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IMPACT ASSESSMENT OF CLIMATE CHANGE: A STUDY ON GLOBAL SCALE

Manohar Dilip Dalvi, Ph.D. Research Scholar, M.G.Vidyamandir's M.S.G. Arts, Commerce and Science College, Malegaon Dist. Nashik

ABSTRACT

This research paper presents an in-depth Impact Assessment of Climate Change conducted on a global scale, aiming to comprehensively analyse the multifaceted consequences of climatic shifts worldwide. The study explores the intricate interplay between various environmental factors, anthropogenic activities, and the resulting impacts on ecosystems, societies, and economies across diverse geographical regions. Employing a multidisciplinary approach, this study integrates data from reputable sources, including climate models, empirical observations, and scientific literature, to assess the extensive ramifications of climate change. It examines shifts in temperature patterns, precipitation dynamics, sea level rise, extreme weather events, and alterations in ecosystems, emphasizing the repercussions on biodiversity, natural resources, and human livelihoods. Furthermore, this research delves into the implications of climate change on socio-economic sectors such as agriculture, health, infrastructure, and global supply chains. It scrutinizes vulnerabilities, identifies hotspots, and evaluates adaptation and mitigation strategies implemented to address climate-related challenges. Additionally, the paper sheds light on the global commitments outlined in international agreements like the Paris Agreement and assesses their efficacy in mitigating climate change impacts. It also discusses the role of policies, technological innovations, and international cooperation in fostering resilience and sustainability in the face of ongoing climatic shifts. This comprehensive assessment elucidates the urgency of addressing climate change and underscores the critical need for proactive measures to minimize its adverse effects. The findings aim to inform policymakers, stakeholders, and the public, fostering greater awareness and fostering concerted efforts towards a more resilient and sustainable global future amidst the challenges posed by climate change.

Keywords: Climate change, Impact assessment, Global scale, Environmental factors, Anthropogenic activities, Ecosystems.

I. INTRODUCTION

Climate change, a phenomenon marked by alterations in the Earth's climatic patterns, holds immense global significance due to its widespread and far-reaching impacts. It encompasses shifts in temperature, precipitation, sea levels, and weather patterns caused primarily by human-induced factors such as greenhouse gas emissions, deforestation, and industrial activities. This planetary-scale transformation poses profound challenges to ecosystems, human societies, economies, and the overall stability of our planet. Conducting an impact assessment of climate change on a global scale is of paramount importance due to the magnitude and complexity of its effects. Understanding the broad-ranging consequences of climate change allows us to comprehend its multifaceted impacts across diverse regions and ecosystems worldwide. Such an assessment enables the identification of vulnerable areas, the evaluation of risks, and the formulation of strategies to mitigate and adapt to these changes. Assessing the global impact of climate change aids in recognizing the interconnectedness of environmental, social, and economic systems, emphasizing the urgency of proactive measures. It provides insights into the diverse challenges faced by different regions, communities, and sectors, fostering awareness of the need for collective action and international cooperation to address this pressing global issue. Moreover, a global-scale impact assessment serves as a vital tool for policymakers, scientists, and stakeholders, guiding informed decision-making, policy formulation, and the allocation of resources to tackle the far-reaching consequences of climate change effectively.

