# **Environmental Science**: Summarize and analyze research on the impact of climate change on biodiversity

### **Initial Prompt: Summarize this paper**

The research paper explores the significant impact of climate change on Mexico's biodiversity. Climate change, driven by increased greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, raises temperatures, alters precipitation patterns, and increases the frequency of extreme weather events. These changes threaten species and **ecosystems**, particularly in biodiversity-rich regions like Mexico. Rising temperatures and altered climates directly contribute to the extinction of species, habitat degradation, and loss of ecosystem functions.

Vulnerability to climate change is a major theme in the study. It identifies that ecosystems and species sensitive to even minor changes are at high risk of extinction, especially in regions with limited adaptive capacity. Poor countries, such as Mexico, face greater risks due to economic constraints and insufficient resources for adaptation. The paper also points out that while all regions will feel the impacts of climate change, poorer, megadiverse countries will bear the brunt of biodiversity loss, with significant gaps between rich and poor nations in terms of mitigation strategies.

Detailed modeling of climate scenarios in the paper helps simulate future environmental changes, providing insights into how extreme temperatures will impact species extinction rates. Climate change alters species' habitats, causing shifts in geographic ranges and threatening organisms that cannot migrate or adapt. The research highlights the need for stronger global efforts to address biodiversity loss, emphasizing that the most vulnerable ecosystems and species require urgent protection.

In **conclusion**, this study draws attention to the urgent threat climate change poses to biodiversity, particularly in megadiverse but economically vulnerable countries. It underscores the necessity for global cooperation to ensure sustainable adaptation and conservation strategies, mitigating the ongoing loss of species and ecosystems.

# Refined Prompt: Focus on impact of climate change near costal zones/areas.

Climate change heavily impacts coastal ecosystems through sea level rise, ocean acidification, extreme weather events, and rising temperatures. Sea level rise inundates crucial habitats like mangroves and salt marshes, reducing biodiversity and shoreline protection. Ocean acidification weakens marine organisms, especially corals, harming coastal ecosystems. Increased storms and hurricanes damage coastal habitats, while warming waters alter species distribution and promote marine diseases. Coastal erosion and habitat fragmentation further threaten species and ecosystem functions, stressing the need for targeted conservation and climate mitigation strategies to protect these vulnerable zones.

## Refined prompt: how it impacts on daily life of being.

Climate change impacts daily life by altering ecosystems that people depend on. Rising sea levels flood coastal areas, forcing communities to relocate and damaging infrastructure. Ocean acidification reduces fish populations, threatening livelihoods and food security in fishing communities. Increased storms and extreme weather events disrupt agriculture, lead to food shortages, and increase the risk of displacement. Erosion and habitat loss damage ecosystems that provide natural protection from flooding, increasing vulnerability. These changes affect health, economy, and overall well-being, making daily life more precarious, especially for vulnerable populations.

### Insights of how climate change impacts in coastal areas:

Climate change significantly impacts coastal ecosystems, leading to direct consequences on human life. Rising sea levels threaten to inundate coastal areas, causing loss of homes and of communities. damages displacement Flooding also infrastructure, including roads, buildings, and utilities, while eroding vital coastal habitats like mangroves and wetlands that act as natural barriers against storms. Ocean acidification and warming disrupt marine ecosystems, reducing fish stocks and harming industries reliant on seafood, thus threatening food especially fishing-dependent in coastal security, and communities.

The increase in extreme weather events, such as hurricanes and typhoons, exacerbates damage to human settlements and agricultural lands. Storm surges and flooding from these events destroy crops, leading to food shortages and economic losses. Additionally, climate change contributes to habitat fragmentation and coastal erosion, reducing biodiversity and weakening ecosystem services that support human life, such as water purification, carbon sequestration, and protection from natural disasters.

These environmental disruptions affect public health, with vulnerable populations facing higher risks of displacement, food insecurity, and disease outbreaks. Poorer communities, often lacking the resources to adapt, are disproportionately affected. The cumulative effect of climate change on coastal ecosystems undermines human well-being, requiring urgent action to mitigate its impact through sustainable development, climate adaptation, and ecosystem conservation strategies

#### **Evaluation:**

Climate change has severe effects on coastal ecosystems, including sea level rise, ocean acidification, and more extreme weather events. These changes disrupt critical ecosystems such as mangroves and coral reefs, reducing biodiversity and weakening natural defenses against storms and erosion. Declining fish stocks and damaged marine food webs threaten food security and local economies, particularly in vulnerable coastal communities. Poorer regions are disproportionately affected, facing increased displacement and economic hardships. Immediate global efforts in conservation, adaptation, and sustainable development are essential to mitigate these impacts and preserve coastal ecosystems.

#### Reflection:

Reflecting on my learning experience, I found the topic of climate change's impact on biodiversity and ecosystems deeply insightful. Researching the interconnectedness of environmental systems and human societies highlighted the complexity of the challenges we face. A key takeaway was understanding how global phenomena like sea-level rise and ocean acidification directly affect both marine species and human livelihoods, particularly in coastal regions.

One challenge I faced was synthesizing large volumes of data into concise, accessible summaries without losing essential details. Striking a balance between scientific accuracy and clarity for a non-expert audience required careful selection of information. I also had to ensure that my reflections were grounded in credible sources, which reinforced the importance of cross-referencing multiple studies.

An insight I gained is how disproportionate the effects of climate change are, impacting vulnerable populations the most. This reinforced the importance of integrating both ecological and socio-economic perspectives when addressing

environmental issues. Overall, this process enhanced my critical thinking and research synthesis skills.

## **REFERENCE:**

Climate Change and Its Impacts on Biodiversity in Mexico - ResearchGate