

**CLIMATIC CHANGE AND DEVELOPMENT: THE EFFECT OF CLIMATIC CHANGE ON
POPULATION AND DEVELOPMENT IN SRI LANKA.**

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Abstract: This paper attempts to present an integrated view on the present and future changes in the human environment affected by climatic change. The Global Environmental Outlook 2000 claimed that global warming would trigger a series of disasters with serious world implications. The developed nations have the capability to reduce the impact of climatic change through use of control systems, but the developing world is continually being affected by vagaries of climatic change and livelihoods in them are seriously damaged resulting in retardation of economic growth. It is clear that the poor and marginalized communities of the developing world are more seriously affected by climatic change than the rest of the population in the developing world. The effects of climatic change discussed in this paper investigate the changing nature, reliability and variability of climate with special reference to rainfall in Sri Lanka. The theme was adopted as rainfall exerts a decisive control over about 50 percent of the total labor force, which is engaged in the production, collection, transportation, packaging and marketing of farm products in Sri Lanka. In addition, the lowering of mean annual rainfall is responsible partially to problems of hydro-electric power generation, which has led to rise of cost of production of electric power and a serious energy crisis in Sri Lanka, which in turn affects the cost of production of export oriented produce. Further, as life history records indicated many social and political problems have also resulted from the alteration of the climate. The damages arising from climatic change will seriously affect water supply, crop cultivation and living environment of the poor in Sri Lanka in the coming 50 years. Struggle for irrigation water has already begun and there is an increase in mosquito born diseases.