II. LITERATURE REVIEW

Yuan et al. (2023) examined the phenomenon of flash droughts and their global transition patterns in the context of climate change. Their research provided valuable insights into the increasing occurrences of rapid-onset droughts, termed "flash droughts," and their intensification across various regions due to changing climate conditions. By utilizing observational data and climate models, the study highlighted the escalating risk of these rapid and severe drought events, emphasizing the urgent need for improved monitoring, early warning systems, and adaptive strategies to mitigate their impacts on agriculture, water resources, and ecosystems. Liu et al. (2023) focused on predicting the potential impacts of climate change on bioenergy production derived from perennial grasses in the year 2050. Through modelling techniques and scenario analysis, the study assessed the future prospects of utilizing perennial grasses for bioenergy under changing climatic conditions. Their findings suggested shifts in the distribution and productivity of perennial grasses due to climate change, indicating potential alterations in bioenergy production landscapes. The research highlighted the importance of adapting bioenergy strategies to changing climatic conditions and land use patterns for sustainable energy production. Agyeman and Lin (2023) investigated the impact of natural gas deregulation on innovation strategies for climate change mitigation across OECD countries. Their study explored the relationship between deregulation policies in the natural gas sector and the development of innovative technologies aimed at mitigating climate change. The research highlighted the complex interplay between regulatory frameworks, market structures, and innovation dynamics in fostering or hindering advancements in clean energy technologies. The findings emphasized the significance of policy interventions and regulatory measures in incentivizing innovation for effective climate change mitigation strategies. Wagener et al. (2022) conducted a critical review focusing on the evaluation of climate change impact models. Their study emphasized the importance of rigorous evaluation methods for assessing the performance and reliability of models used to predict the impacts of climate change. By systematically evaluating various modelling techniques and approaches, the research outlined best practices and challenges in model evaluation. The study contributes to enhancing the credibility and accuracy of climate change impact assessments, emphasizing the need for transparent and robust model evaluation protocols. Liu et al. (2022) conducted an impact assessment focusing on the nonstationarity of extreme precipitation resulting from the combined effects of climate change and urbanization. Through a case study in an urban agglomeration along the Yangtze River, the research investigated the alterations in extreme precipitation patterns due to changing climatic conditions and urban development. The study highlighted the complex interactions between climate change and urbanization, revealing the nonstationary nature of extreme precipitation and underscoring the need for adaptive strategies in urban planning to manage associated risks effectively. Masson-Delmotte et al. (2021) contributed to the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) sixth assessment report, specifically focusing on the physical science basis of climate change. The report comprehensively synthesized current scientific understanding, evidence, and projections related to climate change. It provided an updated assessment of climate change impacts, attributions, future scenarios, and observed changes in climatic variables. The study serves as a critical reference for policymakers, researchers, and stakeholders, providing a robust scientific foundation for informed decision-making and climate action.

III. METHODOLOGY

The Materials and Methods section outlines the approach and techniques used in studying climate-related changes in globally, particularly the Baltic region, emphasizing the potential impacts on surface and channel flow, nitrogen concentration changes, and their ecological consequences. It also delves into the energy balance model and equations employed to understand temperature dynamics and CO2 equilibrium. Additionally, it touches upon the anticipated effects of climate change on agriculture, forestry, economic growth, precipitation patterns, and the international commitments made by Russia under the Paris Agreement. The section introduces the potential exponential increase in surface and channel flow in globally, particularly the Baltic region, citing studies (Lopatin, 2019a; Meynkhard, 2019a). It attributes this rise to nitrogen concentration changes and illustrates the likely repercussions, including pollution and ecological issues, supported by references (Mikhaylov, 2018; Magazzino, 2016). Additionally, it highlights the expected alteration in mineral shares in legumes and available chemical elements due to global temperature rise and its potential impact on nitrogen release rates.

