

# THREATS TO OUR



In 2009, the United Nations designated

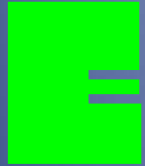
**April 22**

**INTERNATIONAL MOTHER EARTH DAY.**

(an annual day on which events are held worldwide to increase awareness and appreciation of the Earth's natural environment)

# ENVIRONMENT

# WAST



**Where does it all go?**

**Mexico City** has a trash problem – a big one. Just 6 percent of the city's waste is recycled, with the rest filling vast (open-air) landfills.

Vital drinking water is being contaminated.



# ASIA

Billions tons of garbage are being dumped into the Pacific Ocean.



# INDUSTRIAL WASTE

Oil  
drums



Scrapyard

Tire pile



# WATER



**Bangkok**

Hot raw sewage being dumped into the river.

**Guinea** Sewage and surface water pollution - untreated sewage is dumped into local waterways.





**MIAMI** The BP oil spill (April 2010) off the Louisiana coast created a worldwide impression that Florida's shores were awash in crude.



**OIL  
SPILLS**

**Oil spills** damage  
beaches and  
fragile marine  
ecosystems.



# AIR

# POLLUTION

LONDON SMOG

BANGKOK traffic

NATIONAL  
GEOGRAPHIC

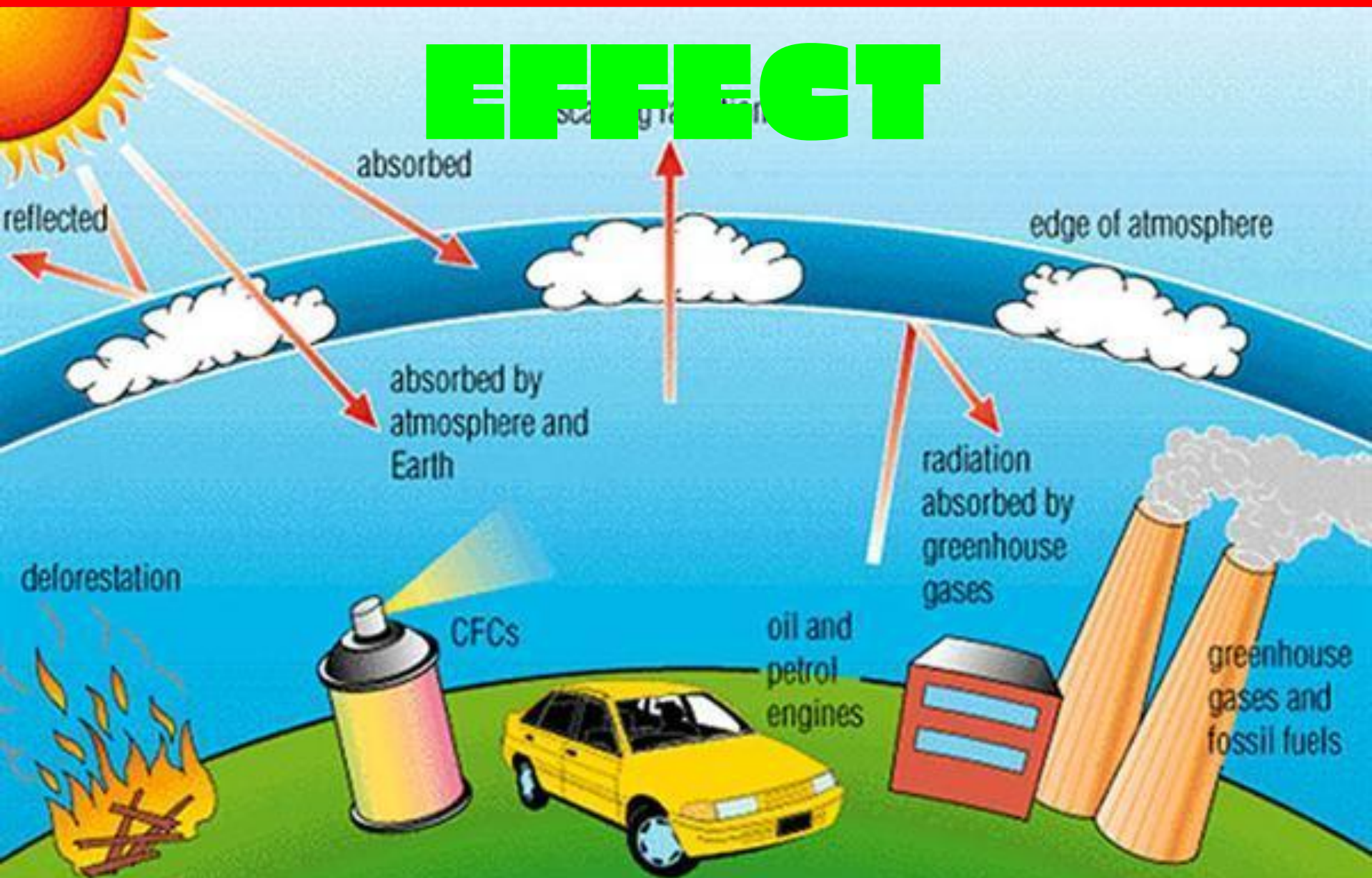
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Photograph by Josh Cade

