect, one of the causes of global warming, occurs due to an increase in the amount of carbon dioxide and other gases in the atmosphere. As a result, the temperature of Earth's surface gradually increases. Some of the consequences it has are glacial melting, extreme weather events (hurricanes, droughts...), among others. Also, animals are being affected, as the increase in temperature is ruining their habitats.

In the other hand, deforestation is also a problem. Deforestation is the removal of numerous trees in the forests of the world. This causes the alteration of carbon cycles, which is the balance between the carbon stored in the plants, the animals, the air, the soil, and all the carbon buried in rocks that becomes fossil fuels like oil. This is produced when humans cut the tree down. As forests absorb large amounts of carbon dioxide, when they are removed, the process is interrupted, resulting in an increase in greenhouse gas concentrations in the atmosphere.

Finally, industrialization. This is the process of transforming the economy of a nation, focusing first on agriculture and then moving to the reliance of manufacturing. While it has generated new opportunities and economic growth, it also has introduced some negative results. For example, many people moved from rural areas to cities where they worked in factories full of machines, so it led to the burning of fossil fuels on massive scales that affects the atmosphere.

The effects on the sea are also very serious, the sea level is expected to rise, affecting coastal areas and flooding islands or damaging forever the coral reefs as they are very sensibles to high temperatures.

Nevertheless, there are solutions that can combat this conflict:

The use of renewable energy sources can be very useful. For example, the use of wind and solar energy. In this way, we won't use more fossil fuels, and therefore no more CO₂ is released to the atmosphere.

Using solar panels that take the heat of the sun and windmills, we convert the movement of air and the warmth of the sun, the main energy sources for our daily routine and activities.

In addition, we can reduce daily energy consumption (the amount of energy used by an individual) by turning off the lights every time we leave the room, replacing incandescent bulbs with led bulbs, adjust the thermostat properly depending on the season, wash clothes in cold water and avoid the abusive use of hot water.

Climate change and global warming are two big problems that are worrying millions of people. They are responsible for a load of natural disasters such as forest fire. But we can change this situation by acting now and being part of the solution.