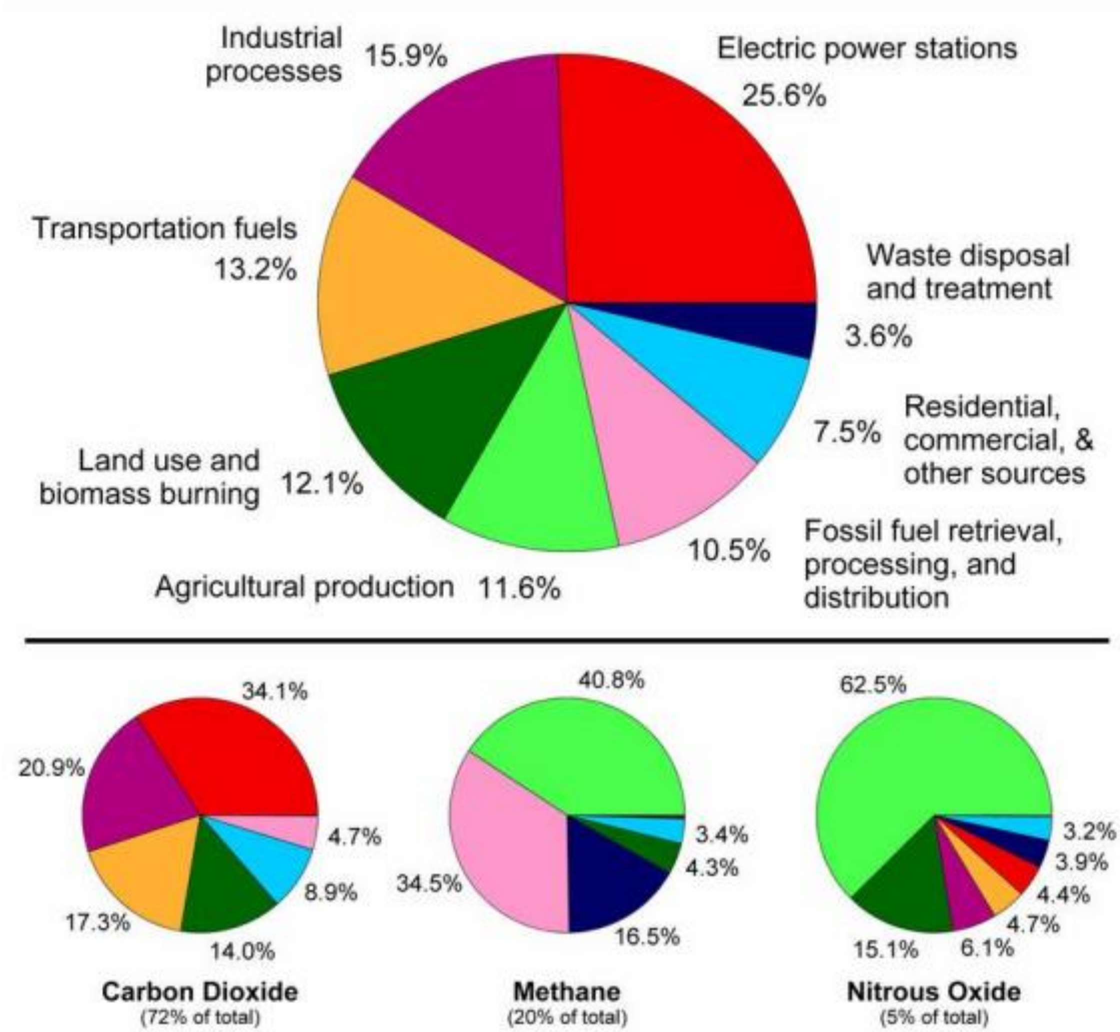
It then details the methodological approach using an energy balance model. The equation follows the law of conservation of energy and accounts for factors like incoming and outgoing radiation, thermal inertia, solar radiation, reflectivity, outgoing long-wave radiation, and net energy flux. Furthermore, it introduces the atmospheric CO2 equilibrium equation (Equation 3), incorporating elements such as CO2 release rates from fossil fuels and land use changes, carbon amounts in the ocean and atmosphere, atmospheric carbon increment, exchange fluxes between land and atmosphere, and impacts on soil humus. This equation helps in comprehending the dynamics of CO_2 equilibrium concerning different environmental elements. Moreover, it briefly touches upon anticipated impacts on agriculture and forestry efficiency, environmental repercussions due to economic growth, alterations in precipitation patterns, and references specific studies to support these predictions (Marino et al., 2017; Meinshausen et al., 2009).

