

# climate change

*by Kkkkkk Fffffff*

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## Climate change

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Climate change refers to the long-term changes in the average global climate patterns. Over time, there have been significant changes in the earth's climate that consequently affects life on earth. It is essential to note that climate change has been adversely associated with the over-accumulation of the greenhouse gasses in the earth's atmosphere. According to scientists, the accumulation of greenhouse gases in the atmosphere is referred to as the greenhouse effect. From a wider perspective, climate change has been associated with an increase in global temperatures due to the overconcentration of greenhouse gases in the lower atmosphere. Understandably, the earth's atmosphere traps a lot of solar energy radiated back from the earth's surface to consequently cause a warming effect on the earth. Major greenhouse gases responsible for this absorption include; carbon dioxide, methane and fluorinated gases.

Arguably, the scientific consensus concerning climate change holds that climate change is drastically increasing with much of it caused by human activities. Scientists have also noted that climate is not a future issue; but rather a current phenomenon that is happening now. Various pieces of evidence have been drawn together by scientists to support this assertion. For instance, satellite images have continued to show significant reductions in the amount of ice sheets and polar glaciers. In this sense, the melting ice has been associated with the increase in the average sea-level by approximately 4 mm annually. In 2020, NASA noted that Greenland and the Antarctica ice sheets melted at a rate faster than in the 1990s. Similarly, besides the increasing ocean levels, climate change has presented adverse effects on the earth's diversity both in the oceans and on land. Declining agricultural supplies and water supplies due to droughts have also been associated with climate change.

Notably, the increasing concentration of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere has resulted in enhanced uptake of the gas by the earth's water bodies such as our oceans, thus causing them to become more acidic. It is important to note that the increased acidity levels in the oceans pose significant risks to coral reef systems. In Florida, only about 10% of the coral reef system are living. Also, because of climate change, the coastal city of Miami has faced a constant threat of flooding due to the significant rise in sea levels. Because the climate is adversely associated with the increasing concentration of greenhouse gases in the atmosphere, reducing the atmospheric concentration of these gases is believably the best mitigation measure to address climate change.

The move to clean and renewable energy has been considered an essential strategy to reduce carbon load in the atmosphere.

Additionally, both countries and states have adopted very essential policies aimed at achieving net-zero emissions. Enhancing energy efficiency and the production of carbon-free energy are the main measures implemented by a majority to reduce the total carbon emissions. In Miami, about 24% of the electricity are produced from renewable sources of energy. Locally, the state of Florida is committed to achieving a 60%-reduction in carbon emission by 2035. Also, plans are underway to ensure the state becomes carbon neutral by 2050. This workshop has been very educative with lots of very informative materials. I have learnt a lot of things, however, the one thing that I have resonated well with is the information on the need to take immediate actions to remedy the impacts of climate change. It was argued that climate change represents one of the most pervasive and threatening crises that we face currently sufficient and immediate actions. In line with this, enhancing a collective effort to address climate change seems to a better strategy to avoid presenting future generations with an already destroyed earth.

President Joe Biden has been focused to ensure that the United States actively takes part in the global carbon reduction efforts. The following is a representation of the policies implemented by his administration; the president has signed series of executive orders that are particularly meant to ensure that the country achieves a 100% clean energy economy to consequently reach the net-zero by 2050, the president has not only promised to ensure that the US implements the Paris agreement on climate change but also rally the rest of the world to collectively address the threat of climate change globally and standing against the heavy industrial polluters who have for a long time disrespected the environments occupied by the minority populations and consequently used them as dumping grounds.

### References

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