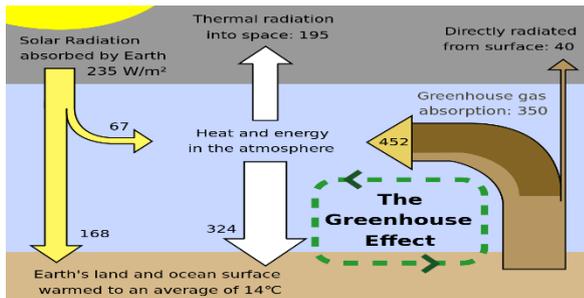


Human impact on climate change

Have you ever heard someone say ‘Ohh.. a few years back it was cooler/warmer at this time of the year.’. Well that is not a complain without a ground. There are reasons for the climate change and the main one is the human behavior.

Have you ever heard of the greenhouse effect? The greenhouse effect is the process by which radiation from a planet’s atmosphere warms the planet’s surface to a temperature above what it would be without it’s atmosphere. Because of the natural greenhouse effect Earth can support life.



If you heard about this phenomenon it’s probably something like ‘Because of the burning of fossil fuels (coal, oil and natural gas), industry, etc. now we have the greenhouse effect.’, which is not true. The truth is that it was always here (that’s why there is life on our planet). What humans did was intensify it.

How does that effect our climate? This increase made the carbon dioxides (CO₂) levels higher. How exactly did we do it? By burning fossil fuels, cement production and tropical deforestation. Because of the increased greenhouse effect now we have global warming, ocean acidification, change of plant growth, smog and ocean pollution. As the Earths atmosphere warms the water vapor increases and whit it the possibility of clouds and the quantity of the rain and of the snow. As a consequence the climate patterns have changed.

And now about ozone holes. It’s a fact every single one of us have heard of ozone holes during any debate on global warming. The question is do we really know which are the main reasons for this phenomenon? Scientific service have proved that one of the most significant cause is the human behavior. But what is the ozone layer that everybody is talking about? It is actually a region of Earths atmosphere which contains a high concentration of ozone (O₃). Thus it serves as a shield from the harmful ultraviolet radiation from the sun. This radiation is potentially damaging the life on Earth.

Ozone depletion or ozone hole is actually the decrease of ozone in Earths atmosphere. The main culprit of it is the chlorofluorocarbon (CFCs). To be more specific when the CFCs reach the atmosphere they break down in the substances that include chlorine. The chlorine reacts with O₃ (ozone) and destroys the ozone layer. The amazing or terrifying thing is that one single atom of chlorine can destroy more than thousand ozone molecules. CFCs are found mainly in spray aerosols. Industrial areas used to use such chemicals for more than 50 years. Because of this human behavior the ozone layer above the Antarctic, northern hemisphere (including the U.S.) is deteriorating. The results of this phenomenon includes skin cancer, cataract in humans, distraction of sea biodiversity, harming animals and of course climate changes.

As a conclusion if human beings don’t change their behaviour towards the envierment they’re going to continue on this path that leads to certain death and the destruction of our planet.