

How a China-Built Dam Destroyed an Ecosystem and Livelihoods

According to the dam was built by China and the Cambodian government, we know that the dam is also known as the artificial reservoir to utilize any benefits from water that we need or sometimes we scarce water by drought. However, this dam was not built for the benefits like that, but it is the benefits between China and the Cambodian government who do not care about the daily life of people who live in that area and the ecosystem around there for the power generation from the dam. Because the dam which cut off two major tributaries of Mekong River provides fishery production decrease which is the main career job of Mekong people and prevents fish from traveling up and down, disrupting their feeding and reproductive cycles; it causes species of the fish in that area become extinct because the people still need to fishing to live and trade. Moreover, the people habitats, the ancestral farming areas, and forest were flood by the dam, forcing them to leave there. So, the crops production from the last two areas respectively also decreases too. Furthermore, the people were forced to receive the offers; for instance, new career jobs that relate to the dam, \$6000 for new habitats. But the people lost their valuable things and their memorable places forever like their decade fruit trees, villages, fields, shrines, and graveyards. They cannot be valued as \$6000.

Due to the most of these people are the producers, from the key economic insights, these problems that causes from the China and Cambodian government provide the producer need to produce more fishes from fishery and more crops from farming areas and forest products. It makes more producers surplus that people can find their products rarely more than ever and they want to sell it more expensive. Because, in the past, they can catch about 40 kilograms but now they do not even catch 2 kilograms; they need to travel to another place to catch. And the soil is rocky and dry which is difficult to farm; so, they need the fertilizer that they have no purchasing power for it. For this case, they lost the opportunity costs for harvest and fishery to receive the offer from China and Cambodian government. The next one, the dam has a water as the input to produce the electrical energy that does not release any bad pollution to the environment. But it is bad for the people and the living things there because they need to leave there and must live in the new area that they are unfamiliar with it. Hence, it increases the economic growth about energy production, but it contributes to environmental problems in type of live places.

To reach a conclusion, China and Cambodian government must give every possible demand to the people that can instead there lost by some subsidies about fishery and harvest that they should not be struggle from their unwilling leave and they need to deal with a series environment consequence about the decrease of fish population to get it back in normal.