

# A Biology Stand point

There are more than just global warming that is having a negative human impact on earth. There are at least five other negative impacts from humans to the earth. Humans cause eutrophication of lakes this is when there is a runoff of sewage, fertilizers, and manure from pastures. They increase nutrients in lakes and causes excessive growth of algae and other plants. As large populations of photosynthetic organisms die, organic material accumulates at the bottom of lakes and decomposers use up oxygen as they break down excess organic matter. With depleted oxygen, more organisms die and more decomposition occurs, further depleting oxygen more matter accumulates on the lake bottom. By pollutants in the air from combustion of fossil fuels cause acid rain. Acid rain damages lakes and destroys ancient stone architecture. Global warming excessive burning of fossil fuels causes high concentrations of CO<sub>2</sub> and water vapor in the air. These absorb much of the infrared radiation reflecting off the land (greenhouse effect), causing the average temperature of the earth to rise. An increase of 1 degree Celsius worldwide could cause polar caps to melt raising the sea level. Cities like New York, L.A., and Miami could be under water in the future. Depleting of the Ozone layer is the accumulation in the air of chlorofluorocarbons, refrigerants, and chemicals from aerosol cans.

That have formed a hole in the protective ozone layer, this allows more UV light to reach Earth which has caused an increase in skin cancer. The last one is massive destruction of habitats throughout the world has been brought about by agriculture, urban development.

mining forestry, and environmental pollution.



## *Why is our planet warming?*

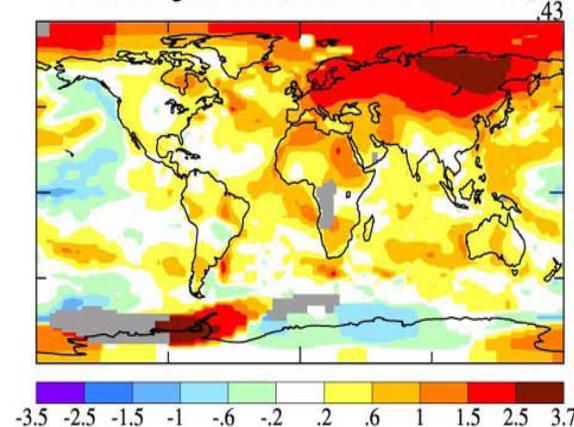
Scientists say there are ten years to fulfill a turnaround. After this period consequences are unpredictable or unmanageable. Global Warming has the potential to change every single aspect of human life. It is time to inspect the way we work, travel, dwell and consume. The problem is no longer considered as a political one, it concerns to everybody of planet Earth's 6.5 billion inhabitants. Climate Change is the most complex challenge we are facing. Nearly 50 percent of all humans live near coast. A sea level of one meter will force millions of people from Bangladesh, Netherlands and New York to leave their homes and triggers global migration and economic issues.



## *Is The Planet Warming?*

To most people, they may think that the planet is not warming, but in reality the planet is warming. The Earth is warming. The hottest five out of fifteen global warming since 1980 have been after 1997. Scientist has on record the hottest year was 2005. But according to the NASA group is between the 7th and 12th warmest since systematic meteorological record-keeping began in 1880. But the Goddard scientists note that the 9 warmest years in the record have occurred since 1997.

2008 Surface Temperature Anomaly (°C)  
Meteorological Year [Base Period: 1951-1980]



# Are humans a major cause of global warming?

Tim Flannery the author of The Weather Makers believes that humans in fact, are the major cause of global warming. In his non fiction novel, Tim Flannery gives many examples that humans are indeed the problem. He does not give a direct statement which in fact states the question, but after you piece together the information you can tell what point he is trying to propose.

In Chapter 3 “The Gaseous Greenhouse” Flannery states how the CO<sub>2</sub> level in the Earths atmosphere had sky rocketed since the start of the industrial revolution. Prior to the 1800’s there was around 645 gigatons (billion tons) of CO<sub>2</sub> in the atmosphere. It is said that by the year of 2100 there will be a total of 1,210 gigatons of CO<sub>2</sub> in the atmosphere. Half of that will be because of the burning of fossil fuels. At that time there should also be an estimated amount of 9 billion people on earth. The rise of CO<sub>2</sub> will be unpredictable if thing is going to change. Scientists have already probed (or it has been said to be proven) that high concentrations of CO<sub>2</sub> is the cause of excessive heating.

One of the largest CO<sub>2</sub> contributors comes from man made spray cans. In 1975 spray cans alone were flinging 500,000 tons of their contents into the atmosphere. In 1985 global use of the main types of CFCs stood at 1,800,000 tons. Their stability is the key factor since they can last a very long time in the atmosphere. There are many more subjects that point a finger at humans for being the cause for global warming, but if you want to find out more about the subject you will have to read the book yourself.



# Humans cause Global Warming

Humans are a big cause in global warming because we capture and use energy from stored energy sources. Humans use fossil fuels (any organic material, as oil, or natural gases), which is our main energy source. If we can help stop this there is little hope of a secure future for humans. Carbon dioxide is a problem, every time you burn something carbon dioxide is released. It could be a car, airplane or coal plant. This means that everyone should burn less fuel in order to keep our world stable

Another important thing that releases carbon dioxide would be the conversion of forests and grasslands into farmlands and cities. That is because the living plants have carbon and when they die, carbon dioxide is released into the atmosphere.

In the past the ocean had been able to store carbon but that’s I no longer happening. The ocean was holding too much, so how it releases the carbon, which cause the amount in the atmosphere to climb.

There are also some types of carbon, which are used in refrigeration that have powerful gases. They occur in lower concentrations in the atmosphere but they still contribute to global warming.

Humans population is also a problem. The human population has grown by more than five times and each person uses more energy.

Humans have the power to help prevent global warming

