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**Dissemination: <https://www.didactic.ro/materiale-didactice/is-earth-in-danger>**

**<http://www.colegiulcartianu.ro>**

**The magazine ” Anotimpuri ” – Colegiul Tehnic ” Gheorghe Cartianu ”**

## **IS EARTH IN DANGER?**

The Earth's population has exceeded 7 billion, a record number that is continuously reminding us the huge weight on the shoulders of this planet who must feed so many mouths.

How many planets are there necessary to cover today's eating habits, which challenges shall we face because of this demographic record and what consequences do they have on humanity? These are questions we are impossible to answer many times no matter how hard we may try.

This threshold of more than 7 billion people threshold is the result of many challenges, successful results and paradoxes as well. People are older and younger than ever. We have knowledge that around one in two people lives in the urban area and there will be two out of three in the urban area in the next twenty years.

Urbanization has always offered prospects for a decent living style for more people in the developing countries. However, this phenomenon keeps pressure on social, health and sanitation services, all this meaning a serious challenge for the environment we are living in.

The towns are continuously expanding to the disadvantage of the ecosystems by reducing the agricultural lands for the benefit of the urban constructions, by draining off the wetlands, by large deforestations so as to assure and satisfy fuel needs. We may say that the pollution of the environment and of the environmental factors (water, air, ground) have become very widespread. Air pollution in the cities has a devastating impact on the citizens' health, plant life and ground spreading on a vast area.

At the same time with the demographic growth the need of food is higher and higher and our blue planet is capable and it effectively provides food for 7 billion people and even more. Sometimes we wonder whether this planet can face a population of over 7 billion people. These 7 billion people represent 7 billion opportunities to develop cities, to increase the productive workforce and also to bring economic growth which means welfare.

Technological speaking, our planet has a huge potential, has financial resources and the capacity to be a welcoming house for all its people. Could we wonder what will happen with our planet after this 7-billion threshold is exceeded, what and how will be the future of mankind? We all know very well that one in seven people lives in miserable conditions under the proper standard of a decent life.

An alarm bell has been already sounded and is still sounding! Numerous researches have demonstrated that we, the inhabitants of this beautiful and colourful planet, consume the products that it offers us in a rather too accelerated rate and soon we will need more than an Earth to support this food consumption. How should we deal with this situation? This is a question we should all think about and take into real consideration the future of the generations coming after us. Rules should be encouraged and laws should be approved so as to be useful for the sensible use of the natural resources by both the industries and the inhabitants of this planet.

That is the reason why we, the humans, must do our best so as they market as many environmentally friendly products as they can. We must as well assure the greening of public procurement, of constructions, of industrial processes, of tourism. On the other side, we must adopt a more environmentally friendly lifestyle, help come up with some teaching materials connected to this topic, doing our best to get rid of the old technology and start making eco products. This is a proper way to save our environment.

All the climate changes which are happening at this moment represent a great challenge for humanity and the poorest people are the most affected. They have made numerous researches on the impact of climate changes on the poor people around the world. Many children in Ethiopia are exposed to drought and they are 36% more prone to suffer from malnutrition. More than that, because of climate changes it is estimated that up to 600 million people in Africa will face malnutrition when the agricultural system collapses and more than 1.8 billion people will face the water crisis, especially in Asia.

Climate changes cause a series of medical risks, millions of people facing the risk of getting infected with malaria. Climate disasters, such as droughts, floods and storms, will increase in frequency and in intensity and these climate shocks are already one of the most important causes of poverty and inequality among people. We can assert that in addition to humanity threatening and great sufferance, these climate events destroy the goods, cause malnutrition and have the effect of destroying human lives. Regarding Romania, we may state that it is still facing serious challenges regarding the percentage of poor people, one third of its population are at risk of poverty. The effect of this poverty is due to the setback of education. The dramatic school leaving affects the ability of future generations to function

productively in a modern economy and a more and more complex and compact economy. Habitable conditions in Romania are under the European standard. The economic crisis our country had to face have affected the living conditions of many Romanians. As for the climate changes, we may assert that Romania is generally on the good way regarding the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions, 8% less compared to 2000. Some simple regulations to adjust to the climate change could be useful for us to save humans and goods and today's inventions would be useful to cover the necessary resources to fully repair the damages.