

How a China-Built Dam Destroyed an Ecosystem and Livelihoods

According to this article, we can see that there are so many effects in both environment and economics of building Asia's widest dams, the Lower Sesan 2. The dam affects the environment a lot. It cut off the migration routes for native fishes which disrupted their feeding and reproductive cycles and lastly whole species have died. After the fishery yields have plummeted, the rate of fisheries in all over the country fell which can lead to the unemployment rate problem in the future. In addition, the dam has also displaced numerous Indigenous and ethnic minority communities. There are some of them who refused to resettle or opposed the dam were threatened and were branded as troublemakers. Furthermore, the lifestyle of the villagers needs to be changed. At first, their food and income can be easily found. Even Though they are not rich, they are self-sufficient. However, after they resettled, everything was gone. It is hard to find meaty fish like before, it is difficult to farm because of the soil and it also requires fertilizer that they do not have money for. In my opinion, the causes of the problems are that the way and the kind of dam that they created is not suited for the country's geography. Moreover, they did not estimate carefully on the comparison of how much they are going to lose and how much they are supposed to generate. The compensation for the communities does not match with the value they have lost.