

Assignment 1

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Reservoir construction in Cambodia has been a controversial argument regarding its advantages for humans in terms of development and green energy and the drawbacks to the overall environment. We as a human could forfeit rather than gain from this situation.

The Chinese government built a six-kilometre long dam to foster the development and boost its foreign policy, and intended to achieve economic growth. However, there was an opportunity cost in this scheme since the construction ruined both the ecosystem and the river communities' lives. It lowered their income and diets as the yields decreased. The disruption occurred to fishes in terms of the reproductive cycle. Crops and forest products are reduced after fertilizer is needed in order to farm since the soil now is unqualified. Moreover, economists also pointed out that there was an opportunity cost of the lost income and cost of the resettlement. Even though the compensation was provided to communities that accepted the resettlement as the villages were flooded, it was not sufficient and did not cover the value that they have lost. Some who refused to resettle have faced the difficulties of making a living since the fishes become scarce and yields from rice and fruits have also plunged. As the dam occupies spaces, carbon dioxide and methane were emitted from the dead vegetables.

Regarding the BRI project, it appears that it was a government failure as the authorities did not relieve and offer the appropriate amount of treatment and compensation. The assessment was not made carefully to handle the unexpected impacts and leads to the ineffectiveness. The hydroelectric power is not suitable for Cambodia's geography due to the insufficient pressure to power the turbines. It is not only not worth the cost, but also generates carbon footprints in a large amount. The energy policy should consider the other sources of alternative energy to implement the loss. The Chinese government and related organizations must be more cautious about the impacts and negative effects on both environment and communities before building the infrastructures.

In conclusion, the effects on both the environment and the communities from the dam construction are required to be tempered by all means. The authorities should look for better ways which do not ruin the environment to progress the country's development. They might also seek for the alleviations that could minimize the loss of the society.