

# IMPACT OF ENVIRONMENTAL DEGREDDATION

Paper 401 – Environmental Perspective in social  
work

SOS LIFE LONG EXTENSION EDUCATION  
& SOCIAL WORK

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# MEANING OF ENVIRONMENTAL DEGRADATION

- ▶ Environmental degradation is the deterioration of the environment through depletion of resources such as air, water and soil
- ▶ It is defined as any change or disturbance to the environment perceived to be deleterious or undesirable.





# How Environmental Degradation Occurs

- ▶ Urbanization
- ▶ Population growth
- ▶ Economic growth
- ▶ Intensification of agriculture
- ▶ Increase in energy use
- ▶ Increase in transportation

# IMPACT OF ENVIRONMENTAL DEGRADATION



# Impact on Human Health

Human health might be at the receiving end as a result of the environmental degradation. Areas exposed to toxic air pollutants can cause respiratory problems like pneumonia and asthma. Millions of people are known to have died of due to indirect effects of air pollution.

# Loss of Biodiversity

Biodiversity is important for maintaining balance of the ecosystem in the form of combating pollution, restoring nutrients, protecting water sources and stabilizing climate. Deforestation, global warming, overpopulation and pollution are few of the major causes for loss of biodiversity.

# Ozone Layer Depletion:

Ozone layer is responsible for protecting earth from harmful ultraviolet rays. The presence of chlorofluorocarbons, hydrochlorofluorocarbons in the atmosphere is causing the ozone layer to deplete. As it will deplete, it will emit harmful radiations back to the earth.



# Loss for Tourism Industry

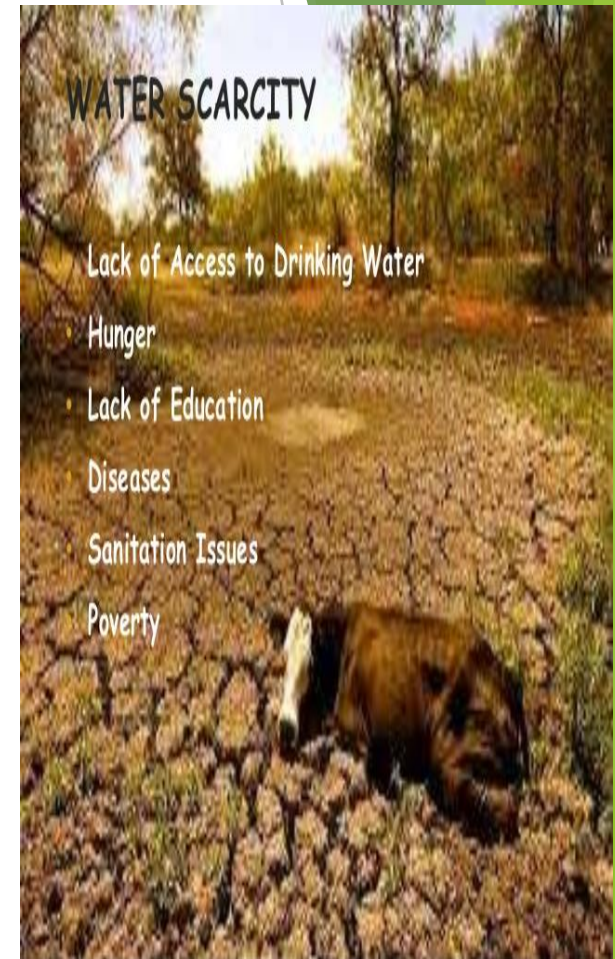
The deterioration of environment can be a huge setback for tourism industry that rely on tourists for their daily livelihood. Environmental damage in the form of loss of green cover, loss of biodiversity, huge landfills, increased air and water pollution can be a big turn off for most of the tourists.

# Economic Impact

The huge cost that a country may have to borne due to environmental degradation can have big economic impact in terms of restoration of green cover, cleaning up of landfills and protection of endangered species. The economic impact can also be in terms of loss of tourism industry.

# Drought, Desertification, and Water Scarcity

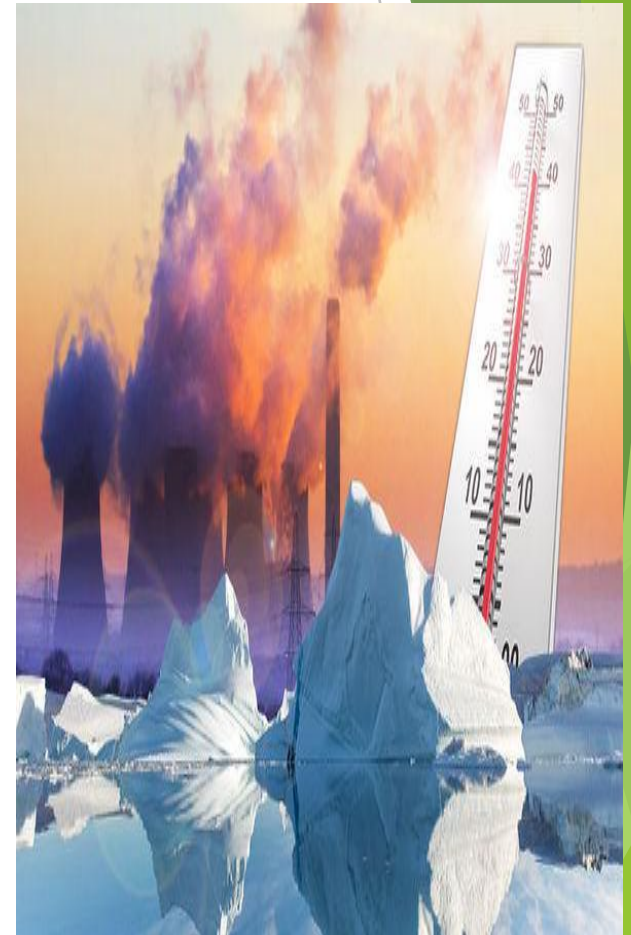
Drought and water scarcity is the third main climate change impact that may significantly contribute to climate-related migration. Droughts, desertification, and water scarcity are likely to increase because of global warming.



# Global Warming

Evidence indicates

that the Earth's climate system is warming in a way that has no precedent in the history of human civilization. The continuing temperature acceleration might break the balance of a human ecosystem that has been long established at a lower temperature.



# POVERTY

In the majority of developing countries, poverty is attributed to poor crop harvests and lack of quality natural resources that are needed to satisfy basic survival needs. Most vulnerability situations brought about by water shortages, climatic

change and poor crop yields in developing **countries** are tied to environmental degradation.



THANK YOU