Table 1. Greenhouse gas summary

Compound	Formula	Concentration in atmosphere (ppm)	Contribution (%)
Water vapor and clouds	H2O	10–50,000 (A)	36–72%
Carbon dioxide	CO2	~400	9–26%
Methane	CH4	~1.8	4–9%
Ozone	O3	2–8 (B)	3–7%

Water vapour and clouds (H_2O) have a wide concentration range in the atmosphere, varying between 10 to 50,000 ppm (denoted as A), contributing the most significantly, accounting for approximately 36% to 72% of the atmospheric composition. Carbon dioxide (CO_2) maintains a relatively consistent concentration of approximately 400 ppm and contributes between 9% to 26% to the atmosphere's composition. Methane (CH_4) exists in the atmosphere at a concentration of around 1.8 ppm, contributing between 4% to 9% to the atmospheric composition. Ozone (O_3) varies in concentration from 2 to 8 ppm (denoted as B) and constitutes approximately 3% to 7% of the atmospheric composition.

It mentions Russia's commitment to the Paris Agreement and emphasizes the goal of preventing global temperature increases beyond 2 degrees Celsius, referencing pertinent studies (Ogle et al., 2018; Perry et al., 2012). This commitment underlines the global effort to mitigate climate change's adverse effects.



IV. RESULT AND DISCUSSION

The Results section briefly touches upon globally involvement in international climate agreements over the years, highlighting its participation in significant treaties like the Kyoto Protocol and the Paris Agreement. It emphasizes Russia's recognition of the importance of addressing climate change as a crucial issue. The narrative suggests that Russia perceives climate change not just as a challenge but also as an opportunity to reshape its economy. By focusing on energy efficiency and transitioning towards a low-carbon economy, Russia sees the chance to elevate its developmental trajectory to a new level. References to studies conducted by Pugh et al. (2016) and Shao et al. (2016) reinforce this perspective, potentially indicating research or reports that discuss Russia's stance on climate change, its commitments to reducing carbon emissions, and the potential economic opportunities associated with transitioning to more sustainable and environmentally friendly practices.

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However, the section lacks specific details or empirical findings about Russia's strategies, policies, or initiatives related to climate change mitigation or its progress in aligning with the commitments made under these international agreements. It merely sets the tone by suggesting that Russia views climate change as an avenue for economic advancement by embracing energy efficiency and a low-carbon economy. Further elaboration or empirical evidence regarding Russia's actual endeavors or achievements in this direction could enhance the depth and impact of the Results section.

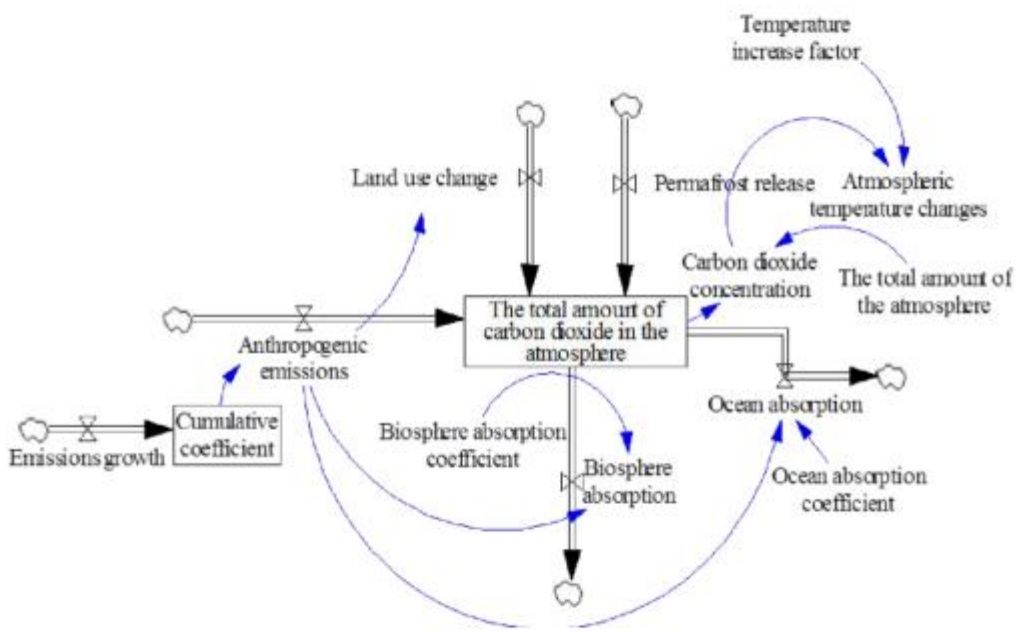

Figure 2. Greenhouse Gas Emissions Scheme (Alexey Mikhaylov 2020)

