

Climate Change and Disasters

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- Climate change – **weather related disasters**
- Increasing **water and air temperatures** will lead to rise in sea levels – cyclones, high wind speeds, more intense and prolonged droughts, wildfires, precipitation and flooding
- Number of disasters has **tripled in the last 30 years**
- Between 2006-2016 – seas level rise has increased by **2.5 times faster**
- **20 million people** have so far displaced from their habitats
- The expense to combat climate change will cost **USD 140-300 billion** per year till 2030.

Five major disasters linked to climate change

1) Australian Bush fires (beginning of 2020)

- Led to 10 million hectares of land destroyed
- Thousands of families lost their homes
- Millions have been affected by hazardous smoke
- 1 Billion animals lost their lives
- Some ecosystems destroyed will never recover

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2) **East Africa Drought**

- 2011, 2017, 2019 wiped out crops and livestock
- 15 million people affected in Ethiopia, Kenya and Somalia
- Food shortage and migration from the affected areas

3) **South Asian Floods**

- India, Nepal and Bangladesh where 12 million people have been displaced
- Floods and landslides destroyed the livelihoods of people
- Sea level rise of temperatures

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4) **Dry Corridor in Central America**

- 6th year of continuous drought in Guatemala, Honduras, El Salvador and Nicaragua
- Dry season extended from three months to six months
- 3.5 million people affected

5) **Cyclones Idai and Kenneth**

- In March 2019 cyclones lost 1000 lives in Mozambique, Malawi and Zimbabwe in Southern Africa
- Millions were left as destitutes, with no food and basic services
- Landslides – destroyed land, crops and infrastructure