

Most developed countries have been competing against one another to ensure their position and influences on the global level using any means possible regardless of terrible consequences they might possess. Since the commencement of the horizontally longest dam in Asia, the Lower Sesan 2, which was constructed as a part of China Belt and Road's Initiative program in 2018, China can be deemed as one of said power-thirsty countries. The dam, situated in Cambodia Mekong River Basin, has brought about catastrophes both economically and environmentally to the area. In this essay, a summary of the problems as well as sources of the disaster will be provided.

The six-kilometers-wide Lower Sesan 2 dam blocking the Mekong river has resulted in the extinction of various aquatic animals as well as the submersion of regions around the river, this led to a grave downturn of the area's eco-structure and locals' overall livelihoods. The existence of the dam interrupted the course in which native fish species required to traverse in order to survive. Consequently, denizens of Mekong river bank were faced with a sudden drop in their earnings together with their main source of nutrition. This effect did not appear depressing to only the people of Mekong, but also to the citizens of Cambodia as a whole because fish is considered a crucial part of their diet. Not only that, over 4,500 natives were forced to forsake their original homeland as well as their self-sufficient lifestyle. This is due to the fact that the dam has reserved a monumental amount of water, thus making their villages along with all their lands become submerged under water. Not even today have the lives of these minorities been reverted back to normal.

In conclusion, it is clear that even though the Lower Sesan 2 dam may provide Cambodia with an immense electrical energy supply, the damaging aftereffects it brought with should not be overlooked and should be lessened to the utmost. The suffered citizens should also receive more thoughtful reimbursements so that they can get back on their feet more easily and utterly.