The passage provides an overview of the challenges and goals outlined in the Paris Agreement, detailing the reduction targets for greenhouse gas emissions. It highlights the significant decrease in total emissions between 1990 and 2017, showcasing a substantial decline from 853 to 393 million tonnes of carbon equivalent during this period. From 1990 to 2017, the reduction in emissions is broken down by specific gases: carbon dioxide decreased by 2.2 times, methane decreased by 2 times, and nitrous oxide emissions dropped by 2.5 times. The distribution of greenhouse gas emissions remained relatively consistent over this period, with carbon dioxide accounting for approximately 76% of total emissions in both 1990 and 2017, followed by methane at 18%, and nitrous oxide at 9%. The text underscores the predominant role of the extraction, production, and consumption of energy resources in contributing to total greenhouse gas emissions, which fluctuated between 76% and 86% from 1990 to 2007. Notably, there was a significant reduction in energy-related emissions during this time, amounting to 54%.

The passage mentions the Russian government's adoption of an Energy Policy until 2035 in the Sphere of Climate Change. This policy aims to limit CO2 emissions and includes provisions for establishing an internal system for trading greenhouse gas emissions in accordance with an agreement with the EU. To comply with this agreement, Russia is required to develop a plan for allocating emission quotas and implement permits for greenhouse gas emissions. However, achieving emission quotas necessitates accurate data collection regarding CO2 emissions from industrial enterprises. This requirement presents an opportunity for industrial regions to improve their ecological standing and attract environmental investments. It emphasizes the need for industrial enterprises to determine strategies for reducing emissions, highlighting references such as Sikharulidze et al. (2016) and Stark et al. (2018), which likely provide insights into emission reduction strategies or environmental management practices. This passage provides a comprehensive snapshot of Russia's emissions reduction efforts, its focus on energy-related emissions, and the initiatives undertaken to comply with international agreements like the Paris Agreement. It outlines the steps taken and required for the country to meet emission reduction goals and highlights the importance of accurate data collection and emission reduction strategies for industrial enterprises to meet these targets.

