

## Global Trends

Climate change is a current global trend of greatest importance to our planet's future. It affects every human being on our planet but those already affected by poverty are more likely to suffer. We are currently experiencing the devastating effects of climate change. The sixth warmest year since 1880 was in 2022, and the 10 warmest years in 143 years all occurred since 2010.<sup>3</sup> Countries all around the world are experiencing frequent droughts, storms, heat waves, rising sea levels, glaciers melting and warming oceans at an increasing rate.<sup>2</sup> In 2022, there were 88 storms and 40 hurricanes with Pakistan experienced severe rain fall causing flooding that impacted 30 million people.<sup>3</sup> In Senegal, the rising sea levels have caused devastating coastal erosion leading to destruction of communities and displacing people of homes.<sup>2</sup>

We need to reduce CO2 emissions to reduce temperatures, store the rise of sea levels, and ocean acidification. To do this, we need to reduce forest destruction and protect wildlife, and most importantly combat CO2 emissions by transitioning to renewable resources such as wind and solar.<sup>2</sup> The likelihood of implementation of these prevention steps is becoming more urgent as we see more global catastrophes. We have seen the success of these implementations on the ozone layer. It is recovering due to international environmental efforts to ban ozone-depleting chemicals. We are seeing more governments and corporations looking for environmental sustainability because of public outcry. With focus on a sustainable future, we have already started taking steps to delay the effects of climate change.

Resources:

1. Disappearing Saint-Louis. NPR. <https://apps.npr.org/saint-louis-senegal-climate-change/>. Accessed February 13, 2023.
2. Effects of climate change. WWF. <https://www.worldwildlife.org/threats/effects-of-climate-change#:~:text=More%20frequent%20and%20intense%20drought,on%20people's%20livelihoods%20and%20communities>. Accessed February 13, 2023.
3. [NCEI.Monitoring.Info@noaa.gov](mailto:NCEI.Monitoring.Info@noaa.gov). Annual 2022 global climate report. Annual 2022 Global Climate Report | National Centers for Environmental Information (NCEI). <https://www.ncei.noaa.gov/access/monitoring/monthly-report/global/202213>. Accessed February 13, 2023.