

New version: River desiccation is an increasing issue that is impacting many areas around the globe, leading to severe consequences for both the environment and the communities that rely on these essential resources. The reasons behind this issue are varied, but the primary factors include climate change, human activities, and poor management of water resources. To begin with, climate change has resulted in greater variability in weather patterns, leading to more intense and prolonged droughts. Rising temperatures decrease the amount of water flowing into rivers, heightening evaporation rates and diminishing the flow of waterways. The lack of consistent and heavy rainfall directly influences river levels, which can drastically shrink or even completely dry up in certain regions. In addition, the over-extraction of water resources for agricultural, industrial, and domestic uses plays a significant role in the drying up of rivers. Agricultural irrigation is a major contributor, as vast quantities of water are diverted to cultivate arid lands. Furthermore, the construction of dams and modifications to waterways for hydroelectric power or urban development disrupt the natural flow of rivers, limiting the availability of water downstream. The repercussions of river desiccation are serious and multifaceted. Ecologically, the lack of water threatens the survival of aquatic and plant species that rely on a steady flow. The loss of habitats for fish, birds, and other wildlife can lead to their extinction. Additionally, the drying up of rivers jeopardizes drinking water supplies for millions and hampers agricultural activities, which can reduce food production and heighten the risk of famine. Communities living alongside rivers encounter significant challenges. Water scarcity can lead to conflicts over resource control, forced migrations, and an increase in diseases linked to the lack of clean water. Cities and regions that depend on rivers for irrigation, industry, or hydropower face dire consequences.