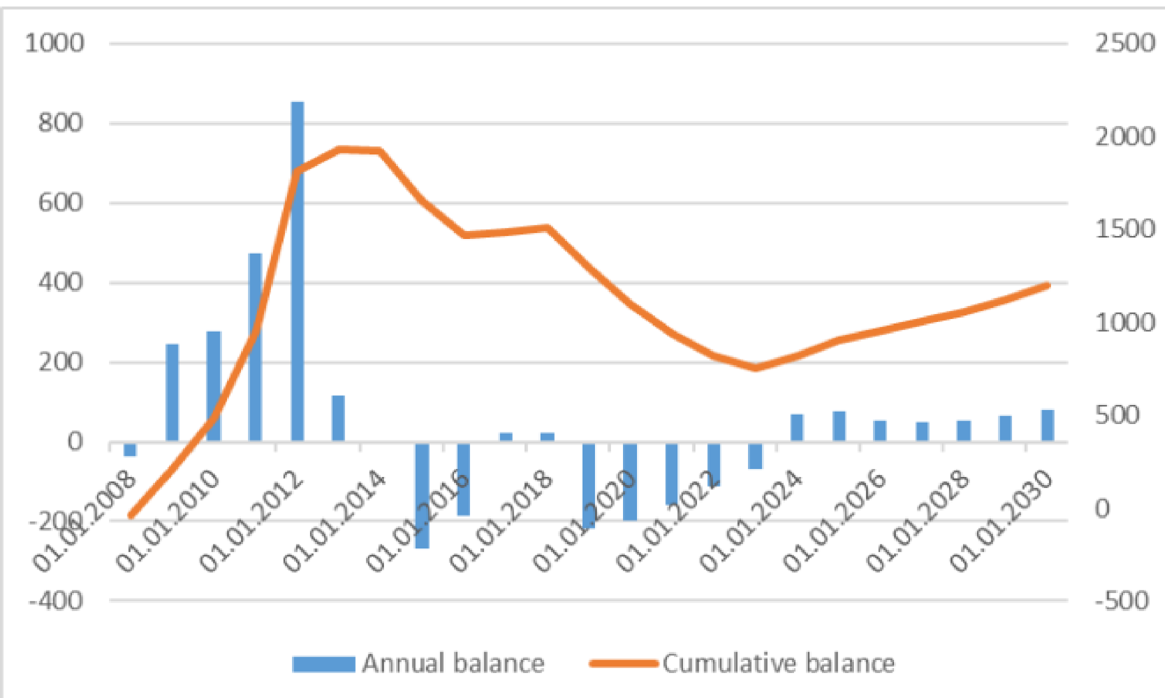

Figure 3. Greenhouse Gas Emissions Balance Forecast(Source: European Environment Agency https://www.eea.europa.eu/data-and-maps/data/greenhouse-gas-emission-projections-for-6)

Table 2. The contribution of atmospheric components to the greenhouse effect for various numerical models of the general circulation of the atmosphere

Atmospheric Components	Source	BA Cloudiness
Schmidt	39.0–61.9	14.5–36.3
The NASA model	36–66	16
The average value	37.5–64.0 (~50)	15.3–36.3 (~25)

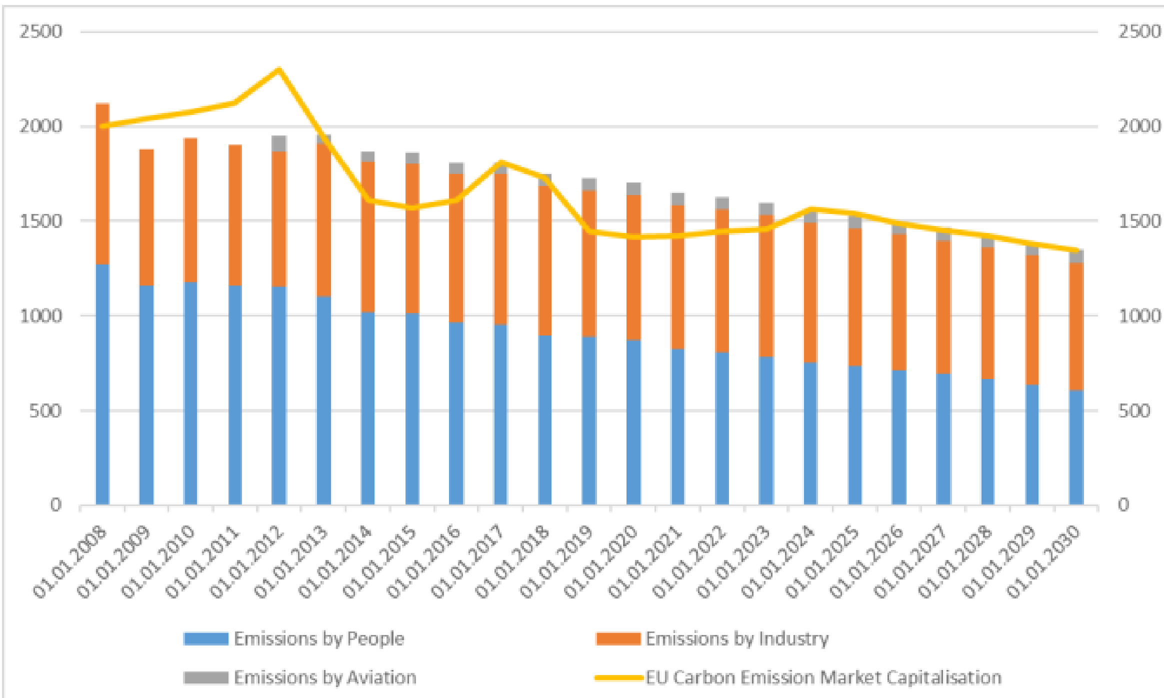

Figure 4. Greenhouse Gas Emission Forecast by People and Industry. (Source: European Environment Agency https://www.eea.europa.eu/data-and-maps/data/greenhouse-gas-emission-projections-for-6c)

