

We thought we had it under control!



It was all an illusion; we thought we were going greener! So we all went ahead and bought the electric cars, the hybrids, and felt that we had conquered climate change. However, it was all an illusion, and I see it now. One of the biggest environmental friendly technological advances in this era has proven to be the opposite. The influx of electric cars in today's society has led to further decline in both environmental and human health giving rise to civil and political wars in some parts of the third world. The electric car manufacturing industry is now the top ten global

enforcers of the rapid rate of climate change and the humanitarian crises we witness today. Ever sat down to wonder how we compensated for the increased electricity consumption? We didn't; we made more electricity. This meant more thermal electricity generation, more fuel consumption. All we did was change the position of the fuel pump, from the gas station to the power generation plant. What the electric car industry has not told the society is what exactly goes into the making of just one electric car. The metals and materials required for construction of the car's body and its parts requiring intensive mining for these metals. The source of the energy on which these cars will run on and their carbon emission potential.

The coal mines in the developing countries which provide the thermal energy for electricity which these cars run off have had to shut down due to the increased health hazards in the region. Hospital reports indicate increased cases of respiratory problems in the mining and neighbouring communities. Reports of drownings in abandoned mine pits have also been on the rise during the rainy season. The increased sediment load in rivers from the mines have blocked irrigation pipes adversely affecting agricultural production worsening the desperate food security concerns in the region. Not only has this industry brought on health hazards but has also increased the infighting in the region. "Last week our water reserves were destroyed as the neighbouring community attacked demanding for access to the clean water. We can no longer rely on the river as we used to and now we have to watch every drop as well as fight for the few remaining spots of clean water. We just can't share because we do not know when it will rain next. Even the rain itself is not pure anymore. We have buried 15 of our loved ones in just three days", accounts from the Contour community.

The amount of sediment deposited in the rivers has led to the decline of aquatic biodiversity with some of the rivers shallowing and drying during the now persistent drought seasons which have a detrimental effect on irrigation dependent agricultural practices. The shallowed channels are resulting in expansive floods as most water cannot be held within the banks.

The workforce has drastically reduced due to frequent illness and the conflicts in the region. Poverty is worse than previous years and the crime rate on the increase. We have very few investors if any to support our few remaining industries that are now being affected by this latest trend.

Latest scientific research has shown that, in regards to the environment, it is too late to reverse the rapid rate of global warming. The situation is just getting worse. The mining and processing of coal have pushed the carbon (IV) oxide in the atmosphere above threshold...WHO IS TO BLAME?