



ECOLOGICAL SYSTEM



ENVIRONMENT

Assignment 1 and 2



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The Positive Impacts on the Environment since the Coronavirus

It goes without saying that this is a moment of immense confusion and distress. With more than 3,000,000 confirmed cases and unfortunately thousands of coronavirus deaths worldwide, there are absolute disruption, anxiety and confusion for people all over the world. Often it can be helpful to search for good news amid confusion and desolation. So here are some positive news on how positive changes have been seen in the environment since the COVID-19 outbreak measures.

We're going to discuss the positive sight of COVID-19 impact on Environment. From Air to Ocean there are some massive changes have been occurred since this global pandemic. Animals are reclaiming their space in nature. Discussions are given below; after positive impact we will talk about negative consequences and how to get rid of this.

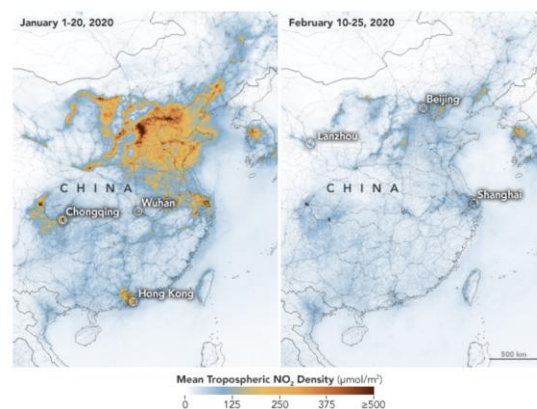
Ocean Breathing:

The coronavirus lockdown gives much-needed breathing space to the oceans of the world, let's hope that when it ends we don't go back to bad habits, the Ocean Sustainability Trust writes. Millions of people were asked to quarantine in just a few months, and entire countries were locked down to reduce coronavirus spread. This pandemic shut down massive industrial activity. European Space Agency satellite imagery shows that air pollution levels are falling significantly around the world. Experts have confirmed there is growing evidence that the protective ozone layer on Earth is recovering. All of these changes in the way we live may have a significant impact on the health of the ocean, at least in the short term. Here at the Ocean Conservation Trust, we are working towards a world-view that supports a healthy ocean for the benefit and enjoyment of everyone. In securing our future on planet Earth a healthy ocean is of fundamental importance. Of the oxygen we breathe, 50% comes from the ocean.



Fresh Air:

Air pollutant levels and heating gases across some towns and regions show significant drops as coronavirus impacts work and travel. New York researchers told that their early results showed that carbon monoxide was reduced by nearly 50 per cent compared to last year, mainly from cars. Planet-heating gas CO₂ emissions have also plummeted sharply. Also in Bangladesh before this pandemic we were the worst country on the scale of Air Pollution but now the Air is so fresh that it feels great to breathe in. Scientists say that by May, when CO₂ emissions are at their peak thanks to the decomposition of leaves, the levels recorded might be the lowest since the financial crisis over a decade ago. Major cities that suffer from the world's worst air pollution have seen reductions of deadly particulate matter by up to 60% from the previous year, during a five-week lockdowns period.



Lower Pollution Levels:

While a drop in transport during the coronavirus lockdowns has resulted in lower levels of pollution worldwide, the slowdown in traffic has also lowered another big polluter: noise. Birds are by far the most visible animals found in towns, and they are also the most vocal among the streets and parks. The signals that birds send each other via song are a means of survival. Without the ability to sing, hear and be heard, birds would find it hard to find a mate or to defend their territory against predators. Birds aren't the only animals benefiting from less noise. According to a recent study published in the Biology Letters newspaper, noise pollution affects any number of creatures ranging from frogs, shrimps, fish, mammals, molds, and snakes.



So as we discussed about the positive site of COVID-19 pandemic now it's time for the negative consequences made by human in this pandemic.