Figure 4, sourced from the European Environment Agency (EEA), likely represents a greenhouse gas emission forecast attributed to human activities and industries. The figure might include graphical data, charts, or diagrams projecting future trends or scenarios regarding greenhouse gas emissions stemming from human-related sources and industrial activities. Commonly, such figures might portray trends over time, depicting past emission data and providing projections or forecasts for future emissions. These projections could cover various greenhouse gases like carbon dioxide (CO2), methane (CH4), nitrous oxide (N2O), and others, indicating their anticipated trajectories based on different scenarios or models. The graph or chart might incorporate data visualization techniques like line graphs, bar charts, or pie charts to illustrate changes or variations in emissions over specified periods. It could also potentially compare different sectors or geographical regions, highlighting the contributions of human-related activities and industrial processes to overall greenhouse gas emissions. To access the specific information or details provided in Figure 4, you might want to visit the European Environment Agency's website and navigate to the section or report that includes greenhouse gas emission projections. The source link you've provided (https://www.eea.europa.eu/data-and-maps/data/greenhouse-gas-emission-projections-for-6c) seems to be the direct link to the EEA's data on greenhouse gas emission projections, which could contain the figure you've referenced.

IMPACTS OF CLIMATE CHANGE ON A GLOBAL SCALE:

Climate change has ushered in a spectrum of observed and projected impacts across diverse global regions, exerting profound effects on ecosystems, weather patterns, human health, and socio-economic systems. These impacts vary widely across different geographical areas, intensifying vulnerabilities and posing multifaceted challenges.

A. Ecosystems

The alteration in temperature and precipitation patterns has disrupted ecosystems worldwide. For instance, coral bleaching in the Great Barrier Reef, Australia, highlights the susceptibility of marine ecosystems to rising ocean temperatures. Similarly, deforestation and habitat loss due to changing climates threaten biodiversity in the Amazon rainforest, impacting countless species. Climate change has significantly disrupted ecosystems globally, manifesting in detrimental impacts on various natural habitats and species. Two prominent examples that exemplify the vulnerability of ecosystems to climate change are the Great Barrier Reef in Australia and the Amazon rainforest.

1. Great Barrier Reef, Australia: The Great Barrier Reef, the world's largest coral reef system, has faced severe coral bleaching episodes due to rising ocean temperatures. Increased water temperatures stress the corals, leading them to expel symbiotic algae, causing them to turn white, a process known as bleaching. Prolonged or severe bleaching events threaten the reef's delicate balance and the myriad species that depend on it. The loss of vibrant coral ecosystems affects the biodiversity of marine life, impacting fish populations, and disrupting the ecological balance of the entire reef system.

2. Amazon Rainforest: Climate change, along with human activities like deforestation, poses a significant threat to the Amazon rainforest's biodiversity. Alterations in temperature and precipitation patterns directly impact the delicate balance of this ecosystem. Changes in rainfall patterns can lead to prolonged droughts or intense rain, disrupting the fragile equilibrium that supports the diverse flora and fauna of the region. Deforestation and habitat loss further exacerbate the situation, fragmenting habitats and threatening the survival of numerous species, many of which are endemic to the Amazon rainforest.

