

How a China-Built Dam Destroyed an Ecosystem and Livelihoods

From the given information, it mentions how China dam building in Cambodia's Mekong River Basin destroyed an ecosystem and livelihoods. This essay will provide the causes and the problems of this creation.

There China Huaneng Group officials decided to build Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) or an enormous dam in Cambodia's Mekong River Basin— a magnificent freshwater ecosystem with a variety of migrating fish species. From this creation, China's dam cut off two major rivers that are branches of the Mekong River. As a result, there are several consequences that occur and destroy the ecosystem and livelihood— fish traveling away are obstructed and the species have died, people don't get income from selling fish, the villages were submerged by the flood, the soil is dry and rocky that cannot farm and plant, the groundwater cannot drinking, spending more money with appliances.

As mentioned before that the dam also flooded the village, the government actually provides the compensation, but the compensation that people are offered does not suit with what they actually lost. In COVID-19 situation, there are several tests about hydroelectric power, greenhouse gas issues, or contaminated water testing from this area. They found that the water in this area is contaminated, so they have to send water for those people. The hydroelectricity is not worth it because of the country's geography.

On the other hand, the Cambodian government still pushes ahead with this dam because of a trillion-dollar investment and the infrastructure structure project, also the cost of human and environmental have been higher

At last, this harm is widespread that makes the Chinese government re-evaluate and resettle this project. After That, this project will be a foreign initiative, and make a good image of Beijing. In this way, the Cambodia government struggles with future funding, thus the Cambodia government has to reevaluate the infrastructure project— road, electricity, and power plant. Moreover, it offers suitable compensation, generating new skill learning programs, and alternative consulting. The government also has to explore more of the alternative energy sources.

In conclusion, the China dam creating in Cambodia that destroy a variety of ecosystem and livelihood is the causes of many problems, but the China Huaneng group and Cambodia government know how to handle the impact.