



CLIMATE CHANGE AND AFRICA

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UN Photo/
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“Our Earth is warming”.

These alarming words from the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) may sound dramatic but it is the absolute truth. According to the agency, "Earth's average temperature has risen by 1.5°F over the past century, and is projected to rise another 0.5 to 8.6°F over the next hundred years. Small changes in the average temperature of the planet can translate to large and potentially dangerous shifts in climate and weather."

IS IT TRUE?

Proof of this worrisome

state of our world is the fact that as the temperatures rises across the globe, there are simultaneous changes in weather and climate and as a result, this has led to changes in severe heat waves, droughts, rainfall, floods, heavy rain and the like. As reported by EPA, "the planet's oceans and glaciers have also experienced some big changes - oceans are warming and becoming more acidic, ice caps are melting, and sea levels are rising. As these and other changes become more pronounced in the coming decades, they will likely present challenges to our society and our environment."

WHO IS AT FAULT?

We are! Yes, our climate is the way it is due to the activities of us, humans. We are gradually destroying our planet and unless urgent action is taken, we may end up making it a dangerous place to live in. If researchers are to be believed (and they should know), our activities in the past decades have discharged considerable quantities of carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases into the atmosphere. EPA maintains that a larger portion of greenhouse gases "come from burning fossil fuels to produce energy, although

deforestation, industrial processes, and some agricultural practices also emit gases into the atmosphere."

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