Exhaust fumes and factory emissions are major producers of CO<sub>2</sub> and other greenhouse gases.

CHINA factory pollution

# EFFECT



# GREENHOUSE EFFECT

Human activities are causing greenhouse gas levels in the atmosphere to increase.

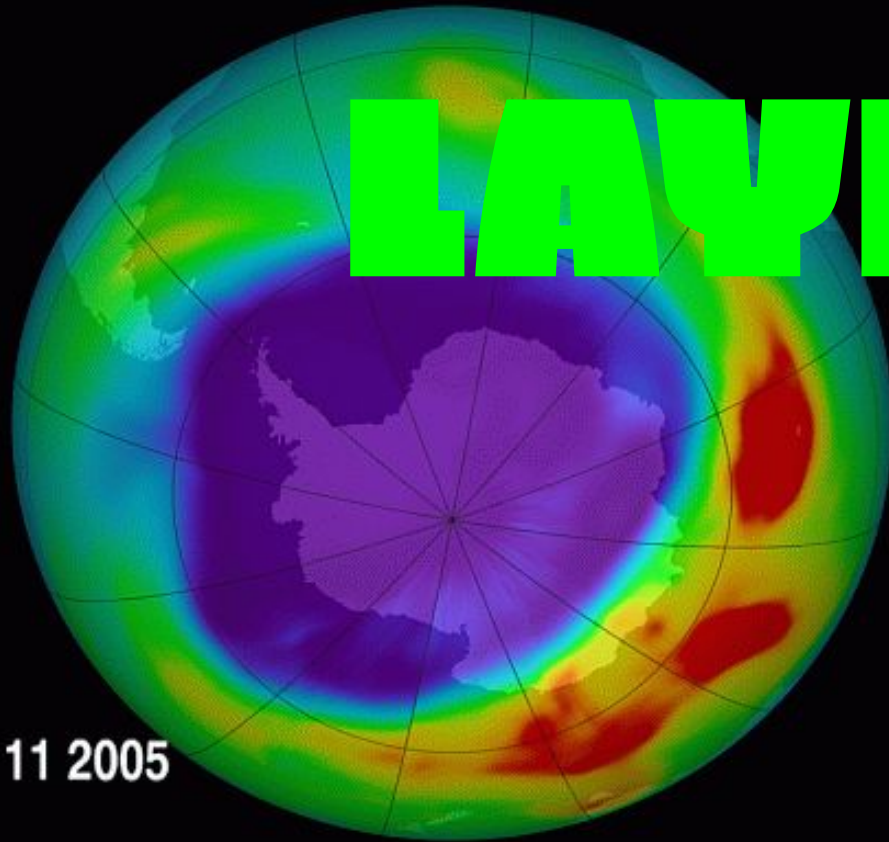
Solar energy is absorbed by the earth's surface, causing the earth to warm and to emit infrared radiation. The greenhouse gases then trap the infrared radiation, thus warming the atmosphere.

This is called **GLOBAL WARMING**.



# OZONE

# LAYER



Sep 11 2005

The hole is caused by different gases resulting from human-produced chemicals, such as chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs) used in air-conditioners, refrigerators...

The ozone layer blocks 90-99% of the sun's harmful ultraviolet radiation, which causes skin cancer, genetic damage, and eye damage, and is harmful to marine life.

# CLIMATE CHANGE



Tornados



Hurricanes

Droughts

Rising sea levels



Floodings



Melting of icebergs

# DEFORESTATION

## ON

WILD FIRES



Almost one-fifth of Brazil's Amazon region - an area the size of France - has been deforested to date, mostly in the last 40 years.



