

Competition in Petroleum Extraction and the Challenges of Climate Change

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Abstract : Extraction of maximum natural resources is one of the common policies of governments, especially petroleum resources that have high economic and strategic value. The incentive to access and maintain profitable oil markets for governments or international oil companies, causing neglects them to pay attention to environmental principles and sustainable development, which in turn drives up environmental and climate change. Significant damage to the environment can cause severe damage to citizens and indigenous people, such as the compulsory evacuation of their zone due to contamination of water and air resources, destruction of animals and plants. Hawizeh Marshes is a common aquatic and environmental ecosystem along the Iran-Iraq border that also has oil resources. This marsh has been very rich in animal, vegetative, and oil resources. Since 1990, the political motives, the strategic importance of oil extraction, and the disregard for the environmental rights of the Iraqi and Iranian governments in the region have caused 90% of the marshes and forced migration of indigenous people. In this paper, we examine the environmental degradation factors resulting from the adoption of policies and practices of governments in this region based on the principles of environmental rights and sustainable development. Revision of the implementation of the government's policies and natural resource utilization systems can prevent the spread of climate change, which is a serious international challenge today.

Keywords : climate change, indigenous rights, petroleum operation, sustainable development principles, sovereignty on resources

Conference Title : ICOGR 2020 : International Conference on Oil and Gas Research

Conference Location : Montreal, Canada

Conference Dates : May 18-19, 2020