Certainly in the short term the new coronavirus crisis has had positive ecological effects. As we saw in the forced lockdown in China which caused people to stay home, a huge decline in industrial activity followed. This has led to a decline in the production of coal-powered electricity and in the pollution that comes with it. This has been the case around the globe as government leaders ask or demand that their citizens stay home to stop the virus from spreading. Production is decreasing, there is less resource pressure, and less transport fuel burnt, less carbon emissions and less air pollution. All of this, however, is temporary and the environmental impacts of coronavirus are likely to relegate ecology to the background in the long term. Let's understand why.

- Food retailers resumed the use of plastic bags. Furthermore, many consumers have increased their consumption of take-away food supplied with single-use packaging.
- Most post-harvest processors in this sector are household-friendly women who cause severe hardship, especially in developing countries where there are no social security networks for low incomes women.
- New coronavirus temporary ecological findings have been confirmed as good news. In the long run, though, it will most likely be relegated to a second stage for ecology and climate change issues.

As we can see those negative consequences has been occurred by the COVID-19, we need to take some proper step to eliminate or slow down the process of those consequences. We need sustainable use of products in our daily life. Aware of our environment. Here are some key point that could help us –

- After crisis there will be a mass acceleration of industrial work, where people will not consider about natural health.
- We need more people who will understand and make sure there will be no harm on the environment.
- We need to help the animal in nature who reclaim their position during the lockdown process.
- Recycling maybe the best option for us after the crisis.
- We need to make some environmental program for people awareness.
- Self-awareness is the best solution for all of us to help the environment be the same as now.
- Highly political person around the world should spread the proper guideline for the people to understand the value and position of nature that the world is not only for us there's always a many kinds of animal roaming in the nature who need their rights toward the nature.

We need to be careful for us and the environment also. We are not only the species that have rights only to have the resources of nature the species around the world have the same rights as us.



Eliminating Plastic is Possible ?

Plastic has become hate stuff. We hate what it does for our world and at the same time like or even love the usefulness it offers us in our daily lives. Just take a little plastic inventory into your own life. Depending on your lifestyle this could be a long list. So what happened to make the plastic so bad?

When we end up using it, we get rid of it. Sell it, give it away, use it for another purpose, bury it or perhaps just dump it in the nearest ocean or river. We humans have a long history of disposing of things we don't want any more. Talk of our own garbage, human waste. We've come a long way in trying to cope with the problem. It took centuries but we have made progress.

It turns out that most of this collected waste is transported to another part of the world to be processed. The human wastes are stored, processed and locally recycled. Metals and glass can also be manufactured locally, since they have a cash value. Plastic has little or no cash value and it's going on a little ocean cruise and we don't see it again until it's just crossed in the same water. The scavengers sifted through the waste, discarded what they might use, and the rest made it down the river to the ocean where it is toxic to the creatures living there.

Most single-use plastic, including thin plastic bags, can be re-melted. Several U.S. bag makers said they would be able to recycle the bags if collected and returned. We don't have to stop creating plastic waste just like with human waste. Only keep an eye on disposal. And besides, clean up the mess we've already made.

If we look a world without plastic we have to imagine below things:

- Tooth brush without plastic.
- Toilet seat of non-plastics.
- Bath room brushes and cleaning equipment without plastics.
- Buckets and mugs of non-plastics.
- Cooking utensils without plastic handles.
- All house hold electric equipment without plastic parts.
- All electric switches without plastics.
- Electric panel board at home without plastics.
- Electric cables without plastic insulation.
- Phones without plastics.
- Laptops and their carry bags without plastics.
- Foot ware without plastics.

Above are some of the daily human products you can't even get out of the house with. Replacements for the same are not available either on the same property or in the required scales. I am not even raking up the issue of prices. Once we come up with solutions for the few items I mentioned above we will be able to take up the larger one once. Blaming plastics on everything has become trendy. Indeed, plastic responsibility has become a self-sustaining business that has now achieved the status of celebrity.



The pathway by which plastic enters the world's oceans

Estimates of global plastics entering the oceans from land-based sources in 2010 based on the pathway from primary production through to marine plastic inputs.

