

## The Role of Deforestation and Overpopulation in Climate Change Overshadows the CO<sub>2</sub> Emissions

**Authors :** Juris Bogdanovs

**Abstract :** Climate Change (CC) is real, and humans are responsible for it. The world has lost focus and failed to realize that there is more to this problem than CO<sub>2</sub> emissions. Other factors are not only more important in these changes, but they are also easier to fix. This research started with news reports about most European countries experiencing less rain in spring year after year. The results of this research show that human numbers are indeed the biggest problem, not CO<sub>2</sub>. The need to feed this growing population has led to significant deforestation. Deforestation has changed humidity levels all around the globe. Changing levels of different types of humidity lead to higher temperatures and alter rain patterns. There are several categories of humidity. One is Relative Humidity (RH), which is the level of humidity in the air at any given temperature. This type of humidity has been decreasing everywhere in the world, meaning the air at any given temperature is becoming drier. At the same time, Specific Humidity (SH), which explains the total volume of water in the air at any given time, keeps increasing. Scientists are reluctant to discuss this contradictory phenomenon because they cannot explain it. Essentially, the air becomes drier while holding more water. These changes are driving climate change (CC) much more than anything else. The changing humidity levels are directly responsible for the increased severity of droughts in spring and early summer, and the increased severity of floods in late summer and autumn, when the air starts to cool. Humidity is also linked to rising temperatures. It is well known and proven in experiments that, with the same amount of energy, drier air will always reach higher temperatures than humid air. Since the air at any given temperature keeps becoming drier year after year, it is no wonder it reaches higher temperatures. When the temperature of the air increases by 1 degree, it can hold 7% more water. Drier air attracts more water, yet it remains drier at any given temperature level. Trees retain only 5% or less of all the water they pull from the ground. The rest is released into the air through a process known as transpiration. Each tree releases a significant amount of water into the air every day. Since the Industrial Revolution started, the world has lost territories of ancient forests larger than Russia and Kazakhstan combined. The volume of water the air is not receiving due to this loss is enormous. Yet, the problem of deforestation is often considered a minor subtopic when it comes to climate change. Discussions about deforestation as the biggest contributor to climate change are broadly ignored not only by the general public but also by the scientific community, despite overwhelming evidence. The facts proving the link between deforestation and climate change are incredible. The same is true for the link between overpopulation and deforestation.

**Keywords :** deforestation, droughts, floods, humidity, overpopulation

**Conference Title :** ICMCAP 2024 : International Conference on Meteorology, Climatology and Atmospheric Physics

**Conference Location :** Paris, France

**Conference Dates :** December 30-31, 2024