

Sustainable Impact of Deforestation on Global Environment

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ABSTRACT: *Deforestation can be described as the general disruption phase of a forest ecosystem that occurs when large-scale trees are removed. It also applies to any approach that modifies an original tree cover, which entails felling all trees on a site, thinning a forest and setting fire to the bush. Deforestation has contributed to the collapse and disintegration of forests in many countries, with a high degree of vulnerability affecting forest habitat, plant systems and wildlife extinction. Unfortunately, deforestation has a more negative impact on developing countries in terms of environmental sustainability on a global scale. Global warming, flooding, climate change, water and air pollution are among the effects of deforestation. Human life, which can lead to hunger, is endangered by the loss of trees without proper replacement with new ones. According to the findings, at least 70% of the developing world lives below the poverty line. This paper addresses global deforestation, how it impacts human life, its benefits, and how we can join hands with the appropriate authorities to avoid environmental destruction by cutting down trees.*

KEYWORDS: *Deforestation, Environment, Forest, Tree, Wildlife, Environment.*

INTRODUCTION

Deforestation can be described as the general disruption phase of a forest ecosystem that occurs when large-scale trees are removed. It also applies to any approach that modifies an original tree cover, which entails felling all trees on a site, thinning a forest and setting fire to the bush. For different purposes, trees are cut down by individuals, such as trees being cut down and used or sold as fuel in the form of charcoal and may also be used as livestock pastures, constructing houses and settlements, etc [1]. Without adequate planting or reforestation, the removal of trees can result in the loss of biodiversity, habitat and aridity. Deforestation is a serious problem that constantly threatens many of the fragile habitats of the planet. Tree removal can also be used in battle to deprive enemies of cover for their armies and essential resources. Although its effects are well known and have been reported on numerous occasions, deforestation remains an environmental hazard, even though many warnings have been provided by scientists and researchers around the world [2].

Causes of deforestation.

Different causes can cause the disruption of a forest ecosystem; one of the main reasons is corruption in government institutions, whereby money and power are used to harvest the forest's wealth.

Illegal logging:

To protect the forests, several government agencies are waging war against illegal logging. However, any sort of legal or illegal logging results in deforestation. In order to satisfy the demands of the timber industry, forests are indiscriminately and randomly degraded by logging companies. This does not give the local wildlife and plants an opportunity to restore them and maintain them. This results in the depletion of biodiversity [3].

Nigeria is ranked as one of the worst countries with the highest deforestation rate, as stated by the International Institute of Tropical Agriculture. According to the Federal Ministry of Environment, the deforestation rate in Nigeria is set at 3.5 percent and 400,000 hectares annually, meaning that at least 400 of every 1,000 forests are deforested annually and only 26 hectares of those lands are reforested, leaving approximately 374 hectares of deforested land. Forests and woodlands are permanently and entirely lost during the process of

deforestation. With the proper approach to handling nature, the condition can be reversed. More than 90 percent of the forest in Nigeria has been lost to deforestation. He then added that the tremendous demolition of the forest calls for action by the coming younger generation. Nigeria also has the highest deforestation rate in the world in terms of the depletion of large forests, which are also known as old-growth forests. Significant forests. About 6 million hectares of the world's largest forest are now lost annually, according to the FAO. This is very significant since vast forests are known to be the planet's most biologically rich ecosystem. Main forests are being replaced by less biodiversity plantations and secondary forests, it was further noted [4].

When about 90% of the population depends on wood as fuel for heating and cooking, deforestation is expected. Deforestation is also compounded by poor farming practices such as cutting and burning. Research shows that, because of the high increase in the cost of kerosene, about 60 percent of Nigerians use firewood for cooking. Sometimes, unfortunately, some people ignorantly set fire to forests that mostly lead to deforestation. Developing countries in the tropics suffered most from deforestation between 2000 and 2005, according to the FAO, which tells us that there is a connection between poverty and deforestation. People can also conclude that the key causes of deforestation in Nigeria are poverty caused by human activity. Another significant problem in Nigeria is corruption, which is a major contributor to illegal logging by companies and forest officials. As Goncalves, Panjer, Greenberg & Magrath have noted, an area of forest about the size of a football field is clear-cut every two seconds by illegal loggers. Illegal trade in timber and its products has contributed to significant economic losses and harm to the environment [5].

Global Warming As Related To Deforestation

Global warming entails climate and ecological problems that is anthropogenic ally produced, including clear changes in climatic temperature and precipitation management. This can be seen in sea level rise, stratospheric ozone depletion, atmospheric effluence and destruction of the forest in certain places. Tropical forests are declining at an unprecedented rate of about 5 percent per decade as forests are cleared to provide timber products, bio-fuels and agricultural turnouts to local, national and world marketers. Its effect on the global environment is one of the main implications of deforestation [6]. Deforestation leads to global warming arising from the cumulative greenhouse gas (GHG) atmospheric concentration, resulting in an increase in global mean temperature as the largest terrestrial carbon sink is forests. Deforestation will also interrupt the global carbon cycle, increasing the concentration of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere. Tropical deforestation is said to be responsible for discharging annually into the atmosphere nearly two billion tons of carbon (as CO₂). Emission of the carbon dioxide because of global deforestation is the same as an estimated 25% of discharge from combustion of fossil fuels [7].

Health Problems Associated With Global Warming

Global warming-related health problems include drought, floods and hurricanes, etc., and these issues can endanger human life. In conjunction with global warming, Harvard Medical School physicians attributed recent outbreaks of malaria and dengue fever in the West to climate change. The prevalence of kidney stones and other health problems is growing with an increased threat to human life. Other potential health problems associated with global warming include heat stroke, agricultural climate stress, malnutrition, an increase in the number of mosquitoes carrying malaria, placing around 65% of the world's population at risk of malarial infection. High temperatures that are also associated with global warming increase the concentration of ozone at the lowest level, making it a dangerous and unsafe material capable of degrading existing cases of asthma and also causing lung tissue damage. It should be noted, however, that the ozone layer at its normal position in the upper atmosphere protects the earth from the harmful effects of ultraviolet radiations [8].

Agriculture

Deforestation of rainforests happens primarily because of forestry. Impoverished and local farmers are given rooms to provide for their families. For every land cleared of trees by deforestation, land is made available for agriculture by planting crops, growing living stocks, etc. Deforestation also makes it possible for farmers to practice commercial and subsistence agriculture[9].

Planting Of Trees

In the absorption of excess ground water, the planting of trees plays a very important function. From their roots, they suck up the extra moisture and return it to the atmosphere. When the soil becomes waterlogged, this plant life helps to regulate and balance the excess water from rain. Tree planting can play an important role in the flooding of the city and the surrounding areas [10].

CONCLUSION & DISCUSSION

Combined with the imminent universal shortage of land, economic globalization raises the challenge of impending land-use pathways. While human beings cannot survive or exist outside of their immediate surroundings, the damage to the environment is rapidly accelerated by their actions. Agricultural growth induces further cropland expansion and production in a more structured environment, where trade-offs between forests and agriculture can be minimized by spatial management and the use of low land competition. Building on political benevolence and strong community establishments will further resolve community-based forest management.

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