Our World
in Data

Global primary plastic production:
270 million tonnes per year

Global plastic waste:
275 million tonnes per year
It can exceed primary production in a given year since it can incorporate production from previous years.

Coastal plastic waste:
99.5 million tonnes per year

This is the total of plastic waste generated by all populations within 50 kilometres of a coastline (therefore at risk of entering the ocean).

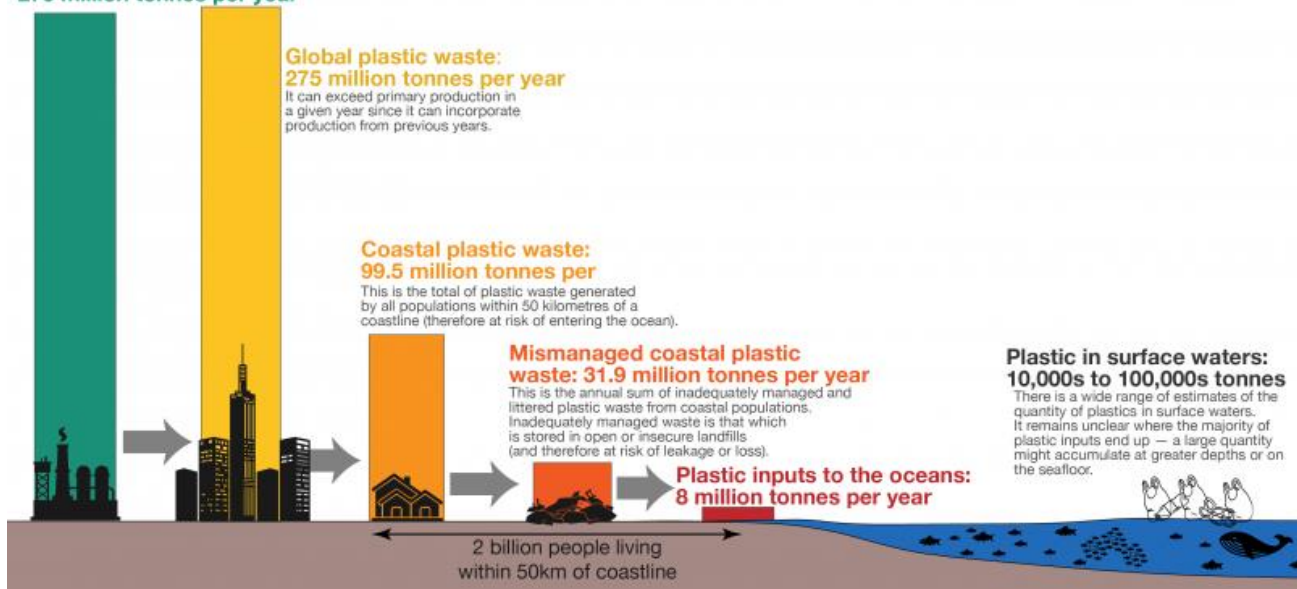
Mismanaged coastal plastic waste:
31.9 million tonnes per year

This is the annual sum of inadequately managed and littered plastic waste from coastal populations. Inadequately managed waste is that which is stored in open or insecure landfills (and therefore at risk of leakage or loss).

Plastic inputs to the oceans:
8 million tonnes per year

Plastic in surface waters:
10,000s to 100,000s tonnes

There is a wide range of estimates of the quantity of plastics in surface waters. It remains unclear where the majority of plastic inputs end up — a large quantity might accumulate at greater depths or on the seafloor.



Source: based on Jambeck et al. (2015) and Eriksen et al. (2014). Icon graphics from Noun Project.

Data is based on global estimates from Jambeck et al. (2015) based on plastic waste generation rates, coastal population sizes, and waste management practices by country.

This is a visualization from OurWorldinData.org, where you will find data and research on how the world is changing.

