

In this article it explains about how China built dams that destroy the ecosystem and the population near the Mekong river side. The Mekong River is one of the large freshwater ecosystems that contain many different fish species. By building dams, it prevents fish from moving up and down or migrating along the river. By building dams also flooded the villages that belonged to Indigenous communities and ethnic minorities. It destroys all their food source and also destroys their source of income too. Most of the people living near the river obtain products such as herbs, seeds, vegetables, and fish from the river. This is their main source of income and food. Because of the dam, people would need to work harder to catch more fish, since the dam blocks many parts of the river. The soil is also no longer fertilized therefore many herbs and medical plants are now not available. Furthermore, communities did receive some compensation, but it could not match how much they have actually lost due to the construction of the dam.

Here, the main problem is that everyone acts in their own interest. China would think that building the dam would help them generate electricity and store water for the dry season. But they didn't think of how people who live near the river would be affected and also destroy their ecosystem. Economists are also against the construction of the dam. They would determine the economic viability if they compare the income and the cost of displacement from this dam. What is the worth? Another problem could be the arising economic activities and growth. Both the Chinese government and the Cambodian government want to choose the best interest that could be implied efficiently, but that choice would affect both countries. Due to the increasing economic growth, the natural resources would be put to use more than before, in this case, China will continue to build dams to increase their production (for some products). Lastly, these harm could be minimized by establishing regulations that both parties agree on and also the government banks or Commercial Bank of China (ICBC) should pay attention to the finance provided for the dam's construction. When there are more financial contributors, there will be more dams built due the cheap price for the firms and maybe sometimes government subsidies. The cheap price for building could be one of the incentives for the firm to build and not consider any eternal costs. The Cambodian government would also reassess how they could handle the impact of these dam building projects to handle the effects of the Chinese government constructing different dam's.