Population, Climate Change and Sustainable Development in Asia

Name: Ngunjiri Ndirangu (PhD Finance student)
E-mail: ndirangu001@students.uonbi.ac.ke
Institution: University of Nairobi

This study examines population, climate change and sustainable development within and around the Asia. The encroachment has led to drastic and considerable land fragmentation, deforestation of the headwater catchments and destruction of wetlands previously existing within the fertile upstream parts. The increase of environmental degradation has led to the escalation of structural and violent conflict. In this regard, forests in Asia countries have undergone serious destruction as a result of growing population. However, the complex faces many threats mainly due to large-scale anthropogenic activities leading to climatic changes. The main objective of the study is to critically examine the relationship between the population climate change and sustainable development. Both secondary and primary data were employed to study the links between population growth and climate changes around the forest. The study findings reveal that climate changes led by human actions such as population pressure, political motives influencing occupation of the forest land, growth of subsistence agriculture, logging, charcoal making, and rural-urban development. The study concludes that the areas around the forests are experiencing rapid climate changes, including recurrent and persistent drought periods and rainfall variability. These changes in the local climate pose unprecedented implications to sustainable development of the country and the region that depends on the forest complex. The study recommends that while dealing with climate change issues, national policies are guided by taking consideration of addressing population growth dimensions as a major threat to forest lands.

KEYWORDS climate change; resource; human; Forest; conservation; sustainable development