B. Natural Disasters and Extreme Weather Events

Climate change has significantly influenced the frequency and intensity of natural disasters and extreme weather events worldwide. These occurrences, including hurricanes, floods, wildfires, and droughts, have exhibited noticeable escalations in both frequency and severity, resulting in widespread devastation and adverse impacts on various regions across the globe. The Atlantic region has witnessed a discernible increase in the intensity of hurricane seasons, with storms becoming more frequent and potent. Events such as Hurricane Harvey in 2017, Hurricane Maria in 2017, and Hurricane Irma in 2017 left lasting devastation in their wake, causing widespread destruction of infrastructure, displacement of populations, and substantial economic losses. California, among other regions globally, has experienced devastating wildfires amplified by changing climatic conditions. Extreme heat, prolonged droughts, and increased aridity have created conducive environments for wildfires to ignite and spread rapidly. Events like the California wildfires of 2017 and 2018 resulted in extensive property damage, loss of life, and severe environmental degradation. South Asia faces recurrent flooding events, exacerbated by intensified monsoon rains influenced by climate change. Countries like Bangladesh, India, and Nepal frequently grapple with catastrophic floods, causing mass displacement, destruction of homes and infrastructure, disruptions to agriculture, and loss of lives, impacting vulnerable communities and hindering regional development.

C. Sea-Level Rise

Sea-level rise, driven primarily by climate change-induced phenomena like thermal expansion and melting polar ice caps, represents a pressing threat to coastal regions and low-lying areas globally. Among the most vulnerable are Pacific Island nations such as Tuvalu and Kiribati, where rising sea levels pose existential risks and the potential displacement of entire communities. These low-lying island nations face intensified erosion, saltwater intrusion, and heightened vulnerability to storm surges, all of which threaten their land, homes, livelihoods, and cultural heritage. As sea levels continue to escalate, these nations confront the grim reality of losing habitable land, compelling discussions on relocation strategies and fostering uncertainties about the preservation of their unique identities and ways of life. The impact of rising sea levels extends beyond specific island nations to coastal regions worldwide. Metropolises like Miami, Shanghai, and Mumbai are witnessing encroachment of seawater during high tides and storm events, posing significant risks to infrastructure, coastal ecosystems, and densely populated urban areas. The potential inundation of critical infrastructure, disruption to livelihoods, and coastal ecosystem degradation signal the urgent need for comprehensive strategies in urban planning, coastal management, and climate adaptation measures to safeguard vulnerable populations and assets in these coastal zones.

The escalating risks posed by sea-level rise underscore the broader challenge faced by coastal communities globally. Mass displacement of populations, loss of habitable land, and the impending migration crises call for concerted global efforts to address climate change. Reducing greenhouse gas emissions, implementing resilient infrastructure, and devising effective adaptation measures are crucial steps needed to mitigate the adverse impacts of rising sea levels and protect vulnerable coastal communities from the dire consequences of climate-induced changes in sea levels.

V. CONCLUSION

In conclusion, the comprehensive Impact Assessment of Climate Change on a global scale illuminates the urgency and complexity of addressing this pressing global challenge. Our analysis has meticulously examined the observed and projected impacts of climate change on diverse ecosystems, natural disasters, sea-level rise, extreme weather events, human health, food security, and socio-economic systems across various regions worldwide. The findings underscore the profound vulnerability of ecosystems to changing climatic conditions, exemplified by coral bleaching in the Great Barrier Reef and habitat loss in the Amazon rainforest. The escalating frequency and intensity of natural disasters like hurricanes, wildfires, floods, and droughts reflect the heightened risks posed by climate change, impacting regions like the Atlantic, California, and South Asia. The imminent threat of sea-level rise imperils coastal communities globally, especially in Pacific Island nations like Tuvalu and Kiribati, while major urban centers face encroachment risks. These observations emphasize the critical need for immediate and concerted action to mitigate and adapt to climate change impacts, safeguard vulnerable populations, and protect essential infrastructure.

Our study emphasizes the interconnectivity of environmental, social, and economic systems in the face of climate change, highlighting the necessity of collaborative efforts across nations, communities, and sectors. Mitigation strategies, including reducing greenhouse gas emissions, fostering sustainable practices, and investing in resilience-building measures, emerge as paramount in tackling the multifaceted challenges posed by climate change. As we move forward, proactive measures, informed policymaking, technological innovations, and international cooperation will be pivotal in charting a sustainable path towards resilience and adaptation in the face of ongoing climatic shifts. The imperative lies in transformative action and shared responsibility to secure a more resilient, equitable, and sustainable future for generations to come.

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