**Soil erosion** - A desert landscape that used to be a forest but following a drought and continued high temperatures the forest has receded.



Trees are chopped down to make room for housing, farming or cattle grazing.





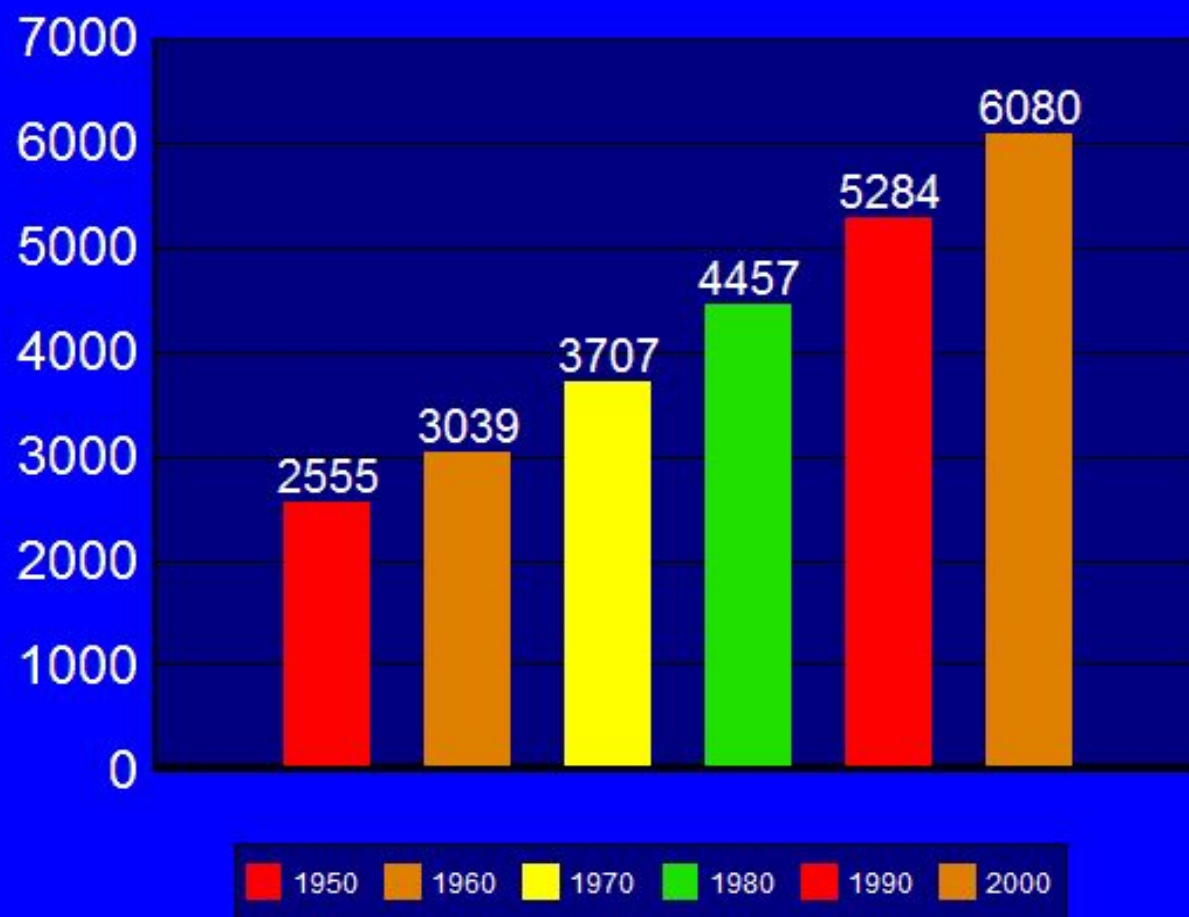
**PALM OIL\*  
HARVESTING  
RAVAGES  
INDONESIAN  
FORESTS AND  
ENDANGERS  
WILDLIFE**



OVERPOPULATION



WHAT IS THE  
MAIN CAUSE  
FOR ALL OF THIS?



**More people means:**

**More need for space**

**More need for resources and energy**

**More need for production**

**More consumption**

**END  
RESULT**

**MORE WASTE AND  
POLLUTION**

# ARE YOU STUPID?

