

*Explain some of the ways in which humans are damaging the environment. What can governments do to address these problems? What can individual people do?*

Humans have been responsible for an array of damages to the environment. I believe tackling these deleterious impacts should be a complementary partnership between authorities and individuals.

Humans' lifestyle has been imposing numerous harmful effects on the environment and wildlife. Firstly, the amount of waste, which is produced on a daily basis, is a matter of concern. Made mostly with non-recyclable materials such as plastic, the majority of this waste ends up in landfills outside of the cities and oceans, and they will remain in the environment for decades before synthesizing. The whole process creates environmental hazards and health issues for people and animals living in those areas and destroys wildlife habitats. For example, there has been a raft of disturbing reports about sea mammals' death caused by swallowing plastic bags in recent years. In addition, they have been contaminating the water supplies such as wells, therefore, more and more people being afflicted by infectious diseases. Secondly, human uncontrolled poaching leads to many species facing extinction; for instance, animals such as elephants, rhinos, and sharks, which are cruelly either killed or mutilated for their ivories, horns, and fins, are on the verge of extinction, thus disrupting of wildlife cycle on the earth.

Government and individuals, however, can take positive steps to tackle these problems. To begin with, the government can educate people on deleterious effects of producing too much rubbish. Publicity campaigns and adding to the school curriculum, if promoted and devised effectively, can make people more conscious of advantages of using more eco-friendly items. Furthermore, the government could levy high taxes on articles such as single-use plastic kitchenware and non-degradable food packaging which has widely being consumed. Also, what people can do is to shoulder more responsibility to mitigate these damaging effects. They can carry their own bags when shopping, thereby a huge decline in overall production of waste. Moreover, people should be encouraged to refuse to buy both artefacts and foods made with any endangered animal organs, which not only leads to less demand but hopefully makes killing animals less desirable/sought-after/financially attractive profession, for never has plunging the profit failed to deter illegal hunters.

In conclusion, it seems that human activities in many ways have negatively impacted the environment, yet both authorities and individuals can take numerous actions to address these issues unless we do not concern about the destruction of the environment.