

#### Week 4: What else is being impacted by the enhanced Greenhouse Effect?

We can see the impact of climate change in many ways. Here are a few more of them:

1. **Disruption of Ecosystems:** Changing temperatures affect ecosystems and biodiversity, leading to species extinction, shifts in migration patterns, and disrupted food chains.
2. **Impact on Agriculture:** Changes in temperature and precipitation patterns can reduce crop yields and lead to food shortages in vulnerable regions.
3. **Health Risks:** Global warming increases the spread of diseases, such as malaria, and can worsen air quality, leading to respiratory issues.

Creatures, specifically adapted to heat, cannot survive. This is causing extinction of species. Scientists believe that 8% of species are at threat of extinction solely due to climate change.



(Gillie and Marc sculptures can be found all over the world).

Forests play a vital role in determining the balance in the absorption of carbon dioxide. They have absorbed nearly a third of our carbon emissions.

Forests are being burned and cut down and replaced for rubber, pastures for cattle, but a big driver is for palm oil which we use in a wide range of products e.g. soap, shampoo, bread, chocolate, crisps.

Deforestation has a multi-pronged impact: habitats are disappearing; trees stop absorbing carbon dioxide; and trees storing carbon release it back into the atmosphere.

Now nearly a third of our CO<sub>2</sub> emissions are caused by deforestation.

Warmer temperatures and changing precipitation patterns create favourable conditions for disease-carrying insects, like mosquitoes and ticks. This increases the spread of diseases such as malaria, dengue fever, Zika virus.

Higher temperatures and changes in rainfall can contaminate water sources with pathogens like cholera, leading to gastrointestinal illnesses.

This really is a man-made disaster on a global scale.

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