

D. Pelepishina, junior specialist
N. Serdega, teacher of foreign languages, research advisor
N. Serdega, teacher of foreign languages, language advisor
Zhytomyr Medical Institute

GLOBAL WARMING AND OTHER ENVIRONMENTAL PROBLEMS AS A RESULT OF HUMAN ACTIVITY

Global warming has become an undisputed fact about our current livelihoods; our planet is warming up and we are definitely part of the problem. Scientists often use the term "climate change" instead of global warming. However, this isn't the only environmental problem that we should be concerned about.

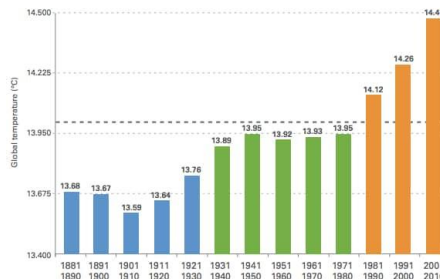
Our environment is constantly changing. Human civilization and globalization are the dominant culprits of constant change in the environment. With a massive influx of natural disasters, warming and cooling periods, different types of weather patterns and much more.

Major Current Environmental Problems

- 1. Pollution:** Pollution of air, water and soil require millions of years to recoup.
- 2. Global Warming:** Climate changes like global warming is the result of human activity.
- 3. Overpopulation:** The population of the planet is reaching unsustainable levels as it faces shortage of resources like water, fuel and food.
- 4. Natural Resource Depletion:** Globally, people are taking efforts to shift to renewable sources of energy like solar, wind, biogas and geothermal energy
- 5. Waste Disposal:** The over consumption of resources and creation of plastics are creating a global crisis of waste disposal.
- 6. Climate Change:** Climate change is yet another environmental problem that has surfaced in last couple of decades.
- 7. Loss of Biodiversity:** Human activity is leading to the extinction of species and habitats and loss of biodiversity.
- 8. Deforestation:** Our forests are natural sinks of carbon dioxide and produce fresh oxygen as well as helps in regulating temperature and rainfall. At present forests cover 30% of the land but every year tree cover is lost amounting.
- 9. Ozone Layer Depletion:**
- 10. Acid Rain:** Acid rain occurs due to the presence of certain pollutants in the atmosphere.
- 11. Water Pollution:** Clean drinking water is becoming a rare commodity. Water is becoming an economic and political issue.
- 12. Urban Sprawl**
- 13. Public Health Issues:** The current environmental problems pose a lot of risk to health of humans, and animals. Dirty water is the biggest health risk of the world and poses threat to the quality of life and public health
- 14. Genetic Engineering:** Genetic modification of food using biotechnology is called genetic engineering. Genetic modification of food results in increased toxins and diseases.

What is Global Warming?

Global warming is the increase of earth's average surface temperature and its oceans due to greenhouse gases released as people burn fossil fuels. Global warming has emerged as one of the most biggest environmental issue in the last two decades. The Earth's climate has changed throughout history. Just in the last 650,000 years there have been seven cycles of glacial advance.



Nobel laureates:

William Nordhaus and Paul Romer. US economists win Nobel prize for work on climate and growth. They one of the first who concern about climate change and global warming.

Dr Rajendra Kumar Pachauri, Nobel Peace Prize Winner 2007. Pachauri was awarded on behalf of the Intergovernmental Panel of scientists on Climate Change won the prize for giving scientific evidence that climate change – both natural and anthropogenic – would be a major threat to peace in the course of this century.

Facts About Global Warming

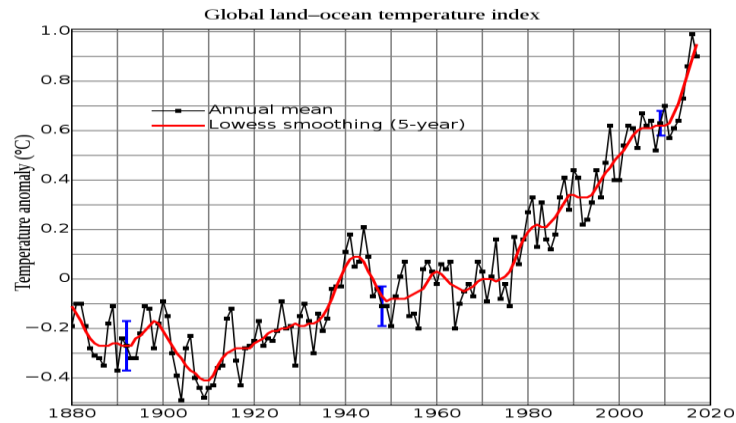
The consumption of fossil fuels in last few decades has contributed much to the degradation of our environment. Global warming, climate change, extinction of wildlife species, depletion of ozone layer, and increase in air pollution are few of the effects of global warming.

Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change: Ice cores drawn from Greenland, Antarctica show that the Earth's climate responds to changes in greenhouse gas levels. This ancient evidence reveals that current warming is occurring roughly ten times faster than earlier.

Surprising Facts on Global Warming

As per NASA, “the global average surface temperature rose 0.6 to 0.9 degrees Celsius between 1906 and 2005, and the *rate* of temperature increase has nearly doubled in the last 50 years. Temperatures are certain to go up further. It seems that the temperature is rising at a rate faster than ever before

Fact 1: The last two decades of the 20th century have been hottest in the last 140 years, according to climate studies.



Fact 2: According to the multinational Arctic Climate Impact Assessment report compiled between 2000 and 2004, the average temperature in Alaska, Western Canada and Russia have risen at twice the global average.

Fact 3: Decreased snow cover

Fact 4: The Arctic ice is melting rapidly. By 2040 the region is expected to have a completely ice free summer, or even earlier.

Fact 5: The Montana Glacier National Park has only 25 glaciers instead of 150 that were there in the year 1910.

Fact 6: Sea levels have risen about 7 inches in the last 100 years, which is more than the previous 2000 years combined.

Fact 7: More than 1 million species have become extinct due to disappearing habitats, ecosystems acidic oceans.

Fact 8: Since the industrial revolution in 1700, the level of carbon dioxide on earth has increased by 34%.

Fact 9: Each year of the 21st century ranks amongst 14 hottest years since 1880.

Fact 10: Between 2000-2100, the heat related deaths will rise by 150,000.

Fact 11: Heat waves caused by global warming is responsible for many heat related illness and deaths.

Fact 12: Global warming can lead to massive food and water shortages and has a life threatening impact on the wildlife.

Global Warming in Ukraine

The increase in the average annual temperature in Ukraine is ahead of the indicator observed in the world. If starting in 1961, the temperature on the planet increased by 0.8 degrees, in Ukraine this figure is about 1.1 degrees.

There is also a threat of the transition of the forest-steppe zone into the steppe zone.

Do you know how to reduce your carbon footprint?

Scientists believe that this causes global warming and is destroying our environment. But do you know the best way ways to save energy and reduce pollution?

You can save fuel by using the bus or train, cycling or walking instead of travelling car.

How about switching some electronic devices (such as TV and computer) at night.

Try using energy-saving light bulbs.

It's a good idea to recycle your cardboard, paper, tin cans, glass and plastic instead of throwing them away.

You should also focus on reducing the amount of plastic in your life.

If these figures do not change and humans continue moving forward in such a harmful way towards the future, then there will be no future to consider. Current environmental problems require urgent attention.

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