

“How a China-Built Dam Destroyed an Ecosystem and Livelihoods”

China built a dam which is called the Lower sesan2. The dam cut the Mekong river basin which spans over six kilometers. This is the cause of huge damage to citizens.

The group of people that was affected the most is the people who live across the river and the people who use Mekong river for fishing. More than 4500 - 5000 people think it is a crisis for them. Fish in the river is decreased which impacts the food and money problem which means income of fishermen will go down. People have less fish to eat and lack of fish to sell. Moreover, crops that local people grew were impacted because of a lack of water such as rice , fruit, vegetables.

About the environment, the fish are going down because of the reduction of water which impacts ecosystems in the river. When ecosystems are impacted, balance of the food chain will also be affected.

The reason that the government supports this project is because they can get large amounts of money to keep in their pocket. Although, they have adequately compensated affected communities but people aren't satisfied by the way.

Government needs to offer appropriate compensation. And they have to care about their citizens and environment before doing something because some consider it may cause failure.

Siraphop Chaipak 6304641423