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As with other plastics, plastic bags are made from crude oil. This is a problem because crude oil releases large quantities of emissions and this means that the commodity is not biodegradable. Natural Environment reports that every year about 100,000 sea turtles and other marine animals die because they are strangled in bags or mistaken for food. As with plastic bags, bottles of plastic water were treated as an integral part of daily life until recently, despite being thrown away at will. Overflow at landfills, allowing processing of high volumes of fossil fuel. Covering the surface of the ocean contributes to habitat and wildlife loss. Importing waters from overseas requires transportation and delivery trucks which have a significant impact on the environment. Most people may have noted the excessive overuse of plastic in packaging over the last 10 years. This is a major environmental issue, with only 14% of plastic packaging being used worldwide making its way to recycling plants and only 9% being recycled in fact. Then, a third is left in fragile ecosystems and 40% ends up in landfills.



Coffee cups are an immense source of plastic waste, as they contain a plastic paste known as polyethylene that helps keep your coffee warm but also prevents recycling of it. Every year, 16 billion cups of paper are used, causing 6.5 million trees to be cut down, 4 billion gallons of water to be lost, and enough electricity to power 54,000 homes annually often goes to waste.



As recycling is not working and the use of plastics getting newer scopes, here are my thought given below;

- Storage containers

The plastics are used to make containers for storage. They seem to be lightweight, but still strong enough for general use. They replace ceramics / glass, because when dropping on the floor, they will not break. They substitute wood because manufacturers find methods to effectively mass-produce them. They replace metals, because they do not chemically react with food. If we don't use plastics then we need to use the materials mentioned above for storage.

- Disposable cutleries

You can imagine people bringing their own set of steel cutlery for their own packaged food everywhere if plastics were not used to make the disposable cutlery.

- End up having more carbon in the atmosphere

Plastics are polymers and made of smaller molecules of hydrocarbons. If we don't use them to make plastics, they end up being burned as liquid fuel. One result of crude oil refining is the small hydrocarbon molecules. They'll still be there during the process of processing. They will be used as fuel if they are not used as the polymerization starting material. Storing them as waste products is not possible, since people would want to get the most out of it all.

- Less cheap alternatives for the poor

In general, plastics objects tend to be cheap so poor people can afford to use them at home. Getting less plastics would mean less accessible alternatives for the poor. For some other purposes, they have to spend more to get some relevant items, have less money. The poverty-stricken living standards will take longer to improve.

Here are some solution for reducing plastic pollution internationally;

- Policies such as bans on plastic bags, maximum daily emissions cap limits to water shields and incentives for recovering fishing equipment are required in local measures to reduce plastic pollution.
- Countries should be unified in order to set concrete plastic waste reduction goals. A major international agreement — the need for the time is one with clearly defined waste management objectives.
- All stages of the life cycle of plastics, linking manufacturers to customers and eventually waste management, must be taken into account in successful policies.
- Subsidies for fossil fuels stimulate the plastic industry. Countries will also end subsidies for fossil fuel. The production of raw plastic is made up by 4–8 percent of oil each year.
- The most efficient way to deal with the pollution is to control the production and distribution of plastics.
- It is a realistic option to prohibit single-use bags and to make customers pay a significant amount to more durable bags.
- Waste separation can be achieved in partnership with the community, and presents a major employment opportunity.

The government of the Maldives is committed to education of kids on ocean environments and their adverse effects on plastics. Kids snorkel and dive to see what needs to be protected — and what harm plastic can do. Yet countries less affected by plastic waste must also take action. It is up to governments to help create the alignment of incentives that I mentioned previously. All will help to ban plastic for now and to persuade people not to use plastic by enforcing and supporting local legislation. People, brands and governments need to continue to educate the public on the damage caused by plastics and work with companies to shorten their supply chain and make their economies more localized.

At the end of the day there will be so many people around the world who will try to use plastic for their little bit of profit. We need to stop those people and educate our whole worldwide people about the dangerous effect of plastic. So that, they don't use it or use it in sustainable way. There was a time when plastic wasn't invented people were still lived their life so now if we eliminate the plastic hopefully there will be also not enough problem we will be facing. So it's high time for us to make some change.

~~~~~Thank You So Much~~~~~